



Guide to the Elgin Holbert Jr. oral history interview

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Table of Contents

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

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Holbert, Elgin, Jr., 1946-
Contributor:	African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project
Title:	Elgin Holbert Jr. oral history interview
ID:	OH-03763
Date:	2021 April 28
Physical Description:	1 Digital Files (0.12 GB) MP3
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Oral history interview with Elgin Holbert Jr. conducted by Claytee D. White on April 28, 2021 for African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. Elgin Holbert Jr. discusses growing up in the Westside community of Las Vegas, the activities he participated in as a child, community leaders he admired, and his observations of mixed family life (as his father was Black and his mother was white). Elgin also speaks of his work as a Red Cap on the Union Pacific Railroad (UPR), his time at Nevada Power, and his experience dealing cards at various Las Vegas casinos including the Riviera Hotel and Casino (for 15 years), the Tropicana Las Vegas (for 15 years), and the Treasure Island Hotel (for 20 years). Subjects discussed include: Viola Cunningham; Union Pacific Railroad; Riviera Hotel and Casino; Tropicana Las Vegas Hotel Casino; Treasure Island Hotel; Cotton Bowl; Jimmy Gay; Jefferson Recreational Center; and Eleanor Walker

Preferred Citation

Elgin Holbert Jr. oral history interview, 2021 April 28. OH-03763. [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 Elgin Holbert Jr. conducted by Claytee D. White on April 28, 2021 for African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project. Elgin Holbert Jr. discusses growing up in the Westside community of Las Vegas, the activities he participated in as a child, community leaders he admired, and his observations of mixed family life (as his father was Black and his mother was white). Elgin also speaks of his work as a Red Cap on the Union Pacific Railroad (UPR), his time at Nevada Power, and his experience dealing cards at various Las Vegas casinos including the Riviera Hotel and Casino (for 15 years), the Tropicana Las Vegas (for 15 years), and the Treasure Island Hotel (for 20 years). Subjects discussed include: Viola Cunningham; Union Pacific Railroad; Riviera Hotel and Casino; Tropicana Las Vegas Hotel Casino; Treasure Island Hotel; Cotton Bowl; Jimmy Gay; Jefferson Recreational Center; and Eleanor Walker. Digital audio available; no transcript available.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

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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 2021. Kelsey Mazmanyman wrote the collection description. Access copies were created for born-digital audio files.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- African Americans
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- City and town life
- Casinos -- Employees
- Card dealers
- Union Pacific Railroad Company
- Nevada Power Company
- Riviera Hotel & Casino (Las Vegas Strip, Nev.)
- Tropicana Hotel (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Treasure Island Hotel and Casino (Las Vegas, Nev.)