

Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection

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1851-1978



Title Statement

Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection, 1851-1978 Ms.2009.037

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Publication Statement

Publisher: Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)
560 Drillfield Drive
Newman Library, Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
Business Number: 540-231-6308
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URL: <http://spec.lib.vt.edu>



2010 (CC0 1.0)

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2024-02-27 07:00:07 -0500.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2009.037

Unit Date

1851-1978

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The Norfolk and Western Railway and Associated Companies contains a collection of records relating to the Norfolk & Western Railway and several of its predecessor and subsidiary lines and other associated enterprises, including the Atlantic & Danville Railway; Bluefield Inn; Deepwater Railway; Hotel Roanoke; New Jersey, Indiana & Illinois Railroad; New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad; Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad; Norfolk and Western Railroad; Roanoke Machine Works; Shenandoah Valley Railroad; Tidewater Railway; and the Winston-Salem Southbound Railway. Included are such materials as financial and legal documents, reports, maps, construction files, printed materials, and Norfolk & Western standard plans.

Creator

Norfolk and Western Railroad Company (1881-1896)

Extent

3.7 Cubic Feet 6 boxes, 1 oversize folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The first accrual of the Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection was purchased in 2008. The second accrual was purchased from the same source in 2009.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement and description of the first accrual of the Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection commenced and was completed in March 2009. Processing of the second accrual of the Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection commenced in April 2010 and was completed in September 2010.

In the first accrual, materials relating to the N&W and affiliates were processed as the Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection. The working and personal papers of Chapman J. French, distinguishable from the remainder of the collection, were separated into a second collection bearing French's name (Ms2009-034). Other materials, not related in any way to the N&W were divided into various individual collections (see "separated materials" section).

The second accrual, in keeping with the work done on the first, was also divided between the Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection and the Chapman J. French Papers. With the second accrual, however, materials which were not related in any way to the N&W and its affiliates, as well as N&W-related memorabilia and other items which had been created for external use or created by others, were moved to a new collection bearing the name of the collector, the Wayne Perkins Collection, Ms2010-078.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection, Ms2009-037, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Administrative History

The Norfolk & Western Railway was established through a reorganization of the bankrupt Norfolk and Western Railroad in 1896, the latter company itself having arisen from the Atlantic, Mississippi & Ohio Railroad, a successor to the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad. Through expansion and various mergers, the N&W 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. (Other acquisitions represented in this collection are the Atlantic & Danville Railway (1962); the New Jersey, Indiana & Illinois Railroad (through acquisition of the Wabash Railroad, 1962); and the Winston-Salem Southbound Railway (acquired and operated jointly with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, 1909).) In 1982, the N&W combined with the Southern Railway to form Norfolk Southern Corporation.

Scope and Content

This collection contains materials from the Norfolk & Western Railway, several of its predecessor and

subsidiary lines, and associated companies. The collection contains such items as financial and legal documents, reports, maps, plans, timetables, work documents, and printed materials.

The operations of the Norfolk & Western Railway are represented in the collection by a diverse array of materials, including such items as seniority rosters, descriptions / classifications of the company's rolling stock, and printed materials (including legal agreements and a list of Roanoke sidings and team tracks). The N&W materials also include several timetables, train orders, and memoranda from the Passenger Traffic Department. Most significantly, perhaps, the materials include a bound set of standard plans issued by the office of the company's chief engineer. The standards book includes specifications for company-manufactured or -constructed buildings, tools, signs, roadways, bridges, tunnels, appurtenances, etc. Among the remaining materials are a number of financial documents, including such materials as account statements and disbursement vouchers. Also relating to various aspects of daily company operations are several items, including a record book of clerical personnel at the Bluefield Yards; a conductor's train book, bulletins from Crew, Virginia; Passenger Traffic Department circular letters; and time return and delay reports.

The collection also includes several construction job files for the New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad Company (the "Nickel Plate Road") projects in Ohio during the late 1950s. Included in the files for jobs at Huron, Canton, Toledo, Massillon, Georgetown, Fremont, Ironville, Cleveland, and Burbank, are maps, legal documents, balance sheets, correspondence, and reports.

Among the materials in the collection representing other companies are antebellum payment records from the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad (including payrolls and disbursement vouchers). From the Norfolk and Western Railroad are various financial and legal documents, including account statements, purchase vouchers, and reports, all largely relating to the company's reorganization. Among the many other companies represented in the collection are: the Deepwater Railway; Hotel Roanoke; New Jersey, Indiana & Illinois Railroad; Roanoke Machine Works; Shenandoah Valley Railroad; Tidewater Railway; and Winston-Salem Southbound Railway.

