

Guide to

MS 28

**City of Phoenix Transportation Records,
1889-1972**

Bulk Dates 1889-1959

5 linear feet, 6 inches

Prepared by Lisa Gezelter
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Donations by Larry Fleming in 1981 and by Joseph Smith in 1974.

Citation: City of Phoenix Transportation Records, 1889-1972, MS 28, Library and Archives, Central Arizona Division, Arizona Historical Society.

Library and Archives
Arizona Historical Society
Central Arizona Division

HISTORICAL NOTE

Streetcar service in and around Phoenix began in 1887 with mule-drawn streetcars. By 1888, the tracks covered three miles of Phoenix-area roadways. In 1893, construction began of an electric streetcar system that would replace the mule-drawn cars and in September of that year the new electric streetcars began carrying passengers. Expansion and construction of new lines followed until about 1913. The subsequent 12 years were years of slow decline for the Street Railway Company until 1925, when the City of Phoenix reluctantly took over operations.

Bus operations began in Phoenix in 1928. For the next 20 years, bus service expanded and streetcar service declined until 1948, when the last streetcar ceased operating. The City of Phoenix operated the bus system until 1959, when it was sold.

Taken from "Phoenix Street Railway, 1887-1948", *Western Railroader*, February, 1961.

SERIES DESCRIPTION

The City of Phoenix Transportation Records are arranged in seven series:

Series 1. Carl Rawlings, 1946-1958, 3 inches, 11 folders.

This series consists of legal documents, correspondence and personnel documents which pertain specifically to Mr. Rawlings' work at the City of Phoenix Transportation Department as well as to his personal life.

Series 2. Office Files, 1923-1965, 1 foot, 5 ½ inches, 3 ½ boxes.

This series consists of correspondence, reports, lists, legal documents, and other documents which relate to the day-to-day operations of Phoenix's public transportation system.

Series 3. Lines and Routes, 1889-1959, 7 inches, 1 ½ boxes

The legal documents and correspondence in this series describe significant events in the histories of the following lines and routes: Brill Line and Extension, Fourth Street and Monroe Loop, Glendale Line and Lincoln Place Extension, Grand Avenue, Indian School and Brill Lines, Lincoln Place Extension, Second Avenue and Asylum Extension, Glendale, and Crosstown.

Series 4. Correspondence, 1911-1959, 9 inches, 1 ½ boxes

Divided into two subseries (Office Correspondence and Safety Director), the correspondence in this series documents the day-to-day operations of the City of Phoenix Transportation Office from 1911 to 1959 and Carl Rawlings' activities as Safety Director from 1944 until 1952.

Series 5. Reports, 1913-1959, 7 inches, 1 ½ boxes

The reports in this series represent information that was collected and distributed to various organizations about the street railway and the bus system.

Series 6. Bulletin Books, 1911-1947, 7 inches, 1 ½ boxes

This series consists of notices to street railway employees that were posted on bulletin boards and then pasted into large scrapbook-type books. The messages contain requests, prohibitions and other work-related information.

Series 7. News Clippings, 1914-1972, 7 inches, 1 ½ boxes

Containing mostly newspaper clippings, this series documents many facets of the operation of the City of Phoenix Transportation department.

Series 8. Books, 1958, 1 inch, 1 folder

This series contains one book on urban transportation and a bibliography of other books on the same subject.

Series 9. Images, 1928-1957.

The maps in this series show the bus routes in and around Phoenix. The photographs in this series are unidentified, and the poster relates to changes in bus routes.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The City of Phoenix Transportation Records document Phoenix's efforts at public transportation from 1889 until 1959. The bulk of the materials relate to the day-to-day operations of the City's transportation department, but some records also document labor disputes and changes in transportation technology. The collection lacks the first two years of Street Railway Company records.

Series 1: **Carl Rawlings**, 1946-1958. The records in this series document Carl Rawlings' employment with the City of Phoenix Transportation department. Rawlings was the employee who saved these records when the bus system was sold in 1959.

Series 2: **Office Files**, 1923-1959. This series is divided into 11 subseries: Legal Department, Labor Relations, Public Relations, Studies and Reports, Sale Proposals, Schools and Students, Personnel, Safety, Other Organizations, Finances, and Token Exchange. These documents treat the day-to-day running of the department as well as information on the department's employees and other subjects.

Series 3: **Lines and Routes**, 1889-1959. The first part of this series contains general information such as schedules and equipment list. The rest of the series is divided into 11 subseries: Brill Line and Extension, Fourth Street and Monroe Loop, Glendale Line and Lincoln Place Extension, Grand Avenue, Indian School and Brill Lines, Lincoln Place Extension, Second Avenue and Asylum Extension, Kenilworth and Second Avenue Extension, Glendale, Crosstown, and Related Documents. These legal documents and correspondence relate to the rights of way and other legal exchanges that enabled the lines to run where they did. This series, most of which was donated by Joseph Smith, was left in the order in which it came.

