

# Guide to the Elizebeth Dewey Russell oral history interview

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# **Summary Information**

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

Collections and Archives.

**Creator:** Russell, Elizebeth Dewey, 1939-

**Creator:** African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History

Project

**Title:** Elizebeth Dewey Russell oral history interview

**ID:** OH-03270

**Date:** 2024 March 23

**Physical** 2 Digital Files (0.076 GB) MP3, JPG

Description:

**Language of the** English

Material:

**Abstract:** Oral history interview with Elizebeth Dewey Russell conducted

by Claytee D. White on March 23, 2024 for the African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. In this

in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. In this interview, Russell talks about her mother, Ruth Bradshaw Dewey, a white woman, who taught at the Westside School (1949-1955), saw Josephine Baker at the El Rancho in 1952, attended the opening night of the Moulin Rouge in 1955, and served as the secretary of the Las Vegas branch of the NAACP for several years. Russell describes living with her mother in the Mayfair deveopment just south of 17th Street at Charleston and graduating from Las Vegas High School. She recalls spending summers with her father, John Bradshaw, in Caliente, Nevada, where he worked as a mechanic for the Union Pacific Railroad.

### **Preferred Citation**

Elizebeth Dewey Russell oral history interview, 2024 March 23. OH-03270. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada.

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# **Scope and Contents Note**

Oral history interview with Elizebeth Dewey Russell conducted by Claytee D. White on March 23, 2024 for the African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. In this

interview, Russell talks about her mother, Ruth Bradshaw Dewey, a white woman, who taught at the Westside School (1949-1955), saw Josephine Baker at the El Rancho in 1952, attended the opening night of the Moulin Rouge in 1955, and served as the secretary of the Las Vegas branch of the NAACP for several years. Russell describes living with her mother in the Mayfair deveopment just south of 17th Street at Charleston and graduating from Las Vegas High School. She recalls spending summers with her father, John Bradshaw, in Caliente, Nevada, where he worked as a mechanic for the Union Pacific Railroad. Russell traveled after completing college in California in 1958, and later moved to New York, Israel where she lived in a kibbutz, Vermont, and the village of Whitehall. She now lives in Delmar, New York with her daughter's family. Digital audio and photograph available; no transcript available.

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## **Administrative Information**

#### **Access Note**

Collection is open for research.

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## **Acquisition Note**

This interview was conducted and transcribed 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 2024. Sarah Jones wrote the collection description. Access copies were created for born-digital audio files.

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## **Names and Subjects**

Oral histories (document genres)

- Westside (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Caliente (Nev.)
- Moulin Rouge (Hotel-Casino : Las Vegas, Nev.)
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Las Vegas Branch (Las Vegas, Nev.).