Separated Material

The Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection was purchased in two accruals. With the first accrual, materials that were determined to relate specifically to the Norfolk & Western, its predecessors and affiliates were retained in this collection (Ms2009-037). The personal and working papers of Chapman J. French, a civil engineer employed by the company, were easily distinguishable and were separated to the newly created Chapman J. French Papers (Ms2009-034).

Materials that did not relate in any way to the N&W were separated into the following individual collections:

Chapman J. French Papers, Ms2009-034

Mine Hill & Schuylkill Haven Railroad Stock Certificates, Ms2009-035

New River Mineral Company Stock Certificate, Ms2009-036

Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Receipts, Ms2009-038

Raleigh Coal & Coke Company Rail Spur Drawing, Ms2009-039

Reed Island Iron Company Receipts, Ms2009-040

Rock Island Lines Insurance Booklet, Ms2009-041

Sullivan Railroad Company Stock Certificate, Ms2009-042

Tennessee, Alabama & Georgia Railroad Annual Report, Ms2009-043

Tennessee, Alabama & Georgia Railway Annual Report, Ms2009-044

Thomas Wood and Company Freight Records, Ms2009-045

Virginia Iron, Coal and Coke Company Receipts, Ms2009-046

Much of the second accrual was likewise divided between the Norfolk & Western Railway and Associated Companies Collection and the Chapman J. French Papers. In the second accrual, however, materials that did not relate to the N&W were separated into a newly created collection bearing the name of the collector, Wayne Perkins Collection, Ms2010-078

Related Archival Material

Virginia Tech Special Collections and University Archives holds several other manuscript collections as well as books relating to the Norfolk & Western and its affiliates.

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
Railroad
Norfolk and Western Railroad Company (1881-1896)
New York, Chicago, and St. Louis Railway Company

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged alphabetically by company name, then alphabetically by topic or document type.

Description of Subordinate Components

A-C

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Atlantic & Danville Railway right-of-way and track map,

Unit Date 1927

Physical Characteristics [see Oversize Materials]

Atlantic, Mississippi and Ohio Railroad receipts,

Unit Date 1876-1881

Physical Characteristics [2 items]

Bluefield Inn receipts,

Unit Date 1893-1897

Deepwater Railway financial records,

Unit Date 1903-1906, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Physical Characteristics [3 folders]

E-G

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

East River Railroad - West Virginia legislation,

Unit Date 1882

Erie-Lackawanna Railway train orders,

Unit Date 1976

Hotel Roanoke

Receipts,

Unit Date 1893-1898, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Extra labor payroll records,

Unit Date 1940-1941

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Howard Collieries grocery invoices,

Unit Date 1928

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

I-M

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Lynchburg and Durham Railroad - Virginia legislation,

Unit Date 1892

New Jersey, Indiana and Illinois Railroad

Unit Date 1904-1905

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

New River Plateau Railroad - Virginia incorporation act,

Unit Date 1888

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad ("Nickel Plate Road") job files

Dredging of dock facilities at Huron, Ohio (Job J-4239),

Unit Date 1959-1962

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Grade separation on U.S. Route 62 at Canton, Ohio (Job J-4123),

Unit Date 1957-1958

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Grade separation structure over expressway at Toledo, Ohio (Job J-4122),

Unit Date 1955-1958

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Physical Characteristics [2 folders] [see also Oversize Materials]

Installation of operation recorders at Massilon, Ohio (Job J-4142)

Unit Date 1956-1957

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Installation of partition at Georgetown, Ohio (Job J-4165),

Unit Date 1958

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Relocation of U.S. Route 20 at Fremont, Ohio (Job J-4125),

Unit Date 1957-1959

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Removal of clay deposit and replacement of pole line at East Canton, Ohio (Job J-4162),

Unit Date 1957-1959

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Replacement of car wash building at Ironville, Ohio (Job J-4166),

Unit Date 1957-1961

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Replacement of plank walks with slag screenings at Ironville, Ohio (Job J-4170),

Unit Date 1957-1961

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Restoration of Cuyahoga Valley Railroad turnout at Cleveland, Ohio (Job J-4164),

