
Finding aid for the Balboa Peninsula and Balboa Island real estate photographs 7092

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USC Libraries Special Collections

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3550 Trousdale Parkway

Los Angeles, California 90089-0189

specol@usc.edu

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Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections

Title: Balboa Peninsula and Balboa Island real estate photographs

Identifier/Call Number: 7092

Physical Description: 0.21 Linear Feet 1 box

Date (inclusive): 1950-1969

Abstract: The Balboa Peninsula and Balboa Island real estate photographs comprise a small collection of original black-and-white photographic prints from an unidentified real estate company showing properties for sale in the 1950s and 1960s in the beachside communities of Balboa Peninsula and Balboa Island, located within Newport Beach, California. The photographs advertise both commercial and residential properties with handwritten notes on verso documenting the address of the property and sometimes other details, such as the asking price. Among the commercial properties shown is the old Balboa Motel at 315 East Balboa Boulevard, which offered 11 bungalow style units at the asking price of \$70,000. Another photograph shows Rickey's Sea-Air Court, which was located on the east side of Adams street and ran from Balboa Boulevard to the alley at Harding Street. It was home to many of Balboa's long-time locals but was torn down in the mid-1970s to make way for two duplexes and a donut shop. The collection also contains a photograph of Pop's Cafe at 811 E. Balboa Boulevard. One of the photographs shows a quaint bungalow and is accompanied by a small, typed note that reads: "Cheapest place on Balboa Island. 2 Bdr - 2 Bath - Dbl garage close to S. Bay. Very good rental. Full price \$39,500."

Storage Unit: 1

Biographical / Historical

Balboa Island was created in the early 20th century out of swamplands in Newport Bay and was named after Vasco Nunez de Balboa, who discovered the Pacific Ocean in 1513. The island grew slowly with some of the first lots on the island selling for as little as \$25. When the first concrete bridge was built, the population boomed and today homes sell for several million dollars.

Content Description

A total of 63 black-and-white photographic prints, measuring 8" x 10", showing properties for sale in the 1950s and 1960s in the beachside communities of Balboa Peninsula and Balboa Island, located within Newport Beach, California. All but one of the photographs include handwritten notes on the verso, which generally record the address of the property and sometimes includes other details, such as the asking price. Several of the photographs include a "Realty Graphic Co." stamp on verso, with description: "Photo Multiple Listing Service for Real Estate Boards Exclusively." Also included is the envelope that previously housed the photographs, labeled: "Balboa Cal. 1950s 60s."

Conditions Governing Access

Advance notice required for access.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

[Box/folder no. or item name], Balboa Peninsula and Balboa Island real estate photographs, Collection no. 7092, Regional History Collection, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Johnson Rare Books and Archives, May 1, 2019.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Balboa (Newport Beach, Calif.) -- History -- Photographs

Balboa Island (Newport Beach, Calif.) -- History -- Photographs

Real estate listings -- California -- Newport Beach -- Archival resources

Photographs
