



## Guide to the Cynthia and Edward Watson oral history interviews

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Watson, Edward L., 1945-
<b>Creator:</b>	Watson, Cynthia, 1949-
<b>Contributor:</b>	African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project
<b>Title:</b>	Cynthia and Edward Watson oral history interviews
<b>ID:</b>	OH-01926
<b>Date:</b>	2014 March 28
<b>Date:</b>	2014 May 13
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2 Digital Files (0.245 GB) MP3
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	Oral history interviews with Cynthia and Edward Watson conducted by Claytee D. White on March 28, 2014 and May 13, 2014 for the African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. Edward begins by discussing his upbringing in Illinois, being adopted by his grandmother, and how issues regarding his custody arose after his grandmother died. Cynthia discusses her upbringing which was also in Illinois, attending a primarily white high school as a teenager and her experiences there as an African American, and being one of two African American employees in a company of approximately 600 employees. They describe the civil rights movement during the 1960s from their perspectives as African Americans and how their race defined how other people perceived them. The couple then describe moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1978, Edward's tenure as president of the Las Vegas National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and their involvement in the African American community of Las Vegas.

### Preferred Citation

Cynthia and Edward Watson oral history interviews, 2014 March 28, 2014 May 13. OH-01926. [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

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Oral history interviews with Cynthia and Edward Watson conducted by Claytee D. White on March 28, 2014 and May 13, 2014 for the African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. Edward begins by discussing his upbringing in Illinois, being adopted by his grandmother, and how issues regarding his custody arose after his grandmother died. Cynthia discusses her upbringing which was also in Illinois, attending a primarily white high school as a teenager and her experiences there as an African American, and being one of two African American employees in a company of approximately 600 employees. They describe the civil rights movement during the 1960s from their perspectives as African Americans and how their race defined how other people perceived them. The couple then describe moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1978, Edward's tenure as president of the Las Vegas National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and their involvement in the African American community of Las Vegas. Digital audio available; no transcript available.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

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### Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted by the Oral History Research Center (OHRC) which is part of the UNLV University Libraries Special Collections and Archives Division.

## Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2016. Kyle Gagnon wrote the collection description. Access copies were created for born-digital audio and/or transcript files. The audio has been minimally reviewed and all readily available information has been included in the description.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Oral histories (document genres)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- African Americans
- Race relations
- Civil rights movements
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Las Vegas Branch (Las Vegas, Nev.).