



Guide to the Thomas Clark Professional Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Clark, Thomas L., 1939-1998
Title:	Thomas Clark Professional Papers
ID:	MS-00307
Date [inclusive]:	1950 to 1998
Physical Description:	30.05 Cubic Feet (61 boxes)
Physical Description:	34.42 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Thomas Clark Professional Papers (1950-1998) contain materials from his tenure as a Professor of English at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), which are divided into two series. The gaming research series includes newspaper clippings, correspondence, brochures, bulletins and articles. Also included are book chapters, a glossary of terms used in the casino industry, and gambling guides. In the linguistics and teaching series there are research files, articles, speeches, correspondence, interviews, multimedia, workshops, and conference materials. Also included are files on graffiti, symbolism, ethnic and regional speech differences, language usage, and National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) material. Additional materials include colleague publications and cassette tapes of interviews from students in courses Clark taught at UNLV.

Preferred Citation

Thomas Clark Professional Papers, 1950-1998. MS-00307. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) English professor Thomas L. Clark was born in Havre, Montana on July 10, 1939. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1964 and a master's degree in 1966 from the University of Utah. He received his doctorate at Ohio University in 1970, the same year he moved to Las Vegas, Nevada and began his teaching career. Clark was a linguistics expert who authored gambling lexicons and wrote several articles on language and linguistics. He was the author of five books and hosted "UNLV Focus," a program on UNLV news and events that aired on six local radio stations. Clark did consultation work for Las Vegas area law firms and testified as an expert witness on semantic analysis of language in contracts, patents, statutes, and gaming regulations.

Clark was a member of the American Council of Learned Studies, American Dialect Society, American Names Society, National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), and the Linguistics Society of America. In 1987, he won the Morris Award for Excellence in Research from the College of Arts and Letters at UNLV and was appointed the Barrick research professor in 1990.

Clark died in Las Vegas on February 26, 1998.

Source:

"UNLV linguistics expert Clark dies," Las Vegas Sun. Accessed January 4, 2019. <https://lasvegassun.com/news/1998/mar/09/unlv-professor-linguist-clark-dies/>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Thomas Clark Professional Papers (1950-1998) contain materials from his tenure as a Professor of English at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), which are divided into two series. The gaming research series includes newspaper clippings, correspondence, brochures, bulletins and articles. Also included are book chapters, a glossary of terms used in the casino industry, and gambling guides. In the linguistics and teaching series there are research files, articles, speeches, correspondence, interviews, multimedia, workshops, and conference materials. Also included are files on graffiti, symbolism, ethnic and regional speech differences, language usage, and National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) material. Additional materials include colleague publications and cassette tapes of interviews from students in courses Clark taught at UNLV.

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Arrangement

These records are organized in two series:

Series I. Gaming research files, 1953-1998;

Series II. Linguistics teaching and research files, 1950-1987.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

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

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.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated by Thomas Clark in 1989 and 2001; accession numbers 89-73 and 2001-20.

Processing Note

In 2018, Joyce Moore processed the collection, wrote the finding aid, and entered the data into ArchivesSpace. In 2020, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Angela Moor and Ryan DiPaolo added boxes, rehoused materials, and enhanced descriptions to bring them into compliance with current professional standards.

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Names and Subjects

- English teachers
- Authors

- Correspondence
- Gambling
- Linguistics
- Nevada. State Gaming Control Board

Collection Inventory

Gaming research files, 1950 to 1987

Physical Description: 3.84 Cubic Feet (9 boxes)

Physical Description: 3.87 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The gaming research files (1950-1987) contain newspaper clippings, correspondence, brochures, bulletins, articles, and chapters for one of Clark's books on gaming. There are also note cards of gambling terms used in the casino industry, gambling guides, and information on a lexicon of gaming and gambling.

Arrangement: Materials remains in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Newspaper clippings, approximately 1981 to 1983	box 01
Gambling guides, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 01
<i>Casino Gaming Terminology</i> , approximately 1950 to 1987	box 01
<i>The Waverly Consort: The Christmas Story</i> , approximately 1960 to 1975	box 01
World Series of Poker 14th, 15th, and 18th brochures, 1983 to 1987	box 01
Gaming notes, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 01
<i>Changing Times</i> , 1984 April	box 01
Photocopies of notes, 1987	box 01
<i>How to Win at Roulette</i> and <i>The Facts of Craps</i> , 1968, 1976	box 01
Manuscript notes, undated	box 01
<i>Bobby Baldwin's Winning Poker Secrets</i> , 1979	box 02
Gaming Control Board questionnaire, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 02
Newspaper clippings, 1981	box 02
Magazine clippings, 1983	box 02
<i>Nevada Jackpot: State Gaming Officials Say Millions Vanished from Argent's Slots</i> , <i>Wall Street Journal</i> article, 1979 September 10	box 02
<i>Introduction to Casino Management</i> , general glossary, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 02
State Gaming Control Board, Direct Levies on Gaming in Nevada, an analysis of the rates and structure by all levels of government, 1978 June	box 02

