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Finding aid for the Grand Rapids Century exhibit collection Collection 268

"A Grand Rapids Century: 100 Years of Photographs from 20th Century Grand Rapids"

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Department

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Summary Information

Repository:	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title:	Grand Rapids Century Exhibit collection
ID:	Collection 268
Date [inclusive]:	1900-2000
Physical Description:	6.6 Linear Feet Seven boxes
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	This collection includes the photocopies of images and displays used in the wall exhibit "A Grand Rapids Century : 100 Years of Photographs from 20th Century Grand Rapids." The exhibit consisted of images selected by Grand Rapids Public Library local history department staff to represent the various decades of the last century, as Grand Rapids moved into the 21st Century. The photographic images capture the events, buildings and people of Grand Rapids and Kent County, Michigan.

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Biographical / Historical

The photographs for the exhibit were selected by the staff from the Local History Department, Grand Rapids Public Library, with different staff members taking one or two decades. The final selection was made by department head and City Historian, Gordon Olson. The design and mounting of the inhouse exhibit was done by freelance artist Anna Fraser. The design and mounting of the online exhibit was done by GRPL Reference Staff member Pam Lucas.

Some items, mostly from the 1980s and 1990s, were newly obtained for the exhibit from the parent organization. The larger percentage of the images are in black and white, with more color images toward the end of the century. This exhibit was the last one displayed in the old Ryerson Gallery, Ryerson Library Building, in the year 2000, before the Library moved to temporary quarters for building renovation. The online version has continued to be displayed on the department's web page. Some images exist in this archival collection for the exhibit that are not displayed in the online exhibit.

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Scope and Contents

The Grand Rapids Century Exhibit includes select images representing specific people, organizations or events which marked the passage of the 20th century in Grand Rapids, Michigan, by decade. The handlist for the exhibit is included in this collection, but is also reproduced within this finding aid, to act as an access tool inventory to the materials.

There is also a computer print out of the Internet version of the exhibit, which provides the illustration with the caption. Some of the items used in the wall exhibit are not included in the online exhibit, due to the lack of copyright permissions for some non-library owned images representing more recent decades.

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Arrangement

The arrangement of the panels for the in-house exhibit is chronological by decade. One item was also selected from each decade and placed in a museum case to represent "The Changing Face of Downtown Grand Rapids." An image from the title page has been included here, but the title panel itself is no longer available. Images are mounted on crescent board, with a different color board to distinguish each decade.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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

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Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

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URL: <http://www.grpl.org>

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Grand Rapids Public Library staff and other miscellaneous.

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Collection Inventory

Box Summary

Title/Description	Instances
Documentation	Box 1
"Changing Face" Images	Box 2
Oversized Images	Box 2
Decade labels	Box 2
Boards, 1900-1920	Box 3
Boards, 1930-1960	Box 4
Boards, 1970-1999	Box 5
Oversized	Box 6
Oversized	Box 7

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Panel Content

Scope and Contents

This series includes the text for the exhibit's panels. For the originals and their locations, see Boxes 3-5.

Title/Description	Instances
1900-1910	Box 3

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 In 1905, Grand Rapids auto maker Walter Austin (at the wheel) made this 50 horse-power automobile for Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Judd (seated in back). [Austin Automobile Collection 143-2]
- 2 Grand Rapids got a new library building in 1904 thanks to Chicago financier Martin Ryerson, who donated the building in memory of his mother, who had grown up in Grand Rapids. [GRPL Photo Col. 54-11-6]

