

Guide to the George Knox Roth Collection

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Roth, George Knox, 1907-1999
Title:	George Knox Roth Collection
ID:	MS-00238
Date [inclusive]:	1959-1980
Physical Description:	10.92 Cubic Feet (20 boxes, 1 oversized box)
Physical Description:	10.98 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The George Knox Roth Collection (1959-1980) consists of newspaper clippings (including photocopies), magazine articles, newsletters, technical reports and publications, correspondence, notes, and photographs relating to the Atomic Energy Commission, the environmental impact of nuclear testing in Nevada, Nevada mining, Airwest and the Hughes Airport, and other aspects of Howard Hughes' Nevada operations. The George Knox Roth Collection also includes correspondence and expense reports related to his own company, General Research Consultants.

Preferred Citation

George Knox Roth Collection, 1959-1980. MS-00238, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

George Knox Roth (1907-1999) worked as a scientific research assistant to John Meier, a special assistant to Howard Hughes at Hughes-Nevada Operations. Together Roth and Meier organized and coordinated a study on the impact of nuclear testing and opposition to it in Nevada for Hughes. Roth was also involved with Meier when he engaged in the large-scale purchase of mining interests in Nevada on behalf of Hughes. As a part of his personal interest and professional duties, George Knox Roth collected newspaper clippings, technical reports, and other materials related to nuclear power and the environmental impact of nuclear testing in Nevada.

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Scope and Contents Note

The George Knox Roth Collection (1959-1980) consists of newspaper clippings (including photocopies), magazine articles, newsletters, technical reports and publications, correspondence, notes, and photographs relating to the Atomic Energy Commission, the environmental impact of nuclear testing in Nevada, Nevada mining, Airwest and the Hughes Airport, and other aspects of Howard Hughes' Nevada operations. The George Knox Roth Collection also includes correspondence and expense reports related to his own company, General Research Consultants, and manuscript drafts written by Roth related to the Atomic Energy Commission and Roth's work for Howard Hughes' Nevada operations. George Knox Roth was a research assistant to John Meier, who was a special assistant to Howard Hughes at Hughes-Nevada Operations. This material was formerly known as the George Knox Roth Papers.

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Arrangement

The collection is organized by subject. Subjects are organized alphabetically and chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Access

This collection is open for research, with the exception of materials that are restricted to protect personally identifiable information. Restrictions are noted at the file level of this inventory and will be open for research use January 1, 2093.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1982 by George Knox Roth; accession numbers 2014-042, 1982-006, and T-165.

Processing Note

Materials were minimally processed by staff in 2014. In 2018, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Gayle O'Hara reboxed and arranged the materials, and revised the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Howard Hughes Public Relations Records, 1930-1990. MS-00380. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Businessmen -- United States -- Biography
- Underground nuclear explosions -- Nevada
- Nuclear weapons -- Testing
- Nuclear weapons -- Nevada -- Testing -- Environmental aspects
- Mines and mineral resources -- Nevada
- Nevada Test Site (Nev.)
- Photographs
- Hughes, Howard, 1905-1976
- Meier, John
- U.S. Atomic Energy Commission -- History
- Hughes Airwest -- History
- Summa Corporation -- History

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Impact Priority Committee, 1967-1969	box 01
Newspaper clippings	
Earthquakes, 1965-1970	box 01
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Nuclear power, 1963-1980	box 01
Physical Description: 36 Files	box 13
	box 14
	box 15
	box 16
	box 17
	box 18
	box 19
Oil, 1969-1970	box 01
Mining, 1967-1969	box 02
Howard Hughes, 1968-1975	box 02
Physical Description: 4 Files	box 13
Atomic Energy Commission, 1963-1969	box 02
Physical Description: 8 Files	box 03
Anti-Ballistic Missiles, 1969	box 03
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Hughes' airport proposal, 1967-1970	box 03
Hughes/AirWest, 1968-1969	box 03
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Politics, 1969-1971	box 03
John Meier, Las Vegas Sun columns, 1970	box 01
General correspondence, 1968-1977	box 19
Physical Description: 4 Files	
Expense reports, 1968-1973	box 19
Physical Description: 2 Files	
General Research Consultants, 1969-1973	box 19

