

Department of Parks and Recreation Slides, 1958-1990

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Title	Department of Parks and Recreation Slides
Dates	1958-1990 (inclusive) 1958 1990 1975-1986 (bulk) 1975 1986
Quantity	3500 slides, (6 digitized images) 2 cubic ft., (2 boxes)
Collection Number	5802-09
Summary	Color slides depicting Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation activities and facilities.
Repository	Seattle Municipal Archives Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 archives@seattle.gov
Access Restrictions	Records are open to the public.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Historical Note

The Department of Parks and Recreation maintains the City's parks, shorelines, and boulevards and administers community centers, public golf courses, and other athletic and cultural facilities. Seattle's first park was established in 1884 after David Denny donated land to the City for that purpose. At that time, a three-member park committee, with limited authority, was created to manage the nascent park system. A Board of Parks Commissioners was established in 1890 with control over all public parks and authority to appoint a Parks Superintendent. In 1896, the City Charter created the position of Superintendent of Streets, Sewers and Parks. The Parks Department became a separate entity in 1904. In 1926, a City Charter Amendment abolished the position of Superintendent, distributing its responsibilities between the Head Gardener and the Landscape Architect. A 1948 City Charter amendment required the Board of Park Commissioners to appoint a park superintendent to administer the department. In 1967, another City Charter Amendment reconstituted the Board as an advisory body

to the Mayor and City Council, changed the agency name to Department of Parks and Recreation, and placed fiscal and operational administration under the superintendent.

In 1902 the City hired the Olmsted Brothers, the country's premier landscape architectural firm, to design a parks and boulevards system. Although not all of the plan was implemented, the Olmsted legacy is evident in many of Seattle's parks and boulevards. The City acquired significant amounts of property for park purposes following the turn of the 20th century, but in 1926 further acquisition was limited by a City Charter amendment that stipulated only money in the Park Fund could be used for that purpose. However, in the 1970s, the Forward Thrust Bond issue, along with federal grants and the Seattle Model City Program, supported the largest expansion of the Park system in Seattle history. These programs funded more than 70 new parks and park facilities. The Department manages over 6,000 acres of park land, over two dozen community centers, five municipal golf courses, the Aquarium, and many other recreational and athletic facilities.

Content Description

The collection consists of over 3500 color slides stored in 13 binders. The images depict Parks Department activities and facilities; topics covered include various sports and recreational activities, parks, playgrounds, swimming pools, events, and Seattle landmarks. The slides date from 1958 to 1990, with the bulk of the collection dating from 1975 to 1986; many images are undated. The last three binders contain slides used in presentations and depict more generic scenes, such as beaches, bridges or crowds. Six images from this collection have been digitized. Images can be digitized upon request by contacting the archives. [View 5802-09 online](#)

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Title of image, date. Item number.] Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation Slides, Record Series 5802-09. Box [number], Binder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

The slides are arranged alphabetically by activity or facility.

