Wide Open Town History Project records

Finding aid created by GLBT Historical Society staff using RecordEXPRESS

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2020
Descriptive Summary

Title: Wide Open Town History Project records  
Dates: 1930s-2002  
Collection Number: 2003-05  
Creator/Collector: Nan Alamilla Boyd  
Extent: 4.8 linear feet (9 boxes, 2 oversize boxes)  
Repository: GLBT Historical Society  
San Francisco, California 94103  

Abstract: This collection contains research files and oral histories from Nan Alamilla Boyd’s groundbreaking history of queer San Francisco to 1965, “Wide Open Town.” Highlights of the collection include audiotapes of 41 separate interviews, some with transcripts; and photographs and archival materials donated by Boyd’s subjects, which date back to the 1930s.

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection is open for research. Funding for processing this collection was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Publication Rights
Copyright has been transferred to the GLBT Historical Society.

Preferred Citation
Wide Open Town History Project records. GLBT Historical Society

Acquisition Information

Scope and Content of Collection
This collection contains research files and oral histories from Nan Alamilla Boyd’s groundbreaking history of queer San Francisco to 1965, “Wide Open Town.” Highlights of the collection include audiotapes of 41 separate interviews, some with transcripts; and photographs and archival materials donated by Boyd’s subjects, which date back to the 1930s. Boxes 1 to 5 contain research files. These include Boyd’s notes, photocopies of primary sources that date back to the 1950s, academic articles about LGBT history and a small amount of professional correspondence. Boxes 6 and 7 contain materials related to the oral histories, including release forms, letters, notes and transcripts. These are arranged alphabetically. There are also research files on bars, people and organizations. These include portions of Boyd’s interviews, interviews by other scholars, academic articles and news clippings. Boxes 8 and 9 include a guide to queer bars in the Bay Area compiled by Eric Garber; photographs and archival materials donated by Boyd’s interview subjects; and photographs, page proofs and other materials related to “Wide Open Town.” Boxes 10 and 11 (Oversize) contain audiotapes of oral history interviews and performances.

Indexing Terms
Gay men
Lesbians
Transgender people
Nightlife
Homophile movement

Wide Open Town Container List