UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COLLECTION

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2017
**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COLLECTION  
**Dates:** 1874-1996  
**Collection Number:** MS 54  
**Creator/Collector:**  
**Extent:** 6 boxes  
**Repository:** California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives  
Sacramento, California 95814  
**Abstract:** Miscellaneous Union Pacific Railroad records.  
**Language of Material:** English  
**Access**  
This collection is open for research at our off-site storage facility with one week's notice. Contact Library & Archives staff to arrange for access.  
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**Preferred Citation**  
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COLLECTION. California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives  
**Acquisition Information**  
**Biography/Administrative History**  
The Union Pacific Railroad was incorporated on July 1, 1862 in the wake of the Pacific Railroad Act of 1862. Under the guidance of its dominant stockholder Dr. Thomas Clark Durant, the namesake of the city of Durant, Iowa, the first rails were laid in Omaha, Nebraska. They were part of the railroads that came together at Promontory Summit, Utah, in 1869 as the first transcontinental railroad in North America. Subsequently, UP took over the Utah Central extending south from Ogden, Utah, through Salt Lake City, and the Utah & Northern, extending from Ogden through Idaho into Montana, and it built or absorbed local lines that gave it access to Denver and to Portland, Oregon, and the Pacific Northwest. It acquired the Kansas Pacific (originally called the Union Pacific, Eastern Division, though in essence a separate railroad). It also owned narrow gauge trackage into the heart of the Colorado Rockies and a standard gauge line south from Denver across New Mexico into Texas. UP was entangled in the Crédit Mobilier scandal of 1872. Its early troubles led to bankruptcy during the 1870s, the result of which was reorganization of the Union Pacific Railroad as the Union Pacific Railway on January 24, 1880, with its dominant stockholder being Jay Gould. The new company also declared bankruptcy, in 1893, but emerged on July 1, 1897, reverting to the original name, Union Pacific Railroad. Such minor changes in corporate titles were a common result of reorganization after bankruptcy among American railroads. This period saw the UP sell off some of its holdings; the Union Pacific Railway, Central Branch became the Central Branch of the Missouri Pacific Railroad and the Southern Branch was acquired by the newly-incorporated Missouri Kansas Texas Railroad in 1870. However, the UP soon recovered, and was strong enough to take control of Southern Pacific Railroad (SP) in 1901 and then was ordered in 1913 by the U.S. Supreme Court to surrender control of the same. The Missouri Pacific and Missouri Kansas Texas both came back into the UP fold in the 1980s. In 1996, UP finally acquired SP in a transaction envisioned nearly a century earlier. [Wikipedia]  
**Scope and Content of Collection**  
This collection is arranged into nine series:  
1 PERSONNEL RECORDS  
2 ENGINE CREW REGISTER  
3 AUDITED VOUCHERS  
4 FIREARMS RECORDS  
5 MISCELLANEOUS FORMS  
6 ACCIDENT REPORTS  
7 CORRESPONDENCE  
8 VALUATION RECORDS  
9 LAND RECORDS  
Legal records for the Union Pacific's Salt Lake Route can be found in MS 695 Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad Collection.  

MS 54 Union Pacific Railroad Collection [Complete finding aid]