



Guide to the Toni Clark oral history interview

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Clark, Toni, 1915-2006
Contributor:	Las Vegas Women Oral History Project
Contributor:	Las Vegas Women in Gaming and Entertainment Oral History Project
Contributor:	Women's Research Institute of Nevada
Title:	Toni Clark oral history interview
ID:	OH-02781
Date:	1996 July 02
Physical Description:	4 Digital Files (0.073 GB) PDF/A, MP3
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Oral history interview with Toni Clark conducted by Joanne L. Goodwin on July 02, 1996 for the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. Clark opens her interview describing her childhood in Seattle, Washington. Clark then discusses moving to San Diego, California in 1941 and becoming a waitress at the Monte Carlo bar and restaurant. Clark then discusses how war rationing affected daily life and the nightclub industry. Clark then talks about marrying Wilbur Clark, moving with him to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1944, and the history of the El Rancho Vegas. Clark discusses the opening of the Monte Carlo Club, living in Las Vegas in the 1950s, and the opening of the Desert Inn Hotel. Clark goes on to describe the management of the Desert Inn, the food, and lounges. Clark then mentions the celebrities she has met and entertained, and the opening of the Flamingo Hotel.

Preferred Citation

Toni Clark oral history interview, 1996 July 02. OH-02781. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Scope and Contents Note

Oral history interview with Toni Clark conducted by Joanne L. Goodwin on July 02, 1996 for the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. Clark opens her interview describing her childhood in Seattle, Washington. Clark then discusses moving to San Diego, California in 1941 and becoming a waitress at the Monte Carlo bar and restaurant. Clark then discusses how war rationing affected daily life and the nightclub industry. Clark then talks about marrying Wilbur Clark, moving with him to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1944, and the history of the El Rancho Vegas. Clark discusses the opening of the Monte Carlo Club, living in Las Vegas in the 1950s, and the opening of the Desert Inn Hotel. Clark goes on to describe the management of the Desert Inn, the food, and lounges. Clark then mentions the celebrities she has met and entertained, and the opening of the Flamingo Hotel. Digital audio and transcript available.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advanced notice is required.

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Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada, part of the UNLV College of Liberal Arts Department of History. Materials from this oral history project were transferred to UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives on an ongoing basis ending in 2017; acquisition number 2017-017.

Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by Karla Irwin in 2019. Access copies were created for digitized and/or born-digital audio and transcript files. Hana Gutierrez wrote the collection

description. The audio cassette(s) for this interview have been reformatted by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada into a digital format.

Bound Transcript Availability

A bound transcript is available for use in UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives. See call number: HD9999.G25 D482 2006

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources will provide additional information related the materials in this collection:

Women's Research Institute of Nevada Oral History Records, 1995-2015. UA-00084. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Wilbur and Toni Clark Papers, 1944-1991. MS-00361. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- World War, 1939-1945
- Hotels -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- El Rancho Vegas (Casino)
- Desert Inn Hotel and Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Clark, Wilbur, 1908-1965
- Flamingo Hotel & Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)