



LEHIGH
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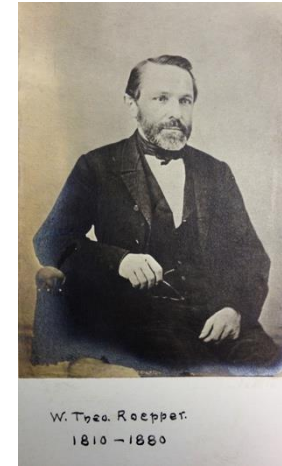
Lehigh University Connections with the Friedensville Mines

Mark Connar G'84

September 2024

A Long-Storied History with Lehigh University

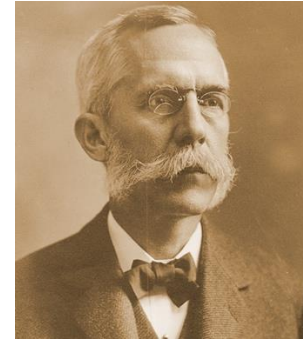
- **William Theodore Roepper** – *was a polymath who excelled in financial administration, history, education, music, mineralogy and chemistry. Roepper determined in 1845 that the farm of Jacob Ueberroth in Friedensville was rich in zinc ore by mixing an ore sample with copper in a local foundry and producing brass. He then attempted, with a business partner, to commercialize this discovery. Eventually, Samuel Wetherill, in 1853, was able to successfully use the ore to create the first fully commercial manufacture of zinc products in the United States. In 1866, Roepper became the first geology/mineralogy professor at Lehigh University. His official title was Professor of Minerology and Geology and Curator of the Museum (when there was no museum). Roepper was one of five original faculty members.*



- **Miles Rock** – *The only Lehigh University graduate who was also a Civil War veteran surveyed the Friedensville Mines for Lehigh Zinc Company in the late 1860s and early 1870s. He was one of three students in the first Lehigh University graduating class (1869). He later worked for the United States government as an astronomer and served as the Chief of the Guatemala Boundary Commission where he helped mediate border disputes between Mexico and Guatemala. Rock's detailed maps of the mines were used by the company and its successors and are now part of Lehigh University's Special Collections.*

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- **Henry Sturgis Drinker** – 5th President of Lehigh University and an early expert on the Friedensville zinc mines and The President Pumping Engine. Also, of Drinker Hall fame! In 1871, he made a presentation on the plant, mines and pumping engine to the first technical meeting of AIME(now the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers), the same year that he graduated from Lehigh University. This meeting was held at Lehigh University. When Drinker's mining engineering professor left Lehigh in his senior year, he spent weekend trips to the Friedensville Mines to support his learning of engineering principles, and sometimes assisted Miles Rock by carrying his transit for the 4-mile trek to the mines. Drinker's description of The President was considered authoritative in the 1870s and remains a key document in the study of the engine.



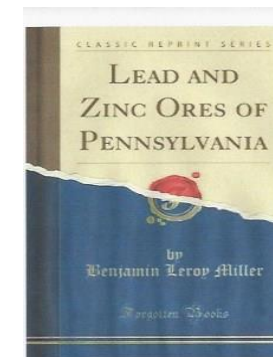
- **Frank Laurent Clerc** – Early member of the Lehigh Mathematics Department and a Civil Engineer, Mining, graduate of the Lehigh class of 1871. Clerc learned his engineering principles at the Friedensville Mines and later served as an engineer for Lehigh Zinc Company. He was involved in economic assessments the mines and their capabilities throughout the 19th century.

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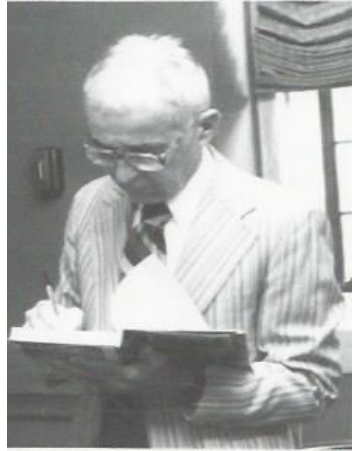


- **William Henry Chandler** – An early member of the Lehigh Chemistry Department and also Lehigh University’s first librarian as director of Linderman Library. Chandler evaluated the Friedensville Mines as a potential source of potable water in the 1890s for the cities of Bethlehem and Philadelphia. Also, of Chandler Lab fame!

