



The Urbana Free Library

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Oliver P. Parks Scrapbooks,
1972-1981

Collection 144

Champaign County Historical Archives

Creator/Corporate name: Oliver P. Parks Scrapbooks

Inclusive Dates: 1972-1981

Physical Description: 1 box

Provenance:

Oliver P. Parks Scrapbooks was donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives.

Access:

The records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Biographical/Historical Note:

Oliver P. Parks was born on December 28, 1904 in Urbana. He worked for Illinois Bell Telephone Company as a lineman, first in Peoria, Ill., and later in Decatur, Ill., where he remained for the rest of his life. He collected antique telephones, switchboards, and other telephone-related memorabilia and donated his collection, which included over 100 telephones, to Illinois Bell in 1975. In 1976, the company constructed the Oliver P. Parks Telephone Museum in Springfield, Ill., which houses his collection. He died in March 1983 in Decatur.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains visitor's guide and two scrapbooks containing magazine clippings, newspaper clippings, photographs, correspondence, press releases, and ephemera relating to Oliver Parks and the Telephone Museum named in his honor. The collection also contains materials relating to America's bicentennial. Materials date from 1972 through 1981. An oversized picture also accompanied these scrapbooks, but it was removed from its frame and placed into a map case.

Name terms:

Illinois Bell Telephone Company
Oliver P. Parks Telephone Museum (Springfield, Ill)
Parks, Oliver P.

Inventory list:

- Visitor's guide to Illinois Bell's Telephony Museum in Chicago, Ill., ca. 1976
- Brown scrapbook, 1972-1981
- Red scrapbook, 1975-1977

Box ID: 30

Annex shelf location: 29

Bib. Record No.: 489580