



COUNCIL BL
Public Lib

Council Bluffs Public Library Special Collections

Daley Porter

Special Collections Librarian



What CBPL collects and preserves

COUNCIL BLUFFS PUBLIC LIBRARY
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Special Collections Mission Statement

"We have also started a collection on the local history of our city and county and have it in such shape that it is easily available"

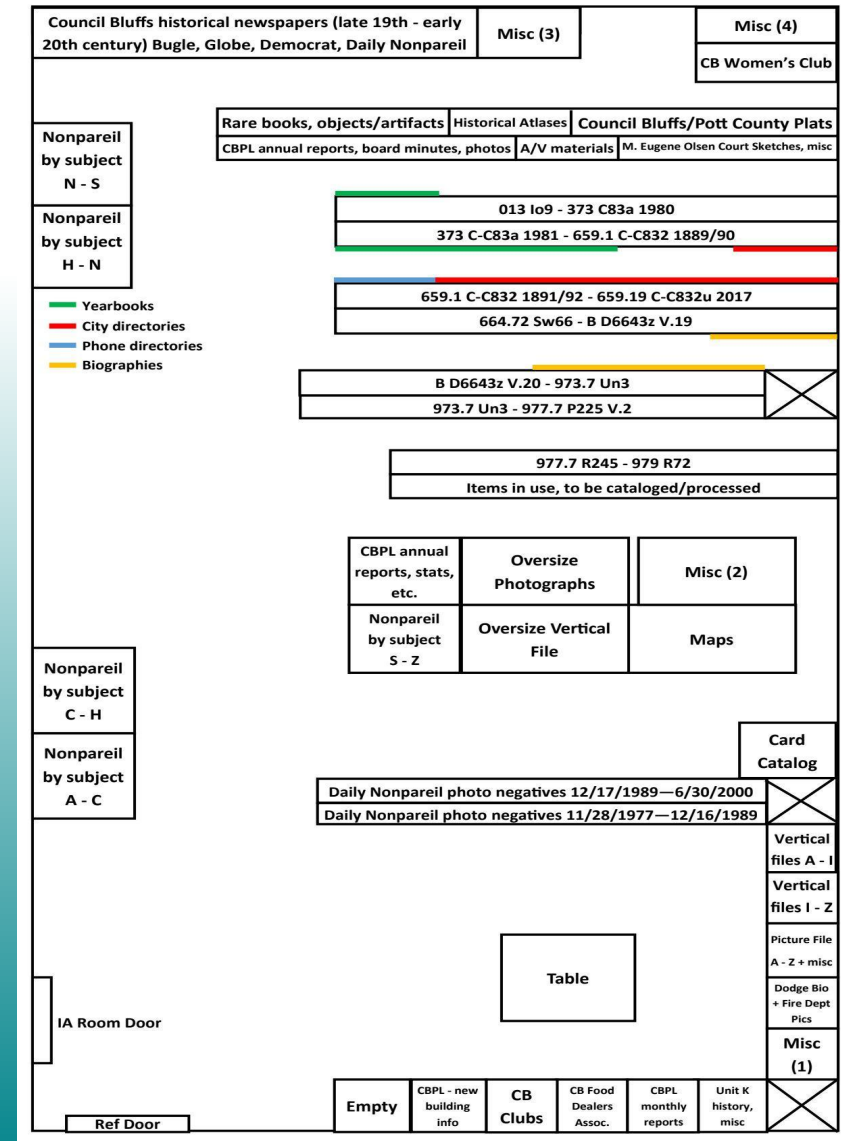
26th Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Free Public Library of the City of Council Bluffs, Iowa for the Year Ending December 31, 1907

The mission of the Special Collections Department is to collect, arrange, preserve and make accessible items relating to Council Bluffs and western Pottawattamie County history.



