

Guide to the Dorothy Dorothy papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Dorothy, Dorothy, 1899-1986
Title:	Dorothy Dorothy Papers
ID:	MS-00352
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1913 to 1986
Physical Description:	4.89 Cubic Feet (14 boxes)
Physical Description:	5.82 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Dorothy Dorothy papers (approximately 1913-1986) document the life of singer, songwriter, columnist, pilot, and farmer, Dorothy Dorothy. Materials contain genealogy records, correspondence, business and organizational records, local history, sheet music, artifacts, and two boxes of photographic prints. Also included are materials relating to her active involvement with animal rights campaigns.

Preferred Citation

Dorothy Dorothy papers, approximately 1913-1986. MS-00352. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Singer, songwriter, columnist, and pilot Dorothy Dorothy was born to James "Buck" Buchanan Richardson and Lulu Cooley in California. Dorothy wrote poetry throughout her early school years. She and her sister Beth were a popular singing duo throughout northern California until three throat surgeries forced Dorothy to give up singing. She then wrote song lyrics under the name Dorothy Varnum. Dorothy attended San Francisco College and after graduation opened her own brokerage firm. Dorothy took flying lessons at Mills Field in San Francisco, California and subsequently gained her pilot's license. She was acquainted with Amelia Earhart, who organized

an association of women flyers. Dorothy was a member of this group, known as the Flying 99's and was actively involved later in life while living in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Dorothy worked as a comptometer operator in the statistical department of Shell Oil Company. After an injury to her back, she went to Palm Springs where her sister, Beth Chase, lived. During her recuperation she wrote a "chatter" column for the local newspapers and resort publicity. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, she returned to work as a comptometer operator for Northrup in their payroll department. She married John Moore MacAdam in 1943, but he died in 1945. She then met and married Dale B. Dorothy. Dale Dorothy served in Lima, Peru during World War II and was flying for Pan Am Airlines when they met. The couple established residency in Las Vegas, Nevada in the late 1940s .

Dorothy organized and was the first president of the Women's Democratic Club of Whitney, Nevada. The club held meetings, raised funds, and campaigned for candidates. In spite of the club's name, male members were permitted to join. She worked with Virginia Catt and Gladys Dula to organize the Boulder City, Nevada Democratic Club, and with Sara Denton to organize the Blue Diamond, Nevada Democratic Club. Later Dorothy established a Democratic Club chapter in Pahrump, Nevada.

In 1949 the Dorothys bought a 1,400 acre alfalfa and cotton ranch in Pahrump. She actively promoted the potential of Pahrump with the establishment of infrastructure such as roads, telephones, and electricity. Dorothy successfully lobbied local and state politicians to improve the road to Pahrump. Her efforts were successful and a paved road from Las Vegas to Pahrump opened in 1954.

While in Whitney, Dorothy wrote a daily column for the *Review-Journal* newspaper in Las Vegas, Nevada from 1946 to 1948. From 1949 to 1958 she wrote a weekly column for the *Las Vegas Sun* newspaper. She also wrote for the *Tonopah (Nevada) Times* , and the *Henderson (Nevada) News*. She also wrote agricultural articles for the *California Farmer* in the 1950s.

The Dorothys migrated from Pahrump back to Las Vegas in 1958. Dorothy helped organize and served in the Silver Gavel, a national parliamentarian club, and handled publicity for the National American Legion Convention. From 1958 to 1967 she promoted the United Nations Grove at Lorenzi Park. Each United Nations member was to plant a tree native to their homeland in the grove. The planning commission, however, opted for playground equipment instead of the grove and fountain. Other organizations that Dorothy Dorothy belonged to included the Las Vegas Press Club; the Vegas Club for the Deaf; Nevada State Parole Board Commission, Western Probation, Parole, and Correctional Association, the Humane Society, Soroptimists, the Mesquite Club, and the Business and Professional Women's Club.

Dorothy died on October 31, 1986.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Dorothy Dorothy papers (approximately 1913-1986) document the life of singer, songwriter, columnist, pilot, and farmer, Dorothy Dorothy. Materials contain genealogy records, correspondence, business and organizational records, local history, sheet music, artifacts, and two boxes of photographic prints. Also included are materials relating to her active involvement with animal rights campaigns.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged in alphabetical order within each topic. The exception is oversized box 12, which remains in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access

This collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1981 by Dorothy Dorothy and in 1995 by George Morrissey III and Tamara Lohrenz; accession numbers T-161 and 95-20.