Physical Description: 2 Files

Manuscript drafts

John Meier manuscript draft "Garden of Delight", 1965-1968 box 01

George Knox Roth manuscript drafts, 1970-1974 box 20

Physical Description: 6 Files

Technical reports and publications

Atomic Energy Commission

Cattermole, J.M. and Hansen, W.R., "Geologic Effects of the High-Explosive Tests in the USGS Tunnel Area Nevada Test Site", 1962 box 05

Project Rulison Joint Office of Information, "Project Rulison: A Government-Industry Natural Gas Production Stimulation Experiment Using A Nuclear Explosive", 1969 May 01 box 05

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, "Plowshare Program", undated box 05

Southern Nevada Industrial Foundation, "Addendum to Eldorado Valley, Nevada Site Proposal", 1965 November 20 box 05

Lipman, P.W., et al, "A Compositionally Zoned Ash-Flow Sheet in Southern Nevada", 1966 box 05

West, Robert G. and Kelly, Robert C., "Plowshare: A Selected Annotated Bibliography of the Civil, Industrial, and Scientific Uses for Nuclear Explosives", 1969 April box 05

United States Atomic Energy Commission, "A Report: Underground Nuclear Testing", 1969 September box 05

United States Atomic Energy Commission, "The Nevada Test Site", 1965 October box 05

University of California, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, "Anatomy of the Nevada Test Site", 1965 March box 05

"Nevada Test Site News", 1969 April 04 box 05

"Nuclear Energy and Public Confidence", undated box 05

"Radiation Exposure Criteria for Evaluating Acceptability of a Nuclear Activity", undated box 05

United States Atomic Energy Commission, Office of Public Affairs, "Questions", undated box 05

United States Atomic Energy Commission, Nevada Operations Office, "Safety of Underground Nuclear Testing: Summary Report on Activities for Assuring the Safety of Underground Nuclear Testing", 1969 April box 05

Stanford Research Institute, "Live: Three Plans for Survival in a Nuclear Attack", 1960 March box 05

"Environment: Plowing a Nuclear Furrow", 1969 April box 05

"Memo #4: Underground Testing", 1969 June 25 box 05

Conference proceedings: Colorado River	
Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, "Proceedings, Conference: Pollution of the Interstate Waters of the Colorado River and its Tributaries-Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Wyoming, Utah", 1967 June 26	box 05
Tsivoglova, E.C., et al, "Survey of Interstate Pollution of the Animas River (Colorado-New Mexico)", 1959 May	box 05
Tsivoglova, E.C., et al, "Survey of Interstate Pollution of the Animas River (Colorado-New Mexico) II", 1960 January	box 05
Colorado River Basin Water Quality Control Project, "Radium Monitoring Network: Data Release No. 1", 1962 October	box 05
Colorado River Basin Water Quality Control Project, "Radium Monitoring Network: Data Release No. 9", 1966 July	box 05
Beverly, R. G., "Statement for Panel on Past, Present, and Future Controls of Water Pollution by the Colorado Uranium Industry", 1966 February 4	box 05
Rapoport, Roger, "Oops!: The Story of Nuclear Power Plants", undated	box 05
Colorado River Basin Water Quality Control Project, "Disposition and Control of Uranium Mill Tailings Piles in the Colorado River Basin", 1966 March	box 06
Colorado River Basin Water Quality Control Project, "Disposition and Control of Uranium Mill Tailings Piles in the Colorado River Basin: Appendix A", 1966 March	box 06
United States Department of the Interior, "Conference in the Matter of Pollution of the Interstate Waters of the Colorado River and its Tributaries: Transcript of Proceedings", 1967 July 26	box 06
Earthquakes	
Slemmons, David, et al, "Earthquake Epicenter Map of Nevada", 1965 February	box 06
Slemmons, David B., et al, "Catalog of Nevada Earthquakes, 1852-1960", 1965 April	box 06
Slemmons, David B., editor, "Guidebook for Nevada Earthquake Areas", 1966 June	box 06
Ryall, Alan, et al, "Seismicity, Tectonism, and Surface Faulting in the Western United States During Historic Time", 1966 October	box 06
Stauder, William and Ryall, Alan, "Spatial Distribution and Source Mechanism of Microearthquakes in Central Nevada", 1967 December	box 06
Slemmons, David B., "Pliocene and Quaternary Crustal Movements of the Basin-and-Range Province, USA", 1967 March	box 06
Advisory Committee on Geological-Seismological Conditions Pertaining to the Siting of Nuclear Power-Desalting Plants, "Geological-Seismological Factors Pertaining to the Proposed Construction of a Nuclear Power-Desalting Plant at Bolsa Island, California", 1967 October	box 06

