



Guide to the Bob Parker Photograph Collection

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Parker, Thomas R., 1913-1994
Title:	Bob Parker Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00271
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1930 to 1942
Physical Description:	0.06 Cubic Feet (1 hanging file)
Physical Description:	0.06 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Bob Parker Photograph Collection consists of twenty-seven black-and-white photographic prints showcasing the construction of the Hoover Dam (Boulder Dam) from approximately 1930 to 1942.

Preferred Citation

Bob Parker Photograph Collection, approximately 1930-1942. PH-00271. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Thomas Robert "Bob" Parker was born in Grand Junction, Colorado on September 28, 1913 to Robert Calvin and Georgiana Parker. In 1931 the Parker family moved from Grand Junction to Las Vegas, Nevada after a recommendation from the family physician to cure their daughter's constant asthma and pneumonia in a warmer and drier climate. Upon arrival, Parker and his father sought employment with the new Boulder Dam Project, now known as the Hoover Dam. At the age of 17, Parker began work as a "swamper's helper," scrubbing and mopping the floors of the mess hall in one of Six Companies Inc. residential barracks. Eventually Parker began working in the cement warehouse and mixing plant, supervising concrete and slab tests. Bob Parker died in Boulder City, Nevada on February 27, 1994.

The Boulder Dam Project began on April 20, 1931, concrete placement was completed on May 29, 1935 and all other features were completed by March 1, 1936, however power generating units continued to be added and installed through 1961.

Sources:

Andrew J. Dunbar and Dennis McBride, *Building the Hoover Dam: An Oral History of the Great Depression*, Reno: University of Nevada Press, 1993.

"Hoover Dam, Hydropower at Hoover Dam" Bureau of Reclamation. Accessed February 11, 2020, <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam/faqs/powerfaq.html>

"Hoover Dam, Frequently Asked Questions" Bureau of Reclamation. Accessed February 11, 2020, <https://www.usbr.gov/lc/hooverdam/faqs/damfaqs.html>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Bob Parker Photograph Collection consists of twenty-seven black-and-white photographic prints showcasing the construction of the Hoover Dam (Boulder Dam) from approximately 1930 to 1942. Most of the images are of the interior, showing the assembly process of the generators, turbines, and power houses.

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Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1991; accession number 91-47.

Processing Note

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

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Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Robert Parker Oral History Interview, 1986 June 2, and 1986 November 9. OH-01431. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Hoover Dam (Ariz. and Nev.) -- Design and construction
- photographs

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Boulder Dam under construction: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0001) (view online)	folder 01

A-1 unit in Arizona wing of Boulder Dam powerhouse. Started producing power minus finish work of any kind (photo by Bill Russell, United States Bureau of Reclamation photographer – from cab of upstream crane – 300 ton.): photographic print, 1941 (0271_0002) (view online)	folder 01
A-1 unit in Arizona wing of Boulder Dam powerhouse: photographic print, 1941 (0271_0003) (view online)	folder 01
Discharge of water from outlet works, Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0004) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0005) (view online)	folder 01
Generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0006) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0007) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine assembly, interior of powerhouse at Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0008) (view online)	folder 01
Generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0009) (view online)	folder 01
Generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0010) (view online)	folder 01
Interior of powerhouse – Boulder Dam – generator assembly: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0011) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0012) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly, interior of powerhouse – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0013) (view online)	folder 01
Interior of powerhouse – Boulder Dam – generator and turbine assembly: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0014) (view online)	folder 01
Generator assembly – powerhouse at Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0015) (view online)	folder 01
Assembling a generator – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0016) (view online)	folder 01
Generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0017) (view online)	folder 01
Worker assembling a generator at Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0018) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0019) (view online)	folder 01
Generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0020) (view online)	folder 01
Workers assembling a generator in powerhouse at Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0021) (view online)	

	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0022) (view online)	folder 01
Generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0023) (view online)	folder 01
Worker poses in front of partially assembled generator – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0024) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0025) (view online)	folder 01
Turbine and generator assembly – Boulder Dam: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0026) (view online)	folder 01
Interior of powerhouse – generator and turbine assembly: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1942 (0271_0027) (view online)	folder 01