



Guide to the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society Records

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1220d>

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society
Title:	Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society Records
ID:	MS-01188
Date [inclusive]:	1950 to 2024
Physical Description:	9.10 Cubic Feet (12 boxes, 2 oversized boxes)
Physical Description:	9.21 Linear Feet
Physical Description:	931 Digital Files (10.739 GB) PDF
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society Records (1950-2024) contain the records of the Clark County Gem Collectors, Las Vegas Gem Collectors, and the current Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society. The collection contains articles of incorporation, by-laws, membership directories, meeting minutes, correspondence, financial records, show paperwork, and award certificates. Also included are photographs of the organizations since the 1970s and digital scans of <i>Gem Times</i> and <i>The Polished Slab</i> newsletters.

Preferred Citation

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society Records, 1950-2024. MS-01188. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1220d>

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Organizational History

In 1932, in Las Vegas, Nevada, a group of local rock collectors organized what was then called the Prospector's Club. The Club's purpose was to educate and promote the unique and interesting variety of activities associated with gemstones and minerals. In 1940, Club member Paul Mercer

published a newsletter called *The Polished Slab*, which continues to this day. In 1950, they officially incorporated as the Clark County Gem Collectors. In February of that year, the first meeting of the newly incorporated club was called to order by President W. M. Brown and was held at the Parks Museum. The Parks Museum was a private museum on the property of Gene and Anna Parks, located on the eastern side of the city.

In November of 1967, the club divided into two separate groups, and formed the Las Vegas Gem Club, in addition to the Clark County Gem Collectors. The two clubs coexisted peacefully in the valley, and many members belonged to both clubs. In 2002, the members of the two clubs voted to merge back into one club. January of 2003 saw the first meeting of the newly incorporated Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society.

Source:

"Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society History," accessed July 29, 2024. <https://www.snvgms.org/sngmshistory>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society Records (1950-2024) contain the records of the Clark County Gem Collectors, Las Vegas Gem Collectors, and the current Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society. The collection contains articles of incorporation, by-laws, membership directories, meeting minutes, correspondence, financial records, show paperwork, and award certificates. Also included are photographs of the organizations since the 1970s and digital scans of *Gem Times* and *The Polished Slab* newsletters.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Arrangements must be made in advance to access digital files; please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives for additional information.

Publication Rights

This material is made available to facilitate private study, scholarship, or research. The donor, the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society, transferred all right, title and interest they had in the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society Records (MS-01188) to UNLV. However, some material may be protected by copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity rights, or other interests not owned by UNLV. Users are responsible for determining whether permissions are necessary from rights owners for any intended use and for obtaining all required permissions. Acknowledgement of the UNLV University Libraries is requested. For more information, please see the UNLV Special Collections policies on [reproductions and use](#) or contact us at special.collections@unlv.edu.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2024 by the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society; accession number 2024-090.

Appraisal

Acquired by Aaron Mayes, Visual Materials Curator, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives' holdings on community organizations and local history.

Processing Note

In 2024, Sarah Jones accessioned the collection, reboxed the materials, and created a box-level finding aid in ArchivesSpace. Digital files were ingested off a thumb drive and access copies were created. Issues of the societies' newsletter, *Gem Time* and *The Polished Slab*, were separated out and cataloged as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives' periodicals.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Issues of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society's newsletter, *Gem Time* and *Polished Slab*, that were acquired as part of this collection have been separated and described individually in the [University Libraries' catalog](#).

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Names and Subjects

- Gemology
- Mineralogy
- Collectors and collecting
- Southern Nevada
- Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society
- Clark County Gem Collectors
- Las Vegas Gem Collectors

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Clark County Gem Collectors records: meeting minutes, membership information, publicity and scholarship information, financial records, field trips, rock sales, website information, and newspaper articles, approximately 1950 to 2002	box 01
	box 02
	box 03
	box 04
	box 05
Clark County Gem Collectors photographs, 1992 to 2002	box 06
Las Vegas Gem Club records: meeting minutes, membership information, awards, correspondence, financial records, insignia, field trip information, Paul Mercer files, Todd Dixon files, maps, and National Rock Hound Group information, approximately 1967 to 2002	box 07
	box 08
	box 09
Las Vegas Gem Club photographs, approximately 1970 to 2001	box 10

box 11

oversized
box 13

oversized
box 14

Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society records: meeting minutes, awards, by-laws, "Currington Expulsion" ad "Nezgoda Inquiry" files, correspondence, publicity brochures, membership lists, and show information, 2002 to 2012

box 12

History of the Southern Nevada Gem and Mineral Society: Rock Hound Tales, Colorful Characters, and Life Time Members by Mary Savage, 2024

box 12

Digital scans of *Gem Time*, *The Polished Slab* and *Nodule Nocker News* newsletters from 1948 to 2023: digital files, 2023

digital
file 00

Physical Description: 931 Digital Files (10.739 GB) PDF