

A GUIDE TO
THE EMIL BOEHL COLLECTION

M-169

By

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The St. Louis Mercantile Library Association

St. Louis, Missouri

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DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Creator: St. Louis Mercantile Library

Title: Emil Boehl Collection

Dates: ca. 1870-1910

Language: English

Size: 3 boxes

Collection Number: M-169

Location:

Special Collections

St. Louis Mercantile Library at UM – St. Louis

Thomas Jefferson Library Building

One University Boulevard

St. Louis, Missouri 63121 U.S.A.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Emil Boehl was a St. Louis photographer who primarily focused his camera on St. Louis streets, buildings, and locales. Born in Calvoerde, Germany, in 1839, Boehl immigrated to St. Louis in 1854. After serving in the Union Army during the Civil War, Boehl returned to St. Louis in 1864 and opened a photography studio with Lawrence Koenig that spring. With Koenig focusing on portraiture, Boehl became one of the most prolific St. Louis scenic photographers active in the latter half of the 19th Century. The Boehl/Koenig partnership lasted until 1897. Boehl retired from photography in 1919 and died later that year on the 12th of December.

SCOPE NOTE

The Emil Boehl Collection consists of three series. The collection contains images dating from 1850 to ca. 1906. The collection's archival materials include photographic prints and negatives. According to historians Peter E. Palmquist and Thomas R. Kailbourn, Boehl's career was from 1864 to 1919, and he was known to sell prints of Thomas Easterly's daguerreotypes. In light of

those facts, some dates in the Boehl Collection may be labelled incorrectly and/or some images may not be Boehl's.

SERIES ARRANGEMENT

Series 1: Large Photographic Prints

Series 1 contains photographic prints measuring 11 inches by 14 inches or larger. The majority of the photographs are matte-framed. Some of the images are dated, with the dates ranging from 1850 to 1900.

Series 2: 1904 World's Fair

Series 2 contains photographic prints of the 1904 World's Fair, more formally known as the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. All of the images depict architectural content such as the various Palaces (e.g.: Palace of Electricity, Palace of Varied Industry, etc.), U.S. state buildings (e.g.: Missouri and Alaska), foreign nation buildings (e.g.: Brazil, Germany, and Japan), the U.S. Government Building, the Sunken Garden, Grand Basin, and Festival Hall. Two overview shots of the Fair are also included. The prints measure less than 10 inches by 10 inches.

Series 3: St. Louis Streets, Buildings, and Landmarks

Series 3 contains photographic prints and film negatives depicting St. Louis streetscapes, buildings, and landmarks. The series starts with street views arranged alphabetically by street (e.g.: Chestnut, Locust), continues with depictions of individual buildings arranged by building name (e.g.: Mercantile Library, Wainwright), and then ends with categorical folders (e.g.: hotel exteriors, residences, rooftop views) arranged alphabetically. The prints measure less than 10 inches by 10 inches. Some photos are dated, ranging from the 1870s to the early 1900s.

ACCESS

Some of the material in Special Collection M-169 may be photocopied, digitally scanned or photographed, subject to condition.

DIGITAL IMAGES

All digital images linked to this finding aid require that a credit line be included with any material used.

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The St. Louis Mercantile Library appreciates hearing from anyone who may have information about any of the images in this collection.

CITATION

When citing material from this collection, the preferred citation is: From the Special Collections of the St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri – St. Louis.

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Boehl, Emil.

Saint Louis Mo – History –Pictorial works.

Louisiana Purchase Exposition 1904 Saint Louis Mo – Pictorial works.

Architecture – Missouri – Saint Louis – Pictorial works.

Saint Louis (Mo.) – Buildings, structures, etc. – Pictorial works.

OTHER RESOURCES:

Palmquist, Peter E., and Thomas R. Kailbourn. *Pioneer Photographers from the Mississippi to the Continental Divide: a Biographical Dictionary, 1839-1865*. Stanford, CA: Stanford UP, 2005. Print.

Kilgo, Dolores Ann. *Likeness and Landscape: Thomas M. Easterly and the Art of the Daguerreotype*. Saint Louis: Missouri Historical Society, 1994. Print.

