

The John Jameison Collection

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection number: B626 Accession #: 2021.223

Collection Repository: Hennepin History Museum
2303 Third Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Collection Title: The John Jamieson Collection

Dates: 1954-2004

Extent: 2 record cartons, 1 huge sleeve, 1 clam shell box, 1 scrapbook box

Creator: John Jamieson

Language of material: English

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY

John Rodney Jamieson was born in 1923 and died on October 23, 2008 of a stroke. He got his BA in mechanical engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his MA in mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota. He was a World War II veteran. He served as a first Lieutenant in the Air Force in Italy. He worked at Honeywell as an engineer. In 1965-1968, he was the Commissioner of Highways for the State of Minnesota. In 1968, he was a federal highway administrator in D.C. In 1970, he came home and was the Director of Transit Development for the Twin Cities. In 1978, he became the deputy Commissioner for the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

Though he worked for various government agencies that focused on highways, he was tireless advocate for public transportation. At the time this finding aid is being written (2021), many of the highways/freeways have outlived their lifespan and cities are reexamining these roads. It was fascinating to see the effects of these roads at the time they would have been built. John was interested in petroleum alternatives. He is known for being a client of Scheider's Drug store, where politics was discussed. He was married to Ruth Sundstrom for 50 years and they had a family.

John Chenoweth was a city employee killed on a beach on the Mississippi River in 1991. Jamieson saved many articles about this event because his group PPERIA wanted to make this into a park. This murder is significant to the history of Minneapolis.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

This collection contains mostly documents from John's career. The collection has correspondence, newspaper clippings, and meeting minutes. Since his work involved preventing a highway and highway exit in Prospect Park, the bulk of collection is simply listed as highway.

The Archivist Series contains research and documents for the archivist (Redacted, future projects) and Researchers (Archivist's notes) use.

The Correspondence Series ranges from 1960-2002. An item of note is a letter from Reader Digest about the highway conspiracy being true.

John Jamieson was an avid Genealogist. The genealogist series has 2 components: research in which he finds a book chapter about (located in the records carton), and maps (in box/sleeve/folder-3).

The Highway series is the bulk of the collection. He fought against having a highway in Southeast Minneapolis because he worried about the impact on the community. His correspondence was with prominent people from Minneapolis Alderman to Humphrey Bogart, Eugene McCarthy, Humphrey Hubert, Roy Weir, Eugene McCarthy, and others.

The Legal series is mainly correspondence from 1958-1962. This is related to the Highway series because of the issues brought up at the time. They wanted to remove the Milwaukee Avenue train tracks to put in a highway. The University wanted to use the land for their own projects and student housing.

The Light rail series ranges from 1973-1990. In the 1970s, he was Director of Transit Development for the Twin Cities. The blue line of the light rail was opened in 2004, while the Green line opened in 2014.

The Maps and Table Series is composed of maps from 1928 to 1970.

PPERIA stands for Prospect Park & East River Road Improvement Association and the series ranges from 1996 to 2004. The series relates to the highway series because of overlap of the geographical area, his residence, his civic interest and his job.

The Projects Series range from the 1970s to 1996. The specific projects were Gopher Oil (also related to the highway series), Lone Range Regional Development, The MPLS skyway, The Mississippi River Coordination Plan and Prospect Park.

The research series dates from 1989 to the 2000s. The Chenoweth and Larson murder was significant to Minneapolis. Two gay men were murdered on a beach on the Mississippi River. Joel Jay killed Joel Larson, John Chenoweth, and Cord Draszt (survived). John Chenoweth was a city employee. Jamieson was intensely interested in energy alternatives.

The Publication series contains 5 books and 1 folder. The folder is the first pages of the Transit Reader.

The University of Minnesota series ranges from 1966 to 1996. The University wanted to build a steam engine plant.

ACCESS

This collection is open to researchers and the redacted folder is restricted.

COPYRIGHT

The researcher assumes the responsibility for ensuring copyright is followed. When and where possible the archive will provide information related to the copyright owners, but it will be the responsibility of the researcher to ensure copyright laws are followed. Requests for permission to publish material in this collection should be directed to the Archivist.

