



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Boston Elevated Railway Photograph Album

NMAH.AC.1531

Vanessa Broussard-Simmons

2023

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	2
Content Description	2
Arrangement	2
Names and Subjects	
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Boston Elevated Railway Photograph Album
Date:	circa 1899-1901, undated
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1531
Creator:	Boston Elevated Railway Company
Source:	Keith de Lellis Gallery National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering (Collector)
Extent:	.15 Cubic feet (1 box)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Collection documents the construction of the Boston Elevated Railway in Boston, Massachusetts circa 1899-1901.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection purchased from Keith Douglas de Lellis, dealer, 1984.

Provenance

Collection transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Work & Industry in February 2022.

Related Materials

Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

Warshaw Collection of Business Americana Subject Categories: Railroads, NMAH.AC.0060

Underwood & Underwood Glass Stereograph Collection, NMAH.AC.0143

Chicago Surface Lines Drawings, NMAH.AC.0212

Railway Express Agency Records, NMAH.AC.0260

Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway Photographs, NMAH.AC.1075

Thomas Norrell Railroad Collection, NMAH.AC.1174

Division of Transportation Street Railways Reference Collection, NMAH.AC.1575

Other Repositories

Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division, Boston Elevated Railway, Elevated Mainline, Washington Street, Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts, HAER MASS,13-BOST,127

Northeastern University, University Libraries, Archives and Special Collections Department, Boston Elevated Railway Company Library Records, M150

Processing Information

Collection processed by Vanessa Broussard-Simmons, archivist, 2023. Finding aid encoded by Audrey Willius, intern, 2023.

Preferred Citation

Boston Elevated Railway Photograph Album, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Unprotected photographs must be handled with gloves.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

The Boston Elevated Railway Company built tracking and supports for elevated railway cars in Boston between 1899 and 1901. These railways were created to connect suburbs to central Boston. The tracking was combined with the new subway system, creating new routes for transportation for 20th century Boston.

Content Description

Collection consists of cyanotype photographs documenting the construction of the Boston Elevated Railway, Boston, Massachusetts circa 1899-1901. There are photographs of the Charleston Bridge in progress, equipment in use, workers, and Boston street views. Specifically, there are images of the Wheelwright building, the Waverly house, Sullivan Square, the Lincoln Wharf Power Station, Sullivan Square Station, Dewey Square, Lincoln Power Station, and North Station. The album also includes group photographs of workers. Included in the album is a short undated newspaper clipping about the company.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged in one series.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Construction workers
- Elevated railways
- Streetcars
- Trams
- Transportation -- 1900-1910
- Transportation -- 1900-1910 -- Photographs

Types of Materials:

Cyanotypes
Photograph albums -- 19th century

Names:

Keith de Lellis Gallery
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Mechanical and Civil Engineering

Container Listing

Box 1	Photograph album, 1899-1901, undated
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