

Collection #
SC 3459
DVD 1431–1435

**PHIL DENTON
ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW, 7 JANUARY 2015**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder; 5 DVDs

COLLECTION DATES: 7 January 2015

PROVENANCE: Indianapolis/Central Indiana LGBT Oral History Project

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2016.0143m0008

NOTES: Forms part of the Indianapolis/Central Indiana LGBT Oral History Project.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

In 2014 the Indiana Historical Society began the Indiana LGBT Collecting Initiative to collect, preserve, and make accessible materials that document the rich history, tradition, and culture of Indiana's LGBT communities. Part of the collecting initiative includes the Indianapolis/Central Indiana LGBT Oral History Project. During the time period of 2014–2015, interviews were conducted of individuals, couples and families from all walks of life in the Central Indiana area. This collection centers around the oral history interview of Phil Denton conducted by Mark Lee on January 7, 2015.

Phil Denton (1956–2017) grew up in Indianapolis, Indiana. Although he knew from a young age he was attracted to men, he was in the military for three and a half years before he became aware of other gay men around him. Phil was the second person hired at Our Place, a prominent gay bar in Indianapolis. He became the owner of Our Place in 1992 and retained that position through this interview in 2015. Phil renamed Our Place to Greg's Our Place in honor of his former partner, longtime friend, and co-owner of the bar, Gregory Powers, who died in 2002 of HIV/AIDS. Phil resided in Indianapolis, Indiana, until his death in June 2017.

Sources:

Information found in the collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The interview was transcribed from one video recorded interview This manuscript was transcribed from a digitally recorded interview conducted on January 7, 2015, at the home of Phil Denton in Indianapolis, Indiana. The interview was conducted by Mark Lee who was contracted by IHS for the project from 2014 to 2015. DIC was contracted by the IHS to transcribe the interview in February 2016. The interview, which includes the video recording and the transcript, is housed at the William H. Smith Memorial Library, Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center. The video recorded interview is approximately two hours long and is recorded on 2 DVDs.

The collection includes one manuscript folder with the newspaper articles related to Phil Denton, Greg's Our Place, and LGBT life in Indianapolis, Indiana. The folder also includes a copy of the interview transcription. The following is an index to the oral history transcript listing the topics discussed and the pages on which they can be found.

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Denton Oral History Interview Disc 1, master copy

Denton Oral History Interview Disc 2, user copy

Denton Oral History Interview Disc 2, master copy

Digital Transcription

CONTAINER

SC 3459 Folder 1 of 1

DVD 1431

DVD 1432

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