



## Guide to the C. A. Earle Rinker Photograph Collection of Goldfield, Nevada

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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](mailto:special.collections@unlv.edu)

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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>	Rinker, C. A. Earle (Cleveland A. Earle), 1883-1965
<b>Title:</b>	C. A. Earle Rinker Photograph Collection of Goldfield, Nevada
<b>ID:</b>	PH-00350
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	approximately 1900 to 1915
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.80 Cubic Feet (1 oversized box, 1 oversized folder, 6 hanging folders, 1 shared box)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2.60 Linear Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The C. A. Earle Rinker Photograph Collection of Goldfield, Nevada (approximately 1900-1915) contains individual black-and-white photographic prints, photographic albums, black-and-white and tinted postcards, and photographic negatives that document the history of early twentieth century Goldfield, Nevada. The images include photographic prints of Goldfield and surrounding areas during its peak years of 1906-1910; postcards showing scenes of Goldfield, Tonopah, and other areas in central Nevada; and negatives that contain images of Rinker's family and homelife in Indiana and Illinois.

### Preferred Citation

C. A. Earle Rinker Photograph Collection of Goldfield, Nevada, approximately 1900-1915. PH-00350. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Biographical Note

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Cleveland A. Earle Rinker was born in Indiana in 1883 to S. Cleveland Rinker and Isadora (Fenwick) Rinker. Shortly after his twentieth birthday Earle went to Parker, Indiana, to work as a stenographer, eventually working for Thomas Condon, a coal and oil dealer. Condon was also an enthusiastic investor in Nevada gold mines and, in the summer of 1906, he encouraged Rinker to

seek his fortune there. In late October of 1906 Rinker boarded a train to make the journey to the newly established mining town of Goldfield, Nevada.

Rinker settled into Goldfield quickly, securing a job as a clerk in the brokerage office of MacMaster and MacMaster within 24 hours of his arrival in town. Earle's uncle, John W. H. Fenwick, helped him adjust to his new surroundings and a little over a month after Earle's arrival, two friends and former roommates from Indiana joined him in Goldfield. This small circle of

Daily life in Goldfield was in some ways quite different from that in Indiana, from the high price of subsistence items like water and eggs to the twenty-four hour gambling and drinking halls and periodic street shootings. Despite its remote location, Goldfield offered its residents many of the more mainstream diversions that were common in large cities of the time. Earle and his friends attended social dances, plays and musical offerings, enjoyed several high profile boxing and wrestling matches, went ice skating, and belonged to social clubs similar to those back home where Earle was a Mason. Special occasions included holiday parades, horse races, football games, the Great 1908 New York to Paris Auto Race, and other touring attractions that passed through Goldfield. Earle in particular also investigated the local terrain, climbing hills and mountains and occasionally exploring the area on horseback.

During Rinker's first winter Goldfield experienced an epidemic later called the Black Pneumonia, in which hundreds of people died. Earle was a victim of this illness but recovered after some months. There were also many conflicts between the miners and mining companies, which resulted in several labor union strikes. The longest running strike action began in 1906 and lasted until President Theodore Roosevelt sent in federal troops at the prompting of Nevada Governor Sparks.

Earle and many others in the boomtown often experienced the repercussions of the mining industry's instability. Being out of work for a length of time was very common. Earle worked in MacMaster and MacMaster's office for several months, but the loyalty and support of his employers could not compete with the town's flagging economy and he was forced to look elsewhere. He took another clerical position at Mohawk Ledge Mining Company, working for R. J. Shoemaker and Lincoln Davis, but soon lost that position as well when their office closed. In September of 1907 Rinker began working for the Goldfield Transfer and Trading Company; that same month a railroad strike halted almost all business activity in the town for over three months and Earle found himself out of a job yet again. By Christmas he was hired to clerk for Lincoln Davis at the Baby Florence Mining Company. That spring and summer the lack of office work forced Earle to take a position as "top man" at the Florence mining site, a job that he found arduous and unappealing.