Series 4. **Correspondence**, 1911-1959. The two subseries in this series—Office Correspondence and Safety Director—document the day-to-day operations of Phoenix's transportation department as well as Carl Rawlings' safety programs and activities. The correspondence is arranged chronologically.

Series 5. **Reports**, 1913-1959. Arranged chronologically, these reports document the state of Phoenix's transportation department at various points in time. Included is information on rider load, peak hours, tariff zoning, equipment and other aspects of the transportation department's operations.

Series 6. **Bulletin Books**, 1911-1947. The memos to Street Railway employees contained in this series are arranged chronologically and document the conditions under which the employees worked.

Series 7. **News Clippings**, 1914-1972. These articles, clipped mostly from the *Arizona Republic* and the *Phoenix Gazette* document the newsworthy events in the history of the city transportation department. Subjects include accidents, controversies and legal actions. These articles are arranged chronologically.

Series 8. **Books**, 1958. The book and bibliography in this series represent information the management of Phoenix's transportation department had available.

Series 9. **Images**, 1928-1957. The maps in this series show the bus routes in and around Phoenix and how those routes changed and developed during the period included. The photographs are unidentified. The poster was used to notify bus patrons of changes in scheduling.

PROVENANCE

These records were accumulated by Carl Rawlings and given by him to Mr. Larry Fleming. On **DATE**, Mr. Fleming donated the City of Phoenix Transportation Records to the Arizona Historical Society, Central Arizona Division.

RESTRICTIONS

None.

LITERARY RIGHTS STATEMENT

Permission to publish material from the *City of Phoenix Transportation Records, 1889-1972* must be obtained from the Library and Archives Department at the Central Arizona Division of the Arizona Historical Society.

NOTES TO RESEARCHERS

In order to stabilize the materials and preserve the information contained in this collection, newspaper clippings and items on deteriorating acidic paper were photocopied onto acid-neutral paper and the originals were recycled. Wherever staples in pamphlets or booklets appeared to be rusting, they were removed and not replaced. Photographs were placed in acid-neutral sleeves and are currently housed with the photograph collection. The maps were numbered and measured and placed in the map collection. The poster, too, was numbered and placed with the poster collection.

Wherever possible, documents were left in the folders in which they came. However, in order to maintain the boundaries of the series and achieve a coherent order within the collection, many documents were rearranged.

CONTAINER LIST

SERIES 1: CARL RAWLINGS, 1946-1958

Box : Folder

- 1 : 1 Personal Correspondence and Receipts, 1946-1955 and N/D
- 1 : 2 Automobile Pool and other membership cards, 1947, 1952-1958
- 1 : 3 Personnel Documents, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1958
- 1 : 4 Travel, 1947, 1950, 1953, 1955, 1958, N/D
- 1 : 5 Professional Development, 1950, 1956
- 1 : 6 1958 ATA Conference/Transit information for San Diego, Salt Lake City, Chicago, St. Louis, 1953, 1957-1958
- 1 : 7 Pages from Notebook, c. 1940
- 1 : 8 Notes, 1954
- 1 : 9 Notes, c. 1958
- 1 : 10 Notes, N/D
- 1 : 11 Speech, N/D

SERIES 2: OFFICE FILES, 1923-1965

Legal Department

- 1 : 12 Legal Agreements, 1925, 1928, 1937, 1940
- 1 : 13 M.H. Sherman Property, 1933-1941
- 1 : 14 Legal Agreements, 1935-1937
- 1 : 15 Laws, 1939, 1950

Labor Relations

- 1 : 16 Working Agreements, 1950, 1956-1958
- 2 : 17 Wage Negotiation, 1955-1956

Public Relations

- 2 : 18 Advertising/Public Relations, 1948, 1950, 1958, N/D
- 2 : 19 Radio and Television Scripts, 1939, 1948-1949, 1952-1953
- 2 : 20 Press Notices, 1940-1942, 1948-1952, N/D
- 2 : 21 Events, 1934 (Union Dance), 1952-1953
- 2 : 22 Publications 1942, 1947, 1958
- 2 : 23 Transit Progress Day, 1949-1951

Studies and Reports

- 2 : 24 Rehabilitation, 1926-1939
- 2 : 25 Investigations and Survey Reports, 1936-1940
- 2 : 26 Catalog of Changes in the Division of Transportation, 1950-1955
- 2 : 27 Progress Reports, 1952-1954, 1958
- 2 : 28 Documents relating to the Pilot Study, 1956-1957

Sale Proposals

- 2 : 29 Tanner Proposal, 1955-1957, n.d.

