

Guide to the Kiel Ranch Preservation Committee Records

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Contributor:	North Las Vegas, Nevada Bicentennial Committee
Contributor:	Losky, John
Creator:	Advisory Board for Kiel Ranch. Sub-committee of the Citizens Advisory Committee
Title:	Kiel Ranch Preservation Committee Records
ID:	MS-00650
Date [inclusive]:	1884-2005
Physical Description:	13 Linear Feet (10 boxes and 1 flat file)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Kiel Ranch Preservation Committee Records (1973-2005) document the activities of the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee (1973-1976) and its successor, the Advisory Board for Kiel Ranch (1978-1995), in their efforts to restore Kiel Ranch, one of the earliest non-indigenous settlement sites in the Las Vegas, Nevada area. The collection contains various official reports on Kiel Ranch, proposals on how to restore Kiel Ranch, chronological files for each year of the project, and newspaper clippings on the status of Kiel Ranch.

Preferred Citation Note

Kiel Ranch Preservation Committee Records, 1884-2005. MS-00650. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Historical Note

Kiel Ranch (or Kyle Ranch) was established in 1875 by Conrad Kiel in what is now North Las Vegas, Nevada. The ranch is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is administered by the North Las Vegas Neighborhood and Leisure Services Department. It is one of the earliest non-indigenous settlement sites in the Las Vegas Valley and contains the oldest standing building in Las Vegas, an adobe structure from the 1880s. The ranch gained notoriety from two violent incidents: the death of pioneer Archibald Stewart in a gunfight in 1884 and the double murder of Ed and William Kiel in 1900.

As the United States was preparing to celebrate its national bicentennial in the 1970s, the city of North Las Vegas decided its bicentennial project would be restoration of Kiel Ranch. The project was led by the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee and received \$27,000 from the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. By 1976, the project was far from completion, though some restoration had taken place and a time capsule had been placed on the site to be opened in one hundred years. The original goal of the project was to create a historic park centered on Kiel Ranch. However, shortly after 1976, North Las Vegas City Council members suggested selling parts of Kiel Ranch to pay for other city projects. After 1976, the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee was disbanded, but the Advisory Board for Kiel Ranch was created to continue the work of the bicentennial committee, which it did from 1978 to 1995. The project is currently managed by the North Las Vegas Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

By 1988, the city of North Las Vegas sold 22 of the original 27 acres of Kiel Ranch. In 1992, Kiel Ranch suffered another blow when the main building caught fire and was destroyed. Today only two significant structures remain on the property. As of 2015, the city of North Las Vegas owns seven acres of the original Kiel Ranch. According to the city, the seven acres will be made into a park.

Sources:

Wilbur E. Wieprecht, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form," National Park Service, September 9 1975. <http://focus.nps.gov/pdfhost/docs/NRHP/Text/75001107.pdf>

"Kiel Ranch Historic Park," City of North Las Vegas, accessed July 20, 2015. <https://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com/Departments/ParksAndRecreation/KielRanchHistoricPark.shtm>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Kiel Ranch Preservation Committee Records (1973-2005) document the activities of the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee (1973-1976) and the Advisory Board for Kiel Ranch (1978-1995) in their efforts to restore Kiel Ranch, one of the earliest settlement sites in the Las Vegas area. The collection contains various official reports on Kiel Ranch, proposals on how to restore Kiel Ranch, chronological files for each year of the project, and newspaper clippings on the status of Kiel Ranch.

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Arrangement Note

These records are arranged into two series:

Series I: Reports, surveys, and chronological files, 1884-2005;

Series II: Visual materials, 1890-2000.

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Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in three separate accessions. The first accession was donated in 1991 by the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee; accession number 91-048. The second accession was donated in 2010 by John Losky; accession number 2010-017. The third accession was donated in 2014 by the North Las Vegas Library; accession number 2014-036.

Processing Note

In 2014, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Hana Gutierrez created the collection description and brought it into compliance with current professional standards. In 2017 Joyce Moore published the ArchivesSpace.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection. They may also contain duplicates of photographs and documents:

North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee Photographs of Kiel Ranch, 1974. PH-00005. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Historic American Buildings Survey of Kiel Ranch Photograph Collection, 1988. PH-00223. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Sadie and Hampton George Papers, 1897-1944. MS-00434. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Nevada -- History
- Kiel Ranch (North Las Vegas, Nev.)
- Photographs
- Historic buildings -- Conservation and restoration
- Historic preservation

Collection Inventory

Reports, surveys, and chronological files, 1884-2005

Physical Description: 2 Linear Feet (5 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: Materials contain reports, surveys, and chronological files from 1884 to 2005. The series includes the non-visual materials from the North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee and Advisory Board for Kiel Ranch. The series includes reports on the property, site maps, surveys, and newspaper clippings about the property and project's status.