INVENTORY

Series	Box	Folder	Photo / folder ID	Date	Size	Orientation
1	1		4th Fa. Chesnut N. 1872 [photo is of 4th Street looking north to Chestnut]	1872	14.75x13 in	Landscape
1	1		Spanish Fort near Mullanphy Stt.		12.25x10 in	Landscape
1	1		St. Louis Levee. 1850	1850	12.25x10 in	Landscape
1	1		Christ Church		14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [photo is of the New Cathedral of St. Louis on Lindell]		14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Benoist Home 8th & Pine		14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Old Marine Hospital		14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Early Trolley [photo is of Trolley 93 Zoological Garden, in front of W. H. Mephram Real Estate]		14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Broadway [streetscape of Broadway with Keevil Hatter at 950 Broadway visible]		14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [photo is of Boatman's Bank building; written on back of frame: "March 1900"]	1900	14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Germania Club. 1875	1875	14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Gratiot. St. Rebel Prison		11x14 in	Portrait
1	1		Grants Log Cabin		14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Planter's Hotel. 1874	1874	14x11 in	Landscape
1	1		Old Courthouse. 1870. [Boehl may have mislabeled this photo; writing on back of frame says: "1st Theatre / Blacksmith"]		20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Old High School. 1870.	1870	16x20 in	Portrait
1	1		Untitled [photo is of Grand Republic steamer]		17x14 in [unmatted]	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [photo is of Old Courthouse; signed and dated 1870]	1870	16x20 in	Portrait
1	1		Chouteau Pond. 1850.	1850	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Old Masonic Bl'g. Oct. 1886.	1886	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Dr. McDowell's Old Medical College [subtitle reads: "Ninth and Gratiot Streets. Built in 1840 / The college at		20x16 in	Landscape

			Eight and Gratiot Streets was built in 1847"]			
1	1		Chouteau Mansion. [written in ink on front: "1869"]	1869	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [back of frame reads: "Cracker Castle / St. Ange and Chouteau, 1870 Boehl, Photog. 514 Wash Ave; photo depicts a mansion and the Lafayette Park Trolley]	1870	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Pierre Chouteau Residence [subtitle reads: "East side of main Street south of Washington Avenue built in 1832"; Durkee & Bullock Banking House is also in photo]		16x20 in	Portrait
1	1		12th St. From Washington Ave. South, 92'. [written on back: "From Bartlett, Stix Law Firm / Jan. 13, 1964"]		17x14 in [unmatted]	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [label on back of frame reads: "Twelfth Street, Looking South From Washington Ave. / 1872"]	1892	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Benoist Residence in 1790 [subtitle reads: "Northeast corner of Main and Elm Streets"; date is clearly incorrect]		20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [Note on back of frame reads: "The Old Exhibiton Building / The Public Library is now on the / Site"]		20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Old Jail 6th + Chestnut. 1870.	1870	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [written on back of frame: "Turner Block 4th St. between Chestnut & Pine. E. Boehl, Photog. 514 Wash. Ave."]		20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [photo is of a three-story house, with horse, carriage, and driver in front; people are visible in the yard and upper floors]		16x20 in	Portrait
1	1		Roof Garden U.T. Blg: 1894 [back of frame reads: "From Bartlett, Stix Law Firm / Jan 13, 1964"]	1894	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Untitled [back of frame reads: "H. Shaw's Residence, 7th & Locust 1889"]	1889	20x16 in	Landscape
1	1		Lindell Hotel-1865.	1865	20x16 in	Landscape
2	2	1	Festival Hall& Grand Basin [1 mounted photograph; note from package		9x6.75 in	Landscape

