



## Guide to the Blue Diamond Mine Photograph Collection

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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](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu) for questions regarding this collection.

Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1bw4p>

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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>Contributor:</b>	Van Betten, Patricia T.
<b>Creator:</b>	Blue Diamond History Committee (Clark County, Nev.)
<b>Title:</b>	Blue Diamond Mine Photograph Collection
<b>ID:</b>	PH-00338
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	approximately approximately 1950-1971
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.10 Linear Feet (2 hanging folders)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Blue Diamond Mine Photograph Collection depicts operations at the Blue Diamond Mine from approximately 1950 to 1971. The photographs include images of heavy machinery, mining structures, and workers. The photographs also contain aerial views of Blue Diamond Mine and the surrounding landscape.

### Preferred Citation

Blue Diamond Mine Photograph Collection, approximately 1950-1971. PH-00338. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Historical Background

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Blue Diamond Village, which is about twenty miles southwest of Las Vegas, Nevada and was originally called Cottonwood Springs, served as a stop on the Old Spanish Trail for traders traveling between Santa Fe, New Mexico and California in the mid-nineteenth century. The Paiute people used the area for agriculture. In 1923, the Blue Diamond Materials Company of California purchased the land, renamed the town, and began mining operations for gypsum. Blue Diamond Village became a company town, used exclusively by miners and auxiliary businesses run by the company. The company began selling workers' housing to the public in 1965.

Sources:

Fryman, Jessica. "Southwest of Las Vegas, village of Blue Diamond upholds Nevada's legacy," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. August 2, 2011. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/life/las-vegas-history/southwest-las-vegas-village-blue-diamond-upholds-nevadas-legacy>

Geary, Kim. "Gypsum Production at Blue Diamond, Nevada, 1924-1959," *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly*, 26, no. 2 (Summer, 1983): 111-121

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Blue Diamond Mine Photograph Collection depicts operations at the Blue Diamond Mine from approximately 1950 to 1971. The photographs depict the operation of heavy machinery, mining structures, and workers. The photographs also contain aerial views of Blue Diamond Mine and the surrounding landscape.

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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

The 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 website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

## Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2013 by the Blue Diamond History Committee via Patricia van Betten; accession number 2014-12.

## 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. In 2018, Melise Leech updated the finding aid in ArchivesSpace.

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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:

Blue Diamond Mine Collection, 1943-2000. MS-00505. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Mines and mineral resources
- Blue Diamond (Nev.)
- photographs
- Blue Diamond Mine (Clark County, Nev.)

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Containers
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0001) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0002) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0003) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	

	folder 01
Structures at the mine, undated (0004) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Structures at the mine, undated (0005) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Trucks, undated (0006) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Copy of award certificate presented to James Hardie Gypsum Mines, undated (0007) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Machinery, undated (0008) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Machinery, undated (0009) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Worker next to mining equipment, undated (0010) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Worker using equipment, undated (0011) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Employees in front of a safety performance sign, approximately 1970 (0012) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Employees in front of a safety performance sign, approximately 1971 (0013) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Employees in front of a safety performance sign, approximately 1968 (0014) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine and surrounding landscape, undated (0015) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
View of mine and electrical lines, undated (0016) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine and surrounding landscape, undated (0017) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Group of employees, undated (0018) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Workers, undated (0019) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Workers, undated (0020) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Truck pouring rocks into a chute, undated (0021) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine and surrounding landscape, undated (0022) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine and surrounding landscape, undated (0023) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	

	folder 01
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine and surrounding landscape, undated (0024) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Workers in front of a rock wall, approximately 1960 (0025) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Tractor, undated (0026) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Mining structures, undated (0027) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Tractor trenches, undated (0029) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Employees at a celebration, undated (0030) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0031) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Employees at a celebration, undated (0032) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0033) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0034) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Construction equipment, undated (0035) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0036) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0037) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0038) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0039) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine, undated (0040) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine with plots drawn on, undated (0041) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine with plots drawn on, undated (0042) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02
Aerial view of Blue Diamond Mine with plots drawn on, undated (0043) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 02