Connecticut Department of Transportation
District 3 Surveys
140 Pond Lily Avenue
New Haven, CT 06525  Attn: John J. Doody

Tel: 203-389-3110
Fax: 203-389-3169
Email: john.doody@po.state.ct.us

RR valuation maps on microfiche (also in each District Office & Newington)
Centerline and Topography for New Canaan Line, Danbury Line
& Waterbury Line 1"=40', reduced to 1"=100', paper and digital.
Maine Line topography and centerline, various locations
from Greenwich to New Haven, 1"=40', mostly Railroad Stations.
AMTRAK topography, New Haven to Clinton, 1"=40'

Dodd Center NYNH&H RR Archive Map Index (to be completed 6/2001)
Over 2,300 maps in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and
New York east of the Hudson River, including New York City.

Connecticut State Library RR Commission Records Index
Over 8,400 decisions rendered by the Railroad Commission from
1860 to the 1960's. This references complete files, including maps,
on land transactions that came before the commission, as well as other
matters.

Connecticut State Library RR Commission Map Index
Over 1,500 maps pertaining to RR Commission hearings listed
above, all in Connecticut.

Railroad Company Index. This is a listing of over 100 RR companies
that later became part of the NYNH&H RR, when they were founded,
and when they were bought out by other companies.

Connecticut Department of Transportation 1998 Rail Transportation
Ownership and Service Map. Lists owners, status of all rail lines in
Connecticut.
Town Hall Deeds and Maps

Volumes and Pages of Deeds listed on the Railroad Valuation Maps can be found in the Town Clerk's Offices of the Town in question. Maps may be found attached to the deed on the older maps from the 19th century. When searching deed indexes, you might have to look under "T", "The", or "R" as well as "N".

The name of the NYNH & H Railroad is different in different periods of their land transactions:


November 8, 1935: N.Y.,N.H. & H. R.R. Co. Debtor; Howard S. Palmer, Trustee; W.M. Daniels, Trustee; James Lee Loomis, Trustee

April 1, 1938: N.Y.,N.H. & H. R.R. Co. Debtor; Howard S. Palmer, Trustee; James Lee Loomis, Trustee; Henry B. Sawyer, Trustee.

September 18, 1947: Trustees conveyed all Debtor's property interests to the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company.


December 31, 1968: Trustees convey all of Debtor's property interests without limitation to Penn Central Co.

December 18, 1969: Name change to Penn Central Transportation Company.

June 21, 1970: Penn Central Transportation Company, Debtor, George P. Baker, Trustee; Richard C. Bond, Trustee; Jervis Langdon, Jr., Trustee; Willard Wirtz, Trustee.

December 29, 1972: Penn Central Transportation Company; George P. Baker, Trustee; Richard C. Bond, Trustee; Jervis Langdon, Jr., Trustee;
January 11, 1974: Penn Central Transportation Company; Robert W. Blanchette, Trustee; George P. Baker, Trustee; Richard C. Bond, Trustee.

July 3, 1974: Penn Central Transportation Company; John H. McArthur, Trustee; Richard C. Bond, Trustee; Robert W. Blanchette, Trustee.

Special Court orders conveyance of substantially all operating railroad lines to the Consolidated Rail Corp. Excepted and reserved to Debtor are main line and 3 branches. Conrail does acquire operating and trackage rights on the main line and the three branches.

March 30, 1976: Trustees of the property of Penn Central Transportation Company, Debtor transferred to Consolidated Rail Corp. certain operating rail lines (profitable freight lines) and operating and trackage rights on the excluded main line and the 3 branches. Doc. PC-CRC-RP-"Number"

March 30, 1976: Trustees of the property of Penn Central Transportation Company, Debtor transferred to Consolidated Rail Corp. the remaining operating rail lines except the main line and the 3 branches. Doc. PC-CRC-ATK-RP-"Number".

April 11, 1976: Consolidated Rail corp. (Conrail) transferred to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) the remaining operating rail lines except the main line and the 3 branches, over which only operating and trackage rights were granted. Conrail reserved to itself a freight service easement over the transferred rail lines and certain rights under Conrail and Amtrak's Joint Facility Agreement. Doc. "Number"/PC-CRC-ATK-RP-"Number"

October 16, 1978: Trustees of the Penn Central Transportation Company, Debtor, conveyed all remaining lands, real property and lines of railroad (Main line and the 3 branches) to Penn Central Corp.

October, 1985: Penn Central Corp. conveyed remaining title for the following railroad lines in Connecticut; Main Line, Greenwich to New Haven; Danbury, Waterbury and New Canaan Lines, to State of Connecticut.

American Premier Underwriters, Inc., successor in interest to Penn Central Corp.
Connecticut State Library RR Commission Records and Index
Over 8,400 decisions rendered by the Railroad Commission from 1860 to the 1960's. This references complete files, including maps, on land transactions that came before the commission, as well as other matters. There is a separate index of deaths on the railroad. The Commission meeting records and work folders for each transaction are available here for research.

Connecticut State Library RR Commission Map Index
Over 1,500 maps pertaining to RR Commission hearings listed above, all in Connecticut. The maps are housed in a separate facility and are brought over to the library for viewing.

