

**The New York Public Library
Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the
Bion J. Arnold papers

1887-1941

MssCol 129

Compiled by Robert Sink, May 1983

Summary

Creator: Arnold, Bion J. (Bion Joseph), 1861-1942

Title: Bion J. Arnold papers, 1887-1941

Size: 11.31 linear feet (14 boxes, 21 volumes)

Source: Estate of Bion J. Arnold

Abstract:

Access: Apply to Manuscripts and Archives Division for access at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>.

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Creator history

Bion J. Arnold (1861-1942) was an engineer who advised Chicago and other cities on the development of their electric transit systems. He devised the plan for the electrification of Grand Central Terminal in New York City.

Scope and content note

Collection consists of mainly engineering papers with some personal papers of Arnold. Correspondence, 1918-1922, 1933-1941, includes business letters concerning engineering, railroads and his consulting firm; and personal letters concerning alumni activities at Hillsdale College, civic affairs in Chicago, and family matters. Nearly one half of the collection is made up of papers, 1898-1912, relating to Arnold's work for the New York Central Railroad and includes correspondence, reports, maps, specifications, drawings, and photographs. There are similar papers for other railroad companies Arnold worked with and scrapbooks concerning electrical engineering and Arnold's consulting work for various cities. Also, biographical papers; appointment and address books, 1887-1902, 1924-1925; engineering notebooks; and personal scrapbooks.

Key terms

Subjects

Electrical engineering

Railroads -- Electrification

Occupations

Engineers

Transportation -- California -- Los Angeles
Transportation -- California -- San Francisco
Transportation -- Illinois -- Chicago
Transportation -- New Jersey -- Jersey City
Transportation -- New York (State) -- New York
Transportation -- Pennsylvania -- Pittsburgh

Names

Arnold, Bion J. (Bion Joseph), 1861-1942
Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad
Company
Elgin, Belvidere and Rockford Railway Company
Erie Railroad Company
Illinois Central Railroad
New York Central and Hudson River Railroad
Company
Virginia Railway Company

Special formats

Blueprints
Maps
Photographs
Scrapbooks
Technical drawings

Container list

Correspondence

- b.1 1918-1922
- b.2 1933-1935
- b.3 1936-1938
- b.4 1939-1941
- b.5 Appointment and address books
- b.5 Engineering notebooks
- b.5 Biographical papers
- b.6 New York Central and Hudson River Railroad
- b.7 New York Central and Hudson River Railroad
- b.8 New York Central and Hudson River Railroad
- b.9 New York Central and Hudson River Railroad
- b.10 Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad, 1921-1923
- b.11 Elgin, Belvidere and Rockford Railway Company, 1933-1934
- b.12 Erie Railroad Company, 1904-1906
- b.13 Illinois Central Railroad, 1922
- b.13 Virginia Railway, 1927
- b.14 Technical reports

Scrapbooks (21 volumes)

- 1900-1905
- 1904-1907
- 1904-1910
- 1908-1915
- 1908-1916
- 1909-1913
- 1909-1917
- 1909-1918
- 1910
- 1910-1916
- 1911-1916
- 1911-1921
- 1912-1917
- 1913-1916
- 1914-1915
- 1916-1919

Blueprints

Blueprints

Engineering articles

Engineering articles, 1897

Scrapbooks (cont.)

 Engineering articles and ephemera