

Genealogical Resources at the Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center

IGS Lunch & Learn Series: Not everything is online—
consult your local archives!

Kathryn Whalen
Richardson-Sloane
Special Collections Supervisor
Davenport Public Library

February 7, 2023





Topics we will cover

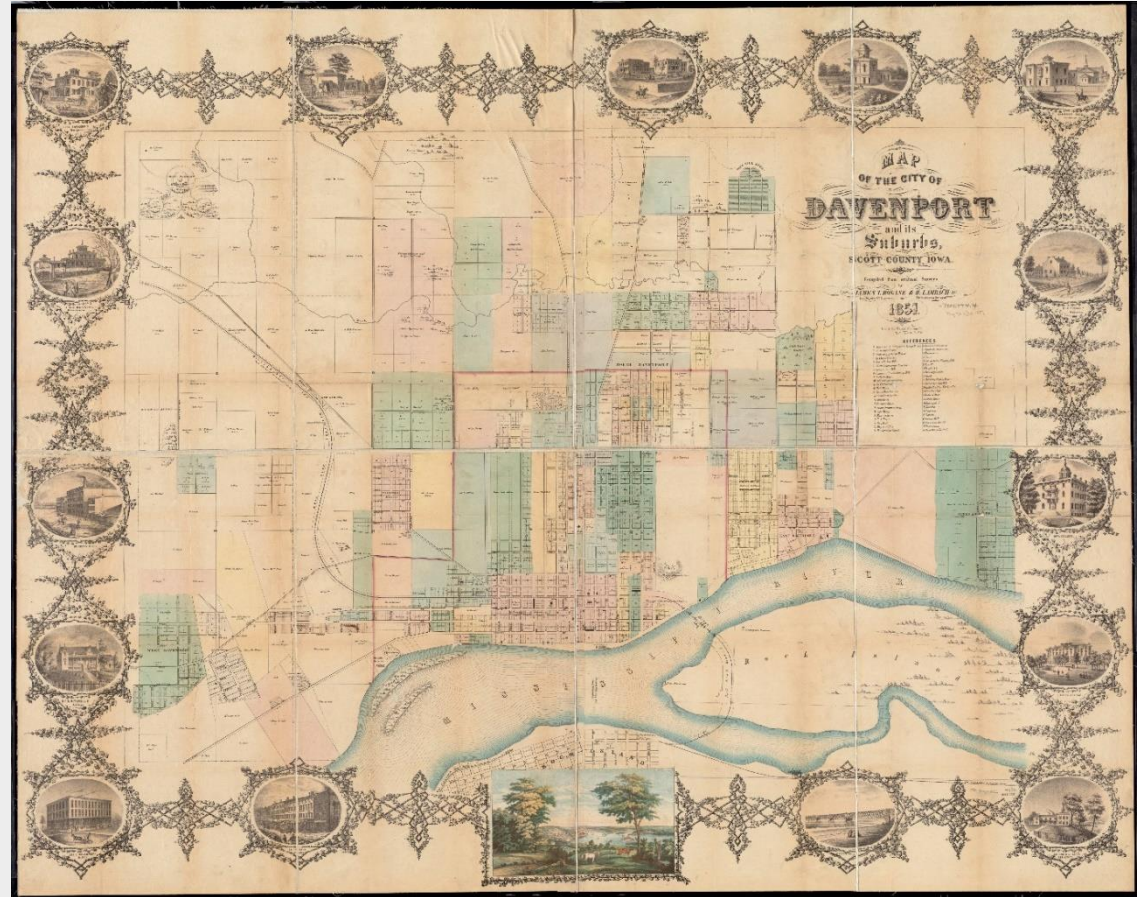
History and Mission of Special Collections Center

Genealogical Resources

Local History Resources

Services & Tools

History and Mission of Special Collections





Genealogical Resources

Beginning Genealogical Packets

Five Generation Ancestor
Chart

Family Group Sheet

Resource Checklist for our
collections

Migration route maps,
relationship chart, and
more!

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

FAMILY GROUP SHEET

THE LIBRARY
DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

HUSBAND		WIFE	
SOURCES	DATES	SOURCES	DATES
Birth		Birth	
Death		Death	
Marriage		Marriage	
Other		Other	

Children (in order of birth)

Child	Birth	Death	Marriage	Other
1				
2				
3				
4				

Courtesy of Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center at DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY | specialcollections@davenportlibrary.com

Getting Started with Genealogy

First Steps

START WITH WHAT YOU KNOW

- Write down what you know about yourself and your ancestors: names, dates, and places
- Use the Ancestor Chart and Family Group Sheet included in this packet
- Talk to family members to see what you might be missing

ORGANIZE ANY DOCUMENTS YOU OR FAMILY MEMBERS ALREADY HAVE

- Identify any vital information (births, deaths, and marriages)
- Identify other documents of use: family Bibles, newspaper clippings, photos, diaries, etc.
- Record where and when you found (or didn't find) information

DECIDE WHAT YOU WANT TO KNOW

- Which ancestor or branch of the family tree do you want to research?
- What do you want to know about the person or branch of the family tree?

Sources

GOVERNMENT RECORDS

Government records can be an excellent source for research. Some examples would be:

- Birth records
- Marriage records
- Divorce records
- Death records
- Probate records
- Tax records
- Property records
- Military records
- Naturalization records
- Court records

CENSUS

Since 1790, the United States provides a census of its population every 10 years. Iowa and other states collected census data between the Federal Census years. The information is different for each census year but can include:

- Names of family members
- Ages and birthplaces
- Address and neighbors
- Immigration and citizenship
- Military service
- Occupation

FAMILY DOCUMENTS

This group of records can span a short time or several generations. There are many opportunities to gain insight into the lives of your ancestors through these formats:

- Letters/Journals
- Legal documents
- Photographs
- Memoirs/Scrapbooks
- Newspaper clippings
- Funeral cards
- School records
- Written accounts

Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center
The Library | MAIN
351 Main Street
Davenport, IA 52801
(563) 326-7940
specialcollections@davenportlibrary.com
www.davenportlibrary.com

FIVE GENERATION ANCESTOR CHART

Courtesy of Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center at DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY | specialcollections@davenportlibrary.com

THE LIBRARY
DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Generation	Name	Birth	Death	Marriage	Other
I					
II					
III					
IV					
V					

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

Resource Checklist

FREE LOCAL DATABASE INDEX @ www.davenportlibrary.com/onlineandhistory

VITAL RECORDS - microfilm is most complete

- No birth or death in IA before 1880
- Birth Records, Registers, Returns
- Death Records, Registers, Certificates
- Marriage Records, Registers
- Licenses, Certificates, Applications

CHURCH RECORDS - microfilm & books

- Baptisms
- Burials
- Marriages
- Membership Lists

CEMETERY & BURIAL INFORMATION

- City Burial Permits - microfilm
- City Cemetery Sexton Records, Reports
- Quailside & Fairmount - microfilm
- Books for cemeteries within city
- Books for cemeteries within county

PROBATES & WILLS / GUARDIANSHIPS

- Probate indices can help with date of death
- 3 indices in book format - most complete index on microfilm
- Probate Index - online
- Unusual Source Index - online
- Packets - microfilm
- Wills - microfilm

OBITUARIES

Volunteers have abstracted names from various local newspapers - online and book format

- Davenport Democrat & Gazette
- Rock Island Argus
- Port Byron Globe
- Moline Dispatch

NEWSPAPERS

- Davenport, Scott Co., Regional
- 1838 - Current

LOCAL SCHOOLS - microfilm & books

- Alumni Directories



SUBSCRIPTION DATABASES AVAILABLE

www.davenportlibrary.com/onlineandhistory

- AncestryLibrary
- Fold3 - access from home
- HeritageQuest - access from home
- Newspaper Archive

TAX RECORDS

- Scott County - a great substitute for 1890 census
- Muscatine

SCOTT COUNTY LAND RECORDS to 1900

- Grantor / Grantee Index
- Land
- Town Lots

MAPS & PLATS

SANBORN FIRE INSURANCE MAPS

ARCHIVE & MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

DIVORCE RECORDS (SOME INDICES)

