

**A guide to the  
Dansville and Mount Morris  
Railroad Company Records**



**Livingston County Historian's Office**  
5 Murray Hill Dr.  
Mt. Morris, NY 14510  
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## I. Collections Summary

<b>Title</b>	Dansville and Mount Morris Railroad Company Records
<b>Collection No.</b>	C100
<b>Collections</b>	Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad Company Collection; Thomas Roffe Collection; other materials
<b>Extent</b>	Approx. 57 cubic feet of records
<b>Date Range</b>	1891-1984
<b>Date Bulk</b>	1926-1976
<b>Abstract</b>	The collection comprises records created by and pertaining to the Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad Company based in Dansville, Livingston County, New York from 1891 to 1984. The records span the lifetime of the company and are composed of financial ledgers and accounting, payroll and tax documents, freight and shipping papers, quarterly, monthly, and annual reports, legal proceedings, maps and surveys, stockholders' papers, and other miscellaneous materials.
<b>Subjects</b>	Dansville and Mount Morris Railroad Company Dansville Board of Trade Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Erie and Lackawanna Railroad Company Railroads
<b>Languages</b>	English.
<b>Access and Restrictions</b>	Use of the documents in the collection is for serious research and by request and permission of the Livingston County Historian's Office. Any use of the material in publications must be cited as follows, "Courtesy of Livingston County Historian's Office, New York". Additionally, all documents should be handled with care. Use of some documents is restricted. To arrange to conduct research with the documents in the collection, contact the Livingston County Historian by mail at: 5 Murray Hill Drive, Mount Morris, NY, by phone at (585) 243-7955 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:Historian@livingstoncountyny.gov">Historian@livingstoncountyny.gov</a> .
<b>Copyright</b>	Some materials may be subject to copyright. Researchers are required to seek written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce and/or publish materials under copyright.

## II. Background Information

When it began in 1868, the Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad Company (DMM) was known as the Erie & Genesee Valley Railroad Company. The initial plan was to construct a line connecting Burns, NY, to Rochester via the Erie Railroad, with a track running between Dansville and Mt. Morris. The latter connection was completed with financial assistance from the Erie in 1871, though the line between Burns and Dansville was never built. The Erie leased the 15-mile long Dansville to Mt. Morris line for the next 20 years.

After reorganization in 1891, the line became independent from the Erie under the new name the Dansville & Mount Morris Railway Company. It still only connected with other rail lines at Mt. Morris, so soon endeavored to make contact with the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western (DL&W) at Groveland, and the Western New York & Pennsylvania (WNY&P, later the Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR)) at Mount Morris. Only the latter was initially successful because of tensions between the Erie and DL&W. In 1933, however, there was pressure from the Foster-Wheeler Company for better connectivity in the region. Despite the Erie's protests, and at the order of the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC), the link at Groveland Station with the DL&W was made. A few years later, the Erie claimed this union resulted in less traffic on the section between Avon and Mt. Morris, and in 1940 abandoned this part of their track.

Between 1939 and 1943, the DMM also greatly reduced services and tracks. First the passenger service was discontinued, and in 1940 the DMM removed its three-mile line between Mount Morris and Sonyea. Three years later, the original line between Groveland and Sonyea, a length of four miles, was also ripped up. All that remained was a 7.8-mile route between Groveland and Dansville, making the DMM about half as extensive as it had been.

In 1960, the Erie and the DL&W merged, forming the Erie Lackawanna (EL). The next mainline to be removed was the DL&W service, running between Wayland and Groveland, in 1963. The same year, the DMM constructed a new engine house in Dansville; by this time, engines ran on diesel instead of steam.

In April of 1976, EL was absorbed into Conrail. Just a few years later, in 1982, the section of track between Greigsville and Groveland became the jurisdiction of the Genesee & Wyoming (G&W). DMM continued to hold contact with other lines only at Groveland.

On July 23, 1985, 94 years after its formation as an independent railroad, the DMM was acquired by the G&W. The following year, the DMM's two remaining engines were purchased by the Bay Colony railroad of Massachusetts. The G&W, too, lost its independence when it was absorbed by the Rochester & Southern network.

