Overview of the Collection

**Title**  
Vanport, Oregon flood photograph album

**Dates**  
1948

**Quantity**  
1 linear feet, (1 container)

**Collection Number**  
PH 203_064

**Summary**  
The Vanport, Oregon flood photograph album captures the aftermath of the May 1948 flood that destroyed the city of Vanport leaving its largely African-American population homeless. The album contains one hundred images of the aftermath of the flood in both Vanport and Portland.

**Repository**  
University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.

**Access Restrictions**  
Collection is open to the public. Collection must be used in Special Collections and University Archives Reading Room. Collection or parts of collection may be stored offsite. Please contact Special Collections and University Archives in advance of your visit to allow for transportation time.

**Additional Reference**  
See the Current Collection Guide for detailed description and requesting options.

**Languages**  
English

**Historical Note**

Vanport, Oregon was a wartime public housing project built to shelter Kaiser Shipyard employees working in Portland and Vancouver, Washington. The city was destroyed in May 1948 when a 200-foot section of the dike holding back the Columbia River collapsed during a flood, killing 15 and leaving its largely African-American inhabitants homeless.

**Content Description**

The Vanport, Oregon photograph album contains one hundred photographs of the aftermath of the 1948 flood in Vanport and Portland. The album also contains a copy of the memo circulated to residents urging them to remain in their homes rather than evacuate the area.
Guide to the Vanport, Oregon flood photograph album

Subject Terms:
Floods--Columbia River Watershed
Floods--Oregon
Public housing--Oregon--Vanport

Geographical Names:
Vanport (Or.)--Photographs

Form or Genre Terms:
Photograph albums
Photographs

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