



Guide to the UNLV Libraries Collection of Showboat, Inc. Promotional Materials and Financial Reports

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Showboat, Inc.
Contributor:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Libraries. Special Collections and Archives
Title:	UNLV Libraries Collection of Showboat, Inc. Promotional Materials and Financial Reports
ID:	MS-00983
Date [inclusive]:	1968 to 2002
Physical Description:	1.30 Cubic Feet (2 boxes)
Physical Description:	1.08 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The UNLV Libraries Collection of Showboat, Inc. Promotional Materials and Financial Reports includes annual reports, quarterly financial reports, equity research reports, Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-Q, Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-K, prospectus, press kit, press releases, promotional materials, and newspaper and magazine clippings for Showboat, Inc. based in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Atlantic City, New Jersey, dating from 1968 to 2002.

Preferred Citation

UNLV Libraries Collection of Showboat, Inc. Promotional Materials and Financial Reports, 1968-2002. MS-00983. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Historical Background

Showboat, Inc. was a gaming company that operated hotel-casinos in Las Vegas, Nevada; Atlantic City, New Jersey; and Pymont, South Wales, Australia. It was known for its large bowling alleys that hosted multiple bowling tournaments. The flagship hotel and casino, the Showboat, opened on September 03, 1954, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Located inside a reproduction of a Mississippi-style

riverboat, it cost \$2 million to build, financed by the Las Vegas Club headed by J. Kell Houssels and William J. Moore Jr. In 1959, Houssels, and his partner Joseph Kelly formed an investor group to fully manage the property and incorporated it as New Hotel Showboat, Inc. The company went public in 1969.

On April 03, 1987, Showboat, Inc. opened the Showboat Atlantic City Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Showboat, Inc. also operated the Star Casino, the first riverboat gambling facility in Louisiana, from 1993 to 1995. Showboat, Inc. opened the Showboat Mardi Gras riverboat on Lake Michigan in East Chicago, Indiana in April 1997. On November 26, 1997, Showboat, Inc. opened the Star City riverboat in Darling Harbour in Pymont, South Wales, Australia at a cost of \$1 billion. On April 23, 1998 Showboat, Inc. finalized a deal with Harrah's Entertainment to be purchased for \$1.5 billion. Harrah's Entertainment kept the New Jersey and Chicago locations but sold the Las Vegas property to VSS Enterprises in 2000. The property was renamed Castaways Hotel and Casino, and closed in January of 2004 after VSS Enterprises filed for bankruptcy. It was eventually sold to Station Casinos, Inc. and was demolished on January 11, 2006. The Showboat Hotel and Casino in New Jersey closed on August 31, 2014, but reopened as a hotel on July 08, 2016.

Sources:

"Harrah's in \$519 Million Deal to Buy Showboat." *The New York Times*, December 20, 1997. <https://www.nytimes.com/1997/12/20/business/harrah-s-in-519-million-deal-to-buy-showboat.html>.

"Castaways Was Imploded 13 Years Ago in Las Vegas" *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, January 12, 2019. <https://www.reviewjournal.com/local/local-las-vegas/castaways-was-imploded-13-years-ago-in-las-vegas-video-1571538/>.

"Shows to Start At Midnight at New Showboat." *The Billboard*, September 4, 1954.

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Scope and Contents Note

The UNLV Libraries Collection of Showboat, Inc. Promotional Materials and Financial Reports includes annual reports, quarterly financial reports, equity research reports, Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-Q, Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-K, prospectus, press kit, press releases, promotional materials, and newspaper and magazine clippings for Showboat, Inc. based in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Atlantic City, New Jersey, dating from 1968 to 2002. This collection contains items previously described as "Promotional and publicity material: Showboat Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada and Atlantic City, New Jersey," "Annual report," and "Showboat: forty-four years of fun and friendship, 1954-1998."

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged by material type.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were acquired periodically by UNLV Special Collections and Archives from a variety of sources; accession number 2019-114.

Processing Note

In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Miguel Dominguez, Autumn Bassett, Kyle Gagnon, and Joey Puentes compiled the materials from multiple sources that included subject files and previously cataloged material. Autumn Bassett wrote the finding aid.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Las Vegas Casino and Hotel Advertisement Clippings Collection, 1986-1999. MS-00644. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Showboat Atlantic City Photograph Collection, 1986. PH-00329. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Advertising
- Casinos
- Financial records
- Gambling
- Hotels
- Promotional materials
- Publicity
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Atlantic City (N.J.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Showboat company history, 1998	box 01
Annual reports, 1969 to 1996	box 01
Quarterly reports, 1970 to 1988	box 01
Equity research reports, 1993 to 1997	box 01
Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-Q, 1988 to 1997	box 01
Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-K, 1988 to 1991	box 02
Prospectus, 1969 to 1994	box 02
Press kit, 2002	box 02
Press releases, 1969 to 2002	box 02
Promotional materials, 1968 to 1998	box 02
Newspaper and magazine clippings, 1990 to 1996	box 02
NOW Magazine, 1971 to 1973	box 02