

Guide to the Alan Byron Olson Photographs

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1m77r>

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Olson, Alan Byron, 1912-1987
Title:	Alan Byron Olson Photographs
ID:	PH-00457
Date:	1933
Physical Description:	0.02 Cubic Feet (1 box)
Physical Description:	0.25 Linear Feet
Physical Description:	102 Digital Files (0.890 GB) JPG
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Alan Byron Olson Photographs (approximately 1933) consist of one negative album containing 100 photographic negatives taken by Alan Byron Olson around 1933 that depict the Hoover Dam (then known as Boulder Dam) and the Boulder City Hospital. Olson was a medic for the Boulder City Hospital and the images also depict various hospital staff and other locations related to Hoover Dam. The collection also includes digital copies of the negatives.

Preferred Citation

Alan Byron Olson Photographs, approximately 1933. PH-00457. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1m77r>

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Biographical Note

Alan Byron Olson was born in Newman Grove, Nebraska on July 15, 1912. After high school, he moved to Idaho where he worked for the Morrison-Knudsen Construction Company. When construction began on Hoover (Boulder) Dam in 1931, he moved to Boulder City, Nevada and worked as a timekeeper and transporting injured workers to Las Vegas in an ambulance. He later

opened a used furniture store in Boulder City. It was here where he took photographs of the dam's construction, workers, and the nearby city.

Olson went on to study at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, and lived there with his wife, Catherine Baker, whom he married July 11, 1941. Alan served in the United States Army during World War II and later moved his family to Oregon. He ran a photography business in Oregon while simultaneously working at Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC). He worked with the OLCC for twenty years before retiring. Alan Byron Olson passed away August 25, 1987.

Source:

Correspondence with donor's son, Alan Byron Olson II.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Alan Byron Olson Photographs (approximately 1933) consist of one negative album containing 100 photographic negatives taken by Alan Byron Olson around 1933 that depict the Hoover Dam (then known as Boulder Dam) and the Boulder City Hospital. Olson was a medic for the Boulder City Hospital and the images also depict various hospital staff and other locations related to Hoover Dam. The collection also includes digital copies of the negatives.

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Arrangement

Materials remain in the order they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

The materials in this collection are unprocessed. Advanced notice is required for access. Please contact Special Collections and Archives for more information.

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 Jonathan Olson in 2023; accession number 2023-075.

Processing Information

In 2023, Tammi Kim accessioned the collection. In 2023, Celene Chavez created an inventory using the description provided by the photographer. Sarah Jones updated the finding aid in ArchivesSpace, renamed the digital files, and rehoused the photograph album.

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Names and Subjects

- Hoover Dam (Ariz. and Nev.)
- Boulder City (Nev.)
- negatives (photographs)
- Photographers

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
John Bralliar: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_001)	box 01 digital file 01
View of two intake towers under construction, from below: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_002)	box 01 digital file 01
View of one intake tower and dam wall under construction: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_003)	box 01 digital file 01
Dr. Burton: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_004)	box 01

	digital file 01
Bill Fuqua: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_005)	box 01 digital file 01
Ralph Waddell: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_006)	box 01 digital file 01
Olive Parsons: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_007)	box 01 digital file 01
Boulder Dam high lines: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_008)	box 01 digital file 01
Patient D. Yates: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_009)	box 01 digital file 01
Boulder Dam: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_010)	box 01 digital file 01
Dr. Wyatt: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_011)	box 01 digital file 01
Al Olsen [Olson]: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_012)	box 01 digital file 01
Olive Parsons: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_013)	box 01 digital file 01
Nurse Ellsberry and Dr. Burdell: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_014)	box 01 digital file 01
Olive Parsons: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_015)	box 01 digital file 01
John Bralliar: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_016)	box 01 digital file 01
Patient Howard Bentley: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_017)	box 01

	digital file 01
The front of Six Companies' Hospital: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_018)	box 01 digital file 01
Boulder Dam observation point: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_019)	box 01 digital file 01
Rex Hanby: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_020)	box 01 digital file 01
Elsie Barham: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_021)	box 01 digital file 01
Sterilizers: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_022)	box 01 digital file 01
Government Administration Building: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_023)	box 01 digital file 01
Transports: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_024)	box 01 digital file 01
Transports: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_025)	box 01 digital file 01
View of two intake towers from below: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_026)	box 01 digital file 01
View from upstream (looking down) of four intake towers and dam under construction: photograph, 1933 March 01 (PH_00457_027)	box 01 digital file 01
Boulder Dam base excavation: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_028)	box 01 digital file 01
View downstream: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_029)	box 01 digital file 01
Observation point: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_030)	box 01

