

**Finding aid for the Pere
Marquette Railroad Co. collection
Collection 037**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

March 1987

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Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title	Pere Marquette Railroad Co. collection
Date [inclusive]	1900-1940, 1946
Extent	5.1 Linear feet Twelve boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The Pere Marquette Railroad operated across Michigan's lower peninsula and extending into Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and New York. The Pere Marquette's headquarters were at Detroit. The Pere Marquette used the Union Station in Grand Rapids. In 1947, the Pere Marquette was merged into the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad. This collection documents the operations and business affairs of the company from its creation in 1899 through 1946. It contains various company publications including annual reports, advertising brochures, financial documents and miscellaneous items. Also included are Pere Marquette Magazine and Pere Marquette Service, publications used to improve ridership and usage and promote the company's image.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

The Pere Marquette Railroad Co. was created November 1, 1899 by combining the Flint & Pere Marquette Railroad Co., the Chicago & West Michigan Railway Company and the Detroit, Grand Rapids & Western Railroad Company. Each of these roads was itself a result of combining earlier lines. In 1900 the Muskegon Lake Railroad was added, and in 1903 eight more smaller Michigan lines were purchased. The resulting line operated across much of Michigan's lower peninsula, also extending into Indiana, Illinois and Ohio and from Detroit through Ontario, Canada to Buffalo, New York where connection was made with many of the Eastern roads. The Pere Marquette's headquarters was at Detroit.

In 1912 the line went into receivership, was reorganized and renamed the Pere Marquette Railroad. This lasted until April 1917, when the railroad again went into receivership and following a second reorganization emerged as the Pere Marquette Railway Company. It was absorbed by the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad in 1947.

Scope and Contents note

The collection documents the operations and business affairs of the Pere Marquette from 1900-1946. Includes various company publications consisting primarily of annual reports from 1900-1929 and 1946 and tourist brochures for the online northern Michigan resorts, plus hunting and fishing grounds. The annual reports include information on equipment, motive power and construction, as well as accounting and balance statements. Includes financial testimony and records from 1913, regarding the events surrounding the railroad's 1912 receivership. Also contains a 1916 menu highlighting Grand Rapids, in the miscellaneous section, as well as other items.

Pere Marquette Magazine and Pere Marquette Service were the publications of the Public Relations Department to promote railway policies and interest and reestablish credibility following the second financial reorganization. Service was an in-house publication, directed toward employees and related industries. Both journals reflect the railway in Michigan and the U.S.

Only select documents reflecting the history and operations of this company are included in this small collection. The bulk of the holdings are the Pere Marquette magazine from 1900 to 1931.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department March 1987

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Library purchase, accession numbers 00.000, 00.[591].1

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

See also Coll. 54-4 Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad folder, for 2 photos of Pere Marquette railroads, source unknown. 1/30/2002. Coll. 216 GRPL Ephemera Collection. P2004.027

Pere Marquette Railway Archives at the Joint Archives of Holland.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Pere Marquette Railroad.

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

Subject(s)

- Railroads -- Michigan

Series I. Annual Reports, 1900-1946

Collection Inventory**Series I. Annual Reports, 1900-1946****Scope and Contents note**

Holdings are incomplete within this date range, with a fairly complete run from 1900 to 1929.

	Box	Folder
1870, 1900-1913	1	1-14
1914-1921	2	1-9
1922-1929	3	1-8
1946	3	9

Series II. Miscellaneous Documents.**Scope and Contents note**

Two items, including a Book of Rules from 1936, and some correspondence.

	Box	Folder
Book of Rules, 1936	4	2

Series III. Financial documents.

Correspondence about possible B.& O. entry into Detroit, Michigan, 1923.	4	8
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Series III. Financial documents.**Scope and Contents note**

A few selective documents are included in this series from 1911 and 1913.