Gaming Control Board, bulletin, 1979 March 20	box 02
Hilton Casino procedure manuals for the poker, slot, and keno departments, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 02
Lexik House Publishers, correspondence, 1987	box 02
<i>Invitation to the presentation of the Dictionary of Gambling and Gaming</i> by Thomas Clark, approximately 1960 to 1975	box 02
Poker nicknames, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 02
<i>Hollywood Park Articles</i> , 1986	box 02
A linguist looks at Las Vegas gambling, article in <i>The Nevadan</i> , 1982 March 07	box 02
<i>Player\$</i> , a non-fiction book by Mike Newman, 1983	box 03
Olde-Tyme Gambling Museum, Stardust Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, news releases, 1987	box 03
Data files, book research, approximately 1950 to 1987 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 03
Correspondence, 1986 December	box 04
Data files, book research, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 04
<i>Pick a Card</i> , article from <i>Gambling Times</i> , 1987 September	box 04
<i>Preface-Gaming Lexicon</i> , possible people resources, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 04
Short name file, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 04
List of abbreviations, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 04
<i>Today's Racing Digest</i> , 1982 July 29	box 04
Hotel College, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, alphabetical list, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 04
Gambling citations, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 04
Poker glossary, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 04
<i>Complete Guide to Gaming</i> , approximately 1960 to 1970	box 04
Article from <i>The Reporter</i> , vol. 8, 1953 June 09	box 04
<i>Common Sense in Poker</i> , chapter from a book by Irwin Steig, 1963	box 04
<i>Secrets of Winning Poker</i> , an article from a book by George Coffin, 1976	box 04
<i>Secrets of Modern Poker</i> , an article from a book by Terence Reese, 1964	box 04
<i>Play Poker to Win</i> , an article from a book by "Amarillo Slim" Preston, 1973	box 04
<i>The Complete Illustrated Guide to Gambling</i> , an article from a book by Alan Wykes, 1964	box 04

<i>Culbertson's Hoyle</i> , a dictionary of games and terms, 1950	box 04
<i>Gamblers Digest</i> , a glossary for gamblers, by Clement McQuaid, 1971	box 04
<i>Dictionary of American Slang</i> , approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
<i>Gambling</i> , an article by Judy Shively, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
Terminology, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
<i>Poker Strategy and Winning Play</i> , an article by A. D. Livingston, 1971	box 05
Glossary, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
<i>Abbreviations for North American Tracks</i> , approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
<i>Encyclopedia of Thoroughbred Handicapping</i> , 1978	box 05
<i>Glossary for Winning Big at the Track with Money Management</i> , 1981	box 05
<i>Win at Flat Racing with the Experts</i> , article from a book by Andrew Ewart, 1974	box 05
<i>Introduction to Casino Management: General Glossary</i> , 1974	box 05
<i>Gamblers Handbook</i> , 1974	box 05
A glossary of terms used in the casino industry, 1978	box 05
<i>Greyhound Racing Guide</i> , approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
Glossary of poker terminology , approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
<i>Vocabulary of Poker</i> , article by Swen A. Larsen, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 05
Book proposals, gamblers nicknames, volunteer readers dictionary, and gambling lexicon grant proposal, 1983 to 1984	box 38
Note cards of gaming terms, approximately 1950 to 1987	box 39
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Linguistics teaching and research files, 1953 to 1998

Physical Description: 24.15 Cubic Feet (34 boxes)

Physical Description: 20.25 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The Linguistics teaching and research files (1953-1998) contain articles, speeches, correspondence, interviews, workshops, conference materials, and audio/visual material. There are files on graffiti, symbolism, ethnic and regional speech difference, language usage, and National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) material.

Arrangement: Materials remains in original order.

