Guide to the James E. Boynton Collection MS 850

CSRM Library & Archives staff
California State Railroad Museum Library & Archives
August 2019
111 "I" Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Library.CSRM@parks.ca.gov
URL: http://csrmf.org/visit/library
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: California State Railroad Museum Library & Archives
Title: Boynton (James E.) collection
Identifier/Call Number: MS 850
Physical Description: 6.709 Linear Feet1-half manuscript box, 13-"shoebox" style negative boxes
Date (inclusive): 1909-1992
SMCC I2.210.N10 (Series 1-2) Big 4 (Series 3)
Biography
James Boynton was born in Oakland, California on October 3, 1921 and passed away on March 4, 1992 in Plumas, California. After high school he attended the University of Idaho and Oregon State University in Corvallis and studied mechanical engineering. Boynton enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943 as an ordnance man and became an aerial gunnery instructor for B-17 and B-29 bombardment aircraft. According to his book jacket biography, he invented a run-away gun eliminator for use on remote control turrets of B-29 aircraft. He received a commendation from the Air Corps for his invention.

Mr. Boynton worked for nearly 32 years with the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific railroads as a locomotive engineer running trains from Keddie to Bieber and back. He authored the popular book, Three Barrels of Steam, about the 4-10-2 steam locomotive. He was a charter member of the old Golden State Railroad Historical Society and was an associate member of the Pacific Locomotive Association.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], James E. Boynton Collection, MS 850, California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives, Sacramento, California.

Scope and Contents
This Boynton Collection consists of three series. Series 1. Train Orders Series 2. Publications and Series 3. Negative Collection. Series 1. Train Orders is a collection of Western Pacific Railroad train orders organized by the station and then date. These train orders used Form 17, 19, 31. Form 31 was a more restrictive order and the conductor was required to stop and sign for the order. Form 19 is not as restrictive and did not require the signature of the conductor. Form 17 is specific to the Western Pacific Railroad, replacing form 19 and Form 31 in approximately 1970.

The train orders are used in conjunction with the Dispatch Sheets and the Employee Time Tables for specific days of the month to get an accurate record and understanding of the movements of a specific train on a specific day.


Series 3. Negatives is a collection of 13 "shoebox" size boxes of negatives of railroads. The series is arranged alphabetically by railroad name.

Conditions Governing Access
Open for research.

Arrangement
Collection is arranged in 3 series.

Conditions Governing Use
Copyright has not been assigned to the California State Railroad Museum. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the CSRM Library & Archives.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Western Pacific Railroad Company
Railroads--United States--Operations--Train Dispatching--Train Orders
Railroad trains--Dispatching
Oral histories
Photography of railroads
Guide to the James E. Boynton Collection MS 850

Series 1: Train Orders 1909-1975

Scope and Contents
Series 1. Train Orders is a collection of Western Pacific Railroad train orders organized by the station and then date. These train orders used Form 17, 19, 31. Form 31 was a more restrictive order and the conductor was required to stop and sign for the order. Form 19 is not as restrictive and did not require the signature of the conductor. Form 17 is specific to the Western Pacific Railroad, replacing form 19 and Form 31 in approximately 1970.
The train orders are used in conjunction with the Dispatch Sheets and the Employee Time Tables for specific days of the month to get an accurate record and understanding of the movements of a specific train on a specific day.
This collection of train orders includes orders from the Oakland Yard, Carbona, Stockton Yard, Termous Junction, Thornton, Marysville, Oroville Yard, Bloomer, Belden, Greenville, Mason, Portola, Doyle, Sand Pass, Gerlach and Sulpurl.
Arrangement
Arranged chronologically.

box 1, folder 1 Western Pacific Train Orders: Researchers Copies bulk
box 1, folder 2 Western Pacific Train Orders: Oakland to Stockton Yard, California 1935-1938
box 1, folder 3 Western Pacific Train Orders: Stockton Yard to Oroville Yard, California 1937-1938
box 1, folder 4 Western Pacific Train Orders: Oroville Yard to Portola, California 1922-1943
box 1, folder 5 Western Pacific Train Orders: Greenville, California 1972
box 1, folder 6 Western Pacific Train Orders: Mason, California 1934-1938
box 1, folder 7 Western Pacific Train Orders: Portola California and east 1937
box 1, folder 8 Western Pacific: Mailgrams, telegrams, newspaper clippings 1909-1975

Series 2: Publications 1983; 1992

Scope and Contents
Series 2. Publications contains publications written about Boynton. Love Affair with the Iron Horse: Jim Boynton’s Life on the Steel Rail edited by Mary Rehwald is an oral history interview of Jim Boynton. The interview was conducted by David Weitzman in the late Spring of 1983.
Arrangement
Arranged chronologically.

box 1, folder 9 Love Affair with the Iron Horse: Jim Boynton’s Life on the Steel Trail, Edited by Mary Rehwald 1983
box 1, folder 10 Feather River Short Line Railroad: Steam Forever: James Earle Boynton 1992-05

Series 3: Negative Collection

"Big Four Building"
Scope and Contents
Series 3. Negatives is a collection of 13 "shoebox" size boxes of negatives of railroads. The series is arranged alphabetically by railroad name.
Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically by name of railroad.
Series 3: Negative Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>A - C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>C - D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3</td>
<td>D - K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 4</td>
<td>L - M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 5</td>
<td>M - U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>No - Nz, Pa - Pi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 7, 8, 9</td>
<td>Southern Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10</td>
<td>Sa - Sy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11</td>
<td>U - Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12</td>
<td>A - Z 5x7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13</td>
<td>Foreign</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guide to the James E. Boynton Collection MS 850

MS 850 4