



Descriptive Summary:

Title: The Gypsy Days Collection

Repository: Beulah Williams Library Archives and Special Collections, Northern State University

Creator: Northern State University – University Relations

Dates: 1916-2016

Extent: 12.5 Linear Feet

Administrative Information

Acquisitions Information: Donated by Northern State University – University Relations and a variety of outside donors.

Processing Information: This collection was processed by Sarah Jones

Access Restrictions: None

Copyright Notice: Literary rights and copyrights, when applicable, have been assigned to Beulah Williams Library

Preferred Citation: Item Name, Series, Date, Gypsy Days Collection, Northern State University Archives and Special Collections, Williams Library, Aberdeen, SD.

Historical Note

Begun in 1916, Gypsy Day is arguably Northern's most important social event of the academic year. Gypsy Day is similar to a traditional homecoming weekend and started in response to South Dakota State's Hobo Days. Held between September and November annually (now usually the last weekend in September), Gypsy Day has included a variety of student and alumni activities. The two most important events are the Gypsy Day football game and parade, with the Gypsy Day Queen and Marshall riding in a float at the parade. For more information, see *Chapter 28* of Northern State University: The First Century, 1901-2000.

Scope and Content

The formats in this collection include bumper stickers, clothing, essays, magnets, newspaper clippings, pins, posters, press releases, programs, schedules, and scrapbooks. This collection is

divided into three series: *History*, *Memorabilia*, and *Costumes*. This collection is entirely in English. ***Photos have been removed and are placed in the NSU Photo Collection. Oversized photos are included in this collection under memorabilia.***

Series Descriptions:

Series 1: History

Boxes: 1-4

Dates: 1916-2015

This series includes a book of past gypsy day royalty, essays, an official proclamation, press releases, and scrapbooks. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series 2: Memorabilia

Boxes: 5-6, OS4:DR3, Dates: 1931-2016

MF4:B:DR2,

Room 16

This series includes bumper stickers, magnets, newspaper clippings, an oversized painted glass, pins, posters, programs, and schedules. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series 3: Costumes

Boxes: 7-17

Dates: 1931, 1972, n.d.

This series includes items worn by past Gypsy Day Royalty. This series is alphabetically by the type of clothing.

Detailed Description of the Collection

1. Series 1: History

Box #1

Gypsy Day Royalty – book with pictures and names of past royalty (1916-1956)

Box #2

Gypsy Day Royalty – book with pictures and names of past royalty (1957-1976)

Box #3

- FF1 Royal Order of the Gyps (1947-1952)
- FF2 Parade Line-Up (1956)
- FF3 Gypsy Day Royalty (1962, 1981, 2015)
- FF4 Gypsy Day Football (1965-1966, 1979, 2015)
- FF5 75th Gypsy Day Committee (1990)
- FF6 Official Proclamation (September 21, 1990)
- FF7 Press Releases (1991)
- FF8 Press Releases (1992)
- FF9 Parade Line-Up (1993)
- FF10 Press Releases (1993)
- FF11 Parade Line-Up (1994)
- FF12 Press Releases (1994)
- FF13 Correspondence – name (1994-97)
- FF14 Press Releases (1995)
- FF15 Press Releases (1996)
- FF16 Press Releases (1997)

FF17 Press Releases (1998)
FF18 Press Releases (1999)
FF19 Press Releases (2000)
FF20 Press Releases (2001)
FF21 History of Gypsy Day (n.d.)

Box #4

Scrapbooks (1965-1966)
Film – KBFY-TV (n.d.)

2. Series 2: Memorabilia

Box #5

FF1 1931
FF2 1933
FF3 1941
FF4 1954
FF5 1958
FF6a 1960
FF6b 1962
FF7 1963
FF8 1964
FF9 1965
FF10 1966
FF11 1967
FF12 1968
FF13 1969
FF14 1970
FF15 1971
FF16 1972
FF17 1973
FF18 1974
FF19 1975
FF20 1977
FF21 1978
FF22 1979
FF23 1980
FF24 1981
FF25 1982
FF26 1983
FF27 1984
FF28 1985
FF29 1986
FF30 1987
FF31 1988
FF32 1989
FF33 1990
FF34 1991

FF35 1992
FF36 1993
FF37 1994
FF38 1995
FF39 1996
FF40 1997
FF41 1998
FF42 1999
FF43 2000
FF44 2001
FF45 2003
FF46 2005
FF47 2006
FF48 2007
FF49 2009
FF50 2010
FF51 2011
FF52 2012
FF53 2013
FF54 2015
FF55 2016

Box #6

Metal label – “This case is presented in memory of Eldor Hafnor, Marshal Gypsy Day 1932”
Large Wood Stamps (1967, 1969)
Metal plaque – “In Memory of Larry L. Winters Nov 18, 1940 – Sept 7. 1980 Gypsy Day Marshall – 1961” (c.a. 1980)
Awards – Best Dressed Office (2009-2010)
T-Shirts (2010-2012, n.d.)
Sunglasses (2012)
Cups (2015)
Beads (n.d.)
“Catch that Gypsy Spirit” Clickers (n.d.)
Waldo, NSC Oversized Stickers (n.d.)

Oversized – OS4:DR3

Items 1-9 Oversized Photos (Digitized copies of original photos) (n.d.)
FF1 Schedule (1939)
FF2 Minneapolis Sunday Tribune (November 2, 1952)
FF3 Schedules (1964, 2015-2016)
FF4 Aberdeen American News – Special Edition (October 3-4, 1972)
FF5 Parade Float (1980s)
FF6 Aberdeen American News – Special Edition – 100 years (September 20, 2015)
FF7 Candidate Posters (2015-2016)

Oversized – Room 16

Item 1 Painted glass in the style of stained glass with a Gypsy painted on it (c.a. 1950s/60s)

Oversized – MF4:B:DR2
FF1 Poster (2007)

3. Series 3: Costumes

Box #7
Gypsy King Belts (n.d.)

Box #8
Gypsy Queen Cape (n.d.)

Box #9
Gypsy Queen Costume (1931)
*Worn by Cora (Thornes) Jaspers

Oversized – Box #10 (10:10:02d)
Gypsy Court – 5 Women’s Dresses (n.d.)

Box #11
Jacket – Made by Nora Staael Evert (n.d.)
*See the ***Nora Staael Evert Collection*** for details on her life

Box #12
Gypsy Queen Robe (1972)
*Worn by Dorothy Hager Fisher – Gypsy Queen 1922 – on her 50th Anniversary

Oversized – Box #13 (10:10:02a)
King of the Gyps – 2 Robes (n.d.)

Oversized – Box #14 (10:10:02b)
Gypsy Court – 4 Men’s Gold Shirts (n.d.)

Oversized – Box #15 (10:10:02c)
1 Black Skirt (n.d.)

Box #16
Gypsy Queen Tiara (n.d.)

Box #17
Gypsy Court – Men’s Vests (n.d.)