

**Finding aid for the Betty Gibout  
real estate listing cards collection  
Collection 287**

**Finding aid prepared by R. Mayne**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

May 2002

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## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Scope and Contents note</u> .....	4
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	4
<u>Related Materials</u> .....	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	6
<u>Real estate listing slips for standing structures</u> .....	6
<u>Morrow series: real estate listing slips for demolished structures</u> .....	6

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
<b>Title</b>	The Betty Gibout real estate listing cards collection
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	circa 1953-1990s, no date
<b>Extent</b>	4.1 Linear feet
<b>Location note</b>	The main integrated file is housed in card catalog cabinets in the public service area of GRHSC. Items identified by Father Dennis Morrow, with the assistance of others, as being listings for buildings no longer in existence, or in some cases the last slip for a unique structure, are removed to a separate file housed in the Archives, as they are identified.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	This collection includes printed slips documenting real estate for sale in the Greater Grand Rapids, Michigan area. The slips include commercial and residential properties as well as vacant land. The slips usually include an image of the property on one side with a sales description on the other side. Slips from George A. Miller Real Estate, as well as those received from the Western Michigan Realty Group and Greenridge Realty are present in the collection. The cards cover a period from the early 1950s to the late 1990s.

## Scope and Contents note

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The George Miller Collection, #112 previously included the real estate multiple listing cards received from his 1990 accession, along with his pictorials listed in this finding aid. The listing cards were initially divided into two series, each arranged alphabetically, the first covering the period 1953-1962; the second the period 1963-1971. Around 1993, Local History Desk staff member Betty Gibout undertook the task of interfiling the 2 separate alphabets into one file. No documentation was kept to indicate which slips came from which original accession and firm, i.e. provenance was not maintained.

In 1996, 1998 and 2002, additional accessions of real estate listing slips were received, including some that had once belonged to the George Miller firm, through the Kirchgessner gift. It was believed that the 1996 accession of the Perschbacher accession duplicated many of the Miller entries, and the decision was made to keep it separate, maintaining the collections integrity instead of interfiling. Accession documents state the gift has approximately 200,000 cards, dating back to the 1940's. The bulk of the material appears to be from the early 1950s to the early 1980s.

By 2003, the initial George Miller gift, Roberta Horton's Greenridge Realty 1996 accession, plus the 2002 Kirchgessner, Western Michigan Realty Group gift of slips once belonging to George Miller, had been integrated into one filing order in Coll. 287.

Listing cards for razed or otherwise demolished structures are being withdrawn from the larger order of Coll. 287, to a separate smaller file, by Father Dennis Morrow. But, it is believed that no items have been removed from Coll. 286.

All of the various files are arranged first alphabetically by street name, then numerically within that street name. While Coll. 287 remains housed in wooden card catalog cabinets located on the open floor, the Perschbacher has been moved to acid free boxes, and is secured in the environmentally controlled closed stacks.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department May 2002

### Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Various donors and accessions, see series statements.

## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

See also the assessing files, which are now held at the city archives.

Coll. 112, George A. Miller Pictorials. Includes select actual photos used in real estate advertising. Miller was one of the realtors/contributors of slips for Coll. 287. The images in Coll. 112 may provide additional information about the same or different properties.

Coll. 286, Perschbacher Real Estate List Slip Collection. Contains data similar to Coll. 287. Located in acid free boxes in the Archives.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Kent County (Mich.) -- History

### Subject(s)

- Buildings -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Dwellings -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Real estate listings -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids

## Real estate listing slips for standing structures

**Collection Inventory****Series I Real estate listing slips for standing structures****Scope and Contents note**

These items are located in the old card catalog cabinets on the public service floor of the department. They are arranged alphabetically and then numerically, by address. When it is known that the building is razed, the slips are moved to Series II. Some slips for demolished buildings may be included if it has not yet been discovered that the building has been razed

**Series II Morrow series: real estate listing slips for demolished structures**

	<b>Box</b>
1st to Bradford	1
Breens to Century	2
Chapman to Dickinson	3
Division to Fox	4
Francis to Grand	5
Grandville to Indiana	6

**Morrow series: real estate listing slips for demolished structures**

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Ionia to Lafayette	7
Lafayette to Marck	8
Madison to Myrtle	9
Nagold to Ottawa	9.5
Pachard to Prospective	10
Putnam to Stafford	11
State to Van Raalte	12
Victory to Wealthy	13
Webster to Zend	14