



Guide to the Wengert Family Papers

This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on July 01, 2024. Please contact special.collections@unlv.edu for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1dk5k>

© 2024 The Regents of the University of Nevada. All rights reserved.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.

Box 457010

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-7010

special.collections@unlv.edu

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	4
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement	5
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	6
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	7

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Wengert Family (Las Vegas, Nevada)
Contributor:	Wengert, Shirley, 1934-
Title:	Wengert Family Papers
ID:	MS-00192
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1900 to 2000
Date [bulk]:	1910 to 1965
Physical Description:	2.21 Cubic Feet (4 boxes and 1 flat file)
Physical Description:	4.75 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Wengert Family Papers (approximately 1900-2000) consist of scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, correspondence, postcards, photographs, and other documents from members of the Wengert family. The Wengert family were members of the Las Vegas, Nevada community since 1907. The collection contains items detailing Lottie Ward Wengert's life in Iowa before she moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, such as high school and college documents and diplomas, as well as programs and invitations for events in Iowa, Las Vegas, and other cities. The materials regarding Cyril S. Wengert are mostly newspaper clippings about his accomplishments and articles and cards expressing sympathy after his death. Other items include documents from the U-Wah-Un Study Club, of which Shirley Wengert was a member.

Preferred Citation

Wengert Family Papers, approximately 1900-2000. MS-00192. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Cyril Sebastian Wengert, born in Austin, Minnesota on December 5, 1889, was a business and civic leader in Las Vegas, Nevada. He left Minnesota in 1907 to join his father in Las Vegas, where he worked as an ice wagon driver for the I. C. Johnson Ice Company. Seeking a different type of work, Wengert went to Seattle, Washington in 1909 to attend Wilson's Business College. He returned to Las Vegas in 1911 after he was offered a job at the First State Bank by John S. Park. Wengert worked in banking for thirty-five years until 1946, when he accepted a position at the Southern Nevada Power and Telephone Company. In 1954, Southern Nevada Power and Telephone split into two separate companies, and Wengert remained with Nevada Power. Wengert worked there until he died on February 27, 1965.

Lottie Ward Wengert was born on September 17, 1891 in Algona, Iowa. She lived in Iowa and attended Grinnell College and Iowa State College. Lottie Ward moved to Wells, Nevada to work as a teacher after graduation from Iowa State College. She taught there for one year, until 1917, when she moved to Las Vegas, Nevada and taught home economics at Las Vegas High School. It was in Las Vegas that she met Cyril S. Wengert, and they were married in Iowa on September 26, 1921. The Wengerts raised four children in Las Vegas: Marylin, Ward, Robert, and Shirley. Lottie Ward Wengert died on September 14, 1968.

The Wengerts were involved in several Las Vegas civic organizations, including the American Legion, the Rotary Club, the Elks Lodge, and the Knights of Columbus. In 1971, Cyril S. Wengert Elementary School was named in honor of Wengert's commitment to community service in Las Vegas. The Wengerts' daughter, Shirley, belonged to several civic organizations, including the U-Wah-Un study club.

Sources:

Nevada Preservation Foundation. "NPF Obtains Historic Designation for Former Home of Cyril Wengert." Accessed January 24, 2020. <https://nevadapreservation.org/npf-obtains-historic-designation-for-former-home-of-cyril-wengert/>

Online Nevada Encyclopedia. "Cyril S. Wengert." Accessed January 17, 2010. <http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/cyril-s-wengert>

"Wengert Rites to be Held Wednesday." Las Vegas Review-Journal, September 17, 1968.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Wengert Family Papers (approximately 1900-2000) consist of scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, correspondence, postcards, photographs, and other documents from members of the family. The Wengert family were members of the Las Vegas, Nevada community since 1907. The

materials regarding Cyril S. Wengert are mostly newspaper clippings about his accomplishments, articles and cards expressing sympathy after his death, and fliers for the dedication of the Cyril S. Wengert Nevada Power Building. The collection contains items detailing Lottie Ward Wengert's life in Iowa before she moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, such as high school and college class schedules, postcards, dance cards, and diplomas. Also belonging to Lottie are programs and invitations for events in Iowa, Las Vegas, and other cities. The papers also include items that belonged to Cyril Spencer Wengert, Lottie and Cyril's son, who died at age seven from surgical complications. These items include valentines, cards, and his baby book. Shirley Wengert, their daughter, was a member of the U-Wah-Un Study Club, and contained in the collection are documents from the club such as yearbooks, meeting minutes, and bylaws.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials are arranged by topic.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections and Archives website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

Aquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1976 and 2018 by Shirley Wengert; accession numbers T-114 and 2018-010.

