



S. J. FOLTA



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OLS Collection, circa 1914 (OLS)

Anna Budnick, 1912 (MO)

#### F. C. LUTGE

STUDIO: 185 Jefferson Avenue; 149 Jefferson Avenue; 243 Jefferson Avenue; 61 Monroe Avenue; 53 Monroe Avenue; 589 Wesson Avenue
NEIGHBORHOOD: Downtown
BIRTHPLACE: Germany
IMMIGRATION: circa 1850

LIFESPAN: circa 1828-1914

**PROFILE:** Frederick Charles Lutge was serving the Detroit community with his photographic skills as early as 1862. He was at 53 Monroe from 1870-1891. Lutge had his Wesson Avenue location from 1892-1903; and below you can find three examples of his work from that era.



ABOVE left to right: Wendt Collection, circa 1893 (**CWJ**); Ks. Romuald Byzewski, circa 1895 (**OLS**); Wendt Collection, circa 1895 (**CWJ**).



ABOVE: Stasa Collection with a Hand Colored treatment applied, circa 1890 (KS)

BELOW: Anna Przytulski, circa 1892 (CWJ)





#### A. MAZUR STUDIO – ANTONI MAZUR

STUDIO: 228 East Canfield Avenue; 352 East Canfield Avenue; 360/1354 East Canfield Avenue; 11315 Joseph Campau Avenue; 5543 West Warren Avenue
NEIGHBORHOOD: Eastside/Hamtramck/Westside
BIRTHPLACE: Biecz, Gorlice, Galizien, Austria
IMMIGRATION: circa 1905
LIFESPAN: 1888-1964
PROFILE: Antoni began his Detroit area photography career in 1912. Although he seemed to move and/or take a hiatus from the business at times, Mazur's name still appeared on photographs into the early 1940s.

#### Polish Scouts, circa 1919 (OLS)



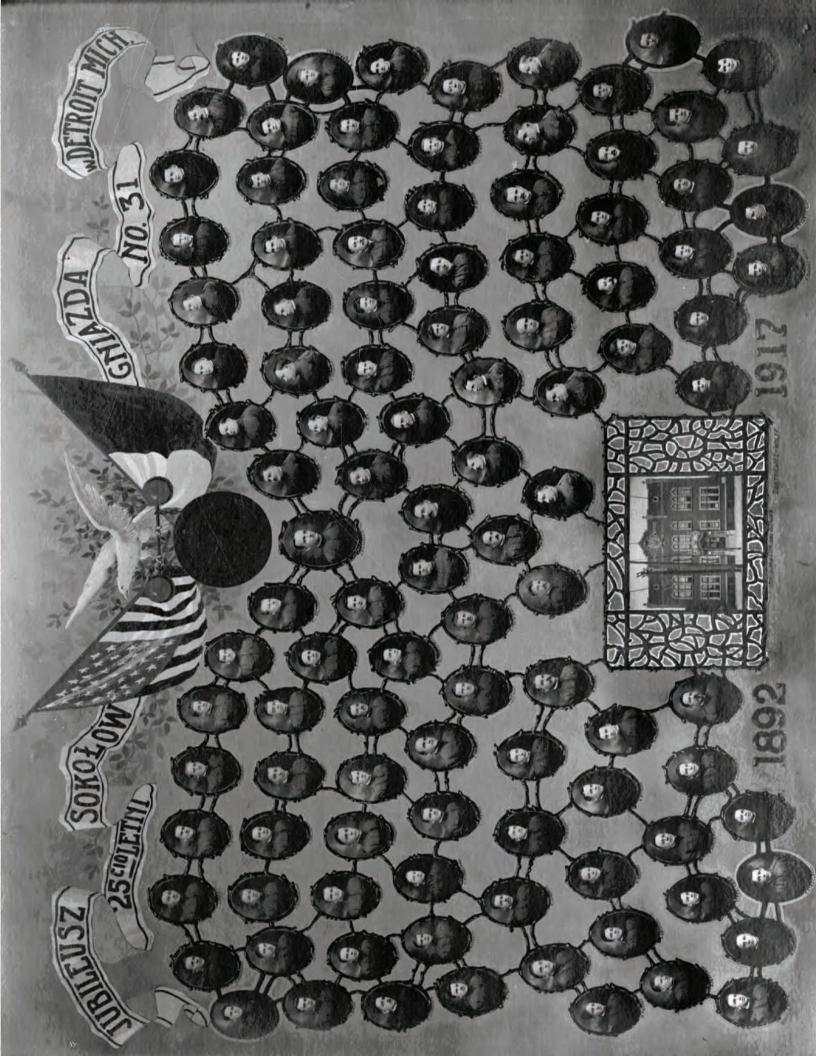




OPPOSITE: Jubileusz Sokołow Gniazda w Detroit, Michigan 25 cio Letni [Jubilee Falcon Nests in Detroit, Michigan 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary] No. 31 —1892-1917 (**OLS**)







