

m6650 - Hampton

John Nelson, 8-5-2004

While visiting Bill DiMichele at Smithsonian Institution two weeks ago, I had opportunity to peruse a folio-sized book he rescued from the trash. It is "The Peabody Atlas of Shipping Mines and Coal Railroads in the Central Commercial District of the United States", dated 1906. It contains maps showing all active mines in Illinois, including Williamson County. Too big to photocopy conveniently, but I made a sketch map and copied the list of mines. Original map lacks section lines, and cultural features such as railroads are not an accurate match for topographic maps, but nevertheless it gives approximate mine locations.

The map shows 28 mines in Williamson County. 26 of those are readily matched with mines we know. Two are not.

R.H.H. Hampton. Folio indicates location just east of center of Carterville, near where we placed the original Burr Mine. No listing for Hampton in Mined-Out Area or Directory. Coal Reports list Richard Hampton local mine at Carterville 1902-1903, and M. Hampton shipping mine at Carterville 1904-1905. Coal was 9 feet thick, 30 feet deep. Hampton was a shaft mine with steam hoist, room and pillar mining, 3 to 6 employees mining 2,000 to 6,000 tons annually by hand. A small mine to be sure, but now we have a rough location to go with production and physical data.