

Guide to the Mabel Hoggard Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Hoggard, Mabel
Title:	Mabel Hoggard Papers
ID:	MS-00565
Date [inclusive]:	1903-2011
Date [bulk]:	1946-1989
Physical Description:	2.48 Cubic Feet (6 boxes)
Physical Description:	3.06 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Mabel Hoggard Papers (1903-2011) contain materials related to Hoggard's career as a Las Vegas, Nevada elementary school teacher, her research and civic interests in Las Vegas's predominantly African American Westside communities, and her engagement with civil rights issues. The collection also contains materials about Hoggard's life, including biographical newspaper articles about her childhood, education, work, and family. The collection includes lesson plans, scrapbooks, awards, correspondence, photographs, and physical objects such as a vinyl record and political pins. The bulk of the collection focuses on her life in Las Vegas from approximately 1946-1989.

Preferred Citation

Mabel Hoggard Papers, 1903-2011. MS-00565. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Mabel Hoggard was the first licensed African-American educator in Nevada. Hoggard taught primarily first and second grade at various elementary schools throughout Clark County, Nevada from 1946 until her retirement in 1970. The schools she taught at included Westside Elementary, Matt Kelly Elementary, Highland Elementary, and C.V.T. Gilbert Elementary, all located in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Mabel Hoggard was born on March 10, 1905 in Pueblo, Colorado to Maybelle and Marshall Welch. She attended elementary and high school in Des Moines and Colfax, Iowa where her grandparents lived, but

returned home to Colorado during summers to help her mother run a family grocery store. Hoggard attained her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Bluefield State Teachers College in Bluefield, West Virginia, a historically black college, where she graduated cum laude. During her time there she married her first husband, Irwin Wims, and had her first son, Charles I. Wims on June 13, 1925. Hoggard also went on to postgraduate work at both the University of Chicago and the University of California, Los Angeles.

After graduation, Hoggard first worked in Jenkins, Kentucky as a teaching principal for six years, and subsequently took a similar job in Williams, West Virginia for another six years. Hoggard spent two years as part of the administrative staff for the Williams Housing Authority before moving west in 1944.

On her way to California, Hoggard visited family in Las Vegas, Nevada where she decided to remain and acquired an administrative position at the Jefferson Avenue United Service Organizations (USO) office. She worked there for two years before she became Nevada's first licensed African-American educator in August of 1946. In 1947, Hoggard met her second husband, J. David Hoggard, a widower with two children who is known for his time as the executive director of the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County and as an ardent worker for Las Vegas African American communities.

During Hoggard's 24 years of teaching in Clark County she received a variety of awards and continued her postgraduate work at Nevada Southern University (now UNLV). Hoggard served as part of numerous educational, civic, and religious organizations, including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Church Women United, the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, the Zion Methodist Church, the Las Vegas Classroom Teachers Association, the National Education Association, and the League of Women Voters. She also notably served as the chair of the Westside Council, a coalition of Westside elementary schools, in 1969 and she was a key part of establishing a district-wide school lunch program.

In 1974, Bonanza Elementary School in Las Vegas was renamed the Mabel Hoggard School in her honor, later renamed the Mabel Hoggard Math and Science Magnet School. The school reflects the history of segregation and integration in Clark County, as it was turned from an elementary school into a "Sixth Grade Center" in 1982 to fight overcrowding. This program of integration was unique to Nevada and essentially meant African-American students were bused from the Westside area of Las Vegas to schools around the valley from first through fifth grade, and during sixth grade, white students from other parts of the valley were bused into various Sixth Grade Centers in the Westside. This program ended in 1990.

Mabel Hoggard died in Las Vegas, Nevada on May 31, 1989.

Sources:

"Our Namesake-Mabel Hoggard," *Mabel Hoggard Math and Science Magnet School*. <https://www.mabelhoggard.net/namesake>

"Mabel Hoggard," *Online Nevada Encyclopedia*. <http://www.onlinenevada.org/articles/mabel-hoggard>

Emily Richmond, "Students see few reminders of desegregation ruling," *Las Vegas Sun*, August 15, 2018. <https://lasvegassun.com/news/2004/may/05/students-see-few-reminders-of-desegregation-ruling/>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Mabel Hoggard Papers (1903-2011) contain materials related to Hoggard's education, her career as teacher, her interests in Las Vegas's Westside community, and her engagement with civil rights issues of equality. The collection also contains personal materials about Hoggard, including newspaper articles about her life, work, and family, including documents collected after her death. Materials include lesson plans, scrapbooks, awards, correspondence, photographs, and some objects such as a vinyl record and political pins. The bulk of the collection focuses on her life in Las Vegas, Nevada from approximately 1946 to 1989.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged alphabetically by subject.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were purchased in 2009; accession number 2009-29.

Processing Note

In 2018, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Billy Marino reboxed and arranged the materials, 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:

J. David and Mabel Hoggard. Interview 1997 February 23. OH-00873. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

J. David. Interview 1996 February 01. OH-00872. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Women -- Education -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- African American women -- Nevada -- Clark County
- African American teachers
- African Americans -- Civil rights -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Westside (Las Vegas, Nev.)

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Personal papers	
Address books, undated	box 01
Artistic interests, 1903-1980	box 01
Biographical: Newspaper clippings and school records, 1905-1989	box 01
Community interest, 1913-1986	box 01
Physical Description: 3 Files	oversized box 03
Cooking recipes, 1930-1935	box 02
Correspondence, 1928-1989	box 02
Correspondence: greeting cards, 1949-1990	box 02

Physical Description: 3 Files	
Ephemera: including vinyl record, embroidered napkins, political pins, decorative spoon, and bookmarks, 1968-1985	box 04
Financial records, 1924-1989	box 04
Funeral guest book, 1989 June 09	box 01
J. David Hoggard, newspaper clippings and correspondence, 1954-1990	box 04
Photographs, undated	box 04
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Religious materials, 1930-1989	box 04
Scrapbooks, 1969-1981	oversized box 03
Physical Description: 2 Files	
State of Nevada Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 78 and family name history, 1989-1995	oversized box 03
Educational work and legacy	
Administrative materials: teaching contracts, district map, teacher-student guidelines, newsletters, conference booklet, speech, 1923-1977	box 04
Correspondence, 1942-1982	box 04
Historical scrapbook, undated	box 04
Physical Description: 3 Files	
Lesson plans and textbooks, 1922, undated	box 05
Mabel Hoggard School, 1974-2011	box 05
Retirement: party guest book and Southern Nevada Retired Teachers Association flier, 1970-1984	box 05
Civic engagement	
Housing Authority of Williams, Virginia, scrapbook, work notes, correspondence, and newspaper clippings, 1941	box 05
Las Vegas Westside newspaper clippings, community programs, and correspondence, 1960-1979	box 06
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) certificate, journal, radio script, program booklets, and correspondence, 1946-1986	box 06
Phi Delta Kappa certificate, journal, and meeting minutes, 1973	box 06