

# Finding Aid for the Hollyhock Lane Parade records Collection 397

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids History and Special Collections

111 Library Street NE

Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

[localhis@grpl.org](mailto:localhis@grpl.org)

URL: <https://www.grpl.org/research/history/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Grand Rapids History and Special Collections
<b>Creator:</b>	Calvin-Giddings Patriotic Association
<b>Source - dnr:</b>	Milanowski, Hank
<b>Source - dnr:</b>	Milanowski, Diane
<b>Title:</b>	Hollyhock Lane Parade records
<b>ID:</b>	Collection 397
<b>ID [Archivists Toolkit Database::RESOURCE]:</b>	448
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1935-2012
<b>Physical Description:</b>	5 Linear Feet 7 boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Hollyhock Lane Parade records contain various materials documenting the history of this annual Grand Rapids neighborhood Independence Day parade that began in 1934 and continues to the present day. Founded by residents of Calvin and Giddings Avenues, the parade committee was incorporated as The Calvin-Giddings Patriotic Association, Inc. The parade became known as the "Hollyhock Lane Parade" due to the hollyhock lined alley adjoining the two streets. The collection contains many photographs, posters, newspaper clippings and files. Several photographs feature U.S. Congressman Gerald R. Ford who was the featured speaker at several of the parades.

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## Biographical / Historical

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The Hollyhock Lane Parade began in 1934 when several residents from Giddings and Calvin Avenues decided to have a Fourth of July parade in the alley between the two streets. Those residents were Otto Frey, Clarence Gill, Howard Lee, Orrie Sluiter, George Vrugink, and Herman Wolhferd. In 1935 the group was organized with a permit under the name Screech

Owls, Inc. By 1941, the parade committee was incorporated as The Calvin-Giddings Patriotic Association, Inc. It was in 1946 that the parade became known as the "Hollyhock Lane Parade" due to the stretch of hollyhocks that lined the alleyway.

The annual neighborhood parade is known for "instilling patriotism" and features children on decorated bicycles, floats, and the "Hollymock" marching band. Each year a neighborhood boy and girl are selected to represent Uncle Sam and Miss Liberty in costume. The parade ends with a patriotic speech. Gerald R. Ford was the speaker in 1950, 1951, 1970 and 1971 while U.S. Congressman. Due to its popularity the parade moved out of the alley and expanded to the neighborhood streets. The Hollyhock Lane Parade is the oldest continuous Independence Day Parade in the State of Michigan.

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## Scope and Contents

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The collection consists of a variety of materials relating to the parade, including a minute book, correspondence, newspaper clippings, files, posters, flyers, a scrapbook, photographs, films, etc. The collection includes materials from 1935 until 2012.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Grand Rapids History and Special Collections

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Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

[localhis@grpl.org](mailto:localhis@grpl.org)

URL: <https://www.grpl.org/research/history/>

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Diane and Hank Milanowski, 12/7/2010, accession number 2010.066; additional gift on 2/22/2012, accession number 2012.013.

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## Controlled Access Headings

- Ottawa Hills (Grand Rapids, Mich.)
- records (documents)
- Parades -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Fourth of July celebrations -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids
- Calvin-Giddings Patriotic Association
- Milanowski, Hank
- Milanowski, Diane

## Collection Inventory

### Series I. Minute book

Title/Description	Instances	
Secretary's minute book and two loose leaf items, 1941-1959	Box 1	Folder 1

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### Series II. Correspondence

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, 1941	Box 1	Folder 2
Correspondence, 1959, 1975-1984, (1975-1984)	Box 1	Folder 3
Presidential and Congressional letters, 1959-1984	Box 1	Folder 4

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### Series III. Newspaper clippings

Title/Description	Instances	
Newspaper clippings, 1971-1979	Box 1	Folder 5
Newspaper clippings, 1980-1984	Box 1	Folder 6
Newspaper clippings, 1986-1989	Box 1	Folder 7
Newspaper clippings, 1991-1994	Box 1	Folder 8
Newspaper clippings, 1995-1999	Box 1	Folder 9

Newspaper clippings, 2000-2004	Box 1	Folder 10
Newspaper clippings, 2006-2009	Box 1	Folder 11

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## Series IV. General files

Title/Description	Instances	
Files, 1949-1957	Box 3	Folder 1
Files, 1959-1975	Box 2	Folder 1
Street lighting project, 1971	Box 2	Folder 2
Public Museum donation documents, 1980-2004	Box 2	Folder 3
Files, 1984	Box 2	Folder 4
Files, 1987	Box 2	Folder 5
Files, 1988	Box 2	Folder 6
Files, 1989-1990	Box 2	Folder 7
Files, 1991-1993, 1996, (1991-1993)	Box 2	Folder 8
Maps of parade route, 1997, 2010	Box 2	Folder 9
Flyers, 2004-2010	Box 2	Folder 10
Files (including 75th Anniversary pamphlet with a history of the parade), 2009-2012	Box 2	Folder 11
Files, undated	Box 2	Folder 12

