



Guide to the James Cashman Sr. Papers

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1ds3w>

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Cashman, James, Sr., 1884-1962
Title:	James Cashman Sr. Papers
ID:	MS-00144
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1890 to 1969
Physical Description:	3.48 Cubic Feet (4 boxes, 1 flat file, 2 oversized boxes)
Physical Description:	4.28 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The James Cashman Sr. Papers date from approximately 1890 to 1969 and contain correspondence, photographs, insurance records, and bank records related to Cashman and his businesses in Southern Nevada. Also included are three scrapbooks of newspaper clippings documenting the 14th and 15th Helldorado Parades in Las Vegas. The collection documents the lives of the Cashman family and their businesses in southern Nevada.

Preferred Citation

James Cashman Sr. Papers, approximately 1890-1969. MS-00144. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1ds3w>

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Biographical Note

James "Big Jim" Cashman was born to Benjamin Franklin Cashman and Ella Mary Stovall in Ladue, Missouri on December 16, 1884. Cashman moved to Searchlight, Nevada in 1904 and began working a variety of jobs until he opened an automobile garage in approximately 1910. Cashman later sold automobiles and operated in Searchlight until the mining boom halted around 1920. As a result, Cashman decided to move his business to the growing city of Las Vegas, Nevada. Cashman met his future wife, Leah Barker, in Las Vegas and they married in 1923.

In 1920 the voters of Clark County, Nevada elected Cashman to the position of county commissioner. During his time in office, Cashman operated a ferry service across the Colorado River, until the beginning of the Hoover Dam project. In 1931 Cashman sold six Caterpillar Inc. diesel tractors to Six Companies Inc., which made him an official partner for the Hoover Dam project. After his time in office, Cashman continued to operate his automobile dealership until his retirement in 1955.

Cashman was active in Las Vegas organizations such as the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and the Las Vegas Rotary Club. Cashman died from a heart condition in 1962. Clark County named James Cashman Middle School in honor of Cashman and his contributions to the city of Las Vegas, and the Cashman family was inducted into the Nevada Business Hall of Fame in 2007.

Sources:

"Big Jim Cashman." Cashman Equipment. Accessed December 31, 2019. <https://www.cashmanequipment.com/about/cashman-history/big-jim>

"Commissioner James Cashman." Clark County Nevada. Accessed December 31, 2019. <http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/parks/Documents/centennial/commissioners/commissioner-j-cashman.pdf>

Fechita, Bogdan. "'Big' Jim Cashman, Everything Started with 10¢." *Casino Inside* (Romania). Accessed December 31, 2019. <https://www.casinoinside.ro/%E2%80%9Ebig-jim-cashman-totul-a-inceput-cu-10%C2%A2/?lang=en>

Genealogy files about "James Cashman." Accessed December 31, 2019. Accessed from Ancestry.com and FindaGrave.com.

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Scope and Contents Note

The James Cashman Sr. Papers date from approximately 1890 to 1969 and contain correspondence, photographs, insurance records, and bank records related to Cashman and his businesses in Southern Nevada. Also included are three scrapbooks of newspaper clippings documenting the 14th and 15th Helldorado Parades in Las Vegas. The collection documents the lives of the Cashman family and their businesses in Southern Nevada. The materials also include records from the Cashman garages and automobile dealerships in Searchlight and Las Vegas, Nevada, organizational notes from the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and Las Vegas Rotary Club, and Cashman and Barker family photographs.

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Arrangement

Material remains in original order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1983 by Tona Cashman Siefert and James Cashman Jr.; accession numbers 1983-059 and T-041.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections Staff. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Hana Gutierrez created the collection description and brought it into compliance with current professional standards and entered the data into ArchivesSpace. In 2019, as part of a backlog elimination project, Ryan DiPaolo updated the finding aid and brought it into compliance with current professional standards. In 2025, Sarah Jones added three additional scrapbooks not previously listed in the inventory.

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Names and Subjects

- photographs

- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Automobile dealers
- Helldorado Parade (Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Elks (Fraternal order)
- Las Vegas Rotary Club
- Cashman, Leah, 1894-1961

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Correspondence to wife and correspondence from Garry Schumacher, Douglas Harrell, and Constance Chalmers, 1928 to 1961	box 01
Las Vegas Elks Lodge No. 1468, 1954-1963	box 01
Biographical notes, approximately 1958 to 1965	box 01
Automotive publications, 1911 to 1969	box 01
Searchlight garage, 1921	box 01
Police Department membership certificate, 1946	box 01
Attempt to organize by union by James Cashman Sr., typescript, approximately 1950 to 1955	box 01
Membership cards and licenses, 1947 to 1961	box 01
Real estate and business transactions, 1929	box 01
Cashman Garage automobile policies, 1929 to 1930	box 01
Tri-State Ferry coupon book, 1930	box 01
Hosselkus genealogy (Leah Barker family), approximately 1958 to 1965	box 01
Cashman field quitclaim deed, 1948	box 01
Las Vegas Rotary Club, approximately 1920 to 1929	box 01
Cashman Garage, 1924 to 1928	box 01
Insurance policies, 1926 to 1927	box 01
Agreements for purchase of automobiles, 1923 to 1928	box 01
Real estate and business transactions, 1919 to 1930 Physical Description: 6 Files	box 02
Bank records and deposit slips, 1924 to 1927	box 03
Newspaper clippings, approximately 1945 to 1959	box 04
James Cashman Sr.: photographic prints, approximately 1945 to 1959	box 04
Scrapbook of Leah Barker kindergarten, 1901	box 04

Scrapbook of Leah Barker life and family, approximately 1890 to 1940	box 04
Cashman letterhead, anti-union notice, and kangaroo police badge, approximately 1945 to 1959	box 04
Hosselkus family: photographic prints, approximately 1890 to 1930	box 04
Security building and loan association bond and church service pamphlet, 1929, 1961	box 04
Hosselkus family: photographic prints, approximately 1890 to 1930	box 04
Certificates, approximately 1940 to 1960	flat file 05
Scrapbooks with newspaper clippings relating to the 14th and 15th annual Helldorado Parades in Las Vegas, Nevada, 1948 to 1949	oversized box 06
Physical Description: 3 Items	oversized box 07