

Accession #1998-18  
Davenport Levee Improvement Commission  
Historical Images of Levee 1911-1913

Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center  
Davenport Public Library  
321 Main Street Davenport, IA 52801  
www.davenportlibrary.com

Donor:

City of Davenport, Community Planning and Economic Development Department.

Contents:

1 box 75 bromide negatives to be stored at Police Archive (January 2016)

Location: Range\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_

These negatives were scanned by Boyd Fitzgerald Imaging Solutions (Randy Justis) in 2013.

Scans are on five discs which are stored with other discs in Digital Repository Boxes .

Location: (January 2016 shelving by Karen's work station)

Images are also stored electronically in JPEG format on the Special Collections media drives, J and K.  
Levee.073-.075 also TIF file. (January 2016)

8 x 10" prints were made in 2013. These are stored in SC Compact Shelving, Range 14 Section 9.

11 original 3 x 5" prints are stored in Folder 1. There are also 21 3.5 x 6" prints and 2 4 x 5" prints that were made sometime in the 1950's or later which were at one time part of a display that was dismantled. These prints stored in an enclosure within the same box, but have different numbers that correspond to their placement on the original display.

Folder 01

11 – b/w photographs - 3 x 5"

- c. 1912
- Some photos extremely faded.
- Photographs match negatives developed by Randy Justis in 2013.
- For better images please see prints made by Randy Justis in following folders.

Folder 02

10 – b/w photographs – 8 ½ x 11"

- Printed from negatives 2014.
  - o 001 – Levee showing 3 men standing amongst garbage. Red Seal Oil silos in background. No date.
  - o 002 – Labeled *Penwick Pier Nov. 19, 1913* – Man in suit hat standing on levee wall being built. Train cars in upper left side. Mississippi River on right.
  - o 003 – Labeled *From Ferry Boat Aug. 2, 1913* – Shows dredge boat parked along bank. Levee wall being built. Factory in background.
  - o 004 – No label or date. Shows rear of ferry boat with Keep Off sign. Shows pipe pieces lying on ground near river.

- 005 – Labeled – *East from Harrison St. Sept. 30, 1912* – Showing Arsenal Bridge in background and buildings on the left. One with a “9” on the top. Also see RR tracks.
- 006 – Labeled – *Oct. 28, 1912* – Shows train passing on left side, buildings in rear, Arsenal Bridge in distance. Shows flatbed train cars in middle of photo with a small shed next to it. Boats in river along bank.
- 007 – Labeled – *Sept. 30, 1912. Placing sand backing for Retaining Wall. Foot Harrison St.* – Showing five men working on boat while crane moves box to levee. One man partially hidden behind box.
- 008 – Labeled – *West from Foot Ripley St. Oct. 14, 1912* – Photo taken on wall with river to left and sandy/garbage area to right. Lindsey Boat Club House (?) in distance. Men walking in area.
- 009 – Labeled – *Oct. 21, 1912* – Taken from boat on river. Levee wall being built with a ferry on the left side. Factories in the background.
- 010 – Labeled – *Rip-rap Toe-wall June 31, 1912* – Negative was missing pieces. Shows broken white line drawn over river. Ferry to the right, Arsenal Bridge in background. Factories to the left.

## Folder 2

10 – b&w photographs – 8 ½ x 11”

- Printed from negatives 2014.
  - 011 – No label or date. Shows two oil drums (?) on their sides with Red Seal Oil Co. building in the back. Boy in knicker pants and matching dark jacket with page boy cap in front of drums.
  - 012 – Labeled – *8-14-11* – View of levee grass area and river. Factories and buildings in background.
  - 013 – Labeled – *R.I. Fuel Co’s Wall. Excavating for Base of Wall. Sept. 9, 1912* – Taken on a built up platform. RR tracks in middle of photo. Partial cart track next to river and wall. Two long white buildings on left side of photo.
  - 014 – No label or date. Negative was torn. Taken from boat on river. Shows Tall brick building on bank, 3 silos in dark colors, and debris/boats along river bank. A little fuzzy focus.
  - 015 – Labeled – *Boat Club House. Harrison St. Storm Sewer. July 7, 1912.* Shows gate with pillar at end. Debris on ground and covered area for storm sewer. RR tracks to the right. Some emulsion damage near RR tracks from negative.
  - 016 – No label or date. Taken from boat on river. Small white building seen on bank. Could be the Boat Club House. Factories in the background. Some negative cracking on right side.