Frustrated by the shortage of work in his field and the depths to which the local stock markets had plunged, Earle Rinker left Goldfield in early October 1908. He traveled through parts of California, Mexico, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. Upon rejoining his family in Daleville, Indiana, Rinker secured a position selling shoes in a department store. Rinker continued his efforts to secure more stable employment in various kinds of business, first working in the offices of a stockyard and a fertilizer plant in Chicago and later in other parts of Indiana. He married Vieune Prigg in February 1910 and the couple had four children: Eloise, Alice, Mary, and Thurman. The young Rinker family moved around the state following Earle's work. By November

1912 the Rinkers were living in Anderson, Indiana, farming and eventually operating a successful hardware business.

C. A. Earle Rinker passed away in Indiana in 1965 at the age of eighty-one.

Source:

C. A. Earle Rinker Papers, 1880-1960. MS-00514. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The C. A. Earle Rinker Photograph Collection of Goldfield, Nevada (approximately 1900-1915) contains individual black-and-white photographic prints, photographic albums, black-and-white and tinted postcards, and photographic negatives that document the history of early twentieth century Goldfield, Nevada. The images include photographic prints of Goldfield and surrounding areas during its peak years of 1906-1910; postcards showing scenes of Goldfield, Tonopah, and other areas in central Nevada; and negatives that contain images of Rinker's family and homelife in Indiana and Illinois.

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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 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 purchased in 2006; accession numbers 2006-09 and 2007-29.

## Processing Note

Materials were processed and inventoried in 2008 by Dana Miller. In 2008, Digital Collections digitized a portion of the materials, and 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

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### Related Collections

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

Tonopah-Goldfield Mining Photograph Collection, 1901-1905. PH-00023. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Photograph Collection, approximately 1900-2004. PH-00062. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Charles Thomas-Perry Photographs, 1900-1940. PH-00150. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

C. A. Earle Rinker Papers, 1880-1960. MS-00514. 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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- Goldfield (Nev.)
- Gold mines and mining

- Nevada -- History
- Photography
- Postcards

## Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
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Portrait of C. A. Earle Rinker: photographic print, approximately approximately 1907-1908 (0350_0002) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Portrait of C. A. Earle Rinker: photographic print, approximately approximately 1907-1908 (0350_0003) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
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Portrait of C. A. Earle Rinker: photographic print, approximately approximately 1907-1908 (0350_0005) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
Portrait of C. A. Earle Rinker: photographic print, approximately approximately 1907-1908 (0350_0006) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 01
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Unidentified manufacturing facility, interior: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1915 (0350_0131) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Group of men next to a wagon loaded with gold ore valued at \$360,000.00, from the Frances Mohawk Mine, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0132)	folder 06
Mohawk Mine, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0133) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Goldfield Hotel, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0134) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Ramsey Street, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0135) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Rochester Mine in Goldfield, Nevada. Rinker is on the left, J. D. MacMaster fourth from right. The other men are not identified: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0136) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	oversized flat file box 07 SH-066
Unidentified manufacturing or mine facility, interior: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0137) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Soldiers Camp, Combination Hill, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, 1907 December 08 (0350_0138) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Unidentified manufacturing facility, interior: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0139) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Combination Mine, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0140) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Cominbation Mine mill, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0141) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06

