

Finding Aid to the Darril Hudson Papers (#2021-17)

Repository: Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society

Collection Title: Darril Hudson papers

Collection Number: 2021-17

Physical Description: 17 linear feet (12 cartons. 1 medium oversize box)

Creator: Hudson, Darril

Date (inclusive): circa 1940-2019

Language of Material: English and German

Abstract:

The papers of Darril Hudson (1931-2019) document his life and travels with his partner of 35 years, Peter Boesch. The collection includes detailed personal journals and scrapbooks, personal audiovisual recordings (home movies), writings, photographs and slides, correspondence, and other papers. Hudson moved to the San Francisco Bay Area from Oklahoma as a child. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in International Relations and later earned a master's degree and doctorate from the London School of Economics. He served as an officer with the US Army Counter Intelligence and later became Professor of Political Science at Cal State East Bay.

Preferred Citation:

[Identification of item], Daril Hudson papers (2021-17), The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society.

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is open for research

Publication Rights:

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Acquisition Information:

The collection was donated to the GLBT Historical Society by Gift of Thomas Mulvihill as Trustee of the Darril Hudson Revocable Trust and the Peter Boesch Revocable Trust in August, 2021.

Processing Information:

Finding Aid created by Marisol Medina-Cadena in 2021.

This finding aid uses terminology for LGBTQ people that was in current use at the time of its creation. Descriptive language for queer identities evolves quickly and some of these terms may now be dated or even offensive. Finding aids are themselves historical documents; they reflect the moment in which they were written and often reflect the terms that subjects used for themselves. Please contact the GLBT Historical Society Archivist with questions or comments.

Biographical/Organizational History Note:

As a child, Darril Hudson (1931-2019) and his family left Oklahoma and settled in Oakland, California. Eventually his family moved to the East Bay suburbs of Walnut Creek and Darril graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in International Relations. Later he earned a master's degree and doctorate from the London School of Economics. Darril also served as an officer with the US Army Counterintelligence and later became Professor of Political Science at Cal State East Bay.

During one of his visits to Europe Hudson met his partner Peter Boesch (1938-1995) in London who was working in hotel hospitality. The two moved to San Francisco in the 1960s and were together for 35 years. Darril and Peter traveled extensively throughout their life (including annual trips to Germany and France), until Boesch's death in 1995. The two were avid opera and theater goers and Hudson actively attended Holy Innocents Episcopal church in San Francisco.

In their later years Hudson and Boesch shared a partner, David Chick (1942-1997) who was originally from New Hampshire and resided in Santa Rosa until his death. Near the end of his life he learned that he was HIV positive. Chick had a passion for gardening and the outdoors, paving the way to become a leader in the Redwood Association of Men, (a social club for gay men in Sonoma County) organizing garden visits throughout the region.

Scope and Content:

The papers of Darril Hudson (1931-2014) document his life and travels with his partner of 35 years, Peter Boesch. The collection includes detailed handwritten and typed personal journals and scrapbooks, personal audiovisual recordings (home movies), photographs and slides, correspondence, receipts from travels and other papers.

Hudson moved to the San Francisco Bay Area from Oklahoma as a child. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in International Relations and later earned a master's degree and doctorate from the London School of Economics. He served as an officer with the US Army Counterintelligence and later became Professor of Political Science at Cal State East Bay. Darril and Peter moved to San Francisco in the 1960s from London. They traveled extensively throughout their life together, until Boesch's death in 1995.

Indexing Terms:

Gay men

Long-term Relationships
Diaries
Religion and Spirituality
Non-monogamous relationships
Veterans
San Francisco Bay Area (Calif.)

Container Listing

Series I: Scrapbooks, 1940-2012

Physical Description: 6.25 linear square feet. 5 cartons

Scope and Content: Scrapbook entries from Darril's life have been placed in folders including ephemera from him and Peter's extensive travels throughout Europe. Items include travel tickets, maps, museum materials, menus, and typed and handwritten diary entries from Darril's perspective. Other materials include correspondence between Darril and friends and family as well as paperwork from Darril's army training. Folder titles in quotations have been sourced from the titles that Darril created for his items.

