

**The New York Public Library - Stephen A. Schwarzman Building
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the

Roy Eddey (Motive) papers

1964-1979 (bulk 1971-1972)

MsCol 18242

Compiled by Matthew Snyder, April 2011

Summary

Creator: Eddey, Roy

Title: Roy Eddey (Motive) papers, 1964-1979 (bulk 1971-1972)

Size: 1.09 linear feet (3 boxes)

Source: Donated by Roy Eddey in July 2001.

Abstract: The Roy Eddey *Motive* papers mainly document the history of *Motive* as a magazine of gay liberation from 1964 to 1972, in particular the creation of one of the two final editions of the magazine in 1971, devoted to gay male issues.

Access: The sound recording in this collection is unavailable for use at this time pending preservation transfer.

Preferred citation: Roy Eddey (Motive) papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note

Processing consisted foldering or refoldering files which were collected in essentially chronological sequence.

Creator history

Motive was a student magazine published by the The United Methodist Church from 1941 to 1971. During the mid-late 1960s, the magazine became increasingly vocal in its support of such countercultural issues as the peace movement, civil rights, and especially gay rights, prompting the Church to halt its affiliation with and support of the magazine in mid-1971. Following the separation from the Church, the magazine's editors attempted to continue *Motive* as a gay liberation magazine through the creation of an independent corporation, *Motive* Inc. However, the combination of lack of financial resources and disagreements among the editors led to the decision to end the magazine with the simultaneous publication of two final editions: one devoted to lesbian issues and the other to gay male issues. They were published in early 1972 as volume 32, nos. 1 and 2. Roy Eddey, who had been the last editor of the magazine while it was still a church publication, edited the men's issue. *Motive* Inc. was disbanded in the mid-1970s, and the name "Motive" was sold back to The United Methodist Church in return for the Church paying off the corporation's remaining debts.

Scope and content note

The Roy Eddey *Motive* papers chronicle the life of *Motive* from 1964 to 1972 as a magazine featuring and eventually devoted to gay liberation. In particular, it documents the production of the final, gay men's issue in 1971. The papers contain editorial and contributor correspondence and business papers documenting the history of *Motive* Inc.

Earlier files (1964-1970) contain correspondence with the *Motive* editors of those years, B.J. Stiles and Ron Henderson, and include contributor letters, manuscripts and art work, as well as discussion of a proposed issue entirely devoted to homosexuality. The original art work is by Robert Charles Brown.

Files from 1971-1979 contain business and editorial and production files. Business files include the separation agreement from the Methodist Church, incorporation and copyright papers for *Motive* Inc., and editorial meeting minutes from 1971 documenting the decision to end the magazine. Later correspondence (post-1972) mainly concerns final disposition of funds among the magazine's contributors, the dissolution of *Motive* Inc. and the sale of the name "Motive" back to the Methodist Church.

Editorial and production files document the creation of the final issues of *Motive* (mainly the gay men's issue). They include contributor correspondence, manuscripts, gay newspaper and magazine clippings sent with the manuscripts, and letters to the editor in response to the magazine's last issues.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically, with some divisions by subject within date ranges.

Key terms

Subjects

Gay liberation movement.

Names

Eddey, Roy

Motive (Nashville, Tenn. : 1941)

United Methodist Church (U.S.)--Periodicals.

Occupations

editors

Places

New York (N.Y.)

Special formats

commercial correspondence

ink drawings

manuscripts for publication

personal correspondence

Container list

1964-1970

b.1 f.1-3 Editorial correspondence

b.2 Art

1971-1979

b.1 f.4-6 Motive, Inc. business files

b.3 f.1-5 Editorial and production files

CR Group--Roy Eddey and Others, undated

One single audio reel that is unavailable pending preservation transfer.