Oversize Processing: The Kansas City Stockyard Collection

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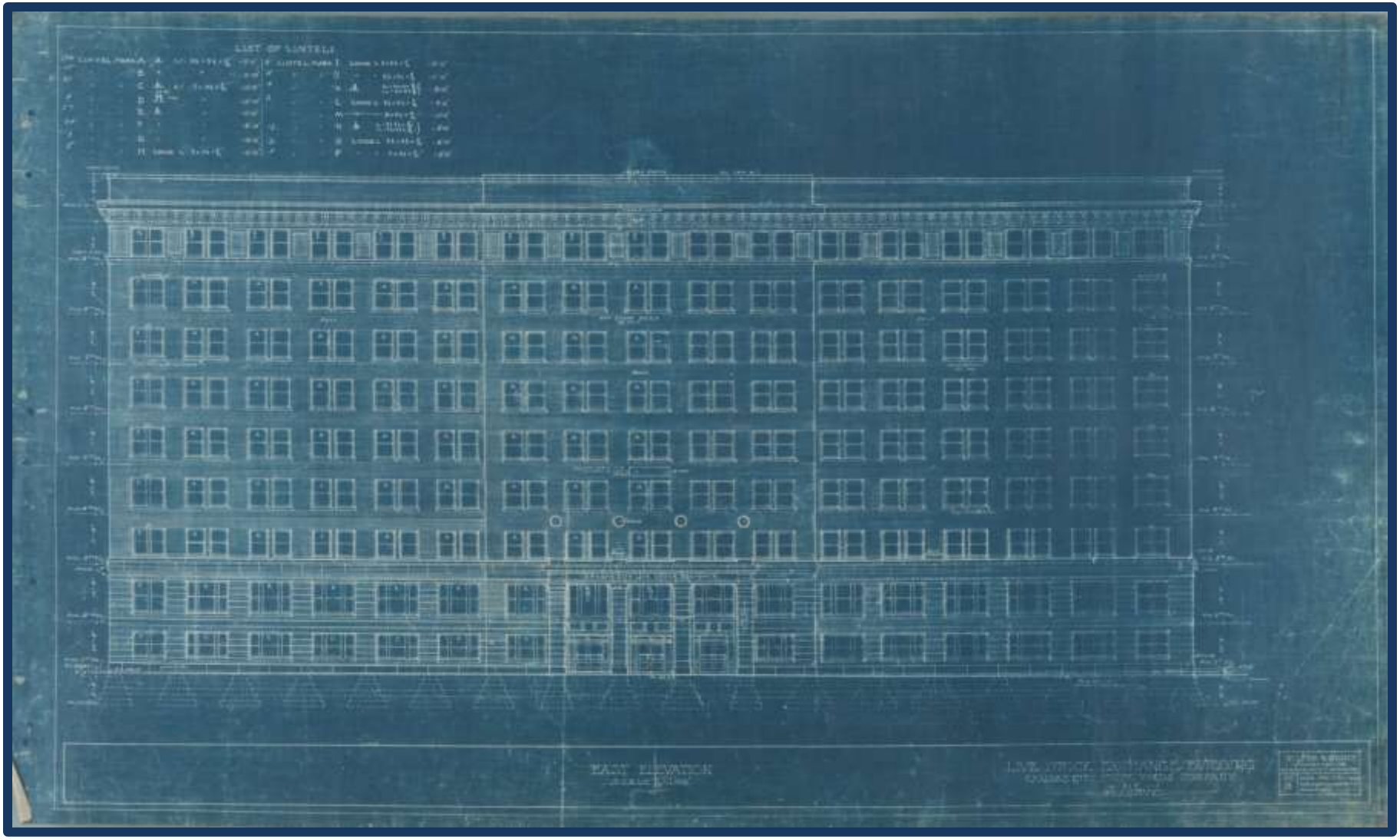
"The Spirit of Kansas City" by Norman Rockwell

Collection found in Livestock Exchange Building and donated to the Kansas City Public Library Missouri Valley Special Collections Department

ca. 1930

Present Day

- 40 oversize boxes
- 10 cartons
- Thousands of rolled documents



Original blueprint of Livestock Exchange Building, 1909

This was the largest Livestock Exchange Building in the world at the time it was built.

Processing space was found…..

And a preliminary assessment and inventory were started.

Box Number	Wrong Folder Number	Dimensions	Container Size/Type	Record Type	Date	Architect/ Contractor Company	Building Name/Purpose	Item Description	Comments	Box Number	Record Condition
11	11-1	41.5" x 26"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Nov. 25, 1924	Engineers Office	Swifts Holding Pens	Drawing of Swift's Holding Pens, Block No. 56		45-24	Good
11	11-2	22" x 20.5"	OS Folder 2	Drawings	No Date	Unknown	Unidentified	Drawing of unidentified structure, looks like part of arena		20-3	Good
11	11-3	35.75" x 23.5"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Feb. 19, 1917	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 6	Drawing of 1st floor plan and elevations for Horse Barn No. 6	Book 35A, Page 51A to 54A (sheet 1 of 2)	45-21	Good
11	11-4	28.75" x 21"	OS Folder 2	Drawings	Oct. 1924	Engineers Office	Horse and Mule Incline	Drawing of Horse and Mule Incline		45-98	Good
11	11-5	19.5" x 21	OS Folder 2	Drawings	Feb. 28, 1918	Engineers Office	Hay Barn No. 3	Drawing of Foundation and Elevations for Hay Barn No. 3	Handwritten note on drawing "Burned Feb 24 - 1947, 8:15 am"	45-5	Good
11	11-6	37.5" x 24"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	March 23, 1925	Engineers Office	Stairs and Walk	Plan showing proposed location of stairs and walk from Exchange Alley to 2nd floor of Hog House No. 17, with necessary changes in Viaduct East of Dock No. 5, and present walk over tracks No. 6-7-8		29-37	Good
11	11-7	38.25" x 28"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Jan. 14, 1924	Engineers Office	Morris Holding Pens	Drawing of Morris Holding Pens at Quarantine Yards		45-21	Good
11	11-8	29.5" x 27"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Sept. 18, 1925	Engineers Office	American Royal Annex Building	Drawing of door at South East corner of American Royal Annex Building		30-22	Good
11	11-9	34.5" x 27"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Jan. 19, 1920	Engineers Office	Hog House	Drawing of pen layout for Hog House	Handwritten note on drawing "For Details See Drawers No. 23 and 24"	45-28	Good
11	11-10	33" x 25"	OS Folder 1	Blueprints	1928	C.M.S. (K.C. Power and Light Co.)	Muehlebach Hotel	Blueprint of Ventilation Plan and Fire Doors of Muehlebach Hotel		30-29	Good
11	11-11	35" x 23"	OS Folder 1	Blueprints	Feb. 15, 1917	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 5	Blueprint of plan and elevations for Horse Barn No. 5	Book 35, Pages 35a, 34, 46a, 47-51 (sheet 1 of 4)		Good
11	11-12	41.5" x 19.5"	OS Folder 1	Blueprints	No Date	Unknown	Barn "B"	Blueprint showing Plan of Barn "B" and Environs		45-13	Good
11	11-13	42.5" x 19.5"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	July 11, 1918	Engineers Office	Scale House	Drawing of Scale House 2 and 4, showing framing plans, elevation, columns, beams, walls, and list of structural steel		45-38	Good
11	11-13	37" x 24"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Aug. 6, 1913	Engineers Office	Scale House	Drawing of Scale houses foundations		45-38	Good
11	11-14	36.25" x 24"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Nov. 3, 1916	Engineers Office	Fire Station	Drawing of the floor plans for Fire Station No. 16	Book 36 - 1916, pp 7	29-10	Good
11	11-14	22.5" x 16.5"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	March 13, 1911	Kansas City Stock Yards Co.	Fire Station	Drawing of floor plans for Fire Station at S.W. Corner, 19th and Wyoming		29-10	Good
11	11-15	38" x 24"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	1917; 1918; 1924	Engineers Office	Scale Houses No. 1 and 2	4 drawings of floor plans, elevations, and steel details for Scale Houses No. 1 and 2		45-37	Good
11	11-16	32.5" x 22	OS Folder 2	Drawings	Sept. 18, 1923	Engineers Office	Storage Hay Barn No. 21	Drawing of sections of Storage Hay Barn No. 21, located at Lumber Yard		45-10	Good
11	11-16	23.5" x 23.25"	OS Folder 2	Drawings	Sept. 26, 1923	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 3	Drawing of Horse Barn No. 3 layout	(sheet 1 of 3)	45-10	Good
11	11-17	39" x 26.5"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Aug. 24, 1925	Engineers Office	American Royal Building	2 Drawings of American Royal Building, showing the Plans of a Restaurant		25-44	Good
11	11-21	27.25" x 26"	Shelf 60	Drawings	1923	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 3	2 Drawings of Horse Barn No. 3, showing the layout and and Auction Ring	(sheet 2 of 3)	45-18	Good
11	11-22	26" x 26"	OS Folder 2	Drawings	No Date	Unknown	Unidentified	2 drawings of an unidentified part with a motor and clutch		30-9	Good
11	11-23	22.5" x 29"	OS Folder 1	Blueprints	March 10, 1926	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 4	Blueprint of Horse Barn No. 4, "now occupied by Kinsley Laboratories and Shearne Dairy Cattle Co."	(sheet 5 of 5)	45-19	Good
11	11-24	36" x 24"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Oct. 29, 1919	Engineers Office	Scale House No. 16	Drawing showing floor plans, elevations, and cost estimates for Scale House No. 16		29-9	Good
11	11-25	36" x 23.75"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Feb. 21, 1917	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 6	Drawing of 2nd Floor plan, East elevations, and sections of Horse Barn No. 6		45-21	Good
11	11-29	17.5" x 13"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Nov. 2, 1927	Unknown	Horse Barn No. 6	Sketch showing measurements for partition for South end of part to be used for garage		45-21	Good
11	11-25	8.5" x 11"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Nov. 29, 1927	Unknown	Horse Barn No. 6	2 sketches showing parking spaces in Horse Barn No. 6		45-21	Good
11	11-26	35.5" x 23.5"	OS Folder 1	Blueprints	June 18, 1925	Kansas City Structural Steel Co. - (Drawn by Davison)	Kansas City Connecting Railway	2 blueprints of Girders across Tracks No. 6, 7, 8 and Alley #94 for Kansas City Connecting Railway		30-14	Good
11	11-27	38" x 24"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Feb. 1917	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 10 and Blacksmith Shop	2 Drawings of Plans, elevations, and sections of Horse Barn No. 10 and Blacksmith Shop		45-25	Good
11	11-27	35.5" x 19"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	Nov. 1923	Engineers Office	Horse Barn No. 10	Floor plan of Horse Barn No. 10 after conversion of Blacksmith Shop into Stable		45-25	Good
11	11-28	36.5" x 24"	OS Folder 1	Drawings	1915; 1918; 1934	Engineers Office	Scale Houses	5 drawings of Scale Houses No. 7 and 8, showing foundation plans, steel and metal details, and elevations and floor plan		45-40	Good

