

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Illinois Traction/Terminal Collection**

Processed by  
Bob Schwarzlose  
May 2016

**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1906-2009
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	None

## Brief History

The Illinois Traction Company, later known as the Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, was commonly referred to as the Interurban within McLean County. It first began operations in 1907 and passenger service ended in 1958.

## Scope

The collection includes newspaper articles, excerpts from books and magazines, timetables, maps, annual reports and other memorabilia associated with the history of the Illinois Traction Company and the Illinois Terminal Railroad Company.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### Folder 1: Newspaper articles and advertisements

- 1.1 "Building An Interurban", *Pantagraph*, May 28, 1906.
- 1.2 "Danvers Line Opened", *Pantagraph*, January 2, 1907.
- 1.3 "Illinois Traction System" schedules advertisement, *Pantagraph*, January 9, 1907.
- 1.4 "The First Cars Through", *Pantagraph*, April 15, 1907.
- 1.5 "Peoria Line Duly Opened," *Pantagraph*, April 22, 1907.
- 1.6 "Brought \$100,000,000 To Illinois Since 1900", *Pantagraph*, March 14, 1914.
- 1.7 "Every Day Is Shipping Day" advertisement, *Daily Bulletin*, May 11, 1919.
- 1.8 "Here Is Bloomington's New Traction Station," *Pantagraph*, May 19, 1941.
- 1.9 "Lincoln Land Traction", *Pantagraph*, July 17, 1966.
- 1.10 "Interurban dead in its tracks for 30 years," *Pantagraph*, February 20, 1983.
- 1.11 "A Ride Through Time: Searching For The Remnants Of The Old Interurban Railroad," by Walt Zyznieuski, *Illinois Times* (Springfield's Independent Weekly Newspaper), December 18, 2003.
- 1.12 "A Page From Our Past: Bloomington once a stop on electric railway system," *Pantagraph*, April 12, 2009.

### Folder 2: "The McKinley Lines" by Middleton

- 2.1 "The McKinley Lines: Illinois Traction System," chapter in *The Interurban Era* by William D. Middleton, (Kalmbach Books, seventh printing, 1978): 190-205.

### Folder 3: "Illinois Terminal Historical Overview" by Lloyd

- 3.1 *Illinois Terminal: Volume I*, Gordon E Lloyd, (Morning Star Books Inc, copyright 1998): pp. 2-10 .Illinois Traction System, Timetable, March 7, 1926.

### Folder 4: "The Famed Electric Railroad of Illinois' Past: The Illinois Traction System" by Changnon

- 4.1 "The Famed Electric Railroad of Illinois' Past: The Illinois Traction System" by Stanley A Changnon, *Historic Illinois*, Volume 26, Number 5, February 2004, pp 8-15.

**Folder 5: “The Rise and Fall of the Bloomington Line” by Fortney**

- 5.1 “The rise and fall of the Bloomington Line” by Mike Fortney, *The Flyer: The Magazine of Illinois’ Terminal Railroad History*, Volume 22, Number 1, Spring 2008. pp. 32-45.

**Folder 6: “The Lincoln Land Traction” compiled by Johnson**

- 6.1 Book excerpt from The Lincoln Land Traction, compiled by James D Johnson, 2 chapters plus main line cars list, timetable and map, Copyright 1965.

**Folder 7: “Abandonment of Interurban Railroads” by Johnson**

- 7.1 Original typescript titled “Abandonment of Interurban Railroads” by Dick Johnson, 18 pp. including photographs December 14, 1972.

**Folder 8: “Bloomington – A Model City” by Steventon**

- 8.1 “Bloomington – A Model City” by William A. Steventon, *Traction & Models*, May 1973, pp. 12-16 (2 copies).

**Folder 9: Timetables and Maps**

- 9.1 Illinois Traction System, Timetable, November 9, 1924, reproduction.  
9.2 Illinois Traction System Timetable, March 7, 1926.  
9.3 Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, effective April 16, 1939, 2 copies.  
9.4 Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, issued October 1, 1945.  
9.5 Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, issued September 29, 1946, 2 copies.  
9.6 Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, February 27, 1949.  
9.7 Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, April 30, 1950.  
9.8 Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, April 29, 1951.  
9.9 “Time of Arrival of Trains at Danvers,” 1 sheet, photocopy, no date.  
9.10 Information provided via email from Jack Keefe regarding interurban stops in McLean County including maps, timetables, terminal stations and stops from 1948.  
9.11 “Tour Guide for the Bloomington Line: Illinois Terminal Railroad,” with map, Illinois Traction Society, 1991.  
9.12 Official map of Illinois Terminal Railroad System, undated.  
9.13 Official map of Illinois Terminal Railroad Company, undated.  
9.14 Map detailing opening dates of ITS Passenger Lines and Map detailing dates of discontinuance of passenger service, no date.  
9.15 Illinois Traction Society 2003 Meet, Bloomington Line Tour Map.  
9.16 Illinois Traction System, Service Map, undated.  
9.17 Know Your Illinois Traction System map, undated.

**Folder 10: Tickets, Waybills and Envelopes**

**Folder 11: Applications For Employment**

- 11.1 Walter Bert Shyer, March 31, 1910, car cleaner.  
11.2 Walter Jessie Short, July 27, 1911, car cleaner.  
11.3 Charles Sherrel, September 15, 1913, repairman; June 20, 1914, night foreman.  
11.4 Guy Leonard Shuman, July 11, 1916, truckman.

- 11.5 Loyd G Sherick, November 16, 1917, truckman.
- 11.6 Sam Elsworth Shawver, August 28, 1920, laborer.
- 11.7 Frank Grey Sheffler, October 24, 1927, clerk.
- 11.8 Raymond Shields, September 27, 1926, truckman.

**Folder 12: Stock and Bond Certificates**

- 12.1 Cancelled \$1,000 face value bond for equipment trust, due 1 July 1953.
- 12.2 Unused share certificate, 25 shares.
- 12.3 Unused share certificate, for less than 100 shares.

**Folder 13: Illinois Terminal Railroad Company Reports**

- 13.1 Progress Report, 1970.
- 13.2 Annual Report, 1973.
- 13.3 Annual Report, 1974.

**Folder 14: Interurban Saloon Advertisement**

**Folder 15: Illinois Traction Society**

- 15.1 Membership Roster, 2004.
- 15.2 "The Phone Booth" newsletter, Volume 18, Number 1, Summary 2004.
- 15.3 Car Preservation Fund Flyer, undated.
- 15.4 "The Flyer," society publication, brochure describing society membership, undated.
- 15.5 "The Flyer: Magazine of Illinois Terminal Railroad History," Volume 18, Number 1, Spring 2004.
- 15.6 "Illinois Traction 25th Anniversary Pocket Guide to IT Equipment," unknown source, undated.

**Folder 16: Miscellaneous**

- 16.1 Reminiscence of using Interurban as a child, William R. Brandt, Oct 16, 2016.