

# Guide to the Patsy Leavitt oral history interview

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## **Summary Information**

**Repository:** University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special

Collections and Archives.

**Creator:** Leavitt, Patsy

**Contributor:** History of Blue Diamond Village in Nevada Oral History Project

**Title:** Patsy Leavitt oral history interview

**ID:** OH-01083

**Date:** 2005 April 07

**Physical** 4 Digital Files (0.150 GB) MP3

**Description:** 

**Physical** 0.01 Cubic Feet (1 folder)

**Description:** 

**Physical** 0.10 Linear Feet

**Description:** 

**Language of the** English

**Material:** 

**Abstract:** Oral history interview with Patsy Leavitt conducted by Patricia

Van Betten on April 07, 2005 for the History of Blue Diamond Village in Nevada Oral History Project. In this interview, Leavitt talks first about her maternal grandmother, who brought her mother and uncle to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1931 and opened a boardinghouse that she ran until her death in 1948. She then discusses her father's family, who arrived in Las Vegas in the late 1920s and established a sand and gravel business. She describes her education and her working life in Las Vegas. She then talks about the many changes that Las Vegas went through in the 1950s, from road improvements to new businesses and the growth of the casino industry, to the impact of nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site. Finally, she talks about her marriage, her children, and the decision to move to Blue Diamond Village in the

early 1990s.

#### **Preferred Citation**

Patsy Leavitt oral history interview, 2005 April 07. OH-01083. [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 Patsy Leavitt conducted by Patricia Van Betten on April 07, 2005 for the History of Blue Diamond Village in Nevada Oral History Project. In this interview, Leavitt talks first about her maternal grandmother, who brought her mother and uncle to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1931 and opened a boardinghouse that she ran until her death in 1948. She then discusses her father's family, who arrived in Las Vegas in the late 1920s and established a sand and gravel business. She describes her education and her working life in Las Vegas. She then talks about the many changes that Las Vegas went through in the 1950s, from road improvements to new businesses and the growth of the casino industry, to the impact of nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site. Finally, she talks about her marriage, her children, and the decision to move to Blue Diamond Village in the early 1990s. Digital audio available; print transcript available.

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## **Administrative Information**

#### **Access Note**

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## **Acquisition Note**

This interview was conducted by the Blue Diamond Oral History Committee. Materials from this oral history project were donated to UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2013.

### **Processing Note**

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2017. Melise Leech wrote the collection description. The audio cassettes 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)
- Blue Diamond (Nev.)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Nevada National Security Site (Nev.)
- Boardinghouses
- Cities and towns -- Growth