

# **Changing Gears: End of an Era documentary film records MSS.332**

---

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

October 21, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Ball State University Archives and Special Collections  
Alexander M. Bracken Library  
2000 W. University Avenue  
Muncie, Indiana, 47306  
765-285-5078  
libarchives@bsu.edu

## Table of Contents

---

<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Historical Note</u> .....	4
<u>Scope and Contents</u> .....	4
<u>Arrangement</u> .....	4
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	5
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	6
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	7
<u>Series 1: <i>Changing Gears: End of an Era</i> project documentation</u> .....	7
<u>Series 2: <i>Changing Gears: End of an Era</i> digital files</u> .....	8

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository</b>	Ball State University Archives and Special Collections
<b>Creator</b>	Ball State University. Center for Middletown Studies.
<b>Creator</b>	Ball State University. Institute for Digital Entertainment and Education.
<b>Title</b>	<i>Changing Gears: End of an Era</i> documentary film records
<b>Date</b>	circa 2008-2010
<b>Extent</b>	0.2 Cubic feet (1 box; 7.57 TB of digital files)
<b>Language</b>	English

### Preferred Citation

*Changing Gears: End of an Era* documentary film records, Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries

## Historical Note

---

The Ball State University Center for Middletown Studies in conjunction with the university's Institute for Digital Entertainment and Education produced a feature documentary film about the changes in the manufacturing industry and its effects throughout the Midwest.

With the historical and sociological context of the Middletown studies, the film examines the continuing decline of industry in and around Muncie, Indiana, which experienced a boom of industrial growth in the 1890s that thrived into the 1980s. The end of Muncie's manufacturing era is illustrated with the 2009 closing of Borg Warner (formerly Warner Gear). Borg Warner's legacy—the creation of the differential gear and automatic transmission—is forever tied to the U.S. auto industry and lives on each year when the winner of the Indianapolis 500 is presented with the Borg Warner trophy.

The film contains interviews with workers who took great pride in being multi-generational factory workers as well as in building the world's best gear and transfer cases for more than 100 years. These union workers in Muncie and throughout the Midwest played a significant role in shaping manufacturing and influencing the communities in which they lived. With the closing of Borg Warner in Muncie, like many other manufacturers in the Midwest and across the nation, a once steady way of life has ended, and they find themselves in unknown, uncertain territory.

**Source:** Institute for Digital Entertainment and Education, Ball State University, "Changing Gears," <http://idee.iweb.bsu.edu/work/changinggears.html> (accessed October 21, 2015)

---

## Scope and Contents

---

This collection includes project documentation and digital files from the *Changing Gears: End of an Era* documentary film regarding the closing of the Warner Gear plant in 2009.

---

## Arrangement

---

This collection is arranged in the following series:

Series 1: *Changing Gears: End of an Era* project documentation

Series 2: *Changing Gears: End of an Era* digital files

---

## **Administrative Information**

---

### **Publication Information**

Ball State University Archives and Special Collections

### **Conditions Governing Access**

This collection is open for research.

### **Conditions Governing Use**

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries, Muncie, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Archives and Special Collections.

### **Custodial History**

This collection was received by Archives and Special Collections as a records transfer from the Center for Middletown Studies.

### **Accruals**

No further additions are expected.

### **Processing Information**

Collection processing completed 2013/11/26 by Leslie Nellis. EAD finding aid created 2013/03/06 by Bethany Fiechter. EAD finding aid revised 2013/11/26 by Leslie Nellis.

### **Existence and Location of Copies**

Select materials from this collection are available online in the Ball State University Libraries Digital Media Repository:

<http://libx.bsu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/ChngGrsDoc>

## Controlled Access Headings

---

### Corporate Name(s)

- Borg-Warner Corporation.

### Genre(s)

- Documentary films
- Documents

### Geographic Name(s)

- Delaware County (Ind.)
- Muncie (Ind.)

### Subject(s)

- Automobile industry and trade
- Factories
- Industries
- Labor
- Middletown Studies Collection
- Stoeckel Archives of Local History

**Series 1: Changing Gears: End of an Era project documentation**

---

**Collection Inventory**

<b>Series 1: <i>Changing Gears: End of an Era</i> project documentation</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Proposals and contracts, circa 2008-2010	1	1
Working documents, circa 2008-2010	1	2
Purchase orders and shipping, circa 2008-2010	1	3
Log notes, circa 2008-2010	1	4
Release forms, circa 2008-2010	1	5
Hours log, circa 2008-2010	1	6
Travel forms, circa 2008-2010	1	7
Miscellaneous documents, circa 2008-2010	1	8
Filming logs, circa 2008-2010	1	9
Documentary draft and storyboard, circa 2008-2010	1	10
Changing Gears festival submissions, circa 2008-2010	1	11

**Series 2: Changing Gears: End of an Era digital files**

---

Muncie and Middletown publications, circa 2008-2010

1

12

**EF.017 Series 2: *Changing Gears: End of an Era* digital files**