

# **Finding Aid for Michigan State Highway Department Materials Collection 435**

**Finding aid prepared by Drew Damron**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

July 2015

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
<b>Title</b>	Michigan State Highway Department Materials
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1954-1962
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1926-1962
<b>Extent</b>	3.0 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	This collection contains official records, maps, and agreements pertaining to the Michigan State Highway Department's construction of US 131 and the proposed changes to the existing railroads.

## **Biographical/Historical note**

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The bulk of this collection contains official records from the Michigan State Highway Department pertaining to the creation of the downtown section of US 131 during 1950-1969. Most of the materials are official agreements and invoices between the Michigan State Highway Department and various railroad companies such as the New York Central Railroad Co., The Pennsylvania Railroad Co., The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Co., the Michigan Central Railroad Co.

Also included are large blueprints and plans indicating where the proposed changes would be taking place. These maps focus on the areas where US 131 exist now, as well as the intersection of Kalamazoo and 44th street.

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## **Scope and Contents note**

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Much of this collection is made up of official agreements and invoices between the Michigan State Highway Department and different railroad companies such as the New York Central Railroad Co., The Pennsylvania Railroad Co., The Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad Co., the Michigan Central Railroad Co.

Also included are large blueprints and plans indicating where the proposed changes would be taking place. These maps focus on the areas where US 131 exist now, as well as the intersection of Kalamazoo and 44th street.

The first box contains materials created between 1926 and 1957. The second box contains materials created between 1958 and 1961. The third box contains materials created after 1961, as well as materials covering large year spans and materials without any indicated date.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department July 2015

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Gift from Michigan State Highway Department, accession number 1986.523

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

Collection #132: Michigan Department of Transportation Photos

Collection #389: Metropolitan Grand Rapids Planning Association minutes

Collection #414: Mary Meade Papers Collection

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Personal Name(s)

- Michigan Highway Dept.

### Subject(s)

- City planning -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Express highways -- Michigan -- History -- 20th century
- Highway planning -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Railroads -- Michigan

## US 131 and Railroad related construction 1926-1957

## Collection Inventory

US 131 and Railroad related construction 1926-1957		
	Box	Folder
Right of Way and Track Maps for Michigan Central Railroad Company. Dec 28, 1917	1	1
Two loose blueprints. MI State Highway Dept. Preliminary Study, Exhibit A-1. March 1926. Preliminary study, Exhibit A-2. March 1926 location sketch.	1	2
Memorandum of Agreement, August 26, 1927. Michigan Central Railroad, blueprints, typed documents.	1	3
Pennsylvania Railroad 1952, Relocation of railroad facilities to provide for Century Expressway.	1	4
Blueprints and letter to Mr. G.M. Foster, bridge engineer of Michigan State Highway Dept. From T.M. Goodfellow. 1952	1	5
Hazelet and Erdel, 1953. For project 41-92.	1	6
Burton St. 18-25+25 / Hazelet & Erdal	1	7
Preliminary study of access road from Ottawa Ave. May 12, 1954.	1	8

## US 131 and Railroad related construction 1926-1957

Grand Rapids, Proposed Depot, Office of Division Engineer, July 15, 1954 (positive)	1	9
Grand Rapids, Proposed Depot, Office of Division Engineer, July 15, 1954 (negative)	1	10
Preliminary study of Expressway between Logan and Cherry st. Aug 3, 1954.	1	11
Preliminary study of Expressway between Logan and Cherry st. Aug 3, 1954.	1	12
Preliminary profiles of expressway between Logan and Cherry st. Scheme C & D 10-25-54	1	13
Preliminary profiles of expressway between Logan and Cherry st. Scheme C & D 10-25-54	1	14
Preliminary study of Expressway between Logan and Cherry st. Nov 1, 1954.	1	15
Preliminary study of Expressway between Logan and Cherry st. Nov 1, 1954.	1	16
Official Statement \$10,000,000, Limited Access Highway Dedicated Tax Bonds.	1	17
Topographic Map of proposed right of way for the Penn RR and NY Central RR from Burton to Stevens St. Aug 5, 1955	1	18

## US 131 and Railroad related construction 1926-1957

Blueprint, Proposed Track Changes required for US 131 relocation. Burton St to Franklin St. Oct 17, 1955	1	19
Proposed Alignment, Franklin St to Grandville Ave, Dec 14, 1955	1	19
Agreement December 27 1955, Pennsylvania Railroad Co.	1	20
R.O.W. 716-728	1	21
Proposed realignment of railroad tracks near Cherry St, Preliminary Study E, Jan 17, 1956	1	22
Agreement February 14, 1956, Pennsylvania Railroad Co.	1	23
Proposed driveway approach to Lipsner & Krell Paper Co, Mar 6, 1956	1	24
Preliminary plan of Project Sta. 725+00 to Sta 765+00, Mar 9, 1956	1	25
Proposed realignment of railroad tracks near Cherry St. Preliminary Study F. Mar 20, 1956	1	26
Fragment of Hazelet & Erdel Plan No. 545, April 2, 1956. (Negative)	1	27
Blackline Print. Exhibit A, part 5, April 4, 1956	1	28
Preliminary Study A, realignment of southbound expressway from Pleasant to Bartlett St. April 4, 1956	1	29



