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ERES Project
Photographs, 1977

Collection 374

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Shalini Smith, October 2023

Creator/Corporate Name: Eugene Britt, Kathryn Cender, and Glen Martin

Inclusive Dates: 1977

Physical Description: 2 boxes, (2.75 linear ft.)

Language: English

Provenance:

The ERES Project photographs were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in December 2015 by Kathryn Cender Martin.

Access:

These 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.

Historical Note:

Originally named the Natural Areas Instruction Development, the Educational Resources in Environmental Science (ERES) organization, was a local non-profit run by director David Monk. Dave was passionate about promoting environmental education, including the preservation and conservation of prairie land in the area.

Under Dave's leadership, ERES worked to implement greater awareness of environmental education. This was accomplished through the lens of understanding the environment in a wholistic sense. Two ERES initiatives were the Nurturing Neighborhood Awareness and Urban Environments projects.

The Nurturing Neighborhood Awareness project began in July 1977. Through this initiative, art was to be used as a tool for self-awareness, creativity, and communication in the development of individuals and society. The group sought to work with neighborhoods suffering from low-income and high rates of unemployment. The goal was to provide opportunities for the development of marketable skills in graphic arts and organization. Furthermore, it would encourage people to take an active part in improving and controlling their environment.

The activities for the Nurturing Neighborhood Awareness project included workshops on art and the environment, photographic exhibits of communities and events, silkscreen prints for artistic and educational purposes, and community mural projects.

Another project that the group focused on in the fall of 1977 was the Urban Environments project. It involved taking photographs of historic Urbana architecture. In October of that year, photographs from the project were displayed in an exhibit at Lincoln Square. The goal of the exhibit was to emphasize the handcrafted aspect of building and landscapes. By recognizing and appreciating the featured subjects, the hope was that they would be preserved for their heritage and continue to serve as vital components of the community.



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Scope and Content Note:

The collection consists of materials from two ERES projects, the Nurturing Neighborhood Awareness and Urban Environments projects. Nurturing Neighborhood awareness focused on photographs from the black community while Urban Environments captured historic houses in Urbana. Materials include mounted and unmounted photographs, documents related to the ERES project, and exhibit captions.

Each mounted photograph in Series 2-4 was given a number for ease of organization and access. The number is indicated in brackets on the back of the photo. In addition, any bracketed information within this finding aid did not come from the collection and was added by the archivist for descriptive purposes.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged into 4 series:

Series 1: ERES Project Information and Other Materials

Series 2: Photographs by Eugene Britt

Series 3: Photographs by Kathryn Cender

Series 4: Photographs by Glen Martin

Materials in Series 1 are organized alphabetically by folder title. The materials in Series 2-4 are organized by photograph number.

Subject Terms:

Busey Ave (Urbana), South, 701
Elm St (Urbana), West, 502
Main St (Urbana), West, 505
Main St (Urbana), West, 508
Main St (Urbana), West, 510
Main St (Urbana), West, 605
Orchard St (Urbana), South, 1004

Name Terms:

Britt, Eugene
Crystal Lake Park (Urbana, Ill.)
Douglass Park (Champaign, Ill.)
Eastlawn Burial Park (Urbana, Ill.)
Educational Resources in Environmental Science (Champaign, Ill.)
Griggs House (Urbana, Ill.)
Kaufman Lake (Champaign, Ill.)
Martin, Glen
Martin, Kathryn Cender
Monk, David



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Container List

Box 1

Series 1: Project Information and Other Project Materials

Folder 1: ERES Information

Folder 2: Exhibit Captions

Folder 3: Unidentified Photographs

Series 2: Photographs by Eugene Britt

Folder 4:

[1] [Woman smiling]

[2] [Man with two children]

[3] [Three males on a patio]

[4] [Five people on a patio]

Folder 5:

[5] [A close up of a parked car and a house]

[6] [Eight people on stage]

[7] Mini Park on Park and Fifth, Champaign, IL

[8] [Kids climbing on playground equipment]

Folder 6:

[9] Sculpture from Lincoln Square

[10] [Kids and bikes at night]

[11] [Large group at Douglass Park]

[12] [Three women playing pool]

Folder 7:

[13] [Three people on steps]

[14] [Superimposed image]

[15] [Baiting a fishing hook]

[16] [Woman carrying child on her shoulder]

Folder 8:

[17] State Street [Woman jumping rope #1]

[18] State Street [Woman jumping rope #2]

[19] [A man sitting inside of a shoe shining business]

[20] [Small girl near brick wall]

Folder 9:

[21] [People in the part after dark]



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- [22] [Woman carrying child]
- [23] [Performance at Douglass Park]
- [24] [Man playing piano]

Folder 10:

- [25] [A man all dressed up]
- [26] [A man in overgrown field #1]
- [27] [A man in overgrown field #2]
- [28] [Couple near fallen branches]

Folder 11:

- [29] Workman's Cottage, Leal Park Urbana, Basement Construction
- [30] [Close up of a man in a hat]
- [31] [A group of young people sitting]

Folder 12:

- [32] [Couple with child]
- [33] [Baby sleeping]

Folder 13:

- [34] Kaufman's Clear Lake [Man fishing]

Series 3: Photographs by Kathryn Cender

- [35] Buena Vista Court #1
- [36] Buena Vista Court #2
- [37] Buena Vista Court #3
- [38] Buena Vista Court #4
- [39] Buena Vista Court #5
- [40] Griggs House, 505 West Main, Urbana
- [41] 508 West Main, Urbana
- [42] 510 West Main, Urbana
- [43] 605 West Main, Urbana
- [44] 502 West Elm, Urbana
- [45] Detail, 502 West Elm, Urbana
- [46] Demolished Tower at Eastlawn Cemetery
- [47] Stained glass detail
- [48] Railroad Crew

Series 4: Photographs by Glen Martin

- [49] Architect Royer, 701 South Busey, Urbana
- [50] 1004 South Orchard, Urbana
- [51] Urbana Street Scene
- [52] Pedestrian Bridge, Crystal Lake Park