CORONER'S REPORTS

CIRCUIT COURT RECORDS

DISTRICT COURT RECORDS

NATURALIZATION RECORDS

MILITARY RECORDS

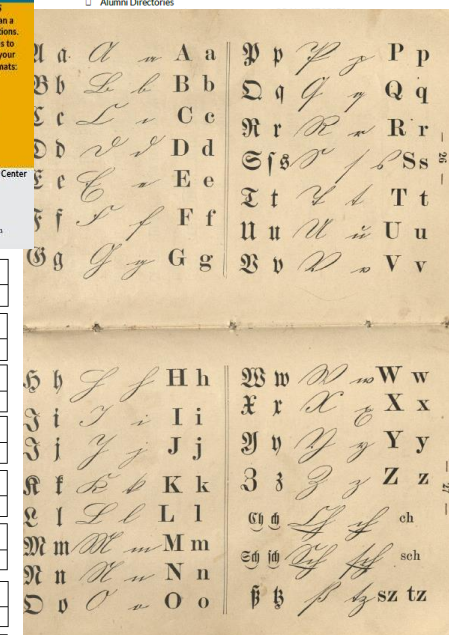
COUNTY HISTORIES

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MTGS

CITY & COUNTY DIRECTORIES

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS & MINUTES

PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTIONS



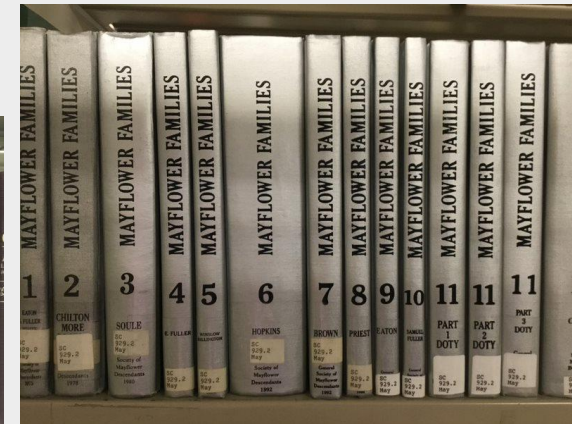
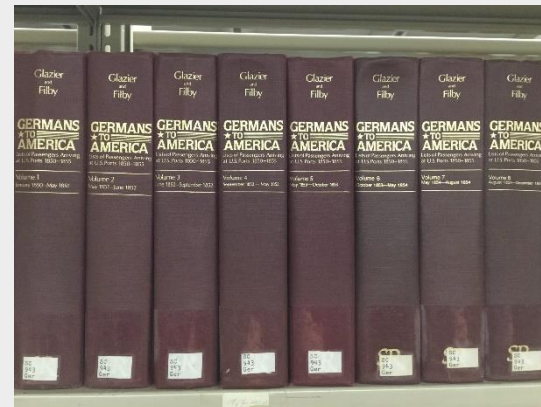
Books and Periodicals

Genealogical histories and guides

Resources on different ethnic groups

Regional resources

Journals, newsletters, and magazine from societies, associations, and organizations



Genealogical Resources

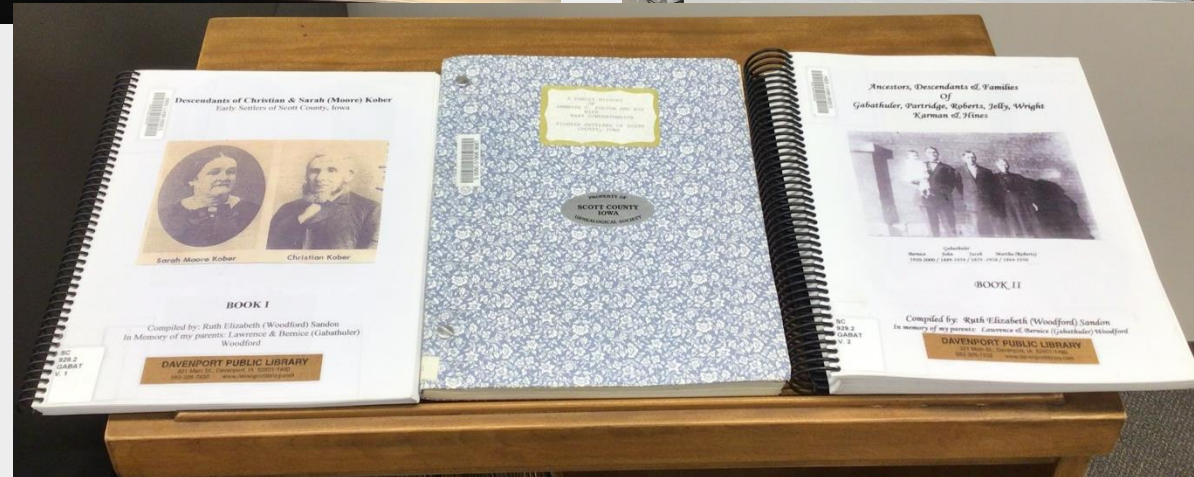
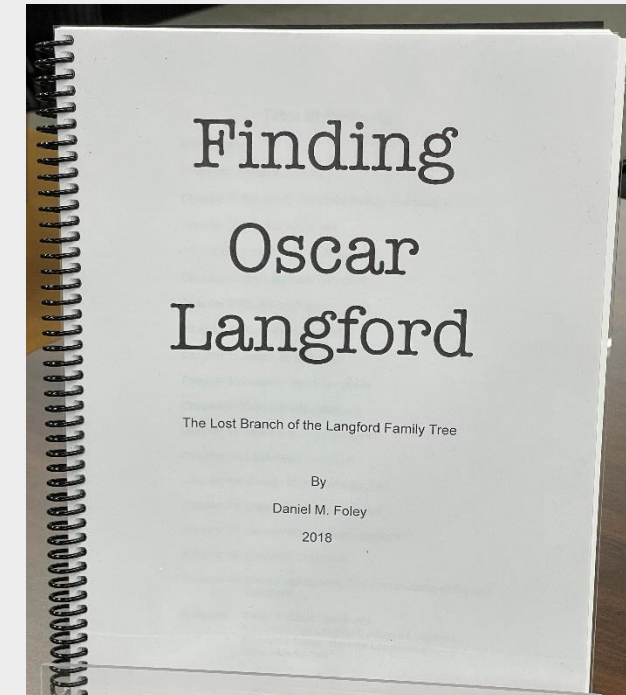
Individual Memoirs

Family Narratives and Genealogies

Genealogy Vertical Files

Scott County Iowa

Genealogical Certificates



Searching the Catalog

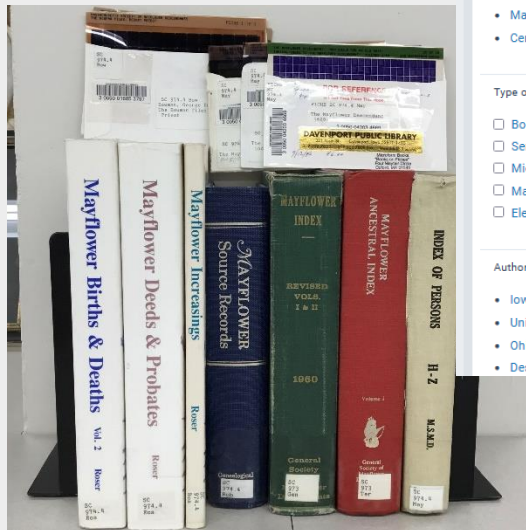
Search Options

Select the library and collection to search

Libraries- Davenport Main Library

Collections- Special Collections

Click- Set Search Options



TheLibrary DAVENPORT MAIN LIBRARY
DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Info ▾ Search ▾ My Account ▾ Help ▾

[Save Search](#)

Narrow your search ▾

Subjects ▾

- Registers of births, etc. (1221)
- Genealogy. (635)
- United States. (522)
- Marriage records (382)
- Cemeteries (268)

More>>

Type of Material ▾

- ☐ Book (3602)
- ☐ Serial (287)
- ☐ Microform (181)
- ☐ Manuscript Material (12)
- ☐ Electronic Resources (9)

More>>

Authors ▾

- Iowa Genealogical Society. (379)
- United States. (122)
- Ohio Genealogical Society. (74)
- Des Moines County Genealogical Society. (45)


Keyword search:

Search by: Any Field Using: 1 selected databases


Limit by: Unlimited

[Options set](#) [Change](#) [Clear](#)

1 - 10 of 3900 10 PER PAGE SORT Relevance ▾

1.  2004
Map guide to German parish registers
by Hansen, Kevan M., 1962-
Publisher, Date: North Salt Lake, Utah : Heritage Creations, ©2004-©2017>.
Description: <57> volumes : maps ; 28 cm
System Availability: 59 (of 59)
Current Holds: 0

[FIND IT](#)
[DETAILS](#)
[PLACE A HOLD](#)
[Add to My List](#)

2. 
The family Tree Polish, Czech & Slovak genealogy guide : how to trace your family tree in Eastern Europe
by Alzo, Lisa A., author.
Publisher, Date: Cincinnati, Ohio : Family Tree Books, [2016]

[FIND IT](#)
[DETAILS](#)
[PLACE A HOLD](#)

Vital Records

Birth records (Iowa starts 1880)

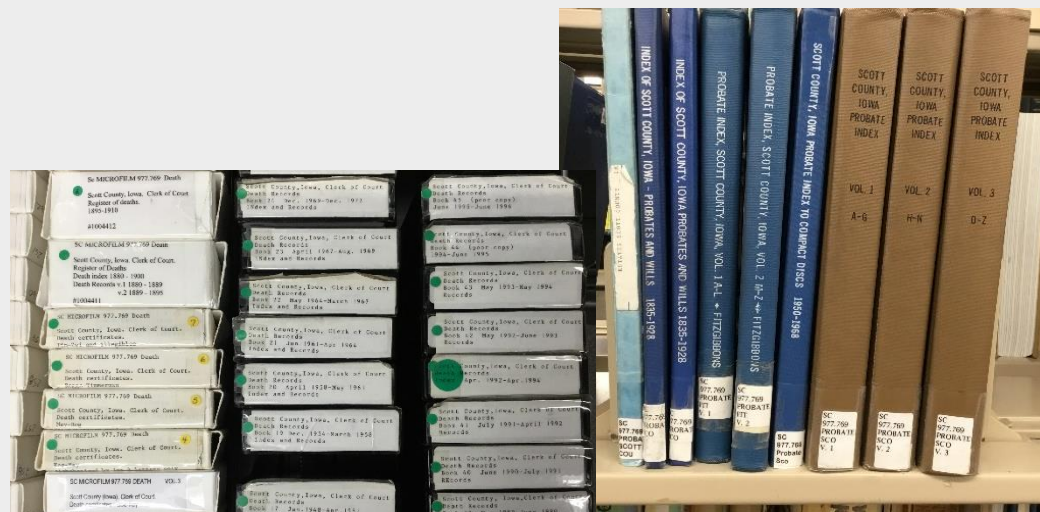
Records, Registers, and
Returns

Marriage records

Records, Registers, Licenses,
Certificates, and
Applications

Death records (Iowa starts 1880)

