



Guide to the Jean Ford Photograph Collection

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	5
Arrangement	5
Administrative Information	5
Related Materials	6
Names and Subjects	6
Collection Inventory	6

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Ford, Jean, 1929-1998
Title:	Jean Ford Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00295
Date [inclusive]:	1964-1977
Physical Description:	0.09 Cubic Feet (1 hanging file, 1 shared box)
Physical Description:	0.09 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Jean Ford Photograph Collection (1964-1977) contains black-and-white photographic prints, contact sheets, and transparencies of Nevada politician and activist Jean Ford. The collection includes photographs of Jean Ford with the Nevada State Park Commission and various Nevadan politicians; Ford lecturing and campaigning; and of the 1977 National Women's Conference in Houston, Texas.

Preferred Citation

Jean Ford Photograph Collection, 1964-1977. PH-00295. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Politician and activist Imogene "Jean" Young was born in Miami, Oklahoma on December 28, 1929, to Daisy Adelpia (Flook) and Clarence Nathan Young. Her family moved to Joplin, Missouri, where she attended kindergarten, grade and high school. In 1951 she graduated cum laude from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, with a B.A. in Sociology. After graduation she worked as a recreational therapist for the American Red Cross in military hospitals until 1955. In 1955, she married Dr. Samuel M. Ford, a dermatologist. The Fords moved to Clark County, Nevada in 1962. Jean Ford served as a teacher's aide in the Clark County School District during

the 1963-1964 year. The Fords had two daughters, Janet and Carla. She attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas as a graduate student, and received her M.A. in Public Administration in 1978.

Ford was active in numerous civic and political activities. In 1967, Governor Paul Laxalt appointed Ford to the Nevada State Park Commission. She served on the Commission until 1973, under both Democratic and Republican governors. She was also appointed by Rogers Morton, Secretary of the Interior, to serve on the Western Region Advisory Committee for National Parks. As a member of the League of Women Voters, Ford served as local president from 1965-1967, on the State Board from 1967-1969, and was state president from 1969-1971. As an active League member, Ford conducted workshops on human relations and practical politics. One of Ford's projects was the designation of Red Rock as a public recreation area rather than a private development. Ford also served as a League of Women Voters lobbyist during the 1971 legislative session. In 1972, she was a member of the Solid Waste Pollution Control Committee, the Regional Planning Council, and the Land Use Advisory Committee to the Legislative Sub-Committee on the Environment.

Jean Ford was elected to the Nevada State Assembly as a Republican in 1972 and served two terms, from 1972-1976. After losing her bid for the State Senate in 1976, she changed her political party affiliation to Democrat and ran again for State Senate in 1978. She was successful and served one term from 1978 to 1982. From 1980 to 1981 she operated a consulting firm, Jean Ford Associates, formed with four other women. She chose not to run for office again, and formed the Jean Ford Company, which she operated from 1982 to 1985.

In 1985, Ford was appointed to the cabinet level position of Director of the Governor's Office of Community Service by Governor Richard Bryan. She moved to Carson City and served in this position until 1989. From 1989 to 1991, she was manager of Reno Tahoe Company, a destination management company providing tourism related services. Beginning in 1991, Ford acted as program coordinator and instructor in the Women's Studies Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. Ford originated the idea for the Nevada Women's Archives in 1992 at the University of Nevada, Reno. In 1994, she expanded the program to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus. She actively worked to acquire collections for both campuses. Along with a small group of women from northern Nevada, Ford went on to found the Nevada Women's History Project, which included a northern and southern chapter. In September 1997, Ford was diagnosed with terminal pancreatic cancer. She died on August 26, 1998. She spent the last year of her life working on women's history projects and organizing her research files and slide collection.

Source:

"Imogene (Jean) Evelyn Young Ford" Biographies - Nevada Women's History Project. Accessed May 22, 2019. <https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/imogene-jean-evelyn-young-ford/>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Jean Ford Photograph Collection (1964-1977) contains black-and-white photographic prints, contact sheets, and transparencies of Nevada politician and activist Jean Ford. The collection includes photographs of Jean Ford with the Nevada State Park Commission and various Nevadan politicians; Ford lecturing and campaigning; and of the 1977 National Women's Conference in Houston, Texas.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated beginning in 1977 by Jean Ford and was acquired in five accessions: T-106, T-107, 1985-86, 1985-111, and 1986-61. These five accessions were combined under the number MS-00025 during final processing of the collections. Some photographs were separated into PH-00295.