	digital file 01
Government cableway and diversion tunnels: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_031)	box 01 digital file 01
Two trucks delivering gravel: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_032)	box 01 digital file 01
Trucks parked, awaying gravel: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_033)	box 01 digital file 01
Pits - upper coffer: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_034)	box 01 digital file 01
Three unidentified individuals leaning on a car: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_035)	box 01 digital file 01
Top of upper coffer: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_036)	box 01 digital file 01
River camp: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_037)	box 01 digital file 01
Two diversion tunnels on Arizona side: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_038)	box 01 digital file 01
Arizona side: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_039)	box 01 digital file 01
Looking up at a skip: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_040)	box 01 digital file 01
Two individuals (one possible Al Olson) posed in front of a car: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_041)	box 01 digital file 01
Ellsberry: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_042)	box 01 digital file 01
Ellsberry: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_043)	box 01

	digital file 01
Grossman: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_044)	box 01
	digital file 01
Grossman: photograph, 1933 March 26 (PH_00457_045)	box 01
	digital file 01
S.R.M.: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_046)	box 01
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Boulder Dam observation point view: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_047)	box 01
	digital file 01
Olsen: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_048)	box 01
	digital file 01
Boulder Dam around hi-mix: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_049)	box 01
	digital file 01
Hi-mix plant: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_050)	box 01
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Tourists standing at observation point: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_051)	box 01
	digital file 01
Al Olson posing on motorcycle at observation point: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_052)	box 01
	digital file 01
Approach to observation point: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_053)	box 01
	digital file 01
Babcock & Wilcox: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_054)	box 01
	digital file 01
Looking down from observation point: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_055)	box 01
	digital file 01
Head tower, government hi-line: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_056)	box 01

	digital file 01
Concrete truck loading: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_057)	box 01 digital file 01
Looking upstream: photograph, 1933 May 14 (PH_00457_058)	box 01 digital file 01
Dr. Sutton: photograph, 1933 July 01 (PH_00457_059)	box 01 digital file 01
Boulder Dam forms from hi cat-walk: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_060)	box 01 digital file 01
Nevada spillway and hi cat-walk: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_061)	box 01 digital file 01
Government skip upstream from observation point: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_062)	box 01 digital file 01
Upstream from hi cat-walk: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_063)	box 01 digital file 01
Nevada spillway: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_064)	box 01 digital file 01
Hi cat-walk toward Arizona: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_065)	box 01 digital file 01
Men taking off for Arizona: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_066)	box 01 digital file 01
Downstream from below high cat-walk: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_067)	box 01 digital file 01
Government cableway toward Arizona: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_068)	box 01

	digital file 01
Electric locomotive and agitators: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_069)	box 01 digital file 01
Downstream general view from observation point: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_070)	box 01 digital file 01
Babcock & Wilcox: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_071)	box 01 digital file 01
Boulder Dam hi-lines from below: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_072)	box 01 digital file 01
Downstream general view from observation point: photograph, 1933 September 03 (PH_00457_073)	box 01 digital file 01
View of access road and construction lines: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_074)	box 01 digital file 01
View of Boulder City buildings: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_075)	box 01 digital file 01
Six Companies Hospital: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_076)	box 01 digital file 01
View of Boulder City buildings: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_077)	box 01 digital file 01
View of Colorado River from Boulder City: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_078)	box 01 digital file 01
Intake towers: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_079)	box 01 digital file 01
Downstream face entry: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_080)	box 01

	digital file 01
Unidentified individual with cat: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_081a)	box 01 digital file 01
Shelves of medicine, possibly inside Six Companies Hospital: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_081b)	box 01 digital file 01
Nevada canyon walls and head tower: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_082a)	box 01 digital file 01
Nevada canyon walls and head tower: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_082b)	box 01 digital file 01
Unidentified individual: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_083)	box 01 digital file 01
Two trucks transporting section of pipe: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_084)	box 01 digital file 01
Unidentified individual: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_085)	box 01 digital file 01
Nevada canyon walls and head tower: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_086)	box 01 digital file 01
View of intake towers and Boulder Dam access road: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_087)	box 01 digital file 01
Unidentified individual: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_088)	box 01 digital file 01
Unidentified individual: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_089)	box 01 digital file 01
Unidentified individual: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_090)	box 01

digital
file 01

View of Boulder Dam access road: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_091)	box 01
	digital file 01
Unidentified men posing with car: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_092)	box 01
	digital file 01
Tail Tower gateway: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_093)	box 01
	digital file 01
Bottom of canyon with some water: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_094)	box 01
	digital file 01
Low mix H2O tank: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_095)	box 01
	digital file 01
Low mix plant: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_096)	box 01
	digital file 01
Black Canyon: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_097)	box 01
	digital file 01
Black Canyon: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_098)	box 01
	digital file 01
Small boy stands in front of three carts and an oil drum: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_099)	box 01
	digital file 01
Three men suspended over the canyon in a skip: photograph, approximately 1933 (PH_00457_100)	box 01
	digital file 01