Unit Date 1956

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Separation of track grades for State Route 1 at Burbank, Ohio (Job J-4194),

Unit Date 1958-1960

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad payroll and vouchers,

Unit Date 1855-1859

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 2-3 (folder)

Norfolk and Western Railroad

Account statements and receipts,

Unit Date 1883-1887, n.d.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 4-6 (folder)

Bonds, securities and mortgages,

Unit Date 1881-1905, n.d.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7-8 (folder)

Claims,

Unit Date 1882-1886

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Claims,

Unit Date 1887

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Physical Characteristics [2 folders]

Correspondence and memoranda,

Unit Date 1883-1905

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Employee pay and travel expense records,

Unit Date 1882-1887

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Freight bills,

Unit Date 1883-1887

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Legal documents,

Unit Date 1884-1896

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Map of depot grounds and proposed arrangement for coal tracks at Central Station

Unit Date n.d.

Physical Characteristics [see Oversize Materials]

Purchase vouchers,

Unit Date 1882-1887

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 15-16 (folder)

Reports and statements,

Unit Date 1882-1897

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1-2 (folder)

Account statements,

Unit Date 1908-1916

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Buffalo Creek (West Virginia) deeds,

Unit Date 1903-1917

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Burns legal files

Mollie and J. Taze Howard (guardians of Burns and Lois Aston) v. N&W,

Unit Date 1897-1900, n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Miriam E. Jackson v. N&W,

Unit Date 1894

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

S. N. Johnson v. N&W,

Unit Date 1893-1905, n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Physical Characteristics [2 folders]

B. H. Jones v. N&W

Unit Date 1896

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Lebanon Hardware Company v. N&W,

Unit Date 1905-1907

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Ida Sexton (by Lafayette Sexton) v. N&W,

Unit Date 1895-1896

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

B. J. Wysor v. N&W

Unit Date 1905

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

L. Finney v. E. E. Price (N&W, garnishee),

Unit Date 1904

box-folder 3 (box)
Container 12 (folder)

Civilian Conservation Corps - Camp McArthur (Damascus, Virginia) train orders

Unit Date 1933-1935
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 13 (folder)

Clerical personnel record book [Bluefield Yards],

Unit Date 1931-1939
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 14 (folder)

Company fact book,

Unit Date [1949?]
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 1 (folder)

Conductor's train book (W. F. Oliver, conductor),

Unit Date 1954
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 2 (folder)

Crewe, Virginia superintendent's office bulletins,

Unit Date 1955
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 3 (folder)

Disbursement vouchers,

Unit Date 1908-1918
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 4-6 (folder)

Employee travel expense statements,

Unit Date 1908-1918
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 7 (folder)

Freight bills,

Unit Date 1900-1909
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 8 (folder)

Inventory of materials and supplies on hand,

Unit Date 1917
box-folder 4 (box)
Container 9 (folder)

Materials and supplies disbursed statements,

Unit Date 1918
box-folder 4 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Passenger Traffic Department circular letters

Unit Date 1945-1957

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Rolling stock description and classification

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Locomotives,

Unit Date 1941

Locomotives,

Unit Date 1953

Passenger equipt. cars,

Unit Date 1945

Seniority rosters

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Conductors - Pocahontas Division

Unit Date 1957

Telegraphers and agents - Radford Division

Unit Date 1930

Telegraphers - Radford Division,

Unit Date 1947

Telegraphers - Radford Division,

Unit Date 1958

Telegraphers - Radford Division,

Unit Date 1960

Standard plans book,

Unit Date 1901-1967

box-folder 4 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Statements and reports,

Unit Date 1895-1972, n.d.

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Time return and delay reports (James P. Catron, conductor),

Unit Date 1949-1955

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Timetables A-Q

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Lake Erie Division no. 200,

Unit Date 1965

Muncie Division no. 200,

Unit Date 1965

Physical Characteristics [2 copies]

Norfolk Division no. 16,

Unit Date 1959

Timetables R

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Radford Division no. 1,

Unit Date 1930

Radford Division no. 2,

Unit Date 1931

Radford Division no. 7,

Unit Date 1947

Radford Division no. 34,

Unit Date 1930

Radford Division no. 37,

Unit Date 1930

Radford Division no. 38,

Unit Date 1930

Timetables S-Z

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Shenandoah Division no. 9,

Unit Date 1955

Shenandoah Division no. 6,

Unit Date 1975

Track charts - Eastern Region, Norfolk Division,

Unit Date 1978

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Train orders,

Unit Date 1954-1976

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 7-9 (folder)

