

M-4

Inventory to the Waterbury Railroad and Transportation
Collection, (1849-circa 1920, 1928-1997)

Finding aid updated by Stephanie Crawford in April 2020

Descriptive Summary

Creator: The Max R. Traurig Library, Mattatuck Museum.

Title: Waterbury Railroad and Transportation Collection

Dates: 1849-circa 1920, 1928-1997

Collection Number: M-4

Quantity: .66 cubic feet (2 manuscript boxes)

Abstract: This is an artificial collection composed by the archivists at the Mattatuck Museum to document the railroad and transportation development in and surrounding Waterbury. The collection is largely paper based, but also includes various tokens used for passage.

Language: English.

Repository: The Max R. Traurig Library and Archive, Mattatuck Museum. Advance notice required.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection documents the development and implementation of public transit and other forms of transportation in Waterbury spanning 1845 through circa 1920. It is arranged into two series, Railroad and Trolleys, Buses, and Other Transportation. The Railroad series contains records relating to the development, implementation, and ridership of the Naugatuck Rail Road. The Trolley, Bus and Other Series contains

documents regarding local bus and trolley routes, as well as automobiles. Both series contain documents related to the employees of the transportation companies, as well as the riders.

The collection is largely paper based, but also includes physical tokens used for bus lines. Documents include: tickets, schedules, advertisements, magazines/journals, commemorative documents, histories of the railroad, a student thesis, broadsides, and administrative documents.

References and Related Collections:

In the Photograph Collection there are also photographs of various modes of transportation.

In the M-2 Waterbury Button Company Records, the personal records of the president, JR Smith, contain information about registering his automobile and state laws about drivers' licenses.

Administrative History:

Processing Note: In 2020 the archivist modified the original finding aid.

Preferred Citation: Waterbury Railroad and Transportation Collection. M4. The Max R. Taurig Library and Archive, Mattatuck Museum.

Container List: This section provides descriptions of the materials found within each series. Each series description is followed by a container list, which gives the titles of the folders and their locations in the numbered boxes that comprise this collection.

Series: Railroad, 1845-circa 1920, 1928, 1949, 1963, 1980, and 1991

Box Folder

- 1 A Brief centennial history by Rawson Haddon, plus Haddon's notes for article, 1949
- B Incorporation papers, 1845
- C Reports to stockholders, 1853, 1862, 1887
- D Two announcements re: the leasing of the Naugatuck RR, 1887
To the New York, New Haven and Hartford RR, 1887
- E Announcement of personnel changes, 1892
- F Monthly account of ticket sales, Naugatuck Station (Number of tickets sold, destinations, cash received), March 1857
- G Records of payment received, 1861, 1871
- H Receipts from merchants & utilities, 1855, 1857, 1865, 1869-71, 1876-77, 1880
- I Payroll, 1857-1877
- Payroll, March 1857
 - Payroll, April 1858
 - Payroll, July 1858
 - Payroll, December 1863, 1871
 - Payroll, November 1875
 - Payroll, December 1877
- J Individual Pay Receipts, 1876-77
- Theodore Baker, ticket agent-July 1876 and June 1877
 - F. Bishop, president-Sept. 1877
 - H. Bishop, president-Sept. 1877
 - George W. Beach, superintendent-Sept. 1877
- K G. W. Beach-Letters from G. Kendrick, L. Coe, F.J. Kingsbury re: County Reorganization 1859 (proposal to make Waterbury area a separate county, with railroads determining boundaries)
- L G. W. Beach -Honors and invitations, 1883 and 1890
- M High Rock Grove (owned by Naugatuck RR), misc. papers, brochure, poem, circa 1880

