

Instructions for Research at the PRRT&HS Archives

The Archives of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society located in the former PRR Station at Lewistown, PA are open for research by members of the Society and the general public. Only that portion of the collection which has been processed is available for research use. This comprises the correspondence files of the former PRR Office of Mechanical Engineer, microfilmed equipment drawings, and also ICC valuation maps. Other research materials will be added as rapidly as our volunteers process them.

Prospective researchers can determine if the archives has information relative to their interests by reviewing "Available Files and Drawings" in this web site which is a table listing the subjects currently available for research in the PRRT&HS Archives, arranged by Loree decimal number. The table gives the quantity of individual file listings for each subject and the approximate thickness of the files in inches. A listing of 0.00 thickness indicates files composed of a single sheet. The numbers in the drawings column give the quantity of drawings and oversize tables processed to date for each Loree number.

The researcher can also confer with Ian Fischer via email at: ianfischer_lakenelson@verizon.net or by US Mail sent with a stamped self-addressed envelope sent to Ian S. Fischer, 112 S. Lakeside Drive, Piscataway, NJ 08854. Ian can provide some advice on what we are likely to have on the subject of interest, so the researcher can decide whether a trip to Lewistown is likely to be worthwhile.

The archives are open for research by appointment only during our archiving sessions so that adequate volunteer staff can be present to provide assistance. When the researcher has decided to come to Lewistown, Ian can put him or her in touch with Charlie Woodward who schedules the archiving sessions. The researcher should then give a range of alternative dates for a visit to the archives as much in advance as possible. Requests for research visits will be filled in the order they are received among those able to attend when volunteers are available. A list of nearby motels will be furnished with notification of the scheduled date(s). We regret that we cannot perform the research for you.