Title/Description

Containers

<i>Linguistics Atlas</i> , correspondence, 1959	box 06
<i>Linguistics Atlas of the Gulf States: Interim Report Four</i> , approximately 1953 to 1998	box 06
Berney, Mrs. Helen Madge, Fallon, Nevada, interview, 1956 August 12-15	box 06
Woodliff, Mrs. Frank II, Fallon, Nevada, interview, 1956 August 12-15	box 06
Carothers, Miss Virginia, Ely, Nevada, interview, 1955 August 14-15	box 06
Stratton, Mr. Norman, Ely, Nevada, interview, 1955 August 11-13	box 06
Cavanaugh, Mrs. Marjorie M., Tonopah, Nevada, interview, 1953 April 26-28	box 06
Harrington, Mr. John, Tonopah, Nevada, interview, 1953 April 27-29	box 06
Wiley, Mrs. Hannah, Lovelock, Nevada, 1956 July 22-25	box 06
Gobble, Albert W. Jr., Wells, Nevada, interview, 1959 October 11-13	box 06
Ruddell, Miss Ruth C., Lovelock, Nevada, interview, 1956 July 20-23	box 06
Steel, Mr. Robert McKee, Wells, Nevada, interview, 1956 August 06-09	box 06
Lee, Mary Stewart, Alamo, Nevada, interview, 1959 October 21	box 06
Cox, Roland E., Alamo, Nevada, interview, 1959 October 15-17	box 06
Leonard, Mrs. Harry M., Winnemucca, Nevada, interview, 1956 July 26-28	box 06
Robinson, Mrs. Stewart E., Winnemucca, Nevada, interview, 1956 July 29-30	box 06
Orr, Mr. Roy R., Pioche, Nevada, interview, 1955 August 16-19	box 07
Heidenreich, Mrs. Betty L., Pioche, Nevada, interview, 1955 August 16-18	box 07
von Sichale, Peter F., Carson City, Nevada, interview, 1955 June 23-25	box 07
Smoot, Maxine, Carson City, Nevada, interview, 1959 October 05-07	box 07
Lang, Joel, Elko, Nevada, interview, 1956 August 01-03	box 07
Bruce, Mrs. Harry Lucas, Elko, Nevada, interview, 1956 August 01-03	box 07
Acree, Mrs. Cora Mildred, Austin, Nevada, interview, 1956 August 9-11	box 07
Roberts, Mrs. Bell Moss, Austin, Nevada, interview, 1956 August 9-11	box 07
Robb, Clement D., Reno, Nevada, interview, 1955 June 27-29	box 07
Harris, Gordon B., Reno, Nevada, interview, 1953 August 24-27	box 07
Bunker, Bryan L., Las Vegas, Nevada, interview, 1959 June 29-30	box 07
Boggs, Ethel Nida, Las Vegas, Nevada, interview, 1959 October 23-26	box 07
Hanson, Mrs. Mildred, Hawthorne, Nevada, interview, 1957 June 10-13	box 07
Parker, Mrs. Carol D., Hawthorne, Nevada, interview, 1957 June 10-13	box 07
Pederson, Mrs. Kate, Yerington, Nevada, interview, 1957 July 02-05	

	box 07
Keena, Claude L., Yerington, Nevada, interview, 1957 July 03-06	box 07
Research files about naming as it relates to identity, colonialism, power, and region, correspondence, journal articles, and colleague's publications, 1970-1979	box 08 box 09 box 10
Colleague files, correspondence, conference materials, organizational meetings, and workshops, 1970-1979	box 11 box 12
National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) correspondence, conference material, meeting minutes, 1970-1979	box 13
Magnetic tape reels, slide shows based on English dialect and the power of symbolism, cassette tapes of music, and dialect research, undated	box 13 box 14 box 15 box 16
NCTE correspondence, Dictionary of American Regional English (DARE) correspondence, articles on sound and symbolism, 1967-1984	box 17
Research files, committee files, organizational files, correspondence, and journal articles, 1973-1979	box 18 box 19
African American vernacular articles and papers, ethnic difference in English by region and ethnicity articles and papers, linguistic atlases, and dialects articles, 1953-1982	box 20
Advertising files and research on advertising symbolism, dictionary workbook, courses on Semantics, and workshops on slang, 1964-1989	box 21
American Name Society correspondence and reports, Clark's articles, journal articles, speeches and files by subject, and English course workbook, 1971-1986	box 22
File on computer programs and building a website, regional slang, western dialectic changes in language, etymology files, and newspaper clippings, 1978-1984	box 23
Atlas of Pacific Coast Project materials, Nevada Language Surveys, correspondence, African American lingual differences, and regional slang papers, 1976-1977	box 24 box 25
Correspondence, awards, legal writing workshop, language of plays and poetry, 1970-1989	box 26
Name origins American English Grammar and usage, place names, correspondence, speeches, and articles, 1970-1985	box 27
American Name Society bulletins, articles, 1976-1998	box 28
Professional records, budget and travel records, and assorted thematic interests, 1972-1984	box 29