Records, Registers, and
Certificates



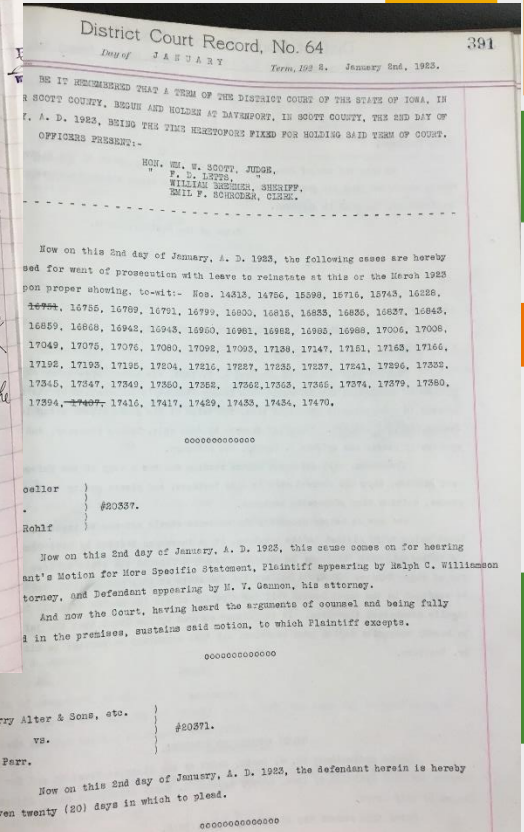
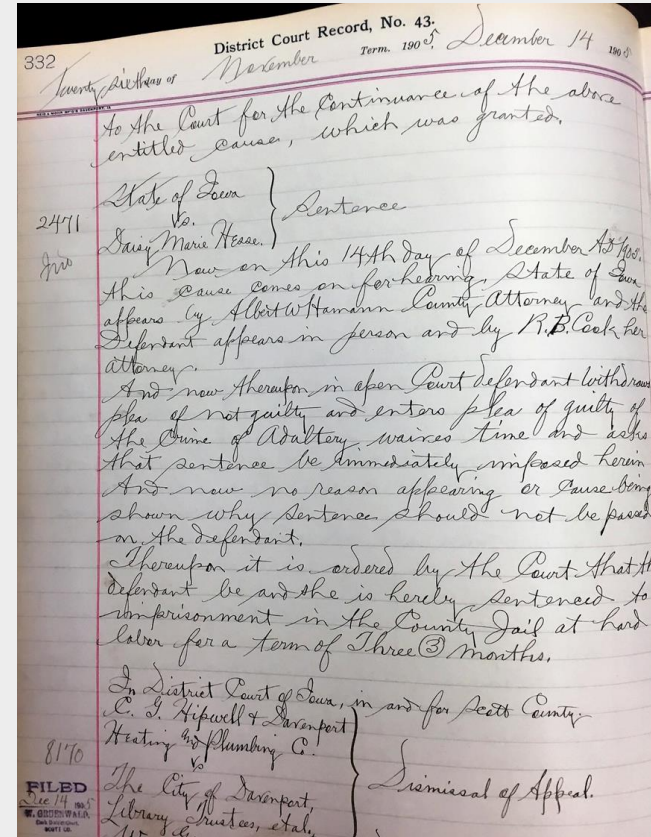
Scott County Records

Divorce Records & Packets, 1854-1973

Probates & Wills, 1838-1994

Naturalization Records, 1848-1929

Land Records, 1838-1918



Scott County Records

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Coroner's Reports, 1902-1957

Historical Case Files, pre-1850

Old Age Pension Dockets, 1934-1937

Mother's and Widow's Pension Records

Old Age Assistance Head Tax, 1934

Soldier's Discharge Records, World War I

District Court Records, 1838-1844 and 1857-1901

Property Tax Records, 1849-1906

Criminal Case Files, 1923-1954, 1955-1960

Criminal Case Files on CD, 1855-1933 and 1955-1979



Scott County Records

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

Law and Equity Case Files, 1910-1978

District Court Packets, pre-1877

District Court Records including Law and Equity Case Files and Criminal Case Files are indexed in the following books:

District Court Calendar, 1855-1921. (SC 977.769 Dis)

Scott County Iowa Numerical Index of District Court Cases Found on Microfilm (SC977.769 Sco)

Military Records

County Board of Supervisor Minutes and City County Proceedings & Minutes



Church & Cemetery Records

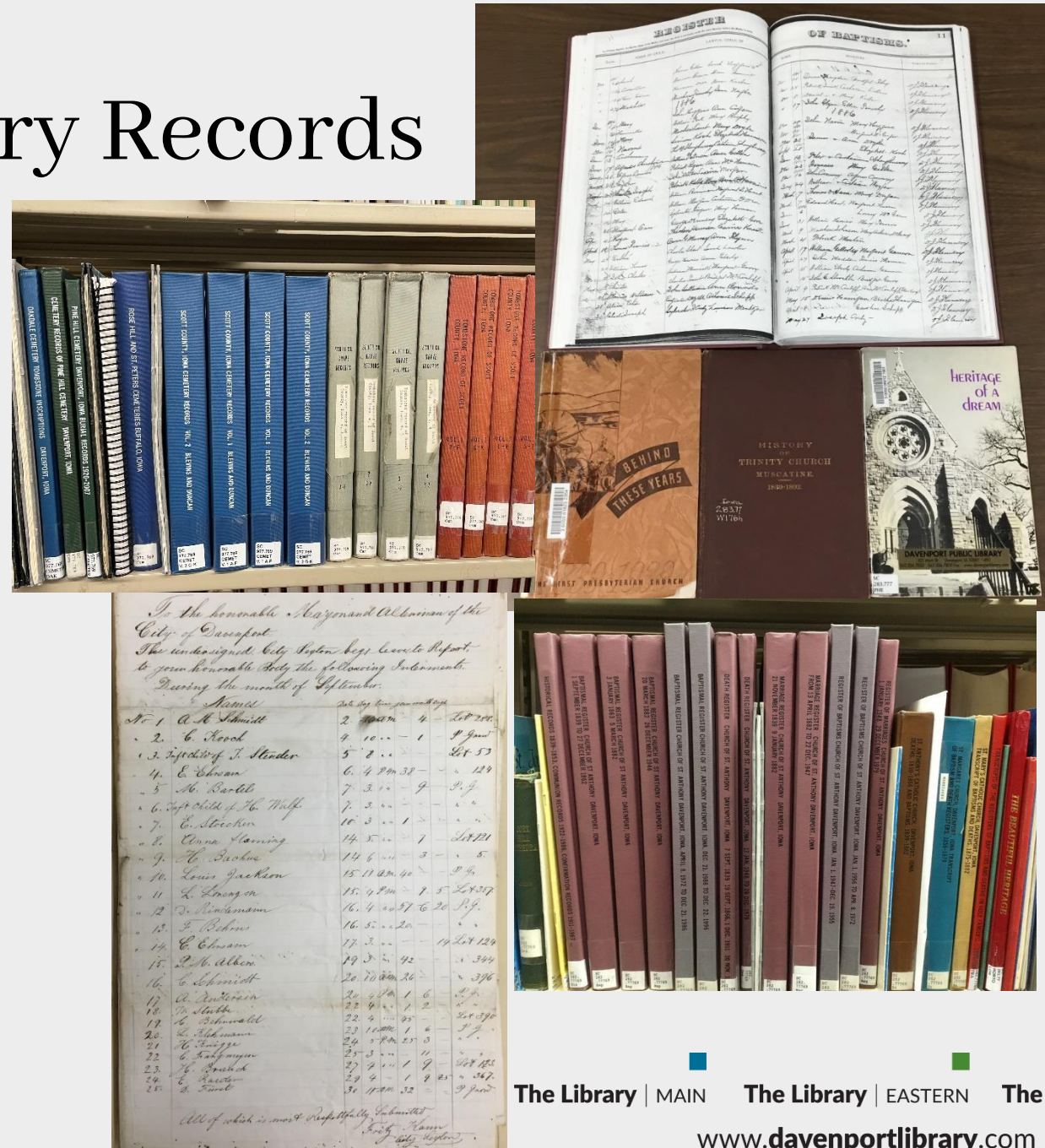
Church Records

Microfilmed records of baptisms and marriages

Books – histories, records, and indices

Cemetery Records

Histories, internment records, maps, and gravestone inscriptions



Newspapers

Davenport IA Newspapers

1838-current Various titles published daily, weekly, morning, or evening 1860-1918 with gaps
GERMAN LANGUAGE Various titles published daily and weekly

