

## **Guide to the Irwin and Susan Molasky Papers**

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## Table of Contents

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Summary Information .....	3
Biographical Note for Irwin Molasky .....	3
Scope and Contents Note .....	5
Arrangement .....	5
Administrative Information .....	6
Related Materials .....	6
Names and Subjects .....	7
Collection Inventory .....	7
Business records .....	7
Personal photographs and certificate .....	8

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Molasky, Irwin
<b>Contributor:</b>	Molasky, Susan
<b>Title:</b>	Irwin and Susan Molasky Papers
<b>ID:</b>	MS-00661
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	early 1900s-2012
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	bulk 1970-2012
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1.8 Linear Feet (2 boxes)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	188 Digital Files (transferred electronically; no physical carrier)
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Irwin and Susan Molasky Papers (early 1900s-2012, bulk 1970-2012) primarily contain materials related to real estate development work by Irwin Molasky with his company, the Molasky Group of Companies, in Las Vegas, Nevada. In addition, the collection includes personal photographs (early 1900s-2011, bulk 1970-2011) of family members, friends, and events, as well as a Proclamation from Clark County, Nevada to establish the Molasky Family Park.

### Preferred Citation

Irwin and Susan Molasky Papers, early 1900s-2012. MS-00661. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical Note for Irwin Molasky

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Irwin Molasky (1927- ) is a Las Vegas, Nevada real estate developer and chairman of the Molasky Group of Companies. He was involved in many major Las Vegas development projects including Paradise Palms, Sunrise Hospital, Nathan Adelson Hospice, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), the Boulevard Mall, Bank of America Plaza, Regency Towers, and Park Towers.

Born in Ohio around 1927, Molasky attended military high school and was enlisted in the late 1940s. He later took classes at Ohio State University, but did not pursue a degree because he had to work to support

himself. Molasky worked his way up in the construction business, and built his first apartment building at age 19.

Molasky moved to Las Vegas in 1951 where he co-founded Paradise Development with Merv Adelson and built Paradise Palms, the first master-planned community in Clark County. Molasky and Adelson were also partners in several projects with Moe Dalitz and Allard Roen, including Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center, the first private hospital in the area. After the death of Merv Adelson's father Nathan Adelson (who was the administrator of Sunrise) in 1978, Adelson and Molasky founded the first hospice in Southern Nevada in his honor. The partners also founded Lorimar Entertainment, a production company responsible for television shows such as *The Waltons*, *Dallas*, *Eight is Enough*, *Full House*, *Perfect Strangers*, and many other prime time shows.

Molasky was highly involved in the development of Maryland Parkway in Las Vegas and he donated 45 acres of land at Maryland Parkway and Flamingo Road for the development of UNLV. He was elected founding Chairman of the UNLV Foundation in 1981, and received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from UNLV in 2009. In recognition of their contributions to the Las Vegas community, the Clark County School district named Irwin and Susan Molasky Junior High School for him and his wife. Molasky was also a construction chairman of the building committee and a member of the Board of Directors of Las Vegas's first synagogue, Temple Beth Shalom.

In the Las Vegas area, Molasky is responsible for the region's first enclosed mall, Boulevard Mall; the first high-rise office building in Las Vegas, Bank of America Plaza; condominiums such as Regency Towers and Park Towers; and many other shopping centers, government buildings, apartments and condominiums, and business centers. Nationally, the Molasky Group has developed four field offices for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Ohio, Oregon, Minnesota, and California and is currently constructing two more buildings for the FBI in Boston and Milwaukee. Molasky has been married twice; he divorced his first wife, Pepi Bookbinder, in 1969, and married Susan Frey in 1973. His children Steven, Andrew, Alan, and Beth are co-owners of the Molasky Group of Companies.

Sources:

Hopkins, A.D. "Irwin Molasky." *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. Last modified September 12, 1999. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/irwin-molasky>.

Lillis, Maggie. "Irwin Molasky's projects helped mold Las Vegas community." *Las Vegas Review-Journal*. Last modified August 2, 2011. <http://www.reviewjournal.com/view/paradise/irwin-molaskys-projects-helped-mold-las-vegas-community>.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical Note for Susan Molasky

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Susan Molasky is a fundraiser for Nathan Adelson Hospice and a prominent member of the Las Vegas, Nevada Jewish community. Molasky, born Shoshana Borukh in Jerusalem on September 16, 1937, moved to London when she was nine. There she learned English and worked in a fabric store. She married her first husband in 1957 and moved to Las Vegas in 1958 to renovate and manage the Moulin Rouge hotel for her

brother-in-law Leo Frey. Subsequently, Molasky and her husband moved around Europe for a few years and she gave birth to three sons. In 1964 the family settled in Las Vegas permanently, where Molasky served as president of the Temple Beth Sholom Sisterhood and met her second husband, Irwin Molasky, whom she married in 1973. Susan's own battle with cancer has inspired her dedication to Nathan Adelson Hospice, which was founded in 1978 by Irwin and his business partner Merv Adelson.