Mohawk Mine, Goldfield, Nevada with railroad station to the left. Handwritten note on back: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0142) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Goldfield Consolidated Mine, a two-week ore run worth \$534,500.00. Handwritten note on back: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0143) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Birds-eye view of mines and town, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0144) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Group of men inside industrial building, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0145) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
January Mine and Combination Mine and mill, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0146) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
George Nixon, Nevada state senator and Goldfield mine owner: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0147) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Unidentified group of men, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0148) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Balloon route excursion party, National Soldiers Home, Sawtelle, California. Jim Jeffries, C. A. Rinker, Rinker's girlfriend (identified from left to right): photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1910 (0350_0149) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
C. A. Rinker is pictured with unidentified man at Catalina Island: photographic print, 1908 October 09 (0350_0150) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	oversized flat file box 07 SH-066
Boxing match between Terry Mustain and young Peter Jackson in Tonopah, Nevada (identified from left to right). Arrow on the image is pointing to Rinker: he "paid with a \$40 gold piece for that seat": photographic print, 1907 September 07 (0350_0151) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	oversized flat file box 07 SH-066
Lincoln Davis, Chicago; R. J. Shoemaker, Rochester, New York; and J. R. Hubbard a mining engineer, Nevada (identified from left to right). Mohawk Ledge Mining Company, Goldfield, Nevada. Inscription reads "I worked for Davis & Shoemaker in office and later at mine after panic hit. This was last work in Goldfield. Shoemaker formerly owned and operated a correspondence school at Rochester, New York": photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1915 (0350_0152) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	oversized flat file box 07 SH-066
Ray Dingman in his water delivery wagon: photographic print, approximately approximately 1906-1907 (0350_0153) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	oversized flat file box 07 SH-066
Portrait of Thomas H. Nicholl: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1930 (0350_0154) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Portrait of Thomas H. Nicholl: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1930 (0350_0155) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06
Joe Gans, boxer, at the wheel of a car with three unidentified men. One is possibly Lewis Rogers, his attorney. Taken outside of Rogers' law practice,	

102 E. Ramsey Avenue, Goldfield, Nevada. Handwritten inscription on back of the image: photographic print, 1906 September (0350_0156) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	oversized box SH-066	flat file 07
A panoramic photo of the Bullfrog Mining District, taken by A. E. Holt. Written on negative: "Panorama looking north west from Shoshone Bullfrog Gold property showing country east of Montgomery property." Image also names five mines with corresponding numbers which locate the mines on the photo. Those listed are: "1. Montgomery Shoshone, 2. Lucky Jack, 3. Red Oak, 4. Pittsburgh, and 5. Shoshone Bullfrog Gold": photographic print, 1906 (0350_0157) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	oversized box SH-066	flat file 07
Mill and head frame, Belmont Mining Company, Tonopah, Nevada. Handwritten note on back: photographic print, approximately 1906-1908 (0350_0158) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
"Kid" Herman and unidentified man driving first stake for boxing arena in Tonopah, Nevada in preparation for a match against Joe Gans. Handwritten note on back: photographic print, 1906 December 10 (0350_0159) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Photographic print, annotated: "Arrival of Tex Rickards' drill for mining and water, Rawhide Northern Water Company." Handwritten note on back: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1915 (0350_0160) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Elks dinner, Rhyolite, Nevada. Handwritten information on back: photographic print, 1910 July 14 (0350_0161) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Miners working with and without the "Dust Arrester" drill attachment. Advertisement with description on reverse: photographic print, approximately approximately 1900-1915 (0350_0162) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Early image of Rhyolite, Nevada: photographic print, 1904 (0350_0163) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Gold Bar Mining Company, Goldfield, Nevada. Photographed by A. A. Allen: photographic print, 1906 (0350_0164) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Group of unidentified men pose in and around an automobile in front of the Louvre Saloon, Goldfield, Nevada: photographic print, approximately approximately 1906-1908 (0350_0165) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Unidentified group of men, posing with automobiles: photographic print, 1908 (0350_0166) ( <a href="#">view online</a> )	folder 06	
Photograph albums and negatives		
Album 1: Goldfield, Nevada: photograph album, approximately approximately 1900-1915 Physical Description: 43 Photographic Prints	oversized box	08
Album 2: Goldfield, Nevada and surrounding areas. Includes images of a 1907 International Workers of the World (IWW) march and two of the six cars that drove through Goldfield in the New York-Paris road race: photograph album, approximately approximately 1900-1910	oversized box	08



Physical Description: 101 Photographic Prints

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Album 3: Goldfield and Tonopah, Nevada: photograph album,  
approximately approximately 1900-1915

oversized  
box 08

Physical Description: 32 Photographic Prints

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Album 4: Goldfield, Nevada and locations in California: photograph  
album, approximately approximately 1900-1910

oversized  
box 08

Physical Description: 89 Photographic Prints

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Photographic negatives of existing prints: photographic negatives,  
approximately approximately 1900-1915

box  
SH-033

Physical Description: 60 Photographic Negatives