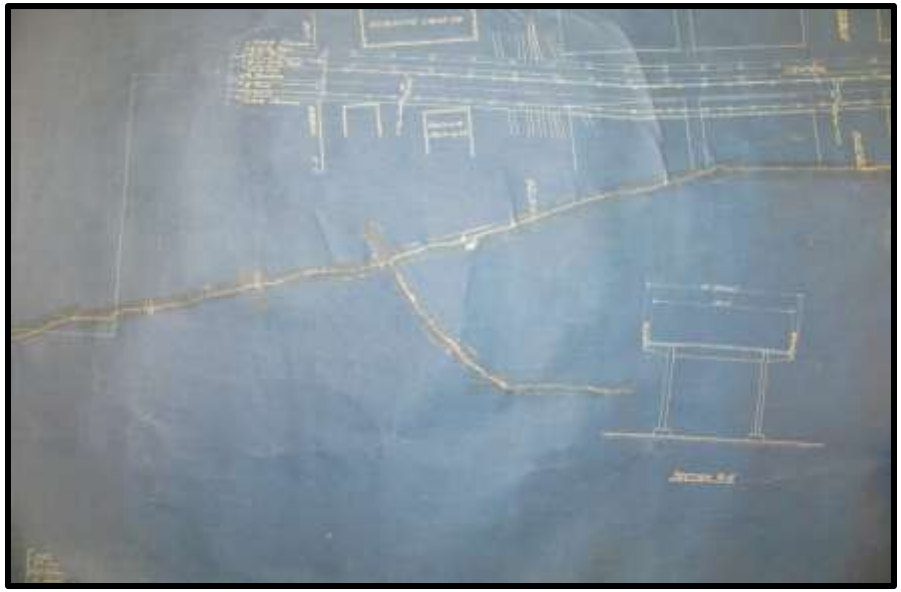
Initial Assessment = **POOR CONDITION**.

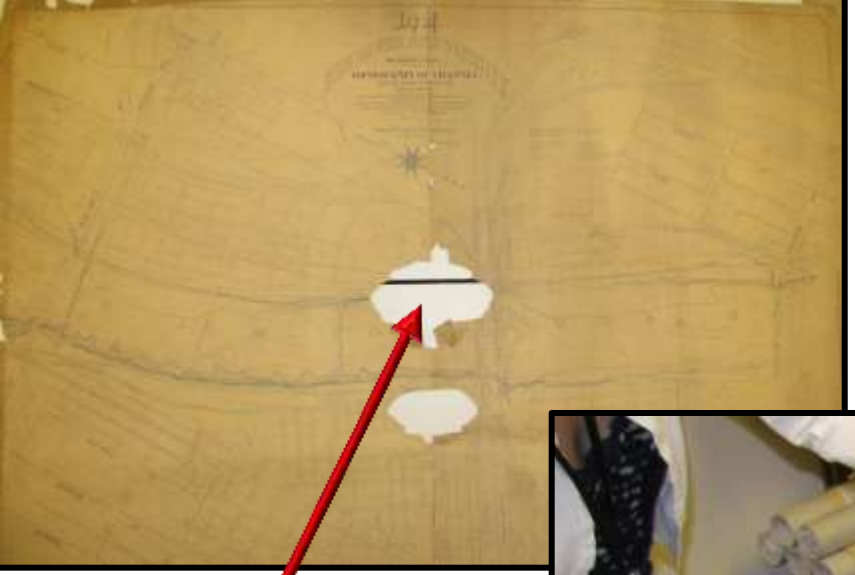
Tightly rolled maps.

Documents in pieces.

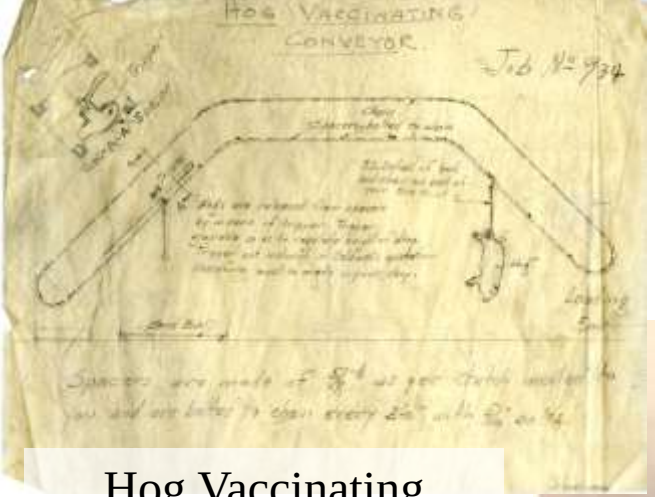
Putting maps back together, one piece at a time…

But not with scotch tape!



