JOHN R. MICHAEL
RAILROAD MATERIALS, 1883–1990

Collection Information
Biographical Sketch
Scope and Content Note
Series Contents
Cataloging Information

Processed by

Kurt Jung
April 27, 2007

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: 1 manuscript box, 4 oversize manuscript folders, 3 folders of photographs
COLLECTION DATES: 1883–1988
PROVENANCE: Mrs. John R. Michael, Tuesday May 08, 2001
RESTRICTIONS: None
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Born February 26, 1919 to Seth and Ollie Michael, John Richard Michael was the first of two sons. Like his father and Grandfather, John went to work in the Railroad industry. Grandfather John S. worked for the Chicago and Atlantic Railroad while Seth and John R. worked for the Erie Railroad. John R. Michael was also a collector of railroad materials.

John R. Michael married Eloise Ruth Bickel on March 27, 1937. The couple had three sons, Stephan John, Thomas William, and Christopher Charles.

Sources:

Mrs. John R. (Eloise) Michael

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The John R. Michael records (1883–1988) consist of a large number of timetable charts from the Chicago and Atlantic Railway and the Chicago and Erie Railroad (ca. 1883–1903). Also among the contents is a book labeled “Long tally” which contains descriptions, calculations and notes on railroad bridges. This book, estimated to be from the 1880’s, gives an extract of the specifications of the Kentucky & Indiana Bridge. Further pages describe a bridge project in Buffalo NY, and other general bridge engineering descriptions and formulas. The collection also holds a figuring book which details delays of trains during May 1928. This book also held various loose documents which are now held in folders 7 through 11. An included log book lists various notes from the operations in rail yards and on rail lines during 1939. Filling out the rest of the contents are various receipts, orders, photos, clippings, and publications relating to railroad work.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Manuscript Materials

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<td>“Long Tally” [railroad bridge descriptions] [1880’s?]</td>
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Rail company data sheets, miscellaneous [September 1995?]

Railroad fliers [1982], article [1949].

Train Orders [1883, 1884, 1891, 1963, 1968]

Wabash RR [1947], Train derailment [1949], Train Order regarding President McKinley [1901]

Log Book [1939]

Figuring Book [May 1928]

Railroad accident, Huntington, Ind., [November 18, 1946]

Railroad Operations Documents [1902, 1936–1946]

Professional Correspondence [1868, 1933–1953]

Workplace Humor [n.d.]

Souvenir Confederate Currency [n.d.]

Ticket stubs, Railroad insignia [1904, 1950]

Nickel Plate, Erie Railroad Stationery [n.d.]

Railroad Postcards [1949, 1957]

Personal Correspondence [1955–1990]

Train Depots and lanterns [1977?]

Photographs: Folder 1

Photographs: Folder 2

CONTENTS

Chicago Timetables, Indiana Timetables, 1883–1968 (1 of 4)

Chicago Timetables, Indiana Timetables, 1883–1968 (2 of 4)

Chicago Timetables, Indiana Timetables, 1883–1968 (3 of 4)

Chicago Timetables, Indiana Timetables, 1883–1968 (4 of 4)

CONTAINER

Oversize manuscripts:

Flat Files FF-15m
CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: http://opac.indianahistory.org/
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0891).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.