Arrangement: maintained chronologically

- 1:1 Darril's School report cards and certificates , 1940-1950
- 1:2 "M.S. Roseville ship photos" 1947
- 1:3 Travel correspondence, 1948-1954
- 1:4 Correspondence with family, 1948-1954
- 1:5 Army applications, 1950-1959
- 1:6 Correspondence with missionary Ilma Ruth, 1957
- 1:7 Correspondence with missionary Ilma Ruth, 1957
- 1:8 Correspondence while traveling in Netherlands and France, 1960-1961
- 1:9 Travel materials, 1960-1961
- 1:10 Travel materials, 1960-1970
- 1:11 Correspondence, 1962-1964
- 1:12 Correspondence, 1962-1964
- 1:13 Correspondence, 1965-1966
- 1:14 Correspondence, 1965-1966
- 1:15 Correspondence with mother 1967-1969

- 2:1 Correspondence, 1973-1975
- 2:2 Correspondence, 1973-1975
- 2:3 Travel ephemera, 1970-1979
- 2:4 Travel ephemera, 1980-1985
- 2:5 Travel ephemera, 1986-1990
- 2:6 Travel ephemera, 1990

- 2:7 SF Opera playbills, and restaurant receipts, 1990-1992
- 2:8 Travel ephemera from Berlin and France, 1991
- 2:9 Travel ephemera from Germany, France, Iceland 1991-1995
- 2:10 Travel ephemera from Berlin and Prague
- 2:11 "A year in Paris" 1992-1993
- 2:12 "A year in Paris" 1992-1993
- 2:13 Travel ephemera, 1993
- 2:14 Travel ephemera, 1993
- 2:15 Newspaper clippings, opera playbills, legal case regarding property

- 3:1 Bay area news clippings, journal entries, dinner menus, 1993
- 3:2 Travel ephemera, 1994
- 3:3 Travel ephemera, 1994
- 3:4 "Iceland", 1994
- 3:5 "July Iceland," 1994
- 3:6 "Australia," 1994
- 3:7 "Australia," 1994
- 3:8 Jan-May Journal entries, health documents, 1995
- 3:9 Jun-Aug Journal, 1995
- 3:10 Jun-Aug Journal entries regarding Peter's deteriorating health, 1995
- 3:11 Jun-Aug Journal entries and Peter's funeral materials, 1995
- 3:12 Sept-Dec Journal entries from London and Paris, 1995

- 4:1 Sept-December Journal entries, condolence cards for Peter, 1995
- 4:2 Sept-December Journal entries and church materials, 1995
- 4:3 May-July Journal entries, photos, France & Italy, 1996
- 4:4 May-July Journal entries, photos, France & Germany, 1996
- 4:5 Jan-April Journal entries, performing arts materials, restaurant, receipts, 1996
- 4:6 SF Opera materials, receipts, cards, and ballot, 1996
- 4:7 Travel ephemera from France, 1996
- 4:8 Travel ephemera from France, 1996
- 4:9 Jan-April Journal entries, SF performing arts programs, receipts, 1997
- 4:10 Jan-April Journal entries, SF performing arts programs, donation letters
- 4:11 May performing arts program, travel ephemera from France and Germany, 1997
- 4:12 May Journal entries: re David Chick's declining health,
- 4:13 Journal entries: re David Chick's declining health
- 4:14 Correspondence, SF performing arts programs, church programs, 1997
- 4:15 Travel ephemera from Germany, 1997

- 5:1 June-Oct Travel materials from France & Berlin, 1998
- 5:2 June-Oct Travel ephemera from France, 1998
- 5:3 Jan-May Receipts and museum brochure ,1998
- 5:4 Jan-May: SF Theater arts programs, photos, business cards, photos, 1998
- 5:5 Nov-Dec: Journal entries, Australian travel, SF performing arts ephemera, 1998

- 5:6 Nov-Dec: Journal entries, Australian travel 1998
- 5:7 Jan-March 1999 Journal entries re: Darril's operation
- 5:8 March 1999 Journal Entries
- 5:9 May-Oct 1999: Journal entries from travels in France and Germany
- 5:10 May-Oct 1999: Receipts/photos from France
- 5:11 SF arts and performing events and materials, 2014
- 5:12 SF arts and performing tickets, travel tix for Germany, 2015
- 5:13 Darril Hudson's funeral/memorial, 2019

Oversize Box 2

Address books, folder of small travel miscellany, brief 1943 diary, glasses, address books, and descriptions of deaccessioned travel slides.

Series II: Photos, 1934- 2000s

Physical Description: 4.5 linear feet (2 cartons, 1 oversize box)

Scope and Content: This series includes black and white and color photographs as well as some film negatives from Darril and Peter's life. Most of the images are undated and unmarked however the scrapbook has dates and names of subjects. One carton contains photos circa 1980s that remain attached to the original magnetic album pages as to prevent any damage by stripping them from the yellowed cardboard. In this series, there is an extensive amount of photographs from Darril's childhood that show his parents and relatives in Oakland and Walnut Creek. There are also photographs from Darril's time in the US Army. Images from the couple's travels show the locations and friends they visited in Europe and India.

Arrangement: series is arranged by original order of creator. Photographs have been rehoused in acid free envelopes according to size.