- **Benjamin Leroy Miller**– Often considered the father of Geology at Lehigh University, Professor Miller wrote extensively about the geological formations in the Friedensville Mines. Miller was a professor at Lehigh for 37 years. His specialty was economic geology, and his studies helped to support the reopening of the Friedensville Mines in middle of the 20th century.

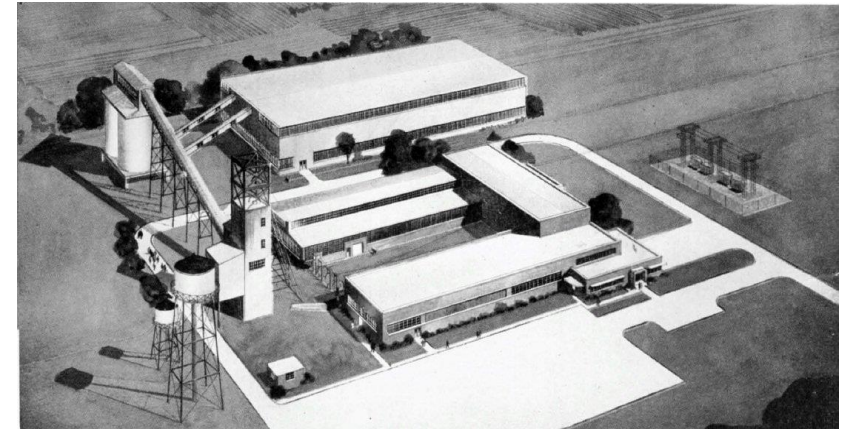


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- **Willard Ross Yates**– *Dean of Lehigh’s College of Arts and Science from 1963 to 1972 and professor of political science. He was also an historian of the Lehigh Valley region and published definitive books and journal articles on the early years of the Lehigh Zinc Company and the Friedensville Mines. He received the Hillman Award, Lehigh’s highest honor for a member of the faculty and staff.*

- **Raymond L. McCann** – *President of New Jersey Zinc Company when the Friedensville Mines were reopened in 1958. He held a mining engineering degree from Lehigh University and was honored with a doctor of engineering from the University in 1966, the Lehigh Alumni Award in 1965 and the Lehigh-in-Life Award by the Lehigh Club of New York in 1956.*
- **Robert McCann** – *Raymond McCann’s son, Robert McCann was the President of Eastern Industries/Stabler Land Company following the purchase of the mine properties by Stabler Companies in 1984. Robert McCann held a mining engineering degree from Lehigh University (class of 1952).*



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- **Donald B. Stabler** – *In 2012, Lehigh received 755 acres of land as a gift from the Donald B. and Dorothy Stabler Foundation. Donald Stabler, Lehigh University Class of 1930 (C.E.) was a major benefactor to his alumna mater. Stabler made the largest donation ever received by the University, a scholarship fund valued over \$30 million. The former properties of New Jersey Zinc Company in the Lehigh Valley, including the Friedensville Mines, were included in the 2012 donation. In 1987, it was reported in local newspaper article that Mr. Stabler expressed an interest in restoring The President Engine House which was part of the property donation.*
- *Lehigh University is now developing the properties, all located in Upper Saucon Township, as Stabler Pathways.*



A Long-Storied History with Lehigh University

- ***TE Capstone Course***— *In 2018, a two-semester course was launched to develop park concepts for the Friedensville Mines (called Lehigh Heritage Park). The students recreated a computer based and physical model of the famous President engine which drew water from the mines in the 19th century. Here is a collage of photos of the students as the work on the project.*