Financial Affairs, 1911

Box	Folder
4	2.5

Box	Folder
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Collateral Indenture, Mar. 1, 1911, w. Guaranty Trust Co. of N.Y. [00. [591].1 added 12/20/2000]	4	2.5
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Financial Affairs, 1913

Box	Folder
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Michigan Legislature testimony by Frederick W. Steven, (Vol. I & II), 1913	4	3-4
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Michigan Legislature testimony by Henry M. Campbell, 1913	4	5
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Holder of junior Securities present certain facts and considerations, c 1913	4	6
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Series IV. Publications**Scope and Contents note**

Pere Marquette Magazine, 1909-1931.

This series forms the bulk of this collection, and in particular the periodical "Pere Marquette Magazine," 1909-1931. "Pere Marquette Service," 1915-1929 is another periodical title included here.

Pere Marquette Magazine, 1909-1931.

	Box	Folder
Nov 1909 - Dec 1911	5	1-26
Jan 1912 - Jun 1914	6	1-30
Jul 1914 - Dec 1916	7	1-30
Jan 1917 - Nov 1917	8	1-11
Jan 1918 - Dec 1919	8	12-35
Jan 1920 - Dec 1922	9	1-36
Jan 1923 - Dec 1924	10	1-24
Oct 1926 - Dec 1927	10	25-39
Jan 1928 - Dec 1930	11	1-36
Jan 1931 - Dec 1931. V. 22, nos. 1-12	12	1-12

Pere Marquette Service, 1915-1929.

Pere Marquette Service, 1915-1929.

	Box	Folder
Jun 1915 -- May 1916. v. 1, Nos. 1-12	12	13
Jun 1916 -- Jun 1917. v. 2, Nos. 1-12	12	14
Jul 1917 -- Jun 1918. v. 3, Nos. 1-12	12	15
Jul-Aug, Nov 1918 - Jun 1919. V. 4, Nos. 1-2, 5-12	12	16
Jul 1919 -- Jun 1920. v. 5, Nos. 1-12	12	17
Jul 1920 -- Jun 1921. v. 6, Nos. 1-3, 6-12	12	18
Jul 1921 -- Jun 1922. v. 7, Nos. 1-12	12	19
Jul 1922 -- Jun 1923. v. 8, Nos. 1-12	12	20
Sep, Nov 1923 -- May 1924. v. 9, nos. 3, 5, 11 only	12	21
Jul, Sep 1924 -- Jan-Feb, May 1925. v. 10, Nos. 1-3, 7-8, 11	12	22
Aug-Sep, Nov 1925 -- May 1926. v. 11, Nos. 2-3, 5-11	12	23
Jul 1926 -- Jan, Apr-Jun 1927. v. 12, Nos. 1-7, 10-12	12	24
Jul-Oct 1927 -- Mar-Jun 1928. v. 13, Nos. 1-4, 9-12	12	25

Series V. Brochures and Advertising, 1910-1921.

Jul 1928 -- May 1929. v. 14, Nos. 1-11	12	26
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Aug, Oct-Nov 1929. v. 15, Nos. 2, 4-5	12	27
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Series V. Brochures and Advertising, 1910-1921.**Scope and Contents note**

Includes items on the topics of dairying, fishing, hunting, and on Charlevoix.

	Box	Folder
Dairying in Michigan, c 1910	3	10

"Fishing & Hunting in Michigan"

	Box	Folder
1910	3	11
1911	3	12
1912	3	13
1914	3	14

"Charlevoix the Beautiful"

	Box	Folder
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Series VI. Ephemera, 1916-1940s.

1916	3	15
1917	3	16
1921	4	1

Series VI. Ephemera, 1916-1940s.**Scope and Contents note**

Includes a menu from 1916, a “watch loaner card,” and an article on “Line Steamer.”

	Box	Folder
Menu, 1916	4	7
Watch loaner card, 1940s	4	9
Article: Pere Marquette: Line Steamer	4	10

Series VII. Maps**Scope and Contents note**

The one map currently included here is a 1900 item from the Annual Report.

Drawer

Pere Marquette Railroad Map, 1900. Removed from an annual report. Added 4/6/2000.	FF.IX.D
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