- 6:1 Scrapbook 1931-1939
- 6:2 Photos circa 1930s
- 6:3 Photos 1910-1950s
- 6:4 Photos circa 1940s-1960s
- 6:5 Photos and photos cards circa 1950s-1960s
- 6:6 Photos of travel circa 1970s-1980s
- 6:7 Photos circa 1990s-2000s
- 6:8 Photo negatives 1
- 6:9 Unmarked photos 1
- 6:10 Unmarked photos 2
- 6:11 Unmarked photos 3
- 6:12 Unmarked photos 4
- 6:13 Unmarked photos 5
- 6:14 Unmarked photos 6
- 6:15 Photo negatives

- 7:1 Unlabeled album, 1984
- 7:2 Unlabeled album, 1984
- 7:3 Unlabeled album, 1984
- 7:4 Unlabeled album, 1984
- 7:6 Unlabeled album circa 1980s
- 7:7 Unlabeled album circa 1980s
- 7:8 Unlabeled album circa 1980s
- 7:9 Unlabeled album circa 1980s
- 7:10 Unlabeled album circa 1980s

Series III: Audio/Visual, 1934- 2000s

Physical Description: 2.5 linear feet (2 containers)

Scope and Content: Super 8 and regular 8 mm film reels document moments from Darril and Peter's travels abroad as well as travels in Northern California and the San Francisco Bay area. Film reels had been digitized and saved on external hard drive before collection was donated to the GLBT archive. Handwritten notes on the reels provide some information but handwriting is often illegible.

Arrangement: series is arranged by original order of creator.

8: 10 super 8 reels

8: 1 super 8 reels (50 ft reel)

8: 16 regular 8 mm reels

8: 1 Seagate external hard drive with digitized reels

8: 1 super 8 film splicer

8: 1 slide viewer (chromatoscope)

8: 1 super 8 film "quick splicer"

9: 1 Metal slide carrying case with images from 1947-1950

9:2 Metal slide carrying case with images from 1949-1964

9:3 Metal slide carrying case with images from 1963-1971

9:4 Metal slide carrying case with images from 1975-1978

9:5 Metal slide carrying case with images "SF by Topic"

Oversize Box 1

Oversize Magnetic Photo album 1960-1974
Scrapbook of photos, undated

Series IV: Notebooks, 1955-2005

Physical Description: 3.75 linear feet (3 containers)

Scope and Content: These cartons contain notebooks and handwritten diaries from Darril between the years of his U.S. army training in 1955 to his travels in the mid 1990s. Some diary entries and notes are written in German. Early manuscript drafts of Darril's memoir are also a part of this series along with other published articles and a cookbook penned by Darril. Notably, one carton contains correspondence, documents, and photos that belonged to Darril and Peter's late partner, David Chick (1942-1997). The carton with items belonging to David Chick are specified with his name.

10:1 Undated notebooks and travel tickets circa 1950s-1970s
10:2 Notebooks with travel ephemera, 1952 and 1972
10:3 Diaries 1958-1961
10:4 Diaries 1978-1985
10:5 Darril's published writings and published cookbook, 1963-1988
10:6 Notebook 1981-1987
10:7 Travel notebooks and loose notes, 1994-2001
10:8 Guest book, 1985-2011
10:9 Typed diary entries [1996-2000s]
10:10 Typed correspondence and notes about age related macular degeneration, 2003
10:11 Manuscript drafts, 2005
10:12 Manuscript drafts, 2005

11:1 Photos of David Chick and family, circa 1950s-1990s
11:2 Correspondence to David Chick, 1968-1992
11:3 Correspondence to David Chick, 1975-1986
11:4 Newsletters, notes, and miscellaneous documents belonging to David Chick, 1990
11:5 Correspondence to David Chick, 1990s
11:6 Hortosexual Journal, 1994-1996
11:7 Correspondence to David Chick, 1995-1996
11:8 Correspondence to David Chick, 1995-1996
11:9 Condolence cards for David, 1997
11:10 Correspondence to David Chick circa 1970s-1990s
11:11 Correspondence and receipts for David Chick, 1980s-1990s
11:12 Correspondence to David Chick 1980s-1990s
11:13 Fax correspondence to David Chick 1994-1996
11:14 Fax correspondence to David Chick 1994-1996

12:1 Notebook with ephemera from Darril's armed forces training, 1955
12:2 Letters, 1957-1986

- 12:3 Typed letters from peter in Paris 1960-1961
- 12:4 Notebooks with travel ephemera, 1970
- 12:5 Notebooks with boarding passes, receipts, menus, maps
- 12:6 Notebooks with travel receipts, 1984-1985
- 12:7 Notebooks with 1986-1996
- 12:8 Notebooks, 1995-2002
- 12:9 Pins, sobriety chips, large coins from New Orleans
- 12:10 stone replica of Darril and Peter's grave marker