

The Mining Academy operated in Banská Štiavnica from the 1760s until 1918. From the beginning of its existence (teaching began in 1764), various teaching materials were used here. In recent years, we have conducted research on teaching materials at different types of schools as part of the project APVV-23-0277 "Teaching Materials in the Educational Process in Slovakia (16th–20th Century)".

Within the framework of this project, I have researched teaching materials that were used at the Mining and Forestry Academy in Banská Štiavnica — both in the Slovak Mining Archive and in the Slovak Mining Museum, where numerous exhibits related to the Academy's activities are housed. I examined the museum's inventory catalogue. The school's first professor, Nikolaus Joseph Jacquin, already established a chemical laboratory for teaching purposes in his first residence in Banská Štiavnica (in the so-called Krecsmári House). Gradually, a library was also built up, the foundation of which consisted of books from Mikovini's old mining school. The first librarian was Professor Carl Thierenberger. Professor Johann Thaddäus Peithner sold the Academy not only his mineral collection (approximately 2,000 pieces) but also his extensive library (approximately 1,400 volumes). These were books from the fields of mining, metallurgy, mining law, and similar subjects. Peithner's mineral collection and library were acquired for 4,000 gulden. The collection was later supplemented with minerals from surrounding mines as well as from other domestic and foreign mining regions. Over time, a collection of models of various mining and metallurgical installations also developed. From 1809, forestry was taught at the Academy by a dedicated professor, Heinrich David Wilckens. A private botanical and forestry library from Germany was purchased, as well as a collection of forest pests. Furthermore, efforts began to establish a botanical garden. The Forestry Institute later acquired its own forests, which served for practical training.

The contribution also deals with the construction of the botanical garden and analyses the most important textbooks used at the Academy. Finally, we attempt to reconstruct where the most significant teaching materials used at the Mining and Forestry Academy in Banská Štiavnica are located today.