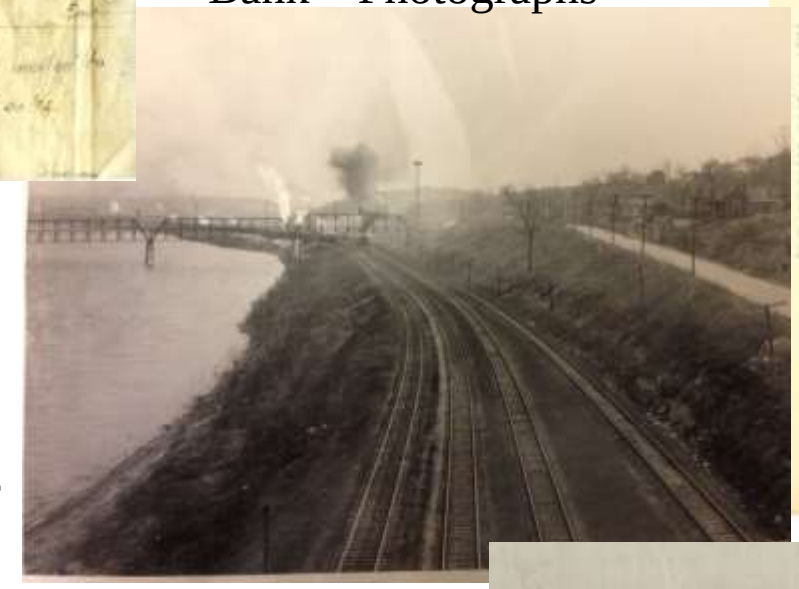


Items encapsulated to keep pieces in place and further damage from occurring.

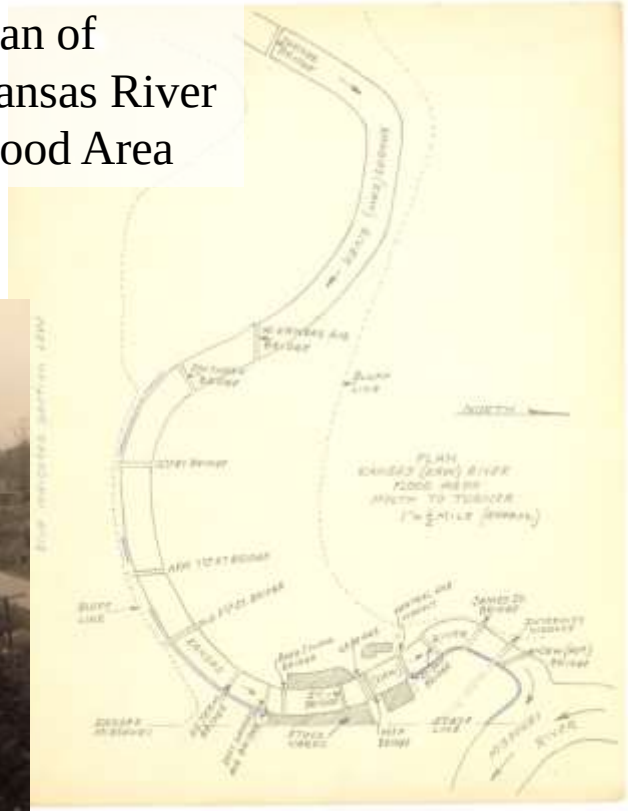


Hog Vaccinating Conveyor

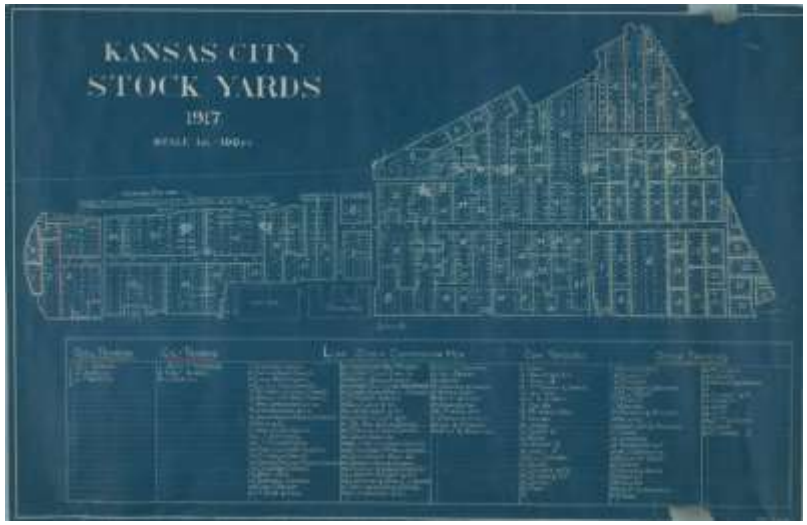
Train on Kansas River Bank – Photographs

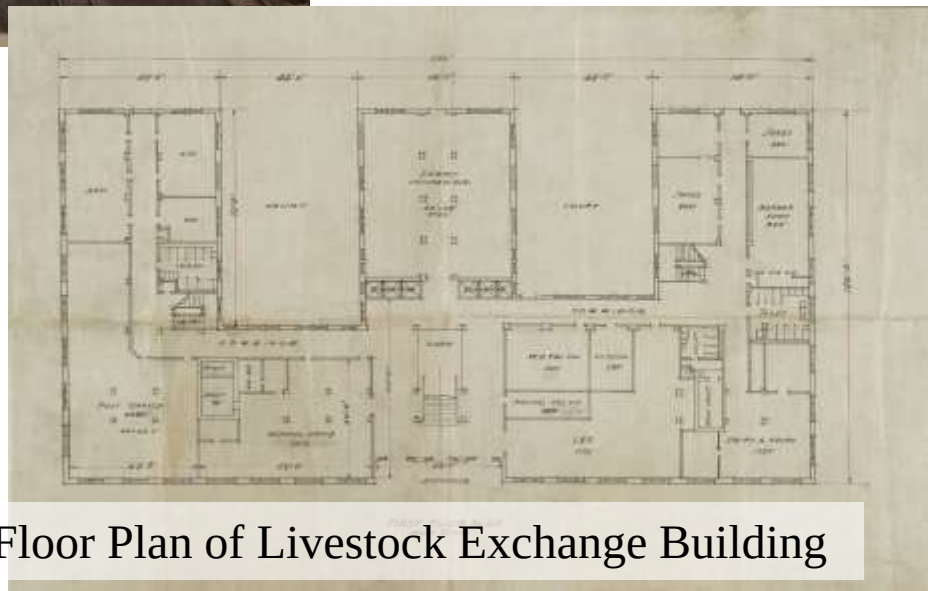


Plan of Kansas River Flood Area



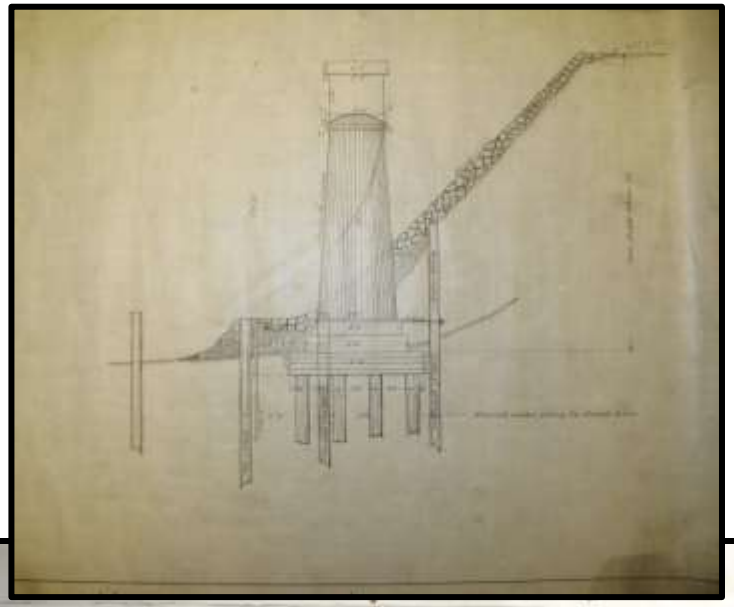
Map showing location of livestock traders' pens



