



Guide to the Barr Smith oral history interview

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Smith, H. Barr, 1911-1985
Contributor:	Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas
Title:	Barr Smith oral history interview
ID:	OH-01711
Date:	1980 February 22
Physical Description:	2 Digital Files (0.084 GB) MP3
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Oral history interview with Barr Smith conducted by Melvin Smail on February 22, 1980 for the Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas. In this interview, Smith discusses his personal history and the history of Las Vegas, Nevada. Smith discusses working at the Basic Magnesium plant, playing high stakes poker games with prominent gamblers like "Nick the Greek," and the casinos built on the early Las Vegas Strip. Smith also describes how Las Vegas has changed, the different forms of gambling and gaming available in the city, and life in 1940s Las Vegas.

Preferred Citation

Barr Smith oral history interview, 1980 February 22. OH-01711. [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 Barr Smith conducted by Melvin Smail on February 22, 1980 for the Ralph Roske Oral History Project on Early Las Vegas. In this interview, Smith discusses his personal history and the history of Las Vegas, Nevada. Smith discusses working at the Basic Magnesium plant, playing high stakes poker games with prominent gamblers like "Nick the Greek," and the casinos built on the early Las Vegas Strip. Smith also describes how Las Vegas has

changed, the different forms of gambling and gaming available in the city, and life in 1940s Las Vegas. Digital audio available; no transcript available.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advanced notice is required.

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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. Kyle Gagnon 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. The audio has been minimally reviewed and all readily available information has been included in the description.

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Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Gambling
- Basic Magnesium, Inc.