

Midland Railroad Collection

- Repository:** Rockingham Co. Historical Collections
Gerald B. James Library
Rockingham Community College
P. O. Box 38
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- Title:** Midland Railroad Collection
- Accession No.:** 00-053
- Extent:** 1 box
- Provenance:** Donated by R. Rex Rouse and the Leaksville Township Railroad Fund Board of Directors in 2000
- Inclusive Dates:** 1899-2000
- Subject Headings:** Dan Valley & Yadkin River Railroad
Leaksville Township Railroad Fund
Norfolk-Southern Railroad
Norfolk-Western Railroad
North Carolina Midland Railroad
Railroads – Rockingham County (N. C.)
Richmond & Danville Railroad
Southern Railroad
Virginia Midland Railroad
- Items Separated:**
- Related Collections:**
- Preferred Citation:** *Midland Railroad Collection. 00-053. Rockingham Co. Historical Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community College.*
- Descriptive Note:** The history of the Leaksville Township Railroad Stock Fund goes back to 1879 when the NC General Assembly passed an act enabling Leaksville Township to vote bonds for stock in the Dan Valley & Yadkin River Railroad to build a line from near the Virginia state line to Mooresville, NC. The railroad would

connect the towns of Leaksville, Madison and Winston-Salem with Danville, VA. The election was held on June 13, 1879 and the voters approved the sum of \$16,000 to help construct the railroad. On September 9, 1880, the NC General Assembly enacted a law to consolidate several proposed railroads under the name North Carolina Midland Railroad.

The North Carolina Midland was a project of the Virginia Midland to extend their railroad into NC to compete with the Richmond & Danville (later Southern Railroad) which reached Danville in 1856. The Virginia Midland reached Danville in 1874.

In 1880-1881, the North Carolina Midland constructed several miles of roadbed in and near the present city of Eden and 3 miles of roadbed east of the Mayo River near Madison. The Richmond & Danville attempted to stop construction and finally succeeded by purchasing the North Carolina Midland in 1881. They then stopped work on the line and the proposed railroad between Leaksville and Winston-Salem was never completed. The North Carolina Midland between Winston-Salem and Mooresville was built in the 1890's.

In 1894, the Richmond & Danville and a number of other railroads were consolidated into the Southern Railroad. In 1982, the Southern and the Norfolk-Western Railroads merged to form the Norfolk-Southern Railroad. The company paid dividends on the North Carolina Midland stock for over 100 years. Records of this collection show that the stock dividends paid over \$50,000 for between 1907 and 1990.

The Midland Railroad records consist of financial records, minute books and copies of the Midland Stock certificates from 1904-2000.

In May, 2000 the Leaksville Township Railroad Fund Board of Directors voted to sell the stock to the Norfolk-Southern Railroad Company. The proceeds of the sale amounted to \$44,257.90 and the money was given to the City of Eden for the construction of a new city park named Freedom Park.

Contents:

Correspondence, 1867-2000

Financial records, 1952-1990's

History of railroad funds

Minute book, 1904-1999

Railroad Stock Certificate (copy), 1899