English Around the World bulletins, grammar, dictionary, and language usage articles and files, 1973-1995	box 30
African American speech, regional files, vocabulary, semantics, and work usage, 1968-1979	box 31
Lexicon files, correspondence, printouts, dictionaries and bibliographies, 1970-1990	box 32
Clark's grammar textbook files and files on the social differences in speech by region and ethnicity, 1970-1978	box 33
Advertising, symbolism, graffiti, and ethnic word usage files, 1971-1996	box 34 box 35
Sound and its relationship to language, files on computer use, sonography file, and Dictionary Society of North America files, 1977-1993	box 36 box 37
<i>Americanisms: Content & Continuum</i> by Peter Tamony, approximately 1960 to 1970	box 42
Bibliographic note cards, approximately 1970 to 1979	box 43
Teaching Material includes recordings of television shows and radio programs; lectures, approximately 1970 to 1979 Physical Description: 19 Audio Cassettes	box 44
Teaching Material includes recordings of television shows and radio programs; lectures, approximately 1970 to 1979 Physical Description: 18 Audio Cassettes	box 45
Teaching Material includes recordings of television shows and radio programs; lectures, approximately 1970 to 1979 Physical Description: 18 Audio Cassettes	box 46
Teaching Material includes recordings of television shows and radio programs; lectures, approximately 1970 to 1979 Physical Description: 20 Audio Cassettes	box 47
Teaching Material includes recordings of television shows and radio programs; lectures; NCTE materials, approximately 1970 to 1979 Physical Description: 20 Audio Cassettes	box 48
NCTE materials and unlabeled tapes, approximately 1970 to 1979 Physical Description: 21 Audio Cassettes	box 49
UNLV Focus Interviews, 1983 to 1989 Physical Description: 18 Audio Cassettes	box 50
UNLV Focus Interviews, 1983 to 1989 Physical Description: 17 Audio Cassettes	box 51
Interviews: Interview with LaShawna Edmond, 9 years old, interviewer Lee Ella Edmond, North Las Vegas; Kubrickie Dupree; From Cathy and Henry Thomas, interviewee Steve R.; Erich Fromm interview; 3rd graders P.A. Disken; Donnie Fuller by Hope Jones; Gloria Holman, 21 years old	box 52

and Eva Morgan by Robin Morgan; J.E. Manch Elementary School by Carol Rubel; Charles Neal 4th grade teachers by Robin Morgan; Ken Cline, custodian 6th floor Humanities Bldg., UNLV, construction words, by Tom Clark; H.M. (12) and Kristin (10) Clark; Nevada free conversation with black women by Tom Clark , approximately 1970 to 1979

Physical Description: 12 Cassettes

Nevada Language Survey	
California: Mocdoc County, 1976 Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	box 52
Carson City County, 1976 to 1977 Physical Description: 3 Audio Cassettes	box 52
Clark County, 1976 Physical Description: 112 Audio Cassettes	box 54 box 55 box 56 box 57
Churchill County, 1977 Physical Description: 5 Audio Cassettes	box 53
Douglas County, 1977 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	box 53
Elko County, 1976 Physical Description: 12 Audio Cassettes	box 53
Esmeralda County, 1976 Physical Description: 4 Audio Cassettes	box 58
Humboldt County, 1976 Physical Description: 13 Audio Cassettes	box 58
Lander County, 1976 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	box 58
Lincoln County, 1976 Physical Description: 3 Audio Cassettes	box 59
Mineral County, 1977 Physical Description: 4 Audio Cassettes	box 59
Nye County, 1976 Physical Description: 8 Audio Cassettes	box 59
Washoe County Physical Description: 11 Audio Cassettes	box 59 box 60
White Pine County, 1976 Physical Description: 3 Audio Cassettes	box 60

Audiovisual materials

Teaching materials: 1/4 inch reel magnetic tapes, approximately 1970 to 1979 box 61

Physical Description: 10 Reels

Unlabeled 1/4 inch magnetic reel tapes, approximately 1970 to 1979 box 61

Physical Description: 5 Reels

Nevada Political Campaign advertisements, approximately 1970 to 1979 box 61

Physical Description: 1 VHS Tapes

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