

Finding aid for the Hero D. Bratt Grand Rapids images Collection 372

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Prepared by Jennifer Morrison

Grand Rapids History Center

Grand Rapids Public Library 111 Library Street NE Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 Business Number: 616-988-5497 localhis@grpl.org URL: https://www.grpl.org/history/

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Summary Information

| Repository: | Grand Rapids History Center |
|------------------------------|---|
| Creator - pht: | Bratt, Hero D |
| Title: | Hero D. Bratt Grand Rapids images |
| ID: | Collection 372 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1961-1973, no date |
| Physical Description: | 6 Linear Feet |
| Language of the Material: | English . |
| Abstract: | Hero D. Bratt (1900-1977) worked in downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan during the urban renewal period in the late 1960s and early 1970s. As an amateur photographer, Bratt documented the buildings and streetscapes before the changes, as well as the demolition and new construction processes. The collection includes over 1,500 color slides, each converted into a print. Because of the comprehensiveness and quality of the images, they are an invaluable record of modern change in downtown Grand Rapids. |

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Biographical / Historical

Hero D. Bratt was born December 29, 1900 in Crisp, Michigan, the oldest of thirteen children. His parents, Dirk and Hattie (nee Boeve), were farmers and Hero's childhood was characterized by manual labor and farm life. At the age of 22, however, he chose to move to Grand Rapids and attend high school shortly after Grand Rapids Christian High opened in 1921. In the city he took jobs to support himself during and after high school, and eventually became a heating salesman/engineer. He attended Sherman Street Christian Reformed Church where he met Clara Koppers, whom he married in 1927. The couple adopted a son, Don, in 1932. They also had a daughter Francis (Anne).

Soon after moving to Grand Rapids, Hero became interested in photography and purchased a camera. He was known for the volume of photos he took and the notes he kept on them. During Grand Rapids' urban renewal era, Hero launched a project to record images of literally every downtown structure affected by the trend. His office, a former residence at 331 Ottawa NW, was in the heart of the area that experienced the most drastic changes. Motivated, meticulous, and with unique access to a broad range of vantage points, Hero photographed buildings before, during and after demolition as well as the buildings that replaced them before, during and after construction. From the slides, he developed a program called "Glimpses of Old Grand Rapids" that became very popular and that he gave frequently to community groups for over twelve years.

Hero shared his love of photography with his son and Don worked with his father on the urban renewal project. Don is responsible for some of the images, especially the interior shots where a flash was necessary. Hero died May 25, 1977, after which time Don continued his father's quest of presenting "Glimpses of Old Grand Rapids" to local audiences and ensuring that Hero's faithful record of the changes in downtown were preserved and made known to subsequent generations.

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Scope and Contents

There are over 1500 color slides in this collection of urban renewal activity in downtown Grand Rapids, taken by Hero Bratt and some by his son, Don. The slides date from 1961 to 1973 with many slides undated and possibly from slightly earlier or later years. The slides show downtown streets such as Monroe, Michigan, Crescent, Lyon, Ionia and Ottawa. They show churches, schools, government buildings like City Hall and commercial buildings such as banks and breweries. There are also views of highways, parks and Calder Plaza.

The vast scale of demolition and rebuilding unique to the urban renewal period allowed views of the city impossible at any time before or after. Relationships between buildings, streets and other landmarks (and notably relationships between old and new) are made clear through Bratt's images in a manner that is often unprecedented. Bratt shot buildings up close, capturing detail, but also shot broader scenes from multiple angles and from the same angle at multiple points in time so that we can essentially watch buildings come down and the newer structures go up in their place.

Patrons with specific interests would do well to search broadly in this collection because often the view in the background (or a minor detail captured in just the right way) of these images is as important as that in the foreground.

Because of its comprehensiveness and quality, this is an invaluable record of modern change in downtown Grand Rapids and would be very useful to those seeking documentation of everything in the range from details to broad developments within this subject.

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Arrangement note: Slides

The slides have been organized using the order and designations they were found in. This order probably was based on either how the slides were used in Bratt's presentations or how they were originally shot. The weakness of this organization is that not all views of a subject are found together.

The slides in this collection were given to us in four containers; three Bell & Howell Company Tandem-matic Slide File boxes each the size of a large shoe box and holding six trays of slides, plus one additional box that instead of trays held smaller boxes and one plastic bag filled with slides. The boxes have been designated one through four in this finding aid, with the more complicated box first, but did not originally have any order.

