

**Finding aid for the Curtis  
Riverboat Enterprises records  
Collection 021**

**Finding aid prepared by Bruce Lee Siebers**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department  
November 1986  
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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
<b>Title</b>	Curtis Riverboat Enterprises records
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1966-1972
<b>Extent</b>	0.21 Linear feet One box
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>Curtis Riverboat Enterprises operated a 64 foot paddlewheel riverboat called "The City of Grand Rapids." The boat was built by L.D. Clyde Curtis in 1967 and operated from a dock near the city's North Park Bridge until about 1973. It made charter and excursion runs along the Grand River between Holly's Landing (Ann Street NW) and Ada, Michigan. The collection contains correspondence, newspaper clippings, surveys, calculations and legal documents from Curtis Riverboat Enterprises. The papers and records portray the building and operation of the boat.</p>

## **Biographical/Historical note**

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The City of Grand Rapids, a 64 foot long, 17 ft. wide, steel-hulled, stern wheeled riverboat was built by L.D. Clyde Curtis in 1967. The boat had two decks and was powered by a 1938 John Deer diesel tractor motor. It plied the Grand River from Ann Street to Ada, a distance of about 11 miles, at a speed of 7 miles per hour.

Curtis, a native of Barryton, Michigan (near Big Rapids) operated the boat on a charter/tour basis during the summer months until 1973.

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## **Scope and Contents note**

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Contains Curtis' specifications for building the boat, United States Coast Guard inspection reports of the boat, other inspection reports, licenses and permits. Also included are newspaper clippings describing the boat and the Curtis operation, as well as survey descriptions of the boat and her contents.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department November 1986

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Donor unknown, accession number 1986.206

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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**Corporate Name(s)**

- Curtis Riverboat Enterprises.

**Geographic Name(s)**

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Grand River (Mich.)

**Personal Name(s)**

- Curtis, L.D. Clyde

## Collection Inventory

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Correspondence 1966-1971	1	1
Calculations, n.d.	1	2
Legal documents 1967-1970	1	3
Newspaper clippings 1969, n.d.	1	4
Surveys 1967	1	5
Boat brochure and ticket stub, n.d.	1	6