



Finding Aid for

**PLANT ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION PHOTOGRAPHS SERIES,  
1913-1953  
Accession 721**

Finding Aid Published: January 2012



Electronic conversion of this finding aid was funded by a grant from the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET)  
<http://www.dalnet.lib.mi.us>



20900 Oakwood Boulevard · Dearborn, MI 48124-5029 USA  
[research.center@thehenryford.org](mailto:research.center@thehenryford.org) · [www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)

## OVERVIEW

**REPOSITORY:** Benson Ford Research Center  
The Henry Ford  
20900 Oakwood Blvd  
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029  
[www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)  
[research.center@thehenryford.org](mailto:research.center@thehenryford.org)

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 721

**CREATOR:** Ford Motor Company. Photographic Department

**TITLE:** Plant Engineering Construction photographs series

**INCLUSIVE DATES:** 1913-1953

**QUANTITY:** 16.8 cubic ft.

**LANGUAGE:** The materials are in English

**ABSTRACT:** This series contains photographs taken by Ford Motor Company photographers to document the growth of the company around the country. It mainly includes construction photographs of factories, railroad stations, and Dearborn, Michigan buildings.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The collection is open for research
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to The Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Ford Motor Company donation, 1964
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:  
Part of the Photographic Department (Ford Motor Company) photographs subgroup, which includes:  
- General photographs series, Acc. 833  
- Ford Rotunda Lantern Slides series, Acc. 1182  
- Renovated Assembly Plants photographs series, Acc. 696  
- Northern Michigan Operations photographs series, Acc. 270  
- World's Fair photographs series, Acc. 232  
- Photographs for Ford News Bureau album series, Acc. 1505  
- Photographic Library (Earle Hanger) records series, Acc. 1685
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 721, Plant Engineering Construction photographs series, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Benson Ford Research Center staff 1964 and updated in May 2007.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared and published by Benson Ford Research Center staff in 1964 and updated in May 2007.  
  
Finding aid prepared by Elyssa Bisoski, January 2012, and published in January 2012.  
  
Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

Ford Motor Company photographers were dispatched across the country to document the growth of the company evident in construction projects large and small. A large number of the images are progress photographs documenting the construction of Ford Motor Company automotive assembly plants, service and repair structures, and manufacturing facilities. Particularly well represented is the construction, repair, and renovation work at the Highland Park Plant in Michigan.

Construction in non-automotive areas include views of the construction of a Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Railroad passenger station; several hydro-electric power stations and airplane factories and hangars in Dearborn, Chicago, and Cleveland. Dearborn, Michigan projects included in the series are the Dearborn Inn, Dearborn Country Club, the Edison Institute and Greenfield Village (now The Henry Ford), and the Ford Motor Company's Dearborn Engineering Laboratory. The series is also a good source for images of many of the Ford Village Industries, Chicago and New York world's fairs buildings, and several dealerships.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Plant Engineering Construction Photographs series is arranged alphabetically by city; all cities are in the United States. The alphabetical listing ends with Oklahoma City. Highland Park, MI occurs in its alphabetic arrangement and following Oklahoma City at the conclusion of the collection. The Lincoln Plant in Detroit, Michigan is arranged alphabetically under "L" for Lincoln. While the bulk of the photographs were taken between 1921-1945 it should be noted that the years 1913-1916 are also well documented.

## **SUBJECT TERMS**

### Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford Motor Company. Photographic Department.  
Ford Motor Company. Plant Engineering Department.  
Ford Motor Company. Highland Park Plant.  
Ford Motor Company. Rouge River Plant (Dearborn, Mich).  
Lincoln Motor Company (Detroit, Mich)  
Dearborn Country Club  
Dearborn Inn (Dearborn Mich.)  
Detroit, Toledo, and Ironton Railroad  
Henry Ford (Organization)  
Ford Village Industries  
Stout Metal Airplane Company  
World's Fair (1934-1935: Chicago, Ill.)  
New York World's Fair (1939-1940)

### Subjects

Aircraft industry  
Airports  
Automobile dealers  
Automobile factories--California  
Automobile factories--Colorado  
Automobile factories--Florida  
Automobile factories--Georgia  
Automobile factories--Illinois  
Automobile factories--Kentucky  
Automobile factories--Michigan  
Automobile factories--Minnesota  
Automobile factories--Missouri  
Automobile factories--Nebraska  
Automobile factories--New Jersey  
Automobile factories--North Carolina  
Automobile factories--North Dakota  
Automobile factories--Ohio  
Automobile factories--Oklahoma  
Automobile factories--Pennsylvania  
Automobile factories--Tennessee  
Automobile factories--Texas  
Automobile factories--Virginia  
Automobile factories--Design and construction  
Automobile industry and trade  
Ford Motor Company--Buildings  
Industrial buildings

Subjects continued:

Service stations

Factories--Design and construction

Airport buildings

Hangars

Power-plants

Sawmills

Buildings--Michigan--Dearborn

Lincoln Motor Company (Detroit, Mich.)--Buildings

Henry Ford (Organization). Greenfield Village--Buildings

Henry Ford (Organization). Henry Ford Museum--Buildings

Stout Metal Airplane Company--Buildings

Geographic

Big Bay (Mich.)--Buildings

Ford Airport (Dearborn, Mich.)

