



Guide to the Binion's Horseshoe Club Photograph Collection

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Binion, Jack, 1937-
Title:	Binion's Horseshoe Club Photograph Collection
ID:	PH-00318
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1940 to 1985
Physical Description:	0.20 Cubic Feet (4 hanging folders, 1 shared box of negatives, and 1 flat file)
Physical Description:	1.30 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Binion's Horseshoe Club Photograph Collection dates between approximately 1940 to 1985 and contains black-and-white and color photographic prints and negatives depicting Benny Binion's family, friends, and Binion's Horseshoe Club, also known as Binion's Hotel and Casino, Binion's Horseshoe, and Binion's Gambling Hall. Photographs of Binion's family and friends show them posed at Binion's casino property, Binion Ranch, and events including rodeos and the Helldorado parade. Binion's Horseshoe photographs include views of street scenes and billboard advertisements featuring Binion's Horseshoe, the Million Dollar Display, quarter horse sales, World Series of Poker events, Binion's Horseshoe stagecoach, and celebrities visiting the property.

Preferred Citation

Binion's Horseshoe Club Photograph Collection, approximately 1940-1985. PH-00318. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Lester Benjamin "Benny" Binion was born on November 20, 1904 near Dallas-Fort Worth, in Texas. In 1951, Binion purchased the Eldorado Club on Fremont Street in downtown Las Vegas, Nevada

and renamed it the Horseshoe Club. He established a reputation as a casino operator for providing customers with well-received hospitality and amenities. After his conviction for tax evasion in 1953, Binion sold the majority interest in the Horseshoe to Joe W. Brown, but later regained full ownership. By 1964 the Horseshoe Hotel and Casino changed its name to Binion's Horseshoe. Benny Binion's oldest son, Jack, became the president of the Horseshoe, and his younger son, Lonnie "Ted" Binion, acted as casino manager. Although Benny not possess a gaming license, he remained listed on the payroll for decades as a consultant.

Binion first introduced tournament poker in 1949 when he arranged an extended match between poker players Nicholas Andreas "Nick the Greek" Dandolos and Johnny Moss. In 1970, Binion bought the rights to host the World Series of Poker (WSOP) from a casino owner in Reno, Nevada and began hosting the annual tournament at the Horseshoe Casino in Las Vegas. The contest was open to professional poker players and amateurs alike, as long as they could pay the ten thousand dollar buy-in fee. Beginning in 1977, a separate women's event was established within the tournament. The increasing popularity of the WSOP attracted more players and potential winnings increased to an excess of a million dollars.

Binion died on December 25, 1989.

Source:

Hopkins, A. D. "Benny Binion." *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. February 7, 1999. Accessed March 5, 2020. <https://www.reviewjournal.com/news/benny-binion/>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Binion's Horseshoe Club Photograph Collection dates between approximately 1940 to 1985 and contains black-and-white and color photographic prints and negatives depicting Benny Binion's family, friends, and Binion's Horseshoe Club, also known as Binion's Hotel and Casino, Binion's Horseshoe, and Binion's Gambling Hall. Photographs of Binion's family and friends show them posed at Binion's casino property, Binion Ranch, and events including rodeos and the Helldorado parade. Binion's Horseshoe photographs include views of street scenes and billboard advertisements featuring Binion's Horseshoe, the Million Dollar Display, quarter horse sales, World Series of Poker events, Binion's Horseshoe stagecoach, and celebrities visiting the property.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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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 in 1991 by Jack Binion; accession number 1991-30.

Processing Note

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

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Related Materials

Related Collections

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

Binion's Horseshoe Casino Records on Poker, 1960-2002. MS-00325. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

UNLV Libraries Collection of Binion's Horseshoe Promotional and Press Materials, 1963-2004. MS-00940. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Hotels (public accommodations)
- Casinos
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Gambling
- Rodeos
- photographs
- Binion, Benny, 1904-1989
- Binion's Horseshoe Club
- Helldorado Days

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Binion's Horseshoe Club and Benny Binion's personal photographs, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_0001-0318-0091)	oversized flat file box 05 SH-065 box SH-032
Photograph of Teddy Jane and Benny Binion standing in front of their house, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1943 August (0318_001) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Teddy Jane and unidentified woman in front of a garden, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1943 August (0318_002) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of three people standing with their cars, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1940 to 1949 (0318_003) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Benny Binion and others playing poker, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1980 to 1989 (0318_004) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Binion and friend in cowboy hats, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1960 to 1969 (0318_007) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of three men holding up cowboy boots, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1960 to 1969 (0318_009) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of three men standing in front of the Binion's Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1968 (0318_012) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Binion, Cannon, and another man smiling, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1970 to 1979 (0318_013) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Binion and two others on horseback, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1960 to 1969 (0318_014) (view online)	folder 01