- 3 The career of George Perry, mayor of Grand Rapids at the beginning of the new century, was tainted by election scandals and a corrupt effort to build a water pipe-line to Lake Michigan. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-32-48]
- 4 When the Grand River flooded in the spring of 1904, water reached nearly to John Ball Park, turning West Side streets into waterways like the canals of Venice. [The Flood in Grand Rapids : photographic views of the inundated sections of the City, March 25-29, 1904. Grand Rapids : Dean-Hicks Printing Co., 1904. pg. [3]]
- 5 Destruction rained down on the people who lived on Clancy Street, below Lookout Hill, when the water reservoir burst in 1900. [Belknap Park Reservoir Flood/Landslide. Grand Rapids Public Library Cyanotype Collection. 87-1-5.]
- 6 When the sheet metal workers marched in this turn-of-the-century Labor Day parade, they sported tin umbrellas they had made for the occasion. [Stephen Stover Glass Negative #26, Col. 128-5-5. Labor Day Parade]
- 7 Furniture makers dominated Grand Rapids economy in 1900. Over 60 local factories turned out handcrafted pieces for customers throughout the nation. [R.W. Irwin-Phoenix Furniture. Interior, 1903. Furniture Manufacturers Assoc. Collection 84-17-10]
- 8 Several farmers markets, like this Leonard Street operation, brought fresh vegetables and fruit to urban dwellers early in the century. [City Market. GRPL Photo Collection 54-7-4]
- 9 Grand Rapids' women's curling team was a notable exception to the turn-of-the-century attitude that women should not participate in competitive sports. [1908. GRPL Photo Collection 54-7-26]
- 10 At the beginning of the new century Ramona Park was a popular picnic and boating area with a few other amusements like this carousel. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-42-10, O.A. Brothers, photographers]
- 11 Reed's Lake was a popular water recreation spot in the early 1900s, with the steamboats Major Watson and Hazel A offering five-cent rides. [Reed's Lake, looking N. toward the Lakeside Club. Major Watson on left. Hazel A on right. ca. 1900. News Photographs Collection 33-12-46]
- 12 Declared by many to be, pound for pound, the century's greatest fighter, boxer, Stanley Ketchel put Grand Rapids on the nation's sports map when he won the world welterweight and middleweight championships in 1907 and 1908. [GRPL MR Copy Photograph Collection 185-3-1]

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 The American Seating women's softball team was one of many athletic teams sponsored by local companies. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-48-14]
- 2 In 1911, one year after the national Boy Scout organization was founded, Grand Rapids leaders held an exposition to attract boys to a local organization. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-5-15]
- 3 Opened in 1915, the Pantlind Hotel, now the Amway Grand Plaza, continues to offer Grand Rapids' finest accommodations. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-4-11]
- 4 When it went on line in 1912, the Grand Rapids' Monroe Avenue water filtration plant assured residents a consistent supply of clean water. [GRPL Post Card Collection 78-2-94]
- 5 Completed in 1914, the new Grand Rapids YMCA building was one of several additions to the urban landscape in the first two decades of the 20th century. [GRPL Post Card Collection 78-2-83]
- 6 Testimony to a large and active membership, the Masonic Temple has been a Fulton Street landmark since it opened in 1915. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-19-8. Camera Shop photo]
- 7 In 1911, striking furniture workers stopped work in nearly all the city's factories. Here two strike leaders meet beneath a sign announcing the Lyric Theatre's support for the workers. [Union leader Gerritt VerBerg at right. GRPL MR Copy Photo Collection 185-1-75]
- 8 Like the rest of the nation, these workers at the Grand Rapids War Relief headquarters rallied to the cause after the United States entered World War I. [War Relief Headquarters, Pantlind Block May 1916-May 1919. GRPL Photo Collection 54-48-11]
- 9 Recent immigrants, like these American Seating workers, often attended "Americanization" classes held in the factory after their work shifts were completed. [YMCA Industrial Service. GRPL Photo Collection 54-48-14]
- 10 Women were still campaigning for the right to vote in 1912 when this photograph was taken of the state headquarters for the Michigan Equal Franchise Association in what is now the McKay Tower Building. [Mrs. Jones/Rowe/Hamilton/Blake/Russell. GRPL Photo Collection 54-48-8]
- 11 Victory in World War I was celebrated by a huge parade through downtown. [Armistice Parade. GRPL Photo Collection 54-4-17]