County | Regional | State

1933-1943 Scott County Tribune [IA]
 1968-2018 North Scott Press [IA]
 1941-2014 Catholic Messenger [IA]
 1986-2008 Leader [Moline IL]
 1850-1880 Muscatine [IA] various titles
 1856-1901 Clinton [IA] various titles
 1860-1865 Burlington [IA] various titles
 1860-1885 Wheatland [IA] various titles
 1861-1922 DeWitt [IA] various titles
 1884-1992 Port Byron Globe [IL]
 1963-2017 Des Moines Register [IA]



Police Seize 11

Military Records

Civil War, WWI, WWII, & Korea

Enlistment & Discharge Records

Roster & Registrations

Compiled war records and index

Returns for RIA & Camp McClellan

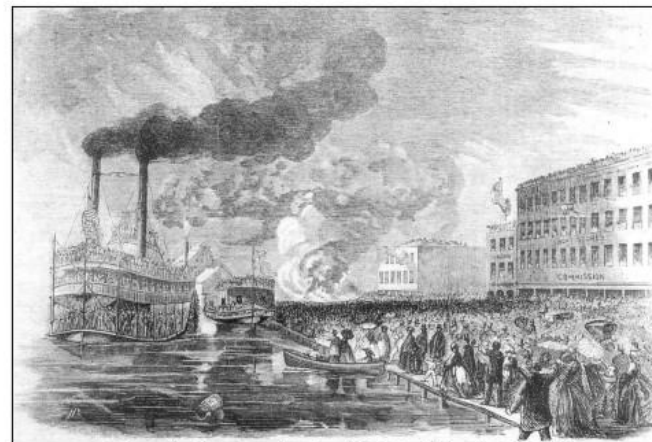
Grand Army of the Republic records

Roll of Honor

Histories including one on the
seven rendezvous camps in

Davenport

Oral histories



“Where is this Iowa that has 40,000 soldiers in the field?
I have never heard of the State till this war commenced”¹

Iowa’s Civil War Rendezvous Camps, 1861-1866, A Study

February 11, 2019

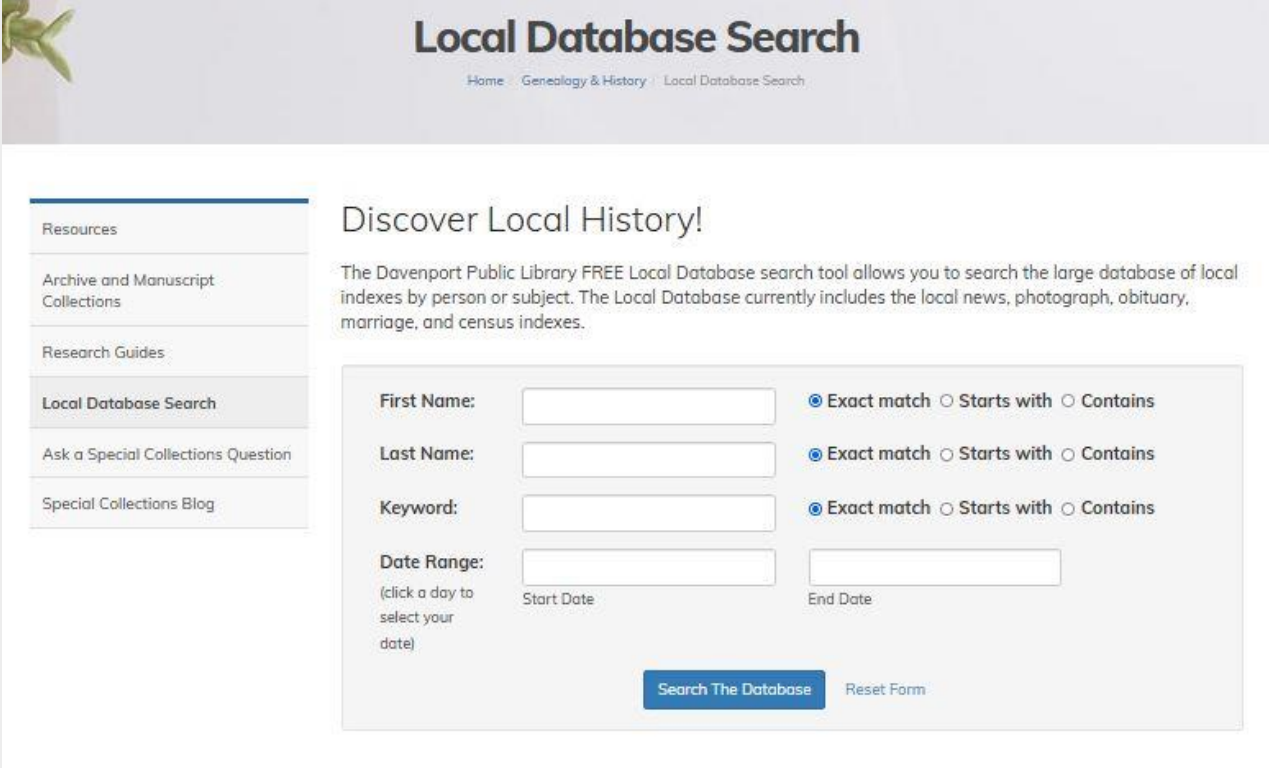
James E. Jacobsen
History Pays! Historic Preservation Firm

¹ Statement by a captured Confederate officer (Burlington Hawk-Eye, October 31, 1862, copying *New York Evening Post*).

Local Database Search

This index can help you search across several of our collections

Abstracted Names from the Davenport Democrat and Leader newspaper (1899-1944)

A screenshot of the 'Local Database Search' web application. The header features the title 'Local Database Search' and a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Genealogy & History > Local Database Search'. A left sidebar lists navigation options: 'Resources', 'Archive and Manuscript Collections', 'Research Guides', 'Local Database Search' (highlighted), 'Ask a Special Collections Question', and 'Special Collections Blog'. The main content area is titled 'Discover Local History!' and includes a descriptive paragraph about the Davenport Public Library's free search tool. Below this is a search form with fields for 'First Name', 'Last Name', 'Keyword', and 'Date Range'. Each field has radio button options for 'Exact match', 'Starts with', and 'Contains'. The 'Date Range' section includes 'Start Date' and 'End Date' input boxes. At the bottom of the form are 'Search The Database' and 'Reset Form' buttons.

Local Database Search

Home > Genealogy & History > Local Database Search

Resources

Archive and Manuscript Collections

Research Guides

Local Database Search

Ask a Special Collections Question

Special Collections Blog

Discover Local History!

The Davenport Public Library FREE Local Database search tool allows you to search the large database of local indexes by person or subject. The Local Database currently includes the local news, photograph, obituary, marriage, and census indexes.

First Name: ☒ Exact match ☐ Starts with ☐ Contains

Last Name: ☒ Exact match ☐ Starts with ☐ Contains

Keyword: ☒ Exact match ☐ Starts with ☐ Contains

Date Range:
(click a day to select your date) Start Date End Date

[Search The Database](#) [Reset Form](#)



Local History Resources

Local History Books

Genres and topics of books

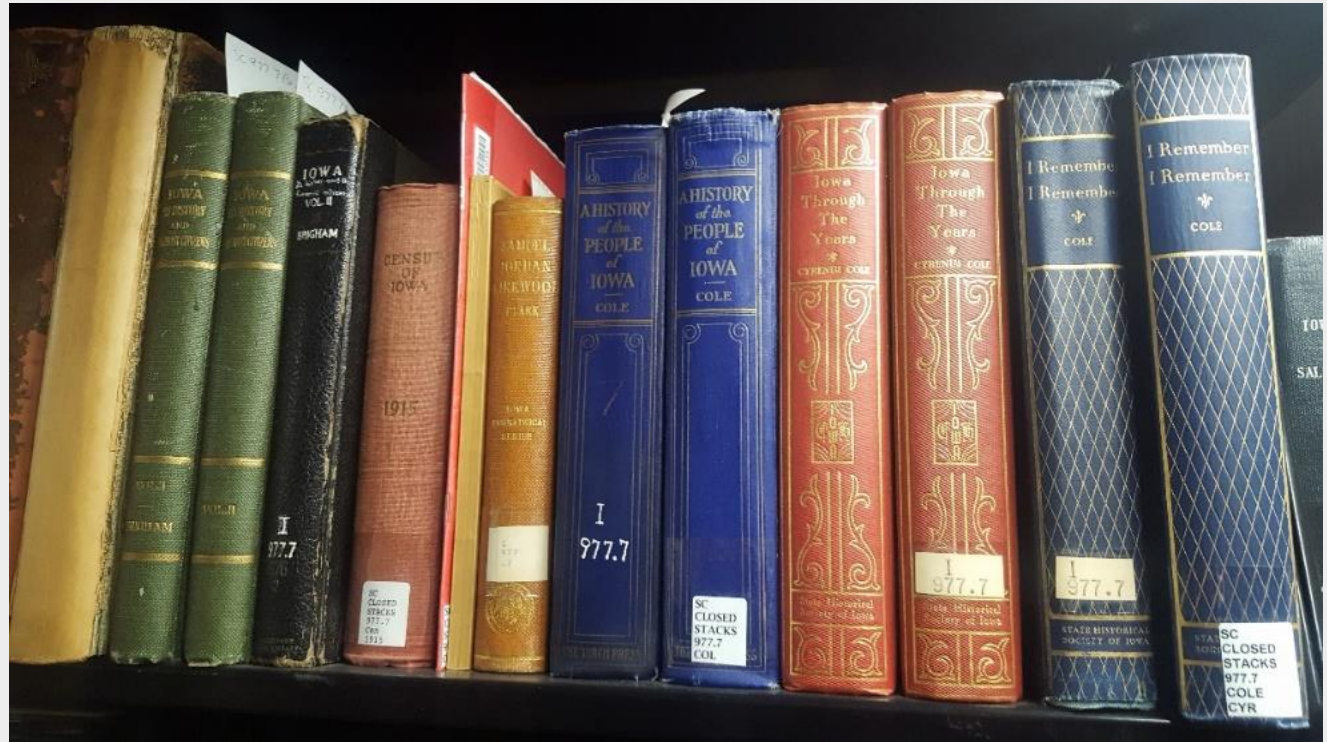
Histories

Works of Local Authors
& Fiction

Cookbook Collection

Music & Art

Local Government
Documents



All books are cataloged in the
[Library's online catalog](#).

