

# **Finding aid for the Peck family and Peck's drugstore collection Collection 257**

**Finding aid prepared by R. Mayne**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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

March 2000

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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>Title</b>	Peck family and Peck's drugstore collection
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1916-2000
<b>Extent</b>	3.3 Linear feet Three boxes
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The Peck family owned a well-known drugstore on Monroe Avenue in downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan. The family name is also remembered for the sensational 1916 family murder (Peck-Waite murder), which was widely reported in the national press of the era. This is a small, devised collection relating to the family. Included are newspaper articles and photographs.</p>

## Scope and Contents note

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The Peck Drugstore in Grand Rapids is often recognized as a landmark business on Monroe Ave., one of the most photographed streets in Grand Rapids. However, the Peck name is also remembered for the sensational 1916 family murder (Peck-Waite Murder), which was widely reported in the national press of the era. John Peck and his wife, Hannah, were murdered by their son-in-law, Arthur Waite.

This small collection provides a place to build a general collection related to both the store and to the family, including the murder. Items will be added as received or found, that document the history of the family, the drug store and its building and the murder.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department March 2000

### Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Rockford Development; GRPL. Accession numbers 1999.001, 2000.019 and 2008.032.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Family Name(s)

- Peck

### Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

**Subject(s)**

- Drugstores -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Murder -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids

## Series I. Newspaper and Periodical Articles on the Murders

## Collection Inventory

Series I. Newspaper and Periodical Articles on the Murders		
G.R. Herald excerpts (6 photographic prints) 2000.019		
	Box	Folder
Mar. 23, 1916 (2 copies, 1 has damage)	1	1
Mar. 24, 1916 (2 pages)	1	1
Mar. 25, 1916	1	1
Mar. 29, 1916	1	1
		<b>Box</b>
Oversized scrapbook volume of original newspaper clippings of the murder, 1916		3
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
This material is in very fragile condition and the paper is crumbling when moved. Use the CD and reserve the use of the original sheets for special purposes. 2008.032.		
CD of above. 2008.032		2
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>

**Series II. Newspaper and Periodical Articles on the Building and Drug Stor...**

“Who Wants to Kill a Millionaire? : the Peck Building : Greed and Intrigue” / by David Greiner. Grand Rapids Magazine, Apr. 2000. photocopy) 2 2

The Great Riverside Drive Poison Mystery / by P.L. Trussell : story of the murder of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Peck of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Clipped from the magazine “True Detective Mysteries” Apr-June 1931. Photocopies. 00.[3302].1 Formerly MKG364.T77 2 1

**Box**

Original magazine clippings. 1

**Series II. Newspaper and Periodical Articles on the Building and Drug Store Business****Box Folder**

Modernization pays Peck. Soda Fountain Magazine. V. 38, no. 7, July 1939. P. 18 P2000.033, 8/17/2001 2 3

**Box**

Notes from select GR city directories on the Peck Drug Store and its neighbors, and the separate Peck Building. 2

**Series III. Photographs of the Building**

**6 photographic images, circa 1935 of Peck Drugstore Building, and neighbors 36-46 Monroe Ave (approx). 1999.001**

**Box Folder**

## 6 photographic images, circa 1935 of Peck Drugstore Building, and neighbor...

Neg. 3752. Van Dusen's / Yager's Bootery, 61 Monroe Ave.	2	4
Neg. 3753. Division Street side, with Pecks Drug Store at the corner, and the Division entrance to Jandorfs at right. (Also a digital Fuji? print) See also Neg. 3951.	2	4
Neg. 3754. Pecks Drugstore, 34-38 Monroe showing the corner entrance at Monroe and Division. This is said to be artist Mathias Alten's former studio. Billboards for Masterpiece Cigars and Pecks on this side of building. "City Sign Co" written on upper window.	2	4
Neg. 3755. Pecks Drugstore Building at Monroe and Division. To the left of Pecks is Jandorf's Cafe, Candy, Baked Good. See also Neg. 3952 without the annotation on the image.	2	4
Neg. 3756. Peck's Drugstore on Monroe side with , Jandorf's Café left. Mathias Alten Studio address was 38 1/2 Monroe Ave. suggesting that the door between Pecks and Jandorfs on Monroe may lead up to this studio.	2	4
Neg. 3757 Jandorf's Bakery at 42 Monroe Ave., Photo Service Shop left, Guidotti's Hats & Furnishings. Near view of old autos on the brick streets in front of the stores.	2	4