

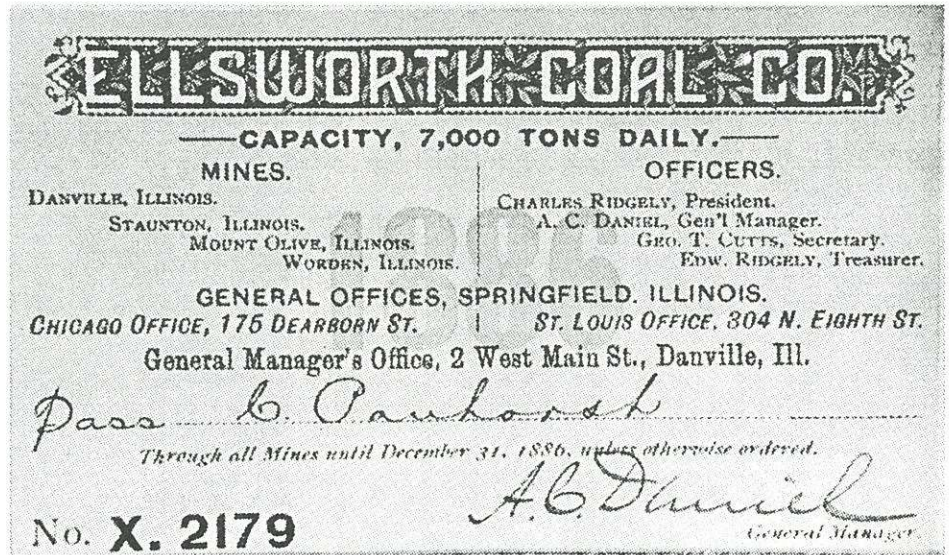


BITS



Coal Company Pass

The Ellsworth Coal Co. of Springfield, Illinois issued this pass in 1886. The reverse reads: "CONDITIONS: It is expressly understood that the person accepting this Annual Pass is invited to visit any of the Mines or Offices of this Company at any time and will be made welcome by any of its Officers or Agents. This Company's celebrated Bituminous Coal is suitable for Railroad Locomotive use, general steam purposes and domestic consumption." Most likely issued to stockholders and/or preferred customers this pass is printed on heavy cardboard stock with a beveled edge.



According to the pass, the company had mines located at Danville, Mount Olive, Staunton and Worden, Illinois. General Offices were located in Springfield, Illinois, with branch offices in Chicago and St. Louis. The General Manager's Office was located in Danville, Illinois. (Dave Johnson)



Pictorial Check Tag

Unlike most check tags, which have just a mine or mining company name this example from New Castle, Pennsylvania exhibits a railway coal car with the initials of the coal company on the side of the car. (Dave Johnson)