Processing Note

Material was processed by UNLV Special Collections staff in 1976. In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Ian M. Baldwin wrote the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. In 2017, Joyce Moore revised and uploaded the

collection. In 2018, Maggie Bukowski processed the 2018 accession and updated the finding aid. In 2020, Landon Paljusaj revised the inventory and finding aid.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Separated Materials

Some of the photographs in this acquisition were removed from the collection and placed in the Wengert Family Photograph Collection, 1890-1966. PH-00046. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Related Collections

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

Ree Wengert oral history interview, 1980 February 28. OH-01947. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

U-Wah-Un Study Club Records, 1919-1987. MS-00198. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Ward Wengert oral history interview, 1975 May 28. OH-01949. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Ward W. Wengert oral history interview, 1976 March 01. OH-01948. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Las Vegas (Nev.) -- History
- photographs
- Postcards
- Wengert, Cyril S. (Cyril Sebastian), 1889-1965
- Wengert, Lottie Elizabeth, 1891-1968

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Wengert Family	
Scrapbook, 1920 to 1921	box 01
Scrapbook, approximately 1919 to 1929	box 01
Handmade album of advertisements, approximately 1900 to 1920	box 01
Postcards from South Dakota and Santa Catalina Island, California, 1908 to 1919	box 01
Detroit Publishing Company "Phostint" Volume VII, Yellowstone National Park postcard set, 1912	box 01
Photograph postcards sent to Lottie Ward, 1910 to 1914	box 01
Wengert family photographs, approximately 1910 to 1980	box 01
Event invitations, calling cards, and programs, 1912 to 1965	box 01
Arabian horse pedigree chart of "Nevada Nomad," owned by Shirley Wengert's first husband, Jack Cherry, approximately 1968	oversized flat file box 05 SH-079
Cyril S. Wengert	
Newspaper clippings mentioning the Wengert family, 1947 to 1977 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 02
Newspaper clippings about the death of Cyril S. Wengert, 1965	box 02
Sympathy cards regarding Cyril S. Wengert's death, 1965	box 02
Rotary Club correspondence and Cyril S. Wengert's membership button, 1965	box 01
Correspondence and fliers, Cyril S. Wengert Nevada Power Building, 1964	box 01
Speech transcriptions honoring Cyril S. Wengert, approximately 1954 to 1965	box 01
Lottie Ward Wengert	
Event invitations addressed to Lottie Ward, 1916 to 1922	box 02
Documents from Algona High School, Algona, Iowa, 1909 to 1914	box 02
Show programs, schedules, notebooks, fliers, ticket stubs, and postcards from Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa; Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa; and Northwest School of Agriculture, Crookston, Minnesota, 1910 to 1920 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 02
Programs and dance cards for shows and dances that Lottie Ward attended, 1911 to 1920	box 03

<i>My Symphony</i> by William Henry Channing and miniature copy of <i>Ballad of Reading Gaol</i> by Oscar Wilde, approximately 1916 to 1922	box 03
Cyril Spencer Wengert's baby book and correspondence about him, 1923 to 1930 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 03
Diplomas, Lottie Ward, 1910 to 1915	box 04
U-Wah-Un Study Club	
U-Wah-Un Study Club yearbooks, bylaws, meeting minutes, correspondence, and photographs, 1988 to 2000 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 03
Annotated teacher's bible belonging to Frances B. Farnsworth, U-Wah-Un Study Club president, 1947	box 04
Miniature United States and state of Nevada desk flags and holder, a gavel, and a handmade tomahawk, approximately 1950 to 1980	box 04
Mesquite Club cookbooks, 1963, 1976 Physical Description: 2 Items	box 03