
Finding Aid to the Gump family papers, 1871-1990, bulk 1920-1970

Finding Aid written by Sibba Hartunian

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Collection Number: BANC MSS 2013/156

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Date Completed:

August 2013

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Collection Summary

Collection Title: Gump family papers

Date (inclusive): 1871-1990,

Date (bulk): bulk 1920-1970

Collection Number: BANC MSS 2013/156

Creators: Gump family

Extent: Number of containers: 4 cartons, 2 oversize boxes, 1 box, 1 volume, and 1 oversize folder (Linear feet: 6.4)

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Abstract: Papers of the Gump family of San Francisco, consisting of family correspondence and other personal documents as well as some Gump's Department Store correspondence and business records.

Languages Represented: Collection materials are in English

Physical Location: Many of the Bancroft Library collections are stored offsite and advance notice may be required for use. For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Access

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Gump family papers, BANC MSS 2013/156, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Alternate Forms Available

There are no alternate forms of this collection.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Gump family--Archives
Gump, Richard, 1906-1989
Gump, Albert Livingston, 1869-1947
Gump, Peter, b. 1931
Gump, Robert Livingston, 1903-1981
Gump's (Department store)
Gump's (Department store)--Catalogs
Guckenheimer Sour Kraut Band
Department stores--California--San Francisco
Jews, German--California--San Francisco
Jewish businesspeople--California--San Francisco
Jewish families--California--San Francisco
Business records--California--San Francisco.
Family papers--California--San Francisco.
Ledgers
Audiocassettes
Advertisements
Clippings
Phonograph records
Sheet music

Acquisition Information

The Gump family papers were gifted to the Bancroft Library by Marilyn Gump in 2013.

Accruals

No future additions are expected.

Processing Information

Processed by Sibba Hartunian in 2013.

Biographical Information

After buying out his brother-in-law's mirror and frame shop in 1861, immigrants Solomon Gump and his brother Gustav founded the S and G Gump Company. They remained owners of the shop until Solomon's son, Abraham Livingston (widely referred to as A.L.), took over at the turn of the century. When the 1906 earthquake demolished the store, A.L. was forced to start anew. It was this event and his love for far Eastern design that made Gump's the high-end, San Francisco attraction it came to be. The launch of their catalog in the 1950s made their store nationally recognizable as their goods were now accessible across the country. Following his father, A.L.'s, death in 1947, Richard Gump took control and became president of the company until he retired and sold the store in 1975. Two years later, he began communicating with UC Berkeley about donating his property on the island of Moorea. As of the official signing in 1981, the property became the Richard B. Gump South Pacific Research Station. The Bancroft Library conducted an oral history with Richard Gump in 1989.

Scope and Content of Collection

While a portion of the Gump Family Papers collection includes correspondence and documents related to the S and G Gump Company, the majority of the collection is comprised of Gump family papers. The business papers make up the first series. They consist of financial documents and promotional material (including catalogs) as well as less formal correspondence and memos, documenting the ways in which the business was run. The business papers also document the Gumps' real estate business and work in Honolulu. Although a majority of the correspondence centers around the Gumps' store, it also

includes World War II related correspondence and business correspondence with William Randolph Hearst. Most business records are from the 20th century. The second, larger series is dedicated to family papers, which also includes correspondence, financial documents, and other family papers. These papers document the Gumps' charitable involvement, family dynamics, and other aspects of their personal lives. A subseries is dedicated to Richard Gump, as his personal papers are a large portion of the series. The Richard Gump series exhibits his more creative pursuits; much of the material is related to his band, the Guckenheimer Sour-Kraut band and his Polynesian Symphony. Other family members with a significant presence in the collection include Abraham Livingston Gump, his son Robert Gump, and Richard's son Peter Gump.

Series 1: **Business, 1871-1990**

Physical Description: carton 1; carton 4, folder 1-11; oversize folder 1

Subseries 1.1: **Correspondence, 1892-1968**

Physical Description: carton 1, folder 1-18

Subseries 1.2: **Administrative and financial, 1871-1976**

Physical Description: carton 4, folder 1-11; volume 1

Carton 4, Folder 1	Gump Company bylaws, 1947
Carton 4, Folder 2	Gump Company Notarial records, 1952-1976
Carton 4, Folder 3-4	Gump Company meeting minutes, 1922-1933, 1941-1947
Carton 4, Folder 5	Gump Company Los Angeles real estate, 1935
Carton 4, Folder 6	Gump Company purchase orders, 1946
Volume 1	Receipt book, 1860-1864
Carton 4, Folder 7	Store ledger, 1906
Carton 4, Folder 8	Gump Realty Company ledger, 1911-1925
Carton 4, Folder 9	Gump Realty Company meeting minutes, 1911-1941
Carton 4, Folder 10	Gump Realty Company property appraisals, 1941
Carton 4, Folder 11	Other financial documents, 1871-1959

Subseries 1.3: **Other business records, 1895-1990**

Physical Description: carton 1, folder 19-31, oversize folder 1

Carton 1, Folder 19-27	Catalogs, 1957-1990, undated
Carton 1, Folder 28, Oversize Folder 1	Advertisements, 1895-1962
Carton 1, Folder 29	Clippings, 1928-1949
Carton 1, Folder 30	Assorted promotional materials, 1949-1973
Carton 1, Folder 31, Oversize Folder 1	Miscellaneous business documents, 1914-1968

Series 2: **Family, 1906-1984**

Physical Description: carton 2-3; carton 4, folder 12; box 1; oversize folder 1; oversize box 1-2

Subseries 2.1: **Correspondence and invitations, 1920-1977**

Physical Description: carton 2; carton 3, folder 1-18

Subseries 2.2: **Financial, 1925-1954**

Physical Description: carton 3, folder 19; carton 4, folder 1; oversize folder 1

Carton 3, Folder
19, Oversize
Folder 1
Carton 4, Folder
12

Personal financial documents, 1925-1954

Robert Gump ledger, 1934-1936

Subseries 2.3: **Richard Gump, 1922-1984**

Physical Description: carton 3, folder 20-35; box 1; oversize box 1-2; oversize folder 1

Carton 3, Folder
20-22, Oversize
Folder 1
Carton 3, Folder
23
Box 1, Folder
1-10, Oversize
Folder 1
Oversize Box 2
Box 1, Folder
11-12
Oversize Box 1-2
Carton 3, Folder
24, Oversize
Folder 1
Carton 3, Folder
25-27

Personal documents, 1922-1964

Donation receipts, 1949-1955

Guckenheimer Sour Kraut Band, 1950-1984

Guckenheimer Sour Kraut Band audio materials, 1956-1958

Other music, 1939-1965, undated

Other music audio materials and sheet music, 1941-1976

Marin Golf Club, 1958-1966

Lake Merced Golf Club, 1944-1958

Subseries 2.4: **Other family papers, 1944-1958**

Physical Description: carton 3, folder 28-35; oversize folder 1

Carton 3, Folder
28
Carton 3, Folder
29-30
Carton 3, Folder
31
Carton 3, Folder
32, Oversize
Folder 1
Carton 3, Folder
33
Carton 3, Folder
34
Carton 3, Folder
35

Albert Livingston Gump, 1906-1963

Robert Gump, undated

Peter Gump, 1946-1955

Legal documents, 1904-1937

Russia trip, 1959-1970

Nancy Reagan gift to governors and other Reagan-related documents, 1968-1977

Miscellaneous family papers, 1928-1958
