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## LG MS 028 Robin Lambert Collection Finding Aid

Elizabeth Sistare

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**JEAN BYERS SAMPSON CENTER FOR DIVERSITY IN MAINE  
LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER+ COLLECTION**

**ROBIN LAMBERT COLLECTION  
LG MS 28**

**Total Boxes: 7  
Linear Feet: 5.5**

**By  
Elizabeth Sistare**

**Portland, Maine  
December 2013**

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## **Administrative Information**

Provenance: The bulk of this collection was purchased at the Lambert estate sale (on 2/17/07) executed by Lani Graham, and delivered to USM by Sive Neilan. Some materials were donated on 4/10/07 by Susan Hopkins (a close friend of Lambert) – film material went to USM's Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity.

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Cite as: Robin Lambert Collection, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ Collection, Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine, University of Southern Maine Libraries.

Restrictions on access: The collection is open for research.

## **Biographical Note**

Robin Lambert was born in Houlton, Maine on July 28, 1950. He earned a degree in political science from UMaine-Orono and was president of the Maine College Republicans. Lambert was Vice President of Human Resources for Konica Quality Photo East, where he oversaw, wrote and administered employee personnel policies, until his retirement in 1996 due to illness. Lambert was an active Republican, serving on many campaigns, running for the Maine State Senate twice - unsuccessfully (1990 and 2002). He was a founding member of the Maine Lesbian Gay Political Association in 1983 and of the AIDS Project in Portland. He was also appointed to the state government's AIDS Advisory Committee in 1987.

Lambert was very active in the community, serving as President of the Maine Chamber and Business Alliance, and a member of the National Association of Manufacturers. He also co-owned Natasha's Restaurant in Portland from '97-'99. Lambert worked to address the complicated issues surrounding the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection as more cases presented in Maine. As an openly gay man with AIDS, with many friends at risk, he recognized the potential effects on all people in Maine.

Lambert worked to win equal rights for gay, lesbian and transgendered people. He died on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the age of 56 after a long battle with AIDS.

## **Description of the Collection**

Topics include LGBT issues of the 1980s and 1990s, represented through the media and through political activist groups. There are operational papers of the Maine Health

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Foundation as well as Lambert's personal meeting notes. Notes and letters from several other organizations that were working to educate people about AIDS in the 90's are included. From this collection you can get a sense of who Lambert was – many of his papers and letters are included as well as mementos from his life.

#### Series 1. State Senate Primary Campaign (1990-1991)

This series includes paperwork from Lambert's State Senate campaign in 1990: petitions, donor information, financial records, etc.

#### Series 2. Personal Papers (1983-1991)

This series contains personal correspondence as well as insurance information and other papers.

#### Series 3. Maine Health Foundation Papers (1986-2004)

This series includes materials from the Maine Health Foundation – operational papers, minutes, agendas, and letters to the board, fundraising events, advertising, and grant proposals. There is also correspondence with supporting organizations including the AIDS Project.

#### Series 4. AIDS Advisory Committee (1988-1991)

This series contains meeting notes and by-laws of the statewide AIDS Advisory Committee. Lambert was one of the members appointed; this series contains his personal notes and ideas. It also contains educational attempts made to raise awareness of AIDS prevention.

#### Series 5. LGBT Awareness Publications (1985-2005)

This series contains information on the AIDS memorial quilt and the March on Washington of 1987. Also included are publications from the Outright Foundation, the Speakout Project National Coming Out Day, and others.

#### Series 6. Newspaper Clippings (1988-1999)

This series contains newspaper clippings from Robin Lambert's political career and election as well as clippings about people who are suffering from AIDS and other LGBT issues. There are also clippings about Linda Bean and Governor McKernan.

#### Series 7. Objects (1972-2004)

This series contains a variety of items from all aspects of Lambert's life – from his political career to his personal life.

#### Series 8. Oversize

This series contains materials too large or awkward to fit into regular boxes. Listed within their regular series, they are included here to give their physical location. Items include posters, buttons, and a flag.

