Overview of the Collection

Interviewee: Treiger, Betty Lou
Title: Betty Lou Treiger papers and oral history interview
Dates: 1940s-2002 (inclusive)
Quantity: 0.43 cubic feet (2 boxes, 1 sound cassette (approximately 22 minutes), and 1 vertical file)
Collection Number: 5326 (Accession No. 5326-001)
Summary: Oral history interview and papers of a Seattle Jewish community member
Repository: University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections
Special Collections
University of Washington Libraries
Box 352900
Seattle, WA
98195-2900
Telephone: 206-543-1929
Fax: 206-543-1931
speccoll@uw.edu
Access Restrictions: Open to all users.
Languages: English

Biographical Note

Betty Lou (Friedlander) Treiger grew up in the Magnolia neighborhood of Seattle. She attended Queen Anne High School, where she was one of several Jewish students, and the University of Washington. Her family was active in Temple de Hirsch Sinai. She was married to Irwin Treiger for 56 years and has children Louis, Karen, and Ken.

Content Description

Oral history interview, papers, and scrapbook pages.

Other Descriptive Information

Forms part of the Washington State Jewish Archives

Use of the Collection
Alternative Forms Available

Listen to the audio recording and view the transcript of this interview on the Libraries Digital Collections site.

Restrictions on Use

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Administrative Information

Arrangement

Organized into 2 accessions.

   Accession No. 5326-001, Betty Lou Treiger oral history interview, 2002
   Accession No. 5326-002, Betty Lou Treiger papers, circa 1930s - 2000s

Acquisition Information

Donated by Betty Lou Treiger.

Separated Materials

Material Described Separately:
Irwin L. Treiger papers
Irwin and Betty Lou Treiger Photograph Collection

Detailed Description of the Collection

Accession No. 5326-001: Betty Lou Treiger oral history interview, 2002

1 sound cassette (ca. 22 min.); Transcript: 7 leaves
Scope and Content: Betty Lou describes Sigma Theta Pi, a sorority for Jewish high school girls during 1949-1953, when she belonged. Most members' mothers and aunts belonged to the exclusive sorority in the 1920's. The group's motto was to help people who were less fortunate, but the sorority was mainly a social group. The local chapter had over 20 members, all from Temple de Hirsch families. Betty Lou names several of her sorority sisters. Their advisor was Mary Anne Grinstein. The sorority was part of a national organization, and Betty Lou recalls a conclave that she attended in Minneapolis. The interview provides perspective on social activities available to Jewish youth in the 1940's to early 1950's and the contrast between those living in the Jewish environment of the Central Area and those living elsewhere. Most Theta Sigma Pi members who later attended the U. of Washington joined Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority. A second Jewish sorority, Phi Delta, drew its membership largely from students at Garfield and Franklin high schools, the schools attended by most Jewish teenagers in Seattle. Although a few girls held dual membership, there was no contact between the two Jewish sororities. There were
numerous non-Jewish high school social groups. Betty Lou was invited into one, the Emeralds, where she was the only Jewish member.

Restrictions on Access: Open to all users.

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Acquisition Info: Donor: Betty Lou Treiger, 2002

**Accession No. 5326-002: Betty Lou Treiger papers, circa 1930s - 2000s**

0.43 cubic feet (2 boxes)

Scope and Content: Manuscript, photos, and a scrapbook related to Betty Lou (Friedlander) Treiger.

Restrictions on Access: No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on Use: Creator's copyrights transferred to the University of Washington Libraries Special Collections.

Acquisition Info: Donor: Betty Lou Treiger, August 2018

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**Names and Subjects**

**Subject Terms:**
- Jews--Washington (State)--Seattle
- Jews--Washington (State)--Seattle--Interviews

**Personal Names:**
- Grinstein, Mary Anne
- Treiger, Betty Lou--Interviews

**Corporate Names:**
- Sigma Theta Pi (Seattle, Wash.)
- Temple de Hirsch (Seattle, Wash.)