The slides in container one were found rubber banded and wrapped in paper in groups of one to fifty. On the paper was identification for that one to fifty slide(s) hand written in pencil. These banded groups were separated into small boxes (one was a check book box) and one tray (like from the other containers) and one plastic bag, and each of these containers had some group identification. So, according to Bratt's arrangement and description, container one held the following: "Box A-1 Churches and Spires", "Box A-2 Views from Butterworth, Various Street Scenes", "Box B Monroe Avenue Views", "Box C Sequence #7" (it is unclear what "Sequence #7" meant), "Box D Unassigned" (it is unclear what "Unassigned" meant), Tray No. 13, a box marked only "Hero Bratt Slides Urban Renewal G.R." with no letter or number and a plastic bag.

Containers two, three and four held six trays each. Some of these trays were labeled with a letter and some with a number though neither were sequential. For example, trays A, B and F were in container two, but tray D was in container three and there was no Tray C. The contents section of Series II shows the details of the breakdown

Each of the slides in the collection was found labeled with a unique code number in black marker. The code consists of a two or three digit number, followed by the letter "R", followed by a one or two digit number (ex: 117R27 and 86R6). There is no key for this code but it is useful as a means of identifying an individual slide.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Grand Rapids History Center

Grand Rapids Public Library 111 Library Street NE Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503 Business Number: 616-988-5497 localhis@grpl.org URL: https://www.grpl.org/history/

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Don Bratt, accession number 2009.016.

Processing Information

Prints were made of the slides by GRPL and the prints are organized differently from the slides for the ease of use by the typical patron. The prints are arranged by subject as delineated in the Contents section of this finding aid. Except when special permission is granted, patrons will be given access to the prints only.

The physical and intellectual arrangement of the slides preserves the arrangement in which they were donated and gives insight into Bratt's priorities but does not impose (or provide) a subject or chronological order.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Buildings -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- Photographs
- Urban renewal -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History -- photographs
- photographs

Collection Inventory

Series I: Prints

Scope and Contents

The prints are organized into five major categories: old buildings, new structures, old and new, broader views and other subjects. Within these categories, the folders are arranged alphabetically except for broader views. Broader views contains such a variety that an attempt was made to group them by related subjects. Images in the old buildings category show relatively close shots of buildings that simply existed

before urban renewal. Items in the new structures category include the Calder statue and urban renewal era buildings.

Old Buildings

Scope and Contents

Closer shots of buildings that were already existent in the urban renewal era, some of which survived but most did not.

| le/Description | Instances | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Alexander Dodds | Box 1 | Folder 1 |
| Ashton Building | Box 1 | Folder 2 |
| Bishop Furniture | Box 1 | Folder 3 |
| Bratt's Building (exterior and interior, his staff) | Box 1 | Folder 4 |
| Brewery | Box 1 | Folder 5 |
| Brewery 2 (evening silhouettes, smoke stack, architectural details) | Box 1 | Folder 6 |
| Brewery 3 (this building, across Michigan from the brewery has the same architecture and was probably originally associated with it) | Box 1 | Folder 7 |
| Burton Heights Christian Reformed Church | Box 1 | Folder 8 |
| City Hall | Box 1 | Folder 9 |
| City Hall Behind New Old Kent Clock | Box 1 | Folder 10 |
| City Hall Detail | Box 1 | Folder 11 |
| Civic Auditorium Exteriors | Box 1 | Folder 12 |
| Civic Auditorium Details | Box 1 | Folder 13 |
| County Building | Box 1 | Folder 14 |
| Dime Stores | Box 1 | Folder 15 |
| Federal Building | Box 1 | Folder 16 |
| Goodspeed Building | Box 1 | Folder 17 |
| Grand Rapids Labor Temple | Box 1 | Folder 18 |
| Grand Rapids Press | Box 1 | Folder 19 |
| Grand Rapids Refridgerator (on Ottawa) | Box 1 | Folder 20 |
| Houseman Building | Box 1 | Folder 21 |
| Immanuel Lutheran Church | Box 1 | Folder 22 |
| Italianate buildings downtown, most on Monroe (Includes Butter Wagon Hamburgs, Dodds Record Shop, Fanny | Box 1 | Folder 23 |