## MEDBURY STUDIO - WŁADYSŁAW S. BABIARZ & JÓZEF ZABOROWSKI

**STUDIO:** 2243 Medbury Avenue **NEIGHBORHOOD:** Eastside

BIRTHPLACE: Rataje, Pacanów, Poland (Władysław); Russian Poland (Józef)

IMMIGRATION: 1912 (Władysław); 1909 (Józef)

LIFESPAN: b. 1888 (Władysław); b. 1894 (Józef)

**PROFILE:** Władysław Babiarz already had photography experience in Gary, Indiana before moving to Detroit in 1925. He was living on Burns Avenue and his studio address was 2243 Medbury Avenue. His photographer brother, Stanisław, was living at 4745 Chene Street. Babiarz ultimately named his business Medbury Studio where he partnered with Józef Zaborowski, who soon took over the proprietorship in 1928. Zaborowski had once worked for the Wojnicki Brothers. Władysław proceeded to other photography venues outside of Michigan in the 1930s.



ABOVE: OLS Collection, circa 1930 (**OLS**); RIGHT: Pearson Collection, circa 1931 (**MP**); BELOW: Medbury Studio logo with W. S. Babiarz, 1933 (**OLS**)





#### JAN STANISŁAW MIECZKOWSKI

STUDIO: 288 East Canfield Avenue

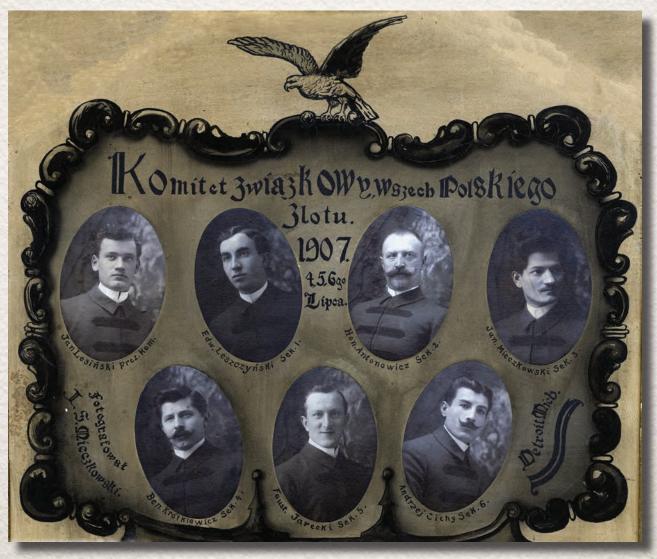
**NEIGHBORHOOD:** Eastside

**BIRTHPLACE:** Schönau, West Prussia, Germany – now Szonowo, Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Poland **IMMIGRATION:** 1890

LIFESPAN: 1880-1923

**PROFILE:** Jan seems to have served the Polish neighborhood from 1904-1909 from his East Canfield Avenue studio; but in that short time he was very active in the community. In the society composite below, Jan's image is in the upper right hand corner. He was part of the committee that brought the International Sokoł Polski Conference to Detroit which commenced July 4, 1907. Jan was also part of the team of photographers who captured images of Polish parish churches, pastors, and business professionals for the 1907 *Historya Osady i Parafii Polskich w Detroit, Mich. oraz Przewodnik Adrsowy.* We offer examples of some his larger efforts here and on the next two pages.

