



Guide to the Blue Diamond Mine Corporate Records

This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on March 28, 2022. Please contact special.collections@unlv.edu for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f10338>

© 2022 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
Historical Background	4
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement Note	5
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	6
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	6
Series I. Organizational records	6
Series II. Operational records	8

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Contributor:	Blue Diamond History Committee (Clark County, Nev.)
Contributor:	Blue Diamond Corporation (Clark County, Nev.)
Creator:	James Hardie Gypsum, Incorporated
Contributor:	Flintkote Company. Blue Diamond Division
Title:	Blue Diamond Mine Corporate Records
ID:	MS-00505
Date [inclusive]:	1918 to 2005
Date [bulk]:	1950 to 1990
Physical Description:	19.14 Cubic Feet (17 boxes)
Physical Description:	17.05 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Blue Diamond Mine Corporate Records (1918-2005) consist of operational and organization records of the gypsum mining and milling operations located in southwest Clark County, Nevada. Materials include operational records related to individual boring sites at the mine; milling operations and statistics; and equipment operations and statistics, including maps, field notebooks, and photographs. There are also daily, weekly, and monthly organizational records related to employee work schedules and safety reports for the mining operations, including accident reports and a safety education training program.

Preferred Citation

Blue Diamond Mine Corporation Records, 1918-2005. MS-00505. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Historical Background

Gypsum mining at the Blue Diamond Mine began when prospectors discovered the mineral deposit atop a hill outside of Las Vegas, Nevada in 1905. In 1923, the Blue Diamond Materials Company of Tehachapi, California, purchased the claim and more intensive mining operations began. By 1941, the company had built a processing mill at the foot of the hill, and turned the small community of Cottonwood Springs into a company town, renaming it Blue Diamondville.

The mine and milling operations were purchased by the Flintkote Company in 1959 as part of their wider expansion efforts. In 1987, the Flintkote Company sold the operations to James Hardie Gypsum, Incorporated; this company continued operating both mine and mill until 2004, when the mine was permanently closed. In 2005, the mine and mill were purchased by Jim Rhodes, operating as Blue Diamond Hill Gypsum. Milling operations continue at the Blue Diamond site.

Sources:

Geary, Kim. "Gypsum Production at Blue Diamond, Nevada, 1924-1959," Nevada Historical Society Quarterly, 26, no. 2 (Summer, 1983): 111-121

"The SEC News Digest 05-21-1959," accessed December 6, 2018, <https://www.sec.gov/news/digest/1959/dig052159.pdf>

"Our History," Blue Diamond Elementary School, accessed November 30, 2018, <https://www.bluediamondes.com/our-history>

"The Nevada Mineral Industry, 1987," Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology, Special Publication MI-1987 (1988): 25

"Developer Jim Rhodes Ups Mining Investment in Blue Diamond Hill," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, accessed December 6 2018, <https://www.reviewjournal.com/business/developer-jim-rhodes-ups-mining-investment-in-blue-diamond-hill/>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Blue Diamond Mine Corporate Records (1918-2005) consist of operational and organization records of the gypsum mining and milling operations located in southwest Clark County, Nevada. Materials include operational records related to individual boring sites at the mine, milling operations and statistics, and equipment operations and statistics. Also included in these records are field notebooks, maps, and a small number of site photographs.

Organizational records include daily, weekly, and monthly records related to employee work schedules, safety reports for the mining operations, including accident reports, federal Mine

Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) "Fatalgrams," and a safety education program with photographic slides and audio-cassette tapes.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement Note

These records are organized into two series:

Series I. Organizational records, 1947-2005;

Series II. Operational records, 1918-2004.

[^ 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.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2005 by the Blue Diamond Historical Society; accession numbers 2005-15, 2006-07.

Processing Information

These records were roughly processed by Joyce Moore in 2016 and a basic description was added to ArchivesSpace by Hana Gutierrez in 2017. In 2018, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Melise Leech processed, rehoused, and arranged 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:

Blue Diamond History Committee Collection, 1920s-2012. MS-00727. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Blue Diamond Mine Photograph Collection, approximately 1950-1971. PH-00338. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Blue Diamond (Nev.)
- photographs
- Blue Diamond Mine (Clark County, Nev.)
- Mines and mineral resources
- Mine management

Collection Inventory

Series I. Organizational records, 1947-2005

Physical Description: 2.57 Cubic Feet (2 boxes)

Physical Description: 2.17 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The organizational records series (1947-2005) contains daily, weekly, and monthly work and vacation schedules, daily operations reports, employee time sheets, manpower requirements, and time studies. It also includes safety reports and federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) "Fatalgrams" and advisories.