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Farmer candies,Fred Astaire Dance studios, Herkner Jewelers, Kinney Shoes, Prange bldg, Richman bros., Tarry House Cafeteria, Vital foods)

| Mel Trotter | Box 1 | Folder 24 |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Old Kent Bank | Box 1 | Folder 25 |
| Pantlind and Exhibition Building (and Lyon Street) | Box 1 | Folder 26 |
| Peck Building | Box 1 | Folder 27 |
| Police Station | Box 1 | Folder 28 |
| Regent Theater | Box 1 | Folder 29 |
| St. Mark's Episcopal Church | Box 1 | Folder 30 |
| Union Station | Box 1 | Folder 31 |
| Wurzburg's | Box 1 | Folder 32 |
| In one folder: (Federal Square Building, McKay Tower, Trust Bldg, Voight Milling, Waters Bldg) | Box 1 | Folder 33 |
| Unidentified older brick and stone building plus unidentified likely school and unidentified likely commercial building (the latter two are probably not downtown) | Box 1 | Folder 34 |
| Close shots of demolition sites (users may be able to id the locations) | Box 1 | Folder 35 |

New Structures

Scope and Contents

Closer shots of buildings that were new in the urban renewal era, images sometimes include development of the site and building and some buildings around them.

| Title/Description | Instances | |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Calder Statue (and surrounding buildings) | Box 2 | Folder 1 |
| City Hall/County Building | Box 2 | Folder 2 |
| County Building | Box 2 | Folder 3 |
| Federal Building | Box 2 | Folder 4 |
| Frey Building | Box 2 | Folder 5 |
| Grand Rapids Press | Box 2 | Folder 6 |
| Hall of Justice | Box 2 | Folder 7 |
| Police Department | Box 2 | Folder 8 |
| Hall of Justice/ Police Dept together | Box 2 | Folder 9 |
| Michigan Consolidated Gas | Box 2 | Folder 10 |

| Box 2 | Folder 11 |
|-------|--|
| Box 2 | Folder 12 |
| Box 2 | Folder 13 |
| Box 2 | Folder 14 |
| Box 2 | Folder 15 |
| Box 2 | Folder 16 |
| Box 2 | Folder 17 |
| | Box 2 Box 2 Box 2 Box 2 Box 2 Box 2 |

Old and New

Scope and Contents

Views of both the old and new structures housing particular businesses or institutions.

| itle/Description | Instances | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Armory | Box 3 | Folder 1 |
| Barclay, Ayers & Bertsch | Box 3 | Folder 2 |
| Churches | Box 3 | Folder 3 |
| Clement Electric/Leitelt Iron Works | Box 3 | Folder 4 |
| Elks and Oddfellows | Box 3 | Folder 5 |
| Herpolsheimer's and Steketee's | Box 3 | Folder 6 |
| Kutsche Hardware (includes east side of Monroe looking north towards Press bldg) | Box 3 | Folder 7 |
| Bissell's | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Brooks Building | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Consumers Power | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Conway Corporation | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Coye's | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Andy J. Egan Co. | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Ehinger Shoes | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Gantos | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Groskopfs | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Klingman's Furniture Co. | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Lakos/Douma | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Mays | Box 3 | Folder 8 |

| Mobert's | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
|--|-------|----------|
| Owen, Ames, Kimball | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Ronda Tire | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Shaw's Jewelers/Opticians | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Town House | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| J. A. White Distributing Co. | Box 3 | Folder 8 |
| Architectural details (exterior and interior) from old and new buildings | Box 3 | Folder 9 |

