

Guide to the Ken Easley Photographs for Del Webb Corporation in Nevada

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1c507>

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University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.

Box 457010

4505 S. Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-7010

special.collections@unlv.edu

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Collector:	Sun Cities Area Historical Society
Creator:	Easley, Ken
Title:	Ken Easley Photographs for Del Webb Corporation in Nevada
ID:	PH-00461
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1979 to 1988
Physical Description:	3.89 Cubic Feet (6 boxes)
Physical Description:	3.25 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Ken Easley Photographs for Del Webb Corporation in Nevada (approximately 1979-1988) consist of photographic slides, transparencies, prints, contact sheets, and negatives depicting various Del Webb Corporation properties throughout Nevada, including the Nevada Club Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, The Mint Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, the High Sierra Hotel and Casino (formerly Del Webb's Sahara Tahoe) in Stateline, and the master-planned development of Sun City Summerlin in Las Vegas, Nevada. The photographs document interiors, exteriors, and signage; restaurants, bars, and lounges; gaming activities; and promotions and events.

Preferred Citation

Ken Easley Photographs for Del Webb Corporation in Nevada, approximately 1979-1988. PH-00461. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1c507>

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Historical Background

Founded in Phoenix, Arizona in 1928 as the Del E. Webb Construction Company by Delbert Eugene "Del" Webb, the Del Webb Corporation served as the lead construction firm on numerous projects

across the United States. The firm expanded during World War II, building military installations across the western United States, and in 1946 it secured a contract to build the Flamingo Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Del Webb Corporation became the first publicly traded company to operate a casino with its purchase of the Sahara Nevada Corporation in 1961, which held The Mint and Sahara casinos in Las Vegas, Nevada. The firm bought and operated more casinos throughout Nevada, including Del Webb's Sahara Tahoe (later renamed High Sierra), Nevada Club, Thunderbird Hotel, and Lucky Club.

In 1959, the Del Webb Corporation began developing the Sun City Arizona retirement community, located northwest of Phoenix, Arizona. The community opened in 1960 and its success led to the development of additional Sun City age-restricted communities in Arizona and Nevada. In 2001, the Del Webb Corporation was purchased by Pulte Group, Inc., but the Del Webb brand remained tied to its age-restricted communities.

Sources:

"Del E. Webb Development Co., Developer of Sun City and Sun City West, Arizona," Del Webb Sun Cities Museum, accessed April 4, 2025, <https://delwebbsuncitiesmuseum.org/del-e-webb/>.

Del Webb Corporation Photograph Collection, approximately 1957-1988. PH-00313. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1z38v>

Hyman, Harold. "Builder Del E. Webb Dies." *Las Vegas Sun*, July 5, 1974. NewsBank.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Ken Easley Photographs for Del Webb Corporation in Nevada (approximately 1979-1988) consist of photographic slides, transparencies, prints, contact sheets, and negatives depicting various Del Webb Corporation properties throughout Nevada, including the Nevada Club Hotel and Casino in Laughlin, The Mint Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, the High Sierra Hotel and Casino (formerly Del Webb's Sahara Tahoe) in Stateline, and the master-planned development of Sun City Summerlin in Las Vegas, Nevada. The photographs document interiors, exteriors, and signage; restaurants, bars, and lounges; gaming activities; and promotions and events. The majority of the photographs in the collection were taken by Ken Easley, a professional photographer who was based out of Phoenix, Arizona until his death in 2024. There are slides and prints of work by other photographers, including Larry Hanna, Robert Scott Hooper, and members of the Las Vegas News Bureau, particularly of the Mint 400 desert race.

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Arrangement

Materials remain in the order in which they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

This material is made available to facilitate private study, scholarship, or research. The donor, Sun Cities Area Historical Society, Inc., transferred all right, title and interest they had in the Ken Easley Photographs for Del Webb Corporation in Nevada (PH-00461) to UNLV. However, some material may be protected by copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity rights, or other interests not owned by UNLV. Users are responsible for determining whether permissions are necessary from rights owners for any intended use and for obtaining all required permissions. Acknowledgement of the UNLV University Libraries is requested. For more information, please see the UNLV Special Collections policies on [reproductions and use](#) or contact us at special.collections@unlv.edu.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 2025 by Sun Cities Area Historical Society, Inc.; accession number 2025-024.

Appraisal Note

Acquired by Visual Materials Curator, Aaron Mayes, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives holdings on the visual history of Las Vegas, Nevada. The original acquisition included one box of the *Webb Spinner* company newsletters that were separated to be cataloged and added to Special Collections and Archives' periodical holdings.

Processing Note

In 2025, Landon Paljusaj accessioned and processed the collection and wrote the finding aid in ArchivesSpace.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Del Webb Corporation Photograph Collection, approximately 1957-1988. PH-00313. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1z38v>

The Mint Hotel Photograph Collection, approximately 1960-1980. PH-00235. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f16d50>

Separated Materials

The *Webb Spinner* company newsletters that were acquired as part of this collection have been separated and described in the [University Libraries' catalog](#).

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Names and Subjects

- photographs
- Advertising -- Hotels
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Del E. Webb Corporation
- The Mint (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Nevada Club Hotel and Casino (Laughlin, Nev.)
- High Sierra Hotel and Casino (Stateline, Nev.)
- Sun City Summerlin (Las Vegas, Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Nevada Club Hotel and Casino, Laughlin, Nevada, interiors and exteriors: photographic slides, negatives, prints, and transparencies, 1983 to 1985	box 01
Physical Description: 5 Files	box 02
Nevada Club Hotel and Casino, Laughlin, Nevada, restaurants and bars: photographic prints, slides, and negatives, 1983 to 1985	box 01

Nevada Club Hotel and Casino, Laughlin, Nevada, gaming: photographic prints, slides, and negatives, 1983 to 1985	box 01
The Mint Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, restaurants and lounges: photographic prints, slides, and transparencies, approximately 1984 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 02
The Mint Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, promotions and events including the Mint 400 race: photographic prints, slides, negatives, and transparencies, approximately 1979 to 1985 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 03
The Mint Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, interiors: photographic prints, slides, and transparencies, approximately 1984 Physical Description: 4 Files	box 03
The Mint Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, exteriors and signage: photographic prints, slides, and transparencies, approximately 1984 Physical Description: 5 Files	box 04
The Mint Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, gaming: photographic prints, slides, and negatives, approximately 1984	box 04
High Sierra Hotel and Casino, Stateline, Nevada, interiors: photographic prints, slides, negatives, and transparencies, approximately 1984 Physical Description: 4 Files	box 04 box 05
High Sierra Hotel and Casino, Stateline, Nevada, exteriors: photographic slides, negatives, prints, and transparencies, approximately 1983 to 1986 Physical Description: 5 Files	box 05
High Sierra Hotel and Casino, Stateline, Nevada, promotion and event press releases and photographic prints, negatives, and transparencies, 1982 to 1985 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 05
High Sierra Hotel and Casino, Stateline, Nevada, restaurants and lounges: photographic slides, negatives, and transparencies, approximately 1984 to 1988 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 05 box 06
High Sierra Hotel and Casino, Stateline, Nevada, gaming: photographic slides and transparencies, approximately 1984 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 06
Del Webb Corporation casino and hotel marketing publication, approximately 1985	box 06
Sun City Summerlin, Las Vegas, Nevada, location surveys and construction: photographic slides, approximately 1988 to 1990	box 06
Sun City Summerlin, Las Vegas, Nevada, interiors and exteriors: photographic transparencies, approximately 1989 to 1990	box 06