

Finding aid for the Stolorow parking lot images Collection 407

Finding aid prepared by Julie Tabberer

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

September 04, 2014

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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

August 2014

111 Library Street NE

Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503

616-988-5400

localhis@grpl.org

Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u>	4
<u>Administrative Information</u>	4
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u>	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	6
<u>Grand Rapids images</u>	6
<u>Muskegon images</u>	7
<u>Detroit images</u>	7

Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title	Stolorow parking lot images
Date	circa 1940s-1950s
Extent	1.0 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Aaron H. Stolorow (1908-1986) operated automobile parking lots in Grand Rapids, Michigan from the 1930s through the 1980s. He ran the parking lots under both his own name and under Outdoor Parking Co. This collection contains 24 black and white images of parking lots that were owned or leased by Stolorow in Grand Rapids, Muskegon and Detroit. The Grand Rapids images show parking lots in the downtown area, circa 1940s and 1950s. The photographs show many views that are now significantly altered as a result of development, including the sites of Rosa Parks Circle, DeVos Place and the Grand Rapids Community College parking ramp.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

Aaron H. Stolorow (1908-1986) was born in Kiev, Russia. His family was noted as Jewish in the census records. In May 1913, he emigrated to Canada with his parents, Benjamin (Boris) and Esther. His younger brothers, Samuel and Solomon, were born in Canada. In the early 1920s, the family emigrated again to the United States. They settled in South Bend, Indiana, where Aaron was a student and then worked as a salesman.

In the early 1930s, Aaron moved to Grand Rapids. In 1932, he is listed in the city directories as operating three auto parking lots. By 1934, he started using Outdoor Parking Co. as his business name. He continued to operate parking lots in Grand Rapids through the 1980s, mostly in the downtown area. His brother, Solomon, joined him in the business in the late 1930s/early 1940s. Aaron also operated other businesses, including the M&N Garage and American Rent a Car of Grand Rapids.

The collection also includes photographs of parking lots in Muskegon and Detroit that were owned or leased by Aaron Stolorow, according to the donor.

Aaron married Ida Glaser sometime in the early 1930s. They had two daughters, Sandra and Dianne. The family lived at 423 Cheshire NE from the 1930s through the 1980s. Aaron died on November 24, 1986 and Ida on December 26, 1997. They are buried in Ahavas Israel Cemetery.

Scope and Contents note

This is a small collection containing photographs of parking lots owned or leased by Aaron Stolorow. The images were donated in frames and are high-quality black and white photographs. The parking lots depicted are mostly located in Grand Rapids, Michigan with a few in Muskegon and Detroit. The Grand Rapids parking lots are in the downtown area. The images provide non-traditional views of Grand Rapids in the 1940s and 1950s. The photographs show many views that are now significantly altered as a result of development, including the sites of Rosa Parks Circle, DeVos Place and the Grand Rapids Community College parking ramp.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Ida G. Stolorow, in memory of her husband, Aaron H. Stolorow.

Accession number 1988.016.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Outdoor Parking Co. (Grand Rapids, Mich.)

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History -- Photographs

Personal Name(s)

- Stolorow, Aaron H, 1908-1986

Subject(s)

- Parking lots -- Michigan -- Detroit
- Parking lots -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Parking lots -- Michigan -- Muskegon

Grand Rapids images

Collection Inventory

Grand Rapids images		
	Box	Folder
Market and Louis Streets (including Savoy Theatre) (currently Rosa Parks Circle) March 21, 1952	1	1
108 Fountain Street NE, 109 Fountain Street NE (2) and 123 Fountain Street NE (including rear of Grand Rapids Public Library)	1	2
218 Michigan Street NW (3)	1	3
Northwest corner of LaGrave Avenue SE and Weston Street SE (2)	1	4
21 Barclay Street NE	1	5
Fulton and Ransom Streets (2) no date and March 21, 1952	1	6
112-114 Bostwick Avenue NE (Reed Apartments) and 120-122 Bostwick Avenue NE	1	7
77 Market Street (currently Rosa Parks Circle)	1	10
Market and Campau (currently Monroe and Campau)	1	11

Muskegon images

Muskegon images		
	Box	Folder
West Clay Avenue and 2nd Street	1	8
709 First Street (Consolidated Parking Co.)	1	8
258 Market (Santee Parking Inc.)	1	8
Detroit images		
	Box	Folder
244-248 West Congress Street (Consolidated Parking Co.)	1	9
245 West Fort Street (211 West Fort Street)	1	9
626 Wayne Street	1	9
Ford Street and Woodward Avenue, Highland Park	1	9