BELOW: Komitet Zwiazkowy wszech Polskiego zlotu [Union Committee of the Polish Rally] — Detroit, Michigan, 1907 (**OLS**); PAGES 40-41: Sokoł Polski 1895-1905 — Detroit, Michigan (**OLS**)







## NEW CHENE STUDIO – JULIA LITYŃSKI & ADAM SZEWCZYK

STUDIO: 5468 Chene Street **NEIGHBORHOOD:** Eastside BIRTHPLACE: Michigan (Julia); Siedlce, Poland (Adam) IMMIGRATION: U.S. born (Julia); 1910 (Adam) LIFESPAN: b. 1888 (Julia); 1893-1930 (Adam) PROFILE: Julia Lityński, was the daughter of Galician parents Wawrzyniec & Marianna Reczek Marszałek, who immigrated to the United States in the mid-1880's. She had once been married to Władimir Lityński before creating a partnership with the Masovian born, Adam Szewczyk. Adjacent is a 1923 sampling of a Szewczyk-Lityński work with the 5470 Chene Street address on the cabinet card. This is just prior to the start of New Chene Studio at 5468 Chene Street, examples of which can also be seen below.





Edward Joseph Stach, 1931 (DH)



#### PIERONEK STUDIO – PAWEŁ PIERONEK

# STUDIO: 675/2243 Medbury Avenue; 11633 Joseph Campau Avenue NEIGHBORHOOD: Eastside/Hamtramck BIRTHPLACE: Radziechów, Żywiec, Galizien, Austria IMMIGRATION: 1909 LIFESPAN: 1891-1974

**PROFILE:** Paweł Pieronek established himself as a premiere photographer on Medbury Avenue where he ran his studio from 1914-1925. He moved his business to Joseph Campau Avenue in 1925, where two of his sons conducted business into the 1990s. Samples of his work are presented here and on the next two pages.



Pieronek Family, circa 1930 (JP)



Francis Szczodrowski & Friend, circa 1919 (**FGHS**)



OLS Collection, 1935 (OLS)



ABOVE: OLS Collection, circa 1934 (OLS); BELOW: St. Florian — Hamtramck, Michigan — Graduation, 1933 (HHM); OPPOSITE: Ofiarodawcow Dzwonów Kołko w Radziechów [Donors Bells Circle in Radziechów]
 — Detroit, Michigan, 1921 (OLS)





#### S. A. ROCHOWIAK STUDIO – STANISŁAW ARTUR ROCHOWIAK

**STUDIO:** 2250 River Street; 2250 West Jefferson Avenue; 2460 West Jefferson Avenue; 2478/8712 West Jefferson Avenue; 8714 West Jefferson Avenue

**NEIGHBORHOOD:** Downriver

BIRTHPLACE: Detroit, Michigan

IMMIGRATION: U.S. born

LIFESPAN: 1879-1937

**PROFILE:** Rochowiak's ancestral village was Graudenz, West Prussia, now Grudziądz, Bydgoszcz, Poland. As early as 1900 we find the multi-talented Stanisław working as a notary. He expanded his abilities to include both a real estate agent and an insurance agent. In 1902 Stanisław married Bronisława Bonish, sister of Leo A. Bonish, who began his long career in photography that same year. Perhaps because of a shared interest with his brother in law, we find Stanisław making photography his career of choice in 1906 using S. A. Rochowiak on his cabinet cards. Also, in 1920, funeral director was added to the list of jobs under Rochowiak's belt. He partnered for a time with undertaker, Frank Dziuba. Although he was ill the last several months of his life, Rochowiak remained in the photo business into 1936.



ABOVE left to right: OLS Collection, circa 1915 (**OLS**); OLS Collection, circa 1917 (**OLS**); OLS Collection, circa 1909 (**OLS**).

# SMART SET STUDIO – WŁADIMIR EUSTACHY LITYŃSKI

STUDIO: 8841 Joseph Campau Avenue
NEIGHBORHOOD: Hamtramck
BIRTHPLACE: Telacze, Podhajce, Galizien, Austria
IMMIGRATION: 1905
LIFESPAN: 1885-1969

**PROFILE:** Smart Set Studio – W. E. Litynski was how the ethnic Ruthenian's business was presented on his cabinet cards. Even though his career in photography began much earlier in the metropolitan Detroit area, Władimir Lityński remained involved with Smart Set Studio from 1926-1946.

