



Guide to the Richard "Dick" Ham Photograph Collection

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical Note	3
Scope and Contents Note	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	5

Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Ham, Richard
Title:	Richard "Dick" Ham Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00440
Date [inclusive]:	1910 to 2005
Physical Description:	0.20 Cubic Feet (1 box, 1 flat file (shared box))
Physical Description:	2.02 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Richard "Dick" Ham Photograph Collection (1910-2005) contains photographs of Boulder City, Nevada resident Richard "Dick" Ham, his family, friends, and romantic partners. Images include photographs of Las Vegas High School and the University of California, Berkeley where Ham attended high school and college. The collection includes both formal portraits as well as candid snapshots of Ham and the people who were part of his life.

Preferred Citation

Richard "Dick" Ham Photograph Collection, 1910-2005. PH-00440. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical Note

Richard "Dick" Ham grew up in Boulder City, Nevada and attended Las Vegas High School in the 1930s. As a teenager, Ham was in a five-year relationship with Fred Alward, the Lieutenant Governor of Nevada. He attended the University of California, Berkeley before joining the United States Navy during World War II. Ham began working in politics after the war including working for Senator Pat McCarran's office and then joining Grant Sawyer's gubernatorial campaign. Ham would eventually become Sawyer's Chief of Staff and work in politics until his retirement in

1990. He was married to Betty Ham until her death in 2001 and the couple had two children. Ham passed away in 2012 at the age of 89.

Sources:

McBride, Dennis. *Out of the Neon Closet: Queer Community in the Silver State*. United States: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017.

"Obituary: Betty Ham," *Nevada Appeal*, December 20, 2001. <https://www.nevadaappeal.com/news/2001/dec/20/obituary-betty-ham/>.

"Obituary: Richard Ham," *Nevada Appeal*, September 17, 2012. <https://www.nevadaappeal.com/news/2012/sep/17/obituary-richard-ham/>.

"Carson man lives by simple motto," *Nevada Appeal*, September 3, 2001. <https://www.nevadaappeal.com/news/2001/sep/03/carson-man-lives-by-simple-motto/>.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents Note

The Richard "Dick" Ham Photograph Collection (1910-2005) contains photographs of Boulder City, Nevada resident Richard "Dick" Ham, his family, friends, and romantic partners. Images include photographs of Las Vegas High School and the University of California, Berkeley where Ham attended high school and college. The collection includes both formal portraits as well as candid snapshots of Ham and the people who were part of his life.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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 Dennis McBride in 2021; accession number 2021-128.

Processing Note

In 2021, Tammi Kim processed the collection during accessioning and created the finding aid in ArchivesSpace. Original descriptions created by Dennis McBride have been retained.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Richard Ham oral history interview, 2002 January 18. OH-02551. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- photographs
- Boulder City (Nev.)
- Las Vegas High School
- Gay community

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
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Richard "Dick" Ham portrait: photographic print, 1929 to 1930 (PH_00440_001)	box 01
Richard "Dick" Ham with his sister, Evelyn, on his lap: photographic print, 1933 to 1935 (PH_00440_002)	box 01
Richard "Dick" Ham and unidentified male child: photographic print, 1934 to 1935 (PH_00440_003)	box 01
Richard "Dick" Ham portraits at the University of California, Berkeley, Washington, D. C., Mt. Charleston, Nevada, and the Ski-Bar Ranch: photographic prints, 1940 to 1949 (PH_00440_004-0012) Physical Description: 9 Photographic Prints	box 01
Betty Barker Ham and Richard "Dick" Ham: photographic print, 1962 January (PH_00440_0013)	box 01
Nevada State Senator Carl Dodge and Richard "Dick" Ham: photographic print, approximately 1962 to 1963 (PH_00440_0014)	box 01
Nevada Governor Grant Sawyer, Richard "Dick" Ham, and unidentified woman at "Farmer LT USAF": photographic print, approximately 1960 to 1964 (PH_00440_0015)	box 01
Ham's mother, Bessie Digby Ham: photographic print, approximately 1910 to 1919 (PH_00440_0016)	box 01
Ham's father, Elmer Ham (second from left) with administrative staff at the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation administration building in Boulder City, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1935 to 1945 (PH_00440_0017)	box 01
School group: photographic print, approximately 1934 to 1935 (PH_00440_0018)	box 01
Richard "Dick" Ham standing in front of a Las Vegas High School bus: photographic print, 1939 (PH_00440_0019)	box 01
Las Vegas High School exterior: photographic print, approximately 1939 to 1940 (PH_00440_0020)	box 01
Las Vegas High School teacher Clarabelle Hanley Decker: photographic prints, 1936 to 1945 (PH_00440_0021-023) Physical Description: 3 Photographic Prints	box 01
Las Vegas High School class secretary Renza Myers: photographic print, approximately 1937 to 1940 (PH_00440_0024)	box 01
Las Vegas High School student Christine Logsdon: photographic prints, approximately 1937 to 1940 (PH_00440_0025-026) Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints	box 01
Fifth Street School under construction: photographic print, 1936 April 30 (PH_00440_0027)	box 01
Las Vegas High School coach Mr. McKahee (?) near Green Shack restaurant: photographic print, approximately 1932 to 1936 (PH_00440_0028)	box 01
Las Vegas High School history teacher Walter O. Long: photographic print, 1936 April 30 (PH_00440_0029)	box 01

