

Norfolk & Western Financial Documents

Norfolk & Western Financial Documents,
1882-1954



Title Statement

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Ms.2003.004

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2003.004

Unit Date

1882-1954

Unit Date

1884-1916

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection contains bills and invoices from Norfolk & Western Railroad, Norfolk & Western Railway, and several subsidiaries and contracted companies.

Extent

2 Cubic Feet 4 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Norfolk & Western Financial Documents were purchased by Special Collections in 2003. An additional item was purchased in 2010.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Norfolk & Western Financial Documents commenced in October 2010 and was completed in December 2010.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Norfolk & Western Financial Documents, Ms2003-004, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Historical Note

The Norfolk & Western Railroad was organized in 1881 from the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad. Primarily a line carrying agricultural products at its inception, the Norfolk and Western rapidly became associated with the mineral development of the southwestern part of Virginia and West Virginia. In 1881 it acquired the franchises to four other lines: the New River Railroad, the New River Railroad, Mining, and Manufacturing Company, the Bluestone Railroad, and the East River Railroad. These companies became the basis for Norfolk and Western's New River Division, which ran to the coalfields to the west.

Much of the early history of the Norfolk & Western Railway can be written in terms of expansion and consolidation with other lines. In 1890, it acquired the Shenandoah Valley Railroad, which ran from Roanoke, Virginia, to Hagerstown, Maryland. By 1891, an Ohio extension was well underway, giving the railroad access to the industrial Midwest. In 1892, Norfolk & Western Railroad leased the Roanoke and Southern Railroad, connecting Roanoke with Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and in 1893 it leased the Lynchburg and Durham, connecting Lynchburg with Durham, North Carolina. But this program of expansion, coupled with the economic depression of the 1890s, forced the railroad into receivership in 1895. It emerged as the reorganized Norfolk and Western Railway the next year.

Through expansion and various mergers, the Norfolk & Western Railway grew to become a major U.S. carrier, serving 14 states. The company manufactured steam locomotives at its own Roanoke Machine Works (established in Roanoke, Virginia in 1882), and among the railroad's affiliated holdings were several hotels (represented in this collection by the Bluefield Inn and the Hotel Roanoke). Among the company's larger merger acquisitions was the New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad--the "Nickel Plate Road"--in 1964. In 1982, the Norfolk & Western Railway combined with the Southern Railway to form Norfolk Southern Corporation.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains bills, invoices, checks and other financial documents from Norfolk & Western Railroad, Norfolk & Western Railway, and several subsidiaries, contracted, and related companies. Companies include, but are not limited to: Adams Express Company, Bluefield Inn, Cincinnati Northern Railroad Company, Deepwater Railway Company, Hotel Roanoke, Maple Shade Inn, Roanoke Machine Works, Seaboard Air Line Railway Company, Southern Express Company, Southern States Dispatch, Tidewater Railway Company, Virginia Company, Virginia Holding Corporation, and Virginia, Tennessee, & Georgia Air

Line-Fast Freight Line.

Please note: Wherever possible, materials are separated to the related company or subsidiary level. However, there is some overlap between individual companies and documents in the Norfolk & Western Railroad Company and Norfolk & Western Railway Company folders.

Related Archival Materials

Norfolk and Western Accounting Department Personnel Records, Ms92-058. Finding aid available on the Virginia Heritage database.

Norfolk and Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection, Ms2009-037. Finding aid available on the Virginia Heritage database.

Chapman J. French Papers, Ms2009-034. Finding aid available on the Virginia Heritage database.

Virginia Tech's Imagebase contains more than 12,000 railroad-related images, many of which are associated with Norfolk and Western Railway (now Norfolk Southern Corporation) at http://imagebase.lib.vt.edu/browse.php?folio_ID=/trans. **Please note:** Permission to published images belonging to NS Corp must be obtained from NS Corp. Contact Jennifer McDaid (jennifer.mcdaid@nscorp.com) for permission.

