

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Lloyd Sealy Library
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Inspector Allyn B. Gray Diaries Finding Aid

17 volumes in one box
.5 linear feet

Ellen Belcher
April, 2004

Biographical Note

Allyn B. Gray was an inspector and later an area supervisor for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Gray was an inspector in the New York City area in the 1940s and 1950s. In 1959, he began to take on supervisory duties in the Peekskill area office. By 1970, Gray was working as an area supervisor for the ATF. Gray lived in New London, Connecticut, Elmhurst New York, and later in Peekskill, New York. At certain times, he also kept a residences or offices on Liberty Street and at 290 Broadway in New York City.

Collection Notes

These 17 Pocket-sized diaries are filled with daily entries relating to investigations and daily official duties of Inspector Allyn B Gray spanning 3 decades (with gaps). Entries are by date and time and are related to Gray's inspections of shops, factories, distributors and laboratories, often with address and telephone of the facility included. Entries also document a general accounting of time spent during the day, including lunch and travel time, as well as sick and annual leave.

According to the entries, Gray visited and revisited breweries, chemists, restaurants, tobacconists, perfumeries, wineries, cosmetic companies and distributors among other businesses. Diaries from the 1940s-50s document businesses were located in the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Manhattan. Inspections after around 1958 also took place in Peekskill and Yonkers, New York.

Diaries are missing for the years 1944-1945. Also missing are diaries for the years 1960-1969, possibly a time when Gray was confined to the desk duties of an area supervisor. However the presence of a diary for 1970 indicates he may well have kept diaries for this period.

Provenance Note

This collection was purchased by Dr. Larry Sullivan for the Lloyd Sealy Library in July 2002 from Mrs. Hudson's Fine Books and Paper, Chelsea, NY.

Inspector Allyn B. Gray Diaries,
Collection listing

Box 1 of 1

- Volume 1, 1942
- Volume 2, 1943
- Volume 3, 1946
- Volume 4, 1947
- Volume 5, 1948
- Volume 6, 1949
- Volume 7, 1950
- Volume 8, 1951
- Volume 9, 1952
- Volume 10, 1953
- Volume 11, 1954
- Volume 12, 1955
- Volume 13, 1956
- Volume 14, 1957
- Volume 15, 1958
- Volume 16, 1959
- Volume 17, 1970