



Guide to the Claudine Williams oral history interview

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	5
Bound Transcript Availability	6

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Williams, Claudine B.
Contributor:	Las Vegas Women Oral History Project
Contributor:	Las Vegas Women in Gaming and Entertainment Oral History Project
Contributor:	Women's Research Institute of Nevada
Title:	Claudine Williams oral history interview
ID:	OH-03386
Date:	1997 November 20
Date:	1997 November 09
Physical Description:	104 Digital Files (1.89 GB) MP3, JPG
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Oral history interview with Claudine Williams conducted by Joanne Goodwin on November 20, 1997 and November 09, 2005 for the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. Goodwin begins the interview by discussing growing up in Shreveport, Louisiana, and how she supported her single mother. She goes on to describe her education and early jobs in restaurants and newsstands in Texas. Goodman then talks about meeting her husband, Shelby Williams, and how she became involved in the gaming industry, including her work with Benny Binion in Dallas, Texas and Jake Freidman in Houston, Texas. She describes moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1963, and how she and Shelby developed the Silver Slipper Casino, which was sold to Howard Hughes, and Holiday Casino, which eventually became Harrah's Hotel and Casino. Williams also speaks about her community involvement, including philanthropic efforts at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

Oral history interview with Claudine Williams conducted by Joanne Goodwin on November 20, 1997 and November 09, 2005 for the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. Goodwin begins the interview by discussing growing up in Shreveport, Louisiana, and how she supported her single mother. She goes on to describe her education and early jobs in restaurants and newsstands in Texas. Goodman then talks about meeting her husband, Shelby Williams, and how she became involved in the gaming industry, including her work with Benny Binion in Dallas, Texas and Jake Freidman in Houston, Texas. She describes moving to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1963, and how she and Shelby developed the Silver Slipper Casino, which was sold to Howard Hughes, and Holiday Casino, which eventually became Harrah's Hotel and Casino. Williams also speaks about her community involvement, including philanthropic efforts at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Digital audio and photographs available; print transcript available.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada, part of the UNLV College of Liberal Arts Department of History. Materials from this oral history project were transferred to UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives on an ongoing basis ending in 2017; acquisition number 2017-017.

Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by Karla Irwin in 2019. Access copies were created for digitized and/or born-digital audio and transcript files. Karla Irwin wrote the collection description. The audio cassette(s) for this interview have been reformatted by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada into a digital format.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources will provide additional information related the materials in this collection:

Women's Research Institute of Nevada Oral History Records, 1995-2015. UA-00084. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Claudine Williams Papers, 1956-2009. MS-00094. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Gaming -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Businesswomen -- United States -- Nevada
- Binion, Benny, 1904-1989
- Hughes, Howard, 1905-1976
- Harrah's Las Vegas Hotel & Casino
- Silver Slipper Gambling Hall and Saloon

Bound Transcript Availability

A bound transcript is available for use in UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives. See call number: F849.L35 W637 2007

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)