Olsen, Robert A. and Wallace, Mildred M., editors, "Geologic Hazards and Public Problems: Conference Proceedings", 1969 May 27-28	box 06
Smith, S.W., et al, "The Effects of Large Explosions on Tectonic Strain", 1969 June	box 06
Engineering	
Crawford, Todd V., "Diffusion and Deposition of the Schooner Clouds", 1969 December 3	box 07
Smith Jr., C.F., "Behavior of Radionuclides in Nuclear Gas Stimulation Techniques", 1969 December 21	box 07
Smith, C.F., "Gas Quality Analysis and Evaluation Program for Project Gasbuggy", 1969 December 19	box 07
Land surveys	
Montgomery, James M., "Master Plan for the Development of Eldorado Valley as an Industrial Community", 1960 October	box 07
Rogers, LeRoy F. and Neely, William V., "Costs and Returns from Crops and Livestock in the Upland Desert Valleys of Nevada", 1966 August	box 07
Southern Nevada Industrial Foundation, "Preliminary Proposal for Eldorado Valley, Nevada, as the Site of the New National Accelerator Laboratory", 1965 June 10	box 07
Snelling, Robert N. and Shearer Jr, S.D., "Environmental Survey of Uranium Mill Tailings Pile, Tuba City, Arizona", 1969 November	box 07
Simon Eisner and Associates Planning Consultants, "Amendment to the General Plan, Eldorado Valley, Nevada, Part I: Background for Planning", 1969 March 1	box 07
Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, "California Desert Conservation Area: Wilderness Inventory: Final Descriptive Narratives", 1979 March 31	box 07
Mining	
Hughes-Nevada Operations, "Political Reasons for Nixon to Focus on the Mineral Industry", 1968 November 27	box 07
DeWitt Smith, C., "A Report on the Mineral Concessions of Greater Antilles Mines Limited S.A. in the Dominican Republic", 1969 December	box 07
Davis, Dudley L., "Reconnaissance Report: Johnston Exploration Concessions Dominican Republic", 1970 February	box 07
Davis, Dudley L., "Reconnaissance Report: Dos Amigos Dominican Republic", 1970 February	box 07
Quiqley, W. Don, "Los Dos Amigos Prospect Dominican Republic", 1970 February 27	box 07
Ketner, K.B., et al, "Geochemical Anomalies in the Swales Mountain Area of Elko County, Nevada", 1970 February 27	box 08