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 The Stout Air Service brought regularly scheduled passenger service to Grand Rapids in 1926. Two years later they proudly boasted of making the first furniture shipment by air. [Morris Photo Col.#31. 43-1-1]
- 2 Beginning in 1924, radio brought news and entertainment programs into Grand Rapids homes. [Pictorial History of Grand Rapids Collection 138-3-1]
- 3 Introduced to the city in 1877, telephone service was coordinated by "operators" at the busy central Bell Telephone building on Fountain Street when this photograph was taken in 1922. [Michigan Bell Telephone. GRPL Photo Collection 54-19-21]
- 4 Built in 1925, the Fine Arts Building, now part of the Amway Grand Hotel was designed to be a showplace for furniture made in Grand Rapids. [Fine Arts Building Construction, ca. 1925. Morris Photo Col. #80. 43-1-2]
- 5 By the 1920s, Butterworth Hospital, founded in 1877, was an important Grand Rapids landmark. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-5-30. Camera Shop photo]
- 6 Concerned about the city's high rate of infant mortality in the early years of the century, socially conscious women formed seven infant clinics, such as this one at 112 Louis NW, to instruct new mothers in the care of their babies. [Clinic for Infant Feeding. Grand Rapids Historical Society Records. 141-10-17.]
- 7 Although ultimately unsuccessful, Prohibition rallied social reformers across the nation and closed local bars and saloons for nearly 15 years. [Dorothy Keister Collection. 101-1-17]
- 8 "Open Air" classrooms were introduced in the public schools in the 1920s to prevent the spread of tuberculosis. [Open Air Classroom, West Leonard, 1923. Acc. 86.150. Tuberculosis Soc. Of Michigan. Anti-TB scrapbooks. Camera Shop]

1930-1940

Box 4

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 Christmas Seals were a 1930s effort to raise money for the battle to fight tuberculosis. [Acc. 86.150. Tuberculosis Soc. Of Michigan. Anti-TB scrapbooks. Robinson Studio Photo.]
- 2 Although the company lasted only three years, excited residents desperately hoped the first DeVaux-Hall automobile would bring success and jobs when it rolled off the assembly line in 1933. [Robinson Studio Collection Photo. 125-934-2.]

- 3 Built in 1936, the 82-year-old Grand Rapids Public Museum used a combination of local funds and Federal New Deal money to provide a new home for the one of the Midwest's oldest museums. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-11-8]
- 4 Kent County Airport officials produced this scale model in 1938 to help skeptics better visualize their expansion plans. [Thomas E. Walsh Papers. 75-31-Scrapbook 4]
- 5 During the Great Depression, Grand Rapids Fire Stations were used as milk distribution points to children from needy families. [Grand Rapids City Welfare Department. Scrip Labor Collection. 67-1-3]
- 6 With people out of work and in need of food, Grand Rapids city government hired women to can fruit and vegetables for consumption by needy families. [Grand Rapids City Welfare Department. Scrip Labor Collection. 67-1-2b]
- 7 IK's Little White-Front Barbecue on west Bridge Street was one local family's response to the hard times of the 1930s. [Morris Photo Col. #111. 43-1-3]
- 8 George Welsh, Grand Rapids best known politician, served as Grand Rapids City Manager from 1929 to 1932, and then as Mayor from 1938 to 1950. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-37-22]
- 9 Built in 1932, construction of Grand Rapids' Civic Auditorium created publicly funded jobs during the early years of the Great Depression, before New Deal programs were created. [Grand Rapids City Welfare Department. Scrip Labor Collection. 67-2-13]
- 10 [Interior of the Regent Theatre. Pictorial History of Grand Rapids Collection. 138-5-19]
- 11 [Exterior of the Regent Theatre. GRPL Photo Collection 54-12-19]
- 12 In an effort to provide income for unemployed men, roadwork such as this Eastern Avenue grading project, was done with hand labor rather than heavy equipment. [Eastern Ave. at Maybelle St. , Nov. 21, 1931. Grand Rapids City Welfare Department. Scrip Labor Collection. 67-2-9]

1940-1950

Box 4

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 Senator Arthur Vandenberg, an isolationist before World War II, became a strong United Nations supporter and member of the United States delegation to the founding meeting in San Francisco. [Speaking at Pantlind, Mar. 23, 1946. Robinson Studio Collection 125-H017930; 125-942-6]
- 2 Jess Elster's baseball team was a fixture on the local sports scene from the 1900s to the 1950s. [Acc. 90.038]