Treasurer's office company reorganization papers,

Unit Date 1896

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Treasurer's office company reorganization papers

Unit Date 1897-1902

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Printed material

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

"Agreement Between the Director General of Railroads and Norfolk and Western Railway Company and Other Corporations,"

Unit Date 1918

"Alphabetical-numerical List of Sidings and Team Tracks Within Roanoke Terminal Switching Limits,"

Unit Date 1956

"Final Settlement Between the Director General of Railroads and the Norfolk and Western Railway Company and Other Corporations,"

Unit Date 1923

"Hints on Health and First Aid,"

Unit Date 1917

"Indenture of Lease Between Pocahontas Coal and Coke Company, Lessor, and Illinois Steel Company, Lessee, and Norfolk and Western Railway Company...,"

Unit Date 1901

"Instructions Covering Collection of Federal Tax on Transportation of Persons, Seating or Sleeping Accommodations, etc., and Transportation of Property,"

Unit Date 1950

"Instructions to Agents, Conductors, Yard Masters and Others, Governing the Use of Automatic, Self-locking, Consecutively-numbered Car Seals,"

Unit Date 1908

"Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders,"

Unit Date 1978

"Regulations and Requirements Governing Physical Examinations of Applicants for Employment,"

Unit Date 1928

"Transportation Charges and Regulations for Occupancy of Space in Sleeping Cars and Parlor Cars...,"

Unit Date 1949-1950

Physical Characteristics [2 items]

Miscellanea,

box-folder 5 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Pay rates,

Unit Date 1952

Pocahontas Division superintendent bulletin notice (no. 4430) regarding vacations,

Unit Date 1949

Applications for increase in work force or rate of pay,

Unit Date 1919-1937

Conductor's check of train register,

Unit Date n.d.

Inspection certificate of empty box car,

Unit Date 1970

Advertisement: Round Trip Fares to Norfolk and Virginia Beach,

Unit Date n. d.

O-Q

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Pittsburgh & West Virginia Railway freight claim payment to Union Pacific Railroad,

Unit Date 1960

Roanoke Machine Works

Statements of account with Norfolk & Western Railway,

Unit Date 1887

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Assorted records

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Disbursement vouchers,

Unit Date 1884

Materials and supplies account,

Unit Date 1889

Contract with Girard Life Insurance, Annuity & Trust,

Unit Date 1889

Contract with Fidelity Insurance, Trust and Safe Deposit Company,

Unit Date 1887

Roanoke and Southern Railway legislative charter (North Carolina),

Unit Date 1893

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Shenandoah Valley Railroad

Correspondence/memoranda and disbursement vouchers,

Unit Date 1883-1897

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Legal documents,

Unit Date 1887-1890, n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

South and Western Railroad letter from general counsel J. Norment Powell regarding McEwen v. Dawson Coal & Coke,

Unit Date 1907

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Tidewater Railway

Journal vouchers,

Unit Date 1906-1910, n.d.

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 8-10 (folder)

Journal entries and other financial records,

Unit Date 1905-1909

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

U-V

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Virginia and Tennessee documents.

Virginia and Tennessee documents,

Unit Date 1851-1859

Virginia Company legal and financial documents,

Unit Date 1888-1942, n.d.

Virginia Mineral Railway legislative act of incorporation,

Unit Date 1880

Virginian Railway financial records,

Unit Date 1909-1931

W-Z

box-folder 6 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Washington and Western Railroad legislative act of incorporation (Virginia),

Unit Date 1889

Winston-Salem Southbound Railway annual report,

Unit Date 1914

OVERSIZE MATERIALS

folder 1

Atlantic & Danville Railway Company right-of-way and track map

Unit Date 1927

New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad Company ("Nickel Plate Road") grade separation structure over expressway at Toledo, Ohio (Job J-4122)

Unit Date 1955

Norfolk and Western Railroad map of depot grounds and proposed arrangement for coal tracks at Central Station

Unit Date n.d.

"Official Map of Percentage Groups in Central Freight Association Territory... for West-bound Freight Rates"

Unit Date n.d.

Norfolk & Western Railway Scioto Division - Sandusky district right-of-way and track map,

Unit Date 1970

Norfolk & Western Railway Company map showing lands on Buffalo Creek (Mingo County, West Virginia),

Unit Date 1918