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
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Summary Information

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


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
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
# Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series 1: Changing Gears: End of an Era project documentation</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposals and contracts, circa 2008-2010</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working documents, circa 2008-2010</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase orders and shipping, circa 2008-2010</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Log notes, circa 2008-2010</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Release forms, circa 2008-2010</td>
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<td>Hours log, circa 2008-2010</td>
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<td>Travel forms, circa 2008-2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous documents, circa 2008-2010</td>
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<td>Filming logs, circa 2008-2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Documentary draft and storyboard, circa 2008-2010</td>
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<td>Changing Gears festival submissions, circa 2008-2010</td>
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### Series 2: Changing Gears: End of an Era digital files

<table>
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<th>EF.017 Series 2: Changing Gears: End of an Era digital files</th>
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</table>

Muncie and Middletown publications, circa 2008-2010