A GUIDE TO THE
RICHARD L. ACTON PAPERS
MS/NC 1034

By

John G. Hoffa

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Reno, Nevada
June 2019
Richard Leon Acton was born on August 8, 1942 in Birmingham, Alabama. He was an early achiever. As a Boy Scout, he reached Eagle Scout rank and was a member of the Order of the Arrow. He dropped out of High School in 1959 to join the Navy and never looked back. After discharge in 1963, he returned to Birmingham and enrolled in the University of Alabama. He studied there and at the University of Southern Nevada (now UNLV) where he became a craps dealer at the Flamingo while continuing his studies. Acton graduated with a BA in Political Science from Alabama in 1968. He immediately enrolled in Officer’s Candidate School and was commissioned in the Navy at Newport, RI in December 1968. He was a Line Officer and traveled the world in the service of his country. He spent a total of over 20 years in the Navy, attaining the rank of Lt. Commander, retiring with honor and decorations in 1985.

Back home again, Acton settled in Pensacola FL, bought a 30-foot Sloop and sailed the Gulf of Mexico, Florida Keys and the Bahamas for almost three years as he was building a 36-foot Tugette. When finished he started his own company, Acton Marine, doing salvage, rescue, and recovery work. He sold the company and boat in 1990 and enrolled in the University of Western Florida, where he earned his M.S. in Public Administration. Afterwards, he returned to Nevada to enroll in a Doctorate program at the University of Nevada, Reno. He was awarded his Ph.D. in 2002. He served as a professor of political science at the University thereafter. During his tenure, he was among the many technical experts participating in the negotiation and drafting of the Truckee River Operating Agreement which was a significant accomplishment taking many years.

Mr. Acton never married, nor did he have children. He died at his home in Reno on November 11, 2008.
SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE COLLECTION

The papers of Richard L. Acton consist of a variety of personal records that he kept as a student and maintained in his office at the University of Nevada, Reno during his employment as a professor of political science. The first two boxes contain folders of some of the postgraduate courses he took at the University of Western Florida where he earned his M.S. in Public Administration, and courses he took at the University of Nevada, Reno in pursuit of attaining his Ph.D. Box 3 includes courses he instructed at UNR and Truckee Meadows Community College.

The remainder of the collection includes study materials, research notes, meetings and conferences attended, and other materials relating primarily to studies of the Truckee River water rights issues and the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA) in which Richard Acton was involved with for a number of years. More than 27 years in the making, the TROA guides the use of the river that winds from Lake Tahoe to Pyramid Lake and is the primary water source for Reno and Sparks. The long-pursued plan brought the Truckee River’s management into modern times, protected the area from protracted droughts and offered a promising future for the region. After years of debate and negotiation, the states of Nevada and California, the U.S. Government, Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe signed the Truckee River Operating Agreement on September 6, 2008. Implementation began in December 2015.

There are no photographs, certificates or personal items relating to Richard Acton exception folder 10 in Box 1, which contains partnership papers for Acton Marine Ltd. and a picture of the boat Mr. Acton owned from 1990-1992.
Acton U of W. Florida Grad studies

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<td>I. ACTON U OF W. FLORIDA GRAD COURSES</td>
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<td>GEO 5220 Coastal Geography Dr. Wycoff</td>
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<td>PAD 6353 Ocean Policy Dr. Fitch</td>
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<td>PS 639 Global Environmental Policy</td>
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<td>Max Webber Biography</td>
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<td>Acton Marine Ltd. Partnership papers</td>
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<td>Geography 638 W. Water Res. &amp; Mgt. – Kate Berry 1995</td>
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<td>PSC 754 Policy Admin and Implementation – Wilds 1995</td>
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<td>PSC 741 Seminar in Public Admin. – Herzik 1993</td>
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<td>PSC 781 Pol. Science as a Discipline – J. Marini</td>
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<td>PS101 fall, 1993 – Student Exams</td>
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### IV. GRADUATE SCHOOL STUDY MATERIALS

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<td>Western Water Law Conference, Denver, Mar 10-11, 1994</td>
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### V. REFERENCE MATERIALS, MEETINGS, CONFERENCES

