

„Barbara” Mine

HISTORY

The plant is located in the northeast part of Mikołów. It is the only experimental mine in Poland and the only research facility in Europe that has an underground testing ground. The plant employees deals with safety in mines and conduct research to counteract the harmful effects of gas and mine dust as well as attestation of equipment approved for operate in mines.

As a result of the increase in demand for coal, in 1850 the "Anna" mine was launched near the Kamionka hill. Coking coal was mined there. In the following years the mine was closed and opened many times. In 1926, the closed mine was leased from the Prince of Pszczyna by the Upper Silesian Association of Mines and Steel Works. The Experimental Station and the Mining Rescue Central were moved to it from Pniowiec. This facility was given the name "Barbara" Experimental Mine, Mining Rescue Center and Magnetic Observatory in Mikołów. From 1945 to the present day "Barbara" Experimental Mine operates as part of the Central Mining Institute.

GEOLOGY

In the geological structure Quaternary and Carboniferous deposits are involved. Productive carbonate up to a depth of 1000 m is represented by the Łaziskie and Orzeskie layers. The area is characterized by simple tectonics. It is divided into two parts by a fault with the direction WNW-ESE, whose drop amplitude is 35-40 m in a southern direction. In the northwestern part of the mining area there is a NW-SE dislocation. In the southern part of the mining area runs "Książęcy" fault with direction WE and drop amplitude of 90 to 130 m in S direction.

MINING

In the mining area of the "Barbara" mine seams : 303, 310, 318 (Orzeskie layers) were exploited at a depth of 15 m to 300 m.

SINKHOLE THREAT

Exists on the surface in the areas where the coal was extracted from seams: 303 and 310 at the depth ranging from 15 to 46 m.