

Collection #
M 1113
OMB 0092

**INDIANA RAIL ROAD COMPANY
COLLECTION, 1983–2007**

Collection Information	1
Historical Sketch	2
Scope and Content Note	3
Series Contents	4

Processed by

Jessica Frederick
July 2014

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

*

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 7 manuscript boxes, 1 half-size oversize manuscript box, 6 flat file folders, 1 color photographs folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1983–2007

PROVENANCE: The Indiana Rail Road Company, April and October, 2013

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2013.0131, 2013.0362

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Indiana Rail Road Company originated in a time when many big railroad companies were failing, mainly because of the trucking industry. New railroad companies were born, "shortlines" that bought small feeder lines from the big companies. These smaller railroads reduced costs through various strategies, including the use of smaller crews, improving service quality, and catering to the smaller customers that were often ignored by the bigger companies.

The rail lines now operated by the Indiana Rail Road were once part of the Illinois Central line. This particular section, which runs from Effingham, Illinois to Indianapolis, Indiana, was known as the "Hi-Dry," and was never a stellar performer. Passenger service disappeared after World War II. Merchandise traffic dwindled with the growth of the trucking industry, and by the mid-1970s all that kept the rail line going was coal from Southern Indiana to Indianapolis Power & Light in Indianapolis. With the Staggers Rail Act of 1980, bigger companies could more easily sell off their properties.

Thomas G. Hoback, a manager at Illinois Central, looked at 70-80 possible railroads to buy and grow. He bought the Effingham to Indianapolis part of the rail line in 1986 and endeavored to rebuild it. While running the company often proved difficult, especially in light of demands by Indianapolis Power & Light, Hoback persisted and the Indiana Rail Road Company grew. This effort resulted in carloads increasing by nearly 1,000 percent by 2006. The Indiana Rail Road Company showcases innovative railroading through new technologies and operating techniques that made the company successful.

Sources:

Materials in the collection.

Christopher Rund. *The Indiana Rail Road Company: America's New Regional Railroad*. Bloomington, Ind.: Indiana University Press, 2012.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The majority of the collection contains correspondence, agreements, and other materials related to the Indiana Rail Road Company's business with other companies.

Series One: Business with Other Companies contains correspondence and agreements, financial statements and invoices, memoranda, and other business-related information. While some files are quite extensive, others are a page or little more from brief interactions.

Series Two: Operations consists of reports, operational and safety manuals, operations through other yards and locations, inspections, plans, and reports of accidents on the rails.

Series Three: Acquisitions and Improvements includes correspondence, plans, and documents related to acquisitions of other companies/properties and improvements to the railroad's tracks.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Business with Other Companies

CONTENTS

Amax Coal Company, 1994–96.

Ameren Corporation, 2001.

Business Unit, 1994.

Canadian Pac Files: Indiana Southern Railroad, 1992–93.

Cayuga Coal, 1989–93.

Citizens for Reliable And Safe Highways (CRASH), 1997.

Coal: Danville, Illinois, 1989–94.

Correspondence with various companies, 1989–95.

CSX Transportation, 1989. (1 of 4)

CSX Transportation, 1989. (2 of 4)

CSX Transportation, 1989–97. (3 of 4)

CSX Transportation, 1989–97. (4 of 4)

DAVCO, 1993–95.

Delaware & Hudson Railway, n.d.

Destec, 1994.

Foreign Railroad Meeting, 1989–90.

The Geon Company, 1989–97. (1 of 2)

The Geon Company, 1989–97. (2 of 2)

Indianapolis Power & Light Coal Schedule, 1987–97.

Joint facilities with Conrail, L&N, and Southern, 1983–97.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Flat File: FF 14-o
Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 7

Box 1, Folder 8

Box 1, Folder 9

Box 1, Folder 10

Box 1, Folder 11

Box 2, Folder 1

Box 2, Folder 2

Box 2, Folder 3

Box 2, Folder 4

Box 2, Folder 5

Box 2, Folder 6

Box 2, Folder 7

Box 2, Folder 8

K & F Industries, Inc., 1984–97.	Box 2, Folder 9
Lafarge Corporation, 1988–97.	Box 2, Folder 10
Linton, Ind., 1990–97. (Interchange)	Box 3, Folder 1
Business in Louisville, Kentucky, 1992–95. (1 of 2)	Box 3, Folder 2
Business in Louisville, Kentucky, 1992–95. (2 of 2)	Box 3, Folder 3
Louisville, Kentucky map, 1975.	Flat File: FF 14-o Folder 2
Marine Coal, 1987–95.	Box 3, Folder 4
Merchandise Warehouse Co., Inc., 1986–95.	Box 3, Folder 5
Metal Working Lubricants Co., 1987–96.	Box 3, Folder 6
Midwest Fuels, Inc., 1995.	Box 3, Folder 7
National By-Products, Inc., 1986–91.	Box 3, Folder 8
National Starch and Chemical Company, 1986–95. (1 of 2)	Box 3, Folder 9
National Starch and Chemical Company, 1986–98. (2 of 2)	Box 4, Folder 1
National Starch Switching, 1988–89.	Box 4, Folder 2
New business, 1989–90.	Box 4, Folder 3
Norfolk Southern Corporation, 1981–90.	Box 4, Folder 4
Nucor Corp., 1987–89.	Box 4, Folder 5
Owensboro Coal Dock, Inc., 1986–88.	Box 4, Folder 6
Peabody Coal Company, 1989–99.	Box 4, Folder 7
Peabody Coal Company: Photographs of trash and letter, 1994.	Color Photographs: Folder 1
Phoenix Natural Resources, 1992.	Box 4, Folder 8
Pinnacle Oil, Inc., 1990.	Box 4, Folder 9