Processing Note

Materials were processed in 1995 by Marie Imus. In 2017, Joyce Moore revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. In 2019, James Howard revised the collection description.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Some of the photographs in this acquisition were removed from the collection and placed in the Dorothy Dorothy photograph collection, approximately 1910-1970. PH-00131. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Women journalists -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Lyricists -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Women air pilots
- Women -- Societies and clubs -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Animal rights
- Pahrump (Nev.)
- photographs
- Dorothy, Dale Burton, 1910-1982
- Richardson family
- Women's Democratic Club of Whitney (Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers	
Personal papers, approximately 1913 to 1986		
Biographical, family, and friends, approximately 1913 to 1986		
A Little Genealogy and History by Cy and Sally Ripon, 1975	box 1	folder 1
Autobiographical sketches and related data, 1982	box 1	folder 2
Biographical material, 1945, undated	box 1	folder 3
Dale Dorothy certificates, 1962-1966	box 1	folder 4
Dorothy Dorothy certificates, 1948-1969	box 1	folder 5

Dorothy Dorothy's articles written by her, 1945-1961	box 1	folder 6
Dorothy Dorothy's newspaper clippings written about her, 1934-1977	box 1	folder 7
Family biographical material, 1913-1920, undated	box 1	folder 8
Genealogy with index, 1963	box 1	folder 9
Hillman, Beth Chase (sister) correspondence, 1985	box 1	folder 10
Medford-Klamath Falls, Oregon local history newspaper clippings, 1963-1969	box 1	folder 11
Nevada Historical Quarterly, Summer, 1982	box 1	folder 12
"Rusty final file", 1973 January 13	box 1	folder 13
Horgan, Lionel "Rusty," memorial book, 1973	box 1	folder 14
Cards and correspondence, 1943-1981	box 2	folder 1-8
Activities and interests, approximately 1930 to 1986		
Animal issues, approximately 1944 to 1980		
Arizona Highways, "Sister Seraphim", 1971 September	box 3	folder 1
Articles of Incorporation, Clark County Humane Society, 1944	box 3	folder 2
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty of Animals (ASPCA) and Humane Society publications, 1958-1961	box 3	folder 3
Clark County Humane Society correspondence, 1957-1980	box 3	folder 4
Humane Society, Henderson, Nevada, 1961	box 3	folder 5
Humane Society, animal cruelty newspaper clippings, 1958-1980	box 3	folder 6
Humane Society, newspaper clippings, 1954-1964	box 3	folder 7
International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros, v. 18 and 19, undated	box 3	folder 8
Johnston, Velma, "Wild Horse Annie" B., 1957-1977	box 3	folder 9
National Mustang Association, undated	box 3	folder 10
Pet Cemetery, 1979	box 3	folder 11
Special dogs, 1965, undated	box 3	folder 12
Special dogs, newspaper clippings		

	box 3	folder 13
Wild horse legislation and correspondence, 1959-1971	box 3	folder 14
Wild horse newspaper clippings, 1959-1977	box 3	folder 15
Wild Horse Organized Assistance (WHOA), correspondence, 1976-1979	box 3	folder 16
WHOA, newsletters, 1977-1978	box 3	folder 17
Business records, 1950 to 1973		
Bickell-Dorothy Company Inc., ledger, 1950-1973	box 4	folder 1
Bickell-Dorothy Company Inc., stock certificate book, 1950	box 4	folder 2
Local history, 1947-1982		
Arizona Highways, 1965	box 5	folder 1
Boulder City, Nevada, newspaper clippings, 1948-1981	box 5	folder 2
Boulder Dam, letters and newspaper columns, 1959-1962	box 5	folder 3
Boulder Dam, newspaper clippings, 1958-1963	box 5	folder 4
Centennial Celebration, 1964	box 5	folder 5
Centennial map, 1964	box 5	folder 6
Community newspaper clippings, 1960-1961	box 5	folder 7
Death Valley, California, newspaper clippings, 1948	box 5	folder 8
Las Vegas, Nevada, newspaper clippings, 1951-1979	box 5	folder 9
Indian Springs, Nevada, newspaper clippings, 1962	box 5	folder 10
Nevada Highways and Parks, 1955 January-April	box 5	folder 11
Nevada history, newspaper clippings, 1947-1980	box 5	folder 12
"Nevada 100 Years Ago," newspaper clippings, approximately 1964	box 5	folder 13
Nevada tourist brochures, 1958-1982	box 5	folder 14
Obituary and wedding newspaper clippings, 1971-1980	box 5	folder 15
Palm Springs, California articles, 1954-1963	box 5	folder 16
Pioneers of the Western Desert by George Perkins, 1947		

