Finding Aid to the
Gib Bromenschenkel Papers

Bromenschenkel, Gib
Gib Bromenschenkel Papers, 1949, 1964-2002
3 linear ft.
Collection number: Mss 342

OVERVIEW

Access: The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

Provenance: Donated by Gib Bromenschenkel, 2005 (Acc. 2765).

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BIOGRAPHY

Gilbert Henry Bromenschenkel was born September 16, 1930 in St. Cloud, Minnesota, to a family of thirteen children. As a teenager, Gib developed rheumatic fever and spent a year in bed. Because of this, he was unable to work on the farm, and he was refused enlistment by the military nine different times. Gib started working for North Central Airlines in St. Cloud of 1952. When the North Central Airlines office in St. Cloud closed, Gib, along with his wife, Doris, moved to Fargo, N.D., where he became station manager for North Central Airlines at Hector International Airport.

After arriving in Fargo, Gib served as the National Director of the U.S. Jaycees and the State President of the North Dakota Jaycees, as well as the District Governor of the Knights of Columbus Toastmasters.
Club and the administrator of Nativity Catholic Church. Gib began to get involved in city politics during the public discussions in the 1960s over widening 12th Avenue North and building a bridge to connect it to 15th Avenue North in Moorhead.

Gib ran for an open Fargo City Commission seat in 1970 and won. Planning to serve one term, Gib ended up serving on the Fargo City Commission until June of 2002, a span of eight terms and thirty-two years. He is now retired in living in Fargo.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The *Gib Bromenschenkel Papers* include materials related exclusively to Bromenschenkel’s thirty-two year tenure on the Fargo City Commission. During his tenure, Gib was involved with the reorganization of the bus system, the controversial Model Cities Project, the Sheyenne Diversion Project, the Broadway Mall Project, the West Acres Mall development, the Metropolitan Council of Governments, redevelopment of the city water plant, the Torfin Teigen controversy, the Women’s Health Clinic controversy, construction of the Fargo Dome, and the construction of several bridges. The papers have been organized into two series: Topical Files and Publications.

Gib Bromenschenkel was featured in a 1984 issue of the local magazine *Howard Binford’s Guide* for which a copy is in the collection, together with a number of letters congratulating him on the article. The general correspondence file contains only a scattering of letters.

The *Topical Files Series*, which makes up the bulk of the collection, consists of documents relating to numerous city issues. The topical files are ordered alphabetically. Notably, the series includes information on several bridge projects, speeches given by Bromenschenkel, campaign and election material, the construction of the Fargo Water Treatment facility, and the controversy surrounding the Women’s Health Clinic. The correspondence with Torfin Teigen, much dealing with Teigen’s theft of Bromenschenkel’s nomination petitions, has been separated from the main correspondence folder and given its own folder.

The *Publications Series* consists of a single publication. The Model Cities and Liquor Ordinances publication seem to be unique, and possibly put together by Bromenschenkel or someone on the Fargo City Commission.

**SEPARATIONS RECORD**

The following non-manuscript material has been removed from the Gib Bromenschenkel papers and sent to the sections indicated.

**Books** (Institute catalogued book collection)

- *Baldhill Dam & Lake Ashtabula: Sheyenne River Reservoir Regulation Manual*, 1983
BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder   Contents

1/1          Finding aid, and Biographical information
3/5          Howard Binford feature article and letters, 1984
3/6          Correspondence

Topical Files Series

1/2          1st Avenue Bridge, 1981
1/3          12th Avenue Toll Bridge, 1986-1989
1/4          13th Avenue and Interstate 29, 1990-1996
1/5          13th Avenue South Bridge to 12th Avenue South, Moorhead (proposed), 1989
1/6          19th Avenue North interchange, 1977-1979
1/7          25th Street underpass, 1981-1990
1/8          42-45th Street interchange, 1986-1989
1/9          Abortion, 1984-1994
1/10         Airport, 1976-2002
1/10a        Asplin Sand and Gravel site, 1989
1/11         Auditorium, 1989-1994
1/12         Baldhill Dam, 1990-1993
1/13         Baseball stadium, 1995
1/14         Budget, 1978-1995
1/15         Buses, 1982
1/16         Cable TV, 1988-1994
1/17         Calendars, 1963, 1974
1/18         Central Garage, 1982
1/19         City Administrator, 1977-1986
1/20-21      Correspondence, c.a. 1970s-2000s
1/22         Downtown Redevelopment Proposal, 1982
1/24         Elections and campaign material, 1974-1994
1/25         Emergency Conditions, 1983-1989
1/26         Energy Crisis, 1980-1982
1/27         Engineering, 1983-1996
1/28         Fargodome, 1986-2002
1/29         Fargo Report, 1984-1988
1/30         Fire, 1978-1997
1/31         Flood Insurance, 1980-1981
1/32         Forestry, 1980-1994
1/33         Gambling, 1977-1985
1/34         Garbage Utility, 1993-1998
1/35         Health, 1990-1995
1/36  Highways, 1971-1988
1/37  Lake Agassiz Arts Council, 2001-2002
2/1   Landfill, 1989-1990
2/2   Law Enforcement Center, 1986-1993
2/3   League of Cities, 1987-1993
2/4   Legislation, 1989
2/5   Liquor Control Committee, 1990-2002
2/5a   Metropolitan Area Transit/ Wayne King, 1998-1999
2/6   F-M Metropolitan Council of Governments, 1982-1998
2/7   Model Cities, 1970-1974
3/7   Model Cities, 1970-1973
2/8   Municipal Court, 1990-1995
2/9   Newspaper Clippings, 1970-2002
3/8-9  Newspaper clippings
2/10  North Broadway Bridge, 1988-1989
2/11  Ordinances, 1976-1994
2/12  Public Safety Committee, 1970-1993
2/14  Police, 1991-1995
2/15  Political Advertising, 1969-1990s
2/16  Planning, 1989-1997
2/17  Railroad, 1981
2/18  Red River Steering Committee, 1989-1990
2/19  Reorganization, 1986-1987
2/20  Streets and Sewers, 1949-1984
2/21  South University & 32nd Avenue South, 1987-1992
2/22  Special Assessment, 1990
2/23  Speeches, n.d.
2/24  Teigen, Torfin, ca. 1970s
2/25  Ten Commandments Monument, 2001
2/26  Thelen, Mark, 1990-1994
3/1   Water and Sewer, 1992-1995
3/2   Water Treatment Plant, 1990-1996
3/4   Water Treatment Plan - Publications

Publications Series

3/10  Compilation of Twelve Municipal Liquor Ordinances, n.d.