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

Finding Aid written by Sibba Hartunian
The Bancroft Library
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California, 94720-6000
Phone: (510) 642-6481
Fax: (510) 642-7589
Email: bancref@library.berkeley.edu
URL: http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/
© 2013
The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.
Finding Aid to the Gump family papers, 1871-1990, bulk 1920-1970

Collection Number: BANC MSS 2013/156

The Bancroft Library
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California

Finding Aid Written By:  Sibba Hartunian
Date Completed:  August 2013

© 2013 The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

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)
Repository:  The Bancroft Library
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California, 94720-6000
Phone: (510) 642-6481
Fax: (510) 642-7589
Email: bancref@library.berkeley.edu
URL:  http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/

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
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
All requests to reproduce, publish, quote from or otherwise use collection materials must be submitted in writing to the Head of Public Services, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, 94720-6000. Consent is given on behalf of The Bancroft Library as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission from the copyright owner. Such permission must be obtained from the copyright owner. See: http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/reference/permissions.html.

Restrictions also apply to digital representations of the original materials. Use of digital files is restricted to research and educational purposes. Materials in this collection may be protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.). In addition, the reproduction of some materials may be restricted by terms of University of California gift or purchase agreements, donor restrictions, privacy and publicity rights, licensing and trademarks. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by copyright beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owner. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

All requests to reproduce, publish, quote from, or otherwise use collection materials must be submitted in writing to the Head of Public Services, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley 94720-6000. See:
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
- Gump Company Notarial records, 1952-1976
- Gump Company meeting minutes, 1922-1933, 1941-1947

Carton 4, Folder 2
- Gump Company Los Angeles real estate, 1935
- Gump Company purchase orders, 1946
- Receipt book, 1860-1864
- Store ledger, 1906
- Gump Realty Company ledger, 1911-1925
- Gump Realty Company meeting minutes, 1911-1941
- Gump Realty Company property appraisals, 1941

Carton 4, Folder 10
- 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
- Advertisements, 1895-1962

Carton 1, Folder 28, Oversize Folder 1
- Clippings, 1928-1949
- Assorted promotional materials, 1949-1973
- 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
Series 2: Family, 1906-1984
Subseries 2.1: Correspondence and invitations, 1920-1977

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

Subseries 2.3: Richard Gump, 1922-1984
Physical Description: carton 3, folder 20-35; box 1; oversize box 1-2; oversize folder 1

Subseries 2.4: Other family papers, 1944-1958
Physical Description: carton 3, folder 28-35; oversize folder 1