



# The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century

By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht

Download now

Read Online 

## The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century

By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht

The anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania once prospered. Today, very little mining or industry remains, although residents have made valiant efforts to restore the fabric of their communities. In *The Face of Decline*, the noted historians Thomas Dublin and Walter Licht offer a sweeping history of this area over the course of the twentieth century. Combining business, labor, social, political, and environmental history, Dublin and Licht delve into coal communities to explore grassroots ethnic life and labor activism, economic revitalization, and the varied impact of economic decline across generations of mining families.

*The Face of Decline* also features the responses to economic crisis of organized capital and labor, local business elites, redevelopment agencies, and state and federal governments. Dublin and Licht draw on a remarkable range of sources: oral histories and survey questionnaires; documentary photographs; the records of coal companies, local governments, and industrial development corporations; federal censuses; and community newspapers. The authors examine the impact of enduring economic decline across a wide region but focus especially on a small group of mining communities in the region's Panther Valley, from Jim Thorpe through Lansford to Tamaqua. The authors also place the anthracite region within a broader conceptual framework, comparing anthracite's decline to parallel developments in European coal basins and Appalachia and to deindustrialization in the United States more generally.

 [Download The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite R ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite ...pdf](#)

# **The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century**

*By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht*

## **The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century** By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht

The anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania once prospered. Today, very little mining or industry remains, although residents have made valiant efforts to restore the fabric of their communities. In *The Face of Decline*, the noted historians Thomas Dublin and Walter Licht offer a sweeping history of this area over the course of the twentieth century. Combining business, labor, social, political, and environmental history, Dublin and Licht delve into coal communities to explore grassroots ethnic life and labor activism, economic revitalization, and the varied impact of economic decline across generations of mining families.

*The Face of Decline* also features the responses to economic crisis of organized capital and labor, local business elites, redevelopment agencies, and state and federal governments. Dublin and Licht draw on a remarkable range of sources: oral histories and survey questionnaires; documentary photographs; the records of coal companies, local governments, and industrial development corporations; federal censuses; and community newspapers. The authors examine the impact of enduring economic decline across a wide region but focus especially on a small group of mining communities in the region's Panther Valley, from Jim Thorpe through Lansford to Tamaqua. The authors also place the anthracite region within a broader conceptual framework, comparing anthracite's decline to parallel developments in European coal basins and Appalachia and to deindustrialization in the United States more generally.

## **The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century** By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #734305 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Cornell University Press
- Published on: 2005-11-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.00" h x .20" w x 7.00" l, 1.35 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 312 pages



[Download The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite R ...pdf](#)



[Read Online The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite ...pdf](#)



---

**Download and Read Free Online The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht**

---

## **Editorial Review**

### Review

"A sweeping history of this area over the course of the 20th century. . . . The book is not only a history lesson. It's a human tragedy story, about people who worked hard, and long, in dangerous conditions, only to be let down, not only by their profession, but by their government also. Dublin and Licht paint an honest picture, of despair, of resourcefulness, and then more despair. It's a book that belongs in every coal region home and library, and in the hands of every school kid who has heard countless stories of the way it used to be in this area."?Bob Urban, *Lehighton Times News*

"History Professor Thomas Dublin and colleague Walter Licht offer a sweeping history of Pennsylvania's anthracite coal region during the 20th century in their new book, *The Face of Decline*. . . . Since some of the material touches on recent history, Dublin interviewed former miners about their experiences. He said these conversations complemented the data and gave it a human context. 'I found it wonderful to be able to interview people who have lived through the history,' he said. . . . *The Face of Decline* also has much to offer politicians and business leaders in areas facing similar economic shifts."?Rachel Coker, *INSIDE Binghamton University*

"In an era when many historians are settling for symbols and representations to understand complex historical changes, Dublin and Licht have succeeded not only in explaining industrial decline and approximating its effects on the lives of their subjects but also in providing a model and a new standard for social historical research. Their narrative and analysis will certainly garner due attention and praise, but it would be good to think that their methods will also get the attention they deserve."?Journal of Social History

"*The Face of Decline* is a fine work of social history, broadly based in its approach, painstaking in its research, innovative in its methodology, and thoughtful in its conclusions. Like Dublin's *When the Mines Closed*, this work is essential for students both of deindustrialization and of the recent history of northeastern Pennsylvania. Just as significantly, *The Face of Decline* accomplishes the social historian's most difficult task: communicating with a wide audience while still challenging scholars."?Perry K. Blatz, *Business History Review*

"*The Face of Decline* is aptly named. By giving deindustrialization a human face, Dublin and Licht have produced an invaluable study of communities dealing with economic decline and rebirth."?Donna M. DeBlasio, *Oral History Review*