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Railroad

Norfolk and Western Railway Company (1896-1982)

Roanoke Machine Works

Virginia, Tennessee and Georgia Air Line

Virginia Holding Corporation

Seaboard Air Line Railway Company

Maple Shade Inn Company (Pulaski, Va.)

Norfolk and Western Railroad Company (1881-1896)

Hotel Roanoke

Deepwater Railway Company (1898-1907)

Cincinnati Northern Railroad Company

Bluefield Inn (W. Va.)

Adams Express Company (1854-2015)

Tidewater Railway Company (1904-1907)

East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia Railway Company

Cumberland Valley Railroad Company

Aberdeen & Asheboro Railway Company

Southern States Dispatch

Southern Express Company

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Arrangement

Materials in the collection are arranged by company or subsidiary. Companies and subsidiaries are arranged in alphabetical order by name. Bills, invoices, and other financial documents are arranged chronologically within each company or subsidiary.

Norfolk & Western Railway Company materials are arranged by month. Documents with bill numbers are arranged by bill number; Documents without bill numbers are arranged by date. Within each month, documents that have bill numbers are located before those that do not bill numbers.

The last folder in the collection contains documents that are not identified as belonging to a particular company or subsidiary. These documents are in chronological order.

Description of Subordinate Components

Aberdeen & Asheboro Railway Company,

Unit Date 1905

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Adams Express Company,

Unit Date 1893, 1896, 1907.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Bills from Winston-Salem, NC (City),

Unit Date 1916

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Bluefield Inn,

Unit Date 1893-1894, 1897.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Bureau of Immigration & Mining Intelligence,

Unit Date 1882

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Checks,

Unit Date 1884, 1903, 1907.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Cincinnati Northern Railroad Company,

Unit Date 1916

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Columbus (OH) Joint Car Inspection Bureau Receipts,

Unit Date 1916

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Cumberland Valley Railroad Company,

Unit Date 1886

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

East Tennessee, Virginia, & Georgia Railway Company.

Unit Date 1916

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Deepwater Railway Company,

Unit Date 1906-1907

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Hotel Roanoke,

Unit Date 1893-1894, 1896, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Maple Shade Inn,

Unit Date 1893-1894, 1897.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Norfolk & Western Railroad Company,

Unit Date 1882-1919, n.d.

Unit Date 1882-1886

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Unit Date 1887

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Unit Date 1890-1919, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Norfolk & Western Railway Company,

Unit Date 1902-1923

Unit Date 1902-1903

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Unit Date 1906-February 1908.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Unit Date October-December 1908, 1909.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Unit Date January-April 1916.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Unit Date May-October 1916.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Unit Date 1918

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Unit Date 1919, 1923.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Roanoke Machine Works,

Unit Date 1884-1895

Unit Date March-May 1884.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Unit Date May-August 1884, 1887-1888.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Unit Date August 1881-March 1892.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Unit Date April-August 1892.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Unit Date 1894

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Unit Date 1895

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Seaboard Air Line Railway Company,

Unit Date 1905, 1916.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Southern Express Company,

Unit Date 1892-1896

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Southern States Dispatch,

Unit Date September-November 1909.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Tidewater Railway Company,

Unit Date 1905-1910

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Virginia Company,

Unit Date 1888-1898

Unit Date 1888-1891

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Unit Date January-June 1892.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Unit Date July 1892-1893.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Unit Date 1894
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 8 (folder)
Unit Date 1896-May 1897.
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 9 (folder)
Unit Date June 1897-1898.
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 1 (folder)

Virginia Holding Corporation,

Unit Date 1928-1954
Unit Date 1930-1932
Unit Date 1928, 1930.
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 2 (folder)
Unit Date 1931-April 1932.
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 3 (folder)
Unit Date May-July 1932.
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 4 (folder)
Unit Date August-December 1932, 1953-1954.
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 5 (folder)

Virginia, Tennessee, & Georgia Air Line-Fast Freight Line,

Unit Date 1887, n.d.
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 6 (folder)

Unidentified Documents,

Unit Date 1893, 1903, 1919, n.d.
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 7 (folder)