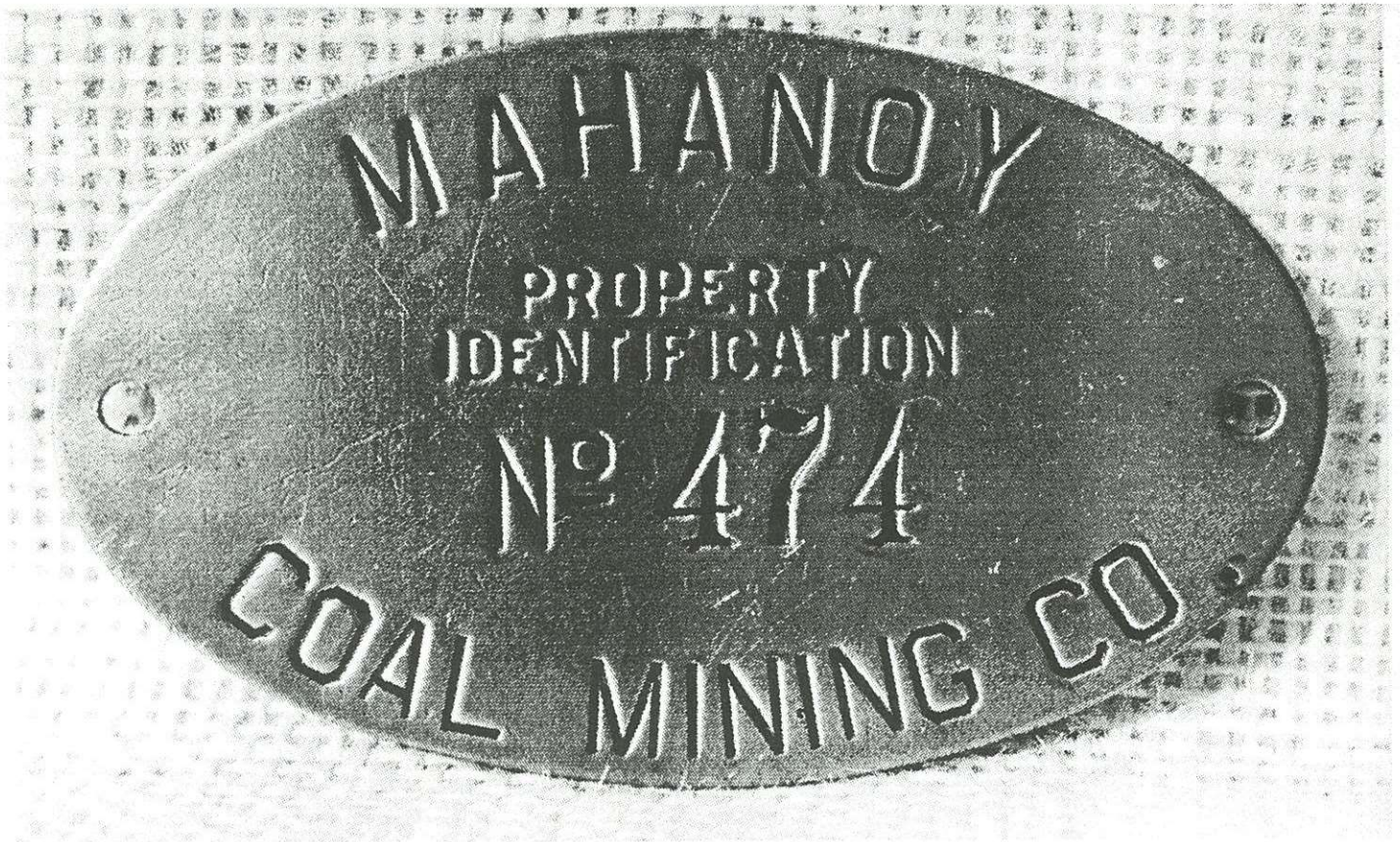


Coal Mining Co. Property I.D. Tags

by Dave Johnson

There seems to be no end to the type of mining related items available to collectors. One type of collectible that has received little or no attention in any publication to this point are coal mining company property identification tags. Over the years I have collected more than 20 different tags.

These brass tags were provided with two holes so they could be screwed, nailed or riveted to company property. They vary in size from 1 ½" x 2 ⅝" to 2 ⅛" x 3 ½" and are almost always oval in shape, although oblong examples exist.



More than half the tags I have found were not used and thus have never had numbers or other markings stamped on them. Not all the tags used I.D. numbers, some merely listed the mining company, the mine and what was tagged, such as the tag from the Christopher Coal Company's Arkwright Mine that identified a company truck. These tags were used throughout the eastern coal mining regions. I have tags from Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania. These are just another item to add to the list of mining collectibles out there.

How many of these tags have you seen before?