Potash (mineral) information, 1990.	Box 4, Folder 10
Reilly Tar & Chemical Co., 1986–89.	Box 4, Folder 11
Reinbold & Sons, 1994.	Box 4, Folder 12
Richmond Power and Light–Transload, 1992–95.	Box 4, Folder 13
Rogers Group, Inc., 1981–96. (1 of 2)	Box 4, Folder 14
Rogers Group, Inc., 1981–96. (2 of 2)	Flat File: FF 14-o Folder 3
S & W Industries, 1986–87.	Box 4, Folder 15
Smith & Weiss Enterprise and Trading Co., 1991–95.	Box 4, Folder 16
Solar Sources, Inc., 1988–93. (1 of 2)	Box 5, Folder 1
Solar Sources, Inc., 1988–93. (2 of 2)	Box 5, Folder 2
Superior Oil Co., 1986–99.	Box 5, Folder 3
TexPar Energy Inc., 1993–96. (1 of 2)	Box 5, Folder 4
TexPar Energy Inc., 1993–96. (2 of 2)	Box 5, Folder 5
Tower Fuel Company, Inc., 1994.	Box 5, Folder 6
Triad Mining of Indiana, Inc., 1990–93. (1 of 2)	Box 5, Folder 7
Triad Mining of Indiana, Inc., 1990–93. (2 of 2)	OMB 0092 Folder 1
Umbarger, Inc., 1987–90.	Box 5, Folder 8
Union Pacific Railroad Company, 1989–94.	Box 5, Folder 9
Union Pacific Railroad Company map and complaint, 2007.	Flat File: FF 14-o Folder 4
United Minerals, 1990.	Box 5, Folder 10
U.S. Steel, 1986–87.	Box 5, Folder 11
Winamac (Norfolk) Southern, 2003.	Flat File: FF 14-o Folder 5

Series 2: Operations

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Blue Island Yards, Ill., 1991–94.	Box 6, Folder 1
Coal loading, 1992.	Box 6, Folder 2
Coal market research, 1992–93.	Box 6, Folder 3
Coal "pignics" (pig roasts), 1992–93.	Box 6, Folder 4
Coal recap, 1989–93.	Box 6, Folder 5
Conrail safety pamphlet, 1998.	Box 6, Folder 6
Costs of running coal trains, 1989–94. (1 of 2)	Box 6, Folder 7
Costs of running coal trains, 1989–94. (2 of 2)	Box 6, Folder 8
General operations information, 1989.	Box 6, Folder 9
Indiana Rail Road Company Timetable No. 11, Jan. 1, 2000.	Box 6, Folder 10
Indiana Rail Road Company Timetable No. 12, Aug. 16, 2004.	Box 6, Folder 11
Industry Inspection Forms, 1999.	Box 6, Folder 12
Infrastructure and Funding Needs of Indiana's Local and Regional Railroads, 1997.	Box 6, Folder 13
Intrastate regulation of trucking, 1994.	Box 6, Folder 14
Missouri Central Railroad System Timetable No. 2, 2001.	Box 6, Folder 15
Nerco Coal Corp., 1990. [Derailment on Soo Line]	Box 6, Folder 16
Operations Manual, 2000. (1 of 2)	Box 7, Folder 1
Operations Manual, 2000. (2 of 2)	Box 7, Folder 2
Rules, 1992–99.	Box 7, Folder 3
"Safety First" operating manual, Apr. 10, 1994.	Box 7, Folder 4
"Safety First" operating manual, Jan. 1, 1995.	Box 7, Folder 5

Terre Haute Chamber of Commerce, 1994–97. Box 7, Folder 6
3 East (accident), 1992. Box 7, Folder 7

Series 3: Acquisitions and Improvements

CONTENTS

Conrail – Logansport Cluster (acquired by IN RR Co.), 1987–90.

Conrail – Shelbyville, Ind. (acquired by IN RR Co.), 1982–96.

Conrail – Shelbyville, Ind. map, n.d.

Downtown Indianapolis Vintage Trolley Project, Technical Report No. 2: Conceptual Engineering, Oct. 1999.

Latta, Ind. yard/track upgrade, 1990–97.

Latta, Ind. yard/track upgrade map, n.d.

Spring Hill, 1991–95. (proposed changes)

CONTAINER

Box 7, Folder 8

Box 7, Folder 9

OMB 0092
Folder 2

OMB 0092
Folders 3–6

Box 7, Folder 10

Flat File: FF 14-o
Folder 6

Box 7, Folder 11