

Guide to the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee Photographs of Kiel Ranch

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	North Las Vegas, Nevada Bicentennial Committee
Title:	North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee Photographs and Drawings of Kiel Ranch
ID:	PH-00005
Date:	1974
Physical Description:	1.7 Linear Feet (1 hanging folder and 1 flat file)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee Photographs and Drawings of Kiel Ranch document the buildings on Kiel (Kyle) Ranch in 1974. As part of the commemoration of the United States bicentennial, the North Las Vegas City Council elected to restore Kiel Ranch, which was one of the first non-indigenous settlements in the Las Vegas Valley. The materials include black-and-white photographs of Kiel Ranch as it was in 1974 as well as architectural drawings of planned renovations to the main house, the Brown House, the foreman's house, and the ranch hands' house.

Preferred Citation

North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee Photographs and Drawings of Kiel Ranch, 1974. PH-00005. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Historical Note

Kiel Ranch (or Kyle Ranch) was established in 1875 by Conrad Kiel in what is now North Las Vegas, Nevada. The ranch is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is administered by the North Las Vegas Neighborhood and Leisure Services Department. It is one of the earliest non-indigenous settlement sites in the Las Vegas Valley and contains the oldest standing building in Las Vegas, an adobe structure from the 1880s. The ranch gained notoriety from two violent

incidents: the death of pioneer Archibald Stewart in a gunfight in 1884 and the double murder of Ed and William Kiel in 1900.

As the United States was preparing to celebrate its national bicentennial in the 1970s, the city of North Las Vegas decided its bicentennial project would be the restoration of Kiel Ranch. The project was led by the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee and received \$27,000 from the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. By 1976, the project was far from completion, though some restoration had taken place and a time capsule had been placed on the site to be opened in one hundred years. The original goal of the project was to create a historic park centered on Kiel Ranch. However, shortly after 1976, North Las Vegas City Council members suggested selling parts of Kiel Ranch to pay for other city projects. After 1976, the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee was disbanded, but the Advisory Board for Kiel Ranch was created to continue the work of the bicentennial committee, which it did from 1978 to 1995. The project is currently managed by the North Las Vegas Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

By 1988, the city of North Las Vegas sold 22 of the original 27 acres of Kiel Ranch. In 1992, Kiel Ranch suffered another blow when the main building caught fire and was destroyed. Today only two significant structures remain on the property. As of 2015, the city of North Las Vegas owns seven acres of the original Kiel Ranch. According to the city, the seven acres will be made into a park.

Sources:

Wilbur E. Wieprecht, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form," National Park Service, September 9 1975. <http://focus.nps.gov/pdfhost/docs/NRHP/Text/75001107.pdf>

"Kiel Ranch Historic Park," City of North Las Vegas, accessed July 20, 2015. <https://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com/Departments/ParksAndRecreation/KielRanchHistoricPark.shtm>

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Scope and Contents Note

The North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee Photographs and Drawings of Kiel Ranch document the buildings on Kiel (Kyle) Ranch in 1974. As part of the commemoration of the United States bicentennial, the North Las Vegas City Council elected to restore Kiel Ranch, which was one of the first non-indigenous settlements in the Las Vegas Valley. The materials include black-and-white photographs of Kiel Ranch as it was in 1974 as well as architectural drawings of planned renovations to the main house, the Brown House, the foreman's house, and the ranch hands' house.

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Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open for research. Some collection material has been digitized and is [available online](#).

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1974 by Vernon S. Munsell; accession number 1974-006.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collection staff. In 2014 and 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid project, Hana Gutierrez and Lindsay Oden created a collection description in compliance with current professional standards.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection. They may also contain duplicates of photographs and documents:

Historic American Buildings Survey of Kiel Ranch Photograph Collection, 1988. PH-00223.
Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Kiel Ranch Preservation Committee Records, 1884-2005. MS-00650. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Sadie and Hampton George Papers, 1897-1944. MS-00434. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Kiel Ranch (North Las Vegas, Nev.)
- photographs
- Historic preservation
- American Revolution Bicentennial, 1976
- Las Vegas (Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Aerial photograph of Kiel Ranch, 1974 May 15 (0005_0001)	folder 01
White House, 1974 (0005_0002) (view online)	folder 01
White House, 1974 December 06 (0005_0003) (view online)	folder 01
Adobe brick structure, 1974 December 06 (0005_0004) (view online)	folder 01
Adobe brick structure, 1974 December 06 (0005_0005) (view online)	folder 01
Cement brick house, probably 1974 December 06 (0005_0006) (view online)	folder 01
Cement brick house, probably 1974 December 06 (0005_0007) (view online)	folder 01
Blue House, 1974 December 06 (0005_0008) (view online)	folder 01
Blue House, 1974 December 06 (0005_0009) (view online)	folder 01
Blue House, probably 1974 December 06 (0005_0010) (view online)	

	folder 01
Brown House, 1974 December 06 (0005_0011) (view online)	folder 01
Brown House, 1974 December 06 (0005_0012) (view online)	folder 01
Brown House, probably 1974 December 06 (0005_0013) (view online)	folder 01
Foreman's house, probably 1974 December 06 (0005_0014) (view online)	folder 01
Children's playhouse, probably 1974 December 06 (0005_0015) (view online)	folder 01
Children's playhouse, probably 1974 December 06 (0005_0016) (view online)	folder 01
Architectural drawings	
Main ranch house architectural drawing, undated (0005_0017) (view online)	flat file 02
Brown house completed renovation architectural drawing, 1974 (0005_0018) (view online)	flat file 02
Foreman's house architectural drawing, 1974 (0005_0019) (view online)	flat file 02
Ranch hand's house architectural drawing, 1974 (0001_0020) (view online)	flat file 02
Ranch hand's house architectural drawing, 1974 (0005_0021) (view online)	flat file 02