

Finding aid for the Henrietta DeLoof collection

Collection 330

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

May 24, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
August 2003
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Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Creator - Collector	DeLoof, Henrietta
Title	Henrietta DeLoof collection
Date [inclusive]	1900s-1983
Extent	0.67 Linear feet Two boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Henrietta DeLoof was the editor of the Rapid Wheeler, published by the Rapids-Standard Company in Grand Rapids, Michigan (later known as Rapistan, then Dematic). This collection includes issues from 1943 to 1954. The early issues include information on employees who served in World War II. The publication also provides information on the recreation and families of the employees. Also included are Grand Rapids School of Furniture Designing lessons from the early 1900s and a few other items of Grand Rapids ephemera.</p>

Scope and Contents note

The Henrietta DeLoof Collection is a small collection including documents related to her work as an editor at a local company, and a few other items of local history interest. The first series includes copies of the publication, the "Rapid Wheeler", a periodical from the Grand Rapids Rapid Stand Company, now known as Rapistan. Coverage is from 1943 to 1954. The early issues include information on workers who were soldiers in WWII. The publication also provides information on the recreation and family of the employees. Henrietta DeLoof was the assistant editor, later editor of this publication. The Robinson Studio took many of the images used in this publication. Those negatives are located, all or in part, in Coll. 125, the Robinson Studio Collection, at the Grand Rapids Public Library. As these negatives are found & matched to the positive image in the magazine, the negative number is recorded there for future reference.

The second series in this collection has to do with Grand Rapids Furniture design, providing the Grand Rapids School of Furniture Designing Lessons from the early 1900's. The donor has indicated that her father took these courses; their greater use now is as a record of the history of this school. A few other items of Grand Rapids ephemera also accompany this small collection.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department August 2003

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Henrietta DeLoof, accession number 2003.066.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Grand Rapids School of Furniture Designing.

- The Rapids-Standard Company, Inc..

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

Subject(s)

- Employees' magazines, newsletters, etc. -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Furniture design -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Manufacturing industries -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- World War, 1939-1945

Series I. The Rapid-Wheeler, Rapid Stand Co.(Rapistan)

Collection Inventory

Series I. The Rapid-Wheeler, Rapid Stand Co.(Rapistan)		
	Box	Folder
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 1, nos. 6-8: August, September/October, November/ December 1943	1	1
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 2, nos. 2-9: March/April, May/June, July, August, September, October, November, December 1944	1	2
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 3, Nos., 1-12: January – December 1945	1	3
Rapid-Wheeler, Christmas 1945	1	4
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 4, nos. 1-12: January – December 1946	1	5
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 5, nos. 1-11: January – November 1947	1	6
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 6, nos. 1-4: January – April 1948	1	7
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 8, nos. 6-9: September – December 1950	1	8
Rapid-Wheeler, v. 9, nos. 2-7: February, March, April, May, June, July/ August, and Special [Jan.?] 1951	1	9

Series II: Grand Rapids School of Furniture Designing. Lessons in Furnitur...

Rapid-Wheeler, v. 4 [Sic v. 9]: no. 8, September; No. 9, October; No. 9 [sic 10], November; No. 10 [sic 11], December 1951	1	10
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Rapid-Wheeler, v. 10, nos. 1-5: January, February/March, April/May, Summer, September/October 1952	1	11
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Rapid-Wheeler, v. 11, nos. 1-5: Winter, February, Spring, Summer, Autumn 1953	1	12
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Rapid-Wheeler, v. 12, no. 1: January/February 1954	1	13
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Series II: Grand Rapids School of Furniture Designing. Lessons in Furniture Design circa early 1900s

Scope and Contents note

The donor states that her father, Henry DeLoof, attended these courses. She believes they may have been given by or at the YMCA. A note in the Grand Rapids Furniture Record, February 1909, states that this was essentially a mail order method of instruction and that, “besides the mail order students, Mr. Kirkpatrick has large classes in personal attendance.” Ms. DeLoof has stated that her father also later acted as an apprentice for an independent design studio.

No master list of the lesson sheets is available, but probably this is not a complete set. There appear to be different series for different types of lessons, such as style or geometry, or perspective. The sheet for no. 12, lesson in ornament, has fuller identification than most, including A. Kirkpatrick instructor and designer, and the school address at 544-545 Houseman Building.

	Box	Folder
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[Drafting lessons] Nos. 1-12. Showing designs to be drawn on graph paper.	2	1
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Series III. Miscellaneous Documents

Geometry, Nos. 1-4	2	2
Plates, nos. 5-10. These appear to be associated with Geometry.	2	3
Help Hints, nos. 1-4, 8-9	2	4
Lessons, nos. 1-11	2	5
Complete Stock Bill for Lesson no. 11.	2	6
Lessons nos. 1-2 in styles	2	7
Lessons nos. 7-9 in perspective	2	8

Series III. Miscellaneous Documents**Scope and Contents note**

Included here are a couple of programs, one for an opera, for the benefit of the work of the Women's Committee of the Grand Rapids Symphony. The other item is ephemera and a program from a 1983 reunion of East High Classes 1932/1933. The donor is listed on the Communications Committee.

	Box	Folder
La Traviata [Opera Program] / sponsored by Wurzburg ... for the benefit of Women's Committee of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra November 26, 1954	2	9
East High 1932 and 1933 Reunion June 18/19, 1983	2	10