INVENTORY

COLORADO MIDLAND RAILROAD

COLLECTION # 803

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MAY 1984
The Colorado Midland Railroad was incorporated in 1883 and built by John J. Hagerman. It was the first standard gauge railroad built over the continental divide in Colorado. It ran from Colorado Springs to Leadville and through the divide at Bush Tunnel to Aspen and Grand Junction. Later, the line was extended on to New Castle, 11 miles west of Grand Junction. For a short time it was consolidated with the Aspen Short Line (1893-1897) and with the Denver and Rio Grande RR owned by the Rio Grande Junction Railway. On May 4, 1897, the company was sold through the bankruptcy court and the new company known as Colorado Midland Railway took over operation. The Colorado Midland Railway which came under control first by the Atchinson Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, and later jointly by the Colorado and Southern Railway and Denver and Rio Grande RR, again went bankrupt April 21, 1917 and ceased operation in 1918. Segments of the road were then sold to the Midland Terminal RR and the balance of the line, mostly west of the M.T. Railroad connection at Divide were abandoned and the line scrapped in the early 1920's.

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October 26, 1897 - November 15, 1912

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May 31, 1917 to April 28, 1922

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