



Guide to the William S. Park Photograph Collection

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Park, William S., 1879-1946
Contributor:	Park Family (Las Vegas, Nevada)
Contributor:	Wilson, Maurine Hubbard, 1898-1990
Title:	William S. Park Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00261
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1870 to 1960
Physical Description:	0.85 Cubic Feet (3 hanging files, 1 oversized box, and 1 shared box of negatives)
Physical Description:	1.55 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The William S. Park Photograph Collection (approximately 1870-1960) consists of black-and-white photographic prints and negatives of the families of William S. Park, John S. Park, and John William Park, as well as photographs of the Thomas children, half-siblings of John William Park's daughter Virginia. The majority of the images show locations in Las Vegas, Nevada with a smaller number taken in Kentucky, Oklahoma, Colorado, and California. Also included are three photograph albums of William S. and John William Park as children.

Preferred Citation

William S. Park Photograph Collection, approximately 1870-1960. PH-00261. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Dr. William S. Park (1879-1946), son of John S. and Nancy Park, was born in Kentucky and completed his education in California and Illinois, receiving his degree in dentistry in 1900. In 1907, William followed his father, John S. Park, to the new town of Las Vegas, Nevada, initially working alongside him at the First State Bank. In 1912 he established his dental practice. He

married Mary Belle Viley in 1909 and in 1915 the couple had their only child, John William Park. John William Park married Joan King on June 30, 1940 and he died six weeks later in an airplane accident. Joan gave birth to their daughter Virginia in 1941 and maintained a close relationship with William S. and Mary Belle Park.

After his retirement, William S. Park became interested in the geology and archaeology of southern Nevada. He worked with Dr. Mark R. Harrington on the excavations of the Lost City site in 1924 and the Gypsum Cave site in the early 1930s. His interest continued after these excavations and alongside Richard "Chick" Perkins, he developed an extensive collection of pre-ancestral Puebloan pottery, spear and arrow points, and other artifacts from the Lost City area; these artifacts later formed the basis of the Lost City Museum in Overton, Nevada. Park also developed his interests in rock collecting and petroglyphs, which he expanded through expeditions into the desert areas around Las Vegas. It was during one such hike that he suffered a fatal heart attack, dying in Boulder City, Nevada in 1946.

Sources:

"The Lost City." National Park Service. Accessed April 18, 2019, <https://www.nps.gov/lake/learn/the-lostcity.htm>

"William S. Park dies suddenly." *Las Vegas Review-Journal* (Las Vegas, Nevada), February 25, 1946, pgs. 1-2.

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Scope and Contents Note

The William S. Park Photograph Collection (approximately 1870-1960) consists of black-and-white photographic prints and negatives of the families of William S. Park, John S. Park, and John William Park, as well as photographs of the Thomas children, half-siblings of John William Park's daughter Virginia. The majority of the images show locations in Las Vegas, Nevada with a smaller number taken in Kentucky, Oklahoma, Colorado, and California. Also included are three photograph albums of William S. and John William Park as children, and a smaller number of holiday and school photographs. Notable images include the 1933 Bendix International Air Race in Los Angeles, California.

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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

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 by Maureen Hubbard Wilson; accession number 90-44.

Processing Note

Materials were originally inventoried by Special Collections and Archives staff. In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Melise Leech wrote the finding aid and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Dr. William S. Park Papers, 1926-1937. MS-00140. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Maurine and Fred Wilson and William S. Park Audiovisual Collection, approximately 1900s-1970s. MS-00927. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Las Vegas (Nev.) -- History
 - photographs
 - Las Vegas (Nev.) -- Social life and customs
 - Park, John S., 1852-1939
-

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Thomas' Department Store, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1900 to 1915 (0261_0001) (view online)	folder 01
MacDonald Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, 1930 (0261_0002) (view online)	folder 01
Las Vegas High School, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1960 (0261_0003) (view online)	folder 01
Riverboat on unidentified river in Kentucky: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1910 (0261_0004) (view online)	folder 01
Vehicle in a residential neighborhood in Kentucky: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1910 (0261_0005) (view online)	folder 01
Unidentified body of water and outdoor scene: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1910 (0261_0006) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park residence at the former Kiel Ranch, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0007) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park residence at the former Kiel Ranch, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0008) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park residence at Fourth and Fremont Streets, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0009) (view online)	folder 01
Nannie Smith Park, wife of John S. Park, age sixteen: photographic print, approximately 1872 (0261_0010) (view online)	folder 01
Sallie O. Hall, mother of Mary Belle Park: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1890 (0261_0011) (view online)	folder 01
Unidentified Park family member: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0012) (view online)	folder 01
John Park, father of John S. Park: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1903 (0261_0013) (view online)	folder 01
Unidentified Park family member: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0014) (view online)	folder 01

