

***The New York City Department of Records and Information Services announces the availability of Historic NYPD Films***



**NEW YORK, November 13, 2019** — The New York City Department of Records & Information Services announced the availability of 140 hours of historical film depicting activists, parades, and famous visitors in the City between 1960 and 1980.

The footage provides a never-before-seen visual record of one of the most tumultuous eras in American history. Among the highlights is footage of the first Earth Day march in 1970; rallies held by the Nation of Islam, CORE and NAACP; Young Lords building occupations; protests by gay-rights advocates; and massive anti-war demonstrations after the Kent State shootings in May 1970.

The entire collection is now streaming [online](#).

The films were created by the New York City Police Department's photography unit working with the NYPD's Bureau of Special Services and Investigations (BOSSI) to support investigative activities between 1960 and 1980.

During their heyday in the 1960s and 1970s, BOSSI gathered information on individuals and groups arrayed along the political spectrum, but particularly civil rights, anti-war and feminist activists. Now, the NYPD's intelligence investigations are subject to strict guidelines that would prohibit the NYPD from making many of the films now available with this release.

Not all of the footage is related to the NYPD's investigative activities. Some of the films document significant events such as the funeral for Robert F. Kennedy in June 1968, where the footage shows President Richard Nixon and Jacqueline Kennedy.

Twelve of the films were included in the "*Unlikely Historians*" exhibit hosted by DORIS in 2017 which showcased ephemera gathered by the NYPD that is now part of the Handschu Collection.

Digitization of the films was supported by a grant from the New York State Archives' Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund.

High-resolution, non-watermarked copies of the footage are available for purchase and licensing.



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