

# George H. Barker Collection of Dam Construction Photographs and Ephemera, 1935-1952

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Collector</b>	Barker, George H
<b>Title</b>	George H. Barker Collection of Dam Construction Photographs and Ephemera
<b>Dates</b>	1935-1952 (inclusive) 1935 1952
<b>Quantity</b>	243 photographic prints, 18 newspaper clippings (1 box)
<b>Collection Number</b>	PH0102
<b>Summary</b>	Photographs and newspaper clippings documenting the construction of the Bonneville Dam, the Detroit Dam, and the Mud Mountain Dam.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections</a> Special Collections University of Washington Libraries Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Telephone: 206-543-1929 Fax: 206-543-1931 <a href="mailto:speccoll@uw.edu">speccoll@uw.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Collection is open to the public.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for encoding this finding aid was partially provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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## Biographical Note

George H. Barker was a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers inspector who worked on the Bonneville Dam, the Detroit Dam, and the Mud Mountain Dam.

## Historical Background

In addition to improving navigation and irrigation for the area, the Booneville Dam also generated energy for the benefit of the general public, a task regulated by the Bonneville Power Administration under the Department of the Interior. Dam construction was completed in 1938.

The Detroit Dam was created in response to a long-standing need for flood control in the Willamette River Basin in northwest Oregon, although it wasn't until 1932 that population growth and industrial

development had reached a level to support the project. Work on the Detroit Dam was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938; construction was initiated in March 1949 and completed in May 1953.

The Mud Mountain Dam was built to prevent the frequent flooding that occurred in South King County and North Pierce County in Washington State. When completed in 1948, it was the highest rock- and earth-filled dam in the world.

## Content Description

The collection consists of images collected by George H. Barker documenting location sites and construction of the Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River, linking Oregon and Washington; the Detroit Dam on the Santiam River in Oregon; and the Mud Mountain Dam on the Puyallup River in Washington. Also included are related newspaper clippings from *The Seattle Times*, *The Oregonian* (Portland, Or.), and *The Capital Journal* (Salem, Or.).

## Administrative Information

### Processing Note

Processed by Rebekah Dalby, 2002.

Most photographs in the collection were removed from a deteriorating album; their original order has been retained. In addition to the album, the collection includes loose prints.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Bonneville Dam

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Folder	Item		
1	1-5	Buildings	
2	6	Columbia River	
2	7	Men building small dam across river	
3	8	Columbia River	
3	9	Columbia River in snow	
4	10	Men working	

Container(s)		Description	Dates
4	11	Excavation and rock trimming for lock and gate sill <a href="#">[view]</a>	
5	12	Construction site	Apr. 11, 1935
5	13	Workers trimming wall of lock <a href="#">[view]</a>	
6	14	Auditorium building construction	Apr. 12, 1935
6	15	Administration building 55 construction <a href="#">[view]</a>	
7	16	Construction	
7	17	President Franklin D. Roosevelt giving speech <a href="#">[view]</a>	
8	18-19	Excavating at lock site	
9	20	Lock excavation <a href="#">[view]</a>	Apr. 18, 1935
9	21	Columbia River	May 25, 1935
10	22	Two men standing in front of Bonneville Dam	
10	23-24	Construction <a href="#">[view]</a>	
11	25	Pulley	
11	26	Dump truck dumping material into river	
11	27	Crane	
11	28	Men on shore	
11	29	Dump truck dumping material into river	
11	30	Group of men	

## **Detroit Dam, Santiam River[\[view\]](#), 1939-1952**

Folder12-28, Item31-81

Photographs of Detroit Dam, including construction, equipment, dump trucks, construction workers, riprap, river, and riverbank.

## Mud Mountain Dam, Enumclaw, Wash.[\[view\]](#), ca. 1940s-1950s

Folder28-33, Item82-107k

Photographs of Mud Mountain Dam construction. Pictured also are men standing in front of a car and a man photographing the dam construction.

## Detroit Dam, Santiam River[\[view\]](#), May-June 1949

Folder34-46, Item108-189

Photographs of Detroit Dam, including construction site, Cumley Quarry, Oregon Highway 222 in the snow, service roads, fields, bridges, trucks.

## [Detroit Dam, Santiam River?]

Folder47-48, Item190-233

Photographs of construction site, people, equipment, pipes, and pylons; views of river, road, camp buildings, and mountain.

## Newspaper Clippings

Container(s)		Description	Dates
<b>Detroit Dam</b>			
<b>Folder</b>	<b>Item</b>		
49	234	<i>The Oregonian</i> , "Work Forges Ahead on Two Dams of Willamette Basin Project"	Apr. 2, 1950
49	235	<i>The Capital Journal</i> , "Rod Mill and Classifier for Detroit Dam"	May 4, 1950
49	236	<i>The Capital Journal</i> , "Detroit Forest Fire Now Held Under Control"	June 3, 1950
49	237	<i>The Capital Journal</i> , "Huge Detroit Dam Begins to Rise"	Oct. 24, 1950
49	238	<i>The Capital Journal</i> , "Impediment to Progress"	Nov. 3, 1950
49	239	<i>The Capital Journal</i> , "Detroit Dam Contract 42 Per Cent Completed"	Mar. 27, 1951
49	240	<i>The Capital Journal</i> , "Progress at Detroit Dam"	Mar. 29, 1951

Container(s)		Description	Dates
49	241	<i>The Seattle Times</i> , "Two Engineers Post Bail on Bribe Charges"	May 29, 1952
49	242	<i>The Oregonian</i> , "Detroit Dam Passes Milestone"	June 26, 1952
49	243	"Detroit Dam Will Require 1,400,000 Yards of Concrete Placed in Blocks According to Construction Plans"	
49	244	"Clearing for Dam Construction and Reservoir"	
49	245	"Diversion Tunnel for Detroit Dam"	
49	246	"Engineers To Let Contracts, \$116 Million"	
49	247	"Bedrock Excavations Ready Detroit Dam Site for Concrete"	
49	248	"Pair Suspended Until Case Settled"	
<b>Other Dams</b>			
Folder	Item		
49	249	Special to <i>The Times</i> , "New Bonneville Official Coming"	May 29
49	250	"Priest Rapids Dam Proposal Meets Criticism"	
49	251	"Proposed Eagle Gorge Dam Would Control Green River, Prevent Costly Floods and Possibly Generate Power"	

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Building sites--Oregon--Photographs  
 Building sites--Washington (State)--Photographs  
 Construction workers--Oregon--Photographs  
 Construction workers--Washington (State)--Photographs  
 Dam construction--Oregon  
 Dam construction--Washington (State)  
 Dams--Oregon--Photographs  
 Dams--Washington (State)--Photographs  
 Hydroelectric power--Washington (State)  
 Irrigation--Oregon

Irrigation--Washington (State)  
Rivers--Oregon--Photographs  
Rivers--Washington (State)--Photographs  
Visual Materials Collections (University of Washington)  
Water-power--Washington (State)

**Personal Names :**

Roosevelt, Franklin D. (Franklin Delano), 1882-1945--Photographs

**Geographical Names :**

Bonneville Dam (Or. and Wash)--Photographs  
Columbia River--Photographs  
Detroit Dam (Or.)--Photographs  
Mud Mountain Dam (Wash.)--Photographs  
Puyallup River (Wash.)--Photographs  
Santiam River (Or.)--Photographs

**Form or Genre Terms :**

Clippings

**Titles within the Collection :**

Capital journal (Salem, Or.)  
Oregonian (Portland, Or.)  
Seattle times (Seattle, Wash. : 1966)

2003 (Last modified: 11/27/2017)



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