For years, Foster Wheeler Corp. was the only customer of the old DMM line, and its sporadic movements were hardly enough to keep the line in operation. When the company closed in 2003, the DMM tracks were in peril. By 2006, however, American Motive Power (AMP) had located in the former Foster-Wheeler factory, and while it remains the only customer south of Mt. Morris, this section of rail service is still in use.

This collection was donated to the Livingston County Historian's Office in 2011 by Robert F. "Bob" Hart of Dansville. Robert's father, Frank A. Hart, accepted a position with DMM in 1920 as a freight agent, and as general manager after 1934. Bob joined the company in 1941 while still in university, and eventually became president and general manager of the DMM as his father had been. Before Bob passed away in 2012, he donated the records

stored in the old depot in Dansville, which served as his office and the repository for the DMM's history. As of February 2015, the depot still stands but needs work and has not been repurposed.

### III. Contents List

#### Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad Company Collection

##### Series A – Train Reports

- Box 1** Conductor's train reports, 1964-1967; 1978-1980; 1982
- Box 2** Time return and delay reports, 1967-7/20/1972; 1978, 1979

##### Series B – Waybills

- Box 1** Waybills, 1968-1970
- Box 2** Waybills, 1971-1973
- Box 3** Waybills, 1974-1976
- Box 4** Statements of freight received at Dansville, c. 1960-1984
- Box 5 – Box 10**  
Statements of daily freight collections at Dansville, 1963-1984

##### Series C – Bills of Lading

- Box 1** Bills of Lading, 1968 & 1969
- Box 2** Bills of Lading, 1970 & 1971
- Box 3** Bills of Lading, 1972 & 1973
- Box 4** Bills of Lading, 1974
- Box 5** Bills of Lading 1975 & 1976

#### Contents List, cont'd.

##### Series E – Cashbooks and Journals

- Box 1** Binder 1, 10/1909-1921
- Box 1** Binder 2, 1922-8/1927

<b>Box 1</b>	Binder 3, 9/1927-1931
<b>Box 1</b>	Binder 4, 1932-1934
<b>Box 1</b>	Cashbook, 1891-1896
<b>Box 1</b>	Cashbook, 1891-1899
<b>Box 1</b>	Journal detailed daily expenses, 1909-1911
<b>Box 1</b>	Journal of checks drawn and deposits, 6/1924-10/1929
<b>Box 1</b>	Cashbook, money paid and received 1/1904-7/1904
<b>Box 2</b>	Ledger, 1935-1940
<b>Box 2</b>	Ledger, 1941-1947
<b>Box 2</b>	Ledger, 1948-1954
<b>Box 2</b>	Ledger, 1955-1962
<b>Box 2</b>	Ledger, 1963-1969
<b>Box 2</b>	Ledger, 1970-1976
<b>Unboxed</b>	Cashbook 1946-1961
<b>Unboxed</b>	Cashbook 1962-1978

### Series F – Account Books

<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1923-1925
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1926-1927
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1928-1930
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1931-1932 (missing 1933 & 1934)
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1935-1937
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1938-1942
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1943-1948
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1949-1957
<b>Box 1</b>	Voucher Indices, 1958-1970
<b>Box 2</b>	Inactive Accounts ledger, c. 1922-1927
<b>Box 2</b>	Materials Received and Used ledger, 1937-1952
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder of expenses and income arranged by account, 1910-1921
<b>Box 3</b>	Ledger sheets arranged by account / agency
<b>Unboxed</b>	Summary ledger 1927-1944
<b>Unboxed</b>	Unbound ledger sheets 1944-1969
<b>Unboxed</b>	Accounts Payable ledger 6/1903-1913
<b>Unboxed</b>	Accounts Payable ledger 1914-1917
<b>Unboxed</b>	Accounts Payable ledger 1917-1921
<b>Unboxed</b>	Audited Vouchers ledger 1940-1945
<b>Unboxed</b>	Audited Vouchers ledger 1946-1951

### Contents List, cont'd.

<b>Unboxed</b>	Audited Vouchers ledger 1952-1958
<b>Unboxed</b>	Audited Vouchers ledger 1959-1969
<b>Unboxed</b>	Audited Vouchers ledger 1970-3/1980

**Series G – Payroll**

<b>Box 1</b>	Payroll sheets, 7/1908-6/1909; 1910-1916; 1919, cash book sheets & misc.
<b>Box 2</b>	1938 wall calendar
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder of payroll statements, 1/1921-11/1921
<b>Box 2</b>	Payroll sheets, c. 1924-1935 and c. 1949-1979
<b>Box 3</b>	Payroll sheets, 1949-1962
<b>Box 4</b>	Payroll sheets, 1963-1976

