

World's Fair Lamp

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In 1904, St. Louis took its turn at hosting the World's Fair. Enormous buildings were erected to house specific topical displays as had been done in the past. The Palace of Mines and Metallurgy building covered an area of 9 acres, with exhibits covering a wide range of topics. Displays of the latest in mining and processing equipment were shown, with daily demonstrations of gold and silver refining.

Next to this building was Mining Gulch, about 13 acres with operating exhibits such as a gold mill, copper smelter and an underground coal mine.

The wick lamp shown was probably a souvenir purchased at the coal mine exhibit. The lamp is 2" tall and is one piece hollow cast of pot metal, probably pewter. The hook was attached at the time of casting and the lettering is raised.

Sources

1. Souvenir Book of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904, Rober Reid.
2. The Book of the Fair - St. Louis 1904, Marshall Everett.



Above: 1909 World's Fair souvenir lamp (Author's collection). Stamped COAL MINE, ST. LOUIS, 1904.

Below: Palace of Mines and Metallurgy: a nine acre exhibit at the 1909 World's Fair.

