

McLean County Museum of History

**Chicago & Alton Railroad-
Miscellaneous Collection**

Inventoried by
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2006
Reprocessed by
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2009

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	Two Boxes
COLLECTION DATES:	1857-1994
PROVENANCE:	None
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	See also Photograph Collection Subjects Chicago & Alton Railroad; C&A RR Correspondence; C & A RR Engine Reports and Timetables; and C & A Shops Oral History Project

Brief History

The coming of the Illinois Central and the Chicago and Alton Railroads in the 1850s changed Bloomington-Normal forever. The railroads provided faster transportation and shipping throughout Illinois and the nation.

The Illinois Central was running cars into Bloomington in May 1853 and the Chicago and Alton Railroad cars started arriving in October 1853. The railroads are credited with increasing the population of Bloomington from about 1,600 to 8,000 over a ten year span. The Chicago and Alton Railroad Shops on the city's west side had several different functions: rail yards, roundhouse, repair work, and construction. The C & A Shops was the city's largest employer for a span of approximately 50 years. The facility included roundhouse, locomotive repair shop, foundry, paint shop, wheel and axle shop, powerhouse, offices, and rail yards.

The Chicago and Alton Railroad helped to shape Bloomington-Normal during the late 1800s through the mid 1900s. Several community organizations, social clubs, concerts, sports teams, picnics and Labor Day celebrations, and ethnic community organizations shaped the neighborhoods and social constructs of Bloomington-Normal.

Scope Note

This collection contains a miscellany of items including contracts, correspondence, and items pertaining to the Chicago & Alton Railroad. Other items are union memorabilia, employee information, circulars, and railroad timetables.

Box 1 (10 Folders)

Folder 1: General History

- 1.1.1 Computer printout of "St. Louis, Alton, and Chicago Railroad" advertisement, 1860; printout obtained in 2000 from *Chicago City Directory* 1860-61 (2 pgs)
- 1.1.2 Photocopy of an invitation to see "The New Streamline Train- "The Abraham Lincoln,"" May 6, 1935 (1 pg.)
- 1.1.3 "Some Firsts on the Alton," author unknown, date prior to 1947 (8 pgs.)
- 1.1.4 "Rail/Labor History Chronology," for Bloomington Rail-Labor Oral History Project by Mike Matejka and Greg Koos, January 1983 (8 pgs.)
- 1.1.5 Public invitation to the Railroad Display and Exposition Grand Opening of the Shops, no date (1 sheet)
- 1.1.6 "Please do not Disturb" sign

Folder 2: Maps

- 1.2.1 Chicago & Alton Railroad Lines, no date
- 1.2.2 Railroad Map Showing City of Bloomington, Ill, no date, Bloomington Mutual and Life Benefit Association letterhead on reverse (1880) (original and photocopy)
- 1.2.3 The St. Louis, Alton & Springfield R.R., no date
- 1.2.4 Chicago and Alton Railroad Plat Maps (KC 195) printout from Western Historical Manuscript Collection Kansas City, University of Missouri