- 3 Grand Rapids Press Newsboys picnicked and played at Ramona Park in 1945. [Newsboys on roller coaster, Ramona Park, June 23, 1945. Robinson Studio Collection. 125-HO12045C; 125-942-6]
- 4 Home-grown "Victory Gardens," like this couple's efforts, assured adequate fresh produce at home to replace goods sent to troops overseas. [Oakleigh Rd. Aug. 14, 1943. Robinson Studio Collection. 125-HO18083; 125-942-5]
- 5 On May 23, 1946, Grand Rapids honored Pfc. Dirk Vlug who earned the Congressional Medal of Honor for single-handedly destroying five Japanese tanks in the Philippines. [Robinson Studio Collection. 125-H018120F]
- 6 During World War II, women took jobs in area factories replacing men who had joined the military. [Women in Machine Shop, Interior for Reid Weber, July 15, 1943. Robinson Studio Collection 125-C-020018A]
- 7 Opened in 1949, the new Herpolsheimer store was the first major construction project in postwar Grand Rapids. [GRPH Photo Collection 54-13-18].
- 8 In 1949, Greenville entrepreneur Hendrick Meijer, shown here (third from right) with his family opened a new store on Eastern Avenue, continuing his expansion into the Grand Rapids area. [Meijer's Store #4, 1645 Eastern S.E., Sept. 16, 1949. Meijer Family in front of store. Robinson Studio Collection. 125-#C022,492; 125-924]
- 9 [Dorothy Judd. Robinson Studio Collection 125-H003192A]
- 10 [Citizen's Action Rally, May 12, 1949. Robinson Studio Collection 125-H003102B]
- 11 Supporters of Citizen's Action hung brooms on their homes to indicate their desire to clean up city government. [Mrs. Tierney Sweeping. May 16, 1949. Robinson Studio Collection 125-H017242A].
- 12 Television came to Grand Rapids in 1949 and retailers attracted customers by placing operating sets in their store windows. [Pete's Radio Service. Aug. 2, 1949. Robinson Studio Collection 125-C030,928.]

1950-1960

Box 4

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 Buck Barry hosted an early WOOD television kid's show. [Wood TV, Jan. 21, 1956. Robinson Studio Collection. 125-C038073; 125-925.]
- 2 Ritzee Hamburgs was one of the city's first fast food establishments. [6 E. Park Place. Robinson Studio Collection. 125-E2123]
- 3 Fr. Edward L. Eardley, chaplain of St. John's Home, was one of 6,099 Kent County men called to serve in

- the Korean War. [Fr. Eardley leaving for Air Force, May 5, 1952. 125-C040,053A]
- 4 [H.L. Green Co., Interior. Aug. 7, 1952. Robinson Studio Collection 125-E1030]
- 5 [H.L. Green Co., Exterior. + W.T. Grant, Woolworths. 45-69 Monroe Avenue SW, July 16, 1952. Robinson Studio Collection 125-E1020]
- 6 By 1955 when he campaigned from this "mobile office," Gerald R. Ford was a popular four-term incumbent congressman. [Jerry Ford Congressman, Campaign trailer. Sept. 6, 1955. Robinson Studio Collection. 125-C011251B]
- 7 Long known as Metal Office Furniture Company, Steelcase took the name of its most famous office furniture line in 1954 and became the industry leader thanks to a new plant completed in 1958, and a new line of colorful products. [GRPL Photo Collection. Chamber of Commerce Photo. 54-14-14]
- 8 [Gadget Ward, Dottie Naum, Pat Keagle. Robinson Studio Collection 125-C013157E; 125-938-120.]
- 9 [Grand Rapids Chicks, 1953 team. Robinson Studio Collection. 125-C013159; 125-938-98]
- 10 Image not available. Steelcase Sunshine Styling. Do not own catalog, should check on copyright & for permission to use from Steelcase (who I understand doesn't even have their own copy).
- 11 Urban League director Paul Phillips led an effort to reduce racial tension and secure equal access to housing, jobs and education for African-Americans in Grand Rapids [News Photos Collection. 133-2-92]

