



BHC-MSS 0152

Guide to the Papers of Don Almquist related to Black Rock: A Bicentennial  
Picture Book  
By Meg Rinn

**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Almquist, David

**Title:** Papers of Don Almquist related to Black Rock: A Bicentennial Picture Book

**Dates:** 1976

**Quantity:** 1 manuscript box

**Abstract:** David Almquist is a Connecticut-born artist currently based in Delaware. He received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design, and provided illustrations for *Black Rock: A Bicentennial Picture Book*. The text was created in order to celebrate Black Rock's bicentennial. The group effort began in 1975 and took 15 months to produce. Within is original art, images from the book, and information about publication and promotion.

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Bridgeport History Center

**Biographical History:**

David Almquist is a Connecticut born artist currently based in Delaware. He received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of design, and provided illustrations for the book. They are featured in lieu of photographs for the pages that address Black Rock's original inhabitants, identified as the Black Rock Pequannocks in the text but more accurately the Golden Hill Paugussett Indian Nation as they are known today. His illustrations are also used to illustrate Black Rock's colonial history.

*Black Rock: A Bicentennial Picture Book* was created in order to celebrate Black Rock's bicentennial. The group effort began in 1975 and took 15 months, and in addition to Almquist, involved people such as Dick Jones and Charles Brilvitch. The text primarily focuses on the colonial history up to 1976. Extensive black and white photography, including merchant storefronts, homes, and individual families, offer an excellent basic introduction to one of the earliest colonized sections of Bridgeport.

**Scope and Content note:**

This collection contains original art, photostat copies of images from the book itself, and information and the initial publication and promotion of the book.

**Arrangement Note:**

Arranged in three series. Series I, images and illustrations, contains copies of images in the book, maps, copies of Almquist's illustrations, and colored photostat copies. Note that the original folder labels and the publishing proposal have been placed first in this series. Series II features publication and promotion material for the text, and series III features additional information including fund raising parties and picture hunts.

**Administrative information:**

**Provenance:** 1976?

**Preferred Citation:**

Papers of Don Almquist related to Black Rock: A Bicentennial Picture Book (BHC-MSS 0152), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

**Names and Subject Tracings**

*Personal names*

Almquist, Don

*Subject tracings*

Black Rock, Bridgeport, Conn.

Harbors

Illustrations

Book publishing

**Detailed box and folder listing**

Box 1

Series I, Images and illustrations

1. Original folder labels, 1976
2. Proposal, undated
3. George Hotel, 1951, undated
4. Maps, undated
5. Photographs, c. 1975
6. Photographs and negatives, c. 1975
7. Photostats of illustrations, 1975
8. Photostats of illustrations, 1975  
Original art, Pequannock pg. 13; Hanging of Goody Knapp p. 15 [flat file D, drawer 5, folder 16]

Series II, Publication and promotion

9. Cuneo press release, 1976
10. Review quotes, 1976
11. Reviews, 1976
12. Labels from hard bound edition, 1976
13. Order forms, 1976

Series III, Other material

14. Black Rock Community Council materials, 1976
15. Community meeting, 1976
16. Invitation to fundraising party, 1976
17. Picture hunt flyer, undated