



Guide to the David Coons Photograph Collection

This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on March 28, 2022. Please contact special.collections@unlv.edu for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f13s5v>

© 2022 The Regents of the University of Nevada. All rights reserved.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.

Box 457010

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-7010

special.collections@unlv.edu

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	5

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Coons, David, 1939-1989
Title:	David Coons Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00029
Date [inclusive]:	1907-1956
Physical Description:	0.2 Linear Feet (2 hanging folders)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The David Coons Photograph Collection contains photographs and postcards depicting railroads in Nevada, California, and Utah from 1907 to 1956. The photographs depict trains and locomotives from the Tonopah & Tidewater Railroad, Union Pacific Railroad, San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake City Railroad, Bullfrog-Goldfield Railroad, Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad, and Tonopah & Goldfield Railroad. The photographs also portray Arden, Nevada and the Arden Plaster Company Plant, Las Vegas High School after a fire, and early Fremont Street in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Preferred Citation

David Coons Photograph Collection, 1907-1956. PH-00029. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Radio reporter and Nevada history enthusiast David Coons was born on September 25, 1939 in Lebanon, Indiana, but he spent most of his life in Las Vegas, Nevada. He graduated from Las Vegas High School in 1958 before studying broadcasting in Los Angeles, California. Coons, a longtime member of the Nevada Historical Society, was especially interested in railroads, and he collected memorabilia and ephemera from railroads in the American Southwest. Coons died in 1983 in Las Vegas.

Source: "Ex-newsman dies at 43," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, March 1, 1983.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The David Coons Photograph Collection contains photographs and postcards depicting railroads in Nevada, California, and Utah from 1907 to 1956. The photographs depict trains and locomotives from the Tonopah & Tidewater Railroad, Union Pacific Railroad, San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake City Railroad, Bullfrog-Goldfield Railroad, Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad, and Tonopah & Goldfield Railroad. The photographs also portray Arden, Nevada and the Arden Plaster Company Plant, Las Vegas High School after a fire, and early Fremont Street in Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

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

Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1977 by David Coons through Art Rader; accession number 1977-272.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections staff. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Lindsay Oden wrote the collection description in compliance with current professional standards.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials

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

Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad Collection, 1910-1940. MS-00006. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Union Pacific Railroad Collection, 1902-1969. MS-00397. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake City Railroad Collection, 1905-1923. MS-00007. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Union Pacific Railroad Photograph Collection, 1904-1973. PH-00043. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- photographs
- Union Pacific Railroad Company
- Tonopah & Tidewater Railroad Company
- Las Vegas and Tonopah Railroad
- Tonopah and Goldfield Railroad
- Bullfrog Goldfield Railroad

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
-------------------	------------

Postcard: Early Fremont Street, Las Vegas, Nevada, undated (0001) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas High School burning, 1910 (0002) (view online)	folder 01
Arden Plaster Company mill building, undated (0003) (view online)	folder 01
Southwest view of Arden, Nevada, undated (0004) (view online)	folder 01
Arden Plaster Company mill, 1915 (0005) (view online)	folder 01
Southwest view of Arden, Nevada, 1915 (0006) (view online)	folder 01
Underground tank at Union Pacific Line, with Union Pacific Section House and Station House, 1915 (0007) (view online)	folder 01
Railroad used for transporting ore to the Arden Plaster Mill, undated (0008) (view online)	folder 01
Arden Plaster Company railroad locomotive, Spring Mountains, Arden District, undated (0009) (view online)	folder 01
Two people in gypsum rock formations, Spring Mountains, Arden District, undated (0010) (view online)	folder 01
Gypsum rock formation in Spring Mountains, undated (0011) (view online)	folder 01
Postcard: Tonopah & Goldfield Railroad Depot, 1907 December 07 (0012) (view online)	folder 01
Locomotive no. 3649 of SP, LA, & SL (San Pedro, Las Vegas, and Salt Lake) Railroad in Las Vegas, Nevada, 1912 (0029_0013)	folder 01
Bullfrog-Goldfield no. 13 locomotive after collision with southbound Tonopah & Tidewater passenger train, 1908 August 09 (0014) (view online)	folder 01
Bullfrog-Goldfield no. 13 locomotive after collision with southbound Tonopah & Tidewater passenger train, 1908 August 09 (0015) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas & Tonopah no. 4 at Goldfield Engine House after explosion, 1911 October 10 (0016) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas & Tonopah no. 4 at Goldfield Engine House after explosion, 1911 October 10 (0017) (view online)	folder 01
Ludlow Yards of Tonopah & Tidewater Railroad, Santa Fe mainline in center of photograph, Ludlow & Southern at top right, 1912 (0018) (view online)	folder 01
Postcard: Two-foot gauge "Baby Gauge" at the Borax Mine, Ryan, California, undated (0019) (view online)	folder 01
Postcard: Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad Station, Goldfield, Nevada, 1920 (0020) (view online)	folder 01
Goldfield, Nevada, 1920 (0021) (view online)	