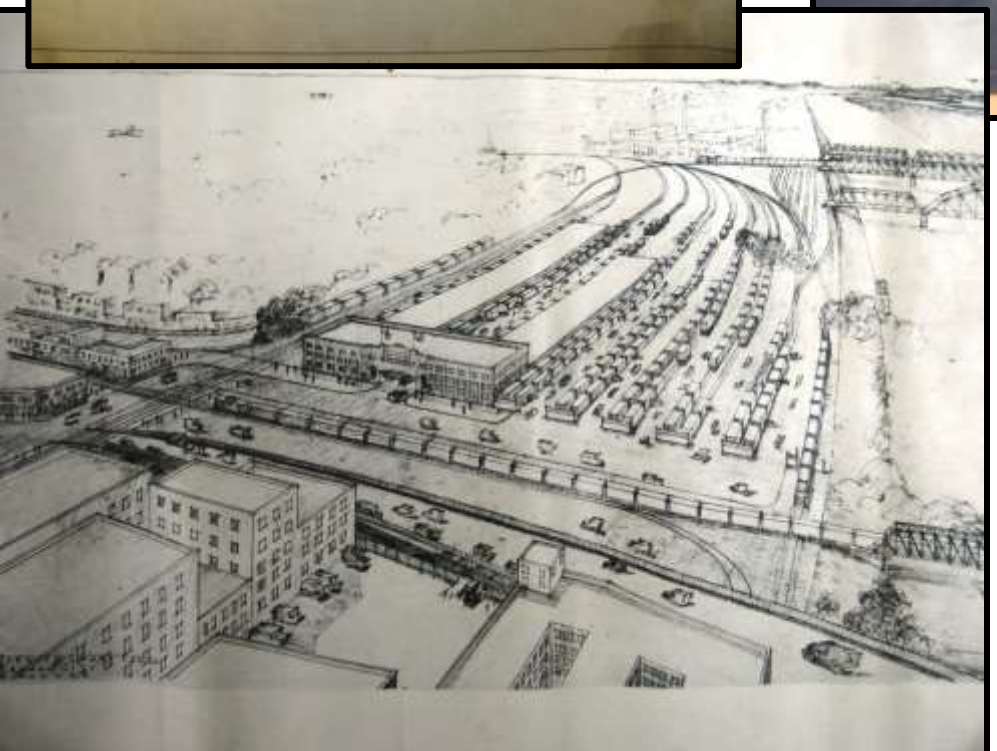


First Floor Plan of Livestock Exchange Building

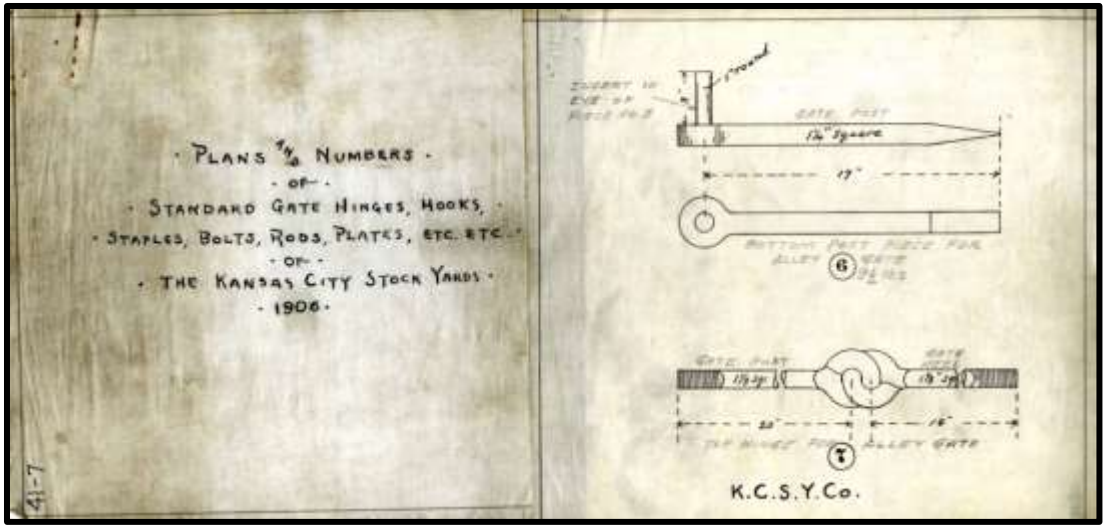
Engineer drawings with no identification



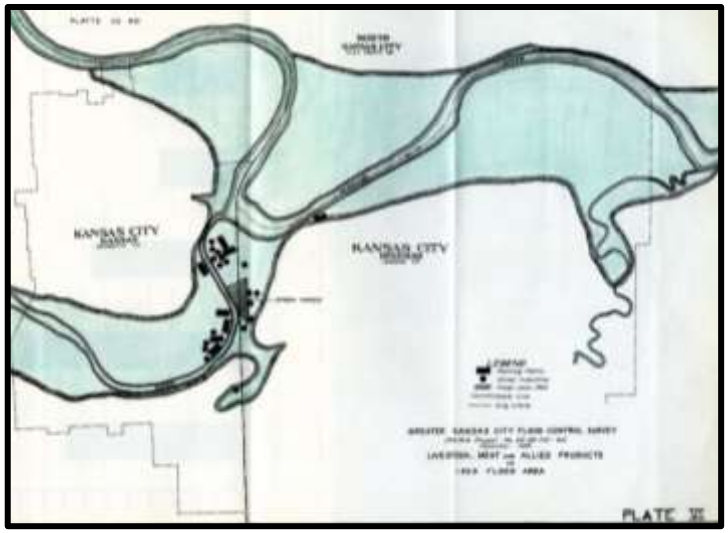
Sections of propaganda poster found in different boxes.

