

“No Ordinary Sensations of Pride and Pleasure”
Shipwrecks and Related Sites Between Fort Randall, South Dakota and Sioux
City, Iowa – Missouri River

Annalies Corbin and Christopher F. Valvano
with Jacqueline D. Piero

Maritime Studies Program
East Carolina University
Greeneville, North Carolina

Historic records document approximately 60 steamboat wrecks in the Missouri River within the boundaries of the states of South Dakota and Iowa. In addition to steamboat wreck sites, a number of relict support facilities including landings and docks lie along the river. This research compiled information from historic newspaper accounts, a number of shipwreck databases, and several key archival sources to determine which shipwrecks and related sites may be found on the Missouri River between Ft. Randall, South Dakota, and Sioux City, Iowa. This stretch of the Missouri is included within the Missouri National Recreation River (MNRR). Forty-five shipwrecks or associated sites were documented. For each shipwreck, a general description and history of operation of the steamboat is provided and, if available, the date the boat sank or was destroyed and the general location of wreckage is given. The MNRR is using this information in a new interpretative program on the history of steamboats on the middle Missouri River.