

## **Guide to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Solar Decathlon Records**

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## Summary Information

<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Solar Decathlon Team
<b>Contributor:</b>	James, David E.
<b>Contributor:</b>	Piechota, Thomas Christopher, 1965-
<b>Contributor:</b>	Weber, Eric D.
<b>Title:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas Solar Decathlon Records
<b>ID:</b>	UA-00075
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	2013 to 2021
<b>Physical Description:</b>	3,553 Digital Files (37.930 GB)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	12 Websites (156.813 GB) WARC
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.01 Cubic Feet (2 files (1 shared box))
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.04 Linear Feet
<b>Abstract:</b>	The University of Nevada, Las Vegas Solar Decathlon Records (2013-2021) are comprised of records documenting the University of Nevada, Las Vegas's participation in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Decathlon collegiate competition. The collection includes records created by the 2013, 2017, and 2020 UNLV teams (Team Las Vegas) in designing and building their respective competition entries: DesertSol, Sinatra Living, and Mojave Bloom. Records include competition application files, working project files, As-Built submittal packets, and promotional and marketing files for the competition. The majority of records in this collection represent the 2017 competition. Archived websites and social media accounts associated with Team Las Vegas and the Solar Decathlon competition are also included in the collection. The records document Team Las Vegas's efforts in designing and building energy efficient homes for the Solar Decathlon competition.

### Preferred Citation

University of Nevada, Las Vegas Solar Decathlon Records, 2013-2021. UA-00075. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Historical Background

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The U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon is a collegiate competition comprised of ten contests that challenge student teams from all over the world to design and build full-size, solar-powered homes. The competition aims to provide students with training that prepares them for the clean energy workforce and to educate the public about the latest technologies and materials in energy efficient design. The Solar Decathlon includes two challenges. In the Solar Decathlon Design Challenge, teams create residential or commercial designs over one or two academic semesters. For the Solar Decathlon Build Challenge, teams spend two years designing and building fully functional homes. Since its inception, over 150 multidisciplinary collegiate teams have participated in the competition.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) participated in the Solar Decathlon Build challenge for the first time in 2013. Their entry, DesertSol, was designed as an energy efficient vacation home. The UNLV Solar Decathlon team placed in the top three in the overall competition and were the top team from the United States. As of 2018, DesertSol is on display as a permanent exhibit at the Springs Preserve (Las Vegas, Nevada), a 180-acre cultural institution designed to commemorate Las Vegas's history.

For the 2017 competition, Team Las Vegas designed and built Sinatra Living, an energy efficient home designed specifically for the aging population. The solar accessible home included features like an ADA compliant bathroom and adjustable kitchen countertop. The 2017 UNLV Solar Decathlon team won first place in the Innovation contest. As of 2018 Sinatra Living is located in Southern Nevada.

For the 2020 competition, Team Las Vegas designed and constructed Mojave Bloom, as a therapeutic home specifically designed for military veterans who may have post-traumatic stress disorder or other physical limitations due to their military services. Team Las Vegas placed third overall in the competition and took first place in the operations and presentations contests.

### Sources:

Stan Hanel, "UNLV students build 'Sinatra Living' home," *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, October 28, 2017, <https://www.reviewjournal.com/homes/new-homes/unlv-students-build-sinatra-living-home/>.

Keyonna Summers, "UNLV Takes Third in International Solar Decathlon Build Competition," *UNLV Today*, April 20, 2021, <https://www.unlv.edu/news/release/unlv-takes-third-international-solar-decathlon-build-competition>.

"DesertSol," Springs Preserve, Accessed December 21, 2020, <https://www.springspreserve.org/explore/desertsol.html>.

"Solar Decathlon," U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon, Accessed December 21, 2020, <https://www.solardecathlon.gov/>.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The University of Nevada, Las Vegas Solar Decathlon Records (2013-2021) are comprised of records documenting the University of Nevada, Las Vegas's participation in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Solar Decathlon collegiate competition. The collection includes records created by the 2013, 2017, and 2020 UNLV teams (Team Las Vegas) in designing and building their respective competition entries: DesertSol, Sinatra Living, and Mojave Bloom. Records include competition application files, working project files, As-Built submittal packets, and promotional and marketing files for the competition. The majority of records in this collection represent the 2017 competition. Archived websites and social media accounts associated with Team Las Vegas and the Solar Decathlon competition are also included in the collection. The records document Team Las Vegas's efforts in designing and building energy efficient homes for the Solar Decathlon competition.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged into three series:

- I. DesertSol, 2013;
- II. Sinatra Living, 2015-2017;
- III. Mojave Bloom, 2018-2021.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

Collection is open for research via the UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives. Portions of the collection are digital and available online through [UNLV Libraries Digital Scholarship](#) and archived websites are available through [Archive-It](#). Advance notice and arrangements are required for access to digital files that are not online; please contact Special Collections and Archives for more information.

## Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections and Archives website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

## Acquisition Note

Materials were transferred to the University Archives in 2017, 2018, 2020, and 2021 by the UNLV Solar Decathlon project team; accession numbers 2017-150, 2018-007, 2020-033, 2020-066, and 2021-078.