RELATED MATERIALS

Trunk Highways 94-392: Mississippi River to Franklin Avenue: Scheme II published by the State of Minnesota Department of Highways on 01/06/1959 (DW 4 N.802) separated to map collection.

Prospect Park neighborhood Collection- B592

SEMPACC- B591

ACQUISITION

This collection was probably donated by Ruth Jamieson or another family member.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1: Archivist Series

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
1	0	Redacted Files
1	1	Archivist Notes
1	2	Future Projects F. 1
1	3	Future Projects F. 2

Series 2: Correspondence

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
1	4	Gopher Oil
1	5	Personal

Series 3: Genealogy

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
1	6	Correspondence
1	7	Family Tree F. 1
3	1	Family Tree Maps
1	8	Maps
1	9	Research

Series 4: Highway

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
1	10	1954-1957 Correspondence
1	11	January-May 1958 Correspondence
1	12	June-November 1958 Correspondence
1	13	1959 Correspondence F.1
1	14	1959 Correspondence F.2
1	15	1959 Correspondence F.3
1	16	January-February 1960 Correspondence
1	17	March 1960 Correspondence
1	18	April-July 1960 Correspondence
1	19	August-October 1960 Correspondence
1	20	1961-1972 Correspondence
1	21	Undated Correspondence
1	22	1958 Report
1	23	2/8/1960 Congressional Hearing
1	24	4/27/1960 Twin Cities Report

Series 5: Legal

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
1	25	February 1958 Correspondence
1	26	March-May 1958 Correspondence
1	27	June-October 1958 Correspondence
1	28	1959-1962 Correspondence

Series 6: Light Rail

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
1	29	Correspondence
1	30	Reports F. 1
1	31	Reports F. 2
2	32	Reports F. 3
2	33	Reports F. 4
2	34	Reports F. 5
2	35	Reports F. 6
2	36	Research

Series 7: Maps & Tables

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
2	37	Maps & Tables
2	38	Maps F. 2
2	39	Plastic Slides

Series 8: PPERIA

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
2	40	PPERIA
2	41	1996 Bridal Veil Master Plan

Series 9: Projects

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
2	42	Gopher Oil
2	43	Lone Ranger Regional Development
2	44	Metro
2	45	Mississippi River Coordination
2	46	Prospect Park

Series 10: Publication

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
2	47	Transit Reader
5		Twin Cities Area Transportation Study Vol. 1 by State of MN in Cooperation with US Department/Bureau of Public Roads, 1958
5		St. Paul & Minneapolis Traffic Study Vol. One by State of MN in cooperation with Department of Commerce/ Bureau of Public Roads 1958
5		St. Paul & Minneapolis Traffic Study 1950 by the Minnesota Department of Highway In Cooperation with U.S. Department of Commerce/ Bureau of Roads & City of Saint Paul and Minneapolis
5		Economic Effects of Removing Portions of the Milwaukee Railroad East Side connections on the location and design of trunk highway 92-392: A preliminary Report prepared by the Minnesota Department of Highways by Edwards & Kelcey (12/58)
5		Preliminary design report for Minnesota Department of Highways: Trunk highway 94-392 from 22 nd Ave So. And 9 th Street to Seymour Avenue and Sharon Avenue by the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County
5		State project I-I-G-0943(12)33 by Brown Engineers (August 1958)

4

Transit Reader-1968 Prepared for Twin Cities Area Metropolitan
Transit Commission by Simpson & Curtin 9/1968

Series 11: Research

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
2	48	Chenoweth & Larson Murders
2	49	Community Business
2	50	Continuing Education
2	51	Energy F. 1
2	52	Energy F. 2
2	53	Energy F. 3

Series 12: University of Minnesota

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Folder No.</u>	
2	54	1960's Correspondence
2	55	1990's Correspondence F.1
2	56	1990's Correspondence F. 2
2	57	Undated Correspondence