Box Folder

- 1 N Timetables and Schedules
- Announcements of special trains, 1868 and 1888
 - Timetables, 1886-94
 - Fare schedule, 1880
 - Two advertisements for connecting stage lines, 1851 and 1869
- O Summer schedule for railroads, undated
- P Timetables, bound in a notebook (for employee use), includes rules of operation and procedures for:
- New York, New Haven & Hartford (owner of Naugatuck RR) 1916, 1918, and 1928
 - Central New England & Western RR, 1892
 - New Haven & Derby RR, 1871
- Q Housatonic Railroad, undated
- R Stocks and Bonds,
- Meriden, Waterbury & Conn. River RR-1 share of stock, 1888
 - Old Colony & Newport Railway Co. - Blank Bond Certificate, 1866
- S Providence, Hartford & Fishkill Railroad, 1853-54, 1862, and 1876
- Itemized labor bill from George C. Foster (contractor) for construction of Quidnick Brook trestle, w/receipt attached, 1853
 - Other receipts from firms and individuals, 1853-54, 1876
 - Payroll, 1862
- T Shepaug Railroad, 1892, 1972
- Announcement of absorption by New York, New Haven and Hartford RR, 1892
 - Commemorative Article, 1972
- U Tickets and Seat Checks-misc. railroads, circa 1850
- "F. H. & W."
 - New York and New Haven
 - Lackawanna & Bloomsburg
 - "C.C. & C."

- New Haven, New London and “S” (eymour?) Stonington, etc.

Box Folder

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| 1 | V | Commemorative picture of earliest American locomotives, 1875 |
| | W | Correspondence re: Railroad collection, 1938 and 1963 |
| | X | The New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, Shoreliner Magazine, Vol. 11 Issue 2, 6 copies, Articles on Naugatuck Railroad and Watertown & Waterbury Railroads, 1980 |
| | Y | The New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, Shoreliner Magazine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vol. 15 Issue 1, Article on Waterbury trains
1984 • Vol. 22 Issue, Article about Bank Street Junction, Waterbury
1991 |
| | Z | The Naugatuck Railroad 1849-1949. Waterbury: Mattatuck Historical Society, 1949. |
| 2 | E | New York & New England Railroad Station, Waterbury, 1881 – Print of a sketch by N. Lawson. |
| | F | Belletzkie, Robert J. <u>Meriden, Waterbury & Connecticut River RR – East / Ghost Railroad Tour from Cheshire to Cromwell</u> . Cheshire Historical Society, April 9, 2017. Binder of maps, photos and articles. Gift of Robert Joseph Belletzkie, 2017.

Belletzkie, Robert J. <u>Meriden, Waterbury & Connecticut River RR – West / Ghost Railroad Tour from Cheshire to Cromwell</u> . Cheshire Historical Society, April 15, 2018. Binder of maps, photos and articles. Gift of Robert Joseph Belletzkie, 2018. |
| | J | Rail Pass for Miss (or Mrs.) Chase on the New Haven and Derby Railroad. |

Series: Trolleys, Buses, and Other Transportation, 1909-1997

Box Folder

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| 2 | A | Waterbury Trolley Strike, 1919. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Justice investigation – copies. • “The Long and bloody trolley strike of 1903,” Sunday Republican, October 2, 1988. • Book chapter (?) – Community, Class, and Conflict: The Waterbury Trolley Strike of 1903. |
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Box Folder

- 2 B Sullivan, William Francis. *Turmoil in the Brass City: A Study of Working Class Consciousness During the Waterbury Strikes of 1919 and 1920*. Thesis by student from Trinity College, 1997.
- C Time Tables for Waterbury Motor Coach and Electric Car Service, April 1935 and Motor Coach Service for Winsted, Torrington, Waterbury, New Haven and Torrington Local Service, February 1, 1931.
- D Three bus tokens: (2) CSL (Cooke Street Line), (1) CRL (Connecticut Railway & Lighting).
- G White Star Line Information for Passengers. Contains the deck plans for the *Germanic*, *Britannic*, *Celtic*, *Adriatic*, and the *Republic*.
White Star Line. Steam Ship "Baltic" Dinner Menu, Bill of Fare and Wine List. Ismay, Imrie & Co., 18___. (undated). Printed covers with manuscript menu on interior.
- H Automobile Blue Book, 1924. Volume 1.
- I Ride Down Memory Lane: The Story of the Branford Trolley Museum, East Haven, 1975.
- K Early mileage chart to Connecticut towns.
- L *Trolley Trips through New England and Hudson River Valley*. Hartford: The Trolley Press, 1909.