Broader Views

| Title/Description | Instances | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Looking east (and predominantly north) towards the Brewery, Immanuel Lutheran church, Butterworth, Michigan Hill, etc. | Box 3 | Folder 10 |
| Looking northeast with the brewery in the foreground and Belknap hill behind | Box 3 | Folder 11 |
| Looking northeast towards Belknap hill | Box 3 | Folder 12 |
| Looking east across the Grand River towards the Hall of Justice and Calder Plaza behind it | Box 3 | Folder 13 |
| Looking west, sweeping from north to south, with Immanuel Lutheran church in the foreground | Box 3 | Folder 14 |
| Views on Ottawa | Box 3 | Folder 15 |
| Looking north on Ionia, showing at various points in time – the old federal building, city hall and brewery, the new Union bank, Frey building, state building and highway overpass | Box 3 | Folder 16 |
| Up and down Monroe "mall" (includes some Christmas decorations); North towards Pantlind; South | Box 3 | Folder 17 |
| Looking northwest towards Rowe Hotel, showing Brewery, Hall of Justice, Press building, county building, etc. | Box 3 | Folder 18 |
| Looking southeast from Louis across Fulton towards Morris building | Box 3 | Folder 19 |
| Near Fulton and Sheldon | Box 3 | Folder 20 |
| Division north around Belknap Park | Box 3 | Folder 21 |
| Other Subjects | | |
| Title/Description | Instances | |
| Airport | Box 4 | Folder 1 |

| New Highways (131 and 196, day and night shots, S curve, streets evident from the highway include Wealthy, Franklin, Market and Kalamazoo) | Box 4 | Folder 2 |
|---|----------------|------------------------|
| Highway Bridges/Overpasses | Box 4 | Folder 3 |
| Cobblestone Street | Box 4 | Folder 4 |
| Grand River (Closer shots but some views of buildings primarily on the east side of the river) | Box 4 | Folder 5 |
| Bridges over the Grand | Box 4 | Folder 6 |
| Railroad (tracks and structures) | Box 4 | Folder 7 |
| Vehicles (trucks, helicopters, etc.) | Box 4 | Folder 8 |
| Veterans Park | Box 4 | Folder 9 |
| Parking structures/booths/lots | Box 4 | Folder 10 |
| Signs (urban renewal and moving notices, highway, building identifiers, etc.) | Box 4 | Folder 11 |
| Historical markers | Box 4 | Folder 12 |
| Historical images (photos of old postcards, photos, etc. include the Pythian temple, Wonderly building, Sweets/ Pantlind, federal building and more) | Box 4 | Folder 13 |
| Historical documents (photos of old newspapers) | Box 4 | Folder 14 |
| People (officials at groundbreakings, crowds on Calder Plaza, women in uniform, etc.) | Box 4 | Folder 15 |
| Flowers and landscaping | Box 4 | Folder 16 |
| Horizons (quite long shots, some of downtown, night and day and sunset) | Box 4 | Folder 17 |
| Rocks | Box 4 | Folder 18 |
| Outdoor sculpture (modern except for "The Mystery of Life" at Forest Lawn Memorial Park | Box 4 | Folder 19 |
| Scaffolding (including sunset shots with the county building tower silhouetted behind scaffolding) | Box 4 | Folder 20 |
| Newly constructed stairs | Box 4 | Folder 21 |
| Close shots of foundations | Box 4 | Folder 22 |
| | | |
| Unique structures (towers, a tent, etc.) | Box 4 | Folder 23 |
| Christmas decorations ("Santa's House" and shots of decorated buildings and streets around downtown, on | Box 4 Box 4 | Folder 23 Folder 24 |
| Unique structures (towers, a tent, etc.) Christmas decorations ("Santa's House" and shots of decorated buildings and streets around downtown, on Monroe mall and around new buildings) Interiors (Hallways and a cafeteria) | | |

| Shot of three coins | Box 4 | Folder 27 |
|---------------------|-------|-----------|
| A peacock | Box 4 | Folder 28 |

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Series II. Slides

Conditions Governing Access: Conditions Governing Access

Except when special permission is granted, patrons will be given access to the prints only.

Scope and Contents

The slides have been organized using the order and designations they were found in. This order probably was based on either how the slides were used in Bratt's presentations or how they were originally shot. The weakness of this organization is that not all views of a subject are found together.