- 2 : 30 Sale Proposal, 1956, n.d.
- 2 : 31 Sale Agreement, 1959

Schools and Students

- 2 : 32 High Schools, 1942, 1956-1957
- 2 : 33 Student Rates, 1957

Personnel

- 3 : 34 Personnel Issues, 1923, n.d.
- 3 : 35 Personnel Issues, 1940-1959, n.d.
- 3 : 36 Personnel Issues, 1943-1944
- 3 : 37 Police Report, 1949
- 3 : 38 Lists, 1939-1952
- 3 : 39 Lists, 1946-1951
- 3 : 40 Lists, 1952-1954
- 3 : 41 Lists, 1955
- 3 : 42 Lists, 1956
- 3 : 43 Lists, 1957-1959
- 3 : 44 List, 1965
- 3 : 45 Undated Lists

Safety

- 3 : 46 Safety Meetings, 1936, 1944, 1946, 1950, 1959
- 3 : 47 Safety, 1942-1957, n.d.
- 3 : 48 Motor Coach Operators Test, 1945
- 3 : 49 Operators Manual and Guide, 1951
- 3 : 50 Accident Report /book, 1951
- 3 : 51 Safety Training, 1958

Other Organizations

- 3 : 52 City Council/City Commission, 1937, 1942, 1950-1957
- 3 : 53 Arizona Corporation Commission, 1944-1946, n.d.
- 3 : 54 National Safety Council, 1946, 1953, n.d.
- 3 : 55 Job Classification Review Committee, 1951
- 3 : 56 National Board of Fire Underwriters, 1952

Finances

- 4 : 57 Financial Reports, 1935-1941
- 4 : 58 Glendale, Litchfield, and Peoria Revenues, 1942
- 4 : 59 Budget and Financial Sheets, 1949-1950
- 4 : 60 Consolidated Balance Sheet, 1954
- 4 : 61 Tax Comparisons, 1954
- 4 : 62 Revenue, 1956-1957
- 4 : 63 Financial Information, 1957

Token Exchange

- 4 : 64 Token Exchange, 1948-1949
- 4 : 65 Token Exchange, 1948-1949 continued
- 4 : 66 Token Exchange, 1948-1949 continued

SERIES 3: LINES AND ROUTES, 1889-1959

- 4 : 67 Sun Valley Bus Lines, 1942-1943, n.d.
- 4 : 68 Schedules, 1944
- 4 : 69 Equipment Lists and Information, 1924-1959
- 4 : 70 Transit System Schedules, n.d.
- 4 : 71 Smith Memorabilia, 1924, 1928, n.d.
- 4 : 72 Documents, 1907-1948
- 5 : 73 Conductors' Record Book, 1911

Brill Line and Extension

- 5 : 74 Correspondence, 1912-1917
- 5 : 75 Petition, n.d.
- 5 : 76 Dedication, 1889
- 5 : 77 Deed, 1901
- 5 : 78 Resolution, 1914
- 5 : 79 Docket 199, 1914
- 5 : 80 Resolution, 1914
- 5 : 81 Warranty Deed, 1915
- 5 : 82 Alternative Writ of Mandamus, 1916

Fourth Street and Monroe Loop

- 5 : 83 Perpetual Right of Way, 1911
- 5 : 84 Correspondence, 1915
- 5 : 85 Agreement, 1914
- 5 : 86 Memorandum of Agreements, 1915

Glendale Line and Lincoln Place Extension

- 5 : 87 Memorandum and Agreement, n.d.
- 5 : 88 Correspondence, 1909-1922
- 5 : 89 Quit Claim Deeds, 1910
- 5 : 90 Deed and Contract, 1909-1910
- 5 : 91 Warranty Deed, 1909
- 5 : 92 Permission to Cross, 1910
- 5 : 93 Ordinance #13, 1910
- 5 : 94 Assignments, 1910
- 5 : 95 Affidavit, 1911
- 5 : 96 Board of Supervisors, 1912
- 5 : 97 Right of Way License, 1922
- 5 : 98 Documents, 1910-1922

Grand Avenue

5 : 99 Documents, 1890-1914

Indian School and Brill Lines

5 : 100 Dunbar Franchise, 1889-1892
5 : 101 Assignments, 1892-1901
5 : 102 Operations, c. 1894
5 : 103 Auction Purchase, 1900
5 : 104 Legal Documents, 1899-1901
5 : 105 Documents, 1900-1914

Lincoln Place Extension

5 : 106 Descriptions, n.d.
5 : 107 Correspondence, 1921-1922
5 : 108 Warranty Deed, 1900
5 : 109 Board of Supervisors, 1910
5 : 110 Documents, 1910-1911, 1922
5 : 110A Right of Way, 1900-1921