Genre and Form

Progress photographs

Photographs

Photographic prints

Photographic negatives

## CONTAINER LIST

<b>Box no.</b>	<b>Description</b>
----------------	--------------------

---

### Box 1

Alexandria, Virginia - Service Building, 1932 (6 folders)  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Construction and progress, 1914 (3 folders)  
Funderburk and Mitchell dealerships interiors and exteriors, garage interiors, 1927  
Power and Light wiring, 1931

### Box 2

Big Bay, Michigan - miscellaneous shots, 1943-1945 (4 folders)  
Boston, Massachusetts - Lincoln and Ford dealership by Funderburk and Mitchell, Inc.,  
1922-1927  
Brooklyn, Michigan - Construction of Brooklyn plant powerhouse and dam, 1938-1939  
(2 folders)

### Box 3 and 4

Buffalo, New York  
Construction of Buffalo plant, 1915-1930 (13 folders)

### Box 5

Cambridge, Massachusetts - Ford Motor Company Service Station construction, 1924-  
1925  
Charlotte, North Carolina - assembly construction, 1924; roofing project, 1938 (4 folders)  
Chester, Pennsylvania  
Construction of buildings 1-100, 1926

### Box 6

Construction of buildings 1-100, 1926 (2 folders)  
Construction of buildings 101- , 1926 (4 folders)

### Box 7

Building repair, 1939  
Roof repair, 1938-1939  
Alterations and additions, 1931-1932  
Chicago, Illinois  
Assembly plant construction, 1923-1925; Turb-generator installation, 1939 (2 folders)

### Box 8

Assembly plant construction, 1923-1925; Turb-generator installation, 1939 (3 folders)  
Construction, 1913; Annex and service building construction, 1916 (4 folders)

### Box 9

Airplane hangar construction, 1927

Dock fender system repairs, Calumet River dock construction, 1930  
World's Fair Ford Exposition Building construction, 1934  
Cleveland, Ohio - construction: service building, 1914; airplane hangar, 1926; Cleveland  
building, 1939 (2 folders)  
Columbus, Ohio - construction: plant, 1916; service building, 1914 (2 folders)

**Box 10**

Dallas, Texas  
Assembly building construction, 1924-1925 (3 folders)  
Service building construction, 1913-1914; expansion 1936 (2 folders)

**Box 11**

Service building construction, 1913-1914; expansion 1936  
Assembly plant interiors, 1924-1940 (4 folders)

**Box 12**

Dearborn, Michigan  
Airplane hangar and factory construction, 1929 (2 folders) (Stout Metal Airplane  
Company and Aircraft Development Corporation)  
Dearborn Country Club construction, 1924-1925  
Dearborn Inn construction, 1930-1932; dormitories, 1936; garage, 1940 (3 folders)

**Box 13**

Dearborn Engineering Lab construction, 1923-1924; powerhouse tunnel extension,  
1930 (3 folders)  
Edison Institute construction, 1934, 1936-1938 (2 folders)  
Edison Institute Recreation building construction 1936-1937 (2 folders)

**Box 14**

Henry Ford Museum construction, 1929-1930 (7 folders)

**Box 15**

Henry Ford Museum construction, 1929-1930 (2 folders)  
Dearborn Aircraft building (Rouge), 1941  
Dearborn Specialty Foundry (Rouge Plant) construction, 1953  
Detroit, Michigan - D T and I passenger station construction, 1924, 1926  
Dexter Mills, Michigan  
Denver, Colorado - parts building construction, 1946; plant construction 1913, 1922 (3  
folders)

**Box 16**

Dundee, Michigan - hydro-electric station construction, 1935-1936 (3 folders)  
Fargo, North Dakota - Ford building construction, 1914-1915; Parts and sales building  
repairs, 1939



Flat Rock, Michigan

Construction development, 1921-1922 (2 folders)

**Box 17**

Construction development, 1921-1922 (3 folders)

Construction of filtration plant, 1923

Construction progress, 1921-1922 (2 folders)

**Box 18**

Construction progress, 1921-1922 (2 folders)

Construction repairs, undated

Glassmere, Pennsylvania - housing development construction, 1925-1926

**Box 19**

Green Island, New York

Construction of hydro-electric station for Henry Ford & Son Inc., 1921 (3 folders)

