

# **Finding aid for the Lipcynzki family papers Collection 179**

**Finding aid prepared by Lisa M. Beyer**

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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

July 1995

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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</b>	Eduard Adam Skendzel, 1921-1999
<b>Title</b>	Lipczynski family papers
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	circa 1880-1992
<b>Extent</b>	0.21 Linear feet One box
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The Lipczynski family immigrated to Grand Rapids, Michigan from Poland in the 19th century. They were the first Polish family to settle east of the Grand River. John Lipczynski was part owner of a pottery works and Valeria Lipczynski was a correspondent for Polish newspapers and was active in helping other immigrants find homes and jobs. In 2011, Valeria was inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. This is a small collection including family photographs, an add for the family pottery business and a history detailing the life of the family. The collection represents materials collected or written by Eduard Adam Skendzel, Polian researcher, and focuses mainly on Valeria's efforts to help other Polish immigrants in the Grand Rapids area.</p>

## **Biographical/Historical note**

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John and Valeria Lipczynski immigrated to the United States from Poland in 1869. Theirs was the first Polish family to settle east of the Grand River. John and his partner, Samuel Davis owned their own pottery works. Valeria was a correspondent for many Polish newspapers and was called "Queen of Poles" and "An Angel of Mercy" for the help she provided other immigrants in finding homes and jobs in the United States.

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## **Scope and Contents note**

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The collection provides the history of an immigrant family and how they made a difference in their new homeland. The collection contains family photos, an ad for the family's pottery business and a family history written by Eduard Adam Skendzel.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department July 1995

### **Revision Description**

Notes revised and updated, J. Tabberer December 2012

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

Eduard Adam Skendzel, 1986, accession number 1986.488

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## **Related Materials**

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## Related Archival Materials note

Collection 299, the Eduard Adam Skendzel Polonian Historical Collection. Skendzel, who also donated the materials in this Collection 179, included information on the Lipczynski and many other Polish families in Collection 299.

Coll. 185-3-6. GRPL Michigan Room Copy Photos Collection.

Polish settlers in Grand Rapids, Michigan, by Edward Symanski, M 301.453438 Sy61p. Also see an article of the same title on polishroots.com

Mme. Valeria Lipczynska, Queen of the Poles -- Angel of Mercy, Polish Eaglet, Vol. 2, Sept. 1982 on Kent County GenWeb (<http://kent.migenweb.net/biographies/local/lipczynska.html>)

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

### Personal Name(s)

- Lipczynski, John, 1840-1917
- Lipczynski, Valeria, 1846-1930

### Subject(s)

- Immigrants -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History
- Polish Americans -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History

## Photographs

## Collection Inventory

## Photographs

## Scope and Contents note

These contact prints often include more than one photograph. There are also two different numbering systems. There are 11 unique contact prints, three of which have two copies, equaling 14 items. Overall, there are 16 unique images.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
1a. Valaria Lipczynski.	1	1
1b. Walter Marion Lipczynski	1	1
2a. Mildred Lipczynski, 1905	1	1
2b. Karl Behrendt, ca. 1890, in his Pulaski Cornet Bank uniform.	1	1
3a. Four generation photo: "Fiske" Rugene Fiske, standing (Eugene?), Seated L-R: Valaria Lipczynski, Dorothy Fiske Leonard, Helen Fiske	1	1
3b. Wilhelm Baweja and Maryann	1	1
4a. L1-R: Albert Damsky, Frank Damskey	1	1
4b. John and Valaria Lipczynski	1	1

## Photographs

5. Constance Popskey (nee Kzucynski), seated in a chair. (2 copies)	1	1
6. Orłowski Family, 1908.	1	1
7a. Hellena Bronislava Lipczynski Fiske, 1875-1938 (Helen Fiske)	1	1
7b. Joseph Bert Bronislava Lipczynski, 1873-1939	1	1
8. Group photo. Polish National Association Ladies Group, Auxillary. In the "garten" of the Jackson Street Hall (2 copies)	1	1
9. Walter Lipczynski and wife Mary Ryan, 1898. Unidentified couple, man seated, woman standing. ID per the Photo Inventory in folder 179-1-2	1	1
10. Group, three woman, seated. 1890 Debutantes. L-R: Mary Ryan, Helen Dzierwn (Jerva) Ulanowicz, Helene Lipczynski.	1	1
11. Group photo: Mildred, Eugene, Helen, Valerie and John Lipczynski, ca. 1915.	1	1
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Photo inventory sheets, n.d.	1	2

**Scope and Contents note**

Alphabetical list of names of people in the images, not matched to an image.

Behrendt: Karl

Baweja: Maryann, William.

## Photographs

Damskey: Albert, Frank.

Fiske: Helene B.L., Rugene.

Leonard: Dorathy F.

Lipczynski: Eugene, John, Joseph, B.B., Mildred, Valeria, Walter.

Orlowski: Rose, family.

PNA Ladies Group Auxillary.

Poposkey: Constance (nee Kzucynski).

Ryan: Mary.

Ulaniwicz: Helen.

Ad for the family pottery business.	1	3
Family history (2 copies).	1	4