Folder 3: Newspaper Articles

- 1.3.1 "Handsome Locomotive," *Pantagraph*, September 23, 1857, p 3.
- 1.3.2 "Louis M. Doyle Back in Town," *Pantagraph*, no date, p 2
- 1.3.3 "Held for Forgery and Embezzlement," *Pantagraph*, no date
- 1.3.4 "Doyle Still in Jail," *Pantagraph*, no date
- 1.3.5 "Doyle's Desk Was Searched," *Pantagraph*, no date
- 1.3.6 "The Freight House Ball," *Daily Pantagraph*, 1888
- 1.3.7 "They Want Union Depot," *Pantagraph* June 7, 1902 p. 13 c.3-4
- 1.3.8 "Track Shift Made in Six Hours," *Pantagraph*, August 2, 1908 (transcript)
- 1.3.9 Untitled, *Pantagraph*, July 31, 1909 (2 sheets)
- 1.3.10 "Mammoth Roundhouse to be Built By the Chicago & Alton," How it Would Look if Set Down in the Heart of Bloomington, *Pantagraph*, May 21, 1910, 2 pp.
- 1.3.11 "Say Farewell to This in 1912" *Pantagraph* December 30, 1911
- 1.3.12 "Up to Alton to Build Depot," *Daily Bulletin*, April 19, 1912
- 1.3.13 "Old Time 'Elegance' Described in Alton's 1872 Timetable," *Pantagraph*, October 25, 1938
- 1.3.14 "In the Railway World, It Took a 1,400 Pound Camera to get Picture of Alton Train," *Pantagraph*, November 28, 1939
- 1.3.15 "Shops Rich in History," *Pantagraph*, May 23, 1972, p. A-10 (includes picture)
- 1.3.16 "Retiree reflects on railroad's history," *Pantagraph*, November 22, 1987 (original and photocopy)
- 1.3.17 "Piece by Piece Chicago & Alton shops are silenced," *Pantagraph*, January 2, 1994

Folder 4: Magazine Articles

- 1.4.1 "A Pullman Postscript," *Trains*, November 1969, p 20-33
- 1.4.2 "Rail Remnants, A Locomotive's Contribution Toward Stopping the Great Chicago Fire," *The Train Dispatcher*, Oct.-Nov. 1973 (v. 55, no. 7) p 304-305
- 1.4.3 "Locomotives of the Alton Route," by William D. Edson, *The Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Inc.* Spring 1987, p 55-85
- 1.4.4 "A Chicago & Alton Railroad Watch," by Eugene T. Fuller, *National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc.* (v. 30 no. 6) 467-474
- 1.4.5 "The Chicago & Alton Bloomington Shops," by Roger P. Bryan, *Trainmaster* February 1993 (v. 6 no. 1)
- 1.4.6 "Salute to the Chicago & Alton Railroad Shops," *Great Prairie Union News*, January 2003 (v. 24 no. 9), includes calendar for 2003 (2 copies)
- 1.4.7 "Salute to the Chicago & Alton Railroad Shops II," *Great Prairie Union News*, January 2004 (v. 24 no. 8), includes calendar for 2004 (2 copies)
- 1.4.8 "George R. Lawrence & the Alton Limited," *Illinois Heritage*, July-August 2009, p. 15-16 (*relates to 1.3.10*)
- 1.4.9 "The Alton & Springfield Railroad: Unrecorded 1848 Railroad Map Donated to Presidential Library," *Four Score and Seven*, 2015-16 Issue 3. P 8.

Folder 5: Circulars

- 1.5.1 Circular #1028, details happenings of April 16, 1859 employee meeting, donated by R.C. Rogers 1908 (original and photocopy included)
- 1.5.2 Circular #1037, details happenings of August 18, 1859 employee meeting, donated by R.C. Rogers 1912 (original and photocopy included)

Folder 6: Tickets 1891-1945 (46 items)

Includes round trip tickets, one way tickets, party ticket, World Fair Excursion tickets (1933), employee passes, employee wife pass card, baggage storage receipts, selective service tickets, and day tickets. Also includes agent's stub for one can butter fat or cream and a conductor's personal check

Folder 7: Timetables

- 1.7.1 *The Rand-McNally Official Railway Guide and Handbook*, October 1882; includes maps (6 sheets)
- 1.7.2 "Special Time Card for the Train Conveying His Excellency Grover Cleveland and Mrs. Grover Cleveland from St. Louis to Chicago," October 4 and 5, 1887. In two pieces.
- 1.7.3 1.7.4 "Cloverleaf-Alton" timetables July-August, 1909
- 1.7.4 "The Alton Railroad Company Western Division Time Table No. 1," effective April 24, 1932. 20 pp. including route map.
- 1.7.5 "Monthly Reminder," timetables, Sep 1930.
- 1.7.5 "The Alton Railroad Company Chicago Terminal Time Table No. 15," effective April 25, 1937. Routes from Union Station to Argo and return.
- 1.7.6 "Alton Railroad Timetables," March-July 1947
- 1.7.7 "Condensed Schedules" between Chgo, Spfld, St. Louis, Kansas City for The Alton Railroad Streamliners Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge, undated.

