

Tell Ertl Oil Shale Repository Arthur Lakes Library Colorado School of Mines

Laramie Project Office, U.S. Department of Energy Collection

### Background Information

Laramie Project Office, U.S. Department of Energy

The Laramie Project Office has been one of the major Federal centers of oil shale research and development for nearly fifty years --first under the U. S. Bureau of Mines, then the Energy Development Administration, and currently, the U. S. Department of Energy, Department of the Interior.

Unlike the other collections in the Tell Ertl Oil Shale Repository, the Laramie Project Office represents a group of professionals --the engineers, chemists, and geologists who worked there since the mid-1940s.

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The Laramie Project Office (LPO) Collection represents the largest collection in the Repository. This collection consists primarily of visual aids, maps and drawings, and reports. Less than 1 % of the LPO Collection (138 documents) can be classified as notes or personnel correspondence.

Since it represents the activities carried out under the direction of the Laramie Project Office, the LPO Collection contains considerable amounts of non-shale documents (coal, tar sands, and petroleum) --more than 2,000 documents are in this category.

The largest single item in the LPO Collection is the design, construction, and operation of the Anvil Points Oil Shale Research Facility. More than two thirds of the documents in the LPO Collection relate to Anvil Points; from more than 5,000 blueprints prepared for the construction, to more than 6,000 photographs recording the construction, and the operation of the oil shale research.

Another significant portion of the LPO Collection is reports describing the numerous oil shale projects funded, in part, by the U.S. Department of Energy and directed by the Laramie Project Office from the mid-1970s to the mid 1980s.

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