

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910821075803321
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Titolo	Coal mining in the East Neuk of Fife / / John McManus
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Edinburgh, Scotland ; ; London, [England] : , : Dunedin, , 2017 ©2017
Desrizione fisica	1 online resource (188 pages) : illustrations (color), tables, maps
Disciplina	622.334
Soggetti	Coal mines and mining
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	1. Introduction -- 2. The geological setting of the East Neuk -- 3. Scotland rocks, bends, breaks and migrates -- 5. Coal formation -- 6. Historical framework for mining in Fife -- 7. On-land transport of the coals -- 8. The main methods of coal extraction -- 9. The geology of the coal-bearing successions -- 10. The coal seams and mines of the East Neuk -- 11. The coalfield surveys by Dott and Forbes -- 12. Coals of the Lower Limestone Formation around Largoward -- 13. Closing thoughts.
Sommario/riassunto	Coal mining in the East Neuk of Fife was the means of providing industrial development in this area from medieval times until the twentieth century. The understanding of the rocks, their origin and how to exploit them to advantage forms the basis for this text. In the early days of the industry, the coals were recovered on the shorelines or on the valley sides where their excavation was relatively simple. The mining of the coals gradually gave rise to the need to dig deeper into the ground and the need for knowledge of the rocks became essential, how and why they formed as they did and how to cope with the difficulties presented by the turbulent events experienced in past geological times.. The welfare of the miners and their families also grew in importance as the industry grew and developed. John McManus surveys the geology and social history of the mines and the people who explored, owned and laboured under and above ground in an industry which began so many centuries ago, flourished all too briefly and

ultimately declined in this area. With his lifelong interest and scholarly achievement in his chosen profession, John McManus takes the reader on a graphic and fascinating tour of the mining industry in this beautiful part of Fife shining a different light on aspects of its history which have, until now, remained less well known.
