

**Alpha Portland Cement Company Records
2003.181**

Organizational History

Alpha Portland Cement Company, one of the largest companies in the portland cement industry, was organized on April 8, 1895 by a group of Philadelphia area businessmen. On April 10, 1895, a charter was granted to the new company by the State of New Jersey. Alpha's first principal officers were: George E. Bartol, President; Richard L. Austin, Treasurer; and G. Walter Holloway, Secretary. In the same year, the newly organized Alpha Portland Cement Company acquired the property of the Whitaker Cement Company at Bonneville, NJ, now Alpha, NJ. In 1901, the company moved its general offices from Philadelphia to Alpha, NJ and established its corporate offices in the Drake Building in Easton, PA. Alpha changed its incorporation from New Jersey to Pennsylvania in 1902. The company reorganized in 1910.

During the early years of its existence, the business grew rapidly. Alpha acquired other cement companies in quick succession beginning with the purchase of the Martins Creek Portland Cement Company, Martins Creek, PA in 1908; Cement Manufacturing Company in New Jersey in 1909; Buckhorn Portland Cement Company at Manheim, West Virginia (1909); and Catskill Portland Cement Company, Catskill, New York (1909). Later purchases included mills of the Thomas Millen Company, Jamesville, NY (1917); LaSalle Cement Company, LaSalle, Illinois (1920); Ironton Portland Cement Company, Ironton, Ohio (1920); Burt Portland Cement Company, Bellevue, Michigan (1920); Continental Portland Cement Company, Continental, Missouri (1922); and the Phoenix Portland Cement Co., Birmingham, Alabama (1928). By the late 1920s, Alpha operated ten cement mills located at strategic distribution points in ten different states.

The company began liquidating its cement plants in the 1950s. In 1964, Alpha closed its last plant at the Martins Creek facility. In 1977, the Alpha Portland Cement Company reorganized and changed its name to Alpha Portland Industries with executive offices in Roslyn, NY. The company severed all ties to the cement industry when it closed its cement and aggregates division in 1982. Later in 1985, Alpha Portland Industries changed its name to Slattery Group, Inc.

Scope and Content (11.25 linear feet – 9 record boxes)

Company records (1895-1984) contain business and legal files. They include minutes of Board of Directors and Stockholders meetings, correspondence, committee reports, stock listings, drawings of plant properties, company mergers, trade-mark registrations, by-laws, patents, and service contracts. The earliest records in the collection document the founding of the company, its incorporation, and early mergers with other cement companies. Records also include bound volumes of minutes and payroll ledgers of cement companies acquired by Alpha Portland Cement Company. Additions to the collection include tax files and financial activities of the company in the 1970s.

National Canal Museum Archives
Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor
2750 Hugh Moore Park Road, Easton PA 18042
610-923-3548 x237 – archives@delawareandlehigh.org

Provenance

The Alpha Portland Cement Company gave its records to the Easton Public Library, Easton, PA during the 1980s. The National Canal Museum acquired the records from the Easton Public Library around 1998.

Inventory

Box 1 - General Business File, 1895-1983

Folders

1. Alpha-Houdaille Acquisition, 1978
2. Alpha Portland Industries, Inc., 1980
3. American Type Founders, Inc., 1952
4. Annual Reports, 1961-1963
5. Auditors Year-end Financial Statements, 1961
6. Bankers Trust Company, 1948-1959
7. C.K. Boettcher File, 1938-1954
8. Burt Portland Cement Company Purchase, 1920
9. Catskill Cement Company, 1899-1912
10. Chase Manhattan Bank, 1966-1972
11. City of Birmingham Revenue Bonds, 1973
12. Club Memberships, 1922-1948
13. Coleman Building Stone Purchase, 1974
14. Company History (copy of article), 1970
15. Continental Portland Cement Co., 1909
16. Coplay Cement Company Purchase, 1982
17. Corporate Reorganization Plan, 1968
18. Corporation Trust Company, 1925-1928
19. Correspondence, 1954-1974
20. Correspondence, 1975-1979
21. Correspondence, 1980-1983
22. Cummins-Chicago Corporation, 1959-1978
23. Engineering Drawings – Plant Properties, 1957-1965
24. Environmental Rating – Jamesville, NY Plant, 1971
25. Finance Committee, 1972
26. Fire Insurance Inspection Reports, 1959-1960
27. General Binding Corporation, 1955
28. German-American Portland Cement Works – Alien Property Custodian
Seizure of Stock, 1918-1926
29. H.O.H. Corporation, 1980
30. Kimco Corporation Proposed Merger, 1971
31. Leisure Lawn Stone Proposal, 1968
32. Management Reorganization Plan – Cement Div., 1972
33. Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board of Directors Regarding
Acquisition of Western Plants at LaSalle, Ironton & Bellevue, 1920
34. Monroe Division of Litton Business Systems, Inc., 1977-1978
35. National Portland Cement Company, 1905
36. Notification to the S.E.C. of Election of New Directors, 1935-1963
37. Payroll Records, 1971
38. Payroll Records, 1971