Container One

| Title/Description | Instances | |
|---|-----------|----------|
| Box A-1 Churches and Spires (72 slides) | Box 5 | Folder 1 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| St. Marks Episcopal (slide 21R29) | | |
| Immanuel Lutheran (slides 69R5 and 117R30) | | |
| Burton Heights Christian Reformed inside and out (slides 84R1, 84R2, 84R3, 83R31, 83R30, 83R29, 83R28, 83R27, 81R25, 81R26, 83R18, 83R19, 83R20, 83R21, 83R22, 83R23, 83R24 and 83R25) | | |
| Assorted Churches and Spires (51 slides) | | |
| Box A-2 Views from Butterworth, Various Street Scenes (78 slides) | Box 5 | Folder 1 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| Calder (slides 102R20 and 117R12) | | |
| Looking North Ottawa W/side from Lyon (slides 112R36, 113R1, 113R2, 113R3, 125R32, 133R15, 133R17, 133R16) | | |
| Expressway Views (slides 64R6, 71R1, 70R36, 70R35) | | |
| West Side Monroe (slides 56R11, 56R12, 60R7, 79R37 and 133R18) | | |

German School (Misc.) (slides 56R13, 52R26 and 57R34)

Geo Baarden, West side Bond Ave (slide 52R26), Ducks in River Unique Views of City Hall (slides 40R22, 112R30, 112R8, 53R4, 113R21 and 114R3)

State Office Building looking S.E. from Mich. At Ottawa (slides 117R29, 137R20, 139R26, 141 R10, 141 R12 and 141 R13)

Ionia Ave. North from Lyon (slides 49R21, 74R16, 81R27, 81R28, 88R9, 88R23, 94R9, 94R10, 98R35, 112R35, 114R30, 123R28, 125R30, 125R33, 133R14, 138R21, 139R28, 140R7, 140R8, 136R16, 141R20, 140R10, 140R11 and 140R9)

Clocks (slides 99R3, 99R16, 112R21, 112R22 and 114R2)

Looking North East from Calder Plaza in front of Union Bank Building (slides 86R12, 86R38 and 87R33)

Looking SE Mich. At Monroe including Monroe at the side (slides 93R2, 77R7, 93R7, 99R25, 117R27, 125R37, 126R4, 133R4, 134R5, 134R7, 134R10 and 134R12)

Box B Monroe Avenue Views (107 slides)

Scope and Contents

(Bratt's lists did not quite match box contents)

Monroe Avenue Christmas Day & Night 1965 (slides 72R9, 86R5, 85R16, 85R30, 86R6 and 86R7)

Christmas 1968 Library Building (slides 98R13 – 98R20)

Monroe Avenue (slides 135R20 – 135R28)

Christmas 1970 (slides 119R9, 119R10, 119R30 – 119R37)

Christmas 1970 at Night, not all sharp (slides 120R1 – 120R6, 120R12, 120R13, 120R18, 120R19, 120R36)

Veterans Park (slides 83R11 – 83R14)

Buildings on Campau Square where Monroe will cut through Old Wurzburgs (slides 126R31, 134R37, 135R1, 135R2, 136R24, 137R1 – 137R6) Folder 2

Box 5

Copies of Pictures Campau Square (slides 75R37, 97R14, 97R13 and 130R8)

Nat'l City Bank Wonderly Block (slide 75R37), 1925 (slide 97R14) and 1873 (slide 97R13)

Monroe Avenue 1970 (slides 118R25 – 188R36, 119R1 – 119R3, 119R5 – 119R8, 119R11 – 119R14, 119R16, 120R7 – 120R9, 120R11, 120R14 – 120R17, 120R20, 120R23, 120R26 – 120R28, 120R30 – 120R35, 120R37)

Folder 3 Box 5 Box C Sequence #7 (180 slides) **Scope and Contents** Entering GR from West (slides 118R6, 118R11, 118R14, 123R23, 118R13, 123R22, 118R12 and 123R24) New Federal Bldg N.E. Monroe each a year apart '68, '69, '70 (slides 98R28, 112R18 and 118R24) Three Sunrise Views S.W. From Hastings Str. 1970 (slides 117R1 - 117R3) Looking SW Downtown from Hastings St., 1973 (slides 134R24 - 134R27) State Office Building (slides 118R21, 136R19, 136R25, 137R14, 137R15, 137R25, 137R30, 137R36, 138R25, 139R31, 140R1, 140R4) Looking S.E. Mich. At Monroe, see Emmanuel (slides 99R24, 117R26, 133R30 and 134R6) Looking East from Mich. Bridge (slides 126R6, 126R7, 133R11 and 141R4 - 141R6) Belknap Park (slides 46R3, 46R4, 46R9 and 46R10) Misc. (slides 133R25, 135R31, 134R8, 134R9) Razing the Brewery (21 slides) Various from Butterworth Park, 1961 – 1976 (slides 41R5, 60R26, 69R25, 69R28, 102R8, 102R16, 123R8, 123R10, 123R15 - 123R17, 135R3 - 135R5, 135R7, 135R8, 135R10, 135R12, 135R16, 142R5 - 142R7, 142R10 - 142R12, 142R16 - 142R20, 142R22)

