



## Guide to the Ed W. Clark Photograph Collection

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Clark, Ed W., 1871-1946
<b>Title:</b>	Ed W. Clark Photograph Collection
<b>ID:</b>	PH-00034
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1900 to 1975
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.1 Linear Feet (1 hanging folder and 1 flat file)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Ed W. Clark Photograph Collection contains photographs that depict politicians and businesspeople in Southern Nevada from 1900 to 1975. The photographs depict several Democratic Party members, including U.S. Senators Pat McCarran and Berkeley Bunker, Nevada Assemblyman Harry Edward "Hap" Hazard, and Nevada Governor Edward P. Carville. The photographs also depict political events, including the planting of a tree in the courthouse park of Las Vegas, Nevada, and a parade on Fremont Street in Las Vegas.

### Preferred Citation

Ed W. Clark Photograph Collection, 1900-1975. PH-00034. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Biographical Note

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Nevada politician and businessperson Ed W. Clark was a major player in Democratic Party politics in Southern Nevada for over four decades. Clark was born in San Jose, California in 1871, and that same year his mother brought him to Nevada, where she capitalized on the silver mining boom in Pioche. She opened a boarding house for miners, and Clark helped his mother run the boarding house until he was seventeen years old, at which point he started his own cattle business in northern Lincoln County. Later, Clark ran a freight business that transported supplies from Mormon communities in Utah. In the 1890s, he formed a partnership with C. C. Ronnow, and

together they operated the Ed W. Clark Forwarding Company, which transported freight from the Union Pacific Railroad to mining communities in Nevada.

Clark's first foray into politics occurred when he won the election for treasurer of Lincoln County. As treasurer, he oversaw several competing railroad claims, which he helped diffuse by winning an appointment as postmaster in Caliente, Nevada. In this role, he formed close relationships with numerous politicians, and by 1905 he had moved Ed W. Clark Forwarding Company to the burgeoning town of Las Vegas. Once there, he helped form Clark County, which broke away from Lincoln County in 1909. He became treasurer of Clark County and later ran the First State Bank alongside John S. Park.

During the discussions about building a dam in the American Southwest, Clark was instrumental in planning the construction of the Hoover (Boulder) Dam on the Colorado River near Las Vegas. He served for 25 years on the interstate commission that helped persuade Congress to place the dam there, and he helped secure water and electricity rights for Nevada. Through careful planning, Clark had put himself in position to become extremely wealthy: he had purchased First State Bank from its original owners and become its president, he still operated the freight business, and in 1924, he had become president of Consolidated Power and Telephone. He had also forged powerful political friendships, including U.S. Senator Key Pittman. These connections helped bring the war industry to Nevada, which bolstered towns like Henderson, and they helped persuade President Franklin D. Roosevelt to visit Las Vegas and Mt. Charleston.

Clark died in April 1946.

Source:

A. D. Hopkins, "Ed Clark," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. February 7, 1999. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/ed-clark>

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Ed W. Clark Photograph Collection contains photographs that depict politicians and businesspeople in Southern Nevada from 1900 to 1975. The photographs depict several Democratic Party members, including U.S. Senators Pat McCarran and Berkeley Bunker, Nevada Assemblyman Harry Edward "Hap" Hazard, and Nevada Governor Edward P. Carville. The photographs also depict political events, including the planting of a tree in the courthouse park of Las Vegas, Nevada, and a parade on Fremont Street in Las Vegas.

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## Arrangement

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Materials remain in original order.

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## Administrative Information

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### 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.

### 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.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

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

Ed W. Clark Collection, 1930-1945. MS-00086. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

H. E. "Hap" Hazard Photograph Collection, 1930-1959. PH-00031. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Names and Subjects

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- photographs
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Democratic Party of Nevada

## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Containers
Nevada Governor Edward P. Carville addressing a Democratic Party function; Pearl Brown, H. E. Hazard, J. D. Smith, and Berkeley Bunker also pictured, 1939 (0034_0001) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
U.S. Senator Berkeley Bunker addressing a party function; H. E. Hazard and J. D. Smith also pictured, 1939 (0034_0002) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Dr. J. D. Smith addressing a party function; Pearl Brown, H. E. Hazard, and Berkeley Bunker also pictured, 1939 (0034_0003) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
U.S. Senator Pat McCarran addressing a party function; Jack Higgins, Pearl Brown, Jim Downs, Mrs. Hickey, Berkeley Bunker, E. W. Clark, and H. E. Hazard on the dais, 1944 October 31 (0034_0004) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Democratic parade, Fremont Street by the Pioneer Club, Las Vegas, Nevada; U. S. Senator Pat McCarran on carriage, 1944 October 31 (0034_0005)	folder 01
Ed Clark, approximately 1900 (0034_0006) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	flat file 02
Ed Clark, 1932 (0034_0007) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Possibly the Banking Association, Reno, Nevada, 1975 April 18 (0034_0008) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Possibly the Banking Association, Reno, Nevada, 1975 April 18 (0034_0009) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Unidentified person, undated (0034_0010) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Planting the first tree in the courthouse park, Las Vegas, Nevada: Judge E. J. L. Taber holding the tree, Ed Clark holding the shovel, Pete Buol, James G. Givens, Frank Stewart, Charlie Ronnow, John S. Park, O. J. Van Pelt, Harley A. Harmon, and Judge Henry M. Lillis also pictured, 1911 March (0034_0011) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01

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Planting the first tree in the courthouse park, Las Vegas, Nevada, taken by C. P. Squires, 1911 March (0034_0012) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
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Planting the first tree in the courthouse park, Las Vegas, Nevada, taken by C. P. Squires, 1911 March (0034_0013)	folder 01
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