Guide to the Verna Mortensen Papers

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English
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Summary Information

Creator: Mortensen, Verna Calista Cox, 1904-1979
Title: Verna Mortensen Papers
ID: MS-00163
Date [inclusive]: 1966-1979
Physical Description: 0.2 Linear Feet 1 box
Language of the Material: English
Abstract: The Verna Mortensen Papers date from 1966 to 1979 and document the work of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Clark County chapter to preserve and restore the Las Vegas, Nevada Mormon Fort. The collection contains newspaper clippings, notes, and a grant application for the Mormon Fort. It also includes an undated article about the history of the Las Vegas area and two eulogies given for Verna Mortensen.

Preferred Citation


Biographical Note

Verna Mortensen (1904-1979) was born to Frank and Elthera Cox in Bunkerville, Nevada. The family relocated to St. George, Utah in 1910. Verna Mortensen went on to graduate from Dixie State Junior College in St. George. She served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to the Eastern United States.

In 1929 she married James Mortensen and the couple moved to a ranch in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. They couple had four children. Verna Mortensen moved back to St. George, Utah in 1949 and
worked as a teacher at the local elementary school. She moved to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1960 and taught at Mountain View Elementary School and Crestwood Elementary School before retiring in 1969.

Following her retirement, Verna Mortensen became active in the Clark County chapter of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers (DUP). In 1971, members elected her president of the Clark County DUP, and went on to reelect her four times. With the DUP, she led efforts to preserve and restore the Las Vegas Mormon Fort. She served on the board of the Preservation Association of Clark County and received commendations for her work with the Las Vegas Mormon Fort. Mortensen passed away on April 26, 1979.

Scope and Contents Note

The Verna Mortensen Papers date from 1966 to 1979 and document the work of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers Clark County chapter to preserve and restore the Las Vegas, Nevada Mormon Fort. The collection contains newspaper clippings, notes, and a grant application for the Mormon Fort. It also includes an undated article about the history of the Las Vegas area and two eulogies given for Verna Mortensen.

Arrangement

Materials remain in original order.

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 website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

Acquisition Note

Materials were donated to Special Collections; accession number 79-203.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections staff. In 2016, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Angela Moor revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

Revision Description

The finding aid was revised and enhanced by Angela Moor to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. 2016

Related Materials

Related Collections


Controlled Access Headings

- Las Vegas Mormon Fort (Nev.)
- Historic preservation
- Mortensen, Verna Calista Cox, 1904-1979
- Daughters of Utah Pioneers
Collection Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Containers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article on Las Vegas history, author unknown, undated</td>
<td>Box 01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eulogies, Verna Mortensen, 1979 April 30</td>
<td>Box 01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas Mormon Fort, grant application and newspaper clippings, 1966-1976</td>
<td>Box 01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>