

TITLE: Leonard F. Monti Sr. Collection

DATE RANGE: 1890's-1998

CALL NUMBER: FM MSS # 139

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3 linear feet (5 boxes)

PROVENANCE: This collection was donated by Michael Monti from 1996-1998.

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RESTRICTIONS: This collection is unrestricted.

CREDIT LINE: Leonard F. Monti Sr. Collection, MSS #139, Arizona Historical Foundation

PROCESSED BY: Elizabeth Scott, August, 2006

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Leonard Fiorello Monti Sr. was born in Hibbing, Minnesota, February 28, 1912 to Italian parents. He served in World War II on an aircraft carrier in the South Pacific. After the war, he was a railway agent and telegrapher. In 1947 he moved to Arizona and opened the restaurant Monti's Grill in Chandler. He then moved to Tempe and in 1954 bought "La Casa Vieja," the adobe hacienda built as a home by Charles Trumbull Hayden in 1871 and birthplace of Arizona U.S. Senator Carl Hayden. Leonard Sr. opened Monti's La Casa Vieja Restaurant in 1956. In 1970, Leonard Sr. ran as a Republican for the House of Representatives in District 8-D and lost.

His son Michael attended Arizona State University where he received his Bachelor's degree. He then went on to San Diego State Law School and obtained his J.D. In 1993, he became President of Monti's La Casa Vieja and took over running the business for his father. On October 7, 1997, Leonard Sr. died.

Today, Monti's La Casa Vieja is still in business after 50 years. For more information on the restaurant and its history, please see their website at: <http://www.montis.com/>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: The collection is arranged into four series; **Series I: Monti's La Casa Vieja; Series II: Personal; Series III: Michael Monti Office Files; Series IV: Photographs.** Files are arranged alphabetically within each series.

Of interest in **Series I** are menus, promotional material and recipes from Monti's restaurant. There are also two large files of newsclippings relating to the restaurant and its history. **Series II** contains legal documents regarding Leonard Sr., his family, and the restaurant. Also in this series are Leonard Sr.'s personal notebooks. Michael Monti

Office Files in **Series III** highlight Michael's appointment as President of Monti's La Casa Vieja and illustrate his new savvy business approach to promoting and managing the restaurant. **Series IV** has photographs of both the interior and exterior of Monti's La Casa Vieja, Hayden Flour Mill, Tempe, family members and events.

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
1	1	Monti's La Casa Vieja-Competitor Write-ups	1996-1997
1	2	Monti's La Casa Vieja-Legal Documents	1954-1978
1	3	Monti's La Casa Vieja-Menus	N.D.
1	4	Monti's La Casa Vieja-Newsclippings	N.D.
1	5	Monti's La Casa Vieja-Newsclippings	1945-1998
1	6	Monti's La Casa Vieja-Promotional Material	N.D.
1	7	Monti's La Casa Vieja-Recipes	1960-1978
1	8	Personal-Awards and Certificates	1945-1998
1	9	Personal-Catholic Near East Welfare Association (photos)	1961-1965
1	10	Personal-Construction Journal of the Leonard Monti Walking Garden	1998
1	11	Personal-Correspondence	1953-1996
1	12	Personal-Downtown Tempe Proposed Improvement District	1991
1	13	Personal-Downtown Tempe Steering Advisory Committee	1992
1	14	Personal-House of Representatives Election	1970
1	15	Personal-Legal Documents	1955-1960
1	16	Personal- Legal Documents	1961
1	17	Personal- Legal Documents (photos)	1962-1964
1	18	Personal- Legal Documents	1965-1966
1	19	Personal- Legal Documents	1967-1969
1	20	Personal- Legal Documents	1970-1971
1	21	Personal- Legal Documents	1972
1	22	Personal- Legal Documents	1973
1	23	Personal- Legal Documents	1974-1975
1	24	Personal- Legal Documents	1976
1	25	Personal- Legal Documents	1977-1979
1	26	Personal- Legal Documents	1980-1983
1	27	Personal- Legal Documents	1984-1985
1	28	Personal- Legal Documents	1986
1	29	Personal- Legal Documents	1987
1	30	Personal- Legal Documents	1988-1989
1	31	Personal- Legal Documents	1990-1991

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
2	1	Personal- Legal Documents	1992-1993
2	2	Personal- Legal Documents	1994
2	3	Personal- Legal Documents	1995
2	4	Personal- Legal Documents	1996
2	5	Personal- Minnesota History	N.D.
2	6	Personal- Miscellaneous Personal Items	1890-1997
2	7	Personal- Newsclippings	1957-1974
2	8	Personal- Personal Notebooks	1964-1967
2	9	Personal- Personal Notebooks	1972-1973
2	10	Personal- