

Mahone Bay Museum  
**Fonds Description (MBMS-71)**

Robert Wynot Fonds (Nugold Mining)

September 11, 1937

0.1cm Textual Document

Robert Arthur Wynot was born in 1914. His parents were Wellesley M. Wynot and Florence Melinda (Joudrey) Wynot. He lived in Mahone Bay and was a marine engineer who, at one point, worked for Nugold Mining Corporation Limited at the mine in Blockhouse, NS. He passed away in 2000.

Gold was discovered in Blockhouse, Lunenburg County around 1870, however, formal operations on-site did not begin until 1896 with W.H. Prest. The gold mine located on Blockhouse Mines Road in Blockhouse, NS was mined by various people and companies over the years, including the Blockhouse Mining Company. Then, it was briefly mined from 1935 to 1938 by the Nugold Mining Corporation Limited, whose head office was based out of Toronto, Ontario with the Mine Office in Blockhouse. Nugold had purchased the mine, likely including mining rights in the surrounding area, in July 1935 and employed up to 17 men that year. According to a memo to the Honourable Minister of Mines in 1935, Frank Williams was in charge of the operations at Blockhouse while Nugold Mining was completing preliminary work on-site. In 1936, J.E. Hanlon is listed as in charge of the operations, having replaced the previous 1936 Manager, R.L. Austin. At the time, they were employing about 40 men. In 1936, the Toronto company listed William Sanderson as President, R. H. Mortimer as Vice-President, L.B. Lowe as Secretary, J.M. Lain as Director, Dr. M.S. Hollenberg as Director, E.J. Hart as Director, A.A. Nicholson as Director, and B.E. Laxer as General Manager. The company built a 10-stamp mill, deepened the main shaft and did considerable tunnelling. They temporarily closed for at least 3 months during the fall of 1937. Work had then continued with W.T. Payton managing the site in 1938 with a team that included Ronald A. Norse and Floyd Hilts, who appear to have been "hoistmen" and Frank Reeves of Oldham who was hired to get the mill in proper running condition but eventually work at the mill shut down after November 1938. Various companies have continued work at the site of this mine over the years and as recently as 2016-2017.

The fonds consists of one letter from Nugold Mining Corporation from Toronto to Robert Wynot regarding his last pay cheque for \$22.65 and thanking him for his work for them. It names a "Mr. Lochhead" who provides the cheque to Robert Wynot. The letter is signed, however, the name is not clear but appears to read "B.E. Laxer", who was the General Manager for the Toronto company. The head office address is listed as "1406 Concourse Building - 100 Adelaide Street West Toronto 2, Canada".

The letter was donated by Linda McConnell in 2019 and was accessioned 2019.7.1. Linda is related to the Wynot family.