Willa Viley, father of Mary Belle Park: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1919 (0261_0015) (view online)	folder 01
William S. Park as a boy: photographic print, approximately 1879 to 1890 (0261_0016) (view online)	folder 01
Nannie Smith Park: photographic print, approximately 1880 to 1930 (0261_0017) (view online)	folder 01
John S. and Nannie Smith Park with son William: photographic print, approximately 1880 to 1900 (0261_0018) (view online)	folder 01
John S. and Nannie Smith Park with son William atop a horse: photographic print, approximately 1880 to 1890 (0261_0019) (view online)	folder 01
William S. Park as a child: photographic print, approximately 1880 to 1890 (0261_0020) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park, age nineteen: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1888 (0261_0021) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park as a young man: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1899 (0261_0022) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park, formal portrait: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1899 (0261_0023) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park, posed in costume: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1899 (0261_0024) (view online)	folder 01
Nannie Smith Park at the Park residence at the former Kiel Ranch, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1930 (0261_0025) (view online)	folder 01
John S. and Nannie Park on porch of their home at the corner of Fourth and Fremont Streets, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1930 (0261_0026) (view online)	folder 01
Nannie Smith Park and John S. Park (identified second from left and far right). Other individuals unidentified: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1930 (0261_0027) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park, Dr. William Park, and Nannie Smith Park holding William's son, John William Park: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1920 (0261_0028) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park with grandson John William Park: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1920 (0261_0029) (view online)	folder 01
John S. Park: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1930 (0261_0030) (view online)	folder 01
William S. Park, age six months: photographic print, approximately 1879 to 1880 (0261_0031) (view online)	folder 01
William S. Park, age six months: photographic print, approximately 1879 to 1880 (0261_0032) (view online)	folder 01
John William Park as an infant: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1916 (0261_0033) (view online)	folder 01

William S. Park: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1946 (0261_0034) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park, age two years: photographic print, approximately 1917 to 1918 (0261_0035) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park, age eight months: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1916 (0261_0036) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park as a young child: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1925 (0261_0037) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park as a young child: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1925 (0261_0038) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park hand-feeding a beaver: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0039) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park playing: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0040) (view online)	folder 02
John S. Park, John William Park, William S. Park (identified from left to right): photographic print and negative, approximately 1915 to 1920 (0261_0041) (view online)	folder 02 box SH-030
John William Park, as a child: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1920 (0261_0042) (view online)	folder 02
William S. Park and John William Park (identified from left to right): photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1930 (0261_0043) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park in coat and hat: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0044) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park, portrait: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0045) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park, portrait: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0046) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park riding a bicycle: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0047) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park standing next to his bicycle: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0048) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park as an infant: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1916 (0261_0049) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park as a child: photographic print, approximately 1915 to 1930 (0261_0050) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park feeding a bear: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0051) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park sitting in a rowboat: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1930 (0261_0052) (view online)	folder 02

John William Park with a horse and foal: photographic print, approximately 1934 to 1939 (0261_0053) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park in the uniform of the San Diego Army and Navy Junior College, San Diego, California: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1936 (0261_0054) (view online)	folder 02
San Diego Army and Navy Academy Junior College band, San Diego, California: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1936 (0261_0055) (view online)	folder 02
San Diego Army and Navy Academy Junior College students, San Diego, California: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1936 (0261_0055a) (view online)	folder 02
San Diego Army and Navy Academy Junior College students, San Diego, California: photographic print, approximately 1930 to 1936 (0261_0056) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park as a young man: photographic print, approximately 1936 to 1940 (0261_0057) (view online)	folder 02
John William Park as a young man: photographic print, approximately 1936 to 1940 (0261_0058) (view online)	folder 02
Joan King Park, John William Park's wife, with daughter Virginia: photographic print, 1941 (0261_0059) (view online)	folder 02
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0060) (view online)	folder 02
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0061) (view online)	folder 02
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0062) (view online)	folder 02
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print and negative, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0063) (view online)	folder 02 box SH-030
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print and negative, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0064) (view online)	folder 02 box SH-030
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print and negative, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0065) (view online)	folder 02 box SH-030
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print and negative, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0066) (view online)	folder 02