## US 131 and Railroad related construction 1926-1957

Exhibit A Part 2, May 1956	1	30
Exhibit A Part 3, May 1956	1	31
Exhibit A Part 4, Service roads to Penn RR, Right of Way from Burton to Franklin... May 4, 1956	1	32
Proposed realignment of railroad tracks near Cherry St, Preliminary Study G, May 4, 1956	1	33
Preliminary plan of Project Sta. 725+00 to Sta 765+00, May 24, 1956	1	34
Exhibit C, Part II. Tracks between 44th and 54th streets.	1	35
Exhibit B, proposed changes to railroad facilities, Alger St to Ottawa St. Sept 20, 1956.	1	36
Exhibit C, Part 1. Proposed changes in railroad facilities in connection with bridge over Plaster Mill Branch. Sep 20, 1956.	1	37
Exhibit E, US 131 relocated Franklin St to Cherry, Revised Sept 25, 1956	1	38
		<b>Box</b>
Complete agreement packet for Penn RR, Oct 12, 1956		1
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Pleasant st interlocking 10-18-56, C&O	1	39

## US 131 and Railroad related construction 1926-1957

Parcels to be acquired for the Penn RR, Feb 14, 1957.	1	40
NYC system, Estimate Force Account Work, March 15, 1957.	1	41
Proposed Grade Crossing: Century, north of Pleasant. June 23, 1957	1	42
Proposed Grade Crossing: Weston, west of Ionia. June 24, 1957. 3 copies.	1	43
Proposed Grade Crossing: Buchanan, south of Wealthy. June 25, 1957.	1	44
Proposed Grade Crossing between Century and Expressway. June 25, 1957.	1	45
Burton St Track Layout Plan, July 23-1957.	1	46
Burton St to Sta 18- 25+15. August 7, 1957.	1	47
North of Burton St. Sheet 1 of 3 August 7, 1957.	1	48
North of Burton St. Sheet 2 of 3 August 7, 1957.	1	49
North of Burton St. Sheet 3 of 3 August 7, 1957.	1	50
		<b>Box</b>
Complete agreement packet for exchange of lands. Michigan Central, New York Central, and the state of Michigan.		1
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>

**US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1958-1961.**

Plan showing proposed railroad grade crossings. Franklin to Fulton Streets. Sept 3, 1957	1	51
Exhibit A, proposed alignment of Franklin to Ottawa Ave. Nov 25, 1957.	1	52
<b>US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1958-1961.</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Office of District Engineer maps, Jan 29, 1958.	2	1
C&O Summary of estimated costs. Jan 1, 1958.	2	2
PRR Accounts Receivable. Feb 3, 1958	2	3
Installation of flashing light signals, Penn RR at Weston St. April 1958.	2	4
NYC RR Employer's Protective Insurance, May 5, 1958.	2	5
Pennsylvania Railroad Company grade crossing north of Pleasant St. May 15, 1958.	2	6
Agreement between Highway Department, City of GR, Michigan Central, NY Central, Pennsylvania RR. June 2, 1958.	2	7
Michigan Mutual Liability Company Policy. June 10, 1958.	2	8
R.O.W. 728-741. June 17, 1958.	2	9

## US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1958-1961.

R.O.W. 741-754. June 17, 1958.	2	10
R.O.W. 754-767. June 17, 1958.	2	11
Accounts Receivable to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. June 18, 1958.	2	12
Accounts Receivable to the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. June 1958.	2	13
Regular construction estimate for Penn RR. June 27, 1958.	2	14
Complete agreement packet with C&O Railway Co. July 1958.	2	15
C&O Summary of estimated costs. July 14, 1958.	2	16
Aug 1958. Control Section plan for Kalamazoo-Grand Rapids road.	2	17
General plan of site retaining wall. Sta 780-Sta 787. Aug 5, 1958.	2	18
Invoice to C&O from Michigan State Highway Dept. Aug 22, 1958.	3	19
Penn RR Force Account Estimate. Aug 28, 1958.	2	20
General Plan of Site, expressway crossing railroads at Pleasant St. Sept 3, 1958.	2	21
C&O Summary of estimated costs. Oct 16, 1958.	2	22

