

Information Sheet

R **South-West Railroad.**
516 **Papers, ca. 1914-1916.**
 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 notes, maps, and draft of a pamphlet concerning construction of a railroad from St. Louis, Missouri, to Lewisville in Lafayette County, Arkansas. Included are notes on grades, mileage, prominent individuals, and Congressional lands available along the proposed line. There are also notes on the Ozark Railroad, proposed from Liberty, Arkansas, on the White River, to St. Louis.

The South-West Railroad was projected to run from St. Louis mid-way between the Frisco and Iron Mountain lines to the headwaters of the Current River, thence to crossings of the White River near Batesville and the Arkansas River near Dardanelle, Arkansas, and concluding at Lewisville in Lafayette County. From Lewisville the line was to connect with the railroad network linking Shreveport, Louisiana, and Houston and Galveston, Texas. The ultimate destination may have been Acapulco, Mexico, as indicated by a sketch map in the collection.

Robert J. Rombauer of St. Louis drafted the text of the pamphlet describing the South-West Railroad in 1916. The handwriting on all but one of the other documents indicates he authored those as well. The line was planned just after railroad construction had peaked in the United States, and there is no indication that the South-West Railroad ever reached more than the initial planning stage. Other proposed lines for the same region included the Ozark Short Line, projected from Rolla to Willow Springs in Howell County, Missouri. This line, construction of which was begun but never finished, is noted in a memoranda as a possible competitor with the South-West Railroad.

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“Proposed South-West R.R. Section & Township Record & Notes,” ca. 1914
(indexed by county)

“Addresses for Circulars to be sent and Notes on Land & Men along the Line, by Counties,” ca. 1914

“Original of Pamphlet A South-West Railroad from St. Louis,” by Robert J. Rombauer,
23 May 1916.

“Computation of Area of Real Estate Owned [in St. Louis],” n.d.

Map: “S. W. R. R. The most difficult part North & West of High Ridge,” n.d.

Map: “S. W. R. R. Constructed Rail-Roads from Lewisville, Ark. to Accapulco [sic] Mexico,” n.d.

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