39. Payroll Records, 1971
40. Pension Trust Agreements, 1972
41. Phoenix Portland Cement Corporation, 1925-1928
42. Presto Adhesive Paper Company, 1965-1966
43. Ramsey Company, 1963

Box 2 - General Business File, 1895-1983

Folders

1. Reorganization Proposal of Alpha Portland Cement Company, 1979
2. Retirement of Preferred Stock, 1934-1935
3. Retirement of Preferred Stock, 1935-1939
4. Retirement Plan - Hourly Employees, 1967-1971
5. Retirement Plan - Salaried Employees, 1966
6. Salary Committee Reports, 1939-1972
7. Securities and Exchange Commission - Registration and Reports, 1935-1955
8. Southern States Portland Cement Company, 1950-1951
9. Stock Listings, 1910-1938
10. Stock Listings, 1954-1976
11. Stock Option Plan – Employees, 1971

Bound Volumes

- Minutes of “Alpha Portland Cement Co. of Penna.” No. 1, 1895-1898
- Minutes of “Alpha Portland Cement Co. of Penna.”, 1905-1936
- Minutes of Board of Directors Meetings of Alpha Portland Cement Company, 1914-1920
- Informal Minutes of Board of Directors Meetings of Alpha Portland Cement Company, 1920-1922

Box 3 - General Business File, 1895-1983

Bound Volumes

- Records of Stockholders & Directors Meetings of Alpha Portland Cement Company, 1909-1919
- Minutes of the Stock Option Committee of Alpha Portland Cement Company, 1959-1974
- Alpha Portland Cement Company of Pa. Journal, 1906-1936
- Alpha Portland Cement Company Payroll Ledger, 1895-1896
- Alpha Portland Cement Company Payroll Ledger, 1906-1929
- Alpha Portland Cement Company Special Account Easton “A”, 1953-1956

- Alpha Portland Cement Company Acquisition of Assets of Texas Portland Cement Company, 1961-1962

Box 4 - General Business File, 1895-1983

Bound Volumes

- Catskill Cement Company - Minutes of Board of Directors, 1899-1918
- Cement Manufacturing Company - Records of Stockholders & Directors Meetings, 1909-1910
- Martins Creek Portland Cement Company – Stockholders Minutes Book, 1899-1908
- Phoenix Portland Cement Company - Minutes of Board of Directors, 1925-1928
- Thos. D. Whitaker Cement Works Payroll Ledger, 1891-1898

Box 5 - Legal File, 1895-1984

Folders

1. Alpha Portland Cement Company – Cement Manufacturing Company Merger, 1909
2. Alpha Portland Cement Company – LaSalle Cement Company Merger (including Ironton Portland Cement Co.), 1920
3. Alpha Portland Cement Company – LaSalle Cement Company Merger (including Ironton Portland Cement Co.), 1920
4. Alpha Portland Cement Company – LaSalle Cement Company Merger (including Ironton Portland Cement Co.), 1920
5. Alpha Portland Cement Company – LaSalle Cement Company Merger (including Ironton Portland Cement Co.), 1920
6. Alpha Portland Cement Company – LaSalle Cement Company Merger (including Ironton Portland Cement Co.), 1920
7. Alpha Portland Cement Company – Martins Creek Portland Cement Company Merger, 1908
8. Alpha Portland Cement Company vs. Brown, Secretary of State (Missouri), 1932-1933
9. Alpha Portland Cement Company vs. Brown, Secretary of State (Missouri), 1934-1935
10. Alpha Portland Cement Company of PA Dissolution, 1932-1935
11. Alpha Portland Cement Company of PA Dissolution, 1936-1937
12. Arthur Ostmann vs. Leone Lumber and Supply Company, 1958-1959
13. By-laws, 1930-1972
14. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Alabama, 1928-1983
15. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Connecticut, 1961-1978
16. Certificate of Authority to do Business in District of Columbia, 1954-1958

17. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Florida, 1915-1983
18. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Georgia, 1962-1984
19. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Illinois, 1908-1972
20. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Iowa, 1934-1961
21. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Kentucky, 1974
22. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Louisiana, 1963-1972
23. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Maine, 1916-1961
24. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Maryland, 1956-1982
25. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Massachusetts, 1961-1981
26. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Michigan, 1961
27. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Missouri, 1972
28. Certificate of Authority to do Business in New Jersey, 1972
29. Certificate of Authority to do Business in New York, 1911-1976

Box 6 - Legal File, 1895-1984

Folders

1. Certificate of Authority to do Business in North Carolina, 1915-1963
2. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Ohio, 1920-1972
3. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Pennsylvania, 1895-1933
4. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Pennsylvania, 1940-1972
5. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Texas, 1962-1972
6. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Virginia, 1915-1984
7. Certificate of Authority to do Business in West Virginia, 1909-1974
8. Certificate of Authority to do Business in Wisconsin, 1934-1972
9. Certificate of Copyright, 1914
10. Certificate of Organization, 1895
11. Certificate of Organization – Amendments, 1895-1926
12. Certificate of Organization – Amendments, 1931-1955
13. Certificate of Organization – Amendments, 1968-1973
14. Legal Opinions, 1931-1944
15. Charles A. Matcham Agreement, 1905
16. Texas Portland Cement Company Hearing, 1962
17. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Argentina, 1923-1924
18. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Brazil, 1913-1929
19. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in California, 1910
20. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Chile, 1923
21. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Columbia, 1923
22. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Cuba, 1908-1928
23. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Ecuador, 1916-1923
24. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Haiti, 1913-1928
25. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Jamaica, 1913-1927
26. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Mexico, 1908-1949

27. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Peru, 1913-1923
28. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Puerto Rico, 1908-1953
29. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in United States, 1908-1968
30. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Uruguay, 1923
31. Trade-Mark Patent Registration in Venezuela, 1913-1929

Miscellaneous Material

- 1 Box of Check Signer/Endorser Stamps (missing as of 7/21/08)
Stamp signatures include: James F. Collins, E.R. Fackenthal, Robert E. Hartmann, James Maguire, H.F. Stepanik, Luella Hunley, John E. Lenno, Harry Bochnicek, and Luis H. Nahars

Box 7 - Tax File, 1910-1954

Folders

- 1-46. Federal Income Tax, 1910-1954

Box 8 - Tax File, 1921-1963

Folders

- 1-10. Federal Income Tax, 1955-1963
12. Federal Income Tax – Miscellaneous Papers, 1921-1950

Box 9 - Business File, 1905-1979

Folders

1. Federal Tax – Stockholders, 1949-1962
2. Maryland Property – Leases, 1955-1957
3. Maryland Property – Prospective Earnings, 1955-1956
4. Catskill Property, 1958
5. Riverton Property (Staples), 1937-1953
6. Bellevue, Michigan Property, 1957-1958
7. Brainards Property, 1958
8. Foul Rift (Belvidere) Property, 1956-1959
9. Ironton Property, 1957-1958
10. LaSalle Property, 1957-1958
11. Chicago Property, 1959
12. Martins Creek Property, 1956-1959
13. Missouri Property, 1956-1958
14. Virginia Property, 1956-1958
15. Southern Portland Cement Company Report, 1951
16. Phoenix Portland Cement Company, 1928

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17. Phoenix Portland Cement Company Acquisition, 1928-1929
18. Purchase of LaSalle County Real Estate, 1926
19. Glenco Lime & Cement Company – Preferred Stock Certificate, 1935-1950
20. Registration of Name – Leisure Lawn Stone, 1968
21. Antenna Registration,
22. Seidel & Hastings Company – Capital Stock, 1905
23. New England Manufacturing Association – Capital Stock, 1905
24. Bell Telephone – Termination Agreement, 1972
25. Lehigh Power Company – Capital Stock, 1902
26. Power of Attorney to Satisfy Mortgages, 1926
27. Patent – Quick Setting Portland Cement, 1969-1970
28. Membership Certificates, 1974
29. Continental Portland Cement Company – Assignment of Trade Mark, 1923
30. Forgery & Check Alteration Insurance, 1968
31. Industrial District Contract – City of Orange, TX, 1977
32. Pension Plans, 1949-1953
33. Annville Stone Company Bonds & Mortgage, 1919-1927
34. Stock Redemptions & Retirements, 1931-1955
35. Volunteer Portland Cement Company – Property Appraisal, 1954
36. Lost Stock Certificates, 1946-1958
37. Lost Stock Certificates, 1932-1941
38. Alpha Portland Cement Company-Martins Creek Portland Cement Company – Agreement of Consolidation & Merger, 1908
39. Records of LaSalle Cement Company, 1919-1920