

West Virginia Midland Railroad Company Records, 1903-1933 and undated A&M 2434

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1903-1933 and undated



Title Statement

West Virginia Midland Railroad Company Records, 1903-1933 and undated A&M 2434

Author: Staff of the West Virginia & Regional History Center

Publication Statement

Publisher: West Virginia and Regional History Center

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P.O. Box 6069
Morgantown, WV 26506-6069
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URL: <https://wvrhc.lib.wvu.edu>



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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

A&M 2434

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Unit Date

1903-1933 and undated

Language

English

Abstract

Correspondence, business papers, engineers' ledgers, blueprints, maps, structural drawings, and photographs document the construction and operation of the West Virginia Midland Railway Company (later the West Virginia Midland Railroad) in Webster Springs, West Virginia, from 1906 to 1933.

Creator

West Virginia Midland Railway Company

Extent

4.2 Linear Feet 4 ft. 2 in. (5 document cases, 5 in. each); (2 flat storage boxes, 5 in. each); (5 flat boxes, 3 in. each)

Physical Location

West Virginia and Regional History Center / West Virginia University / 1549 University Avenue / P.O. Box 6069 / Morgantown, WV 26506-6069 / Phone: 304-293-3536 / URL: West Virginia & Regional History Center

Repository

West Virginia and Regional History Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

The Holly River and Addison Railway Company was incorporated on September 10, 1898, and contained both narrow gauge and standard gauge track. The railroad primarily served five lumber companies in the area, but also transported passengers to Webster Springs. It ran until 1906 when it was reorganized as the West Virginia Midland Railroad. The name changed again in 1924, when it became the West Virginia Midland Railway under the ownership of H.B. Curtin of the Pardee & Curtin Lumber Company. Most of the track ceased running in 1931.

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, business papers, engineers' ledgers, blueprints, maps, structural drawings, and photographs document the construction and operation of the West Virginia Midland Railway Company (later the West Virginia Midland Railroad) from 1906 to 1933. Much of the material is undated, though it reasonably corresponds with the operational dates of the railroad. Correspondence, 1903-1930, is housed in Box 1 and concerns bridges (locations, plans, bids, construction, materials); land (purchase of property, deeds, boundaries); routes for tracks, road construction, timber, shipments, and insurance for engineers. Specific locations mentioned several times include Webster Springs, the Holly River, and the Elk River. Business papers, 1906-1918 and undated are also housed in Box 1. These include construction contracts, descriptions of right of ways, grading sheets, and payroll sheets from 1911 to 1912.

Engineering Level Field-Books are housed in Box 2-Box 5. These offer information about levels for various sections of the railroad, including the Bergoo Extension, Cherry Falls section, Mill Run section, Elk River Bridge, Back Fork extension, Leatherwood, Palmer, and Grassy Creek sections of the rail line. Specific topics include preliminary levels for lines, final level profiles, grades, slopes, structures, siding, construction data,

and back switches. Box 4 also contains masonry books. Box 5 also contains time books from 1901-1903, and 1933; a savings account book from 1890-1892; and the Pocket List of Railroad Officials from 1927 and 1930.

Also included are more than 130 oversize maps and almost 30 oversize blueprints. Maps detail extensions, rail lines, projected lines, operating and proposed lines, cut timber, and proposed tracks and junctions. Blueprints are of station houses, dwellings, and bridges along the railroad, chiefly in Bergoo, Grafton, Palmer, and Webster Springs. There are also a number of drawings of the Elk River Bridge. A more detailed listing of maps and blueprints is available in the library.

Keywords

Webster Springs.

Account books

Maps.

Railroads - Holly River and Addison Railway.

Railroads - West Virginia Midland Railway Company.

Railroads

Holly River and Addison Railway Company

West Virginia Midland Railway Company