## Processing Note

The collection files were transferred from Google Drive in 2018 by Tammi Kim and A. L. Carson. Physical materials were foldered and described. Websites were captured, preserved, and managed using Archive-It, a web archiving subscription service. In 2020, Tammi Kim updated the finding aid in ArchivesSpace with information on the 2020 accessions. In 2021, Tammi Kim minimally processed the 2021 addition and updated the finding aid.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Solar energy
- Construction
- Residential structures
- Web archives
- Architectural drawings (visual works)
- Single-family dwellings
- Architecture
- Engineering
- Building designers
- University of Nevada, Las Vegas -- History
- U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon
- United States, Department of Energy

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## Technical Requirements

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UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives may not have software necessary to view certain media formats. Please contact Special Collections and Archives for more information.

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## Collection Inventory

### I. DesertSol, 2013

Physical Description: 52 Digital Files (1.33 GB) DOT, JPG, MP4, PDF, RVT, TIF

Physical Description: 3 Websites (5.00 GB) WARC

Physical Description: 0.01 Cubic Feet (1 file (1 shared box))

Physical Description: 0.02 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The DesertSol series is comprised of the 2013 the Solar Decathlon team sponsorship packet, the As-Built submittal packet, and presentation graphics. Also included are promotional videos highlighting the features of DesertSol and the team's progress in building the home. The archived websites in this series includes the UNLV Solar Decathlon team page on the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon competition website, the team's Facebook profile page, and the the Springs Preserve (Las Vegas, Nevada) webpage on DesertSol.

Arrangement: Materials remain as they were received.

Title/Description	Containers
Sponsorship packet, DesertSol promotional video, As-Built submittal, presentation graphics, 2013	digital file 00
Archived websites, 2017	
Marketing and promotional fliers, 2013	box SH-043

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### II. Sinatra Living, 2015 to 2017

Physical Description: 2,202 Digital Files (8.960 GB) 3DM, ADS, BEOPT, BMP, CSV, EPS, EPW, GIF, IDML, INDD, JPEG, MOV, MP3, MP4, OBJ, PDF, PNG, PY, RFA, RVT, S3D, SAM, SKP, TIF, XLS, XLSX

Physical Description: 5 Websites (6.645 GB) WARC

Physical Description: 0.01 Cubic Feet (1 file (1 shared box))

Physical Description: 0.02 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The Sinatra Living series is comprised primarily of project planning files from 2015 to 2017 from the 2017 UNLV Solar Decathlon team for their solar home, Sinatra Living. Records include meeting notes, research files, and various computer-aided design files. Also included are the team's submission to compete in the Solar Decathlon as well as final reports for each competition. The archived websites in this series includes the UNLV team page from U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon website, Sinatra Living website, and the competition team's social media profiles with Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Arrangement: Materials remain as they were received.

Title/Description	Containers
Project files, As-Built submittal, photographs, promotional videos, competition submission packet, and competition jury reports, 2015 to 2017	digital file 00

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 Archived websites, 2017
 

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Marketing and promotional fliers, 2017

box  
SH-043[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**III. Mojave Bloom, 2018 to 2021**

Physical Description: 1,289 Digital Files (27.600 GB) 3DM, AI, BAK, COM, DAE, DOC, DOCX, DWG, DWI, DW12, EPS, HEIC, HTML, IDML, INDD, JFIF, JPEG, JPG, LOG, LS10T, LST, MOV, MP3, MP4, MPEG, MPG, OTF, PDF, PNG, PPTX, PSD, SKP, SVG, TIF, TTF, TXT, XLSX, ZIP

Physical Description: 4 Websites (145.202 GB) WARC

Scope and Contents Note: The Mojave Bloom series is comprised records created by the 2020 Solar Decathlon team. Records include construction documents and house renderings graphics of Mojave Bloom. The archived websites in this series includes the competition team's websites and social media profiles with Twitter and Instagram.

Arrangement: Materials remain as they were received.

Title/Description	Containers
01 Schemes, 2018 to 2020 Physical Description: 39 Digital Files	digital file 00
02 Deliverables folder, 2018 to 2021 Physical Description: 616 Digital Files	digital file 00
03 Physical model, 2019 to 2020 Physical Description: 123 Digital Files	digital file 00
04 Copies of submittals, 2019 Physical Description: 10 Digital Files	digital file 00
05 Final presentation, Spring 2019, 2019 to 2020 Physical Description: 180 Digital Files	digital file 00
06 Publicity, exposure, 2019 to 2020 Physical Description: 10 Digital Files	digital file 00
07 Graphic identity, 2019 to 2020 Physical Description: 37 Digital Files	digital file 00
08 Rendering working folder, 2019 Physical Description: 6 Digital Files	digital file 00
09 Website, presentation images, video, 2019 to 2020 Physical Description: 14 Digital Files	digital file 00
10 Public exhibit materials, 2019 to 2020 Physical Description: 233 Digital Files	digital file 00
Final renderings, 2019 to 2020 Physical Description: 18 Digital Files	digital file 00
Beko Solar Decathlon presentation slide deck, 2020	



Physical Description: 1 Digital Files	digital file 00
Design Challenge weekend presentation video, 2020	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files	
Design solutions for traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), 2019	digital file 00
Physical Description: 1 Digital Files	
Archived websites, 2020	

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