

Guide to the Archie and Zora Grant Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Grant, Archie C., 1894-1974
Title:	Archie and Zora Grant Papers
ID:	MS-00137
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1918 to 1973
Physical Description:	1.23 Cubic Feet (3 boxes, 1 unboxed item)
Physical Description:	2.58 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Archie and Zora Grant Papers document the lives of Archie and Zora Grant from 1918 to 1973. Materials include scrapbooks, clippings, correspondence, records, certificates, and awards pertaining to Archie's career in the Nevada Legislature, the State Board of Education, Las Vegas Housing Authority, and Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce.

Preferred Citation

Archie and Zora Grant Papers, 1918-1973. MS-00137. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Archie Clement "A.C." Grant, Las Vegas businessman and politician, was born in 1894 in Ely, Minnesota. He moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, in 1928, where he opened a Ford dealership. He became a member of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce in the early 1930s and eventually became its president. He was also part of the group that started the annual Hellsdorado Days parade.

In 1947, he became chairman of the newly formed Las Vegas Housing Authority, a position he held for 20 years. Under his leadership, manufacturing plants used during World War II were transferred to private ownership. He created the Las Vegas Valley Water District after having the water lines from Lake Mead routed to Las Vegas.

Grant was also active in Nevada politics. Before the legalization of gambling in 1931, Grant helped shape the legislation that would eventually legalize gaming. Grant was also a member of the State Repeal Convention that voted in favor of ending Prohibition in 1933. He ran unsuccessfully for governor of Nevada twice, but he served as a state assemblyman and state senator for one term each. He also served as a delegate from Nevada to the Democratic National Convention.

In 1952, Grant was elected to the office of University of Nevada Regent. He was the first regent from Southern Nevada. While in office, Grant pushed for the establishment of a University of Nevada campus in Las Vegas, and in 1954 Nevada Southern University, which would later be renamed the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, was founded. Archie C. Grant Hall, completed in 1959, was the second building constructed on the UNLV campus and is now UNLV's oldest original building.

Grant married Zora Fay Marble in Minnesota in 1921. He died in 1974.

Zora Grant, born in 1894, served as president of the Nevada Federation of Women's Clubs in the 1940s. She died in 1968.

Sources:

Eugene P. Moehring, *The University of Nevada, Las Vegas: A History* (Reno: University of Nevada Press, 2007), 6-15.

F. Andrew Taylor, "Grant Hall namesake had crucial role in creation of UNLV," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. July 3, 2014. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/life/las-vegas-history/grant-hall-namesake-had-crucial-role-creation-unlv>

Find a Grave. November 20, 2017. <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/97541177/zora-e.-grant>

My Heritage. November 20, 2017. https://www.myheritage.com/names/archie_grant

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Scope and Contents Note

The Archie and Zora Grant Papers document the lives of Archie and Zora Grant from 1918 to 1973. Materials include scrapbooks, clippings, correspondence, records, certificates, and awards pertaining to Archie's career in the Nevada Legislature, the State Board of Education, Las Vegas Housing Authority, and the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. The collection features letters from Archie to his mother, Mary Grant, during his time with the AEF in France during World War I. One scrapbook, compiled by Zora Grant, documents her work as president of the Nevada Federation of Women's Clubs in the 1940s.

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Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were received periodically from 1976 to 1990; accession numbers are 1976-120, 79-187, and T-25.

Processing Note

In 2017, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, John A. Heldt rehoused and arranged the materials, and revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Some of the photographs in this acquisition were removed from the collection and placed in Archie C. Grant Photograph Collection, 1914-1968. PH-00016. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Legislators -- Nevada
- Women -- Societies and clubs
- Greater Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce
- Las Vegas Housing Authority (Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, 1939-1955	box 01
Correspondence, 1918-1973	box 01
Biographical information, July 1973	box 01
Awards A.C. Grant received for good service, 1955-1956	box 01
Regents series - certificates of election, 1964-1968	box 01
Regents series - correspondence, 1965	box 01
Regents series - resolutions, 1965	box 01
Regents series - programs, 1948-1968	box 01
Las Vegas Housing Authority - resolutions and correspondence, 1965-1967	box 01
Elks Helldorado Fund - financial statement and cash report, May 31, 1950	box 01
Pioche Power Day Celebration, September 25, 1937	box 01
USAEC - memorabilia and correspondence, April 1952	box 01
Words and music of four Nevada songs, 1932-1940	box 01
Publications and brochure, May 1941-October 1949	box 01
Source of Records of the Great War, 1923	box 01
Newspaper clippings, 1941-1952	box 02
Newspaper clippings, 1943-1972	box 02
Newspaper clippings, undated	box 02
Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, 1928-1940	box 02
Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, 1940-1941	box 02

Sketch of Archie C. Grant, undated	oversized box 03
Professional certificates, 1948-1965	oversized box 03
Humanitarian award, undated	oversized box 03
Photograph of women, undated	oversized box 03
Lamp constructed of original and facsimile parts of the first power line construted to Pioche, presented to A. C. Grant by Lincoln County Power District, 1937	no container 00
