

# **Finding Aid for the John A. Suchowolec images Collection 140**

**Finding aid prepared by Margaret E. Gillis, Richard H. Harms**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
<b>Creator - Photographer</b>	Suchowolec, John A, Sr., 1927-1989
<b>Title</b>	John A. Suchowolec images
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	circa 1940-1960
<b>Extent</b>	1.0 Linear feet Two boxes
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>John A. Suchowolec, Sr. (1927-1989) was a photographer in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Suchowolec images consists of negatives, photographs, and newspaper photocopies of articles from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s, featuring Suchowolec's photographs. The majority of the images were taken in West Michigan, though some national images, such as the U.S. Capitol and the Golden Gate Bridge are included. The views depict local events, clothing styles, military personnel and their equipment and Grand Rapids businesses such as Burroughs Co. (business machines) and Eberhards (groceries). Some of the images reflect his commercial work, while others his newspaper work. Among the negatives are a series of glass plates which depict Japanese soldiers, ca. 1900.</p>

## **Biographical/Historical note**

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John A. Suchowolec, Sr. (1927-89), a photographer, studied photography at the Progressive School of Photography in New Haven, CN. He worked for James Bayne & Co., a commercial photography and printing company in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He left Bayne & Co. to work for the Grand Rapids Herald from 1950 until 1958. He also worked for Robinson Studio as a photographer and darkroom technician. Later he was employed by Steelcase Inc.

Suchowolec was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Bishop Haas Council #4362; the CMV Post #1500- and the Ushers League of Sacred Heart Church. Suchowolec and his wife Patricia had three children: Mary Dorey, John A. Suchowolec Jr., Debra Stolter, and were adoptive parents of Gaye White.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

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

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Debra Stelter, accession number 1991.025

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials note**

Coll. 125, Robinson Studio Collection

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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**Genre(s)**

- photographs

**Geographic Name(s)**

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

## Series I. Photographs

## Collection Inventory

Series I. Photographs		
	Box	Folder
Baton twirler with awards (also oversized photo). (1)	1	1
Church. Interior. (1)	1	2
Dog (copy of sketch). (1)	1	3
Eberhard's grocery store. Interior. (1)	1	4
Furniture designers. (2)	1	5
Furniture factory. Interior. (1)	1	6
Furniture display. (1)	1	7
Golden Gate Bridge. (1)	1	8
Models (women). (2)	1	9
Naval Training Bag, lay-out. (1)	1	10
Rose. (1)	1	11

**Series II. Newsclippings**

**Box**

1

Drum Majorette (11 x 14 print) [Found in collection and added 5/2000]

**Series II. Newsclippings**

**Box**

**Folder**

Blacksmith, 1/11/1959. (5)

1

12

Gas station, 1/18/1959. (2)

1

13

**Box**

oil refinery explosion, n.d.

1

**Box**

**Folder**

Thornapple slopes, 2/1/1959. (4)

1

14

**Series III. Negatives**

**Scope and Contents note**

Negatives form the bulk of this small collection. Most are 4x5, with about a dozen 5x7's, a couple of 8x10's and 6 intact glass negatives.

**5"x7"**

**Box**

**Folder**

matched to prints above.

1

140.01-3

8"x10"

Bond Street Pipe Tobacco display.	1	140.04
Drug store building.	1	140.05
Jergens Lotion display.	1	140.06
Models (women).	1	140.07-11
Seagram's Whiskey display.	1	140.12
Tennis equipment display.	1	140.13
<b>8"x10"</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Vase with flowers.	1	140.14-15
Toys.	1	140.16
<b>4"x 5" negatives</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Bridge	2	140.17
Furniture designers	2	140.18
G.R.Furniture Co.	2	140.19



## 4"x 5" negatives

Basketball.	2	140.2
Beach (color).	2	140.21
Boats.	2	140.22-23
Boy scouts.	2	140.24
Building	2	140.25
Building, Stone block	2	140.26
Dry docks.	2	140.42-43
Eberhard grocery stores.	2	140.44-47
Fires.	2	140.48-49
Flood.	2	140.5
Freighter.	2	140.51
Golden Gate Bridge.	2	140.52
Grocery stores. Interiors.	2	140.53-54
Holy Name baseball team.	2	140.55

**Burroughs Corp., 2236 S. Division**

Lighthouse.	2	140.56
Linda's Flower Shop, 1427 Grandville Ave., SW.	2	140.57
Flower shop. Interior.	2	140.58
Make-up display.	2	140.59-60
Men with teams of horses.	2	140.61
Motors.	2	140.62-63
Parade (194 Monroe, NW).	2	140.64
<b>Burroughs Corp., 2236 S. Division</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Exterior images	2	140.27
Interior images	2	140.29-.38
Burroughs Corp. Man at Community State Bank, 3900 Grandville Ave SW.	2	140.39-40
Burroughs Corp. Man at auto repair garage.	2	140.41
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>

## Burroughs Corp., 2236 S. Division

Family and car.	2	140.65-66
Group looking at picture	2	140.67
Girl in dance costume	2	140.68
Two men and car.	2	140.69
Women's group.	2	140.70-71
Petosky, Mich.	2	140.72
Police and man on stretcher.	2	140.73
Royal Bank of Canada.	2	140.74
St. Isadore's baseball team.	2	140.75
Shipyards.	2	140.76
Tahquamenon Falls (upper). [Taquamion; Tahquamenaw]	2	140.77
U.S. Soldiers.	2	140.78-82
Unidentified town.	2	140.83
U.S. Capitol.	2	140.84

**4"x5" Glass Plate Negatives**

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Vase with flowers (color).	2	140.85
Vase (color).	2	140.86
Waterfronts.	2	140.87-88

**4"x5" Glass Plate Negatives**

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Japanese soldiers, portrait photos [.89 - broken]	2	140.89-96