



Finding Aid for

**DETROIT, TOLEDO, AND IRONTON RAILROAD
PHOTOGRAPHS SUBSERIES, 1922-1923**

Accession 548

Finding Aid Published: June 2011



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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
The Henry Ford
20900 Oakwood Blvd
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 548

CREATOR: Ford Motor Company. Engineering Photographic
Department.

TITLE: Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Railroad Photographs
subseries

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1922-1923

QUANTITY: 2 cubic ft.

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English.

ABSTRACT: The Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad extended from Ironton, Ohio to Detroit, Michigan and was nearly defunct when, in 1920, Henry Ford purchased controlling interest with the intent to reduce costs by creating a shorter shipping route and saving on shipping time. This subseries contains photographs of railroad operations, locomotives, factory operations, and construction and repair project, among many others.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The materials are open for research.
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to the Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Ford Motor Company Archives donation, 1964.
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:
- This subseries is part of the Photographs for Henry Ford series, 1918-1987, which also includes:
 - Personal for Henry Ford Photographs subseries, 1918-1950, Accession 189
 - Mary-Martha Chapel Wedding Photographs subseries, 1940-1945, Accession 1861
- Additional D.T. & I. photographs can be found in the General Photographs series, 1913-1954, Accession 833
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 548, Detroit, Toledo and Ironton Railroad Photographs Subseries, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, circa 1960.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by Ford Motor Company Archives staff. Finding aid written by staff of the Benson Ford Research Center, April 2011, and published in June 2011.

Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Railroad (D.T. & I.) was originally initiated in 1849 as the Iron Railway. It evolved chiefly into a coal-hauling line north to south from Ironton, Ohio to Detroit, Michigan with miles of branches and sidings. When Henry Ford bought controlling interest in 1920, it was nearly a defunct organization. The following January, Ford announced a \$15 million improvement program and in March, he became president of the railroad. By July of 1922, the railroad was approaching profitability and new major projects were underway. A direct electrified link connecting the Rouge River Plant with the D.T. & I. tracks at Flat Rock, Michigan was separately incorporated as the Detroit and Ironton Railroad. Henry, Edsel, and Clara Ford were sole owners. Ford's intent was to move materials by the shortest route to save valuable shipping time, thus reducing his own costs. The railroad was most profitable during 1923 to 1926. In 1929, the Pennroad Corporation, which was formed by the Pennsylvania Railroad, purchased D.T. & I. for \$36 million.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Included is a broad range of documentation of railroad operations, such as images of locomotives, railroad cars, repair shops, interiors, machinery, damaged tools and parts, tracks, grade crossings, signals, inspections, workers and work crews, bridges, tracks, depots, terminals, roundhouses, machine shops, factories, antique locomotives, construction and repair, accidents and damages. There are also several Ohio (Ironton, Jackson, Lima) and Michigan (Detroit and Flat Rock) streetscapes along with photographs of hotels, factories, mines, generators and powerhouses. An accompanying log, located in Box 1, provides item level description.

ARRANGEMENT

The photographs are numbered sequentially by negative number, and are in rough chronological order.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Railroad.
Ford Motor Company. Engineering Photographic Department.
Ford Motor Company. River Rouge Plant.
Lima Locomotive Works, Incorporated
Sibley Lumber Company

Subjects

Railroads--Employees
Railroads--Ohio.
Railroads--Michigan.
Railroads--Yards
Railroad stations
Electric railroads--Michigan.
Bridges
Power-plants
Traffic accidents

Events

Michigan State Fair

Geographic

Detroit (Mich.)
Flat Rock (Mich.)
Ironton (Ohio)
Jackson (Ohio)
Lima (Ohio)
Wyandotte (Mich.)