Folder 8: Miscellaneous Receipts

- 1.8.1 Receipt for shipping goods dated April 6, 1859
- 1.8.2 Receipt for shipping goods dated April 26, 1866
- 1.8.3 Itemized list of track improvements from 1873 on Chicago & Alton Rail Road Company letterhead (3 sheets)
- 1.8.4 Receipt to Walter Moore for shipping house construction supplies dated September 20, 1876
- 1.8.5 Receipt to John O'Brien for use of surface of 40 acres of land at Gravel bank , Will County, IL, until it is property of C&A, April, 26, 1877.
- 1.8.6 Receipt to C. Devering for shipping dated December 31, 1877
- 1.8.7 Receipt to Wright and _arms for shipping of grocery supplies dated January 30, 1878
- 1.8.8 Receipt from Western Railroad Supply Depot bought of Crerar, Adams & Co. dated September 14, 1880
- 1.8.9 Receipt for H. Cruggles shipping boxes of drugs dated December 4, 1883
- 1.8.10 Postcard, blank, notifies of shipped items being held for recipient
- 1.8.11 Receipt from Leyden & Doyle, Groceries and Meat Market includes food items dated September 1, 1902
- 1.8.12 Receipt from Leyden & Doyle, Groceries and Meat Market includes food items dated September 3, 1902
- 1.8.13 Receipt from Leyden & Doyle, Groceries and Meat Market includes food items dated September 5, 1902
- 1.8.14 Receipt from Leyden & Doyle, Groceries and Meat Market includes food items dated September 8, 1902
- 1.8.15 Receipt from Wm. L. Mueller, Dealer in Fresh and Smoked Meats, Poultry and Game in Season dated September 19, 1902 and September 29, 1902 (2 items)
- 1.8.16 Receipt from Wagons, Carriages and Buggies Blacksmithing and Horse Shoeing dated September 29, 1902 (?)
- 1.8.17 Receipt from A.J. Dunbar Stoves, Hardware, Tinware, Paints, Oils Glass, Brushes, Furniture and Carpets for supplies dated September 12, 1902
- 1.8.18 Receipt for John Smith board dated September 22, 1902
- 1.8.19 Receipt for John Smith board dated September 22, 1902 in Brighton Park
- 1.8.10 Blank receipt that signer has received the Eastern Division Time Table No. 6
- 1.8.21 Cashier's Memorandum to Lewis D. Cuess from Mont. Ward Co. dated September 16, 1941 (2 sheets)

Folder 9: Local Passenger Tariff

- 1.9.1 Chicago & Alton R.R. Local Passenger Tariff adopted by April 25th, 1869

Folder 10: Stock Certificates

- 1.10.1 Certificate, The Chicago and Alton Equipment Association, blank, no date
- 1.10.2 Photocopy of The Alton Railroad Company dated August 15, 1937, check for five cents

Box 2 (12 Folders)

Folder 11: Pay Agreements

- 2.11.1 Photocopy, "Chicago & Alton Railroad Company," by T.W. Bates, Superintendent of Transportation, dated May 26, 1890, p 33
- 2.11.2 Photocopy, "Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, Agreements Between Railway Employes <sic> and Railway Officials," dated March 1, 1888, p 190-193