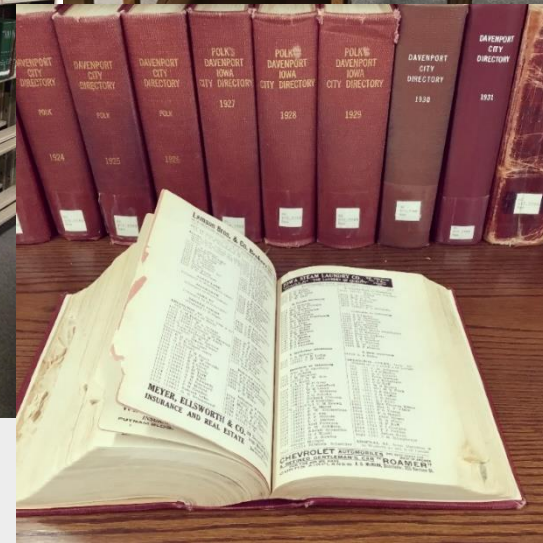
Local History Books & Periodicals

City & County Directories

County Histories (1882,
1910, 1991)

Annals of Iowa &
Palimpsest

Contemporary Club and
Tuesday Club papers



School Records and Collections

Collection contain materials from various levels of education including:

Primary School

Middle School

Secondary School

Postsecondary/Tertiary School

The schools include public and private institutions



Archive and Manuscript Collections

Local organizations and societies records
including:

Social, Political, Fraternal Societies &
Clubs

Personal papers

Business records

Subject or Individuals' Collections

Davenport City Archives



Archive and Manuscript Collections

Formats found in the collections

Correspondence

Diaries/Journals

Business Documents/

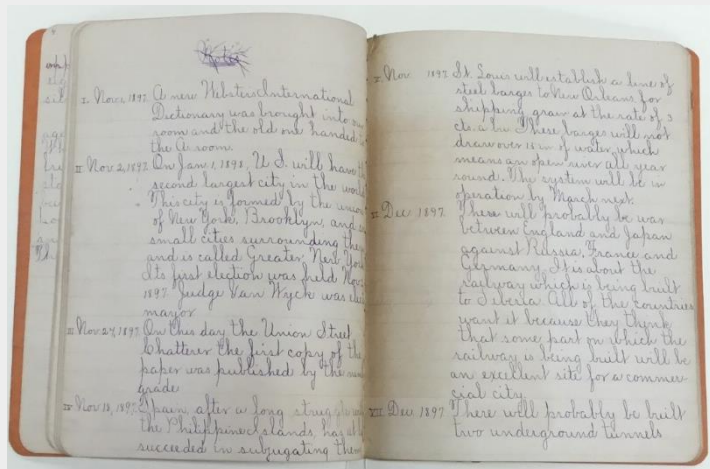
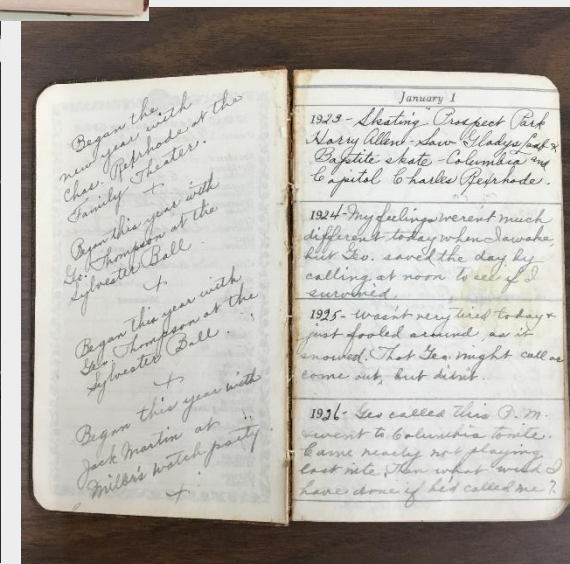
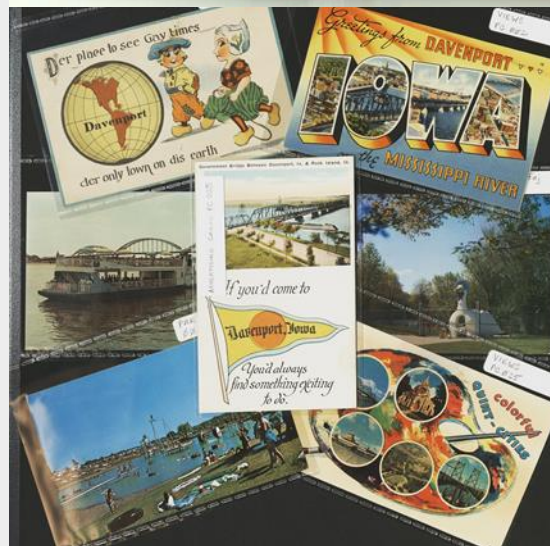
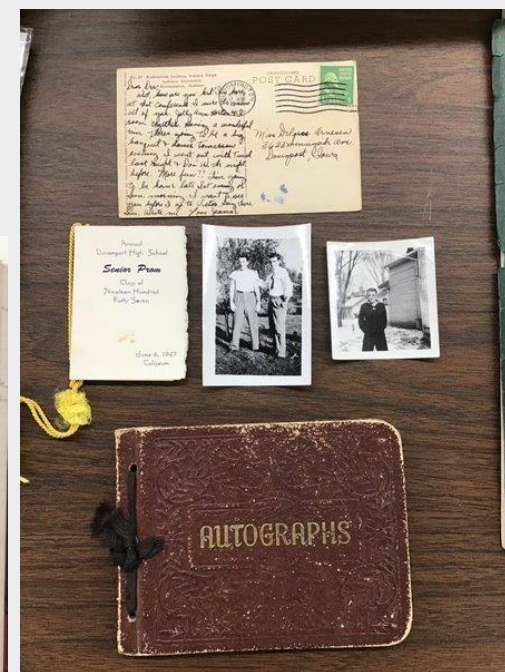
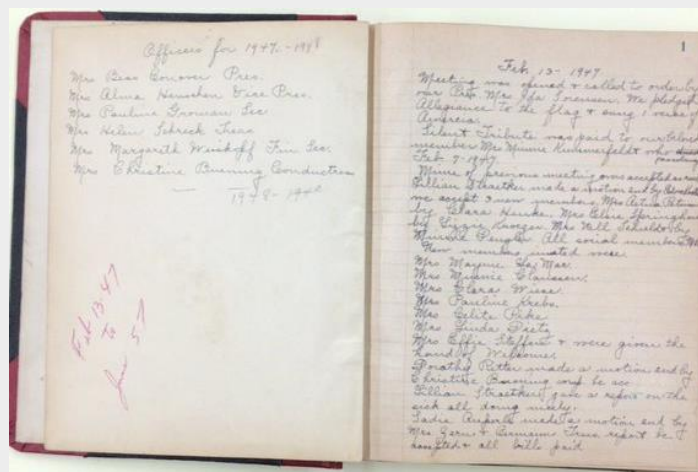
Receipts

Postcards

Photographs

Writings

& more!