Arrangement Note: Materials are arranged by type and date.

Title/Description	Containers
Daily operations reports, 1983 Physical Description: 4 Files	box 01
Employee time sheets, 1981-1983	box 01

Physical Description: 15 Files

Job position descriptions, 2002	box 02
Manpower requirements, 1977	box 02
Time charts, day and hour by employee, 1973-1977	box 02
Time and date schedule check sheets, undated	box 02
Time study reports, 1947	box 02
Time studies, ore hauling, 1979	box 02
Time study, mine, 1979	box 02
Weekly work schedules, 1979-2005	box 02
Physical Description: 6 Files	
Weekly employee shift assignments, undated	box 02
Work schedules, 1976-1980	box 02
Physical Description: 4 Files	
Mine work schedules, 1983	box 02
Monthly time sheets, 1978-1981	box 02
Safety regulations, 1951	box 02
Maintenance and security documents, 1960	box 02
Safety reports, 1968-1991	box 02
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Safety reports and Fatalgrams, 1988-1990	box 02
Weekly safety reports, 1983	box 02
Mine safety plan, 1976	box 02
Las Vegas plant, safety program, 1985	box 02
State of Nevada revised statute, mine safety and health standards, 1985 July	box 02
State of Nevada, mine safety and training, contact safety program, 1999	box 02
Chuck Hall correspondence, commendation for employees, 2000	box 02
Vacation and safety meetings, 1954-1970	box 02
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Employee salary, hours, and vacation, 1960	box 02
Protection of tram operations, 1969	box 02
Training program from Industrial Training, Inc., "Working Safely With Multi-part Rims", 1980	box 13
Heinrich, H. W., "Industrial Accident Prevention: a Scientific Approach," 3rd edition, (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc.), 1950	box 13

Assorted company and employee records, 1970 to 1980

box 16

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series II. Operational records, 1918-2004

Physical Description: 15.70 Cubic Feet (11 boxes and 1 oversized box)

Physical Description: 14.10 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The operational series records (1918-2004) consist of items relating to the physical operations of the Blue Diamond mine and milling activity. They also include mineral claims information with maps, photographs, and field survey books. There are several additional books related to general mining practices.

Arrangement Note: Materials are arranged by type.

Title/Description	Containers
Mining claims	
Lode claim assessment work, 1947-1962 Physical Description: 16 Files	box 03
New claims filing status, 1952 August 01	box 03
Map, mining claims, 1957	box 03
Lode claims, spare copy of procedures, 1959	box 03
Mining claims, work completed, 1959-1960	box 03
Lode claim location work, 1959-1980 and undated Physical Description: 3 Files	box 03
Lode claim procedure memo, 1959	box 03
Placer mining claims, new claims, 1959	box 03
All placer claims, maps, 1960s	box 03
Final report, 29 placer claims, 1970	box 03
Placer claims worksheet, undated	box 03
"Margo" placer and mill site claims, 1964	box 03
"Ruth" placer claims, recorded survey, 1964	box 03
"Ruth" and "Margo" claims, 1967	box 03
"Curry" claim information, 1958-1959	box 03
"Matteucci" claims, description, location, work done through 1957, 1957	box 03
"Matteucci" road, cost calculation and "Isbell" construction costs, 1960	box 03
Nevada mining claims revised to patent, retain or drop, 1957	box 03
Claim revision, 1959	box 03

Claim revision, work to do, undated	box 03
Patent placer claims instructions, Fletcher, 1960	box 03
Claim conference, Fletcher, 1961 January 26	box 03
Tax exemptions on patented claims, 1964-1965	box 03
"George" claims, surveys, assessments, maps, 1969-1974 and undated Physical Description: 19 Files	box 03
Nevada mine claims revisions, 1953	box 03
Mining claims, patent application, 1963-1964	box 03
Expenditures, inventories, maps	
Long range capital expenditure program, 1980	box 03
Cost savings program, 1978-1979	box 03
Planning figures, 1974	box 03
Mine inspection report, 1954	box 03
Gardner-Denver drilling equipment bulletins, undated	box 03
Koehring 1066D hydraulic hoe operators manual, 1978	box 03
Patent, no gypsum on 10-acre parcel, 1963	box 03
Internal company memos, gypsum deposits Nevada and Alaska, 1960	box 03
Rock inventory, 1978-1981 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 03
Maps, production, stripping, and United States Geologic Survey quadrangle, 1963-1978 and undated Physical Description: 7 Files	box 03
Underground cave-in, 1973	box 03
Mine operations notebook, 1987	box 04
Safety program manual, 1982	box 04
"Federal Surface Mining Regulations", 1978	box 04
Budget, 1987	box 04
Tractor purchase request, 1985	box 04
Equipment authorizations and vouchers, 1983-1987	box 04
Truck performance and requests, 1977-1984	box 04
Mine plans	
Three-year mine plan, 1993	box 03
Five-year mine plan, 1973-1981	box 03

