

Grace Olivier Peck photographs collection, circa 1890-1977

Overview of the Collection

Collector	Peck, Grace Olivier, 1898-1978
Title	Grace Olivier Peck photographs collection
Dates	circa 1890-1977 (inclusive) 1890 1977
Quantity	0.9 cubic feet (2 document cases)
Collection Number	Org. Lot 105
Summary	Photographs of Grace Olivier Peck, an Oregon state legislator and advocate for improved prison conditions. The collection includes photographs documenting the Olivier family, Peck's life and legislative career, and the lives of her friends and associates. Included are photographs of aviator Charles Lindbergh, including one image of his speech in Portland in 1927.
Repository	Oregon Historical Society, Davies Family Research Library Davies Family Research Library Oregon Historical Society 1200 SW Park Avenue Portland, OR 97205 Telephone: 503-306-5240 Fax: 503-219-2040 libreference@ohs.org
Access Restrictions	The collection is open to the public.
Languages	English.
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Biographical Note

Grace Olivier Peck (1898-1979) was born in Portland, Or., to Jules Olivier and Geneva Young. After her parents separated, she spent her childhood with her mother and at her grandfather's home in the Goose Hollow area of Portland. Many members of the extended family lived in Michigan. Peck's father was a steamboat pilot, and before his retirement in 1921, he sailed the Tanana and Yukon Rivers out of Fairbanks, Alaska. Her younger brother, Arthur, also lived and worked in Alaska. After graduating from Chapman School, Lincoln High School, and Behnke-Walker Business College, Peck worked as a legal secretary and stenographer for Portland attorneys, Latourette and Latourette. She was then employed as a timekeeper in the Vancouver shipyards and served as shop steward for the office employees' union. She also worked in the real estate industry.

Peck married salesman Vernon Maxwell and lived for several years in San Francisco and Oakland, Calif. They returned to Portland in 1927 and separated in 1930. In 1936, she married Raymond Peck, a family friend. With her father, they moved into the house at 2324 SE Ivon Street, which Jules Olivier

had purchased in 1914. Later, it was designated the Grace Peck House. The Pecks separated in 1941, and Grace did not remarry.

Peck was elected to the Oregon State Legislature in 1948 and served until 1950. She was elected again in 1956 and served from 1957 until 1977. Peck focused on improving conditions for the disabled, poor, and imprisoned. An addition to the Women's Correctional Institute in Salem was named in her honor. Peck was also known for her abundant supply of candy and flowers, which drew many legislators and discussions to her desk. She was defeated in the 1976 Democratic primary by W. Rod Monroe, who based his campaign mainly upon her advanced age.

Peck was active in patriotic and Catholic groups, such as the Catholic Daughters of America and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic. She suffered an incapacitating stroke in 1977 and died in 1979.

Content Description

The photographs in this collection were taken by and for Grace Olivier Peck and the Olivier family from circa 1890 through 1977. An important part of the collection documents Grace Peck's service in the House of Representatives of the Oregon Legislature, 1948-1976. The largest part of the collection contains portraits and snapshots of friends and family members, including soldiers and home front activities during World War I. Locations represented include Alaska, Washington state, and Portland, Canyonville, Seaside, and Zigzag, Oregon. Activities represented include blacksmithing, fishing, logging, photography, swimming, and Elks celebrations, primarily in the 1910s and 1920s. There are many interior and exterior images of ships. The collection includes three photographs of Charles Lindbergh, one of which was taken during his 1927 speech in Portland; and one 1967 photograph of Grace Peck and Ronald Reagan.

Photographers represented in this collection include many photographers from Portland, Or., as well as other places, including but not limited to Bruno Art Studio, David Perry Evans, Gladys Gilbert, Arvid D. Leroy, Patrick J. O'Connell, Roy J. Peterson, and William B. James. This collection contains printed material and negatives.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

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Some images in the collection are still under copyright.

Preferred Citation

Grace Olivier Peck photographs collection, Org. Lot 105, Oregon Historical Society Research Library

Administrative Information

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in two series:

Series A: Grace Olivier Peck's personal and family photos, circa 1890-1973

Subseries 1: People, circa 1890-1973

Subseries 2: Locations, circa 1915-1941

Subseries 3: Activities, 1908-circa 1920

Subseries 4: Riverboats and ships, circa 1915-1958

Subseries 5: Grace Olivier Peck photograph album, 1919

Series B: Grace Olivier Peck's political career, 1949-1975

Series C: Other images and printed material, 1908-1935

Custodial History

The collection was purchased by Ron Brentano and Susan Seyl at the sale of the Grace Peck estate.

Acquisition Information

Photograph accession no. 1979D139.

Related Materials

The Oregon Historical Society Research Library holds an unprocessed collection of the papers of Grace Olivier Peck and a memorial book, *A Sense of Grace*, published in 1981.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series A: Grace Olivier Peck's personal and family photos, 1890-1975

657 items

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	Subseries 1: People Arranged first by last name, where identified, and then by subject, where unidentified.	circa 1895-1969
Box/Folder		
1/1	Abernatha, Liona	circa 1934
1/2	Abernatha, Minnie	circa 1922

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/3	Clark, Verne	circa 1920-1955
1/4	Equi, Dr. Marie	undated
1/5	The Grimes Family	1915
1/6	Harris, John	circa 1925
1/7	Lindbergh, Charles	1924; 1927
1/8	Olivier, Albert	circa 1895-1915
1/9	Olivier, Arthur	circa 1907-circa 1960
1/10	Olivier, Bruneo	circa 1940
1/11	Olivier, Jules	circa 1900-1933
1/12	Peck, Grace and Olivier, Arthur	1904-circa 1914
1/13	Peck, Grace	1905-1909
1/14	Peck, Grace	1914-1919
1/15	Peck, Grace	1925-1928
1/16	Peck, Grace	1930-1939
1/17	Peck, Grace	circa 1945
1/18	Peck, Grace	circa 1950-1959
1/19	Peck, Grace	circa 1960-circa 1969
1/20	Peck, Grace	circa 1975
1/21	Philbin, Evangeline	1962
1/22	Simons, M.M.	1919