(MHH) 5501









Pearson Collection, circa 1933 (MP)

# JÓZEF SOWIŃSKI

STUDIO: 867 Riopelle Street; 376 East Canfield Avenue
NEIGHBORHOOD: Eastside/St. Albertus Community
BIRTHPLACE: Prussian Poland
IMMIGRATION: 1890
LIFESPAN: 1869-1956
PROFILE: Józef studied photography in Berlin before coming to the

United States. He seems to have begun his career in Detroit partnered with Stanisław Piotrowski from 1892-1893. By 1894 the Jos. Sowinski Studio was in full operation on Canfield Avenue where he shared



space with his wife, Salomea, and her millinery business. A real estate transaction in 1905 with Ford Motor Company placed the family in a position to escape the need of having to run a full time business; and by 1912, the Sowinski family retired to Highland Park.



Wrosz Family, circa 1904 (DF)



SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, Detroit, Michigan, circa 1900 (OLS)



TOP: Golembiewski Collection, circa 1896 (NG); Wendt Collection, circa 1902 (CWJ); Sylwia Zdziebko, circa 1903 (CWJ). BOTTOM: Mary Zimkowska & Elizabeth Inda, circa 1904 (DZ); Wendt Collection, circa 1892 (CWJ); Wendt Collection, circa 1904 (CWJ).

OPPOSITE: Komitet Budowy Domu Polskiego [The Building Committee of the Polish Home] — Detroit, Michigan, 1907(**OLS**).



# WOJNICKI BROTHERS – TADEUSZ, KAZIMIERZ, & KAJETAN

STUDIO: 200/2644 Florian Avenue; 6535 Michigan Avenue

NEIGHBORHOOD: Hamtramck/Westside

**BIRTHPLACE:** Zajączki, Kalisz, Poland (Tadeusz); Krzepice, Kalisz, Poland (Kazimierz); Wyszyna, Kalisz, Poland (Kajetan)

IMMIGRATION: 1907 (Tadeusz); 1912 (Kazimierz); 1913 (Kajetan)



LIFESPAN: 1886-1958 (Tadeusz); b. 1892 (Kazimierz); 1896-1951 (Kajetan)

**PROFILE:** Tadeusz seems to have begun his photography business about 1917. Associates for Tadeusz in the Wojnicki Bros. studio were younger brothers Kazimierz and Kajetan, also referred to by his middle name, Stanisław. These younger brothers were church organists for the most part; however, we occasionally find them listed as photographers in the Detroit City Directories. By 1935, Tadeusz moved his studio to 6535 Michigan Avenue in Detroit where he established Golden Set Studio. Examples of his work from this latter studio can be seen on pages 18-19.

LEFT: OLS Collection, circa 1918 (OLS)





Frank Zolnierczyk Family, circa 1919 (CL)



Pamiątka Domu Robotniczego [Memorial House of Labor], Hamtramck, Michigan, 1921 (**OLS**)



St. Florian — Hamtramck, Michigan — Graduation, 1932 (MO)

#### ZIAWINSKI BROTHERS – FELIKS & JÓZEF

STUDIO: 1652/5848 Michigan Avenue

NEIGHBORHOOD: Westside, including St. Casimir, Assumption BVM, and St. Hedwig

BIRTHPLACE: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

IMMIGRATION: U.S. born

### LIFESPAN: 1880-1923 (Feliks); 1887-1959 (Józef)

**PROFILE:** Feliks started his Detroit photography business about 1912. Józef joined him in 1916 to help create the Ziawinski Brothers Studio. Feliks seems to have removed himself from the business by 1920. Józef still indicates his profession as a photographer in the 1940 Federal Census. Feliks and Józef were the sons of immigrants, Ignatz Zjawiński and Anna Kucharska who came from German Poland in the 1870s.



ABOVE left to right: Helen Ostrowska & Jakub Wojtkowiak, 1912 (**CWJ**); Theresa Wojtkowiak & Paul Anthony Pokriefky, 1914 (**CWJ**); Cecilia Wojtkowiak & Antoni Przytulski, 1912 (**CWJ**).

OPPOSITE beginning upper left, clockwise to the middle: Goralski, 1915 (**CWJ**); Charles Henning, 1918 (**CWJ**); Majewski Collection, 1920 (**SAM**); Elizabeth & Virginia Przytulski, 1923 (**CWJ**); Majewski Collection, 1923 (**SAM**); Helen Sokolowski, 1923 (**HTMET**); Mary Borycki, 1930 (**TZ**); Genevieve Przytulski, 1925 (**CWJ**); Phillip Suchara, 1927 (**HS**);Florence Kmiec, 1923 (**BC**); George Wojtkowiak/Voight, 1923 (**CWJ**); Henry Tyszka, 1922 (**HTMET**); Helen Suchara, 1929 (**HS**).

