



## Guide to the Pacifica Hotel Collection

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This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on March 29, 2022. Please contact [special.collections@unlv.edu](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu) for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1246c>

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**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](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu)

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Martin, Lee
<b>Title:</b>	Pacifica Hotel Collection
<b>ID:</b>	MS-01066
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1981 to 1985
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.10 Cubic Feet (1 folder (shared box))
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.10 Linear Feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 Digital Files (0.417 GB) M4V
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Pacifica Hotel Collection (1981-1985) contains newspaper clippings, correspondence, and contracts on the Pacifica Hotel, the first resort geared specifically towards the LGBTQIA+ community in Las Vegas, Nevada. The collection also includes one optical disc with a compilation of Las Vegas television news stories from the summer of 1985 about the Pacifica Hotel project.

### Preferred Citation

Pacifica Hotel Collection, 1981-1985. MS-01066. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Historical Background

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In the early 1980s, Lee Martin and Ray Kepner founded Galliard Resorts International with the intention of building a resort targeted specifically for the LGBTQIA+ community in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Treasury Hotel and Casino located on Tropicana Avenue closed in 1982 and Martin and Kepner approached Andrew DeLillo, Sr., the hotel's owner, and proposed the Treasury reopen as the Pacifica Hotel. The height of the AIDS epidemic in 1985 resulted in Las Vegas civic and gaming authorities preventing Martin and Kepner from opening the Pacifica Hotel. DeLillo also

backed out of the deal and the Pacifica Hotel went out of business after one year of operation. The hotel was renamed as the Polynesian Hotel and as of 2021 operates as the Oyo Hotel and Casino.

Sources:

Hawley, Tom, "Video Vault: Pacifica Hotel targeted gay community, drawing attention and derision," KSNV News3LV, May 10, 2017. <https://news3lv.com/news/local/video-vault-off-strip-hotel-targeting-gay-community-draws-attention-derision>

Pacifica Hotel Collection, 1981-1985. MS-01066. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Pacifica Hotel Collection (1981-1985) contains newspaper clippings, correspondence, and contracts on the Pacifica Hotel, the first resort geared specifically towards the LGBTQIA+ community in Las Vegas, Nevada. The collection also includes one optical disc with a compilation of Las Vegas television news stories from the summer of 1985 about the Pacifica Hotel project.

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## Arrangement

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Materials remain as they were received.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

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## Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2013 by Dennis McBride; accession number 2013-19.

## Processing Note

In 2021, Tammi Kim minimally processed the collection and created the finding aid in ArchivesSpace. Video files were transferred off of one optical disc and converted to M4V.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Gay community
- Hospitality industry
- Hotels

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Containers
Compilation of Las Vegas television station news stories about the Pacifica Hotel, 1985 Physical Description: 1 Digital Files (0.417 GB) M4V	digital file 00
Correspondence, newspaper clippings, real estate agreements, and entertainment contracts about the Pacifica Hotel, 1981 to 1985 Physical Description: 1 Files	box SH-052