## US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1958-1961.

1959, NY Central Railroad, Estimated Force Account Work.	2	23
Ramps C&D near Franklin, with Letter. Jan 7, 1959.	2	24
Agreement between Highway Department, City of GR, Michigan Central, NY Central, Pennsylvania RR. Feb 17, 1959.	2	25
R.O.W. 741-754 Century Ave Roundhouse. Feb 20, 1959.	2	26
Tabulation of bids to C&O, Mar 27, 1959.	2	27
Estimated costs to install flashing lights at Buchanan and at Century ave. March 27, 1959.	2	28
Profile of Kirtland St at NYC RR. Apr 13, 1959.	2	29
R.O.W. Access road to Fulton. May 20, 1959.	2	30
Proposal L.W. Lamb Contractor to NYC RR. May 27, 1959	2	31
2 blueprints for proposed Penn RR and C&O duct line between Pleasant and Wealthy streets. June 2, 1959.	2	32
Invoice to C&O Railway Co. from Mr. R.W. Rice at the Michigan State Highway Department. June 15, 1959.	2	33
Penn RR Construction Contract for conduit system between Pleasant and Wealthy. June 17, 1959.	2	34

## US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1958-1961.

Regular Construction Estimate to C&O. July 8, 1959.	2	35
Penn RR, Force Account Estimate. Aug 3, 1959.	2	36
Penn RR, Force Account Estimate. Aug 11, 1959.	2	37
Regular Construction Estimate to C&O. Aug 12, 1959.	2	38
Blueprint for possible drainage outlet, North of Albany St. Aug 13, 1959.	2	39
C&O Detail Sheet. Aug 17, 1959.	2	40
Force Account Estimate to install signals at Weston Ramp, Aug 18, 1959.	2	41
Penn RR force account estimate for 44th to 54th streets. Aug 20, 1959.	2	42
Penn RR, Tabulation of bids received. Aug 26, 1959.	2	43
Correspondences and Invoices between Penn RR and Highway Dept. Aug- Nov 1959.	2	44
Penn RR, Specifications for Fulton St. Grade Crossing. Sept 25, 1959.	2	45
C&O Facilities to be built under contract. Sep 29, 1959.	2	46
Penn RR, Regular Construction Estimate. Approved Nov 2, 1959.	2	47

## US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1958-1961.

C&O facilities to be built under contract. Nov 18, 1959.	2	48
Letter to R.W. Rice from Penn RR concerning relocation of turntable. Dec 11, 1959.	2	49
Accounts receivable to Penn RR, Dec 1959.	2	50
Copies of C&O invoices up to 1960.	2	51
Transcription and schedule for Hall & Wealthy St Construction. Highways Dept, 1960.	2	52
1960 Accounts receivable from Pennsylvania Railroad Co. Part 1	2	53
1960 Accounts receivable from Pennsylvania Railroad Co. Part 2	2	54
Penn RR order for extra work. Proposed for 1960.	2	55
Agreement between Highway Dept and Western RR concerning Walker Twp grade crossing. Jan 26, 1960.	2	56
Construction Schedule, work accomplished as of Feb 9, 1960. Part 1	2	57
Construction Schedule, work accomplished as of Feb 9, 1960. Part 2	2	58
Proposal from C&O to Highway Dept, April 1960.	2	59

## US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1958-1961.

Rearrangement of office building to provide welfare facilities. May 26, 1960.	2	60
C&O plans for platform removal and pole relocation. June 9, 1960.	2	61
NY Central Railroad, Force Account Estimates and Estimate of Costs, July 1960.	2	62
Plans for Train Loading Ramp. Sept 16, 1960.	2	63
Agreement between Highway Dept, City of GR, and Penn RR. Oct 12, 1960	2	64
Proposed track changes for NYC RR, Oct 21, 1960.	2	65
NYC RR construction contract - short form. Nov 10, 1960.	2	66
Accounts receivable to Penn RR, 1961.	2	67
Correspondences concerning Penn RR's extra work, 1961.	2	68
Proposed track changes for NYC & Penn RR. Mar 6, 1961.	2	69
Penn RR accounts receivable 1961 and 1962.	2	70
Penn RR accounts receivable 1957, 1958, 1960, and 1962.	2	71



## US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1962-1974 and materials with unk...

## US 131 and Railroad related construction, 1962-1974 and materials with unknown dates.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Penn RR accounts receivable, Sep and Nov 1962.	3	1
Penn RR accounts receivable, Feb 1963.	3	2
NYC RR Hall st blueprints, Sep 8, 1966.	3	3
Plans for Kalamazoo and 44th st intersection. Nov 1974.	3	4
NYC RR storage tracks to be removed and replaced. Date Unknown.	3	5
Proposed deed and description of easement to Penn RR. Date Unknown.	3	6
Special specifications for grading, relocation, removal, and shifting of tracks. Date Unknown.	3	7
Engineering estimate for Buchanan Avenue trunk sewer. Date Unknown.	3	8
Plans with notes for area around Century and Franklin. Date Unknown.	3	9
Estimates for grading, retaining walls, drainage construction, etc. Various years.	3	10
Collection of Pennsylvania Railroad Co invoices. Various Years.	3	11