

Collection #
P 0318

**RUSH ROPP HARRIS
COLLECTION, CA. 1930S**

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4 February 2019

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

**VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:** 1 folder

**COLLECTION
DATES:** Ca. 1930s

PROVENANCE: Gift from Jane Stevens of Evanston, Illinois, 2001

RESTRICTIONS: None

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**ACCESSION
NUMBER:** 2002.0052

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Rush Ropp Harris worked for the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railway and its successor, the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railway (also known as the Big Four Railroad) for more than fifty-two years, from April 1885 until his retirement on 31 August 1937. By January 1914, he had been appointed as superintendent of freight transportation and held that position through the remainder of his career.

From August 1886 to September 1889, he was a telegraph operator for the Cleveland division of the CCC&I. He then worked as a local agent at Greenwich, Ohio, until June 1899, when he was transferred to Muncie, Indiana, in a similar capacity. In August 1902, he became a local agent at East St. Louis, Illinois, and then advanced to car accountant in Indianapolis in April 1907. He held that position until his promotion to superintendent of freight transportation for the Big Four, the Peoria & Eastern Railway, and the Cincinnati Northern Railroad. These were then all part of the New York Central Railroad System with headquarters in Indianapolis.

Rush was born 20 August 1867 to James K. P. Harris and Mary A. Hesser Harris in Little Sandusky, Ohio, and grew up in Galion, Ohio. He married Martha "Martie" Leeds Williams (1868–1941) on 5 September 1888 in Huron, Ohio. They had a son named James Armitt Harris (1889–1949). Rush died 17 March 1950 in Indianapolis; his remains are with his wife's at Washington Park East Cemetery.

Sources:

Items in the collection.

Find a Grave <findagrave.com>. Accessed 4 February 2019.

Indiana Death Certificates, 1899–2011 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 4 February 2019.

Ohio Compiled Marriage Index, 1803–1900 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 4 February 2019.

Railway Age Gazette <books.google.com>. Accessed 4 February 2019.

9 January 1914, vol. 56, no. 2, p. 98

16 January 1914, vol. 56, no. 3, p. 147

United States Federal Census, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940 <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 4 February 2019.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of one black-and-white photograph of Rush R. Harris [ca. 1930s], an invitation to a 1937 retirement dinner in his honor, and an announcement that F. A. [Fred] Dawson will succeed Harris as Superintendent of Freight Transportation for the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railway (1937).

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Photograph of Rush R. Harris seated at desk (photo #45656 by F. M. Kirkpatrick of Indianapolis, ca. 1930s).

Invitation to retirement dinner for Rush R. Harris at the Columbia Club in Indianapolis, 31 August 1937.

Announcement that F. A. [Fred] Dawson is appointed Superintendent Freight Transportation following the retirement of Rush R. Harris. Signed by F. N. Reynolds, General Superintendent. Letterhead reads: Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis Railway / The New York Central Railroad Co., Lessee. Dated 1 September 1937.

CONTAINER

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1