



ArchivesSpace

Baffico (Paul) Rebuilding the San Francisco Cable Car Line Color Slide Collection

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Finding aid in English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

San Francisco History Center

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Summary Information

Repository:	San Francisco History Center
Creator - pht:	Baffico, Paul
Title:	Paul Baffico Rebuilding the San Francisco Cable Car Line Color Slide Collection
ID:	SFP 105
Date [bulk]:	1982-1984; 2009
Physical Description:	1 carton ; 3,324 color slides
Physical Location:	The collection is stored onsite.
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	Collection materials are in English.
Abstract:	The Paul Baffico Rebuilding the San Francisco Cable Car Line Color Slide Collection contains 3,324 color slides documenting the repair and rebuilding of San Francisco's cable car system during the period of October 12, 1982 to June 18, 1984, taken by professional engineer Paul Baffico. The slides, either Ektachrome or Kokochrome, are arranged in chronological order. The photographic archive is accompanied by Baffico's detailed description and explanation of the work or action in every slide.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Paul Baffico Rebuilding the San Francisco Cable Car Line Color Slide Collection (SFP 105), San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.

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Biographical / Historical

Paul Baffico was born in 1951 and is a native of San Francisco, California. In 1965 Baffico joined the Carpenter's Union and became an apprentice carpenter. In 1969, he finished the apprentice program and became a Journeyman Carpenter. Baffico worked for several large contractors in the construction

industry until 1984 when he became a construction manager. Photography had always been a hobby for Baffico and photo documentation is his preferred style for his work.

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Scope and Contents

The Paul Baffico Rebuilding the San Francisco Cable Car Line Color Slide Collection contains 3,324 color slides documenting the repair and rebuilding of San Francisco's cable car system during the period of October 12, 1982 to June 21, 1984, taken by professional engineer Paul Baffico. The slides, either Ektachrome or Kokochrome, are arranged in chronological order. The photographic archive is accompanied by Baffico's detailed description and explanation of the work or action in every slide. Each slide in the collection is dated on the paper mount. In 1982 it became necessary to shut down San Francisco's entire cable car system for a rehabilitation program on the trackways and remodel the Cable Car Barn. Baffico decided to document this engineering feat from the first day of construction to the city-wide celebration when the line was re-opened. Baffico is a professional engineer with decades of experience in the construction and transportation industries and he was able to explain the actions, context and meaning of the work shown in each specific photograph. The photo documentation does not cover every construction site, but it does represent a composite portrait of the construction process that was employed during the construction phases of the Cable Car reconstruction project. The documentation also includes public outreach events and block parties during the construction period as well as the city-wide celebration of the re-opening of the Cable Car system with Mayor Feinstein, Tony Bennett and the Cable Car Parade on June 21, 1984 (217 slides). Baffico's detailed narrative to the photographs is in print in the collection and as a PDF with the finding guide.

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Arrangement

The color slides are arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

The collection is available for use during the San Francisco History Center's Photo Desk hours.

Conditions Governing Use

The photographer retains all copyright. All requests for permission to publish from photographs must be submitted in writing to the Photo Curator. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library as the owner of the physical items.

Custodial History

Gift. 2009.

Processing Information

During processing the color slides were re-housed and removed from binders.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Cable cars (Streetcars) -- California -- San Francisco.
- Railroads, cable -- California -- San Francisco.
- Railroads, Cable -- California -- San Francisco -- Maintenance and repair.
- Railroads, Cable -- California -- San Francisco -- Design and construction.
- Transportation--California--San Francisco.
- Slides -- Color --1980-1990

- Baffico, Paul

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Sheets 1-24, October 19, 1982 - December 9, 1982	carton 1	folder 1
Sheets 25-40, December 9, 1982 - March 7, 1983	carton 1	folder 2
Sheets 41-60, March 7, 1983 - May 26, 1983	carton 1	folder 3
Sheets 61-80, June 13, 1983 - August 22, 1983	carton 1	folder 4
Sheets 81-100, August 30, 1983 - October 24, 1983	carton 1	folder 5
Sheets 101-120, November 11, 1983 - February 3, 1984	carton 1	folder 6
Sheets 121 - 140, February 12, 1984 - March 5, 1984	carton 1	folder 7
Sheets 141-160, March 5, 1984 - April 1, 1984	carton 1	folder 8
Sheets 161-180, April 1, 1984 - May 5, 1984	carton 1	folder 9
Sheets 181-200, May 5, 1984 - June 21, 1984	carton 1	folder 10
Photographer Paul Baffico's Narrative, 2009	carton 1	folder 11