Arrangement Note: Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Historic American Buildings Survey Recordation of Kiel Ranch Historic Site North Las Vegas, Nevada, 1988 May	box 01
Historic American Building Survey Recordation Kiel Ranch North Las Vegas, Nevada, 1988 January	box 01
Report on City-Owned Property Known as the Kiel Ranch, 1987 September	box 01
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Chronological file, 1977-1979	box 01
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Chronological file and newspaper clippings, 1980-1994	box 01
North Las Vegas: Kiel (Kyle) Ranch Bicentennial Project Financial History, fundraising deeds, 1975-1976	box 01
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Financial History, 1973-1982	box 01
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Financial History, miscellaneous donations, 1976, 1983	box 02
Report: Kiel Ranch Alternatives, 1983 August	box 02
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Financial Summary, IRS related, 1979, 1984	box 02

North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Financial Summary Valley Bank account statements, 1975 June-1982 November	box 02
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Historical Preservation Summary, 1976	box 02
Kyle Ranch Report, 1979	box 02
Newspaper clippings about the preservation and restoration of Kiel Ranch, 1980-1991	box 02
Report: Kiel Ranch Alternatives, 1983 June	box 02
North Las Vegas: Kiel (Kyle) Ranch Bicentennial Project Chronological file, 1975 January-June	box 02
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Committee Chronological file, 1975 July-December	box 03
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Committee Chronological file, 1976	box 03
Newspaper clippings about the state of Kiel Ranch, 1996	box 03
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Chronological file, 1973-1974	box 03
List of Kyle Ranch Donors (black hardcover notebook), undated	box 03
North Las Vegas Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project Membership, membership and mailing list, 1974-1980	box 03
North Las Vegas: Kyle Ranch Time Capsule placement program, 1976 July 4	box 04
Historic American Buildings Survey Historic Engineering Record Preparing Documentation for Transmittal to the Library of Congress, undated	box 04
Historic American Building Survey and Historic American Engineering Record documentation guidelines, 1985 March	box 04
Trinidad Foundry and Machine Company Historic American Engineering Records, 1984 January	box 04
Historic American Building Survey, Rooney Ranch, 1983 August	box 04
News clippings and press releases about Kiel Ranch, 1973-1976	box 04
Booklet: The Bicentennial Wagon Train Pilgrimage, 1975	box 04
Information about Kiel Ranch and the North Las Vegas Bicentennial celebration, 1976-1992	box 04
Nevada's application procedures for historic preservation, 1977	box 04
Newspaper clippings and other documentation of the Kiel Ranch Bicentennial project, 1976	box 04
News clippings about Kiel Ranch, 1978-1979	box 04
Diary of George Washington Bean 1852-1856 (typed copy), 1974	box 04
News clippings and photocopied sections of historical books relating to Kiel Ranch and early Las Vegas history, 1973-1985	box 04

The Status of Kiel Ranch By the Preservation Association of Clark County, 2005 October	box 04
Handwritten notes and photocopied section of book Nevada State Historical Society Papers, undated	box 04
Kyle Ranch Sub-committee members and defining duties information, 1977-1978	box 04
News clippings of the 1992 fire at Kiel Ranch, 1992	box 04
News clippings about Kiel Ranch, 1980-1981	box 04
National Association of Women in Construction Bicentennial records of phase I of the restoration of White House at Kiel Ranch, 1976	box 04
Slide show narration script for slideshow about Kiel Ranch, undated	box 05
America: student booklet celebrating the United States bicentennial, 1976	box 05
Chronological file of the chain of title of Kiel Ranch, undated	box 05
North Las Vegas: Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Project site maps, 1974-1975	box 05
Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology Guidelines and Application for grants from The National Park Service, undated	box 05
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, undated	box 05
Historic American Buildings Survey Kiel Ranch, undated	box 05
Historic American Buildings Survey, photographs of Kiel Ranch 1-45 taken by Jimmie Garrett, 1988 March	box 05
Historic American Building Survey, photographs of Kiel Ranch 46-61 taken by EG & G Energy Measurements, 1988 April	box 05
Duplicates of EG & G photos taken for historic recordation, undated	box 05
North Las Vegas Bicentennial Committee checks and stubs, 1975-1982	box 05
Bicentennial Committee for Kiel Ranch ledgers, 1975-1985	box 05
Master plan proposal for Kiel Ranch, and Advisory Board agendas and photographs, 1984, 1995	box 05
Lincoln County land patents for the Kiel Ranch property and the marriage contract between M. Sermon and E. Kiel (all documents are photocopies originals dating to late 1800s), 1884-1900	box 05