- 017 – Labeled – *June 30, 1912* – Missing piece of negative on lower left side. Crack in upper left side from negative. Shows rocks piled along cart track on left side. River on right with ferry boat. Building props in water next to levee wall.
- 018 – Labeled – *Oct. 21, 1912* – Poor negative image due to emulsion issues. Taken from boat on river or from RI river bank. Davenport levee across the way.
- 019 – Labeled – *Cedar St. Paving. Aug. 2, 1912* – Shows paving of street with big equipment. Trees shade street.
- 020 - No label or date. Image has cracks from negative. Shows dry riverbank in front. Debris and garbage along edge. Train passing in distance with buildings in background from downtown Davenport.

### Folder 3

19 – b&w photographs – 8 ½ x 11”

- Printed from negatives 2014.
  - 021 – Labeled – *Oct. 14, 1912* – Taken from a raised area. Shows men on RR track pump car. Arsenal Bridge in background. Ferry boats on river. Wall running along train tracks.
  - 022 – Labeled - *9/18/11* – Taken along RR tracks showing men working near river on levee area.
  - 023 – No label or date. Shows Cement pier or tie up in the river near built up area with temporary train track. Arsenal Bridge in background with factories to the left.
  - 024 – No label or date. Taken from elevated area. Looking down on sewer on left side. River in the back. Brick wall in the foreground. Possibly near Main or Harrison Streets.
  - 025 – Labeled – *Sand piles for backing of wall. Oct. 28, 1912* – Showing small boat house next to piles of sand along river. Foreground is smooth dirt.
  - 026 – Labeled - *Foot Harrison St. L.I.C. 10-26-11* – Showing garbage and sand mounds in foreground of photo. Train cars going through. City of Davenport in rear.
  - 027 – Labeled – *Angle W. Line Scott St. Sept. 23, 1912* – Showing porch of Boat House on left. Levee wall and boat next to it.
  - 028 – Labeled – *Aug. 16 – 12* – Taken on levee wall. Showing Boat House in background. Rocks piled up next to temporary cart tracks.
  - 029 – Labeled – *Pier June 22, 1913* – Grass covered area near train tracks and factories. Flatbed train car on left carrying rocks.
  - 030 – Labeled – *4-6-14* – Shows retaining wall being built. Arsenal Bridge close by in the background. Looks like wagons on the right side.
  - 031 – Labeled – *Boat Club House 8-17-11* – Shows very dry area. Possibly draught. “Pheonix Milling” painted on one building would give address.

- 032 – No date or label. Sign on building says Davenport Boat Club. American flag behind it. Shows water around the building. Possibly flooding. Some emulsion issues on right side, but still good picture.
- 033 – Labeled – *Foot Ripley St. June 31, 1912* – Showing dirt area with rocks piled close to river bank. Some barrels and a small tree too with one man near.
- 034 – Labeled – *Main St. Oct. 14, 1912* - Showing man walking on the right side near cart tracks. Boat on the levee bank. Area dirt covered with rocks. Some emulsion damage around the outside of the picture.
- 035 – Labeled – *Levee Sept. 9, 1912* – Some areas on right side missing from negative. One piece on upper left side missing. Showing ferry boat along levee. Temporary tracks. Area largely dirt covered.
- 036 – Labeled – *10-9-11* – Some fading or light damage to the negative. Taken from elevated position. Probably near RR tracks. Brick wall then pile of levee rocks. Then levee.
- 037 – No label or date. Showing men working on the edge of the water on the cart track. Two wheel barrows lying upside down on hill.
- 038 – Labeled – *Sept. 9, 1912. Tumbling 30" Blackmer & Post No. 2 Sewer Pipe down at 40 ft. embankment Liberty St. Sewer. Davenport, Ia* – Shows men at top of hill, pipe piece tumbling down hill, man standing at bottom of hill.
- 039 – Labeled – *Oct. 7, 1912* – Emulsion damage causing lightened areas on photograph. Water and city of Davenport in the background. Taken on boat or on RI levee. Poor image.
- 040 – Labeled – *9-18-11* – Some lightening from original picture or damage to negative. Shows cart track, an outhouse, men working on levee.

#### Folder 4

19 – b&w photographs – 8 ½ x 11"

- Printed from negatives 2014.
  - 041 – Labeled – *June 22, 1912* – Elevated position for photograph. Show train tracks, ferry and other boats tied up along levee. Rock Island Arsenal Bridge in background.
  - 042 – *Oct. 7, 1912* – Some lightening to image from original photo or damage to negative. Appears to be two photos processed together. Levee wall with cart track. Lighter image was of sewer pipe going in.
  - 043 – No label or date. Showing RR tracks and boats tied up near level. Very similar to 041, but slightly different angle.
  - 044 – No date or label. Small boats in front of white buildings with a sign John Deere Moline, IL. LeClaire House is visible. Shows levee wall being built.