Using the Special Collections

- Access to the Special Collections area is limited to Council Bluffs Library staff and Volunteers.
- Patrons are required to use pencils only when doing research.
- Food and drink is not allowed while using items from Special Collections.
- Patrons may not write on, fold, trace or lean on material. Patrons may be required to wear cotton gloves when handling materials.
- Materials must be returned in the same condition in which they were received. Damage to materials may result in fines, which could affect the patron's library privileges.
- Please check with Reference staff about photocopying materials. Because of the age and condition of the collection, photocopying may not be allowed.
- When reproduced copies of special materials are available such as microfilm, photocopies or digital copies these must always be used in place of the original. Reproductions which customers may wish to make must be made from the library's reproduction and not from the original.
- To view one of a kind material in the Special Collections a patron must make an appointment for a time when a staff member can be present to assist and supervise the patron.
- A Council Bluffs Library card, driver's license or other valid I.D. must be presented to the staff at the Reference desk before using materials from Special Collections.













Oversized collection – maps and photos

- Maps
 - Council Bluffs
 - Pottawattamie County and other Iowa counties
 - Iowa state maps and Nebraska maps
- Oversized photographs
- Plat maps for Council Bluffs and Pottawattamie County





Photographs

- These include donated photos and photo negatives from the Daily Nonpareil newspaper
 - 35mm film from Daily Nonpareil photographers (1970s – 1990s)
 - 4" X 5" negatives from Daily Nonpareil photographers
 - Late 1940s through 1950s
 - Late 1960s through mid 1970s
 - Stereograph images
 - Portraits





City directories

- We have city directories from 1866 to present
- Telephone books from 1906 to present





Yearbooks

- We have collections of yearbooks for local schools:
 - Abraham Lincoln High School (1897–present)
 - Thomas Jefferson High School (1924–present)
 - St. Albert Catholic School (1967–present)
 - Lewis Central High School (1970–present)
 - Iowa School for the Deaf (1955–present)
 - Underwood High School (1942–1994)
 - Tri-Center High School (1958–2006)
- In general, we have a larger collection on our digital archive





What is digitized?

- Newspapers:
 - The Daily Nonpareil (1857–present)
 - Frontier Guardian (1849–1852)
 - Council Bluffs Bugle (1855–1861)
- City directories to about 1950
- Yearbooks:
 - Abraham Lincoln High School (1897–present)
 - Thomas Jefferson High School (1924–present)
 - St. Albert Catholic School (1967–present)
 - Lewis Central High School (1970–present)
 - Iowa School for the Deaf (1955–present)
 - Underwood High School (1942–1994)
 - Tri-Center High School (1958–2006)



Council Bluffs
Digital Archive



What is digitized?

- Many Daily Nonpareil photo negatives
- Photos donated by the Council Bluffs Fire Department
- Pottawattamie County death records (late 19th to early 20th century)
- General Dodge Papers
- Amelia Bloomer Collection (letters focused on women's suffrage in Iowa)
- Historical Society of Pottawattamie County newsletters
- Pottawattamie County Genealogical Society newsletters (Frontier Chronicle)
- Emil Pavich Postcard Collection
- George Simons Frontier Sketches
- Council Bluffs Armed Forces roster



Council Bluffs
Digital Archive

What are some current projects we are working on?



- City directories (ongoing)
- Yearbooks (ongoing)
- Daily Nonpareil subject files
- Rural Pottawattamie County School Records

- Future projects:
 - Digitizing other Pottawattamie County newspapers
 - The Journal Herald (Avoca) (1896-1999)
 - The Council Bluffs Globe (1883-1897)
 - Treynor Record (1900-1986)
 - Farmer Labor Press (1933-1982)
 - Neola Gazette (1899-2018)

Genealogy Resources at the Library



- Iowa Room – A genealogy room in the library that is accessible to the public
 - Contains microfilm of Daily Nonpareil and other area newspapers, city directories, late 19th to early 20th century death records, early probate records, early land transfers, federal and state census records, etc.
 - Two microfilm readers for patrons to use
 - Various books and materials focused on Council Bluffs and Pottawattamie County history
 - Also includes histories of nearby counties as well (Harrison, Mills, Shelby, Cass, Montgomery, etc.)
 - Cemetery records of various cemeteries throughout Council Bluffs and Pottawattamie county
- Access to Ancestry in the library





Questions?

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The Council Bluffs Public Library
Local History page



Council Bluffs
Digital Archive