Folder 12: Union Books

- 2.12.1 *Agreement Between the Chicago & Alton Railroad and Passenger Car and Locomotive Painters*, (printed by the Dellahaunty Bros), agreement dated June 1, 1911
- 2.12.2 *By-Laws of Local Union No. 766 Coach, Car and Equipment Painters Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators, and Paperhangers of America*, (printed by the Dellahaunty Bros.), agreement dated December 3, 1912
- 2.12.3 Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America Official Time Book for 1915, H.A. Woizeski, blank
- 2.12.4 Official Membership Book, Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, receipts for dues and assessments, H.A. Woizeski, 1916
- 2.12.5 *Constitution of the Grand Lodge Statutes for the Government of Lodges and Protective Laws of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employes <sic>*, dated July 1, 1955
- 2.12.6 *The Alton Railroad, Schedule for Mechanical Crafts Comprising Machinists, Boilermakers, Blacksmiths, Sheet Metal Workers, Electrical Workers, Carmen, Their Apprentices, Helpers and Coach Cleaners*, effective July 1, 1946 (two copies)
- 2.12.7 *Alton System Federation No. 29, 1936 Year Book*, purpose to "acquaint the general public with the facts of the harmonious relations existing between employer and employee in railroad labor..." dated 1936
- 2.12.8 *Agreement between the Alton Railroad Company and its Employes<sic>*, represented by the Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employes <sic>, effective April 1, 1938

Folder 13: Employee Rosters and Business Cards

- 2.13.1 *The Trainmen of the C&ARR Bloomington, Ill. Official Roster and Time Book*, 1925
- 2.13.2 McLean County Historical Society Gift Agreement, Fred C. Hougham donated C & A seniority rosters 1929, 1937, and 1941, donation agreement dated September 8, 1997
- 2.13.3 Roster of Machinists, Bloomington, List of names, date of seniority given, and rank, dated January 1, 1929 (4 sheets)
- 2.13.4 Roster of Machinist Apprentices Machinist Helper Apprentices and Special Apprentices, Bloomington, List of names, dates of seniority, and rank, includes for boilermakers, machinists, blacksmithing, forging, sheet metal workers, molders, truckmen, and cranmen, among others, January 1, 1929 (27 sheets)
- 2.13.5 Seniority Roster, 1929, for various departments, (7 sheets)
- 2.13.6 The Alton Railroad Company Roster, includes several departments: Machinists, Machinist Helpers, Machinist Helpers Apprentices, Boilermakers, Boilermaker Helpers, Blacksmiths, Blacksmith Helpers, etc., dated January 1, 1937 (74 sheets)
- 2.13.7 The Alton Railroad Company Kansas City Car Department Roster, dated May 1, 1937
- 2.13.8 Names, Telephone Nos., Addresses, Shop Supervisory Forces and Office Force, dated May 24, 1937 (2 sheets)

- 2.13.9 The Alton Railroad Company, All Locomotive Supervisors, Clerks and Committeemen, dates include June 2, 1937, August 3, 1937, May 4, 1937, July 29, 1937, and from December 27, 1937 to January 3, 1938, includes list of names, occupation, and date retired (12 sheets)
- 2.13.10 The Alton Railroad Company, Bloomington Locomotive Department Seniority Roster, includes names, rank, and date retired, 1941 (20 sheets)
- 2.13.11 Business cards

Folder 14: Employee Time Books

- 2.14.1 Train and Engine-Men's Time Book, blank
- 2.14.2 Shop Men's Time Book, blank
- 2.14.3 The Chicago & Alton Railway Company Eastern Division Time-Book, September 1902
- 2.14.4 The Chicago & Alton Railway Company _____Division Time-Book September ____
- 2.14.5 The Chicago & Alton Railway Company Time Slip (2 sheets)
- 2.14.6 The Chicago & Alton Railway Company Eastern Division Time-Book, September 1902
- 2.14.7 Chicago & Alton Railway Company, September 1902

Folder 15: Contracts

- 2.15.1 Chicago & Alton Railroad contract for masonry work at the freight depot near Van Buren Street at Chicago, dated June 18, 1866
- 2.15.2 Live Stock Contract, dated July 1868
- 2.15.3 Contract for Erection of Warehouse at Garfield, IL, (LaSalle County) with Gants Bros. of Chicago, 1 October 1889. 2 sheets.
Internal memo regarding sale of original warehouse to Gants Bros, 17 October 1889.
Internal memo regarding old warehouse contract with S. G. Eyers & Co. of San Jose now operated by Isaiah Thomas who wishes contract transferred and renewed, 17 Oct 1889.
Internal memo requesting engineer to provide extra plats to prepare warehouse contracts. 18 Oct 1889.
Letter from Genl Manager Asst to Solicitor Wm Brown to prepare notice to terminate the lease of Gants Bros for land used for a an elevator which burned down months ago., 1 Feb 1896.
Notice to Gants Bros of termination of agreement for Garfield premises, 4 February 1896. 2pp. Envelope stamped "returned to writer unclaimed."