Second Avenue and Asylum Extension

5 : 111 Correspondence, 1914
5 : 112 Resolutions, 1914
5 : 113 Agreements, 1913
5 : 114 Asylum Line, 1914-1922
5 : 115 Documents, c. 1914

Kenilworth and Second Avenue Extension

5 : 116 Correspondence, 1910-1912
5 : 117 Warranty Deed, 1910
5 : 118 Agreement of Subsidy, 1910
5 : 119 Quit-Claim Deed, 1910
5 : 120 Application, 1910
5 : 121 Agreement, 1912
5 : 122 Minutes, 1912
5 : 123 Subsidy Contract, 1912

Glendale

5 : 124 1940-1943
6 : 125 1956

Crosstown

6 : 126 1953

Related Documents

6 : 127 Timetables and Sign-Up Sheets, 1941-1942
6 : 128 Schedules and Timetables, 1954

- 6 : 129 Timetables, 1957, n.d.
- 6 : 130 Bus Routes, 1958

SERIES 4: CORRESPONDENCE, 1911-1959

Office Correspondence

- 6 : 131 1911-1931
- 6 : 132 1935-1940
- 6 : 133 1936-1939
- 6 : 134 1941
- 6 : 135 1942
- 6 : 136 1943-1945
- 6 : 137 1946-1949
- 6 : 138 1947-1952
- 6 : 139 Personnel Investigation Companies, 1948-1949, 1952, 1955, n.d.
- 6 : 140 1948-1952
- 6 : 141 1948-1953, 1956, n.d.
- 6 : 142 1950-1955
- 7 : 143 1952-1954
- 7 : 144 1955
- 7 : 145 1956
- 7 : 146 1957
- 7 : 147 1958-1959

Safety Director

- 7 : 148 1944-1947
- 7 : 149 1948
- 7 : 150 Telegrams, 1948-1951
- 7 : 151 1949
- 7 : 152 1950
- 7 : 153 1951-1952
- 7 : 154 Undated

SERIES 5: REPORTS, 1913-1959

- 8 : 155 1913, 1928-1935
- 8 : 155A Brill Cars, 1918
- 8 : 156 New Equipment, 1928
- 8 : 156A Monthly Reports, July 1928-July 1935
- 8 : 157 Audit Report, 1929
- 8 : 158 Financial and Operating Survey, 1932
- 8 : 159 Modernization of Street Railway, 1940
- 8 : 160 Peak Hauling Periods, c. 1943
- 8 : 161 Tariff Zoning, 1943
- 8 : 162 Peak Service Demands, 1943
- 8 : 163 Graphic Reports, 1944
- 8 : 164 Buses and Service, 1944

- 8 : 165 Report of Governmental Administration of Phoenix, 1945
- 8 : 166 Trolley Coach Installation, 1946
- 8 : 167 Miles and Hours, 1946
- 8 : 168 Vehicle Application, 1947
- 8 : 169 Reports, 1947-1950
- 8 : 170 Reports, 1951-1954
- 9 : 171 Reports, 1955-1956
- 9 : 172 Reports, 1957
- 9 : 173 Reports, 1958-1959
- 9 : 174 Reports, n.d.
- 9 : 175 Transportation Pilot Study, n.d.

SERIES 6: BULLETIN BOOKS, 1911-1947

- 9 : 176 December, 1911-August, 1912
- 9 : 177 August, 1912-August, 1913
- 10 : 178 August, 1913-December, 1914
- 10 : 179 December, 1914-July, 1917
- 10 : 180 July, 1917-July, 1919
- 10 : 181 July, 1919-March, 1923
- 10 : 182 March, 1923-January, 1926
- 10 : 183 July, 1932-January, 1933
- 10 : 184 August, 1938-July, 1940
- 11 : 185 July, 1940-April, 1942
- 11 : 186 April, 1942, 1937, 1941
- 11 : 187 1947
- 14 : 1947

SERIES 7: NEWS CLIPPINGS, 1914-1972

- 11 : 188 1914
- 11 : 189 1941
- 11 : 190 1942-1943
- 11 : 191 1944-1945
- 11 : 192 1946
- 11 : 193 1946 (continued)
- 11 : 194 1947
- 11 : 195 1948
- 11 : 196 1949
- 11 : 197 1950
- 11 : 198 1951-1952
- 12 : 199 1953
- 12 : 200 1954
- 12 : 201 1955
- 12 : 202 1956
- 12 : 203 1957
- 12 : 204 1958
- 12 : 205 1959

12 : 206 1972
12 : 207 undated

SERIES 8: BOOKS, 1958

12 : 208 1958, n.d.

SERIES 9: IMAGES, 1928-1957

Photographs

1981.142.01

1981.142.02

Maps

1981.142.03-1981.142.27

Poster

1981.142.28