



## Guide to the Verna Mortensen Photograph Collection

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This finding aid was created by UNLV Special Collections and Archives staff. This copy was published on March 29, 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/f10d4r>

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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>Creator:</b>	Mortensen, Verna Calista Cox, 1904-1979
<b>Title:</b>	Verna Mortensen Photograph Collection
<b>ID:</b>	PH-00089
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	approximately 1960 to 1979
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.01 Cubic Feet (1 hanging folder)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.10 Linear Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Verna Mortensen Photograph Collection (approximately 1960-1979) is comprised of eight photographic prints that depict Fremont Street in Las Vegas, Nevada and ferries on the Colorado River in Nevada.

### Preferred Citation

Verna Mortensen Photograph Collection, approximately 1960-1979. PH-00089. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Biographical Note

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Verna Mortensen was born in 1904 to Frank and Elthera Cox in Bunkerville, Nevada. The family relocated to St. George, Utah in 1910. Verna Mortensen went on to graduate from Dixie State Junior College in St. George. She served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to the Eastern United States. In 1929, she married James Mortensen and the couple moved to a ranch in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. The couple had four children. Verna Mortensen moved back to St. George, Utah in 1949 and worked as a teacher at the local elementary school. She moved to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1960 and taught at Mountain View Elementary School and Crestwood Elementary School before retiring in 1969. Following her retirement, Verna Mortensen became active in the Clark County chapter of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers (DUP). In 1971, members elected her president of the Clark County DUP, and went on to reelect her four times.

With the DUP, she led efforts to preserve and restore the Las Vegas Mormon Fort. She served on the board of the Preservation Association of Clark County and received commendations for her work with the Las Vegas Mormon Fort.

Mortensen passed away on April 26, 1979.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Verna Mortensen Photograph Collection (approximately 1960-1979) is comprised of eight photographic prints that depict Fremont Street in Las Vegas, Nevada and ferries on the Colorado River in Nevada. The aerial photographs were taken by Jay Florian Mitchell. Mitchell, Jay Florian

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## Arrangement

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Materials remain as they were received.

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## Administrative Information

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### 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 in 1979 by LaRue Mortensen; accession number 1979-203B.

## Processing Note

In 2020, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Sarah Jones wrote the finding aid and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Collections

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

Verna Mortensen Papers, 1966-1979. MS-00163. 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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- photographs
- Las Vegas (Nev.) -- History
- Fremont Street (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- North America -- Colorado River

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## Collection Inventory

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Title/Description	Containers
Aerial view of Fremont Street, looking from the east into the west, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, 1962 June 23 (0089_0001)	folder 01
Aerial view of Fremont Street showing the El Cortez Hotel, Fremont Hotel, and United States Post Office, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, 1962 June 23 (0089_0002)	folder 01
Downtown Las Vegas, Nevada from the northwest: photographic print, 1962 June 23 (0089_0003)	folder 01
A closer view of downtown Las Vegas, Nevada from the south: photographic print, 1962 June 23 (0089_0004)	folder 01

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Club Overland Hotel from the west, Las Vegas, Nevada: photographic print, 1962 June 23 (0089_0005)	folder 01
Las Vegas Club letterhead: photographic print, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0089_0006)	folder 01
Bonelli's Ferry on the Colorado River, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0089_0007)	folder 01
Fort Callville on the Colorado River, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0089_0008)	folder 01

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