Folder 16: Rule Books

- 2.16.1 *General Rules of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Co.*, printed by J.C. Winship & Co., 1892
- 2.16.2 *The Chicago & Alton Railroad Company Rules Governing Application of Brown System of Education and Discipline*, Chicago, ILL, March 1, 1927 (2 originals, 1 photocopy)
- 2.16.3 *Rules and Schedule of Wages for Conductors*, May 1928. William W. Wheelock and William G. Bierd, Receivers.
- 2.16.4 *Rules for the Government of the Operating Department*, undated, 62 pp. Cover has separated.

Folder 17: Railroad Safety

- 2.17.1 "Association of American Railroads Safety Section Circular No.. S-435," Committee on Education, All the Year—Every Year—Safety Program, details information about falls at work
- 2.17.2 "The Alton Railroad Company Safety First Party," Program, dated May 24, 1937
- 2.17.3 "Hand and Lamp Signals to Communicate Information to Train Crews," poster, undated

Folder 18: Employee Publication, *The Limited*

- 2.18.1 *The Limited: A Railroad Man's Magazine*, December 1925 v. 1 (2 copies)

Folder 19: Miscellaneous Correspondence

- 2.19.1 Correspondence from W.M. Larrabee to the station agent at Petersburg dated October 10, 1868
- 2.19.2 Chicago & Alton Railroad Company letterhead, undated, notes on back
- 2.19.3 Correspondence between Chicago & Alton Railroad and various county clerks (Logan County, Dwight, and Chenoa) concerning the land used for railroad, dated 1874 (5 sheets)
- 2.19.4 Western Union Telegraphs September 1880 (2 items)
- 2.19.5 Correspondence from K. F. Booth Chief Engineer Chicago & Alton Railroad to J. Cruse, Esq. dated September 20, 1883 concerning relocation of residents on Company land
- 2.19.6 Correspondence from J.C. Cruse to K.F. Booth dated October 6, 1883 concerning the relocation of residents on Company land
- 2.19.7 Correspondence from engineer T.H. Hubbard to Chief Engineer K.F. Booth concerning plat & estimate of the side track for D. Underwoods at Kansas City, April 18, 1885. 5 pp including attached estimate. Plus letter requesting side track info from contractor and manufacturer Drury Underwood, April 9, 1885.
- 2.19.8 Correspondence from K.F. Booth to Th__ Doonan (?) dated May 16, 1888 concerning the depot at Lexington, and response concerning approval of depot dated May 19, 1888
- 2.19.9 Correspondence from L. Soule of Globe & Stone Company, quarrymen at Joliet, to K. F. Booth Chief Engineer. July 26, 1888 and E Miller of C&A Engineer's Office to K F Booth Aug 3, 1888. Both concern land near Drummond Station belonging to Mr Noonan.
- 2.19.10 Correspondence from F.D. Tracy to K.F. Booth dated September 9, 1890 concerning the plan of Broadwell
- 2.19.11 Correspondence from H.C. Draper to S.T. Tuttle concerning Anheuser Busch construction dated October 30, 1899
- 2.19.12 Correspondence from Willis E. Gray to S.T. Tuttle dated September 18, 1899 concerning Anheuser-Busch construction
- 2.19.13 Correspondence from S.T. Tuttle to W. E. Gray dated Septmeber 21, 1899 concerning Anheuser-Busch construction
- 2.19.14 Correspondence from S.T. Tuttle to H.C. Draper dated November 1, 1899 concerning the Anheuser-Bucsh construction and lease
- 2.19.15 Correspondence from R.B. Kutch__ to H.C. Draper dated December 8, 1899 concerning the Anheuser-Busch construction and lease of land
- 2.19.16 Correspondence from H.C. Draper to C.H. Chappell dated December 30, 1899 concerning the incorrect lease to Anheuser-Busch and the Bushnell
- 2.19.17 Unused envelope with special C&A logo that incorporates Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904.