1960-1970

Box 5

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 Evangeline Lamberts became Grand Rapids' first woman city commissioner in 1961. [Campaign poster. GRPL Art & Graphics Collection 224, Acc. No. 91.030b]
- 2 Old Kent Bank president Carl Morgenstern (second from left) joined Kentwood Mayor Peter Lamberts (second from right) and several others to break ground for Woodland Mall in 1968. [Chamber of Commerce Col. 46-24a-36]
- 3 Entrepreneurs Jay Van Andel and Rich DeVos cut the ribbon on their new administrative building in Ada, 1965. [Chamber of Commerce Collection 46-21a-30]
- 4 Image not available. By the time this photo was taken in 1964, 28th Street had become Michigan's second busiest city street. Only Detroit's Telegraph Avenue was busier. [GR Press photo]
- 5 Lt. Roger B. Chaffee selected for the NASA program in 1963, died in a tragic fire while training in 1967.

- [Lt. R.B. Chaffee, ca. 1958. News Photos Collection. 133-1-184]
- 6 The first segment of the U.S. 131 freeway, Grand Rapids' first, opened on December 22, 1961. [Chamber of Commerce Collection 46-27-3]
 - 7 Construction of U.S. 131 north from downtown Grand Rapids resulted in the demolition of more than 800 west side homes. [William F. Drueke Photo Col. 212-1-4].
 - 8 Downtown urban renewal in the 1960s cleared land between Ionia and Monroe avenues from Lyon and Michigan streets. [Chamber of Commerce Collection 46-26b-43???
 - 9 Mary Stiles made a statement for historic preservation in 1969 when she chained herself to the wrecking ball that was poised to knock down the old city hall clock tower. [GRPL Photo Collection 54-10-25]
 - 10 Image not available. Racial strife in Detroit and other cities fueled unrest that boiled over into the streets of Grand Rapids in 1967 [GR Press photo].
 - 11 Kent County Airport, opened in November 1963, was officially dedicated with an air show the following summer. [Airport, Interior. GRPL Photo Collection 54-16-15]
 - 12 Airport, Exterior. Image not available
 - 13 Dedicated in June 1969, Alexander Calder's stabile sculpture, La Grande Vitesse, shown here framing the soon-to-be-torn-down old city hall, quickly became a symbol of Grand Rapids urban renaissance. [Alexander Calder at the Plaza. June 13, 1969. Nancy Mulnix Collection. 1-6-8]

1970-1980

Box 5

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 Vietnam refugee Pham Huu Duyet was reunited with his daughter and wife at Kent County Airport in 1976. [GR Press Photo]
- 2 Shown here taking the oath of office in 1974, Rev. Lyman Parks became Grand Rapids first African American mayor in 1971. [GR Press Photo]
- 3 A large crowd turned out to welcome Major Joseph Shanahan of Kentwood when he returned home after four and a half years of imprisonment in North Vietnam. [Grand Rapids Press photo]
- 4 Beginning with the dedication of Alexander Calder's La Grande Vitesse, Grand Rapids attracted thousands of people downtown each year for its annual Festival of the Arts. [Craig VanderLende, photographer, no permission. See 54-8-9]
- 5 xxx
- 6 xxx

- 7 As part of its 1976 Bicentennial celebration, Grand Rapids created a time capsule from this old Apollo training capsule. [GR Press Photo]
- 8 Shortly after he became Vice-President in 1973, Gerald R. Ford returned home to a tumultuous Grand Rapids celebration. [Ford Rally. Chamber of Commerce Collection 46-22c-28]
- 9 [Monroe Ave. 1979. GRPL Urban Renewal Pictorials. #79-046. 118-3-28.
- 10 [Monroe Mall Downtown Construction. GRPL Urban Renewal Pictorials #79-052. 118-3-29]
- 11 [Jerry Ford sworn in as 35th President of U.S. by Chief Justice Warren Burger, Aug. 9, 1974, with Betty Ford looking on. Ralph B. Baldwin Papers. 176-2-2.]
- 12 [Jerry/Betty Ford in Oval office at the White House. Ralph B. Baldwin Papers. 176-2-2]
- 13 [Welcome to Heritage Hill, Historic District. John Douglas Image Collection 226, in processes]
- 14 [Unidentified photo, Heritage Hill. GRPL Photo Collection 54-14-2]

