



Guide to the Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Bielski, Stanislaus J., Prince, 1908-1979
Title:	Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski Papers
ID:	MS-00758
Date [inclusive]:	1908 to 1979
Date [bulk]:	1939 to 1977
Physical Description:	1.30 Cubic Feet (1 box)
Physical Description:	1.08 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	Approximately half of the collection is in English; the remainder is French, Spanish, and Polish.
Abstract:	The Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski Papers, 1908-1979, are comprised of legal and personal documents, including letters and genealogical records, primarily referencing litigation between Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski and his wife, Jeannine Bielski De Ayala. Also included are photographs of Bielski, his family, and friends.

Preferred Citation

Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski Papers, 1908-1979. MS-00758. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski was born in 1908 in Bielsk, Poland, the son of Jan-Edward and Maria Bielski. He was, by his account, a Prince of one of Poland's pre-war noble families, and had inherited great wealth from his father.

In 1939, Bielski married Jeannine de Guiroye, a French citizen, in London, England. The following year, as World War II intensified in Europe, his wife convinced Bielski to transfer his fortune to the care of her mother, who was living in Cuba. Guiroye flew to Cuba to complete the financial arrangements, while Bielski flew to New York City, New York to stay with friends. She did not return to her husband, and by 1942, had obtained a divorce and remarried.

What followed was an almost forty-year battle undertaken by Bielski to recover the fortune he had given into his wife's care. Occasionally serving as scandalous fodder for the European press, the lawsuit progressed through the French courts until the early 1970s, by which point a largely destitute Bielski was surviving by living with friends in New York, Arizona, and Las Vegas, Nevada. Bielski died in 1979, presumably without a final resolution to a lifetime of effort to restore his estate and reputation.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski Papers, 1908-1979 are comprised of legal and personal documents, including letters and genealogical records, primarily referencing litigation between Prince Stanislaus J. Bielski and his wife, Jeannine Bielski De Ayala. Also included are black and white and color photographs of Bielski, his family, and friends.

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Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

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Acquisition Note

Accession number 1990-100.

Processing Note

In 2018, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Melise Leech rehoused and arranged the materials, wrote the finding aid and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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Names and Subjects

- Litigation
- photographs
- Genealogy