Missouri Pacific Railway Company Collection (R0459)

Collection Number: R0459

Collection Title: Missouri Pacific Railway Company Collection

Dates: circa 1911

Creator: Missouri Pacific Railway Company

Abstract: The Missouri Pacific Railway Company Collection contains illustrated promotional booklets advertising railroad lands for sale in northeastern and central Arkansas. The booklets include descriptions and photographs of twenty-one counties, with information on agricultural production, stock raising, and railroad connections in the region.

Collection Size: 0.01 cubic foot
(1 folder)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla. If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmod.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See Rights & Reproductions on the Society’s website for more information and about reproductions and permission to publish.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Missouri Pacific Railway Company Collection (R0459); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the University of Missouri by Milton J. Murry on August 21, 1990 (Accession No. RA0484).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Missouri Pacific Railway Company Collection can be found in the following collections:

Missouri Pacific Railroad Company Collection (R0156)
Missouri Pacific Railroad Company, White River Division Collection (R1209)
Historical Note:

The Missouri Pacific and St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern railway companies published these booklets to advertise 500,000 acres of land in Arkansas. The booklets were produced by the agricultural, immigration, and industrial departments of the railroads and was designed to be mailed upon request to prospective buyers. They bear the logo “Missouri Pacific Iron Mountain Lines” and the return address of J. N. Anderson, Immigration Agent, 103 Missouri Pacific Building, St. Louis, Missouri. The material is not dated but the text indicates that it was written after 1911 and before the merger of the railway lines in 1917 which formed the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company.

The rail lines hoped to stimulate immigration, develop markets and business, and raise capital through land sales. They offered tracts to suit the purchaser at seven to fifteen dollars per acre, available at one quarter down with the balance at six percent interest. The opportunities for development are highly touted. One photograph of cropland in Arkansas bears the caption, “With land like this you can't help but make good.”

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into one folder.

Scope and Content Note:

The booklets bear the logo “Missouri Pacific - Iron Mountain Lines” and the return address of J. N. Anderson, Immigration Agent, 103 Missouri Pacific Building, St. Louis, Missouri. The material is not dated but the text indicates that it was written after 1911 and before the merger of the railway lines in 1917 which formed the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company.

One booklet covers northeastern Arkansas and includes information on Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Green, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, Poinsett, St. Francis, and Woodruff counties. The other, for central Arkansas, treats Garland, Grant, Hot Spring, Jackson, Lawrence, Lonoke, Pulaski, and White counties. The advertising format is the same for both booklets. Each contains photographs of farms and agricultural scenes, and a brief narrative for each county which includes statistical information, notes on the principal towns, and statements on the advantages of Arkansas lands for farming and stock raising. Also included are maps of the rail lines in the Missouri Pacific - Iron Mountain system, and the addresses of railroad representatives who supplied timetables, guides, and maps to home seekers.

Container List:

f. 1 Promotional booklets, circa 1911

Index:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Terms</th>
<th>Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advertising--Real estate business--Arkansas</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture--Arkansas</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri Pacific Railway Company</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroads--Arkansas</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real estate business--Arkansas</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis, Iron Mountain &amp; Southern Railway Company</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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