

Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society

Report OF Hardware Committee For The Year Ended December 31, 2015

To The Board of Directors and Members of the Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society:

The Hardware Committee is pleased to submit the following report to the calendar year ended December 31, 2015

Our Hardware Collection is housed and maintained in an annex in North Chelmsford, MA. occupying an area about 1,000 square feet for storage, work and research.

We collect material related to the Boston & Maine Railroad, its predecessors and successors, and other New England Railroads. The Collection is owned by the Society and managed by the Hardware Committee, made up of volunteers who are interested in railroad history and the preservation of historical materials. The Hardware Committee members are Frederick Brown. Daniel Hyde, Mal Sockol, Richard K. Hurst, James Nigzus and Richard Nichols.

We scheduled weekly meeting in 2015. The average attendance at our meeting, inclusive of members, was 3 in 2013, 5 in 2014, 3 in 2015. The work at our meetings consists of registering railroad hardware, organizing our collection and processing and filing new acquisitions.

We have logged in a total of 332 donations in 2015, as compared to 760 donations in 2014.

1,408.5 Hours spent in 2015, 12 Months, as compared to 1,382 Hours Spent in 2014, 12 Months.

Total Hours Spent in 2014-2015 by Hardware Committee 2,790.5 hours.

In 2015, donations have been received from the following:

Gerard Alexander, Frederick Brown, William Coffey, William Drury, James P. Denny. Robert Farrenkopf, Roland Garland, Robert Grodzicki, Leonard Gilmore, Preston S. Johnson Collection, Richard K. Hurst, Jerry Kelly, Russell Monroe, Henry Marrac, Richard Nichols, James Nigzus, Paul Prendergast, Larry Shelby, Sandy Shepard, Joseph Sandberger. Gary Slade, Mary & Ted Smith, Buddy Winiarz, H. Arnold Wilder Collection, David West.

The Hardware Committee has organized the collection into sixteen files:

- File No. 1 Badge's – Button's – Hats – Uniforms
- File No. 2 Coupling Devices
- File No. 3 Dining Car – Silverware
- File No. 4 Engine Builders & Number Plates
- File No. 5 Engine & Crew Maintenance equipment
- File No. 6 Hand Tools & railroad equipment
- File No. 7 Lanterns – Marker Lamps – Switch Stand Lamps
- File No. 8 Miscellaneous
- File No. 9 Photographs – Posters – Notices
- File No. 10 Rails – Ties – Spikes
- File No. 11 Signal equipment
- File No. 12 Switching & other equipment
- File No. 13 Tickets & other station equipment
- File No. 14 Railroad Station Signs
- File No. 15 Railroad Signs – Model Trains
- File No. 16 Office Furniture

During the year we have uploaded a variety of photographs of the Hardware Collection to the Society's web site, ***bmrhs.org***. This involved preparing a copy of photographs from each file with the help of the Webmaster, Frederick N. Nowell, III who shares responsibility for updating the site with Richard Nichols (Hardware).

Our Committee welcomes new members. We need researchers, catalogers, and organizers. No experience required-just an interest in Railroad History. Contact the chairman for details.

Respectfully submitted

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Chairman, Hardware Committee
Boston & Maine Railroad Historical society
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