This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

This is a compilation of “home movies,” transferred to one-half inch videotape (VHS), featuring street scenes, community events, and fairs at New Madrid, Missouri.

The videotape features movies made by the La Valle family of New Madrid during the 1940s and 1950s. A musical sound track and a few captions were added when the movies were transferred to videotape. Running time is approximately thirty minutes.

Reflecting its family origin, the videotape includes a number of scenes of infants, family pets, and a wedding. There are also a few scenes of downtown New Madrid, including the local barber shop. The segments most interesting historically include those featuring a baseball game, a Catholic picnic, a barbecue staged by the African-American residents of New Madrid, and a procession of African-Americans to the Mississippi River in what might have been a baptizing.

Subjects in Order of Appearance:

Homes
Streetscene
Barber shop
Minature car
Women's group
Baby pictures
“Dutch Mill Burns”
Bird dogs
Baseball game
Catholic picnic
African-American dancers at barbeque
Dogs and puppies
“Mary Claire's Wedd.”
“Oil Well”
Agricultural views
Picking corn by hand
Soldier with friends
African-American procession (baptizing?)
Index Cards

La Valle family.
New Madrid (Mo.).
New Madrid County (Mo.).