- 045 – Labeled – *L.I.C. 10-26-11. 10° Stage. Constn Shed A-A-Arnould Co. Foot of Scott St. Barrier Wall Column.* – Shows sand or gravel in forefront. Shed is marked, barrier is marked, train track in background.
- 046 – Labeled – *From Renwick Pier. Harbor Line. Aug. 2, 1913* – Another photo said Penwick Pier. Rock Island Arsenal Bridge, levee with dirt and debris. Men working on top. Factories in background.
- 047 - No label or date. Near Red Seal Oil Co. silo buildings. Showing dirt and debris along river edge. Possibly ice in picture?
- 048 – No label or date. Ice on river with rr cars and the Rock Island Arsenal Bridge in background.
- 049 – Labeled – *Feb. – 1914* – Showing ice on river near Red Seal Oil Co. silos. Prob. Goes with 047 & 048.
- 050 – No label or date. White silo buildings in background and dirt in foreground. Markers along levee either metal or wood sticking up.
- 051 – Labeled – *Oct. 21, 1912* – Showing river and stone levee wall with boats near the edge of the levee.
- 052 – Labeled – *Oct. 7, 1912* – Some darkening along the edges of photo. Possibly from original when taken or negative damage. Taken on river. Showing levee wall under construction with factories in background.
- 053 – Labeled – *8-16-12* – Showing cart track leading into water. Water between retaining wall being built and main land.
- 054 – Labeled – *Nov. 19, 1913* – Showing Red Seal Oil Co. silos, rr tracks, Telephone lines, Levee retaining wall being built.
- 055 – No label or date. Showing levee area covered in dirt and garbage. Factories in background. Small stack of bricks on piece of wood in middle of debris.
- 056 – Labeled – *View from Ferry Landing – Sept. 23, 1912* – This was probably around Main Street. Shows wood supports in water for new sewer (?). Levee wall under construction.
- 057 – No label or date. Show some emulsion spotting. Covered boat in foreground. Smaller boats in water with factories off on the right.
- 058 – Labeled – *Feb – 1914* – Showing ice on water and dirt with mound of dirt behind in the distance.
- 059 – Labeled – *Scott St. River Wall. July 7, 1912* – Close up of river wall with debris and garbage on land. Phoenix Milling in background.
- 060 – Labeled – *From Boat Club House Aug. 2, 1913* – Some emulsion spotting. Taken on levee wall. Small piece missing on right side. Rock Island Arsenal Bridge in background. Building with Peterson sign painted on to the left.

#### Folder 5

12 – b&w photographs – 8 ½ x 11”

- Printed from negatives 2014.
  - 061 – No label and no date. Taken from an upper area. Shows levee wall being built on right. Several carts for moving equipment along wall. Small work shack on left. Chains on ground in foreground.
  - 062 – Labeled – *Sept. 23, 1912* – Showing tracks, sewer pipe going into river, small debris on foreground among dirt and grass.
  - 063 – No label or date. Showing possible flooding along river. Showing paddle boat, train tracks (with water on them). People walking on tracks in the distance. Names on buildings might give address.
  - 064 – No label or date. Similar to 063 showing possible flooding around LeClaire (?) Park. Trees are small with no leaves. Looks like railing around LeClaire Park retaining wall. Boat House in distance?
  - 065 – Labeled – *Sept. 30, 1912* – Taken along river's edge showing levee wall. Men working off of wall in distance.
  - 066 – Labeled – *Alley Norwood Park Addtn Aug. 2, 1912* – Showing men laying street. Large house on rise above street.
  - 067 – Labeled – *Scott St. Oct. 28, 1912* – Taken from cart carrying supplies on track. RR lines to the rights.
  - 068 – No label or date. Showing Red Seal Oil Co. building and silos with water around building. Probably flooding.
  - 069 – Labeled – *Sept. 30, 1912* – Blurry image showing cart track, round sewer pipe, levee construction in background.
  - 070 – No label or date. Taken from boat on river. Showing construction of wall. Appears to be scratches on negative or small emulsion damage.
  - 071 – Labeled – *Harrison St.* – No wall construction yet. Shows one pillar made of brick. Puddle next to pillar.
  - 072 – No label or date. Only portion of negative. Shows brick wall and on far side cart wagons with stones for building wall. Large sewer pipe pieces.

#### Folder 6

3 – b&w photographs – 8 ½ x 11”

- Printed from negatives 2014.
  - 073 – No label or date - Image taken on river. Showing Arsenal Bridge and factories along river. Pre-levee.
  - 074 – Labeled – *11 – June 22, 1912 – Harbor Line* – Showing small boats in river, factories and trains on land, harbor line marked in with white on negative.
  - 075 – Labeled – *Coffer dam for Extension Main St. Sewer. Aug. 5, 1912* – Taken on river at end of makeshift dam. Looking at levee, trains, and buildings.

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Enclosure: 23 prints that were removed from Display Board in 2007.