



BHC-MSS 0024
Guide to the Circus Route Books Collection
By Meg Rinn
September 2018

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Barnum and Bailey Circuses, Ringling Brothers Circus

Title: Circus Route Books Collection

Dates: 1886-

Quantity: 1 manuscript box

Abstract: As a major repository for P.T. Barnum related material, the Bridgeport History Center has amassed a large collection of circus material. This has included amassing circus route books, which list the performance locations and show details for each show in a given year.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Administrative History

As a major repository for P.T. Barnum related material; the Bridgeport History Center has amassed a large collection of circus material. This has included amassing circus route books, which list the performance locations and show details for each show in a given year. These route books offer insight into the development of the American circus.

Scope and Content Note

The scope focuses on American circuses starting in the late 19th century and tracks their movements into the 20th. For more late 19th century route books, please refer to the Bridgeport History Center's microfilmed route book collection, BHC-MSS 0023.

Arrangement note:

Arranged alphabetically by circus, then chronologically.

Administrative information:

Provenance: Unknown, this material has been acquired over the years.

Preferred Citation:

Circus Route Books Collection (BHC-MSS 0024), Bridgeport History Center.

Names and Subject Tracings

Corporate Names

Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus

Subject tracings

Circus animals--United States--History--19th century.
Circus animals--United States--History--20th century.
Circus performers--United States.

Box 1

1. The Barnum Budget and Tent Topics, 1886
2. Barnum and Bailey Circus, 1894, 1895
3. Barnum and Bailey Circus, 1897
4. Day by Day with Barnum and Bailey. 1903-1904
5. Barnum and Bailey Seasons, 1903-1904
6. Barnum and Bailey, 190
7. Ringling Brothers 1882-1825