



Special Collections and University Archives

**Manuscript Group 215
Indiana County Branches of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh Railroad**

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Last Modified February 6, 2023**

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**Indiana County Branches of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh Railroad; Manuscript Group 215
Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Special Collections and University Archives
1 Boxes; 1 Linear Foot**

Historical Note

The Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh (BR&P) Railroad originated from the Rochester & Pittsburgh Railroad Company which was founded on January 29, 1881 from the Rochester and State Line Railroad. In October 1885, Adrian Iselin who owned the Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal & Iron Company (R&P – see [Manuscript Group 51: Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Company Collection](#) and [Manuscript Group 94: Rochester & Pittsburgh Coal Company Media Collection](#)) reorganized the railroad as a subsidiary of R&P into the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh Railroad to ship from the coal fields of western Pennsylvania. In 1932, the BR&P Railroad was absorbed into the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad. For further information, visit, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buffalo,_Rochester_and_Pittsburgh_Railway

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains files and right of way maps about the Indiana County Branches of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh (BR&P) Railroad, and the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad/Chessie System/CSX that closed railroad offices and an old station in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The box contains correspondence from the 1930s to the 1980s related to the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh (BR&P) Railroad and later the B&O/Chessie System/CSX Railways in Indiana County. Most of these files are realignments or the acquisition of track (from the Penn Central Railroad). One letter from the 1980s is from the railroad forbidding the removal of some track near Ernest because “the mine may re-open one day.” A large portion of the collection are the V-series Right of Way maps about railroad trackage in Indiana County, Pennsylvania. There are maps from the Ridge Branch (Chambersville to Shelocta to Iselin), the Lucerne Branch, and the Rossiter Branch. Some of the maps date to back to 1907.

Provenance

This collection was donated by John Cunningham, SJ, PhD, Chair of the Department of Physics at Loyola University Chicago. Dr. Cunningham grew up in Indiana, Pennsylvania, and his mother’s family were Polish immigrants who lived in Ernest, Pennsylvania. His grandfather worked in the Ernest mines starting in about 1906. Because of his interest in railroads, especially the Indiana Branch of the B&O Railroad and being from the area, Dr. Cunningham was given this box in 1991.

Restrictions

None, this collection is open for research. Property rights reside with Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), and the IUP Special Collections and University Archives. Literary rights are retained by the creators of the records and their heirs. For permissions to reproduce or

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Processor

The collection was organized and the finding aid was updated by Harrison Wick on February 6, 2023.

Content List

Box 1 Indiana County Branches of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh Railroad (29 folders) Branch Files about Sidings

1. Chambersville, Pennsylvania including information and images from *The Coal Trade Journal* (December 9, 1914) and the Seneca Coal Mining Company *Coal Catalog* (1920) donated by Dennis Baca (2016)
2. Clarksburg, Pennsylvania
3. Coal Run (Clune) and Kent, Pennsylvania
4. Creekside, Pennsylvania
5. Cummings, Pennsylvania
6. Ernest, Pennsylvania
7. Fisher, Pennsylvania
8. Home, Pennsylvania
9. Homer City, Pennsylvania
10. Indiana, Pennsylvania (Folder 1)
11. Indiana, Pennsylvania (Folder 2)
12. J. M. Junction, Pennsylvania
13. Locust, Pennsylvania
14. Lucerne Branch and Guthrie Spur (Maps V-17 and V-17A), Pennsylvania (Folder 1)
15. Lucerne Branch and Guthrie Spur (Maps V-17 and V-17A), Pennsylvania (Folder 2)
16. Marion Center, Pennsylvania
17. McIntyre, Pennsylvania
18. Remoh, Pennsylvania
19. Rossiter, Pennsylvania
20. Savan, Pennsylvania
21. Shelocta, Pennsylvania
22. Union, Pennsylvania
23. Woodlawn, Pennsylvania
24. V-15 Right of Way Maps
25. V-17 Right of Way Maps
26. V-18 Right of Way Maps
27. V-19 Right of Way Maps
28. V-20 Right of Way Maps
29. Publication: *And We'll All Go Together: An Irish Family Emigrates to America* (2019) by Marie Lambert McGee and Michael Patrick Lambert II (see page 66-67) 2 copies