

Guide to the Alma Whitney oral history interviews

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Whitney, Alma J., 1936-2004
Contributor:	Las Vegas Women Oral History Project
Contributor:	Las Vegas Women in Gaming and Entertainment Oral History Project
Contributor:	African Americans in Las Vegas: a Collaborative Oral History Project
Contributor:	Women's Research Institute of Nevada
Title:	Alma Whitney oral history interviews
ID:	OH-01972
Date:	1996 March 03
Date:	1996 May 28
Physical Description:	4 Digital Files (0.123 GB) MP3, PDF/A
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Oral history interviews with Alma Whitney conducted by Claytee D. White on March 03, 1996 and May 28, 1996 for the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. Whitney opens the interview by talking about her life in Tallulah, Louisiana. She discusses race relations in Tallulah and how she traveled from Tallulah to Las Vegas, Nevada. Whitney describes her first job as a maid at the Desert Moon Motel, and her move later to the Desert Inn Hotel. Whitney discusses her career of over 30 years at the Desert Inn along with her promotion from maid to supervisor. Whitney also describes a time when Desert Inn employees went on strike for three weeks.

Preferred Citation

Alma Whitney oral history interviews, 1996 March 03, 1996 May 28. OH-01972. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Scope and Contents Note

Oral history interviews with Alma Whitney conducted by Claytee D. White on March 03, 1996 and May 28, 1996 for the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) Las Vegas Women Oral History Project. Whitney opens the interview talking about her life in Tallulah, Louisiana. She discusses race relations in Tallulah and how she traveled from Tallulah to Las Vegas, Nevada on a nonstop trip, since African Americans were often refused service at hotels along the way. Whitney describes her first job as a maid at the Desert Moon Motel, and her move later to the Desert Inn Hotel. Whitney discusses her career of over thirty years at the Desert Inn along with her promotion from maid to supervisor. Whitney also describes a time when Desert Inn employees went on strike for three weeks. Whitney ends the interview discussing personal matters, including describing her parents, siblings, and husband. Digital audio and transcript available.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Where use copies do not exist, production of use copies is required before access will be granted; this may delay research requests. Advanced notice is required.

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Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada, part of the UNLV College of Liberal Arts Department of History. Materials from this oral history project were transferred to UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives on an ongoing basis ending in 2017; acquisition number 2017-017.

Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by Karla Irwin in 2019. Access copies were created for digitized and/or born-digital audio and transcript files. Hana Gutierrez wrote the collection

description. Audio cassette(s) for this interview have been reformatted by the Women's Research Institute of Nevada and by an external vendor into a digital format.

Bound Transcript Availability

A bound transcript is available for use in UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives. See call number: F849.L35 W55 1997

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Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Women's Research Institute of Nevada Oral History Records, 1995-2015. UA-00084. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Oral histories (document genres)
- Hotels -- Employees
- Hotel housekeeping
- African Americans -- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Desert Inn Hotel and Casino