

# Guide to the John McKay oral history interview

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# **Table of Contents**

| Summary Information        | 3 |
|----------------------------|---|
| Scope and Contents Note    | 3 |
| Administrative Information | 4 |
| Names and Subjects         | 5 |

## **Summary Information**

| <b>Repository:</b>           | University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special<br>Collections and Archives.   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Creator:                     | McKay, John   |
| <b>Contributor:</b>          | Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas   |
| Title:                       | John McKay oral history interview   |
| ID:                          | OH-01261  |
| Date:                        | 1980 March 03   |
| Physical<br>Description:     | 3 Digital Files (0.052 GB) MP3, PDF/A   |
| Language of the<br>Material: | English   |
| Abstract:                    | Oral history interview with John McKay conducted by Donna<br>Malloy on March 03, 1980 for the Ralph Roske Oral History<br>Project on Early Las Vegas. In this interview, McKay talks about<br>his experiences living in Las Vegas, Nevada since the 1950s.<br>McKay begins by speaking about his family history, his career<br>in the electronics and engineering field for aerospace, as well as<br>his experiences in two wars. Moreover, McKay speaks about his<br>hobbies of hunting and fishing and his time as a musician around<br>Las Vegas. McKay also spends time going over how the city of<br>Las Vegas has grown and changed, the increase in crime, and<br>the extreme floods in the 1950s. Lastly, McKay talks about the<br>Nuclear Test Site, how casino gaming chips were used as money<br>around the city, how the city of Las Vegas started and the future<br>of the valley. Digital audio and transcript available. |

#### **Preferred Citation**

John McKay oral history interview, 1980 March 03. OH-01261. [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.

^ Return to Table of Contents

## **Scope and Contents Note**

Oral history interview with John McKay conducted by Donna Malloy on March 03, 1980 for the Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas. In this interview, McKay talks about his

experiences living in Las Vegas, Nevada since the 1950s. McKay begins by speaking about his family history, his career in the electronics and engineering field for aerospace, as well as his experiences in two wars. Moreover, McKay speaks about his hobbies of hunting and fishing and his time as a musician around Las Vegas. McKay also spends time going over how the city of Las Vegas has grown and changed, the increase in crime, and the extreme floods in the 1950s. Lastly, McKay talks about the Nuclear Test Site, how casino gaming chips were used as money around the city, how the city of Las Vegas started and the future of the valley. Digital audio and transcript available.

^ Return to Table of Contents

# 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. Chriziel Childers wrote the collection description. 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. 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.

^ Return to Table of Contents

## Names and Subjects

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

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- Aerospace industries
- Aerospace engineering
- Nevada National Security Site (Nev.)