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<td>Misc. Correspondence</td>
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<td>UNR Cooperative Extension Fact Sheets</td>
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<td>Workshop – Economics of Water Markets in Western U.S.</td>
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<td>Water Related Land Resources – Central Lahontan Basin</td>
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<td>Essays on Western Water Issues</td>
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<td>Walker River Basin Water Users Association</td>
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<td>Presentation Materials – Acton</td>
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<td>Truckee River Agreement, Jun 13, 1935</td>
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<td>PL 101-618, Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribal Settlement Act of 1990</td>
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<td>Truckee River Water Quality Settlement Agreement</td>
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<td>Contract Between U.S. &amp; Truckee-Carson Irrigation District</td>
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<td>State of Nevada Socioeconomic Overview, Apr 1998</td>
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<td>Nevada Map Atlas</td>
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<td>Evolution of Nevada Water Laws 1866-1960</td>
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<td>Nevada Agricultural Stats 1997-98</td>
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<td>USGS River Operations Model, Upper Carson River, 1999</td>
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<td>Nevada State Water Plan Summary 1999</td>
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<td>SCS Maps of Washoe County, South Part</td>
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<td>Soil Survey, Washoe County, NV, South Part</td>
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6 1  Walker River Basin
2  Humboldt River Basin Water Authority
3  Hydrologic Recon. Humboldt River Basin
4  Task Order, Clearwater Consulting Corp.
5  Water Banking Study – Walker River Basin
6  NV Population Projections 1997-2017
8  USGS Maps, N. Nevada
10 Settlement 1994 News Clippings
11 Settlement 1995 News Clippings
12 NV Study of Use, Allocation & Management of Water 1994
13 USGS Publication – Water Levels Churchill County, 1993
14 Nevada State Water Plan Summary 1999
15 USGS Water Resources N. CeOntral Nevada
16 Water National Geographic Special Edition 1993
17 State Drought Water Bank – California 1993
18 California Water Plan Update, Vol. 1 1994
19 California Water Plan Update, Vol. 2 1994
20 California Water Plan Update Executive Summary

7 1  NRRI Research Reports
2  Walker River & Lake
3  Misc. Reference
4  Pratt Report
5  Draft EIS Newmont Gold Co. S. Operating Area Project
6  Final EIS Newmont Gold Co. S. Operating Area Project
7  AMAX Gold, Inc.
8  Santa Fe Pacific Corp.
9  Water Rights Issues
10 Recovery Plan for Lahontan Cutthroat Trout 1995
11 Cu-Ui Second Revision Recovery Plan
12 Rawhide Early History – Development – Water Supply
8
1 News Clippings - Access to Public Lands
   “ “ - Endangered Species Act
   “ “ - Environment
   “ “ - Geology
   “ “ - Grazing
   “ “ - History
   “ “ - Logging
   “ “ - Mining
   “ “ - Negotiated Settlement
   “ “ - Nuclear Dump
   “ “ - Politics
   “ “ - Sagebrush Rebellion
   “ “ - Water
14 California-Nevada Water Issues
15 Mining/Water Info
16 Misc. Water Info
17 Truckee River Chronology
18 Water Quality Publications
19 Truckee River Operating Agreement
20 Newlands Project
21 Water Study, 1944 Court Decision
22 TMWA Advisory Committee
23 Churchill County Emergency Mgt. Capacity Study
24 Nevada Court Decisions on Water Issues

9
1 WSSA Conference 1996
2 Negotiating Water Rights Paper 1996
3 Pyramid Lake Tribe
4 Truckee River Chronology, July 1992
5 TMWA Standing Advisory Committee
6 TMWA 2005-2025 Water Resource Plan
7 Truckee River Agency Inventory
8 Ten Year Capital Improvement Plan 2007-2016
9 TCID Contract
10 Draft TROA May 2, 2002
11 TROA Negotiations, Folder 1
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<td>Stewards of the Range 2003 Annual Conference, Reno, NV</td>
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<td>Publication: Dividing Desert Waters 1992</td>
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<td>Publication: Hydrogeology of Tahoe Basin</td>
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<td>Publication: Nevada’s Water Future: Making Tough Choices 1992</td>
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<td>Publication: Geology of Nevada 1980</td>
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**BOOKS FROM ACTON COLLECTION**

