

Inventory of the

Rockford Photo Services
Rockford, Illinois

Audiovisual Collection

In the

Regional History Center

RC 282

INTRODUCTION

Tari Rowland, Assistant Curator of Collections at the Midway Village and Rockford Museum Center donated the audiovisual collection for Rockford Photo Services to the Regional History Center on November 16, 2006.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: .75
Number of containers: 2
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 282

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Rockford Photo Services Audiovisual Collection dates circa the 1950s and includes postcards, photographs, and negatives for various communities throughout the state of Illinois. The numbers listed in the collection inventory that follows the names of the cities designate the number of postcards, then photographs, then negatives in that particular folder. Researchers interested in other postcards and photographs held by the Regional History Center should consult the Regional Collections Guide to Sources.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Rockford Photo Services started as the Camera Shop circa 1914. In the 1925 Rockford City Directory the company was listed as the Rockford Photo Services. The company was located at 100 W. State Street in Rockford until 1940 when it moved to 206/8 N. Main Street then to 214 N. Church Street in 1962. The company was listed as a photo finisher. Later the company expanded into “wholesale finishing for the drug and camera stores” and “one source of supply for all your photographic needs.” The company made reproductions of photographs of various cities in the area into postcards which were sold at drug stores for souvenirs. Reba Thill sold Rockford Photo Services to Colorcraft in 1968 shortly after the death of her husband, C. Carroll Thill, who had been the president of the company for many years. Reba Thill served as the secretary-treasurer of the firm under her husband and served as an officer for the company even after she sold it to Colorcraft. Mrs. Thill died in 1976. In the 1998 Rockford City Directory Colorcraft changes to Qualex, Inc. and is listed under that name until the 1993 City Directory.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Photographs
Postcards
Rockford Photo Services

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Altona (1, 0, 1)
	2	Amboy (9, 12, 13)
	3	Apple River (0, 2, 2)
	4	Aurora (1, 0, 0)
	5	Bartlett (0, 5, 5)
	6	Cambridge (1, 0, 8)
	7	Carthage (6, 0, 9)
	8	Crystal Lake (0, 7, 7)
	9	DeKalb (5, 0, 0)
	10	Delavan (4, 0, 4)
	11	DePue (6, 0, 6)
	12	Dixon (2, 0, 0)
	13	Dundee (1, 0, 0)
	14	Durand (7, 1, 12)
	15	Elizabeth (0, 1, 3)
	16	Eureka (6, 0, 6)
	17	Galena (2, 0, 1)
	18	Hanover Park (0, 1, 1)
	19	Henry (0, 0, 2)
	20	Lacon (10, 1, 14)
	21	Leland (8, 0, 8)
	22	Lena (3, 0, 3)
	23	Macomb (8, 0, 10)
	24	Marengo (8, 0, 11)
	25	McHenry (1, 0, 0)
	26	Morrison (30, 0, 30)
	27	Morton (15, 0, 15)
	28	Orangeville (0, 7, 8)
	29	Oregon (1, 0, 0)
	30	Princeton (11, 10, 13)
	31	Roanoke (0, 0, 13)
	32	Rockford (4, 1, 1)
	33	Rochelle (4, 0, 1)
	34	Sandwich (2, 11, 16)
	35	Savanna (1, 1, 1)
	36	Somonauk (1, 6, 6)
	37	Sterling (2, 4, 6)
	38	Streamwood (0, 5, 5)

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	3
2	1	Walnut (10, 0, 7)	
	2	Warsaw (5, 1, 6)	
	3	Washburn (2, 0, 10)	
	4	Waterman (16, 6, 24)	
	5	Watseka (0, 1, 5)	
	6	Wheaton (5, 0, 5)	
	7	Yorkville (11, 0, 7)	
	8	Illinois (1, 0, 0)	
	9	States Other Than Illinois (17, 0, 5)	
	10	Unidentified (3, 2, 7)	