

Krupp Historical Archive



Portrait

The Krupp Historical Archive, founded in 1905, is the oldest German business archive and one of the most important institutions of its kind. It is located in Villa Hügel in Essen and is owned by the non-profit Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach Foundation. Its holdings stem firstly from the history of the Krupp Group, which was founded in 1811 and merged with Thyssen AG in 1999. Secondly, they originate from the Krupp family itself.



Crucible bearers,
slide show,
around 1911

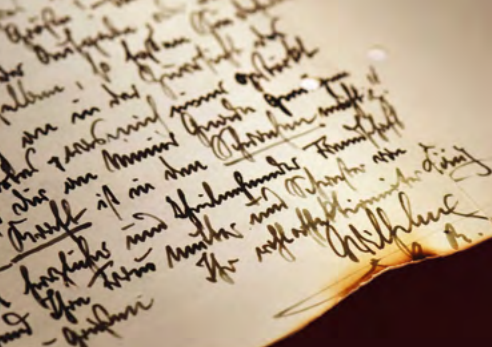
File cover of
central registry,
1904-1922

Activity

The Krupp Archive continuously acquires sources, systematically indexes them and ensures their permanent preservation. In the form of a long-term memory, it provides internal services for the Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach Foundation and the thyssenkrupp Group. With publications, own presentations and supervision of the "Krupp Historical Exhibition", it promotes historical education.

Below: factory
panorama, 1864





Kaiser Wilhelm II to
Bertha Krupp, 1902

Filming at Krupp, 1959



Holdings

The holdings, when in a row, have a length of around ten kilometres. The oldest document dates back to 1437, but the bulk of the sources originate from the 19th and 20th centuries. The archive stores classic written material such as files, account books and plans, but also postcards, museum objects and much more. Its picture collections are of international standing: both the photographs (approx. 2.5 million) and films (approx. 5,000 rolls) date back to the early days of these media.

Not to be forgotten are documents from companies that were absorbed into the Krupp Group: Bochumer Verein, Germania-werft, Grusonwerk, AG Weser, Koppers and many more. The holdings from the Krupp family reflect the owners' activities in their company, but also their role in society, politics, science and culture.



Post card,
Villa Hügel,
1904



Use

The Krupp Historical Archive regularly answers enquiries from all over the world on topics from Krupp history. It supports museums with exhibits and image sources for television productions. Personal research on site in the reading room is possible after prior written request and approval.

A detailed overview of the holdings and information on their use can be found at archive.nrw.de on the internet.

References

Ralf Stremmel: Historisches Archiv Krupp. Entwicklungen, Aufgaben, Bestände, 4. überarb. Auflage. (Krupp Historical Archive. Developments, tasks, holdings, 4th revised issue.) München/Berlin 2023.

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