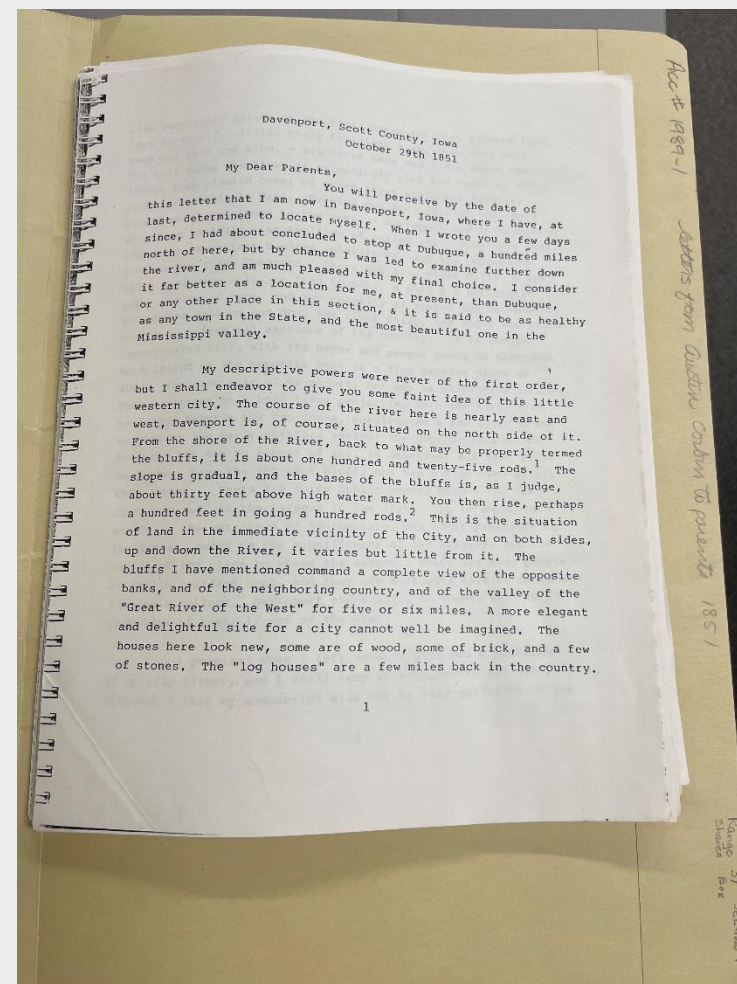


Archive and Manuscript Collections

1989-01: Corbin Manuscript Collection

Central and Western Massachusetts
covering the time period 1650-1850.

- transcribed vital records
- bible records
- family histories
- available at DPL on microfilm



Archive and Manuscript Collections

2000-11: Ancient Order of Hibernians meeting minutes (1897-1909)

2013-23: David Adams Genealogy Collection

2003-04: Mueller/Koehler families materials

2012-25: Don and Marietta Southwood collection

2002-24: Wasson, Jennings, Mandel and Bockenfeld family history collection

2006-04: Schick Family Photos, Genealogy, & Records

Archive and Manuscript Collections

Searching the Archive and Manuscript Catalog

Search by keywords, title, creator, subject, notes, and identifier.

Browse by collections, subject, and names.

The screenshot shows the website <https://archives.davenportlibrary.com>. The header includes the logo for The Library DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY and navigation links: Home, Repositories, Collections, Subjects, Names. The main content area is titled "Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center" with a sub-header "Search across our collections, digital materials, and more." Below this is a "Search the Collections" section with a search form. The form includes a text input for "Enter your search terms", a dropdown for "Limit by record type" (set to "Search all record types"), a dropdown for "Search field" (set to "Keyword"), and date range inputs for "From year" and "To year". A blue "Search" button is at the bottom of the form. To the right of the search form is a "Guide to Searching the Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center's Collections" section, which provides instructions on how to use the search and a link to the Special Collections Center. At the bottom of the page, there is an "About the Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center" section, which describes the center's history and mission, and a contact information section for the Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center, including the address, phone number, and email.

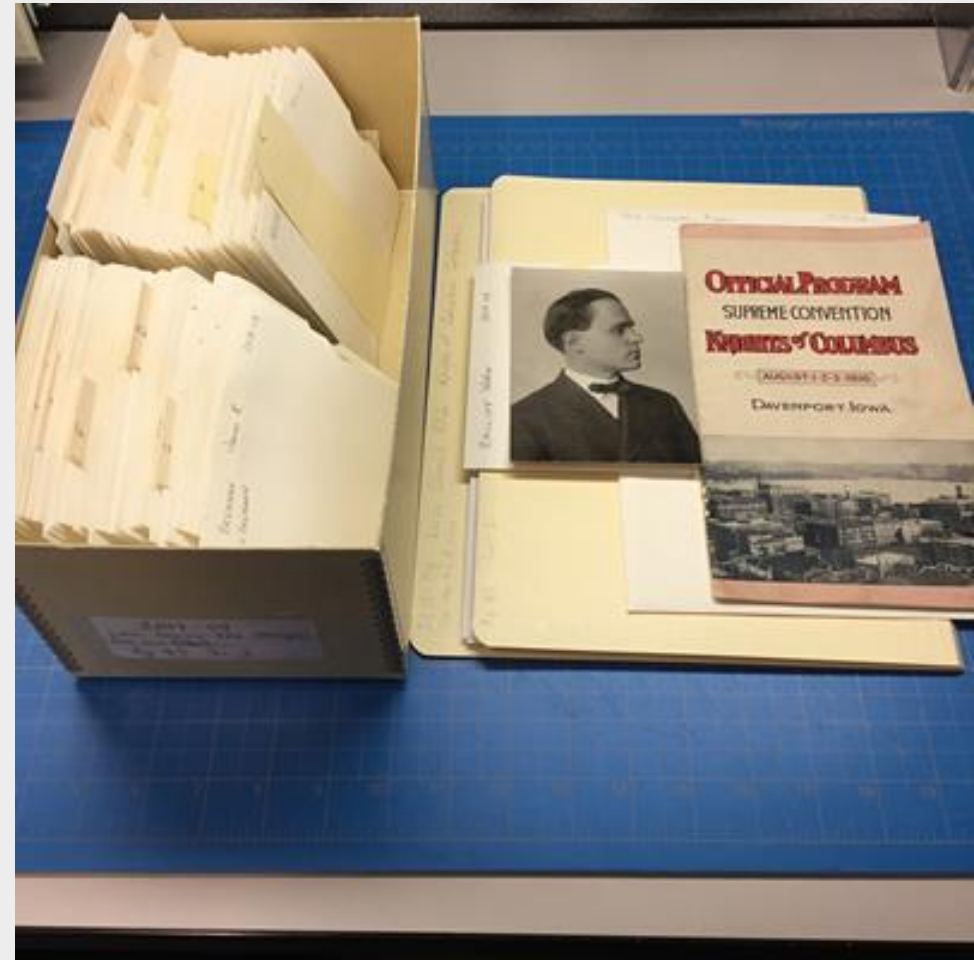
archives.davenportlibrary.com

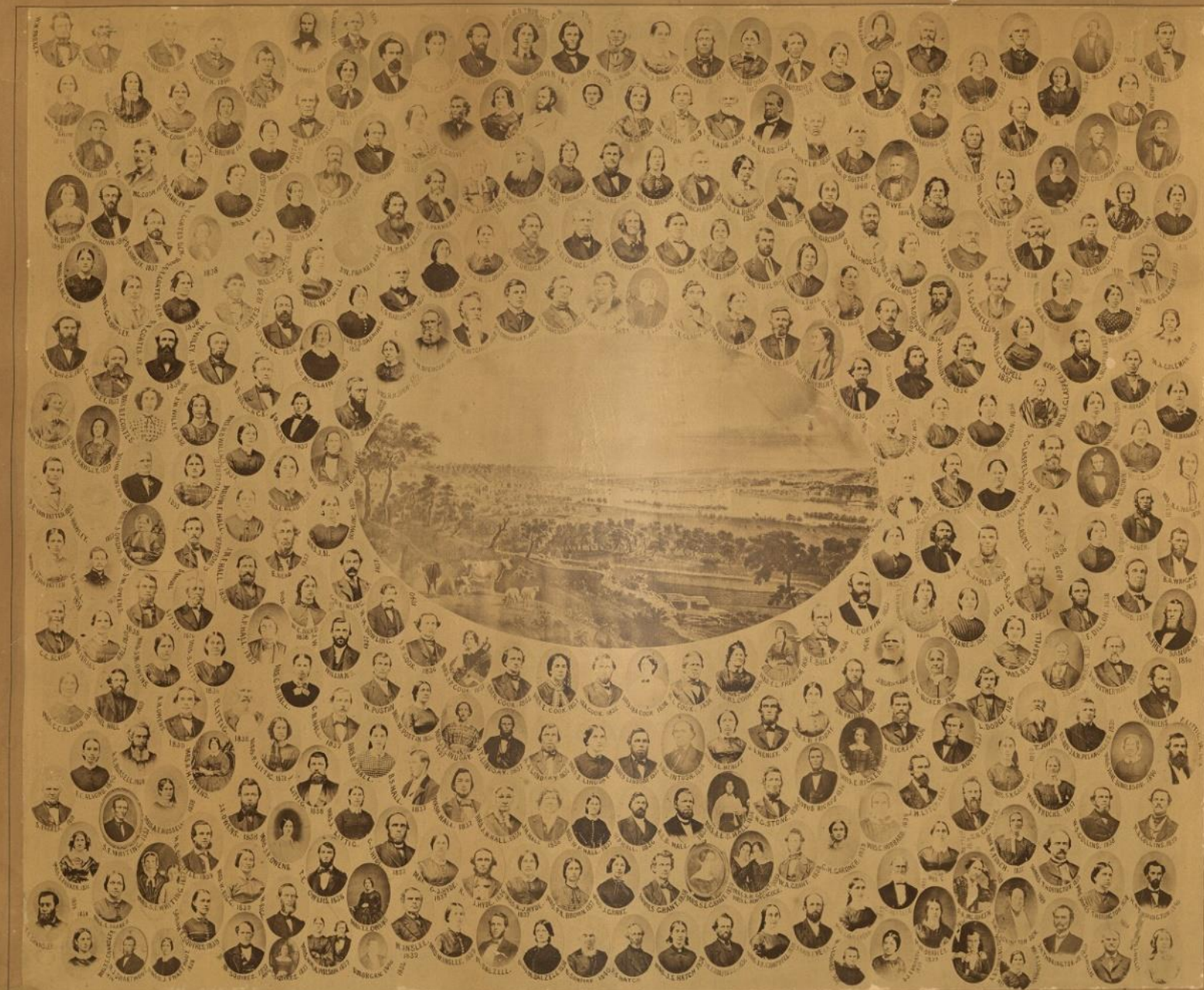
Photograph Collections

60,000 images of
Davenport, Scott
County and Quad-City
area people and places.
The Hostetler Studio
and Free Studio in
Davenport.



