



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Wagner Palace Car Company Collection

NMAH.AC.1574

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Wagner Palace Car Company Collection
Date:	undated
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1574
Source:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Science and Technology Dubin, Arthur D. (Arthur Detmers) (Donor)
Creator:	Wagner Palace Company (Manufacturer)
Extent:	.25 Cubic feet (1 box)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Collection documents the business of the Wagner Palace Car Company, manufacturers of sleeping and parlor cars in Buffalo, New York.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Arthur D. Dubin in 1986.

Provenance

Collection transferred to the Archives Center from the Division of Work and Industry in May 2022.

Related Materials

Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

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

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur D. Dubin Pullman Palace Car Company Construction and Registration Books, NMAH.AC.0158

Pullman Palace Car Company Collection, NMAH.AC.0181

Division of Transportation Railroad Reference Files, NMAH.AC.0523

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Records, NMAH.AC.1086

Pullman Palace Car Company Photographs, NMAH.AC.1175

Other Repositories

Mid-Continent Railway Museum, Wagner Palace Car Company

New York State Library, Webster Wagner Wagon-making Papers, 1837-1842, SC1044

Newberry Library, Modern Manuscripts and Archives Repository, Frank H. Beberdick Pullman Collection

Processing Information

Collection is processed.

Preferred Citation

Wagner Palace Car Company Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Webster Wagner (October 2, 1817-January 13, 1882), a businessman and inventor, was in the wagon making business and an employee of the New York Central Railroad Company before he created his own company. The Wagner Palace Car Company was founded in Buffalo, New York to sell the sleeping and parlor cars he had invented. Throughout its existence the Wagner Palace Car Company competed with and had several legal battles with another railroad car manufacturer the Pullman Palace Car Company. In 1900 the Wagner Palace Car Company was sold to the Pullman Palace Car Company.

Sources:

Mid-Continent Railway Museum, Wagner Palace Car Company

Content Description

Consist of proposals, contracts, a logbook, passes, newspaper clipping, and receipts primarily relating to the manufacturing of sleeping and parlor cars by the Wagner Palace Car Company. Materials are arranged in chronological order.

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:

- Contracts
- Railroad car builders
- Railroad passenger cars
- Railroads -- 19th century
- Sleeping cars (Railroads)

Transportation

Names:

Dubin, Arthur D. (Arthur Detmers)
National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Science and Technology

Places:

Buffalo (New York)

Container Listing

Box 1

Cars, undated