Box 5

Folder 4

Scope and Contents

Three Government Buildings (slides 64R3, 83R34 and 64R35)

Ionia Str. South of Monroe (slides 74R28 and 74R25)

Looking N.W., Crescent at Ottawa, Calder site (slides 85R29, 98R22, 98R33, 102R4, 100R34, 103R10 and 98R34)

Urban Renewal (slides 72R8, 71R34, 63R32, 83R17, R101-2, 101R4, 99R27, 88R4, 101R11, 84R20 and 73R7)

City Hall 1962 – 1969 (slides 52R22, 103R16, 93R20, 113R18, 114R33, 113R32, 114R31, 111R17, 52R32, 52R31, 103R15, 113R23 and 88R3) some of these have additional ids on the slide

Bratt's House (slides 40R17, 48R14, 64R17, 71R37, 73R2, 73R5, 73R6, 73R17, 114R20, 114R21 and 114R23)

Federal Building (slides 98R24, 98R25, 123R30, 125R10, 125R36, 126R2, 126R3, 126R5, 133R1 – 133R3, 133R10, 133R20, 133R31 and 133R32)

Regent Theater (slides 76R1, 75R10, 75R4 and 75R2)

Looking North, Ionia Avenue (slides 53R32, 76R8 and 114R29)

Urban Renewal (15 slides)

County Building (slides 53R15 – 53R19, 55R26, 85R32, 85R34, 86R18, 86R22 and 87R16)

New County Building (slides 98R27, 99R2, 101R9 and 101R27)

New City County Building Looking N.E. (slides 100R36, R101-8 and 99R1)

Blooming Diefenbachias (slides 60R2, 60R1 and 63R13)

Looking East Lyon at Monroe (slides 95R14 and 112R12)

Looking East Across the Grand River (slides 76R24, 81R31, 112R25, 112R27, 99R17 – 99R19, 99R21 and 99R31)

New Location of Rescue Mission – Old SA. Site of First C.R.F.C. (slides 85R36, 81R16 and 79R26)

Sunset Pictures (slides 93R33, 75R15 and 117R32)

Trans American Title (69R14 and 99R28)

Michigan Hill Looking East (101R14 and 101R12)

Looking N.E. Crescent at Monroe (76R27, 81R10, 85R33, 87R13, 88R15, 87R27 and 98R11)

Signs (77R18, 60R13 and 101R19)

Frey Building (124R4 and 133R22)

East Side of Monroe (84R36, 84R37 and 117R23)

Front View - Civic Auditorium (94R13)

Ice in Grand River, 1968 April (98R29 – 98R32)

Good Random Views 1968 – '70 (99R26, 112R23, 117R7, 117R9 and 117R25)

Union Bank 1967 – '69 (slides 93R24, 94R32 – 94R34, 117R20, 74R24, 74R19, 74R32, 78R35 and 112R10)

| Tray No. 13 (intro slide reads "Destruction of Kent County Building and Court House, 50 slides) | Box 5 | Folder 4 |
|--|-------|----------|
| Hero Bratt Slides Urban Renewal G.R. | Box 5 | Folder 5 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| [Many "upper Monroe" demolition scenes plus early expressway construction over the river and the Kent Industrial Park site work. And a few more scenes from the original urban renewal core area including the brewery stables and Michigan hill – with the steeple of Immanuel Lutheran Church – and the chimney of the brewery as constant reference points. Don Bratt 2/23/09] | | |
| (41 slides) | | |
| Freeway 1965 (70R18, 70R17, 70R11, 60R28, 69R27, 60R27, 69R26, 70R16, 69R23, 70R15, 70R14 and 70R13) | | |
| Airport (62R18, 62R17, 62R16, 77R9, 77R8, 77R12, 77R13, 61R11 and 139R16) | | |
| Unidentified separated by rubber bands (19 slides, 8 slides of outdoor sculpture, 17 slides, 33 slides (two | | |

slides in this last group are identified as demolition of the railroad station)

| Slides Found in Plastic Bag | Box 5 | Folder 5 | |
|---|-------|----------|--|
| Scope and Contents | | | |
| [Hero Bratt slides, March 6, 2009, 95 Slides Bell in tower of City Hall, Don Bratt] | | | |
| Slide Intros (79R19, 122R30, 143R19, 121R28, 79R13, 129R13 and 75R6) | | | |
| Freeway (76R16 – 76R21, 117R4, 69R32, 76R10, 76R11, 76R13 – 76R15, 56R17, 77R21, 57R36 and 71R11) | | | |

