Finding aid for the Wally G. Shidler collection of Southern California ephemera 7089

Bo Doub
USC Libraries Special Collections
2019 April
Doheny Memorial Library 206
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URL: http://libraries.usc.edu/locations/special-collections
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections
Title: Wally G. Shidler collection of Southern California ephemera
source: Shidler, Wally G.
Identifier/Call Number: 7089
Physical Description: 39.17 Linear Feet34 boxes
Date (inclusive): 1900-1990
Abstract: The Wally G. Shidler collection of Southern California ephemera consists of pamphlets, maps, postcards, theater programs, city directories, electric railway time tables, and transit passes from the Los Angeles City, County, and adjacent areas collected by former motion picture engineer, Wally G. Shidler. Pacific Electric and Los Angeles Railway materials as well as theater programs from most of the major theaters in the Los Angeles area comprise a significant portion of the collection.
Storage Unit: 1-34

Biographical / Historical
Wally G. Shidler has been amassing his collection of Southern California ephemera through years of foraging at swap meets, trade shows, and used book stores since he was a teenager. Shidler is a third generation Angeleno and his interest in history was piqued by his grandmother, who used to take him downtown to revel on the historic buildings that lined the streets. Wally's long-time commitment to government and local groups is another testament to his dedication to the development and preservation of history. Shidler spent most of his working life as a motion picture engineer residing in Los Angeles' Walnut Park neighborhood.

Adapted from "L.A. as Subject Honors Wally Shidler" and "On Paper, He's Quite the Collector" (see digital object links).

Scope and Contents
A collection of Southern California ephemera consists of pamphlets, maps, postcards, theater programs, city directories, electric railway time tables, and transit passes from the Los Angeles City, County, and adjacent areas. Pacific Electric and Los Angeles Railway materials as well as theater programs from most of the major theaters in the Los Angeles area comprise a significant portion of the collection. The Shidler collection contains most of the Huntington Park and Walnut Park City Directory's beginning in 1914. Also included are all of the Huntington Park Union High School (1911-1932) and Huntington Park High School (1932-1959) El Recuerdo yearbooks as well as a large quantity of the school newspapers, The Bulletin and Spartan Shield. Lastly, the collection contains a small collection of postcards organized alphabetically by geographical location or by theme.

Conditions Governing Access
COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE. Advance notice required for access.

Conditions Governing Use
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Preferred Citation
[Box/folder no. or item name], Wally G. Shidler collection of Southern California ephemera, Collection no. 7089, Regional History Collection, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Gift of Wally G. Shidler, April 5, 2019.

Existence and Location of Copies
Digital surrogates of many of the Pacific Electric and Los Angeles Railway transit passes from the collection and the book, As We See 'Em, a Volume of Cartoons and Caricatures of Los Angeles Citizens by Antony E. Anderson can be accessed via the USC Digital Library (see digital object link).

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Directories
Railroads -- California, Southern -- Archival resources
Theaters -- California -- Los Angeles -- Archival resources
Postcards
Printed ephemera
Theater programs
Los Angeles Railway -- Archives
Pacific Electric Railway Company -- Archives
Shidler, Wally G.
Shidler, Wally G. -- Archives