

# Ted Rose Collection

Finding Aid to the Collection at the Center for Railroad Photography & Art

CRP&A | CENTER FOR RAILROAD  
PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

Last updated: 3/20//24

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Ted Rose Collection

**Span Dates:** 1950s-2000s

**Creator:** Rose, Ted

**Extent:** 4.96 linear feet

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Center for Railroad Photography & Art, Madison, WI

**Abstract:** Collection, c. 1950-2000, of over 5,000 railroad photographs from the United States, Canada, and Mexico by American artist Ted Rose. Contents include 4,600 black-and-white negatives, over 500 black-and-white prints, contact sheets, and a selection of materials documenting Rose's life and approach to art.

## Selected Search Terms

### Country:

Canada

Mexico

United States

### Railroad Name:

American Smelting and Refining  
Company

Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad

Brimstone Railroad

Canadian National Railway

Canadian Pacific Railway

Carson and Colorado Railway

Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad

Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy  
Railroad

Coahuila and Zacatecas Railway

Colorado and Southern Railroad

Denver and Rio Grande Western  
Railroad

Duluth and Northeastern Railroad

Duluth, Missabe & Iron Range Railway

Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge  
Railroad

East Tennessee and Western North  
Carolina Railroad

Ferrocarriles Nacionales de Mexico

Florida East Coast Railway

Graham County Railroad

Grand Trunk Railway

Grand Trunk Western Railroad

Great Northern Railway

Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Railroad

Illinois Central Railroad

Kentucky & Tennessee Railway

Mississippian Railway

New York Central Railroad

Norfolk and Western Railway

Northern Pacific Railway

Pennsylvania Railroad

Rio Grande Railway

Seaboard Air Line Railroad

Standard Oil Company

The Powhatan Arrow

Union Pacific Railroad

Virginian Railway

Western Maryland Railway

## **Administrative Information**

### **Provenance**

The collection was donated to the Center by Polly Rose in 2015.

### **Processing History**

The collection was processed in 2016-2017.

### **Additional Notes**

The label of CSNeg# indicates that an image is scanned from a contact sheet. Some images are repeated across the collection because they are present as negatives and in contact sheets.

Rose's original metadata generally lacked dates; images were labeled by subject or location.

### **Copyright Status**

© 2014, Center for Railroad Photography & Art.

### **Access and Restrictions**

For educational use only, please contact the Center for other usage requests.

## **Biographical Note**

Ted Rose (1940-2002) was born in Milwaukee in 1940. He began traveling to photograph railroads as a 16-year-old. Rose earned a BA from the University of Illinois in painting and printmaking. He began graduate school at Tulane University but decided to pursue an art career outside of academia.

Rose served in the US Army from 1963-1965, including a tour in Vietnam. Following his service, Rose moved to New Mexico, settling in Chama (1965) then Santa Fe (1966). He married Polly (Towers) Rose in July 1967, and together they raised two children.

Rose operated a graphic design business in Santa Fe. He received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Northern New Mexico Advertising Federation in 2000. One of Rose's favorite projects was designing the logos and paint scheme for the Santa Fe Southern Railway in 1993.

Rose returned to watercolor painting in the 1980s. He created full-scale paintings, calendars, and illustrated books including *In the Traces: Railroad Paintings of Ted Rose* (2000). Rose was elected to the American Watercolor Society in 1993 and the National Watercolor Society in 1999. His watercolors have been featured in exhibitions, collections, U.S. Postal Service stamps, and three Amtrak calendars (1997-1999).

Rose passed away from cancer in 2002, at age 61. *Railroad Heritage* published a special edition about his life in 2008.

## Scope and Content Note

The Ted Rose collection, c. 1950-2000, contains over 5,000 railroad photographs from the United States, Canada, and Mexico by American artist Ted Rose. Contents include 4,600 black-and-white negatives, over 500 black-and-white prints, and contact sheets, stemming from about 1956-1962. In addition, the collection contains a selection of materials documenting Rose's life and approach to art, including papers, books, articles, and optical media.

## Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is arranged by format. This arrangement was fixed by the processing archivist.

## Container List

### *Binder*

### *Contents*

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- Box 1    **B&W Negatives** (Rose\_01\_001\_Neg001 to Rose\_01\_213\_Neg030)
- 3,120 black-and-white negatives
  - 1960-1961
  - United States, Canada, Mexico (Aguascalientes, Chihuahua, Guanajuato, Mexico City, Morelos, Oaxaca, Tlaxcala, Veracruz, Zacatecas)
  - American Smelting and Refining Company; Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway; Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Brimstone Railroad; Canadian National Railway; Canadian Pacific Railway; Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad; Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad; Coahuila and Zacatecas Railway; Colorado and Southern Railroad; Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad; Duluth and Northeastern Railroad; Duluth, Missabe & Iron Range Railway; East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad; Ferrocarriles Nacionales de Mexico; Florida East Coast Railway; Graham County Railroad; Grand Trunk Railway; Grand Trunk Western Railroad; Great Northern Railway; Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Railroad; Illinois Central Railroad; Kentucky & Tennessee Railway; Mississippian Railway; Norfolk and Western Railway; Northern Pacific Railway; Pennsylvania Railroad; Seaboard Air Line Railroad; Standard Oil Company; The Powhatan Arrow; Union Pacific Railroad; Virginian Railway; Western Maryland Railway

- Box 2    **B&W Contact Sheets** (Rose\_02\_001\_CSNeg001 to Rose\_02\_081\_CSNeg004)
- 1,542 contact sheets; 35 cut images
  - United States, Canada, Mexico
  - Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway; Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Canadian Pacific Railway; Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad; Ferrocarriles Nacionales de Mexico; New York Central Railroad; Rio Grande Railway; Union Pacific Railroad
- Box 3    **B&W Prints** (Rose\_03\_001 to Rose\_03\_199)
- 199 black-and-white prints
  - United States, Mexico
  - Baltimore and Ohio Railroad; Brimstone Railroad; Canadian Pacific Railway; Carson and Colorado Railway; Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad; Duluth, Missabe and Iron Range Railway; Ferrocarriles Nacionales de Mexico; Illinois Central Railroad; New York Central Railroad; Norfolk and Western Railway; Pennsylvania Railroad; Union Pacific Railroad
- Box 4            **Prints on Notecards**
- 450 prints
- Box 5            **Prints on Notecards**
- 390 prints
- Box 6 & 7        **Miscellaneous Materials**
- Box 8?           **Oversized Objects**