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation Slides, 1958-1990

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box-volume		
1/1	Baseball and Basketball	1976-1986
1/1	Bicycling	1976-1986
1/1	Football	1976-1986
1/1	Golf and Jogging	1976-1986
1/1	Kite Flying	1976-1986
1/1	Lawn Bowling and Martial Arts	1976-1986
1/1	Roller Skating and Rowing	1976-1986
1/1	Senior Sports	1976-1986
1/1	Shooting Pool and Soccer	1976-1986
1/1	Tennis	1976-1986
1/1	Track and Volleyball	1976-1986
1/1	Miscellaneous (includes Aquatics, Diving, Hoop, Line Game, Pole Vault, Horses, Racetrack, Rock Climbing)	1976-1986
1/2	Administration Building and Park Board	n.d.
1/2	Alki	n.d.
1/2	Don Armeni Launching Ramp, Aquarium, Arboretum	n.d.
1/2	Art (includes painting, pottery, weaving, ceramics, sculpture, crafts)	n.d.
1/2	Atlantic City Boat Ramp, Ballard Pool, Beacon Hill Playground	n.d.
1/2	Bathhouse Theatre	n.d.
1/2	Birds, Bite of Seattle at Greenlake	n.d.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/3	Boren and Pike Street Park, Burke-Gilman Trail	n.d.
1/3	Department of Parks and Recreation Color Slides: Children, Children in Gyms	n.d.
1/3	Waterfront	n.d.
1/3	Boats	n.d.
1/3	Camp Long and Carkeek Parks	n.d.
1/4	Evans Pool, Fauntleroy Park and Ferdinand Street Park	n.d.
1/4	Department of Parks and Recreation Color Slides: Elliott, Salmon and Shilshole Bays	n.d.
1/4	Drama	n.d.
1/4	Discovery Park	n.d.
1/4	Denny Park and Denny Regrade	n.d.
1/4	Dance, including Folk and Rascot Folk Dancers	n.d.
1/4	Cowen, Dahl Playgrounds, B.F. Day, Dearborn Park	n.d.
1/4	Colman Pool, Commodore and Conservatory	n.d.
1/4	City Hall Park	n.d.
1/4	Chinese Garden	n.d.
1/5	Freeway Park, Fremont, Garfield and Gas Works Parks	n.d.
1/5	Genesee and Golden Gardens Parks	n.d.
1/5	Green Lake	n.d.
1/6	Disabled	n.d.
1/6	Logos and Slogans	n.d.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/6	Hing Hay	n.d.
1/6	Hamlin, Highpoint and Highland Parks	n.d.
1/6	Jackson Park, Japanese Garden and Tea House	n.d.
1/6	Lakewood Moorage, Langston Huges, Lawton, Leschi Park	n.d.
1/6	Jefferson Park	n.d.
1/6	International District	n.d.
1/6	Kinnear Park, Lake City Municipal Park, Lake Washington Boulevard	n.d.
1/7	Museum of History and Industry	n.d.
1/7	Licton Springs, Lincoln Park	n.d.
1/7	Non-Seattle - Alaskan craft center, Italian prison, Minnesota Parks, Spokane, Wenatchee Circus	n.d.
1/7	Myrtle Edwards Park	n.d.
1/7	Medgar Evers Pool, Miller Cascade Moorage, Mount Baker	n.d.
1/7	McGraw Square and Meadowbrook	n.d.
1/7	Martha Washington and Matthews Beach	n.d.
1/7	Magnolia Playground, Magnuson Park, Market Park	n.d.
1/7	Madrona and Madrona Dance Studio	n.d.
1/7	Maps	n.d.
1/8	East Queen Anne Park, Rainier Beach, Ravenna Park and Boulevard	n.d.
1/8	People- David Denny, Scoop Jackson, John Jay, Walter Hundley, Harve Pell, Mayor Royer, Sam Smith	n.d.

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1/8	Pier 69, Colman Dock, Pioneer Square, Poncho Theatre, Princess Margaret Line	n.d.
1/8	Piers, Waterfront and Ferry Dock	n.d.
1/8	Occidental Square, Peppi's Playground	n.d.
1/8	Piers 31 to 69	n.d.
1/8	Sand Point, Stan Sayres Park	n.d.
2/1	Schmitz Park, Seattle Skyline, Seattle Center, Seattle Rose Garden, Seward Park	n.d.
2/1	Ship Canal, Streets, Street Trees	n.d.
2/1	Summer Playground Program Celebration 1988, Summer Youth Employment	n.d.
2/2	Thornton Creek, Vehicles, Volunteer Park, Washington Park, Waterfront Park	n.d.
2/2	Westlake Mall, West Seattle Golf Course, Will Rogers Park, Woodland Park and Zoo	n.d.
2/3	View Ridge Shelter House	n.d.
2/3	Signs, Lakeshore, Gardens, Flowers, Docks, Crowds	n.d.
2/4	Parks and Park Activities	1967-1990
2/5	Park Activities and Seattle scenes	n.d.

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Parks--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Playgrounds--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Recreation--Washington (State)--Seattle
 Sports--Washington (State)--Seattle

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.).

Form or Genre Terms :

Slides

Other Creators :

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks
(creator)

Finding aid prepared by Alison Costanza
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