**BOX A (BOOKS)**
- Public Personnel Management and Public Policy, by Dennis Dressang
- Ground Water Data for NV Test Site 1992, and Selected Areas in S. Central NV 1952-92 (USGS)
- Simulated Effects of Proposed Groundwater Pumping in 17 Basins of E. Central & So. NV (USDI)
- Distribution of Carbonate Rock Aquifers, etc. (USGS)
- Newsletter, Nevada Sage, Fall 2003
- Economic Approach to Environmental and Natural Resources, by James A. Kahn
-Summary National Environmental Policy Act Land Use Planning, BLM Nevada State Office 1996
-Bibliography of Selected Water Resources Publications of Nevada, by USGS 1885-1995
-Forecast of Agricultural Water Needs to the Year 2020, NV Div of Water Planning, Mar ‘92
-Biographical Sketch of Michael R. Ford, BLM State Office 1997
-Seven issues of PAR (Public Administration Review) 1992-1997
-Lessons Learned in Global Environmental Governance, by Peter Sand
-Coastal Zone Management as Land Planning by David Brown and Daniel Carol
-Drowning the National Heritage: Climate Change & U.S. Coastal Biodiversity by W. Reed & M. Trexler
-Southern Exposure: Deciding Antarctica’s Future by Lee A. Kimball
-Hydrology & Ground Water Budgets of the Dayton Valley Hydrographic Area (USGS)
-Ground-Water Resources of Northern Big Smoky Valley (USGS)
-Subsurface Flow to Eagle Valley from Vicee, Ash and Kings Canyons, Carson City, NV (USGS)
-Geohydrology of the Basalt and Unconsolidated Sedimentary Aquifers in Fallon Area, NV (USGS)
-Hydrogeology and Potential Effects of Changes in Water Use, Carson Desert Area (USGS)
-American Government Freedom and Power by T. Lowi and Benj. Ginsberg
-Global Environmental Politics by Gareth Porter & Janet W. Brown
-Public Personnel Management by Carolyn Ban & Norma Riccucci
-Farmland by David Lins, Neil Hari, Thomas Frey
-The Tragedy of Political Science by David Ricci
-Land Growth & Politics by John DeGrove
-Money and Banking by Eugene S. Klise
-An Introduction to the Study of Public Policy by Chas. O. Jones
-American Public Administration: Patterns of the Past by James W. Fesler

BOX B (MORE BOOKS)
-Political Science: The State of the Discipline II, Edited by Ada W. Finifter
-First Along the River – A Brief History of the U.S. Environmental Movement by Benjamin Kline
-All About Basic Home Repairs (1979)
-Final Environmental Impact Statement Water Rights Acquisition for Lahontan Valley Wetlands (Executive Summary and Record of Decisions (2 publications)
-Truckee River Operating Agreement – Hydrology Appendix CA & NV Feb 1998 DOI and CA state
-Nature Noir A Park Ranger’s Patrol in the Sierra by Jordan Fisher Smith
-The Development of American Public Policy by David B. Roberts & Dennis R. Judd
-The Bureaucratic Experience by Ralph Hummel
-Current Issues in Public Administration by Fred S. Lane
-Bumfuzzled by R. Lewis Bowman
-Old Farmer’s 1007 Almanac
-Environmental Policy in the 1990s, by N. Vig & M. Kraft
-International Environmental Policy Emergence and Dimensions by Lyton K. Coldwell
-Whose Woods These Are – The Story of the National Forests (1962) by Michael Frome
-Cadillac Desert – The American West and Its Disappearing Water by Marc Reisner
-Sagebrush Country – Land and the American West by Philip L. Fradkin 1989
-The Crossing by Gormac McCarthy
-Assembling California by John McPhee 1993
-Environmental Politics by Jacqueline V. Switzer
-Basin and Range by John McPhee
-The Politics of the Budgetary Process by Aaron Wildavsky
-The Humor of the American Cowboy by Stan Hoig
-The control of Nature by John McPhee

