

OUT OF THE ARCHIVES

Gallery from recent acquisitions and processing

ARTICLE

Adrienne Evans

PHOTOGRAPHS

Victor Hand
or as noted

JUST AS 2019 HAS BEEN A banner year for celebrating railroad heritage, so has it been a banner year for the growth of the Center's Railroad Heritage Visual Archive. With the accessioning of the Victor Hand, Jim Shaughnessy, and John Gruber collections as well as forthcoming acquisitions we have yet to announce, we project that the Archive will double in size to 500,000 images within the next few years. This unprecedented development is thanks in large part to our members, who support our work and preach the "good word" of the Center far and wide. As a token of our gratitude, please enjoy this gallery of images (with a Southwestern theme for this year's meeting of the Lexington Group in Transportation History in Santa Fe, New Mexico) from our recent work on the Victor Hand Collection and our upcoming work on the Jim Shaughnessy Collection (arriving this fall).

Karl Zimmermann Announcement

We are thrilled to announce that the Center will serve as the permanent repository for Karl Zimmermann's photography. Comprised of some 36,000 black-and-white and color images, Zimmermann's collection spans from the late 1950s to the 2000s. Highlights from North America include Canadian steam, southern short lines in steam, pre- and early-Amtrak passenger trains, Milwaukee Road electrics, steam logging on Vancouver Island, Western Maryland, northeastern railroads just before and after Conrail, and much more. International highlights include the last of steam in western Europe, narrow-gauge electrics in Switzerland, steam throughout South Africa, steam during a sugar harvest in Cuba, and steam operations throughout much of South America.

Born in 1943 in Chicago, Zimmermann is a graduate of Princeton University with an M.A. in English from New York University. He spent twenty-five years as a teacher and administrator in three independent schools, and later served that sector as a consultant. His bibliography includes twenty-five books and hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles, and he served frequently as host or lecturer on luxury passenger trains and as a study leader for Smithsonian's Canada rail trips. He is married to Laurel Ann Chenet, who has often been his traveling companion since 1966. They have two grown daughters, Jenn and Emily.

The Zimmermann Collection will be transferred to the Center's headquarters in Madison at a later date; Karl is continuing to prepare it for accessioning and utilize it for his own projects. Image requests

should be directed to him until the transfer takes place. In the meantime, read about Zimmermann's photography in his own words on pages 38-47.

Railroad Heritage Visual Archive Updates

At our Madison office, Executive Director Scott Lothes and I have been continuing our search for a larger archival space with an improved preservation environment. Stay tuned for updates. In addition, we have been working closely with various prospective donors on potential new acquisitions. You can look forward to a big announcement at Conversations 2019. In August, I represented the Center at the Society of American Archivists' national conference in Austin, Texas. The conference was a great opportunity to make new professional contacts, take part in educational sessions, and tour local repositories such as the Texas Department of Transportation Photo Library and the Harry Ransom Center. Finally, I recently had the chance to post finding aids for the Perry Frank Johnson Collection and Donald W. Furler Collection. You can find them on our website: www.railphoto-art.org/collections/

On the processing front, Natalie Krecek, archives assistant, continues to make exceptional progress digitizing negatives and recording metadata from the Victor Hand Collection. Comprised of approximately 46,000 negatives (as well as scrupulously-recorded metadata for each image), the Hand Collection is one of our largest processing projects to date. Natalie is working on the fourteenth batch of negatives, and we are happy to report that our work is about seventy-five percent complete. Meanwhile, volunteer John Kelly has resumed his work with the Fred Springer Collection. After taking a brief break to help finish up the Perry Frank Johnson Collection, John is currently working on Springer's images of the narrow-gauge railroads in Colorado and New Mexico.

At Lake Forest College, associate archivist Colleen O'Keefe has embarked on a rescanning project for the entire Wallace Abbey Collection. The collection was previously scanned at low-resolution for reference purposes. Upon the completion of Colleen's project, we will be able to post additional image galleries of Abbey's work and complete image requests with a quicker turnaround.

You can view highlights and galleries from many of our collections at www.railphoto-art.org, and we continue to post more selections each week to our social media accounts on Facebook, Twitter, and Flickr. •

Editor's note

Victor Hand will present recently-digitized photographs from his collection featuring New Mexico at the 2019 meeting of the Lexington Group in Transportation History in Santa Fe, October 23-26



Narrow-gauge Denver &
Rio Grande Western 2-8-2
steam locomotive 483 simmers
overnight just outside the engine
house in Chama, New Mexico,
in 1958. Photograph by Jim
Shaughnessy.



Amtrak no. 4, the *Southwest Chief* heading east from Los Angeles to Chicago, passing rock formations at Waldo, New Mexico, on May 6, 1996.
Hand-AM-C59-113



Burlington Northern piggyback train east at Alps, New Mexico, on October 14, 1992.
Hand-BN-C61-29





Santa Fe piggyback train east
in Abo Canyon at Scholle, New
Mexico, on May 4, 1996.
Hand-ATSF-BNSF-C60-186

Southern Pacific train LAHOT
(Los Angeles to Houston trailers)
crossing the Rio Grande from
New Mexico into El Paso,
Texas, on May 20, 1984.
Hand-SP-63-279

Santa Fe freight west crossing
Arizona's Canyon Diablo on
February 2, 1987.
Hand-ATSF-60-274





Denver & Rio Grande Western
steam locomotives 483 and
473 lead a train east at Windy
Point, Colorado, on October 3,
1965. Hand-DRGW-08-57