Photograph of Binion and other man holding whiskey, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_015) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Jack Binion and man in cowboy hat, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_016) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Teddy Jane and Benny Binion at a party, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_017) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of people posing with dolls, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_018) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Binion father and son, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_019) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Benny Binion in a cowboy hat at a poker table, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_020) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of Binion during an interview, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_022) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of the Horseshoe Hotel and Casin's interior, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1959 (0318_023) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of slot machines and tables inside the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_024) (view online)	folder 01
Photograph of bingo players inside the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1959 (0318_026) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of table settings inside a Horseshoe Casino restaurant, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1959 (0318_027) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Horseshoe Casino slot machines and the casino exit, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_028) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of slot machines inside the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_029) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of a stained-glass ceiling skylight within the Horseshoe Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_030) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of the outside view of Binion's Horseshoe Parking Garage, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1962 December 01 (0318_032) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Binion's Horseshoe Casino parking structure, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_035) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of a Binion's Horseshoe Casino billboard on the street, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_036) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Binion's Horseshoe billboard on the side of a busy street, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_037) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of fireworks outside of the Binion's Horseshoe and Golden Nugget gambling halls, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1980 to 1989 (0318_038) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of \$1 million dollars displayed inside the Binion's Horseshoe, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_039) (view online)	

	folder 02
Photograph of Benny and Becky Binion posing in front of the Binion's Horseshoe, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1969 (0318_040) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of two officers in front of the Binion's Horseshoe, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_041) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Chill Wills and another man in front of the Binion's Horseshoe, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_042) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Jack Binion and customers in front of Binion's Horseshoe, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1970 February (0318_043) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Binion and others on the Merv Griffin show, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_044) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Binion and Wills on the Merv Griffin show, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_045) (view online)	folder 02
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Photograph of Jack Binion displaying money on the Merv Griffin Show, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1971 (0318_048) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Jack Binion transporting money inside the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1971 (0318_049) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of Jack Binion posing for photos holding the million dollar display, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1971 (0318_050) (view online)	folder 02
Photograph of horses outside of the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1968 April 17 (0318_051) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of a line of horses outside of the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1971 February 10 (0318_052) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of a quarter horse sale on Fremont Street, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1968 April 17 (0318_053) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of horses and a crowd outside of the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1971 February 10 (0318_054) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of Binion and others at a poker table in the Horseshoe Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_055) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of Jack Binion and others at a restaurant, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1979 (0318_056) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of gamblers at the 7th World Series of Poker, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1976 (0318_057) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of Brunson playing poker, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1976 (0318_058) (view online)	folder 03

Photograph of two men shaking hands at a poker tournament, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1976 (0318_059) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of men playing poker at World Series tournament, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1976 (0318_060) (view online)	folder 03
Aerial photograph of Binion's Ranch in Jordan, Montana, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_061) (view online)	folder 03
Aerial photograph of Binion's Ranch in Jordan, Montana, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_062) (view online)	folder 03
Aerial photograph of Binion's Ranch and cars in Jordan, Montana, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_063) (view online)	folder 03
Aerial photograph of Binion's Ranch in Jordan, Montana, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_064) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of Binion with rodeo champions holding saddles, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1968 (0318_065) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of a horseback rider at the Helldorado Rodeo, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1970 to 1979 (0318_066) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of rider on a bucking horse in the Helldorado Rodeo, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1970 to 1979 (0318_067) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of a horseback rider in front of rodeo spectators, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_068) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of people riding in a stagecoach advertising Binion's Horseshoe, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_069) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of Binion's Horseshoe stagecoach with camera man, cowboy drivers, and riders inside, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_070) (view online)	folder 03
Autographed photograph of "Make a Wish Cowboy" riders at a rodeo, Phoenix, Arizona, 1984 (0318_071) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of two men guiding horses, Reno, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_072) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of two men guiding horses, Reno, Nevada, 1981 June (0318_073) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of spectators watching Binion's Stagecoach, Simi Valley, California, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_074) (view online)	folder 03
Photograph of Johnny Moss counting money, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_076) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of men competing in the 1979 World Series of Poker, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1979 July (0318_077) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph at eye level of poker players during 1979 World Series of Poker tournament, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1970 to 1979 (0318_078) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of Moss, Binion, and Pearson at the 1974 World Series of Poker, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1974 (0318_079) (view online)	

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Photograph of Doyle Brunson with his winnings at the 1974 World Series of Poker, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1974 (0318_080) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of the Horseshoe Hotel and Casino at night on Fremont Street, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1960 to 1969 (0318_081) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of Baldwin and Addington during the 1979 World Series of Poker, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1979 May (0318_082) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of a display of money, Las Vegas, Nevada, approximately 1940 to 1985 (0318_083) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of the Binion's Casino marquee and entrance, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1979 July (0318_084) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of a man in a tie, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1974 (0318_085) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of two men at a poker table, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1979 May (0318_086) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of the Binion's Horseshoe display, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1952 to 1964 (0318_087) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of the parking garage of the casino, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1967 April 10 (0318_088) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of Binion and two others on horseback, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1960 (0318_089) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of Jack Binion and Doyle Brunson counting money, Las Vegas, Nevada, 1979 (0318_090) (view online)	folder 04
Photograph of Chill Wills' profile, approximately 1970 to 1985 (0318_091) (view online)	folder 04