

Guide to the Ralph Roske Papers

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Table of Contents

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

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Roske, Ralph J. (Ralph Joseph), 1921-1994
Title:	Ralph Roske Papers
ID:	MS-00313
Date [inclusive]:	1957 to 1989
Physical Description:	5.08 Cubic Feet (12 boxes and 1 flat file)
Physical Description:	8.25 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Ralph Roske Papers (1957-1989) consist of Ralph Roske's book manuscripts, lecture notes, and correspondence. The collection includes extensive lecture notes on the United States Civil War, United States history, and Nevada history. It also includes Roske's research and manuscripts on Nevada, California, and the United States Civil War, as well as student papers. Ralph Roske was a professor of history at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV).

Preferred Citation

Ralph Roske Papers, 1957-1989. MS-00313. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Ralph J. Roske was a professor of history at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) for over twenty years. He was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1921 and earned his undergraduate degree at DePaul University. After serving in World War II, Roske went on to earn his doctorate in history from the University of Illinois. He taught at St. Mary's College and Humboldt State College (now Humboldt State University) in California before coming to UNLV in 1967. While at UNLV, he served as director, and later dean of the College of Social Science. Roske supervised many master's theses, seminar papers, and building surveys on western and Nevada history. In addition, he created an

oral history program with his Nevada history students, who interviewed many Las Vegas, Nevada pioneers.

Roske was also the author of several articles and books, including *Everyman's Eden: A History of California* (1968), *His Own Counsel: The Life and Times of Lyman Trumbull* (1979), and *Las Vegas: A Desert Paradise* (1986). In 1988, UNLV's Alumni Association gave him the Outstanding Faculty Award, and later that year in December, Roske retired to emeritus status.

Roske passed away at his home in Las Vegas, Nevada on December 15, 1994 at the age of 73.

Sources:

Green, Michael S. "History News: UNLV Professor Ralph J. Roske Retires." *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly* 33, no 1 (Spring 1990): 41-44. Accessed January 22, 2019. <http://epubs.nsla.nv.gov/statepubs/epubs/210777-1990-1Spring.pdf>

"In Memoriam, December 1995." *Perspectives on History*. Accessed January 22, 2019. <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/december-1995/in-memoriam-december-1995>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Ralph Roske Papers (1957-1989) consist of Ralph Roske's book manuscripts, lecture notes, and correspondence. The collection includes extensive lecture notes on the United States Civil War, United States history, and Nevada history. It also includes Roske's research and manuscripts on Nevada, California, and the United States Civil War, as well as student papers. Ralph Roske was a professor of history at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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. Some records in this collection are open to representatives of the originating office, but are closed to public access until the records have been reviewed for protected information. Protected information includes: personally identifiable information, personal health information, student records, records regarding disciplinary procedures, records that compromise security or operations, legal communications, and legal work product. Restrictions are noted at the file level of this inventory.

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 in 1990 by Ralph Roske; accession number 90-43.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections staff. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Angela Moor revised and enhanced the collection description. In 2019, as part of a backlog elimination project, Christina Lamoureux rehoused the materials and revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Ralph Roske Photographs, 1917-1969. PH-00253. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Historic Building Survey Collection, 1930-2001. MS-00762. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Company Mobility Histories Papers, 1972-1977. MS-00763. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Several interviews from Roske's Oral History project are housed in 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
- California -- History
- Clark County (Nev.) -- History
- Housing -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- maps (documents)
- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Oral histories (document genres)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Original manuscript of "Desert Paradise", undated Physical Description: 5 Files	box 01
Photocopies of correspondence from 1922 to 1958 pertaining to Charles P. Squires, 1972	box 01
Photocopies of correspondence and assorted documents from 1910 to 1946 pertaining to Clark County, Nevada public school teacher Eva Dimmick Peterson, undated	box 01
Correspondence and assorted documents primarily about Roske's research on the West, 1969-1989	box 01
Correspondence and assorted documents primarily about the Reserve Officers' Training Corp (ROTC) at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Roske's role in a Southern Nevada wilderness survey, 1977-1986	box 01
Correspondence and assorted documents about Roske's consultant contract with the Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), 1986	box 02
Class material: student papers, interview notes, and tests, 1970-1983	box 02
Class material: oral interviews and notes, 1970 to 1977	box 02

	box 12
	box 13
Class material: lectures and research notes, overhead transparencies, and exams, undated	box 02
Physical Description: 7 Files	box 03
Class material: student papers, 1970-1987	box 03
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Correspondence and research on Republican Party National Committeemen, 1965-1966	box 04
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Manuscript of "Historiography: A Summary of Historians and Their Works from Ancient Times Up to the Present", undated	box 04
Untitled manuscript on California history, undated	box 04
Manuscript of "His Own Counsel: The Life of Lyman Trumbull", undated	box 04
Physical Description: 2 Files	box 05
Assorted documents, 1969-1970	box 05
Manuscript notecards, undated	box 05
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Facsimile of Confederate money, undated	box 05
Las Vegas survey notecards, undated	box 05
Las Vegas tax collection statistics from 1971 to 1985, 1985	box 05
Manuscript of "Everyman's Eden", undated	box 06
Physical Description: 8 Files	
Federal Housing Administration work sheets and housing surveys pertaining to Las Vegas, Nevada, 1973-1974	box 07
Civil War seminar paper "Union Generals and Their Lives After the War" by Claude Albright, probably 1961	box 07
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Civil War seminar paper "Civil War Veterans in Congress, 1865-1897" by Roland L. Ebersole, 1961	box 07
Untitled manuscript on world history, undated	box 07
Library call slips, 1977	box 08
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Kraig Knapp interview, undated	box 09
Physical Description: 1 Reels	
John Wittwer interview, 1977	box 09

Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Untitled audio cassette, undated	box 09
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Manuscript on Las Vegas history, 1986	box 09
Physical Description: 10 Floppy Disks	
Historical building survey index cards, undated	box 09
Assorted facsimiles and original maps of Las Vegas, Nevada; map of Boulder City, Nevada; outline map of the Great Basin; and blueprints for the restoration of the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort, undated, 1972 (view online)	flat file 10
Student research papers and assignments, 1957-1987	box 11
Restricted: Students records in this file are restricted and will be open for research use on January 1, 2062.	