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
<b>Series 1. State Senate Primary Campaign (1990-1991)</b>			
1	1	Petitions	1990
1	2	Campaign law/start of campaign paperwork	1990
1	3	Donor information	1990
1	4	Donor correspondence	1990
1	5	Events and advertising	1990
1	6	Photos	1990
1	7	Questionnaires from organizations	1990
1	8	Financial records	1990-1991
<b>Series 2. Personal Papers (1983-1991)</b>			
1	9	Correspondence	1990
1	10	Insurance information	1988-1991
1	11	Trek Across Maine	1989
2	12	First Parish personnel committee	1983
<b>Series 3. Maine Health Foundation (1984-2004)</b>			
2	13	Minutes, agendas, letters to the Board	1984, 1988-1989
2	14	Foundation's operational papers	1987-1989
2	15	Financial information and miscellany	1985-1987
2	16	Correspondence - grant applications	1988
2	17	The AIDS Project	1986-1988, 1994, 2004
<b>Series 4. AIDS Advisory Committee (1988-1991)</b>			
		Binder, "AIDS in Maine Background And Policy" [empty, REMOVED]	
2	18	Meeting notes and by-laws [1 of 2: binder]	1988-1989
3	19	Action plan and Task Force results [2 of 2: binder]	1989, 1990-1991
3	20	Operational papers and AIDS prevention	1989-1991

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publications

**Series 5. LGBT Awareness Publications (1985-2005)**

3	21	Box of Cards depicting LGBT scenarios for children [possibly a game]	undated
3	22	AIDS Memorial Quilt: Book, The List of Names; Anthony Fleming's panel design; booklet, from Greensboro display; flyers about D.C. display and Portland display; Our Paper vol. 6(9), May 1989 about the Quilt coming to Portland	1988-1989, 1994, 1996

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
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**Series 5. LGBT Awareness Publications (cont.)**

4	23	Publications, mixed: March on Washington newspaper; National Coming Out Day info packet; Speakout Project newsletter; Log Cabin Republicans brochure; AutumnFest flyer, 1988; Our Paper v.10(2); 1992 election choices from MLGPA; Human Rights Campaign sticker; "vote yes" brochure; and newspaper photocopies from Dallas Gay Alliance	1987, 1988, 1992, undated
4	24	Publications, serials: QW no.44 (1992 Sep 6), 54 (1992 Nov 15); AIDS Patient Care v.2(2) 1988 Apr	1988, 1992
4	25	LGBT organizations newsletters/records: NGLTF folder, TAP folder - Maine Speakout Project; MLGPA minutes, handouts, sample letters to legislators; Maine Women's Lobby handouts; GLAD letters and newsletters; Christian Civic League of Maine; Maine Dept. of Human Services letter; letters of thanks to Lambert for donations; State of Maine publication of L.D.2367 and Q&A about AIDS	1985-1989, 1990, 1996

**Series 6. Newspaper Clippings (1988-1999)**

4	26	Lambert / his campaign	1990-1999
4	27	Linda Bean	1988-1992
4	28	People with AIDS	1988-1991
4	29	LGBT issues	1990, 1992, 1994
4	30	Re-Elect Governor McKernan	1990

**Series 7. Objects (1972-2004)**

5	31	Pineapple embroidered sack	undated
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5	32	Guest book	1990 Jun 4
5	33	Reagan's Inauguration tickets and memorabilia	1981, 1985
5	34	Maine calendar and newspaper clippings of scenic Maine	1989, 1994
		Buttons (from presidential elections to gay rights) See Oversize	1972-2004, undated
5	35	Two Peaks Island Maine medals, one with a biathlon pin and a Maine lobster stick-on emblem	1988
5	36	Coins	1986, undated
5	37	Rocks and seashells	1986
5	38	Memorabilia [folder 1 of 3]	1982, 1985-1987, 1989, undated
6	39	Memorabilia [folder 2 of 3]	undated
Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)

### Series 7. Objects (cont.)

6	40	Memorabilia [folder 3 of 3]	undated
6	41	George H.W. Bush's autobiography [autographed copy]	1987
6	42	T-Shirt, "After 20 years...we won!"	1997
		Rainbow flag See Oversize	undated
		Posters, from S. Hopkins: Campaign poster, "Nixon's the One," Nixon with lobsters from Rockland, Maine; Framed poster, "1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation" See Oversize	1993, undated
		Posters, from Lambert estate: "Murder at Tara" [photocopied, original damaged]; Photocopied flyer for the 1990 Maine Lesbian and Gay Film Festival; Cardboard campaign poster, "Lambert for Legislature in the Republican Primary"; Flyer, 3rd annual [1989] Benefit Ball held by the Maine Health Foundation to fight AIDS in Maine; Flyer, "Stars come out for AIDS" benefit for MHF; Campaign signs, cardboard, "NO on 1 Maine Won't Discriminate" 2 different signs; Flyer, Autumn Fest [1991] See Oversize	1988-1991

### Series 8. Oversize

7		Buttons (Ser. 7)	1972-2004, undated
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7		Rainbow flag (Ser. 7)	undated
7	43	Posters, from S. Hopkins (Ser. 7)	undated
7	44	Posters, from Lambert estate (Ser. 7)	1988-1991