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/23	Simonsen, Arthur	1928
1/24	Weaver, Buck	circa 1930
1/25	Williams, Vernon	circa 1921; circa 1927
1/26	Young, Geneva	circa 1895-circa 1919
1/27	People identified by first names only	circa 1910-circa 1936
1/28	Soldiers	circa 1917-circa 1927
1/29	Unidentified people--Children	circa 1900
1/30	Unidentified people--Children	1910-1920
1/31	Unidentified people--Children	1933-1937
1/32	Unidentified people--Children	1943-1949
1/33	Unidentified people--Children	1957
1/34	Unidentified people--Couples	circa 1900
1/35	Unidentified people--Couples	circa 1915
1/36	Unidentified people--Couples	circa 1921
1/37	Unidentified people--Couples	1933-1939
1/38	Unidentified people--Groups	circa 1910-circa 1940
1/39	Unidentified people--Groups	1959-1973
1/40	Unidentified people--Men	circa 1890
1/41	Unidentified people--Men	circa 1915

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/42	Unidentified people--Men	circa 1920-1926
1/43	Unidentified people--Men	circa 1932-1937
1/44	Unidentified people--Men	circa 1940-1948
1/45	Unidentified people--Men	circa 1950-1955
1/46	Unidentified people--Women	circa 1900-1905
1/47	Unidentified people--Women	circa 1910-1919
1/48	Unidentified people--Women	circa 1920-1928
1/49	Unidentified people--Women	circa 1930-1939
1/50	Unidentified people--Women	circa 1940-1946
1/51	Unidentified people--Women	circa 1955
Subseries 2: Locations		circa 1915-1941
Box/Folder		
2/1	Alaska	1924-1941
2/2	Oregon--Canyonville	circa 1915
2/3	Oregon--Portland	1916; circa 1937
2/4	Oregon--Portland--Grace Peck House	circa 1920
2/5	Oregon--Seaside	1911-1919
2/6	Oregon--Zig Zag	circa 1915
2/7	Oregon--Unidentified locations--Buildings	circa 1915
2/8	Washington--Schools	1934
Subseries 3: Activities		1908-circa 1920

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2/9	Blacksmithing	undated
2/10	Elks Lodge	circa 1920
2/11	Fishing	undated
2/12	Horses	1908
2/13	Logging	undated
2/14	Photography	undated
Subseries 6: Riverboats and ships		circa 1915-1958
Box/Folder		
2/15	General	circa 1935
2/16	<i>Bailey Gatzert</i>	undated
2/17	<i>Clair</i>	circa 1958
2/18	<i>Harvest Queen</i>	undated
2/19	<i>Hassalo</i>	undated
2/20	<i>T. J. Potter</i>	undated
2/21	Swimming	circa 1915
Box/Folder		
2/31	Subseries 5: Grace Olivier Peck photograph album Contains photographs of Grace Olivier Peck, as well as various family members and friends, soldiers, and ships.	1919

Series B: Grace Olivier Peck's political career, 1949-1975

115 items

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2/22	Campaign photos	1965; circa 1975
2/23	Grace Peck with Oregon governors Includes photographs of Mark Hatfield, Robert Holmes, Tom McCall, and Bob Straub, as well as Vera Katz.	circa 1958-1977
2/24	Grace Peck with Ronald Reagan	1967
2/25	Grace Peck with Eleanor Roosevelt	1959
2/26	Grace Peck with Mildred Schwabe	circa 1975
2/27	Grace Peck with Sen. Marie Wilcox	circa 1949
2/28	Grace Peck--Oregon Legislature Includes photographs of Rep. Roy Fitzwater, Rep. Katherine Musa, and Sen. Corbett.	1957-1967
2/29	Grace Peck--Oregon Legislature	1968-1977
2/30	Grace Peck--Oregon Legislature, color	circa 1972

Series C: Other images and printed material, 1908-1935

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2/32	Unidentified images	undated
2/33	Postcards	1908
2/34	Miscellaneous notes	undated
2/35	Miscellaneous reproductions	undated
2/36	Metal plate -- Grace Peck	circa 1960
2/37	Negatives for selected images	1914-1935; undated

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Women legislators--Oregon--Photographs
World War, 1914-1918--Oregon--Photographs
World War, 1914-1918--Photographs

Personal Names :

Lindbergh, Charles A. (Charles Augustus), 1902-1974--Photographs
Peck, Grace Olivier, 1898-1978--Photographs

Corporate Names :

Oregon. Legislative Assembly--Photographs

Family Names :

Olivier family--Photographs

Geographical Names :

Canyonville (Or.)--Photographs
Portland (Or.)--Photographs
Seaside (Or.)--Photographs
Zigzag (Or.)--Photographs

Form or Genre Terms :

Negatives
Photograph albums
Photographic prints

Other Creators :

Personal Names :

Evans, David Perry
(photographer)
Gilbert, Gladys
(photographer)
James, William B.
(photographer)
Leroy, Arvid D.
(photographer)
O'Connell, Patrick J.
(photographer)
Peterson, Roy J.
(photographer)

Corporate Names :

Bruno Art Studio (Portland, Or.)
(photographers)

Collection arranged and described by Jessica Wade
2006



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