- 2.19.18 Correspondence from Richard P. Morgan and Ezra M. Prince dated June 17, 1905 concerning a book about the Chicago & Alton Railroad
- 2.19.19 Correspondence to J. Schneebuger to A. V. Manskey dated July 20, 1934 concerning the railroad community band
- 2.19.20 Correspondence from M. Lassig concerning prices (last page of letter)
- 2.19.20 Envelope
- 2.19.21 Correspondence from Fred A. Wann to C.H. Chappell dated June 11, 1890 concerning the glassworks at Alton
- 2.19.22 Correspondence from Fred A. Wann to C.H. Chappell dated August 13, 1890 concerning new track and past planning
- 2.19.23 Correspondence from W.K. Dunbar to McLean County Historical Society dated October 6, 1994 concerning a photograph which appeared in *On the Square*
- 2.19.24 Correspondence from Farnsworth & Wylie, engineers & surveyors in Blm, to City Manager Herman Dirks concerning surveying the existing Wheel House building to determine salvage and renovation opportunities, September 27, 1991

Folder 20: Male Chorus

- 2.20.1 Chicago & Alton Male Chorus, program dated April 16, 1926
- 2.20.2 List of music furnished by Jos. Schneeberger, dated January 28, 1932
- 2.20.3 Chicago & Alton Male Chorus, program, undated

Folder 21: Bluelines and Diagrams

- 2.22.1 Specification new engine
- 2.21.2 Diagram Y-13594 engine, dated October 1, 1929 (7 sheets)
- 2.21.3 Pressure and Drum Test Data (7 sheets)
- 2.21.4 Cast Steel Truck Frame for Alton 4-Wheel Pass. Truck blueprints
- 2.21.5 Alton R.R. Truck Springs, Passenger Equipment Folio No. 2, dated September 12, 1944
- 2.21.6 Simplex Clasp Brake Beam
- 2.21.7 The Alton Railroad Office of Mechanical Engineer, Diaphragm, dated July 21, 1945
- 2.21.8 The Alton Railroad Company Chicago & Alton R.R. Locomotive Diagrams revised July 7, 1945

Folder 22: Lexington Station

- 2.22.1 Specification of Work and Materials for a Passenger Station to be Erected for the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company at Lexington, Ill, undated

Folder 23: Annual Reports

- 2.23.1 Tenth Annual Report of the President and Directors of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company for the year ending December 31, 1873, issued February 1873 (21 pages)

Folder 24: Miscellaneous

- 2.24.1 Program for Diamond Jubilee First Annual Basket Picnic at Nichol's Park in Jacksonville, September 22, 1928. Lists events, committees, etc. for employee event.
- 2.24.2 Photocopy of sheet music, hand written, for "The Hum of the Hummer" undated.

- 2.24.3 Unused forms Form 493 for the Alton Railroad, Henry A. Gardner, Trustee, to be deposited at each telegraph office by freight train conductors, dated 19__.
- 2.24.4 Statement of Blm. Mayor Jesse R. Smart before the Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate urging them to pass Senate Bill 1631: Railroad Reorganization Public Interest Act, October 6, 1989. 4 pp.
- 2.24.5 Way-Bill Slips: 5 slips, some dated 1909, conveying fresh meat from Kansas City, rough stoves, cinders, etc.

Folder 25: Railroad Stories Magazine

- 2.25.1 *Railroad Stories*, May 1937 issue, Vol. XXI, No. 6. Includes "Memories of the Old Alton" by Sam Rodrigues, pp. 87-93.

Folder 26: Locomotives

- 2.26.1 "Locomotives of the Alton Route," by Wm D Edson, published in *Railroad History*, No. 156, Spring 1987, pp 54-85.