



New Madrid Photograph Collection (CG0066)

Collection Number: CG0066

Collection Title: New Madrid Photograph Collection

Dates: 1974-1998, no date

Creator: New Madrid Chamber of Commerce

Abstract: This collection consists of 58 photographs taken in New Madrid, Missouri, during the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s. The photographs depict agriculture, industry, commercial buildings, homes, a historical reenactment, natural features, the New Madrid airport, and the port. These photos were found in 2025 while the old Chamber of Commerce building in New Madrid was being cleaned.

Collection Size: 0.2 cubic feet
(14 folders, 58 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center-cape-girardeau). If you would like more information, please contact us at capegirardeau@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The donor has given and assigned to the State Historical Society of Missouri all rights of copyright, which the donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the State Historical Society from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *New Madrid Photograph Collection* (CG0066); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Cape Girardeau].

Donor Information: The photographs were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by trustee Riley Bock on September 9, 2025 (Accession No. CGA0061).

Processed by: Processed by Morgan Lake, September 2025.

Historical Note:

New Madrid, Missouri was founded in 1789 by George Morgan of New Jersey on the site of a French-Canadian trading post and considers itself to be the first American town west of the Mississippi River. The New Madrid Chamber of Commerce was organized at the Claire Coffee Shop in New Madrid on July 7, 1954, to promote commercial growth among all business owners. The organization followed the disbandment of the Junior Chamber of Commerce which was founded by ten young businessmen on August 17, 1937. The move reflected a desire to unite all business leaders, regardless of age.

The New Madrid Chamber of Commerce later incorporated on October 15, 1958 “for the primary purpose of engaging in a long range and sustained effort to attract industry and to promote industrial growth in New Madrid and the surrounding territory.” The group proved to be successful at recruiting Noranda Aluminum Inc. to locate in New Madrid, and the community managed to secure a \$210 million special revenue bond in 1968 to construct the St. Jude Industrial Park and a steam generating power plant to accommodate the new industry.

The promotional photographs were taken during the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, and the earliest photographs reflect the period of industrial expansion following the construction of the Noranda aluminum reduction plant in 1968. The collection of photographs features the agricultural, industrial, cultural and historical assets of New Madrid.

The New Madrid Chamber of Commerce was dissolved by the Missouri Secretary of State in 2022.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into a single series.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists of 58 photographs taken in New Madrid, Missouri, during the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s. The photographs depict agriculture, industry, church buildings, commercial buildings, historic buildings, museum buildings, residential buildings, school buildings and heritage tourism in New Madrid.

Container List:

- f.1 Agriculture
 - Corn harvest, no date
 - Cotton picking, no date
 - Wheat harvest, no date
- f.2 Airport - Aerial view of New Madrid County airport, no date
- f.3 Industry
 - Riverfront barges, no date
 - Welcome sign located at I-55, no date

- St. Jude Industrial Park entrance sign, no date
- Noranda Aluminum Office Building, no date
- St. Jude Industrial Park and the New Madrid Power Plant, no date
- Noranda Aluminum and the New Madrid Power Plant, no date
- New Madrid Power Plant in the St. Jude Industrial Park, no date
- f.4 Church buildings
 - Catholic Church, New Madrid, no date
 - Baptist Church, New Madrid, no date
 - Methodist Church, New Madrid, no date
- f.5 Commercial buildings
 - 200 block of Main Street, no date
 - 200 block of Main Street, no date
 - Dawson Road Shopping Center, no date
 - Corner of Mott and Main Street, no date
 - Bank of New Madrid, no date
 - New Madrid Country Club, no date
- f.6 Historic buildings
 - Hunter-Dawson Home, State Historic Site, no date
 - Hunter-Dawson Home, State Historic Site, Interior, no date
 - A.B. Hunter Home, no date
 - A.B. Hunter Home, pink Dogwood, no date
- f.7 Museum buildings
 - New Madrid Historical Museum before 1991 addition, ante 1991
 - New Madrid Historical Museum after addition, post 1991
 - New Madrid Historical Museum, no date
 - New Madrid Historical Museum, interior, no date
 - New Madrid Historical Museum, interior, Opening photo shoot, 1974
- f.8 Residential buildings
 - Apartments on Dawson Road, no date
 - Public Housing Units under construction in New Madrid, no date
 - Jack and Virginia Carlson home, 900 Davis Street, New Madrid, no date
 - S.L. Hunter home, 1000 Scott Street, New Madrid, no date
 - Walter Edwards home, Scott Street, New Madrid, no date
 - Aerial view of St. Jude Acres, 96 lots, no date
 - Sam and Patty Hunter home, Scott Street, New Madrid, no date
 - William Vest and Nancy Riley home, 801 Scott Street, New Madrid, no date
 - N.J. and Shirley Nowell home, 171 St. Matthew Lane, Hunter subdivision, no date
- f.9 School buildings
 - Proposed Vocational-Technical Skills Center, no date
- f.10 Riverfront
 - Mississippi River Observation Deck, New Madrid, no date
 - Riverfront Park, picnic area, no date
 - Visitors view signage, Mississippi River Observation Deck, New Madrid, no date
 - Mississippi River Observation Deck, New Madrid, with visitors, no date
 - View of Riverfront with Railing, New Madrid, no date
 - View of Riverfront with planter retaining wall, New Madrid, no date

- f.11 River tourism
 Mississippi Queen, no date
 Island Queen docked at New Madrid, no date
 Mark Twain impersonator, Mississippi River, July 4, 1998
American Queen, new paddle wheeler, no date
 Belles and the Queen — Hoop skirted belles wave good-bye to passengers aboard the National Historic Landmark steamboat, Delta Queen, no date
 Riverfront at New Madrid during Riverboat Days, 1996
- f.12 Natural features
 Big Oak State Park, no date
 Fishing Hole, Barrow Pit, no date
 White and pink Dogwoods, New Madrid, no date
 Large Dogwood tree, no date
- f.13 Mississippian Mounds, west of New Madrid, no date
- f.14 Civil War reenactment, no date

Index:

Index Terms	Folder	Image
Agriculture--New Madrid County (Mo.)	1	Yes
Airports--Missouri	2	Yes
Big Oak Tree State Park, New Madrid, Missouri	12	Yes
Carlson, Jack	8	
Commercial buildings--New Madrid (Mo.)	5	Yes
Hunter Dawson Home (New Madrid, Mo.)	6	Yes
Hunter, Sam L., Jr.	8	
Mississippi River Observation Deck (New Madrid, Mo.)	10	Yes
Mounds and mound builders--New Madrid (Mo.)	13	Yes
New Madrid Historical Museum (New Madrid, Mo.)	7	Yes
New Madrid Methodist Church (New Madrid, Mo.)	4	Yes
St. Jude Industrial Park (New Madrid, Mo.)	3	Yes