



**California Polytechnic State University
Special Collections & Archives**

**Sister's Inn Collection
MS0189**

Collection ID: MS0189

Title: Sister's Inn Collection

Dates: 1950 - 1982

Creator: Sister's Inn

Extent: .5 LF
1 document box, 1 flat file

Abstract: Photographs related to the Sister's Inn restaurant located in San Luis Obispo, California and owners Annabelle Warren, Alice E. Harris, and James Bowers. Magazines and newspaper clippings related to model and actress Annazette Williams Chase.

Language: English

Repository: California Polytechnic State University
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Special Collections and Archives
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San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
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Provenance: Purchased

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Historical Note:

The Sister's Inn restaurant was located at 208 Higuera Street in San Luis Obispo from the early 1950s to mid-1960s near what was then known as Japantown. The restaurant was owned by the Hughes sisters Annabelle Thelma Hughes Warren and Alice Edna Hughes Bowers. Sister's Inn was one of the few African-American owned businesses in the area during this time period.

Prior to opening Sister's Inn, the sisters owned and operated Annabelle's Café located at 190 Higuera and later at 142 Higuera circa 1950 – 1952. Annabelle Warren also owned Club Morrocco, a local tavern located at 538 Higuera Street circa 1968 – 1970. By 1971 Annabelle's occupation in the city directory listing had changed to 'retired'. Alice E. Bowers was formerly married and widowed from Army Private Arthur Leon Harris (b. 15 Aug. 1915 – d. 30 November 1958). Alice's second husband, James Cassewey Bowers (b. 7 January 1914/1917 – d. 11 January 2009) was a US Merchant Marine.

Annazette (Annacetta) Williams, Rosa Lee Williams, Alice Williams, and Ron Williams, descendants of the owners, attended San Luis Obispo High School. The siblings were all active and successful members of the high school drill team, drama, and other school activities. Alice Williams, the eldest sibling, was head majorette of the drill team and was later invited to audition for the Ramettes, the cheer team for the Los Angeles Rams. Rosa Lee was also head majorette, and Annazette tied for head cheerleader. After graduation, Annazette moved to Los Angeles and pursued a career in acting and modeling. She was featured in magazines as an artist, model, and actress. Annazette starred in multiple films including *The Greatest*, *The Toy*, *Truck Turner*, and *The Mack*. She also appeared in multiple television movies and series between 1964 and 1984.

Scope and Content:

The Sister's Inn Collection contains photographs relating to the Sister's Inn restaurant of San Luis Obispo, California, including the restaurant owners and the owners' family and friends. The collection also contains photographs, newspaper articles, and magazine articles featuring model and actress Annazette (Annacetta) Williams Chase as well as newspaper articles featuring Annazette and her sisters Alice Williams and Rosa Lee Williams.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged chronologically as a single series. Original organization of the records has been preserved where possible. Materials may have been reorganized or rehoused for preservation and access purposes.

Related Collections:

MS0122, Alice Martin Papers, 1937 - 2004



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Sources:

Krieger, Dan and Liz. "Few blacks arrived here before WWII." *San Luis Obispo Telegram-Tribune*, 21 January 1995.

Kleiner, Dick. "Beauty a Handicap, Miss Raffin Finds." *Pittsburgh Press*, 3 May 1977.

Ancestry.com. Web. 15 January 2015. (<http://ancestry.com>)

Find A Grave. Web. 2015, 2016. (<http://findagrave.com>)

Access:

Collection is open to researchers by appointment only. For more information on visiting, access policies, and reproduction requests, please visit our [Reference Services](http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/collections-and-archives/reference-services/) page online at <http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/collections-and-archives/reference-services/>.

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- Box 1 Folder 17 Newspaper article, "Was Crack Negro Twirler Shunned?", [Alice Williams], The Pittsburgh Courier Magazine Section, 13 June 1959
- Box 1 Folder 18 Printed program, Fourth Annual Photographers and Models Variety Show, [Annazette Williams], 1961
- Box 1 Folder 19 Magazine article and cover, "On Our Cover", [Annazette Williams], Jive, February 1962, page 1 and 4, 1962
- Box 1 Folder 20 Magazine article, "Fall Goes Tweed 'n Things", [Annazette Williams], Elegant, September-October 1963, page 14-21, 1963
- Box 1 Folder 21 Magazine article, "At Ease with Annazette", Soul Illustrated, Winter 1968, pages 50-53, 1968
- Box 1 Folder 22 Magazine article and cover, "Annazette Chase: Not Just a Pretty Face", MsTIQUE October/November 1974, page 46-51 and 77, 1974
- Box 1 Folder 23 Newspaper article, "The Tube Tonight", [Goldie and the Boxer, Annazette Chase], circa 1979
- Box 1 Folder 24 Newspaper article, obituary, Fred Jay Bollinger (b. 8 May 1884 d. 30 May 1961), undated