Source:

Molasky, Susan. Interview, 2014 March 11. OH-02140. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Irwin and Susan Molasky Papers (early 1900s-2012, bulk 1970-2012) primarily contain materials related to real estate development work by Irwin Molasky with his company, the Molasky Group of Companies, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The papers include material on construction projects such as Turnberry Towers, Park Towers, and the Molasky Corporate Center, as well as project descriptions, development newsletters, magazine articles/newscippings, and color photographic prints and transparencies of real estate projects from the 1950s and 1997 to 2012. In addition, the collection includes prints and digital surrogates of personal photographs (early 1900s-2011, bulk 1970-2011) of family members, friends, and events, as well as a Proclamation from Clark County, Nevada to establish the Molasky Family Park.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Arrangement

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Materials are organized into two series:

Series I. Business records, 1950s, 1997-2012;

Series II. Personal photographs and certificate, early 1900s-2011, bulk 1970-2011.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Administrative Information

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### Access

Collection is open for research. Portions of this collection are digital or have been digitized and available online at: <http://d.library.unlv.edu/cdm/search/searchterm/MS-00661>

### Publications Note

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

In 2014, materials were donated by Irwin Molasky; accession number 2014-060. In 2015, Susan Molasky donated digital surrogates, but retained the original items; accession numbers 2015-031 and 2015-034.

### Processing Note

The collection was minimally processed by Karla Irwin in 2014 at the time of accessioning. To prepare the inventory, the described materials were reviewed to create a contents list, estimate dates, and identify material types. No other work has been performed on the physical materials.

In 2015 Emily Lapworth and Meghan Gross processed the digital surrogates that were added to the collection (accessions 2015-031 and 2015-034).

### Existence and Location of Originals

Some items in this collection are digital surrogates. The donor retained the original items.

### Revision Description

The finding aid was revised by Emily Lapworth to reflect accessions 2015-031 and 2015-034. February 2015

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Related Materials

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### Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:  
Molasky, Irwin. Interview, 2014 April 23. OH-02154. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Molasky, Irwin and Susan. Interview, 2006. OH-01311. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

Molasky, Susan. Interview, 2014 March 11. OH-02140. Oral History Research Center, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Names and Subjects

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- Real estate development -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Construction -- Nevada -- Las Vegas
- Las Vegas (Nev.) -- Social life and customs
- Family histories
- Jews -- Nevada -- Las Vegas -- History
- Photographs

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## Collection Inventory

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### Business records, 1950s, 1997-2012

Physical Description: 1.0 Linear Feet (2 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: This series is comprised of materials related to real estate development work by Irwin Molasky with his company, the Molasky Group of Companies, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The papers include material on construction projects such as Turnberry Towers, Park Towers, and the Molasky Corporate Center, as well as project descriptions, development newsletters, magazine articles/newsclippings, and color photographic prints and transparencies of real estate projects from the 1950s and 1997 to 2012.

Arrangement: Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers	
Federal Bureau of Investigation buildings brochures, 2012	box 01	folder 01
Construction project color transparencies, approximately 2000	box 01	folder 02
Turnberry Towers color transparencies of interior, approximately 2000	box 01	folder 03
The Molasky Group of Companies brochures, approximately 2010	box 01	folder 04
The Molasky Group of Companies development newsletters, 2006-2008	box 01	folder 05
Grand Openings, approximately 2006-2008	box 01	folder 06
Physical Description: 02 Optical Discs		
Magazine articles, 2008	box 01	folder 08
Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Molasky Center photographic prints, 2006	box 01	folder 09

Hangar seven at Paradise Aviation photographic prints, approximately 2008	box 01	folder 10
Park Towers photographic prints, color transparencies, slide, approximately 2000	box 01	folder 11-12
Molasky Corporate Center photographic prints, approximately 2008	box 01	folder 13
Unidentified building photographic print, 1950s	box 01	folder 14
Project descriptions, approximately 2010	box 01	folder 15
Magazine and newspaper articles, 1997-2012	oversized box 02	folder 03

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Personal photographs and certificate, early 1900s-2011 (bulk 1970-2011)

Physical Description: 0.8 Linear Feet (2 boxes)

Physical Description: 188 Digital Files

Scope and Contents Note: This series is comprised of prints and digital surrogates of Irwin and Susan Molasky's personal photographs (early 1900s-2011, bulk 1970-2011) of family members, friends, and events, as well as a Proclamation from Clark County, Nevada to establish the Molasky Family Park.

Arrangement: Materials are arranged chronologically.

Title/Description	Containers	
Family photographs, early 1900s-1965 Physical Description: 18 Digital Files Files are digital surrogates.		
Family photographs, 1973-2009 Physical Description: 48 Digital Files Files are digital surrogates.		
Photographs of events, friends, and celebrities, 1968-2009 Physical Description: 57 Digital Files Files are digital surrogates.		
Photographic prints, approximately 2000	box 01	folder 07
Photographic print, approximately 2000	oversized box 02	folder 01
Clark County, Nevada Proclamation for Molasky Family Park, 2011	oversized box 02	folder 02
Israel bond dinner photo album, undated Physical Description: 65 Digital Files Files are digital surrogates.		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)