Robert Durden Color Slide Collection

Finding aid created by San Francisco History Center staff using RecordEXPRESS
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2018
Descriptive Summary

Title: Robert Durden Color Slide Collection

Dates: 1950-1995

Collection Number: SFP 42

Creator/Collector: Durden, Robert

Extent: 65,000 photographic slides

Repository: San Francisco Public Library. San Francisco History Center
San Francisco, California 94102

Abstract: Collection consists of over 65,000 35mm color slides documenting San Francisco buildings, events and locations between 1950 and early 1990s. The bulk of the collection is from the 1980s to the early 1990s and documents the architectural features of San Francisco. The majority of the color slides were shot by Robert Durden, a San Francisco native and volunteer at the San Francisco Public Library.

Language of Material: English

Access

The collection is available for use during Photo Desk hours.

Publication Rights

All requests for permission to publish from photographs must be submitted in writing to the Photo Curator. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library as the owner of the physical items.

Preferred Citation

Robert Durden Color Slide Collection. San Francisco Public Library. San Francisco History Center

Acquisition Information

Gift. 1990s.

Biography/Administrative History

Robert Talbot Durden was born on July 11, 1918 to Leon Henry Durden and May Talbot Durden in San Francisco, California. Durden grew up in the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood and attended Polytechnic High School. Durden worked as a clerk for utility companies and retired in the early 1980s. As an amateur photographer, Durden photographed the architectural features of San Francisco buildings. During his retirement, Durden volunteered in the San Francisco History Room of the Old Main Library. In the early 1990s, Durden presented color slide lectures on the architecture of San Francisco. Durden died on September 21, 2001 in San Francisco, California.

Scope and Content of Collection

Collection consists of over 65,000 35mm color slides documenting San Francisco buildings, events and locations between 1950 and early 1990s. The bulk of the collection is from the 1980s to the early 1990s and documents the architectural features of San Francisco. The majority of the color slides were shot by Robert Durden, a San Francisco native and volunteer at the San Francisco Public Library. A few local photographers (such as Michael Lampen and Charles Lodge) have been incorporated into the collection and the photographer is noted on the original slide. The slides have handwritten notes about location and / or subject. The date on the slide is the photo processing date and / or the date added by the photographer.

Indexing Terms

Architecture -- California -- San Francisco
Historic buildings -- California -- San Francisco -- Pictorial works
Commercial buildings -- California -- San Francisco -- Photographs.
San Francisco (Calif.) -- Buildings, structures, etc.
Slides -- Color --1950-1960
Slides -- Color --1960-1970
Slides -- Color --1970-1980
Slides -- Color --1980-1990
Slides

Subject guide to collection