"Thomas Dublin and Walter Licht's *The Face of Decline* is essential reading for anyone concerned with the economic development or redevelopment of a community, region, or state. It is also a definitive history of the anthracite region of northeastern Pennsylvania that by 1890 was supplying 16 percent of the nation's energy. The book's handsome large-format pages conceal its great length, including detailed chapters that narrate the early decades when the industry was raking in profits. These provide ballast for what follows?an account of eighty years of decline, ending in regional economic collapse."<sup>7</sup>Priscilla Long, *Technology and Culture*

"This book is an excellent piece of scholarship, combining institutional and social history. The authors should be commended for their exhaustive research and expert merging of many different sources into a vigorous and readable narrative. It is no exaggeration to say that this book will very quickly become a classic in the fields of labor studies and economic history."<sup>8</sup>Richard P. Mulcahy, *Journal of American History*

"*The Face of Decline* gives us a subtle, multidimensional portrait of a region coping with the death of its defining industry. At the institutional level, it demonstrates how business, labor, and government all failed to effectively prepare for or respond to the loss of the anthracite mines. At the personal level, it shows the varied ways mining families coped with the resulting economic crisis?revealing in many cases an enduring attachment to place that runs much deeper than mere economics. This book is a story not only about economic decline but also about resilience and survival, with lessons that apply to the wider world."<sup>9</sup>Barbara Freese, author of *Coal: A Human History*

"*The Face of Decline* is a terrific book. Thomas Dublin and Walter Licht brilliantly portray in vivid detail not only the many human dimensions of the downfall of the hard coal industry but also the mining families' considerable resilience in meeting adversity."<sup>10</sup>Alan Derickson, Pennsylvania State University, author of *Black Lung: Anatomy of a Public Health Disaster*

"Thomas Dublin and Walter Licht have fashioned a poignant story of industrial decline in one American region, the failure of powerful organizations to help people in need, and the resourcefulness of displaced workers forced to find new ways to make ends meet."<sup>11</sup>John Bodnar, Chancellor's Professor and Chair of History and Co-Director of the Center for the Study of History and Memory, Indiana University

"Thomas Dublin and Walter Licht have written a history of Pennsylvania's anthracite region that includes many of the stories natives have heard as well as much that is new. Their book captures the tragedy of a region and people, exploited by outsiders for the sake of resources and then left to cope with the environmental and economic wreckage as best they can."<sup>12</sup>David DeKok, author of *Unseen Danger: A Tragedy of People, Government, and the Centralia Mine Fire*

About the Author

Thomas Dublin is State University of New York Distinguished Professor of History at Binghamton University. He is the author or editor of several books, including *When the Mines Closed: Stories of Struggles in Hard Times*, also from Cornell.

Walter Licht is Walter H. Annenberg Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author most recently of *Working for the Railroad*.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Lonnie Bowers:**

Now a day those who Living in the era everywhere everything reachable by connect with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not require people to be aware of each information they get. How individuals to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specifically this The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century book because book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred per-cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

#### **James Drake:**

Exactly why? Because this The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will distress you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who write the book in such wonderful way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of advantages than the other book include such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I were being you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

#### **Eric Baur:**

Beside this kind of The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century in your phone, it might give you a way to get more close to the new knowledge or information. The information and the knowledge you are going to got here is fresh from your oven so don't always be worry if you feel like an aged people live in narrow village. It is good thing to have The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century because this book offers to your account readable information. Do you at times have book but you seldom get what it's exactly about. Oh come on, that will not end up to happen if you have this with your hand. The Enjoyable blend here cannot be questionable, including treasuring beautiful island. Use you still want to miss this? Find this book and read it from at this point!

**Robert Wilkes:**

As we know that book is very important thing to add our understanding for everything. By a guide we can know everything we really wish for. A book is a group of written, printed, illustrated or blank sheet. Every year seemed to be exactly added. This reserve The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century was filled about science. Spend your spare time to add your knowledge about your scientific disciplines competence. Some people has distinct feel when they reading any book. If you know how big benefit of a book, you can sense enjoy to read a publication. In the modern era like today, many ways to get book which you wanted.

**Download and Read Online The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht #QH0JUTD2N5E**

# **Read The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht for online ebook**

The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht books to read online.

## **Online The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht ebook PDF download**

**The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht Doc**

**The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht MobiPocket**

**The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht EPub**

**QH0JUTD2N5E: The Face of Decline: The Pennsylvania Anthracite Region in the Twentieth Century By Thomas Dublin, Walter Licht**