

Guide to the Massachusetts Railroads Collection

MS 971



compiled by Miriam Levi

September 1979

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
(203) 432-7441

beinecke.library@yale.edu

<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Conditions Governing Access	3
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Scope and Contents	4
Collection Contents	5
Selected Search Terms	7

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
(203) 432-1735
(203) 432-7441
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

CALL NUMBER: MS 971

TITLE: Massachusetts railroads collection

DATES: 1822-1909

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.5 linear feet (1 box, 1 folio)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, financial and legal documents, maps, schedules, and newspaper clippings from the records of various Massachusetts railroads eventually incorporated by lease or merger into the Boston and Maine Railroad or the New York Central Railroad.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0971>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0971>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation

Massachusetts Railroads Collection (MS 971). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library

Scope and Contents

The Massachusetts Railroads Collection consists of correspondence and papers, 1822-1909, of various Massachusetts railroads eventually incorporated by lease or merger into the Boston and Maine Railroad or the New York Central Railroad. The Nashua and Lowell Railroad pooled facilities with the Boston and Lowell Railroad in 1857-1878 and was leased by the latter in 1880. The Boston and Lowell Railroad was leased to the Boston and Maine Railroad in 1887. The Boston and Worcester consolidated with the Western Railroad in 1867 to form the Boston and Albany Railroad, the last named acquiring the Grand Junction Railroad and Depot Company in 1868. In 1900 the Boston and Albany was leased to the New York Central Railroad.

Papers of the Boston and Lowell Railroad, 1822-1882, include a history of the title of Lechmers Point Flats for right of way along the Merrimack River, minutes of directors' meetings, contracts, petitions, lists of shareholders, and a small amount of correspondence. Persons represented here are Patrick Jackson, 1780-1857, first treasurer, Charles Storrow, 1809-1904, civil engineer and general manager for ten years, and George Stark, manager for twenty years.

Papers for the Nashua and Lowell Railroad from March and April of 1839 include lawyers' briefs, testimony, evidence, etc., in the case of *Nashua and Lowell versus Boston and Lowell*, involving the right of the Massachusetts government to prescribe the toll paid by the former railroad to the latter for the joint use of its facilities. The lawyer for the Boston and Lowell Railroad was R. R. Nichols, and for the Nashua and Lowell Railroad, Peleg Sprague, 1793-1880, the famous Massachusetts jurist.

Papers of the Boston and Albany Railroad include those collected by Ebenezer Baldwin relative to the prospect for a railroad, 1828-1829, and papers from 1851-1909, which include memos of bills payable and receivable, records of incoming freight, balance sheets, cash collection, and correspondence.

Papers of the Grand Junction Railroad and Depot Company, 1859-1869, include fire insurance policies, bids and estimates for wharf repairs, a drawing of a plan for the Grand Junction's wharves and storehouses in East Boston, receipts, correspondence, and statements on the condition of the steamer *Wide Awake*.

Papers of the Boston and Worcester Railroad, 1865-1866, include four letters and the decision of the Suffolk Supreme Court in the case of *Charles Darling versus The Boston and Worcester Railroad*.

For additional information on Massachusetts railroads of this period see: Francis B. C. Bradlee, *The Lowell Railroad* (Salem, 1918) and *Boston & Maine R. R.* (Salem, 1921).

Collection Contents

Boston and Albany Railroad		
b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence	1828 May 1 - 1902 July 11
b. 1, f. 2	Financial papers	1859 July 1 - June 25, undated
b. 1, f. 3	Legal papers	1828 May 26, 1828 April 15
b. 1, f. 4	Steamboat schedules	1827, undated
b. 1, f. 5	Map of route by the Islip	[1828]
b. 1, f. 6	Survey of Lebanon Hill	[1828]
Boston and Lowell Railroad		
b. 1, f. 7	Correspondence	1858 February 23 - 1875 May 19
b. 1, f. 8	Financial papers	1860 May 1 - 1875 August 1, undated
b. 1, f. 9	Legal papers	1831 March 10 - 1880 November 9
b. 1, f. 10	Newspaper clippings	undated
b. 1, f. 11	Printed matter	1869 May 19 - 1872 March 28, undated
b. 1, f. 12	Stockholders' proxies and voting records	1878 January 8 - 1882 November 10, undated
b. 1, f. 13	Papers concerning Lechmers Point Flats See also: box 2, folder 33	1822 - 1832 April 23
Boston and Lowell Railroad and Boston and Maine Railroad		
b. 1, f. 14	Act of the Legislature relating to the flats between Charles and Millers Rivers	1845 March 25
Boston and Lowell Railroad and Nashua and Lowell Railroad		
b. 1, f. 15	Miscellaneous records	1860 January 24 - 1876 June 12
Boston, Lowell and Nashua Railroad		

b. 1, f. 16	Miscellaneous records	1863 April 25 - 1871 January 4
	Boston and Worcester Railroad	
b. 1, f. 17	Miscellaneous records	1865 October 4 - 1866 June 15
	Concord Railroad	
b. 1, f. 18	Deed	1843 November 13
	Grand Junction Railroad and Depot Co.	
b. 1, f. 19	Correspondence	1865 October 7 - 1867 April 15
b. 1, f. 20	Papers concerning steamer	1859 July 22 - 1868 June 5
b. 1, f. 21	Miscellaneous records See also: box 2, folder 33	1859 October 11 - 1867 September 28
b. 1, f. 22	Miscellaneous records	1868 January 6 - 1870 January 7
b. 1, f. 23	Miscellaneous records	undated
	<i>Nashua & Lowell Railroad vs. Boston & Lowell Railroad</i>	
b. 1, f. 24-25	Briefs, testimony, etc.	1839 March 1 - April 3-8, b.d.
b. 2	Copy of indenture between the proprietors of the Canal bridge and Patrick Jackson	1832 April 14
b. 2	Plan of Grand Junction wharves and store houses, East Boston	1866 January 1

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Business
Railroads -- Massachusetts

Geographic Names

Massachusetts -- Industries
New England

Names

Darling, Charles
Jackson, P. T. (Patrick Tracy), 1780-1847
Nichols, R. R.
Sprague, Peleg, 1793-1880
Stark, George
Storrow, Charles S. (Charles Storer), 1809-1904

Corporate Bodies

Boston and Albany Railroad Co
Boston and Lowell Railroad Corporation
Boston and Maine Railroad
Boston and Worcester Railroad Corporation
Grand Junction Railroad and Depot Co
Nashua and Lowell Railroad Corporation
New York Central Railroad Company
Wide Awake (Steamer)