

# Basic Detail Report

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## Department of Docks Building, Pier A

### Date

1936 (printed 1979)

### Primary Maker

Berenice Abbott

### Medium

gelatin silver print

### Description

Berenice Abbot records the administrative arm of the Port of New York that is responsible for the waterfront docks. The port, located at the lower tip of Manhattan, and its docks have been part of the long, lucrative trading tradition of Manhattan, since its founding by The Dutch West India Company. New technology and innovative services helped expand the port during the nineteenth century; the introduction in 1818 of regularly scheduled packet service between the port and Europe revolutionized commercial shipping. With revenue from imported goods being the main source of the federal government's income until the income tax was introduced in 1913, the port continued to make a crucial contribution to commercial shipping into the twentieth century. Today the port of New York is said to be the leading maritime center of the world.

### Dimensions

Sight: 15 5/8 x 19 3/8 in. (39.7 x 49.2 cm) Mat: 24 x 30 in. (61 x 76.2 cm)