1980-1990

Box 5

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 After Grand Rapids received All-America City designation in 1981, Mayor Abe Drasin purchased a commemorative license plate from Union Bank President David Frey. The bank sold the plates for \$1.00 at all its branches. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids Press]
- 2 With Senator Carl Levin looking on, Mayor Gerald Helmholt cut a giant red-white-and-blue cake to launch Grand Rapids' 150th birthday celebration in 1988. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids Press]
- 3 Led by Richard Gillette and Richard DeVos, a blue-ribbon committee instrumental in bringing about the Grand Center gathered in the pedestrian walkway over Monroe Avenue connecting Calder Plaza and the Grand Center. Next to DeVos is Mary Ann Keeler, followed by Jack Roberts, Edith Blodgett, Edward Frey, Richard Oele, Lyman Parks, Buck Matthews, Harold Geerdes, John Bissell, Casey Wondergem, and Ben Dean. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids Press]
- 4 Ground was cleared in 1977 for the construction of the Grand Center, a 60,000 square-foot exhibition hall and a 2,450 square-foot music hall completed in 1980. [DeVos Hall-Grand Center. GRPL Urban Renewal Pictorials. #79-060.118-1-13]
- 5 Dedication of the renovated Amway Grand Plaza Hotel kicked off a weeklong celebration in 1981 capped by the dedication of the Gerald R. Ford Museum. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids Press]

- 6 By the end of the 1980s, Grand Valley State University's downtown Eberhard Center saw an estimated 4,000 students pass through its doors each week. [Photo courtesy Grand Valley State University]
- 7 President Ronald Reagan and First Lady Nancy Reagan joined former President Gerald R. Ford and Betty Ford on center stage for the dedication of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum on September 18, 1981. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids Press]
- 8 Originally dedicated in 1911, Grand Rapids old Federal Building found new life in 1981 when it was rededicated as the home of the Grand Rapids Art Museum, with President Gerald R. Ford cutting the ribbon assisted by Michigan First Lady Helen Milliken and Art Museum President Charles McCallum. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids Press]
- 9 [Old Federal Building/Post office, converted to new Grand Rapids Art Museum. Source of photo unknown]

1990-2000

Box 5

Exhibit Captions

Exhibit Captions

- 1 As the century drew to a close, plans were underway to renovate the Grand Rapids Public Library, including the Ryerson Building constructed nearly 100 years earlier. [Public Library Renovation. Grand Rapids Public Library photo]
- 2 Offering family fun activities from the opening national anthem to the final out, West Michigan Whitecaps baseball was one of several sports franchises providing entertainment for local fans. [Photo courtesy West Michigan Whitecaps]
- 3 Captured and held prisoner for three weeks during the Persian Gulf War, former resident Melissa Rathbun-Nealy's plight reminded everyone that the impact of international events was never far away. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids Press]
- 4 A popular venue for sports and entertainment since it was opened in the fall of 1996, Van Andel Arena, has become a major force in the ongoing downtown renovation. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids-Kent County Convention and Visitors Bureau]
- 5 Along with the Gerald R. Ford Museum and Grand Valley State University's Eberhard Center, the Public Museum of Grand Rapids' new Van Andel Museum Center has dramatically changed the look of downtown west bank of the Grand River. [Photo courtesy Public Museum of Grand Rapids]
- 6 Constructed in 1925, John Ball's statue at the entrance to the John Ball Park Zoo has been a popular attraction for generations of young Grand Rapidians.

- 7 Two new hotels, the Amway Grand Plaza (left) and the Courtyard by Marriot, also owned by the Amway Corporation, have changed Grand Rapids' downtown skyline. [Photo courtesy Grand Rapids-Kent County Convention and Visitors Bureau]
- 8 Steelcase Inc's new Corporate Development Center in Gaines Township symbolized the Grand Rapids area's place as the center of the office furniture industry.
- 9 Dedicated in 1995, The Frederick Meijer Gardens, with their botanical gardens and outdoor sculptures, are a popular year-round attraction. [Photo courtesy Frederick Meijer Garden]

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