

Guide to "California or Bust" travel scrapbook C0503

"California or Bust" travel scrapbook
circa August 1956

Title Statement

Guide to "California or Bust" travel scrapbook C0503

Subtitle: "California or Bust" travel scrapbook

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

C0503

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/641

Unit Date

circa August 1956

Language

English .

Abstract

Content Warning: One of the photograph descriptions in this album contains a racial slur. Black scrapbook album created circa August 1956 to document a trip from New York to California and other Midwest, West, and Southwest states taken by a group of five women friends. The trip lasted from August 4, 1956 - August 27, 1956. The scrapbook contains black and white photographs pasted onto the pages with commentary and information written in white ink.

Creator

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Extent

.25 Linear Feet 1 scrapbook

Physical Location

R 72, C 3, S 5

Repository

George Mason University. Libraries. Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions.

Use Restrictions

The copyright and related rights status of this collection have not been evaluated (See <http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/CNE/1.0/>)

Acquisition Information

Purchased by Lynn Eaton from Jordan Antiquarian Books on February 2, 2020.

Processing Information

Processing and finding aid completed by Amanda Brent in June 2022.

Preferred Citation

"California or Bust" travel scrapbook, C0503, Special Collections Research Center, George Mason University Libraries.

Historical Note

The advent of the Interstate Highway System in the United States, built under the Eisenhower administration, made automobile travel within the contiguous United States more accessible than ever before. In June 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, which vastly expanded funding for the project.

Route 66 was the United States' first all-weather highway. Built in 1926, the highway was very popular due to its shortening of travel time from the Midwest (Chicago, IL) to the West (Los Angeles, CA). Route 66 roadtrips were a popular American pastime, until the highway was decommissioned in 1985.

Scope and Content

Content Warning: One of the photograph descriptions in this album contains a racial slur.

Black scrapbook album created circa August 1956 to document a trip from New York to California and other Midwest, West, and Southwest states taken by a group of five women friends. The trip lasted from August 4, 1956 - August 27, 1956, with the women visiting Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, California, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Illinois, and Ohio. The women likely drove on the famous Route 66.

The scrapbook contains black and white photographs pasted onto the pages with commentary and information written in white ink. The first page reads:

California or Bust -

Mary Harris - Navigator?!, Chief waker-upper + coffee maker [Likely the compiler of the scrapbook]

Margaret Garrison - owner of bus -, champion zipper burster, speedqueen

Shirley Limburg - tire changer extraordinaire, a salesman's dream

Betty Powell - snaphappy, connoisseur of seafoods

Mariajean Lanza - "Mrs. Malaprop" - "Miss Route 66 of 1956" - the gambler

Related Materials

The Special Collections Research Center also holds the , the , the , and many other collections related to travel of the United States.

Keywords

Automobile travel

Southwestern States

Women travelers

Bibliography

"History and Significance of US Route 66[.]" National Park Service. Accessed June 8, 2022. <https://ncptt.nps.gov/rt66/history-and-significance-of-us-route-66/>.

"History of the Interstate Highway System[.]" U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration. Accessed June 8, 2022. <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/interstate/history.cfm>.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

The pages in the scrapbook are acidic and brittle, and all have come loose from their original binding. Care needed when handling.

Arrangement

This is a single item collection.