Ziawinski Brothers



























Ever since portrait photography became feasible, children have become the most endearing subjects available. Henry Peach Robinson is quoted from his 1891 book, *The Studio and What To Do In It*, when writing about toys and there use to gain control of a posing situation by saying: "You will, of course, have a whole battery of toys ready when required to amuse your little sitter, for toys are the stock-in-trade of childhood; and he who understands their use and mystery best will soonest become one with his subject. I should strongly recommend you to keep them strictly for your own use. If the child sees they belong to you, and can only be got through you, you will become a much more interesting person to him, and consequently have more power." Robinson adds "…there can be very little posing of a young child; you must do, not what you would, but what the child will allow." What was true over 100 years ago is still true today!

OPPOSITE beginning upper left, clockwise to the middle: Majewski Collection, circa 1933 (KM); George Voight, circa 1916 (CWJ); Wilk Collection, 1925 (HW); Frank J. Kosarek, Jr., circa 1911 (DKM); Irene & William Borkowski, Jr., 1925 (JMBB); OLS Collection, circa 1932 (OLS); OLS Collection, circa 1931 (OLS); Grandmother Boguslawska & Lillian Boguslawska, circa 1921 (RDS) Martha Fürst Lentz Frontczak, circa 1927 (DF);





Charles Anthony Pokriefka, Jr., 1950 (CAP)





Olszewski Collection, circa 1936 (MO) ames Macheske, circa 1929 (MO)













# Portraits of Children









The itinerant photographer would lead a horse or donkey into a neighborhood and offer studio quality photographs. It is said the photographer would lift the child into the saddle to clinch the sale. As you can see, many parents could not resist; and often times the parents feet can be seen in the photo securing the safety of the child in the saddle. These pony pictures span the 1930s through the 1950s. Many of the photographers carried cowboy/ cowgirl props that included hats, lariats, toy guns with holsters, bandannas, chaps, and vests. The saddled equine may be adorned with a studded bridle and brass ornamented harness.

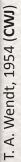




Leocadia Stachurska, circa 1935 (CWJ)

Richard & Charles Olszewski, circa 1950 (MO)





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Allen Szlag, circa 1953 (PL)





# Portraits on Ponies



Leona Przytulska, circa 1940 (CWJ)



Jerome A. Barhydt suggests in his 1892 edition of Crayon Portraiture "In selecting a photograph to color we want as perfect a print as it is possible to procure. A light one is preferable. Notice in particular if it is well defined, that the shadows and middle shades are clear, the lights pure, and that it is free from defects and spots. Many think that they can take a poor photograph, and, by coloring it, cover up the defects; but they are wrong in this, for the transparent colors will not conceal defects." We offer this array from the 1920s through the 1950s.





Stanisława Hołody & Antoni Filipek, circa 1920 (**BS**)

Hand Colored





Patricia Lang, circa 1950 (PL)

Lawrence Merchel & mother, Anna, 1958 (LM)





Virginia Ingenthron, circa 1943 (**DS**)









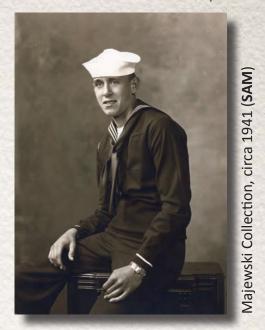
Hamtramck Historical Museum, circa 1942 (HHM)

During World War I, some of the metro Detroit photography studios were open around the clock in order for soldiers to comply with the acquistion of a required military photo. Photos presented here are from both World War I and II. A number of the images from our collection capture the young men home on leave with their fiancé or bride.

