

Information Sheet

R Missouri Pacific Railway Company.
459 Missouri Pacific--Iron Mountain Lines, booklets, ca. 1911.
One folder.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are illustrated promotional booklets advertising railroad lands for sale in northeastern and central Arkansas. The booklets include descriptions and photographs of twenty-one counties, with information on agricultural production, stock raising, and railroad connections in the region.

The Missouri Pacific and St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern railway companies published these booklets to advertise 500,000 acres of land in Arkansas. The booklets were produced by the agricultural, immigration, and industrial departments of the railroads and was designed to be mailed upon request to prospective buyers. They bear the logo "Missouri Pacific - Iron Mountain Lines" and the return address of J. N. Anderson, Immigration Agent, 103 Missouri Pacific Building, St. Louis, Missouri. The material is not dated but the text indicates that it was written after 1911 and before the merger of the railway lines in 1917 which formed the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company.

One booklet covers northeastern Arkansas and includes information on Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Green, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, Poinsett, St. Francis, and Woodruff counties. The other, for central Arkansas, treats Garland, Grant, Hot Spring, Jackson, Lawrence, Lonoke, Pulaski, and White counties. The advertising format is the same for both booklets. Each contains photographs of farms and agricultural scenes, and a brief narrative for each county which includes statistical information, notes on the principal towns, and statements on the advantages of Arkansas lands for farming and stock raising. Also included are maps of the rail lines in the Missouri Pacific - Iron Mountain system, and the addresses of railroad representatives who supplied timetables, guides, and maps to homeseekers.

The rail lines hoped to stimulate immigration, develop markets and business, and raise capital through land sales. They offered tracts to suit the purchaser at seven to fifteen dollars per acre, available at one quarter down with the balance at six percent interest. The opportunities for development are highly touted. One photograph of cropland in Arkansas bears the caption, "With land like this you can't help but make good." For an example of similar advertising produced by the Missouri Pacific, see WHMC-Rolla #R156, "The Arcadia Country," a booklet published in about 1920.

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Shelf List

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"Northeastern Arkansas," ca. 1911 (22 pages).

"Central Arkansas," ca. 1911 (22 pages).

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