Conference proceedings: "Public Health Aspects of Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Explosives" Las Vegas	
Holzer, Fred, "Summary of Results of Underground Engineering Experience", 1969 March 18	box 08
Terrill Jr., James G., "Public Health and Plowshares", 1969 April 07	box 08
Hosmer, Craig, "Plowshare, Politics and the Public Interest", 1969 April 08	box 08
United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Public Health Service, "Report of the Medical X-ray Advisory Committee on the Public Health Considerations in Medical Diagnostic Radiology (X Rays)", 1967 October	box 08
Johnson, Gerald W., "Peaceful Nuclear Explosions", 1969 November 1	box 08
Knox, Joseph B., "Technical Problems and Future Cratering Experiments", 1969 March 19	box 08
Williamson, Marvin M., "Nuclear Cratering Applications", 1969 April	box 08
Lowman, F.G., et al, "The Effects of the Marine Biosphere, Hydrosphere and Geosphere Upon the Specific Activity of Contaminant Radionuclides", undated	box 08
Tewes, Howard A., "Radioactivity Source Terms for Underground Engineering Application", 1969 April	box 08
Mueller, Harold F., "Meteorological Requirements and Operational Fallout Prediction Techniques for Plowshare Nuclear Detonations", 1969 April	box 08
Thalgott, Robert H., "Safety Philosophy in Plowshare", 1969 April	box 08
Higgins, Gary H., "Technical Problems and Future Underground Engineering Experiments", 1969 March 26	box 08
Nordyke, M.D., "Underground Engineering Applications", 1969 April	box 08
Reed, Jack W., "Airblast from Plowshare Projects", 1969 April	box 08
Hendricks, Donald W., "AEC Controlled Area Safety Program", 1969 April	box 08
Blume, John A., "Ground Motion Effects", 1969 April	box 08
Thompson, G.D. Carlyle, "Safety Aspects of Plowshare Program: State and Local Safety Program", 1969 April	box 08
Neill, Robert H., "Planning Required in the Development of Radiation Protection Guidance for Underground Engineering Applications", 1969 April	box 08
Shore, B. et al, "The Fate and Importance of Radionuclides Produced in Plowshare Events", 1969 March 18	box 08
Tompkins, Paul C., "Philosophy Involved in Setting FRC Guides for Activities Such as Plowshare", 1969 April	box 08
McNelis, D.N. and Patzer, R.G., "Exposure-dose Research for Radionuclides in Natural Gas", 1969 April	box 09

Klement Jr., Alfred W., "Radiological Safety Research for Nuclear Excavation Projects-Interoceanic Canal Studies", 1969 April	box 09
McBride, John R., "Public Health Service Safety Programs", 1969 April	box 09
Parker, H.M., "Plowshare Radiation Protection Guidance", 1969 February	box 09
Rogers, Lester R. and Western Forrest, "Considerations in the Development of Criteria for Control of Population Exposures to Radiation From Products Produced by Plowshare Applications", 1969 April	box 09
Whipple, G. Hoyt, "Approaches to the Calculation of Limitations on Nuclear Detonations for Peaceful Purposes", 1969 April	box 09
Gerusky, Thomas M., "The Role of a State Health Department in an Underground Nuclear Experiment", 1969 April	box 09
"Southwestern Radiological Health Laboratory Annual Report for 1968", 1968	box 09
Hilberry, Norman, "The Role of Industry in the Environmental Health and Safety Aspects of the Developing Plowshare Industry", 1969	box 09
Martin, William E., et al, "Ecological Transfer Mechanisms-Terrestrial", 1969 April	box 09
Crawford, Todd V., "Atmospheric Transport, Diffusion, and Deposition of Radioactivity", 1969 February 17	box 09
Moore, Raymond T., "The Public Health Service Role in Large-scale Use of Nuclear Explosives for Peaceful Purposes", 1969 April	box 09
Oakley, W.L., "Possible Role of the Atomic Energy Commission in the Event of Large-scale Use of Plowshare Technology", 1969 April	box 09
Russell, Paul L, "Industrial Potential of Large Scale Uses of Nuclear Explosives for Peaceful Purposes", 1969 April	box 09
Toman, John, "Summary of Results of Cratering Experiments", 1969 April 2	box 09
Greensfelder, Roger W., "The Pg-Pn Method of Determining Depth of Focus with Applications to Nevada Earthquakes", 1965 April	box 09
Oliver, Jack, et al, "Microearthquake Activity Recorded by Portable Seismographs of High Sensitivity", 1966 August	box 09
Weaver, Charles L., et al, "Tritium in the Environment From Nuclear Power Plants", 1969 April	box 09
United States Atomic Energy Department, Division of Technical Information, "Plowshare", 1968 October	box 09
Senate Foreign Relation Committee hearing	
Statement by Jack Oliver, Professor of Geology, Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, Columbia University, 1969 September 29	box 09
Statement by F.A. Long, Cornell University, 1969 September 29	box 09
Statement by Kenneth S. Pitzer, 1969 September 29	box 09
Statement by United States Senator Mike Gravel, 1969 September 29	box 09

