

Weather in Aberdeen



Central Building Fire at NSU 1961

This building stood at the center of the NSU campus where the Mewalt-Jensen building stands today. It was the oldest building on the campus built in 1901 when the school opened. Fire nearly destroyed it before it was completed but rebuilding began immediately so the building was ready for students in 1902. At that time, it was the only building on campus. The fire in this picture took place in February, 1961. This time the building was torn down rather rebuilt.



Wind Damage at the Tri-State Fairgrounds 1921 (now Brown County Fairgrounds)

A new fairgrounds was built for Aberdeen in 1921. These new grounds were almost ready for the first ever Tri-State Fair when a windstorm damaged some of the buildings including this stock barn. The fair was held despite these damages.



Drifted Dust 1934

During the 1930s, Aberdeen and all of South Dakota suffered a drought. No crops would grow because little or no rain fell for several summers. Winds were constant and eventually picked up the dry dirt and blew it throughout the region. The dirt finally ended up in drifts along fences like this one. This is one form of erosion.



Aberdeen Snow Tunnel 1897

There was so much snow (over 94 inches) during the winter of 1896-1897 that tunnels were dug (by hand) so people could continue traveling throughout the city. This tunnel was located at the corner of Eighth Avenue northwest and Washington Street. It was large enough for a full size horse and sleigh to pass through.



Spring Floods 1897

After all the snow of 1896-1897 melted, some parts of Aberdeen were under water as deep as eighteen inches. This picture was taken at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Washington Street. Notice that water even covered the sidewalk which was made out of wood. People had to use row boats to travel throughout Aberdeen. These flood waters did not evaporate until mid summer.