**Series H – Pension and Compensation**

<b>Box 1</b>	Pension sheets w/ wage and deduction information, 1934-1/1940
<b>Box 1</b>	Employer's tax return, 1937-1942
<b>Box 1</b>	Pension quarterly reports w/ employee info, compensation, classification
<b>Box 1</b>	Quarterly Summary Reports of Compensation of Employees, c. 1950-1974
<b>Box 1</b>	Miscellaneous tax forms, slips, memos, notices, Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad Co. Pension Trust Plan

**Series I – Monthly Reports**

<b>Box 1</b>	Binder, 1910-1921
<b>Box 1</b>	Binder, 1922-1926
<b>Box 1</b>	Binder, 1927 & 1928
<b>Box 1</b>	Binder, 1929 & 1930
<b>Box 1</b>	Binder, 1932
<b>Box 1</b>	Binder, 1933-1937
<b>Box 1</b>	Binder, 1938-1942
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1943-1946
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1947-1949
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1950-1952
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1953 & 1954
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1955-1962
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1963-1966
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1967-1971
<b>Box 2</b>	Binder, 1974-1977
<b>Box 3</b>	Worksheets for monthly reports, 1958-1976

**Contents List, cont'd.**

<b>Box 4</b>	Worksheets for monthly reports, 1977-1984
<b>Box 4</b>	Binder, General Balance Sheet copies, 1950-1985

**Series J – Paid Bills**

- Box 1**      Delivery receipts and paid bills, 1968-1970
- Box 2**      Delivery receipts and paid bills, 1971-1973
- Box 3**      Delivery receipts and paid bills, 1974-1976
- Box 4**      Delivery receipts and paid bills, 1977-1981

**Series L – Annual Reports**

- Box 1**      Annual Reports to ICC, 1901-1939
- Box 2**      Annual Reports to ICC, 1945-1974
- Box 3**      Annual Reports to PSC 1914-1954
- Box 3**      One folder Quarterly Reports to PSC, 1909-1933
- Box 4**      Annual Reports to Department of Taxation, 1927-1954
- Box 4**      Duplicates of Annual Reports to ICC, scattered 1917-1953

**Series M – Reports to Agencies**

- Unboxed**    Reports to ICC Bureau of Valuation, c. 1919-1930
- Unboxed**    Annual Statements of Changes and Credits to Investment Accounts for Property to ICC Bureau of Valuation; includes equipment and property change reports
- Unboxed**    Softbound Engineering Report to ICC Bureau of Valuation, 1923
- Unboxed**    Softbound Land Report to ICC Bureau of Valuation, 1918
- Unboxed**    Carrier's Copy of Valuation Reports, roughly 1920-1942
- Unboxed**    Daily Reports 1924 & 1925

**Series N – Settlement Sheets**

- Box 1**      Settlement sheets, 1965-1967
- Box 2**      Settlement sheets, 1968-1976

**Series O – Interchange Sheets**

- Box 1**      Interchange sheets, 1965-1975

**Contents List, cont'd.****Series P – Income Tax**

- Box 1**      Income Tax Returns and Worksheets 1910-1976



**Series Y – Dansville Board of Trade v. Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad Company Case**

- Box 1** Binder of case material  
**Box 1** Loose papers, complaint briefs, statements, blueprints, clippings

**Series Z – General History**

- Box 1** General history, various correspondence, bridges, timetables  
**Box 2** Correspondence, agreements, leases, legal documents, news clippings  
**Box 2** Negatives, 1972 flood

**Thomas Roffe Collection**

- 109-C1-D7** Dansville and Mt. Morris Railroad Company maps (8 items)  
**109-C1-D7** Bridge accounts and notebook, 1903 –  
**109-C1-D7** Bridge photographs (20 items)  
**109-C1-D7** Field notes and reports, 1918 and 1951

**Maps**

- 203A** Surveys, profile maps, blueprints (36 items)  
**109** Blueprints, maps (4 items)

**Miscellaneous**

- 1) Rauber, Wilfred J. D & M and D L & W: Putting Dansville on the Railroad Map. 1980.