Construction progress, 1921 (2 folders)

**Box 20**

Construction progress, 1921-1922 (2 folders)

Construction of hydro-electric power station #2, 1922 (2 folders)

Construction progress, 1922-1923

**Box 21**

Construction and building repairs, etc., 1937-1940 (2 folders)

Highland Park, Michigan

Building A construction and progress, 1916-1917

Construction repairs, 1940-1948 (2 folders)

Construction progress, 1913-1914

**Box 22**

Construction progress, 1913-1914 (2 folders)

Construction and repairs, 1937, 1940 (4 folders)

**Box 23**

Construction of building G.A.D. M-4 medium tank job, 1942 (2 folders)

Construction of medium tank test track, 1942

Construction and repairs, 1937-1940 (3 folders)

**Box 24**

Construction and repairs, 1937-1940

Jacksonville, Florida

Construction progress, 1924 (4 folders; contains 4 black and white 8x10 negatives)

Fender system, 1936

**Box 25**

Kansas City, Kansas - construction, 1913; power plant construction, 1916; assembly plant construction, 1923-1924; power and oil house construction, 1924 (5 folders)

**Box 26**

Kearney, New Jersey

Construction progress, 1918-1919 (4 folders)

Construction progress, 1918-1919 and a single photo for 1922 and 1925

**Box 27**

Construction progress, 1918-1919 and a single photo for 1922 and 1925 (3 folders)

L'Anse, Michigan - dock photos, some with "Daniel L. Hebard" boat, undated

Lincoln Plant, Detroit, Michigan

A War Plant in the Making, Lincoln Motor Company's photographic record...largest  
Liberty Motor Factory, 1918

Construction progress,

Building construction, 1922-1923

Power house construction, 1926-1928

**Box 28**

Marine engine and generator installation, 1926-1928 (2 folders)

Crane re-enforcement in Building #18, 1937

Driveway construction, 1939

Aluminum foundry construction, 1942

**Box 29**

Tank engine test cell building construction, 1942 (3 folders)

Los Angeles, California - Assembly Building construction, 1923; interior service building, 1913; exterior service building, 1926; Lincoln Mercury L.A. assembly plant, aerial, 1948 (2 folders)

**Box 30**

Louisville, Kentucky - plant assembly construction, 1924-1925; interiors, 1937; various  
Louisville branch photos, 1939 (4 folders)

Manchester, Michigan

Construction progress, 1939-1940

**Box 31**

Construction progress, 1939-1940

Memphis, Tennessee - construction progress, 1939-1940; roofing repairs, 1938 (3 folders)

**Box 32**

Milan, Michigan -construction progress, 1938-1939

Milford, Michigan  
Construction progress, 1939  
Manufacturing Building construction, 1938 (3 folders)

**Box 33**

Construction of Huron River Hydro Station, 1939 (3 folders)  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Construction progress, 1913-1914  
Interiors of vacant 420 N. 5<sup>th</sup> street, 1937

**Box 34**

Interiors of vacant 420 N. 5th street, 1937  
Munising, Michigan - construction, interiors and exteriors, 1945  
Michigan, Michigan - Imperial Iron Mine, 1921  
Nankin Mills, Michigan - construction progress, 1938  
Newburg, Michigan - Manufacturing buildings. and hydro-electric construction progress,  
1934- 1935 (2 folders)  
New Orleans, LA. Assembly plant construction, 1922-1923 (2 folders)

**Box 35**

New York, New York  
1710 Broadway construction, 1937 (2 folders)  
World's Fair building  
1938-1939 (2 folders)  
Alterations, 1940

**Box 36**

World's Fair Building alterations, 1940  
Norfolk, Virginia  
Assembly building construction, 1924-1925 (3 folders)  
Branch assembly plant, 1925-1940

**Box 37**

Branch assembly plant, 1925-1940 (2 folders)  
Addition to assembly plant 1937-1938 (2 folders)  
Addition to assembly plant and pier construction, 1937-1938  
Addition to assembly plant, pier, driveway and bulkhead construction, 1937-1938  
Various snapshots, 1939

**Box 38**

Northville, Michigan - construction progress, 1935-1939 (4 folders)  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Interiors, exteriors and construction, 1916; Service building, 1915-1916; assembly  
building addition, 1924 (2 folders)

**Box 39**

Repairs, 1938-1939 (3 folders)  
Exterior repairs, 1939

**Box 40**

Highland Park, Michigan - powerhouse construction, 1914-1915 (6 folders)

**Box 41**

Powerhouse alterations, 1913-1916 (7 folders) (photos #147-8878, some gaps and overlaps in numbering)

**Box 42**

Prototype Eagle Ship, 1918 (7 folders)