Guide to the Harrison Family Home Movie Collection

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Guide to the Harrison Family Home Movie Collection

Collection number: MS 177

African American Museum & Library at Oakland
Oakland, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Harrison Family Home Movie collection
Bulk Dates: circa 1960 - 1967
Collection number: MS 177
Creator: Harrison, W.H.
Collection Size: .5 linear feet (1 box)
Repository: African American Museum & Library at Oakland (Oakland, Calif.)
Oakland, CA 94612

Abstract: The Harrison Family Home Movie Collection includes five 8mm color home movies recorded by the Harrison family of Richmond, California documenting the family’s barbeque business, Harrison’s Bar-B-Que, and daily life for African Americans in Richmond, California during the 1960s. The home movies total 107 minutes and include footage of a road trip the family made through Denver, Colorado on their way to visit family in rural Texas near Ballinger, Texas and Amarillo, Texas. Footage also includes farm workers picking and processing grapes mostly likely in the Napa Valley and scenes from the California State Fair.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
Access to original film reels restricted. Digital files open to the public.

Access Restrictions
Materials are for use in-library only, non-circulating.

Publication Rights
Permission to publish from the Harrison Family Home Movie Collection must be obtained from the African American Museum & Library at Oakland.

Preferred Citation
Harrison Family Home Movie collection, MS 177, African American Museum & Library at Oakland, Oakland Public Library, Oakland, California.

Acquisition Information
Harrison Family Home Movie Collection was donated by Steve Polta to the African American Museum & Library at Oakland in 2012.

Processing Information
Processed by Sean Heyliger December 4, 2014.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Harrison Family Home Movie Collection includes five 8mm color home movies recorded by the Harrison family of Richmond, California documenting the family’s barbeque business, Harrison’s Bar-B-Que, and daily life for African Americans in Richmond, California during the 1960s. The home movies total 107 minutes and include footage of a road trip the family made through Denver, Colorado on their way to visit family in rural Texas near Ballinger, Texas and Amarillo, Texas. Footage also includes farm workers picking and processing grapes mostly likely in the Napa Valley and scenes from
the California State Fair.

**Arrangement**
Series I. Home movies

**Indexing Terms**
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
African American families--California.
Agricultural laborers--California--History.
Agricultural laborers--California--Napa Valley.
California State Fair and Exposition--Pictorial works.
Ocean Beach (San Francisco, Calif.)--History--Pictorial works.
Richmond (Calif.)--Pictorial works.
Amateur films.

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**Home movies**

- Physical Description: 5 reels + 6 digital files
- Series Scope and Content Summary
  - Includes five 8mm color films recorded by the Harrison family.
Box 1  

**Untitled reel 1 [MS177_A8P01] circa 1967**

- **Physical Description:** color, 8mm
- **Physical Description:** Run time: 25 (min): 53 (s)
Box 1

Untitled reel 2 [MS177_A8P02] circa 1960s

Physical Description: color, 8mm
Physical Description: Run time: 16 (min): 50 (s)

Box 1

Untitled reel 3 [MS177_A8P03] circa 1960s

Physical Description: color, 8mm
Physical Description: Run time: 22 (min): 18 (s)

Box 1

Untitled reel 4 [MS177_A8P04] circa 1960s

Physical Description: color, 8mm
Physical Description: Run time: 18 (min): 15 (s)

Box 1  

**Untitled reel 5 [MS177_VTS_01_1] circa 1960s**

- Physical Description: color, 8mm
- Physical Description: Run time: 18 (min): 04 (s)
- Material Specific Details:
  - Two women walking on sidewalk [0:01] Camera filming from moving car, two men on sidewalk talking [0:13]
  - Two women standing next to car [0:19]
  - Panorama of ocean beach from Cliff House Inn [0:24]
  - Fishing boat off coast, people on rocky outcrop [0:37]
  - Woman in shawl eating corndog walking along sidewalk at ocean vista, Cliff House Inn in the background [0:55]
  - Woman walking to car holding Pepsi [1:42]
  - Crowd outside church, woman walking on sidewalk in front of service station [1:52]
  - Children next to Frozen Bananas stand at California State Fair [2:06]
  - Ski lift at California State Fair [2:06]
  - Children in front of Hot Dog on a Stick stand, tractor pulling visitor sitting in thatch roof cars [2:22]
  - Children waiting for corndogs at stand [3:14]
  - Children on sidewalk in front of house [3:24]
  - Workers picking grapes in field [3:39]
  - Worker in overalls dumping buckets of grapes into trailer [5:28]
  - Man in overalls on tractor [5:34]
  - Man dumping buckets of grapes into trailer [5:44]
  - Workers picking grapes in field [6:05]
  - Wooden crates of picked grapes stack at end of grape rows [6:40]
  - Workers picking grapes in field [6:45]
  - Workers dumping grapes into W.H. Harrison’s dump truck bed [7:55]
  - Unloading grapes from W.H. Harrison’s dump truck into mechanical crusher-destemmer at grape processing plant [8:50]
  - Man walking on road next to grape fields [9:55]
  - W.H. Harrison’s dump truck parked on gravel road [10:05]
  - Workers unloading grapes from wooden crates into W.H. Harrison’s dump truck [10:07]
  - Workers picking grapes in field [11:17]
  - Unloading grapes from W.H. Harrison’s dump truck into mechanical crusher-destemmer at grape processing plant [11:48]
  - W.H. Harrison’s dump truck parked in field, woman unloading buckets of grapes into bin, workers picking grapes [11:53]
  - Man and woman on front porch of farm house [13:10]
  - Man holding garlic house [13:27]
  - Man walking toward camera looking at check [13:31]
  - Man standing next to wooden crates with grapes [13:40]
  - Man and woman walking on dirt road in vineyard [13:55]
  - Workers picking grapes in field [14:01]
  - Horses on racetrack, panorama of racetrack stand, California State Fair [14:01]
  - Children riding bumper cars [15:12]
  - Panorama of California State Fair [15:56]

Box 1  

**Untitled reel 5 [MS177_VTS_01_2] circa 1960s**

- Physical Description: color, 8mm
- Physical Description: Run time: 6 (min): 26 (s)
- Material Specific Details:
  - Man and woman walking with arms locked down walkway in front of house [0:01]
  - Group of people standing around campfire [0:06]
  - Blue bus parked next to vineyard field, panorama of field [0:11]
  - W.H. Harrison’s dump truck parked on dirt road, workers picking grapes [0:21]
  - Workers unloading grapes from wooden crates into W.H. Harrison’s dump truck [1:44]
  - Two men unloading wooden crates from truck bed of Harrison’s Pit Bar-B-Q [1:54]
  - Workers picking grapes in field [2:02]
  - Workers in line [2:55]
  - Buses and cars parked in field [3:02]
  - Man weighing wooden crates of peas [3:17]
  - Man and woman sifting through peas in trough and packing them into wooden crates [3:29]
  - Workers picking peas in field [3:36]
  - Man weighing wooden crates of peas [4:18]
  - Man in overalls carrying two bushels of peas [4:20]
  - Children in front of church [4:24]
  - Man walking along dirt road, buses in the background [4:42]
  - Masons and members of Order of the Eastern Star walking down front steps and congregating on sidewalk [4:56]