			transcribed on back of mount]		
2	2	2	Festival Hall [3 photographs; includes Festival Hall with East Pavillion, front view, and view from West Bridge]		8x6 in [all] Landscape
2	2	3	Palaces & U.S. Government Building [15 photographs; images of U.S. Gov Building, Sunken Garden, and the Palaces of: Electricity, Liberal Arts, Mines & Metallurgy, Education & Social Economy, Manufactures, Machinery, Varied Industries, and Transportation]		8x6 in [all] Landscape
2	2	4	Overviews [2 photographs; images of the Fair as seen from above]		9.5x7 in; 9.5x5 in Landscape
2	2	5	State Buildings [2 photographs; images of the Missouri and Alaska]		8.5x6 in; 8x6.5 in Landscape
2	2	6	Brazil, Germany, and Japan Buildings [3 photographs]		8x6 in [all] Landscape
3	2	1A	Broadway--Facing North [2 photographs; back of one photo reads: "Bway No. from Pine near Olive 1897"; other is titled: "Broadway fr. Pine. N."]		9x6 in; 9x7.25 in Landscape
3	2	1B	Broadway--Facing North and South [2 photographs; Broadway from Olive facing north, and Broadway from Locust facing south]		9.5x7.5 in; 9.25x7 in Portrait; Landscape
3	2	2	Chestnut Street [2 photographs; includes "Chestnut fr: 4th West. 1874" and Chestnut from Broadway west, depicting Hurst's Hotel European and Frisco Line]		6.25x8.25 in; 7x8.75 in Portrait; Portrait
3	2	3	Fourth St. from Vine north 1906 [1 mounted photograph; image may be of 4th from St. Charles Street, as "St. Charles" has been crossed through and "Vine" written in; J. H. Crane Furniture and Lammert Furniture are visible in photo]	1906	8x10 in Portrait
3	2	4	Fourth Street from Pine looking north [2 photographs, both damaged; image identical in both photos, one lists date as 1898; trolley and Rialto Building visible]	1898	9.5x7.25 in Landscape
3	2	5	4th Str. Fr. Market Str. N. [1		9x6.5 in Landscape

			photograph; Old Courthouse depicted, trolleys and horse-drawn carriages]			
3	2	6	Locust. From 4th West. 1870. [3 photographs--1 original, 2 copies; image includes Mermod Jaccard Jewelers]	1870	8.5x6.25 in; 10x8 in	Landscape
3	2	7	Locust Street [2 photographs; one is titled "LOCUST FR: BRDW." and note on back says 1896; on back of other photo: "Locust from Fourth West 1897"]	1896	7.25x9 in [all]	Portrait
3	2	8	Olive Street [3 photographs; one titled: "Olive fr. 4th West."; back of another reads: "Olive from 6th--East 1904"; another titled: "Olive fr. Brdwy. West.", Burlington Route visible in photo]		7.25x9 in [all]	Portrait
3	2	9	12th and Pine--Statue of Liberty replica [1 photograph; back of photo reads: "12 & Pine 1890"]	1890	8.75x7.25 in	Landscape
3	2	10	12th Street [5 photographs; from Pine north; from Washington south, ca. 1900; from Washington south; from St. Charles north; from Olive north]		Various	Various
3	2	11	Washington Avenue [1 photograph; back of photo reads: "Washinton from 10th East"]		7.25x9.25 in	Portrait
3	3	12	Century Building [1 photograph; titled: "Century. Bl'd'g.", note on back]		7.75x9.25 in	Portrait
3	3	13	Chamber of Commerce interior and exterior [2 photographs; exterior photo titled: "Chamber of Commerce.", note on back: "from 3rd & Chestnut" plus more; interior photo titled: "Chamber of Commerce.", note on back reads: "Merchant Exchange Prt"]		9.25x7 in; 9x7 in	Landscape
3	3	14	Columbia Building [1 photograph; titled: "Columbia b'l'dg.", note on back reads: "south east corner eight and Locust / Columbia Building"]		7.5x9.5 in	Portrait
3	3	15	Commercial Building [1 photograph; titled: "Commercial. Blg."]		7.5x9.5 in	Portrait
3	3	16	Compton Heights Reservoir Park [1		9x7 in	Landscape