Note: This is an archive. You will be required to get an ID made up at the security office on site, which takes about 45 minutes. Requests are in writing twice a day, and the material is brought out to a secure area for reviewing and transcribing. Permission must be obtained to get photocopies. Only paper and pencils are normally allowed in the viewing area.

Secretary of State's Office, Railroad Files. The Secretary of State's Office has old railroad records from the 19th century in their warehouse files. They are not indexed and their contents not known. The State Archivist has been informed that these files should be brought over to the State Archives.
Laura Katz Smith, Curator for Business and Railroad Collections
Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, U-1205
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06269-1205

Tel: 860-486-2516  Hours:  In Session  M 10am-7pm
Fax: 860-486-4521  T-F 10am-4pm
Email: laura.katz.smith@uconn.edu  Vacation & Summer  M-F Noon-4pm
Web: www.lib.uconn.edu/DoddCenter/ASC/

Dodd Center NYNH&H RR Archive Map Index (to be completed 6/2001)
Over 2,300 maps in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York east of the Hudson River, including New York City. Maps should be requested ahead of time from the index, then an appointment can be made as to when the maps will be available. The maps are stored on site, but staffing to retrieve them may not be readily available.

NHRHTA Railroad Valuation Maps. There are various versions of railroad valuation maps, including the original 1915 maps on velum, which are in excellent condition. If the CDOT microfiche cannot be read, these originals are available. There are numerous valuation maps that predate the 1915 valuation mapping for the NYNH&HRR system. Of particular importance is a 1911 valuation map of the main line from NYC to New Haven. These maps contain many mathematical relationships from the 4 track centerline to the 2 track centerline and original 1847 line of location, and traverses, not found on the 1915 valuation maps. These valuation maps can be located using the Dodd Center Map Index noted above.

The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Corporate Collection. There is a finding aid listing the materials in the collection, only some of which refer to surveying and mapping. There is an extensive group of deeds in this collection. There are index cards on site to review items of interest. The finding aid is also on the web at: www.lib.uconn.edu/DoddCenter/ASC/nhtrains.htm

The New Haven Railroad Historical and Technical Association Collection. A finding aid is available on site and on the web at: www.lib.uconn.edu/DoddCenter/ASC/trains/nhrhta1.htm
Note: the valuation maps finding aid is not presently on the web.

Some items of particular interest from this collection are listed below:
NHRHTA Collection Record Group 8 Series 2 Box 31, Structures and Crossings, *Complete List of Railroad Crossings, 1925, CT, MA, NY, RI.*
These 5 books contain the real estate history of many (but not all) railroad crossings in the railroad system. It is invaluable in researching crossing rights and easements. In Connecticut there may be references tying the crossing into RR Commission records, which has complete work folders.
Book 1 Connecticut
Book 2 New York, New York City, east of the Hudson River
Book 3 Western Massachusetts, west of Worcester
Book 4, Eastern District, Rhode Island and Eastern Mass.
Book 5 Main Line Connecticut, Greenwich to New Haven

NHRHTA Collection Record Group 1 Series 4 Real Estate, Box 36 *Central New England Railway Locations.* This is a bound book which contains a corporate history. 1913 map shows rail line ownership, mostly in New York, east of the Hudson River, Fishkill and Reinbeck, NY. There is one line in Connecticut, from Ore Hill through Salisbury, Colebrook New Hartford, Tariffville, with a split to Hartford and Springfield. The book contains complete written descriptions of centerline layouts. Official layouts as adopted, 1860-19??

NHRHTA Collection Record Group 1 Series 4 Structures and Crossings, Box 39. *Miscellaneous Maps, Indexed by Town.* Most of these maps are of facilities and switching areas, with few property related maps.

NHTHTA Collection Record Group 8 Series 2 Box 79 *Calculation Books*
Book 1 1847 Baseline of Location, compass readings and rods, converted to bearings and feet, no physical reference points.
Main Line, NYC to New Haven, CT. This information was plotted on a large linen roll and used under the 1915 valuation mapping to layout the 1847 baseline of location.
Book 2 Main Line Computations, New York to New Haven
Book 3 New Haven to Springfield
Book 4 & 5 New Haven to New London
Book 9 & 10 Housatonic Railroad
Book 13 & 14 Naugatuck Railroad
Book 15 New Haven & Derby and others
Book 20, Misc Calculations, all states no index 1913-1914
Book 26, Misc Calc., 1914-1915 indexed, Guilford, New Milford, Stamford, Middletown, Groton, RI, Deerfield, MA.
Book 27, Misc Calc, indexed, CT, RI, MA, New London Terminal
Book 28, Misc Calc, 1918-1924, no index, CT, RI, MA
Book 29, Misc Calc., 1923-1924 indexed
Book 30, Misc Calc., 1924-1925 indexed
Book 32, pp 1-79 list of items purchased by mapping department 1913-16
In performing railroad historical research on land problems, keep in mind that the materials listed below have not been recovered:

All the field survey books
Centerline Ties on the Main Line
Surveying Instructions for developing the valuation mapping system

The New York New Haven and Hartford Railroad is gone forever. It is due to the efforts of people who saw value in what others wanted to throw away that gives us the privilege to research the material listed above.