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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Delaware and Hudson Railroad Engineering Drawings
Identifier: NMAH.AC.1169
Date: 1900-1955
Extent: 240 Cubic feet
Creator: Brosterman, Norman
Delaware and Hudson Railway Company
Muhlfeld, John E.
Nahem, Edward T.
Sasson, Maurice
Smith, Sanford
Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI

Language: English

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Provenance
Transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Work and Industry in 2009.

Processing Information
Collection is unprocessed.

Preferred Citation

Restrictions on Access
Collection open for research on site by appointment. Unprotected photographs must be handled with gloves.

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Biographical / Historical

The Delaware and Hudson Railway Company grew out of the former Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, which had been chartered in Northeastern Pennsylvania in 1823. The canal was last used in 1891. The company's first rail line ran between Carbondale, Pennsylvania and New York, beginning in 1872. After numerous mergers and purchases, it became the Delaware and Hudson Company and later Delaware and Hudson Railway. It was purchased by Guilford Rail System in 1984, and went bankrupt in 1988. Its lines were purchased in 1991 by the Canadian Pacific Railway. During its most successful years, Delaware and Hudson was the inventor, manufacturer and user of some of the most important innovations in steam locomotive design. One of its most important designers, John E. Muhlfeld, is well represented in this collection.

Scope and Contents

The bulk of this collection consists of approximately 26,500 original ink and pencil drawings from which blueprints were later made. The drawings depict not only the rolling stock but the components of the railroad equipment, from the largest to the smallest. The drawings are indexed, titled, numbered, dated and annotated with dimensions and other information. In addition to the drawings, the collection also includes thousands of blueprints, photographs, ledgers, books, and periodicals.

Arrangement

1 series.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:
- Railroad companies
- Railroads -- 20th century -- United States
- Transportation

Types of Materials:
- Blueprints
- Design drawings
- Engineering drawings
- Ledgers (account books)
- Periodicals
- Photographs -- 20th century

Names:
- Work and Industry, Division of, NMAH, SI