Short-range mine plan, 1974	box 03
Proposed mine plan analysis, 1980	box 03
Mine plan, 1972-1995	box 03
Physical Description: 20 Files	box 04
Standards, 1972-1975	box 03
Drilling analyses	
Plaster mill and plaster packing, schematic diagram, undated	box 04
"Quick-as-a-wink" solenoid operated air valves schematic, 1948	box 04
Rotary drill test holes, 1950-1972 and undated	box 04
Physical Description: 11 Files	
Annual tons crush to mill, 1992-1996	box 04
Core drilling analyses, 1977-1978	box 04
Daily drill logs, 1951 June	box 04
Drill logs, 1951-1979 and undated	box 04
Physical Description: 10 Files	
Ore reserves, 1967	box 04
Pit waste, 1951-1953	box 04
Physical Description: 3 Files	
1972 year-end waste summary, 1972	box 04
Proposed stripping, 440 area, 1966	box 04
Reports	
Weekly mine reports, 1969-1995	box 05
Physical Description: 6 Files	
Monthly mine reports, 1956-1971	box 05
Physical Description: 7 Files	
Weekly inspection reports, 1978-1981	box 05
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Daily explosives usage, 1977-1980	box 05
Physical Description: 4 Files	
Explosives report, 1977	box 05
Heavy equipment maintenance records, 1971-1975	box 05
Equipment replacement project, 1974	box 05
Equipment evaluation, 1978	box 05

Mining equipment performance and availability, Las Vegas plant, 1970-1983 Physical Description: 5 Files	box 05
Daily screen reports, 1992-1997	box 06
Mine operations reports, 1989-1990	box 06
Quarry reports, 1973-1974	box 06
Variance report, 1982	box 06
Tram records	
Tram cable exchange, daily log and authorities, 1962-1966	box 07
Tram repair procedures and instructions, 1953-1961	box 07
Tram samples, 1974-1983 Physical Description: 6 Files	box 07
Daily tram maintenance reports, 1983 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 07
Daily tram production reports, 1983 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 07
Weekly tram reports, 1983 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 07
Tram bucket count, 1983	box 07
Tram wreck insurance, 1988-1989 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 07
Ore statistics and production	
Tonnage and stripping, 1952-1965 Physical Description: 15 Files	box 07
Gypsum trucking, 1959	box 07
Weekly production totals, 1978-1981 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 07
Production schedules, 1981	box 07
Weekly general production reports, 1983	box 07
Front-end loader repair letters, Caterpillar, 1974	box 07
General mining records	
"Workshop on Geologic and Hydrologic Hazards in the Las Vegas Valley", 1991 December 4	box 08
Equipment maintenance logbook, 1975-1978	box 08
Flintkote company, variances, 1981-1982	box 08

Tram and bucket analyses, 1948-1964	box 08
Truck haul time studies, 1955-1961	box 08
Improvements or additions, 1961	box 08
Anhydrite deposits, 1962-1965	box 08
Anhydrite, old files, 1962	box 08
Budget expectations, 1962	box 08
Capital budget, 1962-1964	box 08
Preliminary anhydrite study, 1966	box 08
Shire gypsum deposit south of Sandy Valley, 1966	box 08
Vacuum drill test holes, 1962-1966	box 08
Ore weight study, 1966	box 08
Colorado ore - gypsum D.D., 1973	box 08
Dust control negotiations, 1976	box 08
Repair budget, 1968	box 08
Red ore upgrade, 1971	box 08
Spectroanalysis, Blue Diamond Gypsum, 1973	box 08
Correspondence, C. T. Upshaw, 1974	box 08
Correspondence, general, 1974	box 08
Red Rocks Canyon recreation lands, 1974	box 08
Monthly manhours, 1975	box 08
Quarry accident investigations, 1973-1977	box 08
Correspondence, H. S. Jobbins, 1974-1976	box 08
Powder inventory and use, 1974-1977	box 08
Stockpiles, 1983-1988	box 08
Daily mine inspection, 1971-1986	box 08
Invoices, 1959, 1970	box 08
Loading terminal for continuous tramway, blueprint, 1952	box 08
Lode and placer claims, Anaconda Company, Lyon County, Nevada, 1972	box 08
The Flintkote Company, Western Region - licence from Treasury Department, 1972-1978	box 08
Gardner-Denver equipment bulletin, undated	box 08
Newspaper clipping about coal mine strike, USA Today, 2000 March 29	box 08

