

Don E. Ford slide collection

Finding aid prepared by Serena Rodholm, Student Processing Assistant.

Special Collections & University Archives

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Don E. Ford slide collection

Date (inclusive): 1930-1967

Date (bulk): 1952-1967

Collection Number: MS 405

Creator: Ford, Donald E., 1921-1965

Extent: 0.83 linear feet(2 boxes)

Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department.
Riverside, CA 92517-5900

Abstract: The collection consists of approximately 850 photographic slides, mostly of science fiction conventions, taken by well known fan Don E. Ford in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Slides in the collection depict various parts of conventions, including audiences listening to performances and speakers, dinners, discussions, and other fan gatherings.

Languages: The collection is in English.

Access

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [date if possible]. Don E. Ford slide collection (MS 405). Special Collections & University Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Processing History

Processed by Serena Rodholm, Student Processing Assistant, 2018.

Processing of the Don E. Ford slide collection was completed by undergraduate students from the University of California, Riverside as part of the Special Collections & University Archives Backlog Processing Project started in 2015. This project was funded by the UCR Library and administered by Jessica Geiser, Collections Management Librarian.

Biographical Note

Donald E. Ford, was born in 1921 and began reading science fiction in 1930, starting his lifelong love of the genre. He became a well-known and respected member of science fiction fandom, as a leading member of the Cincinnati Fantasy Group, a founding member of First Fandom, and the author and editor of fanzines such as POOKA. Ford was also involved in a number of science fiction conventions, chairing Cvention in 1949 and founding the first Midwestcon in 1950.

In 1953, Ford helped found the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund (TAFF), an organization which facilitates a competition to provide funds for well-known science fiction fans in North America and Europe to attend a major convention on the other side of the Atlantic. Ford served as the first U.S. administrator of TAFF for four years, and won the TAFF race himself in 1959, allowing him to attend the 1960 Eastercon in London.

Ford was diagnosed with cancer, and passed shortly after in April of 1965.

Collection Scope and Contents

The collection consists of approximately 250 stereo slides and 600 35mm slides of science fiction conventions, fans, and authors taken by Don E. Ford, mostly during the 1950s and 1960s. Slides in the collection depict various parts of conventions, including audiences listening to performances and speakers, dinners, discussions, and other fan gatherings. This conventions represented in the collection were held mainly in the Midwestern United States, with some slides from conventions held in London, Detroit, and Washington D.C. Most slides include some sort of caption written by Ford.

Materials in the collection also include some personal slides, depicting family events and trips, as well as photographs from the Cincinnati Fantasy Group.

Collection Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series as follows:

Series 1. Events, 1930-1964

Series 2. Conventions, 1952-1967

Indexing Terms

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

Subjects

Congresses and conventions
Photography
Science fiction fans
Science fiction -- Authorship

Genres and Forms of Materials

Stereoscopic photographs
Slides (photographs)

Series 1. Events 1930-1964

Series Scope and Contents

This series consists of single and stereo slides of the Cincinnati Fantasy Group, fan events and publications outside of conventions, and personal trips. Slides in the series depict various locations, including Indian Lake and Cleveland, Ohio, and Indiana.

Series Arrangement

Slides in the series are arranged alphabetically, according to groupings and captions provided by Ford.

Box 1, Folder 1
Box 1, Folder 2
Box 1, Folder 3
Box 1, Folder 4
Box 1, Folder 5
Box 1, Folder 6
Box 1, Folder 7
Box 1, Folder 8
Box 1, Folder 9
Box 1, Folder 10

Beatley's on the Lake 1951
Birthday parties 1952-1960
Cincinnati Fantasy Group 1956-1964
Indiana picnic
Indian Lake 1947-1956
Kent Bulmer and Akron Parade 1955
Natural Bridge State Park picnic trip 1955
Picnic at Muncie 1958
Sandusky, Ohio 1964
SF Boom or Bust 1930-1944

Series 2. Conventions 1952-1967

Series Scope and Contents

This series consists of single and stereo slides of conventions attended by Don Ford, including conventions held in Detroit, London, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh. Slides in the series are candid shots, depicting attendees listening to speakers, gatherings, items on display, and general shots of other fans and attendees. The series also contains the original labels Ford used to organize his metal slide boxes.

Series Arrangement

Slides in the series are arranged alphabetically, according to groupings and captions provided by Ford.

Box 1, Folder 11
Box 1, Folder 12
Box 1, Folder 13
Box 1, Folder 14
Box 1, Folder 15
Box 1,
Folders 16-17
Box 1, Folder 18
Box 1, Folder 19
Box 1, Folder 20
Box 1, Folder 21
Box 1, Folder 22

Chicon 1962
Chicago 1962
Cleveland 13th World Con 1955
Cleveland and Ken Bulmer visit 1955
Detroit Con 1959
"Falascon" 1957-1958
Midwestcon III 1952
Midwestcon V 1954
Midwestcon VI 1955
Midwestcon VII 1956
Midwestcon VIII 1957

Box 1, Folder 23	Midwestcon IX 1958
Box 1, Folder 24	Midwestcon X 1959
Box 1, Folder 25	Midwestcon XI 1960
Box 1, Folder 26	Midwestcon XII 1961
Box 1, Folder 27	Midwestcon XIII 1962
Box 2, Folder 2	Midwestcon XIV 1963
Box 2, Folder 2	Midwestcon XV 1964
Box 2, Folder 3	Midwestcon XVIII 1967
Box 2, Folder 4	Oaklacon II 1954
Box 2, Folder 5	Philcon II 1953
Box 2, Folder 6	Picnicon 1958
Box 2, Folder 7	Pittcon; Indiana Conference 1955-1960
Box 2, Folder 8	SF Convention 1952
Box 2, Folder 9	TAFF London Con [Eastercon] 1960
Box 2, Folder 10	Washington D.C. Convention 1963
Box 2, Folder 11	Slide Box Labels undated