Statement by Clarence E. Larson, Commissioner, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, 1969 September 29	box 09
"Underground Nuclear Explosions: Cause for Concern, or a Reasonable Doubt", 1969 September 26	box 09
Meier, John H., "Dangers of Radioactive Fallout", 1967 February	box 10
Meier, John H., "Memorandum for the Ad Hoc Panel of the President's Scientific Advisory Committee on the Safety of Underground Nuclear Testing", 1968 November 7	box 10
Statement by Seismologist Frank Press, 1969 September 25	box 10
Structural surveys, 1968 Physical Description: 3 Files	box 10
Water quality	
Essington, Edward H. and Sharp, John V.A., "Some Aspects of Ground-water Solution Chemistry, Underground Nuclear Explosion Zones, Nevada Test Site", undated	box 10
BSP Ecologix Systems, "South Lake Tahoe Water Reclamation System", undated	box 10
"Recommendations", undated	box 10
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Colorado River Basin Water Quality Control Project, "Radioactivity in Surface Waters of the Colorado River Basin", 1962-1964, undated	box 11
Domenico, P.A., et al, "Ground Water in Las Vegas Valley", 1964 April	box 11
Thordarson, William, "Perched Ground Water in Zeolitized Tuff, Rainier Mesa and Vicinity, Nevada Test Site, Nevada", 1965	box 11
Earth Sciences Division, Hazleton-Nuclear Science Corporation, "Close-in Well Programs for Hydrologic Safety Data", 1965 August 19	box 11
Lynch, E.J., et al, "Radioactive Contamination of Groundwater Around a Contained Nuclear Detonation", 1965 June	box 11
Rush, F. Eugene and Huxel Jr., Charles J., "Ground-water Appraisal of the Eldorado-Piute Valley Area, Nevada and California", 1966 February	box 11
Myles, George A., "Water Based Recreation in Nevada: Tahoe", 1966 November	box 11
Myles, George A., "Water Based Recreation in Nevada: Western Desert and Northern Lakes", 1967 March	box 11
United States Department of the Interior, "Quality of Water: Colorado River Basin: Progress Report No. 3", 1967 January	box 11
Orcutt, Richard G., "An Engineering-Economic Analysis of Systems Utilizing Aquifer Storage for the Irrigation of Parks and Golf Courses with Reclaimed Wastewater", 1967 October	box 12

Orcutt, R.O. and Cochran, G.F., "A Reconnaissance of the Technology for Recharging Reclaimed Waste Water into the Las Vegas Valley Ground-water Basin", 1967 July	box 12
Schulke, Dale F., "Preliminary Consideration of Use of Reclaimed Waste Water in Eldorado Valley", 1968	box 12
Western States Water Council, "Statement before the Federal Water Resources Council", 1969 January 13	box 12
United States Army Corps of Engineers, South Pacific Division, "Water-Resources Development Nevada", 1969	box 12
Hughes-Nevada Operations, "Southern Nevada Water Resources Management Program", 1969 May	box 12
"A Comprehensive Water Quality Control Program for the Las Vegas Drainage Basin: Phase I", 1969	box 12
"A Comprehensive Water Quality Control Program for the Las Vegas Drainage Basin: Phase II", 1969	box 12
"Report of the Task Force on Resources and the Environment", 1969	box 13