



Guide to the Lyla Joy Ford oral history interview

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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

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Ford, Lyla Joy Foremaster, 1929-
Contributor:	Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas
Title:	Lyla Joy Ford oral history interview
ID:	OH-00599
Date:	1975 March 12
Physical Description:	3 Digital Files (0.0302 GB) MP3, PDF/A
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Oral history interview with Lyla Joy Ford conducted by Anne Cope on March 12, 1975 for the Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas. Ford discusses social life in Las Vegas, Nevada in the early days. She discusses how the railroad, Hoover Dam, and the Basic Magnesium Plant brought money into Las Vegas. She recalls Sammy David Jr. performing at the El Rancho Casino, the Helldorado Parade being a big western celebration, atomic tests, and witnessing the city's transformation from a small farming town to a major gambling city.

Preferred Citation Note

Lyla Joy Ford oral history interview, 1975 March 12. OH-00599. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Scope and Contents Note

Oral history interview with Lyla Joy Ford conducted by Anne Cope on March 12, 1975 for the Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas. Ford discusses social life in Las Vegas, Nevada in the early days. She mentions the Palace Theatre, now called the Guild and the El Portal Theatre. She recalls Sammy Davis Jr. performing at the El Rancho. She remembers the Helldorado Parade as a big western celebration. She then discusses how the railroad, Hoover Dam, and the Basic Magnesium Plant brought money into Las Vegas. She also recalls the atomic tests and

witnessing the city's gradual transformation from a small farming town to a major gambling city. Digital audio and transcript available.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

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Acquisition Note

University of Nevada, Las Vegas History Professor Ralph Roske donated materials for this oral history project to UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in the 1980s.

Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2017. Nia Banks wrote the collection description. This interview was transcribed and edited by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives as part of an ongoing effort to transcribe legacy interviews. This interview transcript received minimal editing and all measures have been taken to preserve the style and language of the narrator. The interviewee/narrator was not involved in the editing process. A digital version (PDF) of the transcript is available for research use. The audio cassette(s) for this interview have been reformatted by an external vendor into a digital format. MP3 files of the audio are available for research use.

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Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)

- House construction
- El Rancho Vegas (Casino)
- Sahara Hotel and Casino