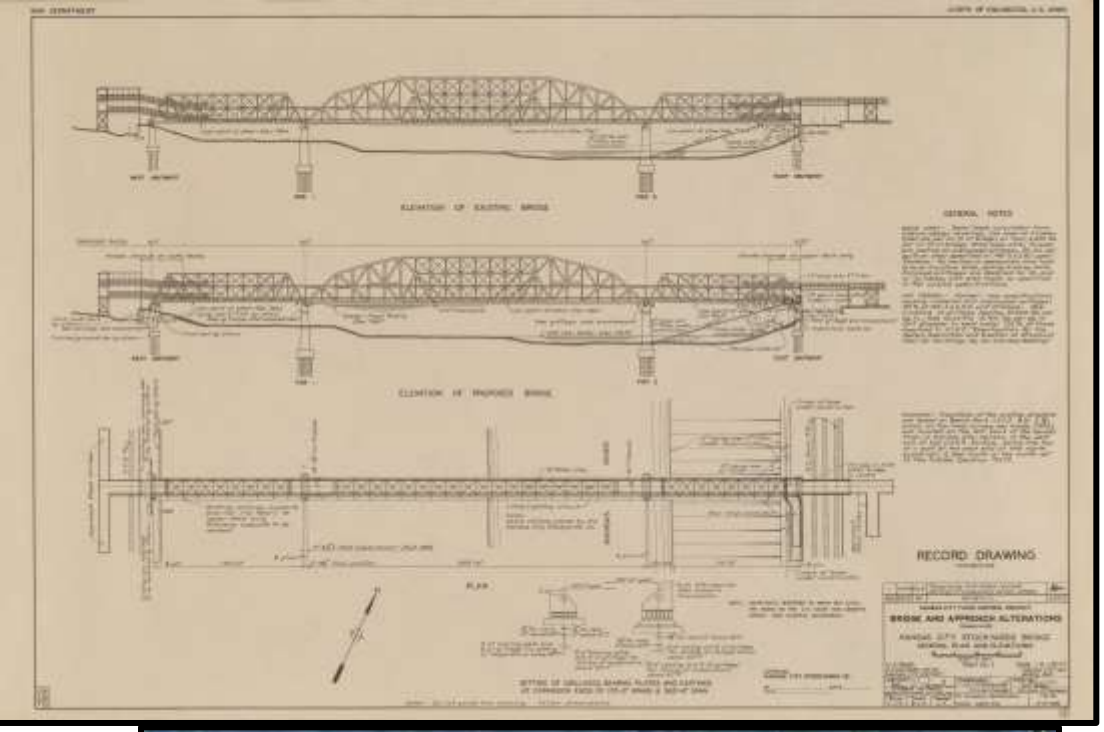


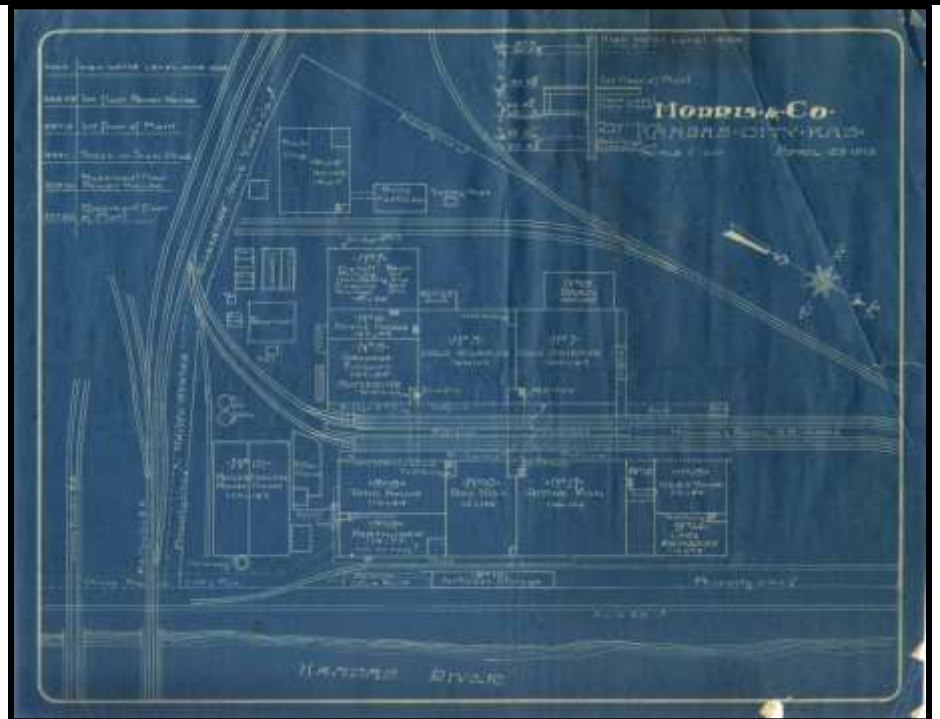
Plans for a produce terminal that was never built.


· PLANS & NUMBERS ·
· OF ·
· STANDARD GATE HINGES, HOOKS, ·
· STAPLES, BOLTS, RODS, PLATES, ETC. ETC. ·
· OF ·
· THE KANSAS CITY STOCK YARDS ·
· 1906 ·
41-7
K.C.S.Y.Co.

HORSES · CATTLE · SHEEP · SWINE · DAIRY PRODUCTS · GRAINS · FLOWERS · FRUITS AND HONEY
· POULTRY ·
· VEGETABLES ·
ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR
NOVEMBER 16 TO 24 · 1921 ·
LIVE · STOCK · ARENA
· TORONTO ··· CANADA ·


KANSAS CITY
KANSAS CITY
PLATE



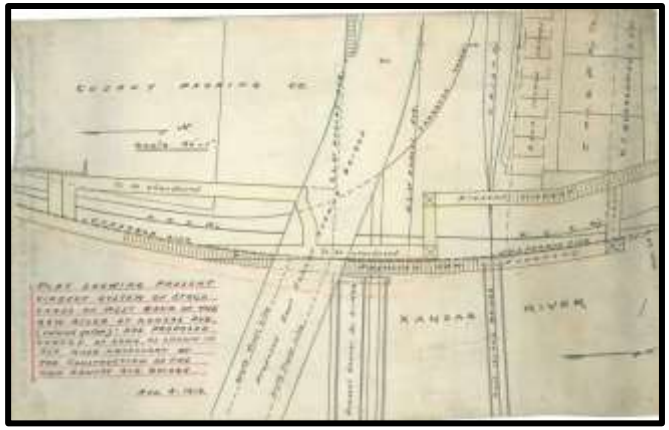


Some interesting data on

STOCK YARDS

Construction and Equipment.

44 miles of fence contains 3,600,000 board feet of lumber. 20 miles of sewers. 20 miles of water mains furnishing app. 700,000,000 gallons annually for watering live stock. 5 miles of viaducts, contains 5,000,000 board feet of lumber. 500,000 square yards of paving requires 23,000,000 brick.
10 miles of railroad tracks with loading and unloading facilities, for approximately 300 cars of stock at one setting.



ACID FREE
ACID FREE
ACID FREE
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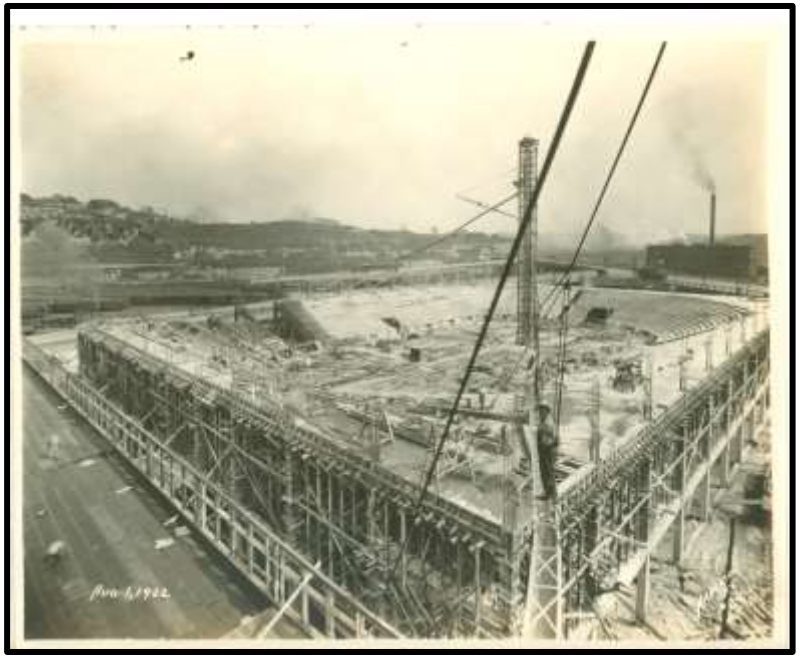
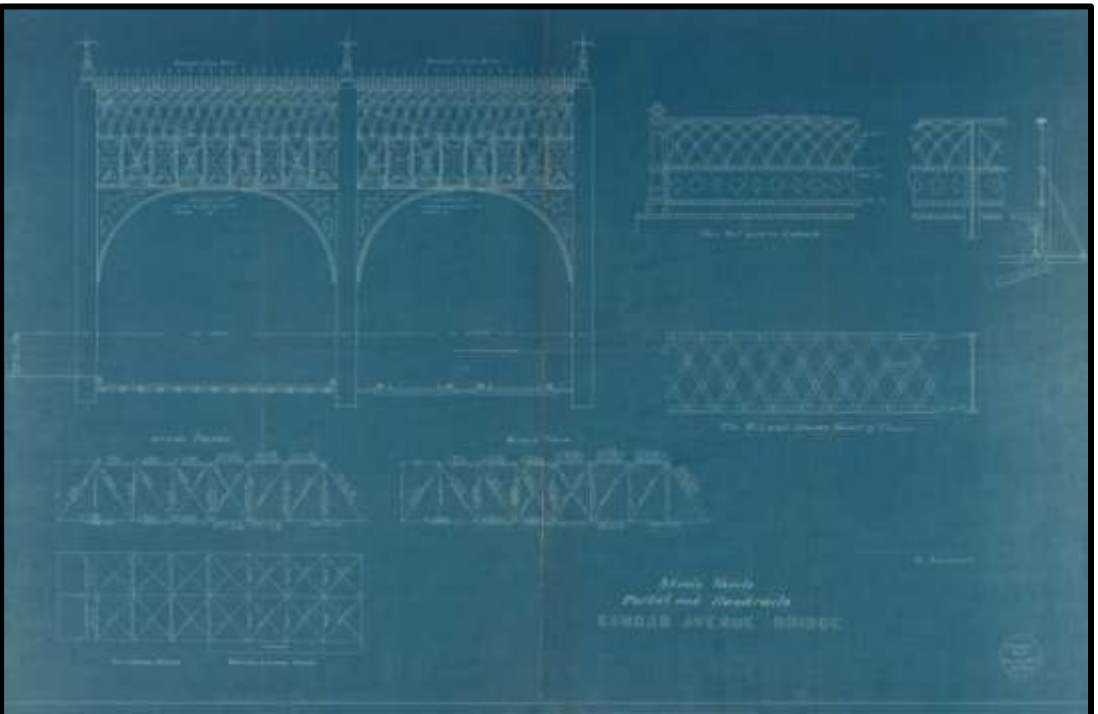

