



## **Postscript: Grand Grocery, 1942**

(Article begins on page 2 below.)

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Full Citation: David L Bristow, ed., "Postscript: Grand Grocery, 1942," *Nebraska History* 95 (2014): 276

Cataloging Information:

Photographs / Images: Grand Grocery, 1000 P St., Lincoln (John Vachon photograph)



Library of Congress Prints  
and Photographs Division,  
LC-USF35-268

Color photography was still relatively rare and expensive in 1942 when photographer John Vachon stopped at the Grand Grocery at 1000 P Street in downtown Lincoln. American Kodak introduced Kodachrome film in 1935, and in 1941 made it possible to order prints from Kodachrome slides.

Fortunately for us, Vachon's employer, the Farm Security Administration, approved the extra expense. His photos are part of a collection of 1,600 color images made between 1939 and 1944 for the FSA and later the Office of War Information. The collection depicts American life, focusing mostly on agriculture and war mobilization. The Library of Congress has made the images available at [loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsac](http://loc.gov/pictures/collection/fsac)

For obvious reasons, *Nebraska History* mostly prints black-and-white images. It's a treat, therefore, to see a color photo from what we usually think of as a black-and-white era. The bright oranges and grapefruit drew the photographer's eye, as they do ours.

The store window shows no evidence of it, but grocery shopping was about to become more complicated. Wartime food rationing began that year, starting with sugar in May. The mobilization of soldiers and sailors was also underway. That fall, a young man named John Doyle would leave Lincoln for his freshman year at Yale, where he would enroll in the navy air cadet program. Doyle tells his own story starting on p. 198.

David L. Bristow, Editor