	box SH-030
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print, approximately 1943 to 1945 (0261_0067) (view online)	folder 02
Virginia Park, daughter of John W. and Joan Park: photographic print, approximately 1943 to 1945 (0261_0068)	folder 03
Mary Belle Park and granddaughter Virginia: photographic print and negative, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0069) (view online)	folder 03
	box SH-030
Mary Belle Park and granddaughter Virginia: photographic print, approximately 1944 to 1946 (0261_0070) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park with her maternal grandmother: photographic print, approximately 1941 to 1943 (0261_0071) (view online)	folder 03
Joan and Virginia Park: photographic print and negative, 1944 (0261_0072) (view online)	folder 03
	box SH-030
Virginia Park as an infant with the Park family caretaker, Henry St. Amand: photographic print and negative, 1943 April (0261_0073) (view online) Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints	folder 03
	box SH-030
Virginia Park at the El Reno, Oklahoma airport: photographic print, approximately 1944 March to 1944 May (0261_0074) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park: photographic print, 1943 April (0261_0075) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park with an unidentified woman, possibly her maternal great-grandmother: photographic print, approximately 1941 to 1942 (0261_0076) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park, El Reno, Oklahoma: photographic print, approximately 1944 March to 1944 May (0261_0077) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park, Boulder, Colorado: photographic print, 1942 October 23 (0261_0078) (view online)	folder 03
Joan and Virginia Park, Boulder, Colorado: photographic print, 1942 October 23 (0261_0079) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park, age five years: photographic print, approximately 1946 May to 1946 August (0261_0080) (view online)	folder 03
Ronny and Thomas Gartrell and Virginia Park (identified from left to right): photographic print, 1944 December (0261_0081) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park as a baby and young child: photographic prints, approximately 1941 to 1950 (0261_0082) (view online)	folder 03

Physical Description: 36 Photographic Prints

Virginia Park at a birthday party for her half-sister, Mary Anderson Thomas: photographic print, approximately 1952 July 30 (0261_0083) (view online)	folder 03
Charles Lester Thomas, Virginia Park's half-brother: photographic prints, approximately 1946 to 1947 (0261_0084) (view online)	folder 03
Virginia Park with her half-siblings, Mary, John, and Charles (identified from left to right): photographic print, approximately 1952 to 1954 (0261_0085) (view online)	folder 03
Charles Lester Thomas and John Gordon Thomas, Virginia Park's half-brothers, approximately 1943 to 1946 (0261_0086) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 8 Photographic Prints	
Unidentified group, possibly members of Mary Belle Parks family: photographic print, approximately 1925 to 1935 (0261_0087) (view online)	folder 03
Unidentified woman and baby, possibly William S. Park and his mother, reproduction from unknown source: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0088) (view online)	folder 03
Mary Belle Park, reproduction from unknown source: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1939 (0261_0089) (view online)	folder 03
Four unidentified young women: photographic print, approximately 1910 to 1920 (0261_0090) (view online)	folder 03
Four unidentified young women: photographic print, approximately 1910 to 1920 (0261_0091)	folder 03
William S. and Mary Belle Park near an artisan well, reproduction from negative: photographic print and negative, approximately 1890 to 1920 (0261_0092) (view online)	folder 03 box SH-030
Unidentified man standing next to a child on horseback: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1900 (0261_0093) (view online)	folder 03
John William Park as a young child: photographic print, approximately 1919 to 1925 (0261_0094) (view online)	folder 03
Mary Belle and John William Park: photographic print, approximately 1919 to 1922 (0261_0095) (view online)	folder 03
Nursery or "Baby room" in an unidentified location: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0096) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints	
Building identified as "U-M Ranch," unidentified location, annotated: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1960 (0261_0097) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints	
Grand Canyon, Arizona: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1960 (0261_0098) (view online)	folder 03

Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints

Unidentified man and child, standing at Grand Canyon, Arizona: photographic print, 1920 to 1960 (0261_0099)	folder 03
Unidentified buildings and scenery, possibly on the Park property: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1960 (0261_0100) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 10 Photographic Prints	
Bendix National Air Race, Mines Field, Los Angeles, California, courtesy of Dick Whittington Photography, Los Angeles: photographic print, approximately 1933 July 01 to 1933 July 04 (0261_0101) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 4 Photographic Prints	
Bendix National Air Race, Mines Field, Los Angeles, California: photographic print, approximately 1933 July 01 to 1933 July 04 (0261_0102) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 22 Photographic Prints	
Unidentified desert location: photographic print, approximately 1920 to 1960 (0261_0103) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 8 Photographic Prints	
Unidentified individuals, possibly members of the Park and Thomas families: photographic print, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0104) (view online)	folder 03
Physical Description: 15 Photographic Prints	
Mary Belle Park, Joan Park, and Virginia Park (identified from top to bottom): photographic negative, approximately 1941 to 1945 (0261_0105)	box SH-030
Physical Description: 2 Photographic Negatives	
Mary Belle Park holding granddaughter Virginia Park: photographic negative, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0106)	box SH-030
Virginia Park: photographic negative, approximately 1941 to 1950 (0261_0107)	box SH-030
Physical Description: 17 Photographic Negatives	
William S. Park and family, "Photographs": photograph album, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0108) (view online)	oversized box 04
John William Park "Snapshots": photographic album, approximately 1915 to 1930 (0261_0109) (view online)	oversized box 04
Park Family, "Memories": photograph album, approximately 1870 to 1960 (0261_0110) (view online)	oversized box 04