



Guide to the Penelope Ruchman Collection of Las Vegas, Nevada Casino Professionals Oral Histories

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Ruchman, Penelope
Title:	Penelope Ruchman Collection of Las Vegas, Nevada Casino Professionals Oral Histories
ID:	MS-00907
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1999 to 2001
Physical Description:	1.28 Cubic Feet (1 box (150 audio cassettes))
Physical Description:	1.08 Linear Feet
Physical Description:	63 Digital Files (0.010 GB) PDF/A
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Penelope Ruchman Collection of Las Vegas, Nevada Casino Professionals Oral Histories includes interviews conducted by Ruchman from approximately 1999 to 2001 of casino industry workers who worked in Las Vegas, Nevada. Interviews were conducted by Ruchman in her office at Gambler's Book Shop (GBS), in interviewee's homes and offices, or over the phone. The collection represents Ruchman's efforts to interview and document a generation of early casino industry workers that were quickly aging. The collection includes interviews on audiocassette tapes and sixty-three digital transcripts. Not all interviews have digital transcripts available.

Preferred Citation

Penelope Ruchman Collection of Las Vegas, Nevada Casino Professionals Oral Histories, approximately 1999-2001. MS-00907. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1fh3f>

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Biographical Note

Penelope "Pennie" Ruchman is a long-time gaming and casino professional who graduated from in 1977 from Oberlin College's Creative Writing and American Literature honors program. Following graduation, Ruchman moved to New York City, New York to work as a photographer where she apprenticed for Irving Penn and Arnold Newman before embarking on a career of creating her own artwork, holding one-woman exhibitions throughout the country.

In the 1990s, Ruchman worked in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Gambler's Book Shop (GBS) on Charlesto Boulevard and 11th Street. Ruchman served as vice president of the GBS until the fall of 2001 when she left to work for the now defunct Park Place Entertainment as a corporate business and operations analyst and then casino operations director for Caesars Palace. Ruchman then worked for Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut following her time in Las Vegas. In 2009, she helped open the FireKeepers Casino Hotel in Battle Creek, Michigan where she is employed as of 2019.

Source:

Penelope Ruchman, written communication provided at time of donation, December 13, 2018.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Penelope Ruchman Collection of Las Vegas, Nevada Casino Professionals Oral Histories includes interviews conducted by Ruchman from approximately 1999 to 2001 of casino industry workers who worked in Las Vegas, Nevada. Interviews were conducted by Ruchman in her office at Gambler's Book Shop (GBS), in interviewee's homes and offices, or over the phone. The collection represents Ruchman's efforts to interview and document a generation of early casino industry workers that were quickly aging. The project was intended to be compiled as a definitive history of Las Vegas and American gambling, entitled "After the Gold Rush." The project was permanently postponed in the fall of 2001 when Ruchman left GBS to work for Park Place Entertainment as a corporate business and operations analyst, and later as casino operations director for Caesars Palace. The collection includes interviews on audiocassette tapes and sixty-three digital transcripts. Not all interviews have digital transcripts available.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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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. Some transcripts do not exist in final form, therefore any editing marks in a transcript (deletions, additions, corrections) are to be quoted as marked. This collection includes multiple interviewees and there are no release forms from any interviewees. The interviews are accessible onsite only, and researchers must seek permission from the interviewee or heirs for quotation, reproduction, or publication. Please contact special.collections@unlv.edu for further information.

Acquisition Note

Materials were purchased in 2018; accession number 2018-059.

Processing Note

The materials in this collection are unprocessed. A summary of materials was created by Tammi Kim in 2019 during accessioning. To prepare the summary, the described materials were reviewed to create a contents list, estimate dates, and identify materials types. Karla Irwin processed the digital files. In 2023, Sarah Jones updated the collection inventory with a detailed list of taped interviews and corresponding digital transcripts. Sarah Jones also updated the front matter.

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Names and Subjects

- Gaming -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Oral histories (document genres)
- Casinos -- Management

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Las Vegas Sports Consultants interview, 2000 January 23 to 2000 January 30 Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
Art Manteris (Hilton Superbook) interview, 2000 May 19 Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
W. R. "Willie" Wilkerson, III interview, 2000 April 29 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
Morey Mossman ("Doc" of Doc's Sports) interview, 2000 March 28 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	box 01
Frank Wright, Jr. interview, 2000 July 11 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
Joe Lupo (Stardust Race and Sports Book) interview, 1999 July 01 Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
Keith Glantz interview, 1999 May 08 Physical Description: 3 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
Jimmy Vaccaro interview, 1999 May 04 Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
Bob Martin interview, taped over the phone from New York, 1999 April 17 to 1999 May 26 Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes Physical Description: 2 Digital Files PDF/A	box 01 digital file 00
John Avello interview, 1999 April 20	

Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	digital file 00
Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal interview, taped over the phone from Miami, Florida, 1999 June 16	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Kelso Sturgeon interview, 1999 May 21	box 01
Physical Description: 3 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Jack Granowski interview, 1999 July 01	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Herbie "Hoops" Lembeck interview, 1999 June 05	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Lee Pete interview, 1999 July 03	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Bobby "The Owl" Bechtel, Bubba Youngblood, and Andy Iskoe interview, 1999 June 10	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
"Bobby the K." interview, 1999 July 15	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Vic Salerno interview, 1999 June 22	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Ron Gardner interview, taped over the phone from Reno, Nevada, 1999 October 09	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Edna Luckman interview, 1999 November 04	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Sam Brown interview, 1999 July 23	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00

Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Sonny Reizner interview, 1999 April 21	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Michael "Roxy" Roxborough interview, 1999 April 09	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Lem Banker interview, taped over the phone from Las Vegas, Nevada, 1999 May 27	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Al O'Donnell interview, 1999 May 08	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Tony Salinas interview, 1999 August 18	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Sid Diamond interview, 1999 May 06	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Mike Lee interview, 1999 May 06	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Donnie Bader interview, 1999 June 17	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Mort Olshan interview, taped over the phone from Los Angeles, California, 1999 May 25	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Mort Olshan on the Lee Pete radio show, with co-hosts Andy Iskoe and Penelope Ruchman, 1999 September 15	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Jim Barnes interview, taped over the phone from Iowa, 1999 June 18	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Richard Klamian interview, 1999 June 26	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	

Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	digital file 00
Gary Austin interview, taped over the phone from Costa Rica, 1999 August 21	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Billy Baxter interview, 1999 October 07	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Michael Gaughan interview, 1999 July 30	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Jim Feist interview, 1999 September 22	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Russ Culver interview, 1999 June 21	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Donald "Duck" McKinney (Bally's) interview, 1999 October 12	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Chuck Di Rocco interview, 1999 October 06	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Marty Mendelsohn interview, 1999 May 05	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Charles "Chuck" Schaupp (Las Vegas Country Club) interview, 1999 July 28	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Frank Hall interview, taped over the phone from Las Vegas, Nevada, 1999 August 31	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Herb "Speedy" Newman interview, 1999 October 08	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Scott Shettler interview, 1999 May 13	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
	file 00

Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A

Richard Saber interview, taped over the phone from Las Vegas, Nevada, 1999 September 03	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Jim Seagrave (Stardust Race and Sports Book) interview, 1999 July 09	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Ian Andersen phone interview, 2001 May 16 to 2001 May 22	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	
Rick Howe interview, 2001 March 07	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Barry Lieberman (Orleans Hotel) interview, 1999 October 04	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
J.P. Williams interview, 2001 March 01	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Andy Iskoe and Larry Grossman interview, 1999 to 2001	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Mort Olshan interview, 1999 to 2001	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Lee Pete and Larry Grossman interview, 1999 July 31	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Harvey Krendell interview, 1999 December 10	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Jack Franzi interview, 2001 May 04	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Arne Lang interview, 1999 December 09	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Tom Gallagher (CEO of Park Place Entertainment) interview, 2001 March 16	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00

Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Morris Goldings interview, taped over the phone from Boston, Massachusetts, 1999 June 17	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Bill Nelson, Howard Schwartz, and Jack Newton interview, 2000 January 11	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
J.R. Miller interview, taped over the phone from Tennessee, 1999 June 18	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Claudine Williams (Harrah's) and Jack Newton interview, 2000 September 06	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Dr. Ivan Mindlin interview, taped over the phone from New Zealand, 2000 November 02	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Ken Hense interivew, 1999 May 12 to 1999 May 13	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Amarillo Slim interview, 1999	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Pam Mahl Eleya (Huey Mahl's daughter) interview, 1999 December 02	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Basil "Jack" Newton interviews, 1999 November 12 to 2000 April 01	box 01
Physical Description: 17 Audio Cassettes	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	
Howard Schwartz interivew, 1999 July 07	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Bill Zender interivew, 1999 June 29	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	
George Joseph interview, 2000 May 20 to 2000 July 07	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	
Anthony Cabot (Lionel, Sawyer, Collins Law Office) interview, 1999 June 04	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Arnold Snyder interview, 1999 July 07	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Nick Bogdonovich interview, 1999 July 12	box 01

Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Robert Walker (Mirage Race & Sports Book) interview, 1999 September 24	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	
Dana Corbo interview, 1999 July 07	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Anthony Curtis (Las Vegas Advisor) interview, 1999 August 12	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Don Schlesinger interview, taped over the phone from Bardonia, New York, 1999 June 16	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Ken White interview, 1999 October 15	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Ernie Kaufman interview, taped over the phone from Los Angeles, California, 2000 March 05	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Lee Pete radio show with Larry Grossman, 1999 November 02	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Stanford Wong interview, 1999 June 26	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes	
Jim Kilby interview, 1999 July 07	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Stephen Nover interview, 1999 July 30	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Jackie Gaughan (El Cortez Casino) interview, 1999 May 27	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	digital
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files PDF/A	file 00
Richard Klamain interview, 1999 to 2001	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Lem Banker interview, 1999 to 2001	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Sonny Reizner interview, 1999 to 2001	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
Bob Martin interview, 1999 to 2001	box 01
Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes	
"Pointspread Thrills", 1999 to 2001	box 01

Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes

"Meet the Insiders", 1999 to 2001

box 01

Physical Description: 2 Audio Cassettes

"International Conference on Gambling: Bookmaking at the Turn of the 21st Century", 1999 to 2001

box 01

Physical Description: 1 Audio Cassettes

Unlabeled audiocassettes, 1999 to 2001

box 01

Physical Description: 14 Audio Cassettes