Photograph Collections





Photographed by W. F. Egan, Davenport.

Original appearing in list of names in the year 1880 by Scott & Egan in the north-west of the district of Iowa.

Back & Low, printers, Davenport.

OLD SETTLERS OF SCOTT CO. IOWA.

Published for the PIONEER SETTLERS Association

Copyright 1901

uppor



Upper Mississippi Valley Digital Image Archive

Upper Mississippi Valley x +

umvphotoarchive.org

Advanced Search

Upper Mississippi Valley Digital Image Archive

Collections

☐ Select All Collections

☒ Davenport Public Library - Special Collections

☐ Musser Public Library

☐ Augustana College Special Collections

☐ Buffalo Historical Society

☐ Galesburg Public Library

Show All

Cancel Update

Subject

Davenport (Iowa) (2551)

glass negatives (1916)

Portrait photographs (1648)

Clothing & dress (1215)

Women (997)

Men (956)

Photographic prints (740)

dresses (611)

Hairstyles (497)

Suits (Clothing) (483)

Show More

Photographer

Hostettler, J. B. (1600)

hostettler, j.b. (349)

dissette, h.e. (181)

von der heyde, grover c. (44)

Browsing items in: Davenport Public Library - Special Collections

Sort by: Descriptive

Records 1-10 of 3,015

1 2 3 ... 302

Go to page

Ted Koger standing by corn stalk in field

National Corn Husking Contest (Davenport, Iowa); Agriculture; Farming; Farm life; Men; Corn husking; Contests; Exhibitions;... Young man wearing pullover sweater is standing by a corn stalk with his hands on the ear of corn. Koger was the Corn Huski... Davenport Public Library - Special Collections

Man husking an ear of corn

National Corn Husking Contest (Davenport, Iowa); Agriculture; Farming; Farm life; Men; Corn husking; Contests; Exhibitions;... Young man standing in corn field husking an ear of corn Davenport Public Library - Special Collections

William H. Kimball

Kimball, William H.; Boys; Children; Clothing & dress; Chairs; Interiors; Cartes de visite; Davenport (Iowa); Young boy, possibly William Hale Kimball (about age 4 or 5) wearing knickers, a vest and coat. He is posed standing with... Davenport Public Library - Special Collections

Southern approach to railroad crossing

Railroad crossings; Railroad construction & maintenance; Roads; Streets; United States. Federal Civil Works... Workmen dressed in winter coats and hats shoveling fill dirt from a City of Davenport Street Department truck. Davenport Public Library - Special Collections

Home > Davenport Public Library - Special Collections > Ted Koger standing by corn stal...

Result 1 of 3,015

Back to results

Download Print

Search this record

Ted Koger standing by corn stalk in field

Item Description

Title	Ted Koger standing by corn stalk in field
Photographer	Unknown
Date Original	29 October 1940
Description	Young man wearing pullover sweater is standing by a corn stalk with his hands on the ear of corn. Koger was the Corn Husking Champion from Missouri
Location Depicted	Henry Keppy Farm Davenport, Iowa
Subject	National Corn Husking Contest (Davenport, Iowa) Agriculture Farming Farm life

Maps & Architectural Drawings

Highlights from the collection

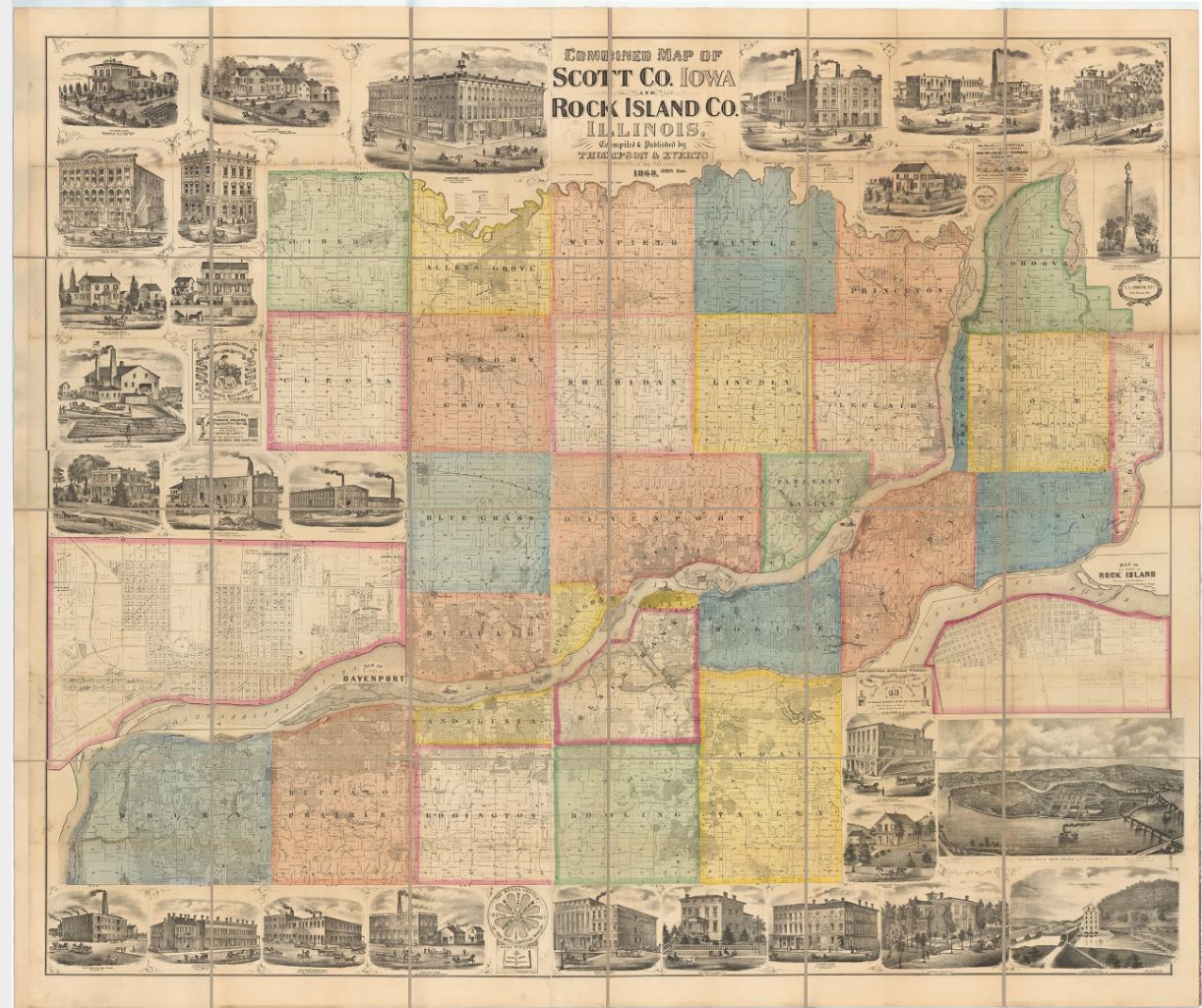
Maps

Plats

Atlases

Priester Construction
drawings

Temple & Burrows
Architectural Firm
drawings



Maps & Architectural Drawings



Ephemera Collection

Posters

Ticket stubs

Programs

Calendars

Political flyers

Business flyers

& more!



Audio-Visual & Oral History Collections

Musical and Sound Recordings

Films and Video Recordings



Oral History Recordings



Primary Selections from Special Collections Blog

Primary Selections from Special Collections

Myths and Mysteries, Hysterical Histories, and Tree-Kickin' Genealogy



[Home](#) [#ColorOurCollections](#) [FAQs](#) [Forms](#) [Main Menu](#) [Map](#) [About Us](#) [Contact Us](#)


Interactive Map: Davenport's Early Black Community

Posted on January 27, 2022 by SC@DPL

One of our favorite resources is accession [2004-67](#): African American residential patterns in Davenport, Iowa. Compiled by Craig R. Klein of Scott Community College, the collection consists of photocopied maps showing African American residential patterns in Davenport, Iowa in 1867, 1890-91, 1900-01, 1910, and 1920.

Klein noted the location of churches, fraternal organizations, schools, parks, businesses, and residences of professionals on each map. He gathered information from city and business directories, federal and state census, county histories, church histories, Davenport newspapers, and the [Iowa Bystander](#).