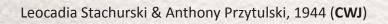




# Military Portraits



Stanley Karpanty, circa 1918 (PH)

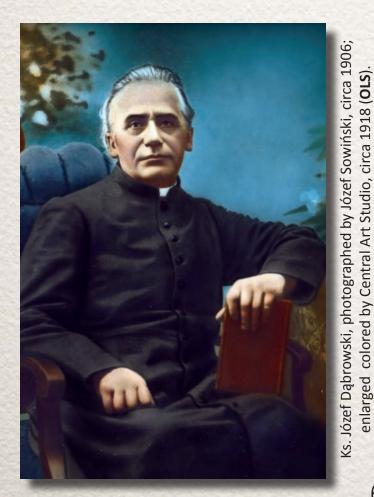




Roman Jan Filipek, circa 1942 (BS)

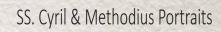


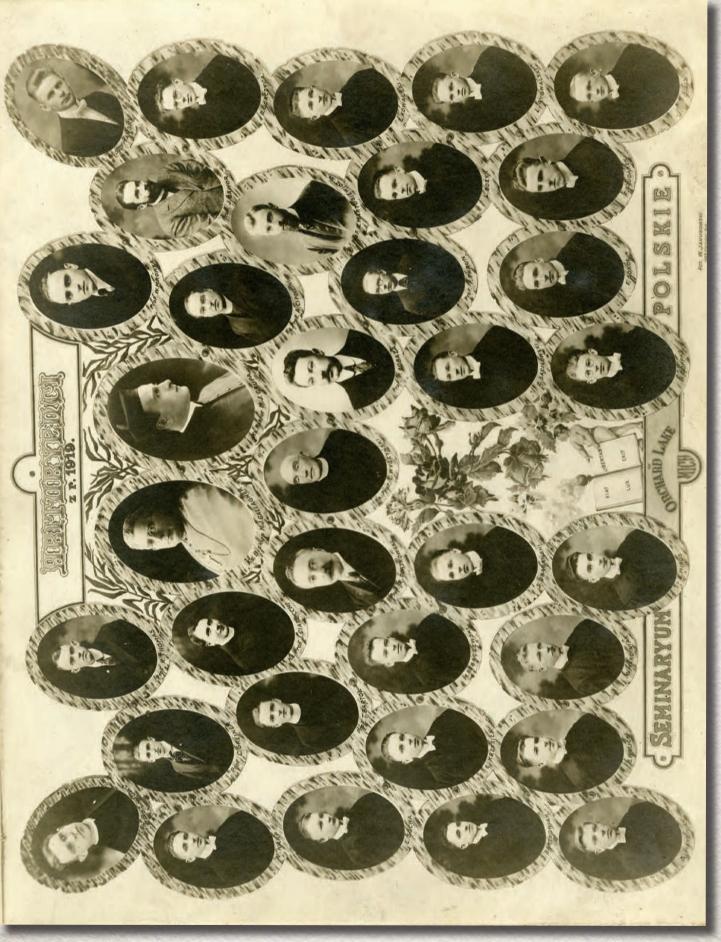
The Orchard Lake Schools, originally known as the Polish Seminary, were founded in 1885 on Detroit's Eastside, when the need arose for priests to spiritually care for Polish immigrants. Pages 64-69 will offer a little visual history of the various factions of the Orchard Lake Schools facility.





Ks. Witold Buchaczkowski, photographed by Lityński Brothers, circa 1918. Enlarged & colored by Central Art Studio, circa 1918 (**OLS**).





Abituryenci z rok 1919 Seminaryum Polskie [Graduates for the year 1919 from the Polish Seminary] Orchard Lake, Michigan (JDOP)



LEO J. WOJTUSIK "Curly"

#### Jackson, Mich. Associate-Editor.

Some poet spoke of curls as the ripple of a smile, which became tangled in the hair. We can readily testify to the charming association of curls and smiles in "Curly's" make-up. Be it said to his immortal credit that he carried this pretty barden with becoming dignity. The birds in Jackson sang sweetly that he was "cute", and, while we do not precisely understand the actual meaning of the term, we are not adverse to admitting that it might be true. His serious business was to keep himself busy, the sporting page and fiction commanded both his earnest application and affectionate interest.

ate interest. We trust fondly that in "Curly's" future life the inconsiderate gods of fate have not assigned labors too heavy, nor partings painful. 'Tis surely a pleasant hope that neither the charm of curly hair, nor that of the winning smile will ever be anything but a permanent reality in the many happy years of useful activity which we wish him and Jackson, all in one.

#### STANISLAUS J. WACHADŁO "Stan"

#### East Chicago, Ind.

"Stan" is found either in the gym or roaming around. For this reason he can justly be called a nomad, being everywhere but in his room. As all "Hoosiers" usually are, "Stan" is an able performer on the polished court. He showed his "stuff" on the court many a time, either as a member of the High School or Varsity squads. In class he was a keen observer and quite studious, being quite proficient especially in Greek and Latin.