	box 5	folder 17
Nevada pioneers newspaper clippings, 1948	box 5	folder 18
Nevada pioneers newspaper clippings, 1948	box 5	folder 19
Railroads and railroad men, newspaper clippings, 1948	box 5	folder 20
Rawhide Nevada by Hugh Shamburger, 1970	box 5	folder 21
True Magazine, "The Hood Who Invented Las Vegas," August, 1967	box 5	folder 22
Miscellaneous activities, 1936-1981		
American Legion Auxiliary, 1962	box 6	folder 1
Atomic tests, 1951-1961	box 6	folder 2
Atomic tests, newspaper clippings, 1951-1955	box 6	folder 3
Democratic campaign, newspaper clippings, 1960-1964	box 6	folder 4
General election, 1964	box 6	folder 5
Inaugural Committee, 1961	box 6	folder 6
Inaugural invitations, reception invitations, 1960-1965	box 6	folder 7
Kachina, newspaper clippings, 1974	box 6	folder 8
Kennedy assassination, newspaper clippings, 1963	box 6	folder 9
Kennedy assassination probe, 1964-1965	box 6	folder 10
Krupp and Dorothy's annual toy drive, 1952-1978	box 6	folder 11
Krupp and Dorothy's toy drive, undated	box 6	folder 12
Manuscripts "Pioneering in Nevada" and "How Do You Do Dude", undated	box 6	folder 13
Membership and business cards, undated	box 6	folder 14
Miscellaneous material, 1956-1966	box 6	folder 15
Miscellaneous newspaper clippings, 1936-1977	box 6	folder 16
Miscellaneous newspaper clippings, 1961-1981	box 6	folder 17
Motorola instruction book, 1974		

	box 6	folder 18
National security pamphlets, 1961	box 7	folder 1
Newsweek, Time, Washington Scandals, 1976	box 7	folder 2
"Operation Survival," manuscript, undated	box 7	folder 3
"Outdoor Cooking Indoors," press release, undated	box 7	folder 4
Parole Board and National Security, seminar, newspaper clippings, 1961-1965	box 7	folder 5
Parole and Probation Department, 1953-1971	box 7	folder 6
Pedigree certificates, 1951-1957	box 7	folder 7
Politicians, miscellaneous newspaper clippings, 1956-1980	box 7	folder 8
Politics, 1953-1966	box 7	folder 9
Politics, 1958-1969	box 7	folder 10
Repeating Names newspaper clippings, 1969-1972	box 7	folder 11
Repeating Names Club, 1960-1973	box 7	folder 12
Silver gavels, 1963	box 7	folder 13
Silver gavels, 1963-1968	box 7	folder 14
Soroptimists, 1950-1961	box 7	folder 15
Turquoise, manuscript and undated correspondence, 1969	box 7	folder 16
Turquoise, 1967-1974	box 7	folder 17
Women flyers "The 99's", undated	box 7	folder 18
Women flyers "The 99's", 1963	box 7	folder 19
Music, 1975-1986		
"Just An Old Rocking Chair," correspondence, 1975-1986	box 8	folder 1
Poems, undated	box 8	folder 2
People "Come Down to Dollywood", 1986 May	box 8	folder 3
Sheet music, undated	box 8	folder 4
Song copyrights, 1983-1984	box 8	folder 5

Pahrump, Nevada, 1941-1981		
A History of Pahrump by Denny Lynch, undated	box 9	folder 1
Ham radio in Pahrump, 1956-1965	box 9	folder 2
Ham radio in Pahrump, 1957	box 9	folder 3
His-Story of Pahrump Valley, 1979	box 9	folder 4
Lazy 88 Guest Book, Pahrump, 1949-1958	box 9	folder 5
Lazy 88 Pahrump and Las Vegas guest book, 1954-1965	box 9	folder 6
Pahrump, Nevada, 1950-1955	box 9	folder 7
Pahrump, Nevada, 1941-1981	box 9	folder 8
Pahrump road, 1948-1955	box 9	folder 9
Pahrump road, 1951-1955	box 9	folder 10
Pahrump Valley, road celebration plans, undated	box 9	folder 11
United Nations Grove Project, 1951-1967		
United Nations Committee and Grove, 1960-1967	box 10	folder 1
United Nations Committee and Grove, newspaper clippings, 1951-1967	box 10	folder 2
United Nations Grove, Lorenzi Park, 1965-1970	box 10	folder 3
United Nations, scrapbook material, 1961	box 10	folder 4
United Nations, 1961	box 10	folder 5
United Nations, 1961-1964	box 10	folder 6
United Nations, 1961-1963	box 10	folder 7
United Nations delegates visit, 1964 March	box 10	folder 8
United Nations, 1965	box 10	folder 9
Women's Democratic Club, 1958-1967 Physical Description: 4 Files	box 11	
Oversize, artifacts, and photographs, 1930-1984		
"Astronaut Lands," Las Vegas Review Journal, 1962	oversized box 12	
Headline news, 1964-1977	oversized box 12	
Life Magazine, 1972	oversized box 12	
Miscellaneous clippings, undated		

