



Finding Aid for

JOHN J. LONG PAPERS, 1919-1920
Accession 1786

Finding Aid Published: December 2011



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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
The Henry Ford
20900 Oakwood Blvd
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029
www.thehenryford.org
research.center@thehenryford.org

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1786

CREATOR: Long, John J.

TITLE: John J. Long papers

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1919-1920

QUANTITY: 0.4 cubic ft.

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English

ABSTRACT: John J. Long was a consultant from the firm Thompson and Black hired by Ford Motor Company to reorganize the company's cost accounting system. His papers include handwritten notes, correspondence, reports, site plans and meeting memoranda concerning his observations and suggestions for Ford.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The collection is 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:** Purchase, 1994
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 1786, John J. Long papers, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Terry Hoover and Trent Boggess at the Benson Ford Research Center, January 2001.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared and published by Terry Hoover and Trent Boggess at the Benson Ford Research Center in January 2001.
- Finding aid prepared by Elyssa Bisoski, December 2011, and published in December 2011.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

HISTORICAL NOTE

John J. Long was an employee of Thompson and Black, an industrial manufacturing consultancy company hired by executives at Ford Motor Company to evaluate and analyze Ford's cost accounting systems. Recommendations by staff from Thompson and Black led to a proposed reorganization of Ford's production and accounting operations. The recommendations, however, were ultimately ignored or denied by senior Ford superintendents and Henry Ford as too complicated for most employees to understand and unnecessary.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The John J. Long papers consist of correspondence, progress reports, site plans and memoranda of meetings. Roughly half of the documents are memos and reports to and from Mr. Long. Many of these documents were directed to or are from a Mr. L. Roth, thought to have been Mr. Long's direct supervisor. The handwritten memos are not signed, but are presumably written by Mr. Long. All are written in ink and are in the same handwriting. Of primary interest are Long's handwritten memoranda and notes from meetings with Ford officials concerning Henry Ford's order to the superintendents to stop work on the reorganization. Long's memos frequently describe his observations about how the Ford factory managers interacted with one another and with Mr. Long himself. He used a system of single letters to identify different individuals that can sometimes be deciphered. Some of the names mentioned include:

K= Knudsen

C = Carnegie

H = Holmwood

D = Davis

PEM or M = Peter E. Martin

B = Bronson

HF = Henry Ford

C = also used for Carswell

B = also used for Baldwin

The rest of the documents in the collection are materials obtained for the use of Mr. Long in his work during 1919-1921. The material primarily covers time study analysis, process and procedure studies, cost control studies, and organizational recommendations. The papers also include site plan drawings of Ford's Highland Park plant, construction schedules, and miscellaneous working notes and papers.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal or Corporate

Long, John J.

Ford Motor Company. Highland Park Plant.

Subjects

Cost accounting

Automobile industry and trade--Inventory control

Ford Motor Company--Finance

Ford Motor Company--Management

Manufacturers--Costs

Manufacturing process

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
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Box 1

Communications to Mr. Long
Reports to Thompson and Black
Handwritten memos from Mr. Long
Ford Motor Company
 Department lists
 Organizational charts
Highland Park Plant construction dates and maps
Ford Motor Company imprints
Liberty Engine manufacture
Ford Service Course: Transmission
Clippings
Miscellaneous notes and instructions