To be frank, "Stan" wisely makes no plans for the future. But to find him someday a successful business man would not be surprising. We are with you, "Stan!"

Saint Mary's College Portraits

Saint Mary's College — Orchard Lake, Michigan, 1957 (OLS)





Orchard Lake Preparatory High School — Orchard Lake, Michigan, 1916 (OLS)



St. Mary's Preparatory High School — Orchard Lake, Michigan, circa 1932 (OLS)

# Saint Mary's Preparatory Portraits



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Back cover photos left column from top to bottom: Michael Luszczyk, circa 1922 (**RJL**); Olszewski Collection, circa 1928 (**MO**); Zolnierczyk Family, circa 1935 (**CL**); and Laurentia Wagner, circa 1945 (**AMW**). Right column from top to bottom: Harold Learman, 1954 (**CAP**); Helen Lewandowski, 1925 (**CS**); Alice Bosh, circa 1941 (**SAM**); and Roman Konwerski, 1927 (**RMK**).

# POLISH MISSION



#### **Genealogy Center** — PARI

Discover your Polish heritage and family tree with help from the Polish Mission's Polonica Americana Research Institute. It is here where families come together to research their roots, discover the villages and records of their ancestors, and document their family history. PARI has experienced staff to help guide you through online data bases, microforms, and other pertinent records. PARI is a FamilySearch affiliate and, therefore, has rental access to thousands of microfilms and microfiche to aid in the investigation of one's family background. Additionally, our facility offers fee-based workshops, classes, and lectures for both groups and individuals.

#### Galeria

The *Galeria* is proud to serve as home to one of the most prestigious collections of Polish art in the United States. It boasts original works by major Polish artists including: Jan Matejko; Jan Styka; Jacek Malczewski; Stefan Mrożewski; the Kossak family of painters — Juliusz, Wojciech, and Jerzy; Zofia Stryjeńska; Julian Fałat; and Saturnin Świerzyński. In partnership with the Polish Ministry of Culture, a comprehensive inventory and appraisal of the collection was conducted by the Curator at the Leon Wyczółkowski District Museum in Bydgoszcz, Poland. The *Galeria* also hosts art competitions, changing exhibits, as well as a variety of cultural events such as gallery talks, films, and musical programs. We are thrilled to share our magnificent collection with you!

#### **Museums, Archives, and Rare Books**

The Museums, Archives, and Rare Book Room are cornerstones of the Polish Mission's rich history. Ever since our founding in 1885, Polonia worldwide has looked to our team to safeguard their treasured objects, so younger generations can shape a better future by learning from a rich and storied past. From medieval royal correspondence, to ancient coins and relics, to the largest Polish related WW II collection in North America (Home Army, Polish Second Corps, 1st Armoured Division), our treasury of resources tell our Polish and Polish-American story to academic researchers and everyday guests alike. Our ongoing work includes detailed conservation, exhibit development, and creating exciting outreach programs. We continue to welcome new additions to our collections through donations; and our goal is to proudly ensure the best possible home for historic Polish objects, documents, and rare books.

This publication is a companion piece to the exhibit entitled Portrait Studios of Detroit's Polonia: The Face of Polish Immigration. Funding for this program was provided through a Major Grant awarded by the Michigan Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The album and the exhibit showcase studio photographers in metro Detroit's Polonia for the years 1885-1960. The first Polish immigrants to Detroit frequented the portrait studios established by early photographers that included Joseph W. Emhuff, Constantine Eisenhardt, Charles Russell Baker, and Carl Aller. Photographers Józef Sowiński and Stanisław Piotrowski, Polish immigrants from Prussia, came to Detroit in the early 1890s with Sowiński establishing himself in the heart of Detroit's Polish community located at Canfield Avenue and St. Aubin Street. This positioned his studio in easy walking distance to the first Polish parish in Detroit, St. Albertus Roman Catholic Church; the neighboring Felician Sisters convent; and the Martin Kulwicki Funeral Home. In the following decades, other Polish immigrant photographers also developed thriving businesses not only in the heart of the community; but, also, in the East and West side communities of the city. This work illustrates and describes the work of major and minor photographers who serviced the community throughout the cycle of life — chronicling religious sacraments, academic pursuits, and the activities of ethnic organizations.