BOX C (More Books)
-Congress and the Presidency by Nelson Polsby 1971
-Social Science Journal Vol. 33, 34, 35 by David Freeman
-Bureaucracy – What Govt. Agencies Do and Why They Do It by James Q. Wilson
-Public Policy The Essential Readings by Stella Z. Theodoulou and Matthew Cahn
-Western Public Lands and Environmental Politics, edited by Charles Davis 1997
-Multiple Conflicts Over Multiple Uses by Terry Anderson
-The War for America’s Natural Resources by William R. Nester
-The Age of Ideology –Political Thought 1750 to Present by Frederick M. Watkins 1964
-Environmental Politics and Policy by Walter A. Rosenbaum 1994
-Mind Over Matter: Recasting the Role of Materials in Our Lives by G. Gardner & Payal Sampat
-Safeguarding the Health of Oceans by Anne Platt McGinn
-Ending Violent Conflict by Michael Renner
-Reinventing Cities for People and the Planet by Molly O’Meara
-Nature’s Cornucopia: Our Stake in Plant Diversity by John Tuxill
-Paper Cuts: Recovering the Paper Landscape by Janet Abromovitz & Ashley Matoon
-Inside Bureaucracy by Anthony Downs 1967
-Searching Out the Headwaters—Change & Rediscovery in Western Water Policy (4 authors)
-Partnership for the Planet: An Environmental Agenda for the United Nations by Hilary F. French
-Shrinking Fields: Cropland Loss in a World of Eight Billion, by Gary Gardner
-Dividing the Waters: Food Security, Ecosystem Health and the New Politics of Scarcity by S. Postel
-Paying the Piper: Subsidies, Politics and the Environment by David M. Roadman
-Getting the Signals Right: Tax Reform to Protect the Environment and the Economy by David Boardman
-The Agricultural Link: How Environmental Deterioration Could Disrupt Economic Progress, by L. Brown
-Small Arms, Big Impact: The Next Challenge of Disarmament, by Michael Renner
-Rising Sun, Gathering Winds: Policies to Stabilize the Climate & Strengthen Economics by Flavin & Dunn
-Investing in the Future: Harvesting Private Capital for Environmentally Sustainable Dev. by H. French
-Taking a Stand—Cultivating a New Relationship with the World’s Forests, by Janet Abromovitch
-Losing Strands in the Web of Life: Vertebrate Declines and the Conservation of Biological Diversity
-By John Tuxill
-Rocking the Boat: Conserving Fisheries and Protecting Jobs, by Anne Platt McGinn
-Beyond Malthus: Sixteen Dimensions of the Population Problem, by Brown, Gardner and Halweil
-Two Minutes a Day for a Greener Planet, by Marjorie Lamb
-Today’s Isms, by William Ebenstein 1965
-Climate of Hope: New Strategies for Stabilizing the World’s Atmosphere by C. Flavin & Odil Tunali
-Infecting Ourselves: How Environmental and Social Disruptions Trigger Disease, by Anne Platt
-Imperial Waters, Impoverished Future: The Decline of Freshwater Ecosystems by Janet Abromovitz
-Eco-Justice: Linking Human Rights and the Environment, by Aaron Sachs
-Land Rights—The 1990s Property Rights Rebellion, Edited by Bruce Yandle
-As Long as the River Shall Run, by Martha F. Knack & Omar Stewart
- Geology of the Great Basin, by Bill Fiero
- A Doubtful River, by R. Dawson, P. Goin, M. Webb
- Physical Geography Today – A Portrait of a Planet, by R. Muller & T. Oberlander

BOX D (More Books)
- Misc. articles on Nevada, Nev. Magazine & others
- Final Volumes of the 68th Session of the Nevada Senate and Assembly (1995)
- Copies of various Senate and Assembly Bills from 1995.
- Index and Tables Bills and Resolutions Senate & Assembly 1995
- The Flood of 1997 Final Report by Nevada Div. of Water Planning
- Social Science Journal 1997 & 2001 (3 issues)
- Classic American Autobiographies, edited by William Andrews
- Anthem by Ayn Rand
- Free to Choose by Milton & Rose Friedman
- The Federalist Papers – Hamilton, Madison & Jay
- A Private War by Robert Laxalt
- Post-Capitalist Society by Peter F. Drucker (1993)
- Dust Devils by Robert Laxalt
- The Future of American Politics by Samuel Lubell
- Approaches to the Study of Politics by Bernard Susser
- Elites in Latin America by Seymore Lipset & Aldo Solari
- Civic Culture by Almond & Verba 1965
- How Democracies Perish, by Jean-Francois Revel
- Making Federalism Work, by James Sundquist
- The New Politics of the Budgetary Process, by Aaron Wildavsky
- Confessions of an Eco-Warrior, by Dave Foreman
- Environmental Economics, by Turner, Pearce & Bateman
- Government in America, People, Politics and Policy, by Lineberry, Edwards & Wattenberg
- Guide to Our Federal Lands – Nat’l Geographic Society
- Environmental Policy in the 1990s by Norman Vig and Michael Kraft
- The Environmental Policy Paradox by Zachary L. Smith
  ** Nevada Ghost Town Trails by Michael Broman 1984
- Touring Nevada by Mary Ellen & Al Glass
- A Manual for Writers, 5th Edition, by Kate Turabian
- Sagebrush Country by Ronald Taylor