folder
01

Ryan, California showing Death Valley Railroad ore bins, 1928 (0022) (view online)	folder 01
Worker standing in front of the Las Vegas & Tonopah Station, Goldfield, Nevada, 1958 (0023) (view online)	folder 01
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 7 at Death Valley Junction, 1934 (0024) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas & Tonopah no. 4 on North Western Pacific, Sausalito, California, 1939 May 29 (0025) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas & Tonopah no. 8 on North Western Pacific, Santa Rosa, California, 1939 September 22 (0026) (view online)	folder 02
Las Vegas & Tonopah no. 27 on San Diego-Arizona & Eastern, San Diego, California, 1939 (0027) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 1 at Death Valley Junction, California, 1940 February 12 (0028) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 7 at Death Valley Junction, 1940 (0029) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 7 at Death Valley Junction, 1940 (0030) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 117 at Death Valley Junction, 1940 (0031) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 508 at Death Valley Junction, 1940 (0032) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater hopper no. 600 at Death Valley Junction, 1940 (0033) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 130 at Death Valley Junction, 1940 (0034) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater no. 9 at Barstow, California, 1945 (0035) (view online)	folder 02
Pioche Pacific 2-6-0 no. 2 at Jackrabbit, Nevada, 1949 (0036) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater watertower at Beatty, Nevada, 1956 (0037) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater warehouse, Death Valley Junction, 1956 (0038) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater oil tank, Death Valley Junction, 1956 (0039) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater freight house, Shoshone, California, 1956 (0040) (view online)	folder 02

Tonopah & Tidewater freight house, Shoshone, California, 1956 (0041) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater gas-electric no. 99 hauling sleeper toward Cucero on Union Pacific Railroad, undated (0042) (view online)	folder 02
Postcard: Tonopah & Tidewater no. 312 water car at Death Valley Junction, undated (0043) (view online)	folder 02
Postcard: Tonopah & Tidewater no. 302 water car at Death Valley Junction, undated (0044) (view online)	folder 02
Postcard: Tonopah & Tidewater no. 210 caboose, approximately 1920-1929 (0045) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater boxcar at Ludlow, California on Bullfrog-Goldfield in background, undated (0046) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Tidewater abandoned boxcar, Baker, California, 1940 (0047) (view online)	folder 02
Railroad post office stamp from railroad post office car from either the Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad or Bullfrog-Goldfield Railroad, from Rhyolite, Nevada, 1910 (0048) (view online)	folder 02
Railroad post office stamp from railroad post office car from either the Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad or Bullfrog-Goldfield Railroad, from Rhyolite, Nevada, 1911 (0049) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Goldfield Station in Goldfield, Nevada, 1956 (0050) (view online)	folder 02
Tonopah & Goldfield Station in Goldfield, Nevada, 1956 (0051) (view online)	folder 02