



Guide to the Byrd Wall Sawyer Photograph Collection

This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on March 29, 2022. Please contact special.collections@unlv.edu for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f18679>

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Sawyer, Byrd Fanita Wall, 1895-1981
Title:	Byrd Wall Sawyer Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00256
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1950 to 1970
Physical Description:	0.02 Cubic Feet (1 shared binder of slides)
Physical Description:	0.10 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Byrd Wall Sawyer Photograph Collection contains color photographic slides depicting Byrd Wall Sawyer's home, the Carson House, in Carson City, Nevada; towns and cities; and landscapes throughout Nevada between approximately 1950 to 1970. Nevada towns and cities primarily depicted include Belmont, Manhattan, Reno, and Dixie. Nevada landscapes include Carson River, Carson Mountains, Olinghouse Canyon, Washoe Lake, King's Canyon, Lake Winnemucca, Washoe Valley, and Lake Tahoe.

Preferred Citation

Byrd Wall Sawyer Photograph Collection, approximately 1950-1970. PH-00256. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Historian, teacher, and writer Byrd Fanita Wall Sawyer was born May 5, 1895 in Missouri. She traveled around the United States; received her Master of Arts degree in American History at the University of California, Berkeley; and finally settled in Reno, Nevada in 1923 where she married Dr. Harry Sawyer. They subsequently moved to Fallon, Nevada, where Sawyer worked as a midwife in the 1930s and 1940s. In the late 1940s, Sawyer returned to education, working

as a history teacher and librarian at Churchill County High School in Fallon for seventeen years. They moved back to Reno in the late 1950s and lived together until Dr. Harry Sawyer died in 1961. Sawyer continued to work as a librarian, writer, historian, teacher, and political activist throughout Nevada, the United States, and internationally until her death on October 15, 1981 in Carson City, Nevada.

Sawyer's stepsons were "Pete" Harry W. Sawyer, Jr., obstetrician and chief of staff at St. Francis Hospital in San Francisco, California; Milo Sawyer, Baptist minister in Toledo, Ohio; and Grant Sawyer, Nevada Governor and Las Vegas, Nevada lawyer.

Source:

Falcone, Kitty and Patti Bernard. "Byrd Fanita Wall Sawyer." Nevada Women's History Project. June 2018. Accessed March 11, 2020. <https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/byrd-fanita-wall-sawyer/>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Byrd Wall Sawyer Photograph Collection contains color photographic slides depicting Byrd Wall Sawyer's home, the Carson House, in Carson City, Nevada; towns and cities; and landscapes throughout Nevada between approximately 1950 to 1970. Nevada towns and cities primarily depicted include Belmont, Manhattan, Reno, and Dixie. Nevada landscapes include Carson River, Carson Mountains, Olinghouse Canyon, Washoe Lake, King's Canyon, Lake Winnemucca, Washoe Valley, and Lake Tahoe.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1971 by Byrd Wall Sawyer; accession number 1971-012.

Processing Note

In 2020, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Jimmy Chang wrote the finding aid and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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Names and Subjects

- photographs
- Carson City (Nev.)
- Reno (Nev.)
- Landscape photography

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Photographic slides, approximately 1950 to 1970 (0256_0001-0256_0088)	binder PB-007