Processing Note

In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Sarah Jones wrote the finding aid and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Jean Ford Papers, 1958-1996. MS-00025. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Nevada Women's History Project Records, 1995-2008. MS-00406. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- photographs
- Women in politics -- Nevada
- Nevada -- Politics and government -- 20th century

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Department of Conservation for the Nevada State Park Commission. Standing, L-R: Bob Forson, Chris Sheerin, Jean Ford, Thalia Dondero, Bill Belknap. Seated, L-R: Colonel Tom Miller, Elmo De Ricco, 1969 (00295_0001)	folder 01
Nevada Governor Paul Laxalt, Colonel Tom Miller standing next to a sign in Carson City, Nevada, 1969 February 27 (00295_0002)	folder 01
Joe Shaw, Assemblyman Tim Hafen, Assemblyman Keith Ashworth, Park Commissioner Thalia Dondero, Assemblyman Austin Bowler, Park Commissioner Jean Ford, and Assemblyman Frank Young standing next to a sign in Carson City, Nevada, 1969 February 27 (00295_0003)	folder 01
Park Commission meets with Governor Paul Laxalt and presents him with Valley of Fire Master Plan. Standing, L-R: Bill Wood, Assistant Administrator Nevada Park System; Elmo de Ricco, Director Department of Conservation; Eve Cronkhite, State Parks Administrator; Chris Sheering, Nevada State Park Advisory Commission; Bob Forson. Seated, L-R: Colonel Tom Miller,	folder 01

Chairman; Governor Paul Laxalt; Thalia Dondero; Jean Ford; Audrey Harris, 1969-1970 (00295_0004)

William C. Wood, Thalia Dondero, Jean Ford, Robert O. Forson, William Belknap, Jr., Don Payne, John Cahlan, Russ Saunders, John Richardson, Ken O'Connell, and Thomas Miller gathered in an office, 1969 (00295_0005)	folder 01
"Pioneer Women of Nevada" poster displayed at the Nevada Women's Conference, 1977 (00295_0006)	folder 01
Two unidentified women standing next to the "Pioneer Women of Nevada" poster at the Nevada Women's Conference, 1977 (00295_0007)	folder 01
Jean Ford (left) speaks at National Women's Conference in Houston, Texas, 1977 November (00295_0008)	folder 01
Negative: Jean Ford (left) speaks at National Women's Conference in Houston, Texas, 1977 November (00295_0008)	box SH-032
Bella Abzug, Rosalyn Carter, Betty Ford, and Ladybird Johnson at the National Women's Conference in Houston, Texas, 1977 November (00295_0009)	folder 01
Billie Bates standing next to the Nevada booth at the National Women's Conference, Houston, Texas, 1977 November (00295_0010)	folder 01
Exterior of exhibit hall at the National Women's Conference, Houston, Texas, 1977 November (00295_0011)	folder 01
Margaret Mead speaking at the plenary session of the National Women's Conference, Houston, Texas, 1977 November (00295_0012)	folder 01
Rural Development Council, College of Agriculture, University of Nevada, Reno. Standing, L-R: R. Young, C. Ching, G. Thola, Dean Bohmont, T. Ballow, W. Elwell. Seated, L-R: C. Donnelly, R. Wright, J. White, Jean Ford, M. Knudtsen, A. McKenna, 1976 September 18 (00295_0013)	folder 01
Jean Ford and volunteers mailing out campaign materials for Ford's election campaign, 1976 June (00295_0014)	folder 01
Negative: Jean Ford and volunteers mailing out campaign materials for Ford's election campaign, 1976 June (00295_0014)	box SH-032
Jean Ford sitting with Nevada legislative bills, 1976 (00295_0015)	folder 01
Jean Ford drawing on a map of Southern Nevada, 1976-1977 (00295_0016)	folder 01
Jean Ford with her campaign workers, 1976-1977 (00295_0017)	folder 01
Jean Ford working at her typewriter, 1976-1977 (00295_0018)	folder 01
Negative: Jean Ford working at her typewriter, 1976-1977 (00295_0018)	box SH-032
Contact sheets of Jean Ford posed with immediate family, 1976-1977 (00295_0019)	folder 01

Physical Description: 4 Sheets

Gloria Steinem portrait by Ann Phillips, undated (00295_0020)	folder 01
Sierra Crest from top of Moro Rock in Sequoia National Park, 1964 November (00295_0021)	folder 01
Jean Ford visiting blasting and drilling site at Red Rock Canyon, Nevada, 1967 June 22 (00295_0022)	folder 01
Physical Description: 8 Photographic Prints	
Negative: Two unidentified women, undated (00295_0023)	box SH-032
Physical Description: 5 Photographic Negatives	
Negative: Nevada Women's Conference display, 1977 (00295_0024)	box SH-032
Physical Description: 18 Photographic Negatives	