Pre-1922

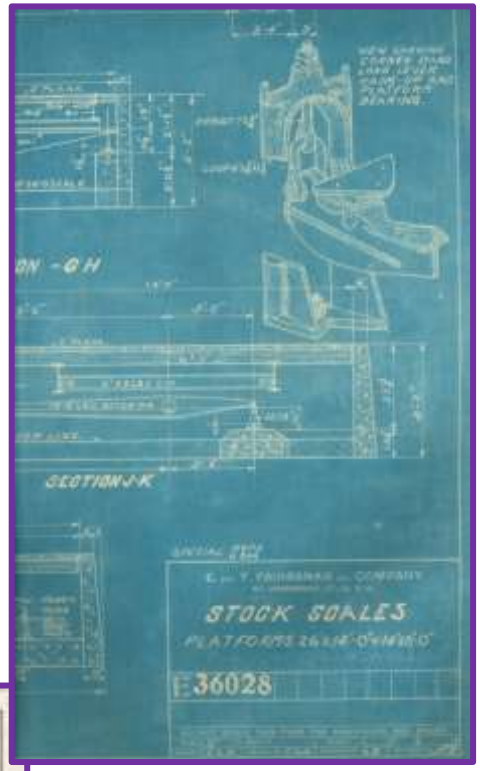


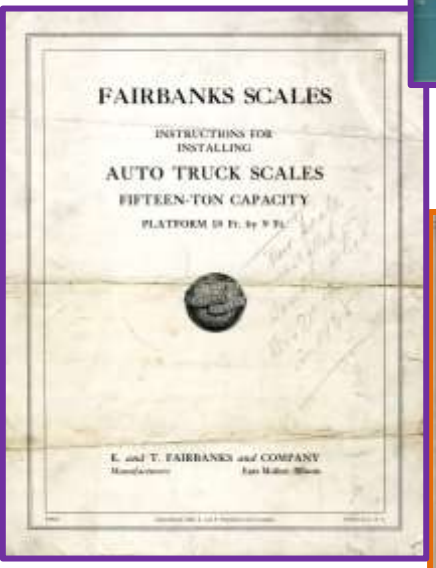
THE KANSAS CITY STOCK YARDS CO.

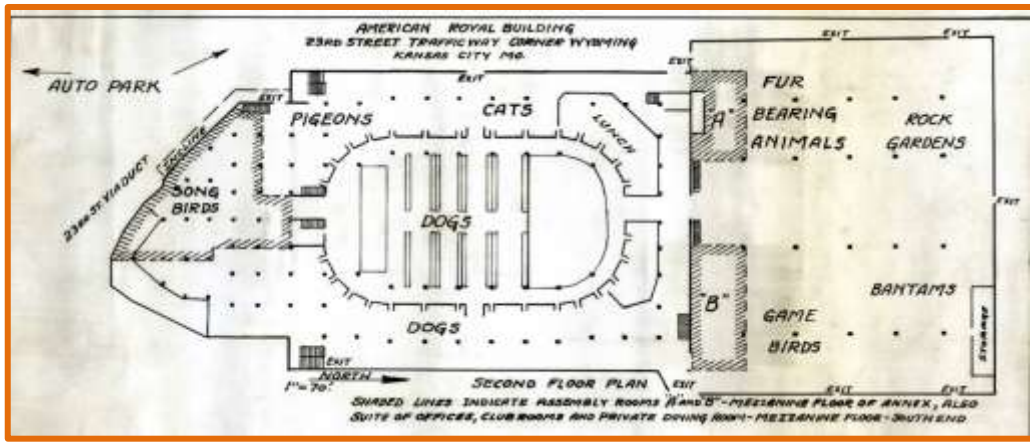
Items were tagged during the inventory with an identification number.

A lot of table space was needed for physical arrangement.

E. And T. Fairbanks and Co. blueprint, brochure, and letter.







Layout of American Royal interior and drawing of American Royal Exterior.

Gaylord
RC121510
ACID FREE

MISSOURI VALLEY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

COLLECTION NUMBER AND TITLE:

Kansas City Stockyards Collection (SC167)

SERIES NUMBER AND TITLE:

Series 2: Flood Control in the Kaw Valley Drainage District

Subseries 2-2: Kansas and Missouri Rivers, 1885-1976

FOLDER NUMBER AND TITLE:

OS f. 1 Kansas and Missouri Rivers, 1885-1913

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S):

65 Missouri River Levee District No. 2 – Map of Missouri River Levee District No. 2 showing property owned by Kansas City, MO, property desired for construction and maintenance of levee, and property desired for railroad purposes

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ORIGINALLY WITHDRAWN FROM:

Map Drawer 3, OS f. 1 Kansas and Missouri Rivers, 1885-1913

CURRENT LOCATION:

(Rolled) Shelf 25

REASON(S) FOR WITHDRAWAL:

These items were identified as part of the series in the Map Folder but are too large to fit and needed to be withdrawn and rolled on a tube.

COMMENTS/NOTES:

PROCESSED BY:

DATE:

Kansas City Stockyards (SC167)

Introduction

The Kansas City Stockyards collection is a mostly oversized collection of blueprints, maps, architectural drawings, land abstracts, photos, and correspondence. Little is known about the provenance of this collection, but based on its contents it was most likely the records of the engineer for the Stockyards Company. The bulk of the collection documents the natural and built environment of the Kansas City Stockyards and surrounding West Bottoms.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Kansas City Stockyards Company
Title: Kansas City Stockyards Collection
Dates:
Size: x.x linear feet, # boxes
Collection Number: SC167

Donor Information
Citation Note

Kansas City Stockyards Collection (SC167), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Related Collections: Further information related to the Kansas City stockyards may be found by searching the Missouri Valley Special Collections local history collections.