			photograph, 1 negative; titled: "Compton Heights Reservoir Park.", water tower visible in photo]		
3	3	17	Equitable Building [1 photograph, 1 negative; note reads: "Equitable Bldg. / NW cor. 6th & Locust"]	7x9 in	Portrait
3	3	18	Globe-Democrat Building--Pine from 6th West [1 photograph; notes on back]	6.25x9 in	Portrait
3	3	19	Mercantile Library Building [1 photograph]	6.5x9 in	Portrait
3	3	20	Merchants-Laclede Building [1 photograph; note on back reads: merch. Laclede Bldg / S.W. Cor 4th & Olive"]	6.75x9 in	Portrait
3	3	21	Mermod-Jaccard Building [1 photograph]	7.25x9.25 in	Portrait
3	3	22	National Bank of commerce Building [2 photographs; one photo titled: "New Bank of Commerce", other photo has pencil on front stating: "National Bank of Commerce 1914"]	6.25x9 in; 8x10 in	Portrait
3	3	23	Nugents Department store [1 photograph]	9.5x7.5 in	Landscape
3	3	24	Odeon Building [1 photograph]	9.25x6.75 in	Landscape
3	3	25	Old Cathedral--Interior and Exterior [2 photographs, 1 negative; negative is of exterior photo]	6.5x9 in; 9.25x6.75 in	Portrait; Landscape
3	3	26	Old Jail [1 mounted photograph; title reads: "Old Jail--6th & Chestnut"]	11x8.5 in	Landscape
3	3	27	Olympic Theatre Building [1 photograph, 1 negative]	9.25x7.25 in	Landscape
3	3	28	Post Office/Old Custom House [1 mounted photograph, 1 negative; Old Post Office]	8.75x6.5 in	Landscape
3	3	29	Planter's Hotel [2 photographs, 1 negative; photo of exterior of hotel and the interior of the hotel's Turkish Den; negative is of exterior]	7.25x9.25 in; 9.5x7.75 in	Portrait; Landscape
3	3	30	St. Louis Union trust Building--Central National Bank Building [1 photograph; building is known by both names]	7x9 in	Portrait

3	3	31	Security Building [1 photograph; note on back reads: "Security Bldg. / S.W. cor. 4th & Locust"]	7.25x9.75 in	Portrait
3	3	32	Southern Hotel--Exterior and Interiors [4 photographs, 3 negatives; exterior: Broadway and Elm; interiors: dining room, billiard room, parlor; negatives of exterior, billiards, parlor]	9x7 in [all]	Landscape
3	3	33	Turner Block [1 mounted photograph; back reads: "Turner Block 4th between Pine & Chest / in 90s; St. Louis Daily Record visible in photo]	11.5x8.25 in	Landscape
3	3	34	Union Station [1 photograph, 1 negative]	9x7 in	Landscape
3	3	35	Wainwright Building [1 photograph, 1 negative; note on back of photo: "something new in architecture"]	9x6.25 in	Portrait
3	3	36	Civic Buildings--Courthouse and City Hall [2 photographs]	8.5x7.25 in; 8.6x6.5 in	Landscape
3	3	37	Club and Organization Buildings [4 photographs; Mercantile Club, University Club, Columbia Club, St. Louis Club]	Various	Various
3	3	38	Community Gates and Gate Houses [5 photographs; Portland Place, Hortense Place, Westmoreland, Vandeventer Place 1890, Washington	Various	Landscape
3	3	39	Fairgrounds [1 photograph; includes view of Club House and Grandstands]	9.25x6.75 in	Landscape
3	3	40	Hotel Exteriors [6 photographs; includes: Grand Avenue Hotel, Beers Hotel, The West End Hotel/The Residential Hall; St. Nicholas Hotel, Silver Moon Hotel, Lindell Hotel 1867]	Various	Various
3	3	41	Railcars and Trolleys [6 photographs, 1 negative; includes images of trolleys and a locomotive, plus Bellefontaine streetcar, and a view of 3rd and Washington Avenue Loop 1890--negative corresponds to this image]	Various	Landscape
3	3	42	Residences [2 photographs, 2 negatives; Benoist Home: print not vintage; Lindell from Taylor; negatives are of both images]	Various	Landscape

3	3	43	Rooftop Views from Courthouse, Missouri Trust Building, and Chemical Building [8 photographs; from Courthouse facing: south, southeast, west, north, & northeast; from MO Trust: southeast, northeast; from Chemical Building: southwest]	Various	Landscape
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