

The Scituate Reservoir Photo Collection

John R. (J.R.) Hess – Hess was hired by the Providence Water Supply Board to photograph the villages that were condemned for the Scituate Reservoir. His photos cover the period 1915-1925, with over 1100 photos displaying the homes, businesses, and burial grounds of the lost villages.*

Geroge T. Seabury – Major George T. Seabury discharged from the Army on June 14, 1919. Winsor hired Seabury sometime during the summer of 1919, which he photographed certain projects later in 1919.

Contracts #03-42 – Throughout the construction of the Scituate Reservoir, over 50 contracts went out to bid for various projects. The contracts included clearing areas before and after construction, relocation and repaving roads, masonry work, construction, planting trees, shrubs and other plants, are only to name a few of what the contracts were for.

Scituate Reservoir General Collection #001-450 – A general collection of photos from 1936-1938. Documenting different projects, roads, areas, as the reservoir project progressed into other phases.

Scituate Reservoir Non-Concurrent Collection – A general collection of photos from various years and areas. Documenting different projects, roads, areas, as the reservoir project progressed into other phases. Many photos in this collection will not have dates or descriptions associated with them. Photos with no dates will receive an assigned number. This collection will be added periodically as the collection is processed.

Please Read Notice Below!

Notice About Photo Collection

Each collection is missing photos, but we may not have indicated all missing photos in this section. If a photo is missing and not indicated in this group, please reach out to us and we can check to confirm if the photo is available or missing.

There are photos throughout the collections that do not have descriptions.

***J.R. Hess Collection** of photographs start at #0011, and is sporadic until #0101.

J.R. Hess Collection is missing photo 201-209, 211-219, 223-228, 232, 235-238, 241-245, 249-250, 326-344, 346-350, 441, 501, 901-903, 957, 1051-1056, 1070, 1102-1104, 1150, 1155, 1157-1158, 1160-1172, 1175, 1180, 1182-1183, 1185-1189.

Contract Photos:

Contract #03 is missing photo 02, 23, 24, 29, & 33.

Contract #08 is missing photo 88.

Contract #30 is missing photo 71 & 92.

Contract #34 is missing photo 15, 46-50, 63-65, 67, 71, 73, 75, 76, 82 & 83.

Contract #41 has photo 027, then jumps to photo 051. It is also missing photo 80 & 81.

Contract #42 is missing photo 33 & 39.

SR General Collection is missing photo 041, 263, 306, 398, 404, 405, & 407.