Historical Sketch

In 2008 a collection came to the attention of the Missouri Valley Special Collections of the Kansas City Public Library. The donor transaction gave no warning, was extremely rushed, and did not allow for proper handling of the collection. Although immediately recognized as a significant historical collection, staff and space limitations delayed processing. In 2013 additional processing space at the Kansas City Public Library was created, and a financial donation allowed the hiring of a Project Archivist to begin a preliminary inventory of the materials. With the additional contribution of the CLIR grant, the Project Archivist was able to continue the work of processing this large, unarranged collection of oversized blueprints, maps, architectural drawings, land abstracts, photos, and correspondence.

Arguably the transformation of the humble Town of Kansas to the bustling metropolis of Kansas City paralleled that of the livestock trade and meat packing industry. With the West Bottoms situated at the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri Rivers, business

interests were naturally drawn to the area. The rivers offered shipping routes and easy access to natural resources. With the completion of the Hannibal Bridge in 1869, the first bridge to cross the Missouri River, an important link was formed between the East and West. As plans for a transcontinental railroad system were established, developers lobbied for a terminal in Kansas City, and the Union Depot was opened April 1878. All these factors led to the birth of the Kansas City Stock Yards Co. in the West Bottoms of Kansas City, which grew to be the second largest livestock trader in the nation.

Scope and Content Note

This is an artificially arranged collection of maps, blueprints, drawings, correspondence, photographs, construction field notes and other construction related documents, and other miscellaneous materials from the Kansas City Stockyards. These materials are believed to have been collected by the engineer for the Kansas City Stock Yards Company and stored in the engineer's office in the Livestock Exchange Building.

The collection is arranged primarily by subject, and thereon by date. Most of this collection is oversized and documents relating to each other are sometimes split between different locations. Withdrawal sheets are used to indicate where items should fall in order based on the intellectual arrangement. An item level inventory is available.

Series 1: Land Acquisitions and Property Boundaries, 1831-1983 and n.d.

This series consists of 5 subseries arranged by type of document, thereon by subject, and thereon by date. Items in this series have been grouped together because they would have been created and maintained for the purpose of documenting the land of the Kansas City Stock Yards Company.

1-1: Land Abstracts
This series consists of abstracts of title for sections of land that were acquired by the Kansas City Stock Yards Company. They are arranged chronologically by Abstract of Title number.

1-2: Land Studies, Deeds, and Additional Legal Documents Related To Land Titles, 1864-1931
This series consists of land surveys, plat maps, land appraisal documents, deeds, judgment certificates, receipts, land agreements, and other legal documents related to land ownership. Items in this series are arranged chronologically by date.

1-3: Plat Maps and Land Surveys, 1887-1981
This series consists of land surveys and plat maps. Items in this series are arranged by subject and thereon chronologically by date.

1-4: General Yard Maps
This series consists of maps, blueprints, and drawings showing the general layout of the Kansas City Stock yards. Items in this series are arranged chronologically by date.

1-5: Kansas City Area Maps
This series consists of maps of Kansas City and are arranged chronologically by date.

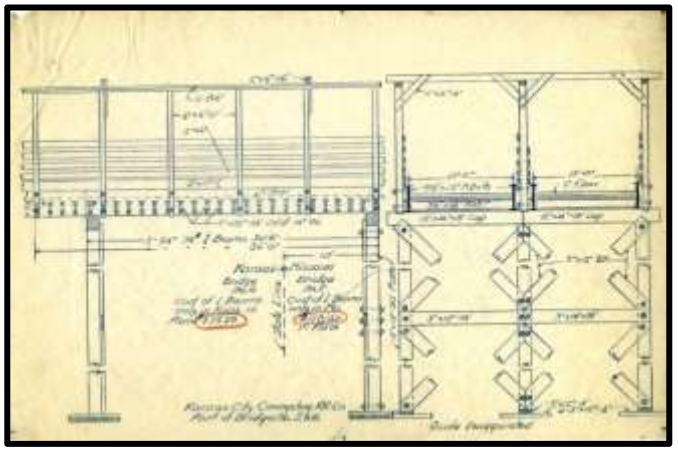
1-4 GENERAL YARD MAPS, 1878-1977

OS E 5 Yard Maps, 1878-1904

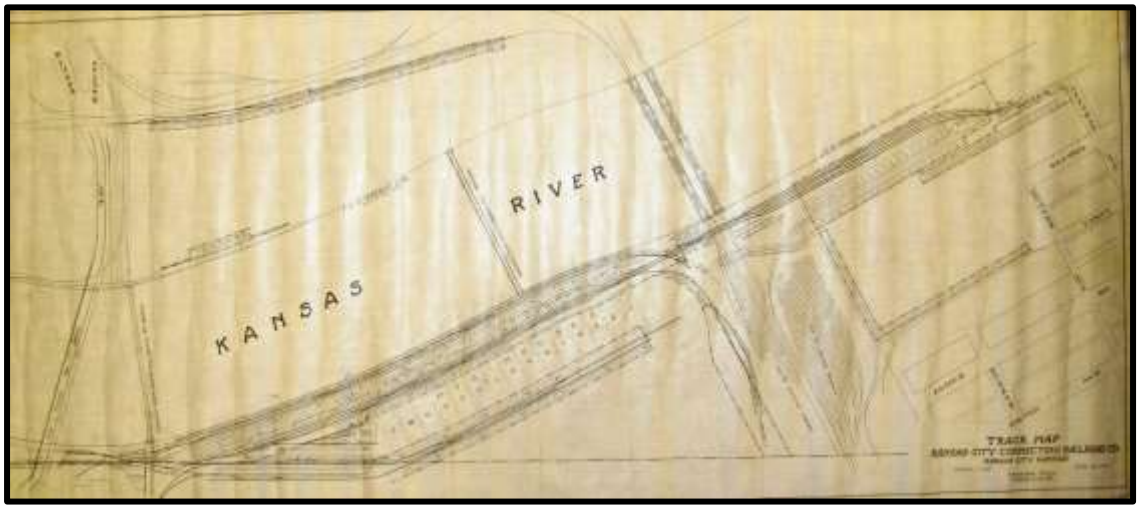
- #1 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 4 Sections of various maps of the stockyards vicinity showing the main yards
- #2 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 2 pages of Drawing and Blueprint copy of map showing area of Kansas City Stock Yards at Water Street with covered holding pens, horse barn and wagon shed, fertilizer, tank room, boilers, killing beds, coolers, offices and smoke house labeled
- #3 Unknown – Sketch of unknown area of stockyards
- #4 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – Part of map of the Kansas City Stock Yards area with areas highlighted in red, yellow, and blue – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**
- #5 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 5 Maps of Main Yards of the Kansas City Stock Yards with areas highlighted for scale purposes, general purposes, loading and unloading, horse and mule viaduct, sheep viaduct, double deck viaduct, and concrete fences – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**
- #6 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 7 maps of the Kansas City Stock Yard area showing location of needed paving – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**
- #7 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 2 1878 Maps of the Kansas City Stock Yards – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**
- #8 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 2 1889 Maps of the Kansas City Stock Yards
- #9 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. and Vicinity – 1891 Map of the Kansas City Stock Yards
- #10 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 3 1893 Maps of the Kansas City Stock Yards, showing viaducts and water mains
- #11 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 13 Maps of the Kansas City Stock Yards, dating 1893-1902, 1906, and unknown – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**
- #12 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 3 1894 Maps of the Kansas City Stock Yards, showing alleys paved
- #13 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 4 1898 Maps of the Kansas City Stock Yards, showing viaducts in 1900
- #14 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 1899 Map of the Kansas City Stock Yards – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**
- #15 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 3 copies of a map of the Kansas City Stock Yards
- #16 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – 3 copies of a 1904 map of the Kansas City Stock Yards

