

Finding aid for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway collection Collection 192

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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

July 1996

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Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Creator	Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway.
Title	Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway collection
Date [inclusive]	1890-1914
Extent	0.79 Linear feet Two boxes
Language	English
Abstract	This small collection documents the business affairs of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway and summarizes the railroad's financial data from the last decade of the 19th century and the first 14 years of the 20th century. Included are select annual reports, timetables for customer use and an example of a 1907 gold note used to raise capital.

Biographical/Historical note

The Lake Shore and Michigan Southern (LS&MS) began as the Erie and Kalamazoo (the first Michigan railroad) in 1836. When the State of Michigan decided to divest itself of its railroad, the Michigan Southern, a few years later, entrepreneurs combined the Michigan Southern with the Erie and Kalamazoo to form the LS&MS.

In 1868 the LS&MS leased the Kalamazoo, Allegan and Grand Rapids, a line under construction from White Pigeon to Grand Rapids. This route complimented the LS&MS mainline: Detroit, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Michigan City, IN. Construction of this new line was completed in March 1869.

Also in 1869, the New York Central gained control of the LS&MS. The New York Central permitted the LS&MS to operate semi-independently as one of its "controlled lines." In 1934 administration of the LS&MS was folded into that of the New York Central. The New York Central, in turn, was folded along with the Pennsylvania Railroad into the newly created Penn Central Railroad in 1968.

Scope and Contents note

Documents the affairs of the line from 1890-1914 through annual reports containing earnings, expenses, balance statements and tables of financial information. Some years also contain detailed maps of the road. Further inclusions document the numbers of locomotives, equipment and miles of road operated.

The collection also contains examples of a public system timetable from 1902, a local timetable dated 1911 and one of the company's gold note certificates from 1907.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department July 1996

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Library purchase, accession number 00.000

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Cornelius Vanderbilt <http://www.nndb.com/people/365/000022299/>

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway.

Genre(s)

- business records

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

Subject(s)

- Railroads -- Michigan

Annual Reports

Collection Inventory

Series I Annual Reports 1890-1914		
	Box	Folder
21st, including folded map 1890	1	1
22nd 1891	1	2
23rd 1892	1	3
24th 1893	1	4
25th 1894	1	5
26th 1895	1	6
27th 1896	1	7
28th 1897	1	8
29th 1898	1	9
30th 1899	1	10
31st 1900	1	11

Annual Reports

32nd, including folded map 1901	1	12
33rd, including folded map 1902	1	13
34th 1903	1	14
35th, including folded map 1904	1	15
36th, including folded map 1905	2	1
37th, including folded map 1906	2	2
38th, including folded map 1907	2	3
39th, including folded map 1908	2	4
40th, including folded map 1909	2	5
41st, including folded map 1910	2	6
42nd, including folded map 1911	2	7
43rd, including folded map 1912	2	8
44th, including folded map 1913	2	9
45th, including folded map 1914	2	10

Timetables, Public

Series II Timetables, Public 1902, 1911

	Box	Folder
Form Adv 27, 12/1896 (Damaged: Top portion cut off).	2	11
Timetable, Ca. 1905? Has centerfold map dated Mar. 12, 1902, with date references in content to 1903 and 1905. [Previously called "System, 1902"] Cover missing? "American's Premier Train, the 29th Century Limited" ad is first page.	2	12
Local, 6-11-1911.	2	13

Series III Ephmera**Certificates**

	Box	Folder
Gold Note (5%-3 yrs.), 1907.	2	14