Urban Renewal (3 groups in rubber bands all labeled Urban Renewal for a total of 67 slides)

Container Two

Scope and Contents

[Assorted Downtown Bldgs. Some under construction – some being torn down. Some slides labeled and/or dated, some not. Have not gone through each slide. CB]

| Title/Description | Instances | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Tray No. 1 (34 slides) | Box 6 | Folder 6 |
| Tray A (40 slides) | Box 6 | Folder 6 |
| Tray B (42 slides) (61R22 "Towbridge Street West off Lafayette NE", 51R15 "Alley off Michigan Str. Opposite Butterworth Hospital", 61R17 "North Street Looking North from Walnut St. N.E.") | Box 6 | Folder 6 |
| Tray F (50 slides) (70R29 "West Side – Old Kent Bank Headquarters under construction", 68R2 "Old Kent Bank under const.") | Box 6 | Folder 7 |
| Tray No. 3 (39 slides) | Box 6 | Folder 7 |
| Tray No. 2 (43 slides) | Box 6 | Folder 7 |
| Container Three | | |
| Title/Description | Instances | |
| Tray No. 8 [Old Kent Bank under construction; opening festivities on completion, 49 slides] | Box 6 | Folder 8 |
| Tray No. 9 [Houseman bldg site becomes parking lot, Mich con. Bldg begun & completed, 45 slides] | Box 6 | Folder 8 |
| Tray No. 10 [Sequence 4 – 1962-1966, new bldgs on lower Monroe, 50 slides] | Box 6 | Folder 8 |

| Tray No. 11 [Police Station construction, Destruction of Police Station, expressway downtown, GR Press, 43 slides] | Box 6 | Folder 9 |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Tray D [Bldg. Of new City Hall – 1968, general views of era, 37 slides] | Box 6 | Folder 9 |
| Tray No. 17 [Dem. Of Fox Brewery, Build State office Bldg. 1974-76, 49 slides] (79R6 "Corner of Herald Bldg, 143R22 "State Flag Michigan") | Box 6 | Folder 9 |
| Container Four | | |
| Title/Description | Instances | |
| Tray No. 18 [Don + Dot Dec 25 1969, State Bldg – Genl Views of New Bldgs, 52 slides] | Box 6 | Folder 10 |
| Tray No. 16 [Don + Dot Dec. 29 1967, Federal Bldg, Bratt's House & office, Franklin St., 43 slides] (143R21 "U.S.A. Flag") | Box 6 | Folder 10 |
| Tray No. 12 [New GR Press Bldg, New expressway at night, miscellaneous, 45 slides] | Box 6 | Folder 10 |
| Tray No. 15 [Don + Dot Dec. 29 1967, New Union Bank – Civic Aud., Other old GR, 52 slides (53 found)] (122R2 "Old City Hall, Sept 71") | Box 6 | Folder 11 |
| Tray No. 14 (53 slides) (120R24 "Old Kent lobby, Christmas Dolls display", 58R29 "The Elks Restaurant next to Old City Hall – Connie Quint the chef", 3 "Second Floor Corridor Jan. 24, 1963", 130R9 "Nat'l City Bank – Wonderly Block", 138R32 "Grab Corner Gone 1873") | Box 6 | Folder 11 |
| Tray No. 6 [Don Dorothy Dec. 29 1965] (54 slides) (48R15 "Hero D. Bratt, Dad at his "new" office on Franklin St. Mormon Coal Bldg.") | Box 6 | Folder 11 |

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Series III. Slide Documentation and Biographical Information

Scope and Contents

Slide Documentation: There is one folder of Bratt's notes about the slides. (All identification of the slides is recorded in the finding aid.)

Biographical Information: There is a biographical narrative about Hero and Don Bratt written by Don and there is one photo print each of Hero and Don.

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