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1927 Flood: Then and Now

Re-photographing 1927 flood photos is important because it can accurately document the landscape changes over the past 75 years. This is both culturally and scientifically significant because it allows us as geomorphologists to assess future flood effects.

We plan on finding photos of the 1927 flood within fifty miles of Burlington, VT. These photos will come from both special collections at Bailey/Howe, and the Landscape Change Project out of Perkins Museum. Upon completion of our project we will then upload the additional images to the Landscape Change web site. This will be place based in that it will focus on Chittenden County, and parts of Franklin County. From the photographs collected we will determine how the landscape has changed since the flood, and how people have adapted to accommodate future floods of this magnitude; such as remediation of river banks, and flood susceptible areas.

The method of data collection will be going to the locations of the 1927 flood photo and re-photographing them, noting specific geomorphic changes and categorizing them by magnitude and abundance. From the 25 - 30 photographs we take we will choose approximately 3 that we will go back and survey the channel. From this we can determine bank full discharge at the time of flooding, and from US. Geological Society records calculate Manning's N. This will be compared with bank full discharge now, and the calculated Manning's N of today's river.

Our hypothesis is that the landscape has changed drastically since the 1927 flood. This will be proven through photographs and surveying. Our expected outcome is that we will obtain definitive evidence of these changes.

Equipment Needed:

- Digital Camera
- Auto-Level, Surveying Equipment