Las Vegas High School math teacher: photographic print, 1936 April 30 (PH_00440_0030)	box 01
Oleta Franklin near Green Shack restaurant: photographic print, approximately 1932 to 1936 (PH_00440_0031)	box 01
Esther Childress, friend of Bessie Ham, near Green Shack restaurant: photographic print, approximately 1932 to 1936 (PH_00440_0032)	box 01
Unidentified woman near Green Shack restaurant: photographic print, approximately 1932 to 1936 (PH_00440_0033)	box 01
Unidentified girl on a bicycle near Green Shack Restaurant: photographic print, approximately 1932 to 1936 (PH_00440_0034)	box 01
James P. "Jimmy" Knowles, friend of Richard Ham, near Green Shack restaurant: photographic print, approximately 1932 to 1936 (PH_00440_0035)	box 01
Miss Chappel (Las Vegas High School teacher?) and unidentified man near Greek Shack restaurant: photographic print, 1936 April 30 (PH_00440_0036)	box 01
Ethyle Turnbull, Wilma Ide or Elde, Mrs. Fanny Soss, Eva Peasy (?), and Arlene Smith: photographic prints, approximately 1932 to 1936 (PH_00440_037-038)	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Photographic Prints	
Actor Dick Foran visiting Las Vegas: photographic prints, approximately 1936 to 1939 (PH_00440_039-040)	box 01
Actor Larry Clark: photographic print, approximately 1936 to 1939 (PH_00440_041)	box 01
Actor Clark Gable in Riverside, California: photographic print, approximately 1942 to 1946 (PH_00440_042)	box 01
Unidentified female dwarf entertainer and Evelyn Ham: photographic print, approximately 1936 to 1939 (PH_00440_043)	box 01
Evelyn Ham and "Captain Anglin": photographic print, approximately 1936 to 1939 (PH_00440_044)	box 01
Automobile of Crown Prince Frederick and Crown Princess Ingrid of Denmark arriving for a visit at Hoover Dam: photographic print, 1939 April 15 (PH_00440_045)	box 01
Crown Princess Ingrid of Denmark at the Hoover Dam: photographic print, 1939 April 15 (PH_00440_046)	box 01
Grace Community Church in Boulder City, Nevada covered in snow: photographic print, approximately 1937 to 1940 (PH_00440_047)	box 01
Unidentified man and woman in the driveway of an unidentified desert mansion: photographic print, approximately 1937 to 1940 (PH_00440_048)	box 01
Unidentified house on Utah Street in Boulder City, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1937 to 1940 (PH_00440_049)	box 01
View northwest from South Escalante Plaza toward demountable Vancouver houses built on the 400 block of California Avenue in Boulder City, Nevada: photographic print, approximately 1947 to 1950 (PH_00440_050)	box 01

Janet Hollister, Hazel Erskine, Mary Ellis Borglum (Vhay) at a party: photographic print, 1967 June (PH_00440_051)	box 01
6 Crest Drive, Carson City, Nevada home of Richard "Dick" and Betty Ham: photographic print, 2005 September 25 (PH_00440_052)	box 01
Unidentified lesbian editor of the <i>California Pelican</i> humor magazine at the University of California, Berkeley: photographic print, approximately 1939 to 1942 (PH_00440_053)	box 01
Bette Sawyer, Grant Sawyer (?), and unidentified woman: photographic print, 1962 September (PH_00440_054)	box 01
Four unidentified women: photographic print, 1962 September (PH_00440_055)	box 01
Nevada Governor Vail Pittman's automobile arriving for the second inauguration of President Harry Truman in Washington, D. C. on January 20, 1949: photographic print, 1949 January 20 (PH_00440_056)	box 01
Julian Villarealle, Lantinx lover of Richard Ham, in San Francisco, California: photographic print, approximately 1940 to 1944 (PH_00440_057)	box 01
Wayne Bunker: photographic print, 1940 (PH_00440_058)	box 01
Unidentified queer Asian male student at the University of California, Berkeley: photographic print, approximately 1940 to 1944 (PH_00440_059)	box 01
Ham posed on the balcony of an unidentified hotel resort in Virginia: photographic print, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_060)	box 01
Unidentified hotel resort in Virginia: photographic print, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_061)	box 01
Unidentified military man: photographic print, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_062)	box 01
Gene Martin: photographic prints and negative, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_063-066)	box 01
Physical Description: 4 Photographic Prints	
Unidentified woman and Gene Martin: photographic print, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_067)	box 01
Alan Koerner: photographic prints and negatives, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_068-075)	box 01
Physical Description: 8 Photographic Prints	
Physical Description: 1 Photographic Negatives	
Alan Koerner and unidentified man: photographic print, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_076)	box 01
Unidentified man: photographic prints, approximately 1945 to 1949 (PH_00440_077-078)	box 01
Richard "Dick" Ham: photographic negatives, approximately 1962 to 1969 (PH_00440_079-080)	box 01

Physical Description: 2 Photographic Negatives

Betty Barker Ham: negatives, approximately 1962 to 1969 (PH_00440_081-082)	box 01	
Physical Description: 2 Photographic Negatives		
Childhood portrait of Richard "Dick" Ham: photographic print, approximately 1924 to 1925 (PH_00440_083)	box 01	
Richard "Dick" Ham at 6 Crest Drive in Carson City, Nevada: photographic print, 2002 January (PH_00440_084)	box 01	
Richard "Dick" Ham and Dennis McBride at 6 Crest Drive in Carson City, Nevada: photographic print, 2004 February 13 (PH_00440_085)	box 01	
Grant Sawyer portrait, with inscription: "To Dick, a great guy to whom I owe much -- Grant Sawyer": photographic print, approximately 1960 to 1964 (PH_00440_086)	oversized box SH-053	flat file 02
Richard "Dick" Ham dressed as a sailor: photographic print, approximately 1940 to 1947 (PH_00440_087)	oversized box SH-053	flat file 02