Inventory of the Railroad Employees Photograph Album, circa 1920-1937

Collection number: MS 76

California State Railroad Museum Library

Sacramento, California

Contact Information:

California State Railroad Museum Library
111 "I" Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Phone: (916) 323-8073
Fax: (916) 327-5655
Email: csrmlibrary@csrmf.org
URL: http://www.csrmf.org/library.html

Processed by:
Ellen L. Halteman
Encoded by:
Xiuzhi Zhou

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Railroad Employees Photograph Album,
Date (inclusive): circa 1920-1937
Collection number: MS 76
Extent: 1 volume
Repository: California State Railroad Museum Library
Sacramento, California 95814
Shelf location: Big Four Building or off-site storage. Please contact the Library in advance of your visit.
Language: English.
Provenance
Gift of Shirlee J. Thompson, 1993
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Preferred Citation
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Collection Description

The collection consists of nearly 300 pages of black and white photographs (image size: 1-1/4 x 1-½ inches), with 24 images pasted on each page) of male railroad employees, arranged alphabetically by the first letter of the surname, but not in precise alphabetical order. Each photograph includes a date (possibly a hire date), a job title (brakeman, motorman, conductor), and a geographical identification (regional or specific: Pasadena, Long Beach, Pomona). The men are not in uniform.

The album was compiled by the donor's father, Walter Bales, who worked for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, and Pacific Electric. His tenure at the latter company was from the 1930s until his 1971 retirement. During the mid-1950s, Mr. Bales was chairman of a regional chapter of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. A presumption as to the corporate affiliation of these gentlemen is to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, or Pacific Electric.