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Visual materials, 1890-2000

Physical Description: 2.8 Linear Feet (3 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: Materials contain photographs and other visual materials of Kiel Ranch from 1890 to 2000. Materials include photographs of the various Kiel Ranch properties, members of the Bicentennial Committee, and images of people who lived and worked on the ranch when it was functional. The series also contains the presentation boards used by the Advisory Board to show their progress and plans for the property.

Arrangement Note: Materials are arranged by the Kiel Ranch property they represent.

Title/Description	Containers
Kiel Ranch Scrapbook, 1979-1983	oversized box 06
Kiel Ranch "Pictorial" scrapbook, 1970s	oversized box 06
Photographs	
<p>Images of Kiel Ranch while a functional ranch, photographs include the following people: Sadie, Willard and George Hampton; Paiute Native Americans; Wally and Ernest Rhoads; Mr. Norton; Charles and daughter Ethel Todd, 1890-1913</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 11 Photographic Prints black-and-white 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Exterior images of Kiel Ranch's adobe taken used by Bicentennial Committee and Kiel Ranch Advisory Board, 1977-1979</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 4 Photographic Prints black-and-white 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Exterior images of Kiel Ranch's Brown House used by both Bicentennial committee and Kiel Ranch Advisory Board, 1970-1979</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 7 Photographic Prints black-and-white 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Exterior images of Kiel Ranch's Block House used by Bicentennial Committee and Kiel Ranch Advisory Board, 1970-1979</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 4 Photographic Prints black-and-white 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Exterior images of Kiel Ranch's doll house, caretaker house, and school house used by the Bicentennial Committee and Kiel Ranch Advisory Board, 1970-1979</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 5 Linear Feet black-and-white 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Exterior Images of Kiel Ranch's White House, 1940-1979</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 9 Photographic Prints black-and-white, 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Aerial images of Kiel Ranch from the Bicentennial Committee and Kiel Ranch Advisory Board, 1973-1984</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 7 Photographic Prints color and black-and-white 4" x 5", 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Unidentified exterior images of properties on Kiel Ranch, 1970-1979</p> <p>Physical Description: Approximately 6 Photographic Prints black-and-white 8" x 10"</p>	box 07
<p>Images of the Kiel Ranch Bicentennial Committee in front of the adobe and inside the White House, including John Losky, Mary Kincaid, Brenda Price, and Mark Aguirre, 1973-1976</p>	box 07

Physical Description: Approximately 11 Photographic Prints black-and-white 5" x 7"

Unidentified historic property, 1980	box 08	item 01
Physical Description: Approximately 10 Photographic Prints color 5" x 4"		
Exterior images of Kiel Ranch taken by Bicentennial Committee to document the restoration needs of Kiel Ranch, 1970-1979	box 08	
Physical Description: Approximately 35 Photographic Prints Color and sepia 3" x 5" and 3" x 4"		
Various interior images of buildings on Kiel Ranch by the Kiel Ranch Advisory Board, 1978-1981	box 08	
Physical Description: Approximately 115 Photographic Prints black-and-white 5" x 7"		
Negatives and proofs, 1970-1989	box 09	
Posters about Kiel Ranch		
Simulation of select buildings on Kiel Ranch property fully restored compared to current state of buildings and Garden area of Kiel Ranch, 1988-1991	flat file 01	
Proposed master plan for Kiel Ranch property, undated	flat file 01	
Kiel Ranch property status, 2000	flat file 01	
Master Plan for Kiel Ranch, undated	flat file 01	
Map of Kiel Ranch Property with property flora information, undated	flat file 01	
Bicentennial Committee scrapbook, 1973-1976	box 10	

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