Assessment work, lawyer correspondence, 1959-1960	box 08
Notices of location, lode claims, 1959	box 08
Cooper Aerial Surveys Company of Nevada, 1990	box 08
Environmental Research Center (ERC) studies, 1991	box 08
James Hardie Gypsum, mine operators manual, 1987	box 08
Report of survey, Blue Diamond mine, Trojan Powder Company, 1965	box 08
Rotary bit footage, undated	box 08
Original logs and notes, J. series D.D. holes, B.D. mine, 1972	box 08
Final reserve estimate, Wisser and Cox, consulting geologists, 1959	box 09
Old records, underground and quarry, 1949-1952	box 09
Fuel receipt book, 1965-1980	box 09
Fuel storage and fast-fill maps, undated	box 09
Compressed air information, 1978	box 09
Equipment hours, 1955	box 09
Monthly hour meter reports, 1981	box 09
Monthly availability study, 1982	box 09
Waste removal cost analysis, 1948-1956	box 09
Ore reserves, Marion's figures, 1959	box 09
Drill sample check, 1951	box 09
Miscellaneous rotary drill holes, 1952-1956	box 09
Rotary drill holes mill construction, 1953 November	box 09
Joy rotary drill daily logs, 1951	box 09
Survey progress, 1947 November	box 09
Buckets and tonnage, 1962	box 09
California Portland Cement Company, downhole, 1957	box 09
Excavation projects, 1952	box 09
Gardner-Denver mold drill, 1959	box 09
Hydraulic boom assembly for AirTrac, Ingersoll-Rand, 1957	box 09
Cut-off calculations, 1958	box 09
Gypsum shooting analysis, pit 8, 1954	box 09
Mining equipment performance and availability, 1972	box 09

Physical Description: 3 Files

Ore waste estimates, 1970	box 09
Ore and waste schedule, 1979-1980	box 09
Ore grade reserves, 1987-1990	box 09
Ore extraction logs by area	
Contour maps - RO-1 to RO-12, undated	box 10
RO-1 site logs, 1966-1974, undated	box 10
Physical Description: 14 Files	
RO-2 site logs, 1959-1980, undated	box 10
Physical Description: 22 Files	
RO-3 site logs, 1969-1979	box 10
Physical Description: 3 Files	
RO-4 site logs, 1968-1976	box 10
Physical Description: 11 Files	
RO-5 site logs, 1954-2004	box 10
Physical Description: 27 Files	
RO-6 site logs, 1971-1995	box 10
Physical Description: 124 Files	
Gypsy King site logs, 1996-1997	box 11
Physical Description: 18 Files	
RO-7 site logs, 1960-2004	box 11
Physical Description: 110 Files	
White Swan site log, 1997	box 11
RO-8 site logs, 1978-1992	box 11
Physical Description: 6 Files	
RO-9 site logs, 1970-1987	box 11
Physical Description: 6 Files	
Spare 4x4 RO-9-RO12, 1969	box 11
RO-10 site logs, 1971-1981, undated	box 11
Physical Description: 13 Files	
RO-11 site logs, 1988-1993	box 11
Physical Description: 30 Files	
RO-12 site logs, 1990-1992	box 11
Physical Description: 11 Files	
Site claims data, 1961-1980, undated	box 11

Physical Description: 23 Files

Books	
Plant stockpiles, 1941	box 13
Field notebooks, 1947 to 1980	box 13
Physical Description: 19 Files	box 14
	box 17
Gurden, R. L., "Traverse Tables Computed to 4 Decimal Places . . .," 16th edition, (London: Charles Griffin and Company Limited), 1918	box 14
Daily, weekly, monthly Tram, DRE and waste records, 1975-1980	box 14
Transit book, RO-8, undated	box 14
Maps, blueprints, aerial photographs	
Aerial photographs of mining site, 1950s-1970s	oversized
Physical Description: 16 Photographic Prints	box 15
Photographs of mining site, undated	oversized
Physical Description: 11 Photographic Prints	box 15
Reclamation plan, 1993	oversized
	box 15
Reclamation maps, 2002	oversized
Physical Description: 6 Drawings	box 15
Plat map, 1960	oversized
	box 15
Section maps, 1970s	oversized
Physical Description: 9 Drawings	box 15
Blueprint, mine access road, 1963	oversized
	box 15
Map of mining site, undated	oversized
	box 15

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)