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Scrapbook pages, 1930-1940	oversized box 12
United Nations picture, undated	oversized box 12
Johnson-Humphrey campaign poster, 1964	oversized box 12
Four Oriental prints, undated	oversized box 12
Silver tray, American Legion Auxiliary, 1962	oversized box 12
Outstanding Citizen plaque, undated	oversized box 12
Oil painting of Dorothy Dorothy, undated	oversized box 12
Nevada Centennial, encased coins, 1964	oversized box 12
"The Old Rocking Chair," audio recording, 1984 January 29 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	oversized box 12
"The Old Rocking Chair," audio recording, 1984 February 11 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	oversized box 12
"Sparkles of Happiness Club", 1961	oversized box 12
Doily	oversized box 12
Black name plate, undated	oversized box 12
Wood name plate, undated	oversized box 12
Three vinyl mats	oversized box 12
Bag of call letters	oversized box 12
"Sawyer for Governor" balloon, undated	oversized box 12
Delegate badge, 1960	oversized box 12
Entertainment badge	

	oversized box 12
French prints, undated	oversized box 12
Calendars, 1963	oversized box 12
Nevada State Parole Board certificates, 1953-1971	oversized box 12
Large photo: man and woman on ranch, undated	oversized box 12
Scrapbook, undated	oversized box 12
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Politicians and the Democratic Party , approximately 1959 to 1969 Physical Description: 61 Photographic Prints	box 13
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Construction in Pahrump, Nevada, approximately 1950 to 1955 Physical Description: 40 Photographic Prints	box 13
Family and friends at gatherings, approximately 1950 to 1970 Physical Description: 32 Photographic Prints	box 13
Organization of United Nations Day , approximately 1960 to 1970 Physical Description: 40 Photographic Prints	box 13
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Political meetings and classes, approximately 1950 to 1970 Physical Description: 58 Photographic Prints	box 13
"Lazy 88" ranch and cotton fields, approximately 1948 to 1960 Physical Description: 47 Photographic Prints	box 13
Farming, logging, and scenery , approximately 1930 to 1960 Physical Description: 56 Photographic Prints	box 13
Family and friends in Pahrump, Nevada, approximately 1957 to 1960	box 13

Physical Description: 33 Photographic Prints	
Animals on the "Lazy 88" ranch, approximately 1955 to 1960	box 13
Physical Description: 14 Photographic Prints	
"Lazy 88" ranch, approximately 1958 to 1962	box 13
Physical Description: 12 Photographic Prints	
Nevada scenery and development, approximately 1950 to 1970	box 13
Physical Description: 20 Photographic Prints	
Photographs, approximately 1930 to 1970	box 14
Family, friends, and dogs, approximately 1950 to 1970	box 14
Physical Description: 80 Photographic Prints	
Dorothy family, pets, and commercial development, approximately 1950 to 1979	box 14
Physical Description: 82 Photographic Prints	
Dorothy radio room, pets, and property, approximately 1950 to 1980	box 14
Physical Description: 93 Photographic Negatives	
Physical Description: 4 Photographic Slides	
Physical Description: 35 Photographic Prints	
Jewelry, Dale Dorothy's birthday, and Dorothy property, approximately 1957 to 1980	box 14
Physical Description: 61 Photographic Prints	
Aviation convention, outdoor recreation, and mechanical engineering, approximately 1950 to 1980	box 14
Physical Description: 30 Photographic Prints	
Family portraits, political relationships, and social involvement, approximately 1940 to 1970	box 14
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Portraits of Dorothy Dorothy and pets and civic engagement , approximately 1955 to 1975	box 14
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