We have taken the information from these physical maps and created this interactive map. Each map (1867, 1890, 1900, 1910, and 1920) is a separate layer, so you can select the year or years you want and explore Davenport's early black community.



(posted by Cristina)


Posted in [Local History](#) | Tagged [African Americans](#), [Black history](#), [Local history](#) | [Leave a comment](#)

Search


FAQs


Check this page for answers to our most frequently asked questions.

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Recent Posts

- Interactive Map: Davenport's Early Black Community
- St. Elizabeth's First Nurse Anna Noel
- Armenian Refugees in Scott County
- In Memoriam: Geraldine "Gert" Roberts
- A Little Special Collections Poem for Gift Ideas

Pages

- [#ColorOurCollections](#)
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- [Main Menu](#)

Primary Selections from Special Collections

Myths and Mysteries, Hysterical Histories, and Tree-Kickin' Genealogy



[Home](#) [#ColorOurCollections](#) [FAQs](#) [Forms](#) [Main Menu](#) [Map](#) [About Us](#) [Contact Us](#)

Main Menu

Genealogy: A Beginner's Workshop

This beginner's workshop was held in 2021, but the information is useful for anyone ready to get started on their genealogical journey. Episodes were recorded and are available on the [DPL YouTube channel](#).

[Class 1:](#) In the Beginning

[Class 2:](#) What's in a Census?

[Class 3:](#) Types of Records

[Class 4:](#) There's More to Life (and Family) Than the Internet

[Class 5:](#) Internet Searches

[Class 6:](#) This Is Just the Beginning

Search

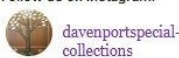
FAQs

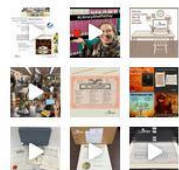
Check this page for answers to our most frequently asked questions.

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Local history materials include:

- Books, maps, archive and manuscript collections, pamphlets, videos and oral history tapes
- A special photographic collection of **more than 50,000 local images**
- Archives for the City of Davenport


The genealogy collection at Davenport Public Library emphasizes research in Scott County (Iowa), but also other Iowa counties. The Library has additional resources on the New England states and states on the migration routes used by those who settled in the Scott County area.

The Richardson-Sloane Special Collections Center proudly houses the **1700+ title collection** of the Scott County Iowa Genealogical Society, and the Richardson-Sloane Genealogical Library.

If you have research questions or have local history items you are interested in donating to Davenport Public Library, please use the contact form or call (563) 326-7902.



Research Guides








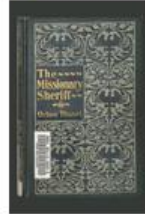

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Alice French (Octave Thanet): Books from the RiverShare Catalog

Links to our available sources for Davenport author Alice French, known by her pen name Octave Thanet

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Email:

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Books from the RiverShare catalog

Books by the author Books about the author

An adventure in photography, by Octave Thanet [pseud.] by Thanet, Octave, 1850-1934
Call Number: SC 770 Tha
Publication Date: 1893
Illustrated from photographs by the adventurers.




And the captain answered, by Octave Thanet [pseud.] by Thanet, Octave, 1850-1934.
Call Number: SC FIC Tha
Publication Date: 1917




A book of true lovers / by Octave Thanet [i.e. Alice French] by Thanet, Octave, 1850-1934.
Call Number: SC FIC THA
Publication Date: 1899




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Guides to library resources on Davenport and Scott County history topics:



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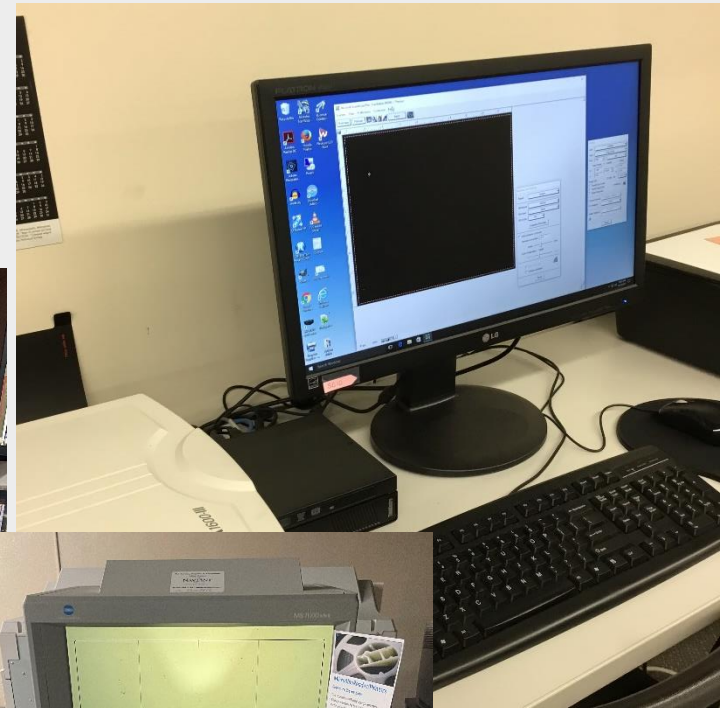
www.davenportlibrary.com | p: (563) 326-7832

Technology Equipment

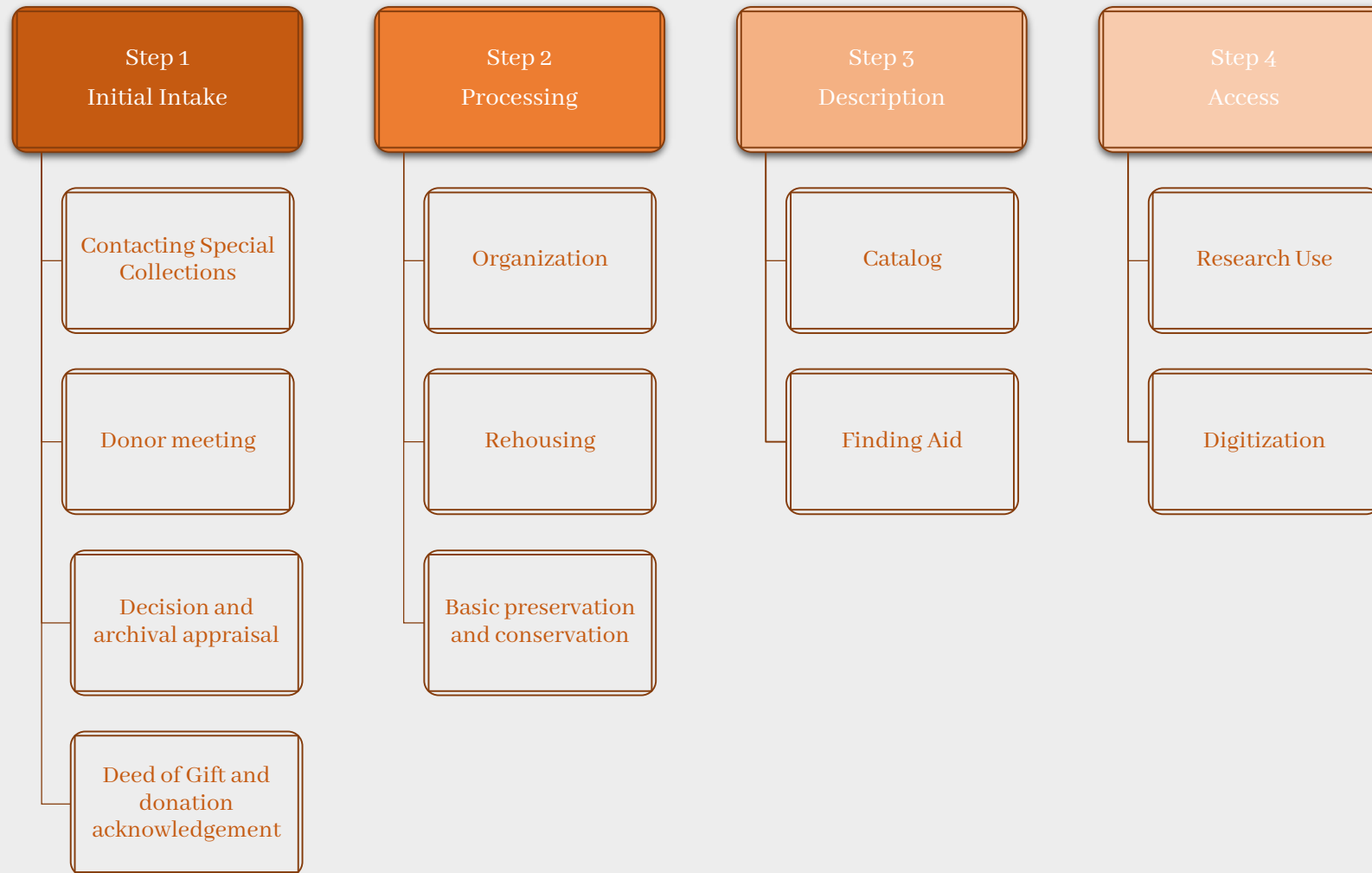
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Digital and Manual
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Digitization Stations



The Donation Process



Our greatest resource is our staff







Thank You!

CONTACT US

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321 Main Street, Davenport, IA
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Phone (563) 326-7902

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