The Canaan Train Wreck - September 15, 1907
Postcards taken after the crash

The Two Engines

The passenger engine coming from Quebec is on the left. Boston & Maine’s freight is on the right.
"General View of Wreckage Showing Quebec Passenger Engine No. 780"

The Canaan Train Wreck of 1907
Postcards made at the time of the crash
September 15, 1907
Looking down from the tracks the photograph shows the underside of the passenger engine.

The Canaan Train Wreck of 1907
Postcards made at the time of the crash
September 15, 1907
The news of the crash spread, and people came from all over to see the crash, to collect souveniers, and for some, to collect materials that had been scattered from the fractured freight cars.

The Canaan Train Wreck of 1907
Postcards made at the time of the crash
September 15, 1907
Almost all the injuries and deaths occurred when the small baggage car slid inside the first passenger car.

The Canaan Train Wreck of 1907
Postcards made at the time of the crash
September 15, 1907
The baggage car telescoped through the passenger car, crushing successive rows of passengers like a giant piston. Twenty-six people were killed and an equal number were badly injured.

The Canaan Train Wreck of 1907
Postcards made at the time of the crash
September 15, 1907
Nine of the wooden box cars in the freight train were destroyed, scattering cornmeal and high quality printer’s paper over the track.
Next to gawking at the destruction, posing for pictures next to it seems to have been the highest priority.

The Canaan Train Wreck of 1907
Postcards made at the time of the crash
September 15, 1907
Posing for Photographs

Even after the tracks were cleared so trains could come through, the accident site was drew spectators and photographers.

The Canaan Train Wreck of 1907
Postcards made at the time of the crash
September 15, 1907