OS E 6 Yard Maps, 1904-1917

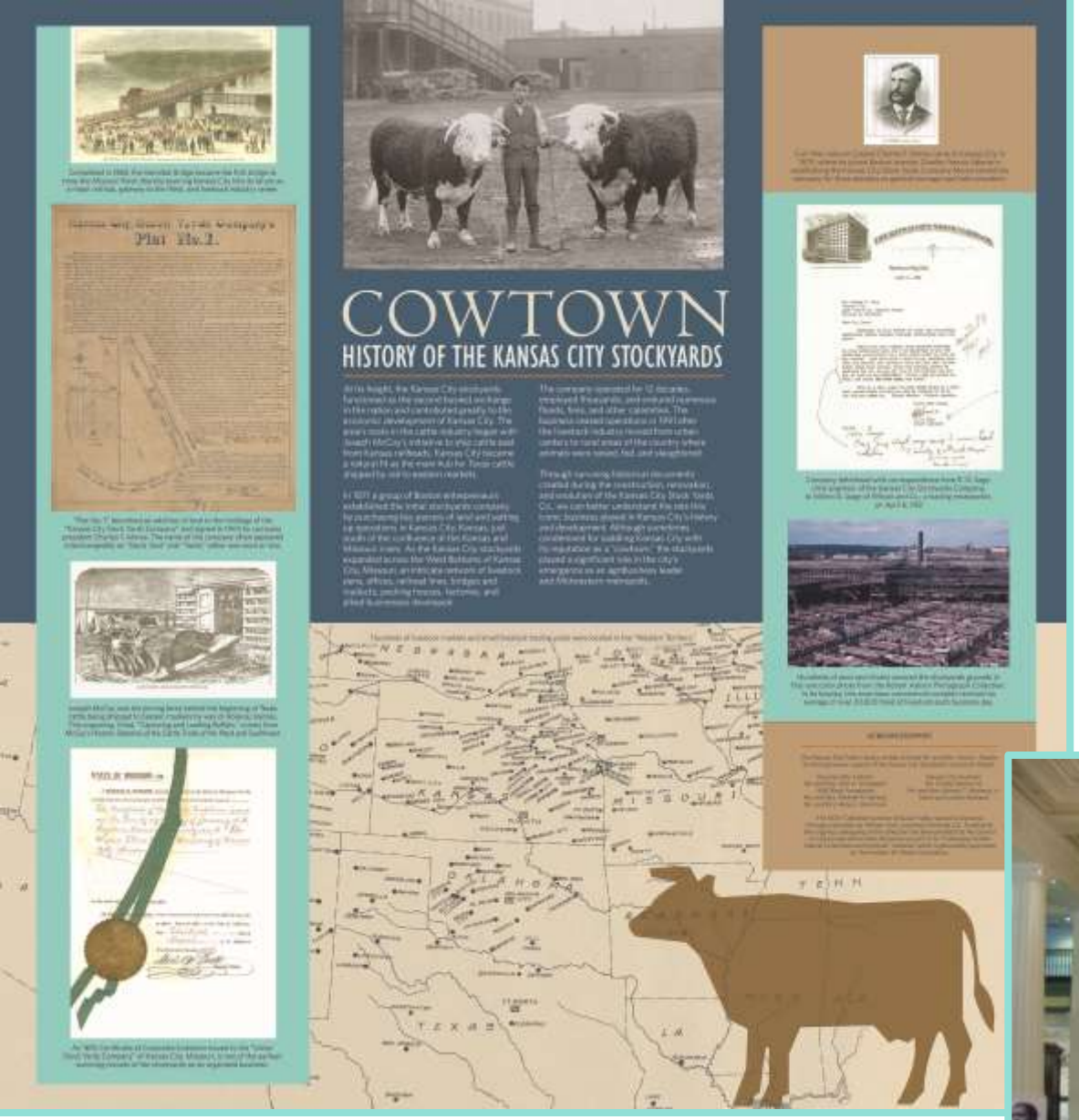
- #17 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. – Insurance Map – Insurance Map of the Kansas City Stock Yards Co. property
- #18 North Yards – Map of the North Yards of the Kansas City Stock Yards Co., 1903 – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**
- #19 Kansas City Stock Yards Co. and Vicinity – Plan of the Kansas City Stockyards and Vicinity, Oct. 1903 – **WITHDRAWN TO ROLLED STORAGE**



Kansas City Connecting Railroad Bridge Plans

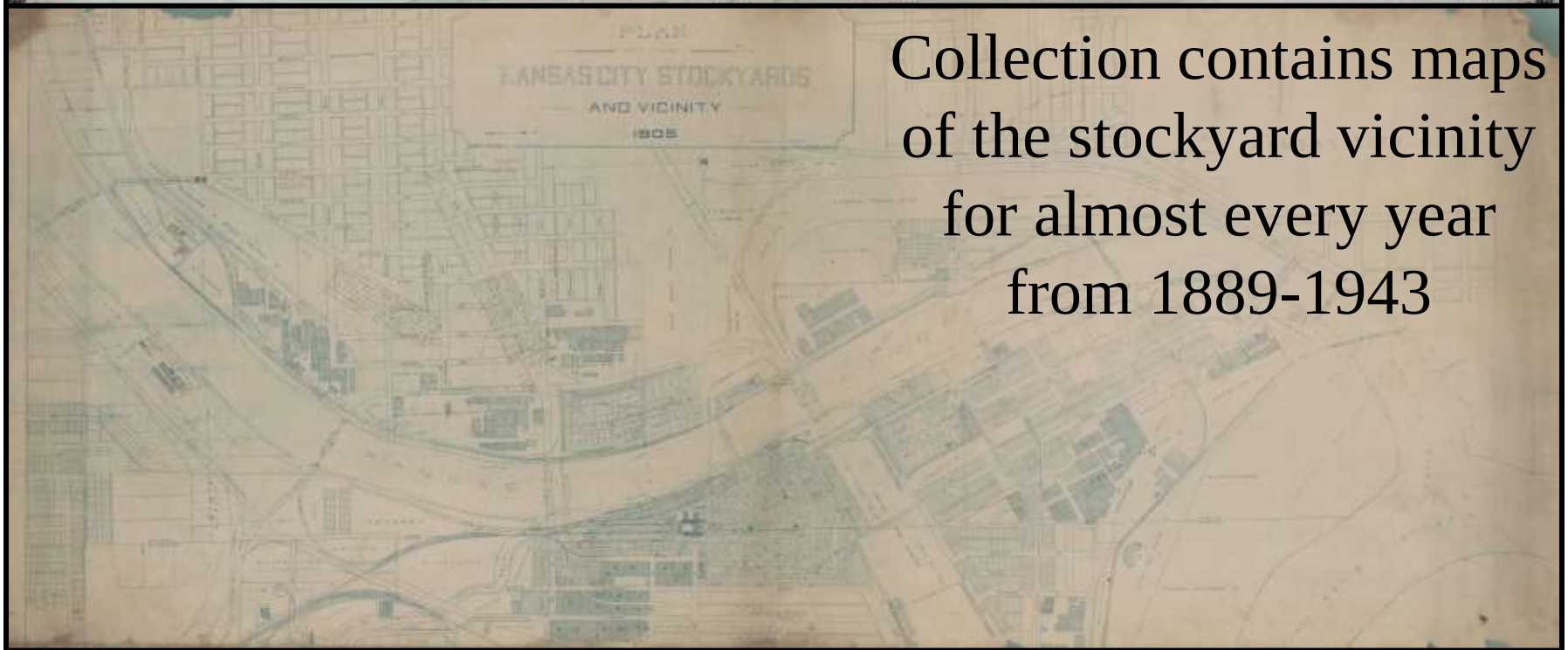


Kansas City Connecting Railroad Track Map



Intro panel from the Library's "Cowtown" exhibit

Entryway of the Kansas City Public Library



Collection contains maps of the stockyard vicinity for almost every year from 1889-1943