Genre and Form

Photographs.
Photographic prints

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
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Box 1

- Index, undated (Bound reproduction of a handwritten list providing negative number, image description, and image date for the photographs in the subseries)
- 3058-3139, October-November 1925
- 32623-33832, March 1922 - January 1923 (subjects include coal trains and track drawings)
- 33903-34574, February - May 1923 (subjects include station safety posters and views of individual parts and equipment)
- 34575-35141, May - August 1923 (subjects include work on locomotives in shop and lift bridge)
- 35142-35514, August - September 1923 (subjects include locomotives and display at Michigan State Fair)
- 35515-36235, September 1923 - January 1924 (subjects include draw bridge, coal trains, and loading of Model T truck)
- 36236-36350, December 1923 - January 1924 (subjects include station and other buildings in Ironton (Ohio))
- 36351-36375, December 1923 (subjects include trains and buildings in or near Ironton (Ohio))

Box 2

- 36376-36401, December 1923 - January 1924 (subjects include stations and other buildings in Ironton (Ohio), Wellston (Ohio), and Lima (Ohio))
- 36402-36430, January 1924 (subjects include D.T. & I. buildings in Lima (Ohio), Standard Oil refinery, and the Lima Locomotive Works)
- 36431-36458, January 1924 (subjects include operations at the Lima Locomotive Works, and the station and other buildings in Jackson (Ohio))
- 36459-36485, January 1924 (subjects include railroad operations and buildings in Jackson (Ohio))

Box 3

- 36486-36513, January 1924 (subjects include railroad operations and buildings in Jackson (Ohio))
- 36514-36765, January - February 1924 (subjects include railroad and shop operations in or near Jackson (Ohio), Bainbridge (Ohio), and Glen Gean (Ohio); steam roller in shops)
- 37208-39004, March - October 1924 (subjects include locomotives and railroad cars at Ford Rouge Plant and Ford Highland Park Power House)
- 39005-39996, October 1924 - February 1925 (subjects include locomotives and railroad operations at Ford Rouge Plant and Ford Highland Park Plant)
- 40050-41696, February - April 1925 (subjects include electric locomotive assembly at Highland Park Plant)
- 41976-42986, May - July 1925 (subjects include various locomotives and freight cars, and construction of concrete overhead wire supports)

Box 4

- 43050-43835, July – September 1925 (subjects include various locomotives and railroad cars, shop operations, and train tracks)
- 43836-44844, September – December 1925 (subjects include railroad operations, grade crossings, track details (possibly near Wyandotte (Mich.)), D.T. & I. buildings including stations, steam locomotives, switching yards, and locomotive maintenance)
- 45017-45846, December 1925 – March 1926 (subjects include Fordson Tractors, railroad crossings, Trolley arch operations, plant operations (Rouge Factory), track details, caboose interior)
- 45847-46549, March – May 1926 (subjects include steam and electric locomotives, locomotive parts, drilling operations, water tower near Flat Rock (Mich.) yards)
- 46550-46800, May – June 1926 (subjects include grade crossings, electric locomotives at Flat Rock (Mich.), simulated safety hazards, crane operations, Sibley Lumber Company yard in Melvindale (Mich.))
- 46839-47234, June – July 1926 (subjects include railroad operations, map of D.T. & I. system and connections, and track operations)
- 47235-47570, July – September 1926 (subjects include construction sites, railroad signals, railroad cars, railroad buildings, railroad equipment, interior of locomotives, and locomotive parts and accessories)
- 47614-47867, October – November 1926 (subjects include maintenance tools, Lyon Coal Company, Detroit (Mich.), tools, locomotive accessories, electric rails, and railroad signals)

Box 5

- 47901-47990, November 1926 (subjects include locomotive cabs, steam locomotives, locomotive accessories, and railroad operations)
- 48100-48761, December 1926 – March 1927 (subjects include illness prevention, operator cabins, operations at Durban Junction, shop operations at Diann Interlocking Plant, switch and home signals, railroad operations, and concrete reinforcement posts)
- 47991-49005, November 1926 – May 1927 (subjects include gates and fences, quarrying stone from Sibley (Mich.), various safety features, shop operations and machines)
- 49006-49471, May – July 1927 (subjects include railroad operations, members of the Electric Rolling Stock Committee of A.R.A., ditch digging and factory operations)
- 49498-50065, August – November 1927 (subjects include Maumee River (Ohio) construction site, steam locomotives, cylinder machining operations, locomotive drive wheel tire surfaces, and track operations)
- 50066-52425, November 1928 – January 1929 (subjects include concrete pillars, municipal building on Oak Street in Wyandotte (Mich.), grade crossings in Wyandotte (Mich.), steam locomotives, cold weather curtains, flooding, locomotive maintenance, scales, and switches)
- 52548-57115, January 1929 – September 1932 (subjects include tools, coal, rail inspection cars, donkey engine, steam and electric locomotives, and a French locomotive used for Panama Canal construction)