BOX E (BOOKS)
- Bound Findings of Fact, USA vs Alpine Land & Reservoir Co. Final Decree US District Court, Nevada 1980
- Truckee River Operating Agreement CA & Nevada Aug 2004, USDI and State of CA.
- The New Order of the Oceans by Giulio Pontecorvo
- Environmental Politics and Policy in the West by Zakary A. Smith
- Public Admin and Public Affairs by Nicholas Henry
- International Environmental Negotiations by Gunnar Sjostedt
- Protecting the Golden Shore by the Conservation Foundation
- The Solace of Open Spaces by Gretel Ehrlich
- 17 assorted maps of portions of Nevada, produced by USGS and BLM.
BOX F (BOOKS)
-History of Nevada by Russell R. Elliott
-The Nevada Adventure by James Hulse
-Government and Science by Don K. Price
-The Policy Making Process by Chas. Lindblom
-Public Choice and Public Policy by Robt. S. Ross
-The Nevada Constitution by Bushnell & Diggs
-Diplomacy in Modern European History by Laurence W. Martin
-Legislative Politics U.S.A. by Theodore Lowi
-The Journey Home by Edward Abbey
-The Second Treatise of Government by John Locke
-World Politics by Arend Lijphart
-Government and Politics in Japan—The Road to Democracy by John Maki
-The Citizen and the State by Geo. Stigler
-Trends in World Politics by Bruce M. Russett
-Civil Disobedience & Other Essays by Henry David Thoreau
-The Stages of Economic Growth by W. W. Rostow
-Environmental Law in a Nutshell by R. Findlay & D. Farber
-The Emerging Nations – edited by Millikan & Blackmer
-Private Wants and Public Needs by Edmund S. Phelps
-Life Among the Piutes by Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins
-The End of Nature by Bill McKibben
-Contract With America edited by Ed Gillespie and Bob Schellhas
-The Wise Use Agenda – edited by Alan Gottlieb

BOX F (BOOKS)
-August 1914, by Alexander Solzhenitsyn
-Readings in American Government, by MacDonald/Webb/Lewis/Strauss
-Protecting Our Water Resources – UNR
-Agencies, Alternatives and Public Policies by John Kingdon
-Environmental Quality in the Gulf of Mexico
-Political Innovation in America by Nelson Polsby
-And Two If By the Sea, by Beth Millemann
-Environmental Politics and Policy, by James P. Lester
-Congress, the Bureaucracy and Public Policy, by Ripley & Franklin
-Public Policy, Theories, Models & Concepts, by Daniel McCool
-Should Trees Have Standing? By Christopher Stone
-Theories of Public Organization, by Robt. Dehnhardt
-Environmental Federalism – edited by Terry Anderson & Peter Hill
-The Enterprise of Public Administration, by Dwight Waldo
-Public Administration in a Time of Turbulence, edited by Dwight Waldo
-Reopening the American West, edited by Hal Rothman
-Understanding Public Policy, by Thomas R. Dye
-Public Policy in America – Government in Action, by Dennis J. Palumba
-The Policy Puzzle by D. Wells & C. R. Hamilton
-Vital Signs 1996, by Brown, Flavin & Kane
-State of the World 1996, by multiple authors
BOX G (BOOKS)
- Truckee River Atlas by CA Dept. of Water Res. 1991
- Carson River Atlas by CA Dept. of Water Res. 1991
- Walker River Atlas by CA Dept. of Water Res. 1992
- Command of the Waters by Daniel McCool
- As Long as the River Shall Run by Martha Knack & Omer Stewart
- Survivor Arts of the Primitive Paiutes by Margaret M. Wheat
- Environment and Economic Life by Howard F. Gregor
- Water Words Dictionary – State of NV
- Intro to Physical Geography by Arthur H. Strohler
- Thomas Jefferson on Democracy – edited by Saul Padover
- The Public Philosophy by Walter Lippman
- Rethinking Liberalism by Walter T. Anderson
- Resolving Environmental Disputes, by Gail Bingham
- War, Politics & Power by Karl Von Clausewitz
- Eco Sanity by Bast/Hill/Rue
- Land of Idols – Political Mythology in America, by Michael Parenti

BOX H (BOOKS)
- Major Governments of Asia, by Hinton/Isley/Palmer/Callard/Wheeler/Kahin
- Agendas and Instability in American Politics by F. Baumgartner & Bryan Jones
- Economics, by Paul Samuelson
- Ecology Wars, by Ron Arnold
- Sweet Promised Land, by Robert Laxalt (2 copies)
- Last Oasis – Facing Water Scarcity, by Sandra Postal
- Nevada A History, by Robert Laxalt
- The New Politics of the Budgetary Process, by Aaron Wildavsky
- Government and Politics in Latin America, by Peter Snow
- The State, by Woodrow Wilson (c. 1898)
- Environmental Policy, by Donald T. Wells
- The Nevada Desert, by Session S. Wheeler
- Public Budgeting in America, by Thomas D. Lynch
- Income Employment and Economic Growth, by Wallace C. Peterson
- Arms and Men, by Walter Millis
- Comparative Economic Systems, by William N. Loucks
- Government Finance an Economic Analysis

End of books list.