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## Series V. Financial documents

Title/Description	Instances	
United States Annual Returns, 1942-1949	Box 2	Folder 13
United States Annual Returns, 1951-1959	Box 2	Folder 14
United States Annual Returns, 1960-1969	Box 2	Folder 15
Michigan Annual Reports, 1941-1949	Box 3	Folder 2
Michigan Annual Reports, 1950-1959	Box 3	Folder 3
Michigan Annual Reports, 1960-1969	Box 3	Folder 4
Michigan Annual Reports, 1970-1981	Box 3	Folder 5

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Series VI. Images****Photographs**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Photographs, 1940s	Box 4	Folder 1
Photographs, 1940s	Box 4	Folder 2
Photographs, 1950	Box 4	Folder 3
Photographs (featuring Gerald R. Ford), July 4, 1950	Box 1	Folder 12
Photographs (featuring Gerald R. Ford), July 4, 1950	Box 1	Folder 13
Photographs (featuring Gerald R. Ford), 1950	Box 4	Folder 4
Photographs, 1950	Box 4	Folder 5
Photographs, 1970, 1977-79, (1977-1979)	Box 4	Folder 6
Photographs, 1980-1989	Box 4	Folder 7
Photographs, 1990-1993	Box 4	Folder 8
Photographs, 1994-1996	Box 4	Folder 9
Photographs, 1997	Box 4	Folder 10
Photographs, 1998-1999	Box 4	Folder 11
Photographs, 2000-2001	Box 4	Folder 12
Photographs, 2002-2003	Box 4	Folder 13
Photographs (featuring Mayor George Heartwell), 2004	Box 4	Folder 14
Photographs, 2005, 2008	Box 4	Folder 15
Photographs (featuring George Vrugink), undated	Box 4	Folder 16

**Slides**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Slides, 1951-1952	Box 5	carton 1
Slides, July 4, 1973	Box 5	carton 1
Slides, July 4, 1973	Box 5	carton 1
Slides [2021.076], 1972-1975	Box 5	carton 1
Slides [2021.076], 1976-1977	Box 5	carton 1
Slides [2021.076], 1980-1981	Box 5	carton 1

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Title/Description	Instances	
July 4, 1950 parade, 16mm film , July 4, 1950	Box 5	carton 2
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
Film is damaged, needs restoration. Film cannot be viewed in current state.		
16mm film, Cine-Kodak Kodachrome, 1953	Box 5	carton 3
16mm film, Ansco Color film, circa 1953	Box 5	carton 4
July 4, 1954 parade, 16mm film, Cine-Kodak Kodachrome, July 4, 1954	Box 5	carton 5
16mm film, Kodachrome, circa July 1955	Box 5	carton 6
16mm film, Cine-Kodak Kodachrome, circa July 1955	Box 5	carton 7
120 video Hi8/60 Digital 8 cassette	Box 5	carton 8

**DVDs**

Title/Description	Instances	
Hollyhock Lane 75th, 2009	Box 5	carton 9
Hollyhock Lane 75th, 2009	Box 5	carton 10

**CDs**

Title/Description	Instances	
Hollyhock Lane Parade by Carol Johnson, CD accompanied with lyrics sheet, 2009	Box 5	Folder 11

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Title/Description	Instances	
Scrapbook, 1935-1972	Box 6	



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<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Posters, 1937-1939	Box 7	Folder 1
Posters, 1940-1949	Box 7	Folder 2
Posters, 1950-1955, 1957-1959	Box 7	Folder 3
Posters, 1960-1964, 1966-1968	Box 7	Folder 4
Posters, 1971, 1973, 1975-1977, 1979	Box 7	Folder 5
Posters, 1980-1984, 1986-1989	Box 7	Folder 6
Posters, 1990-1991	Box 7	Folder 7

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Series X. Miscellaneous**

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
76th Hollyhock Lane '10 pin, 2010	Box 5	Folder 12
77th Hollyhock Lane '11 pin, 2011	Box 5	Folder 13
78th Hollyhock Lane '12 pin, 2012	Box 5	Folder 14
Certificates from United States Senate, State of Michigan, and Michigan Senate Resolution, 1984, 2004, 2009	Box 7	Folder 8
Speech [2021.076], 2020-07-4	Box 1	Folder 13
Speech by Megan Perian [2021.076], 2021-07-03	Box 1	Folder 14

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Abstract: Material contained in the unprocessed boxes of this collection include posters, photos, and other relia.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Unprocessed, (1930-2010)	Box 8
Unprocessed, (1930-2010)	Box 9

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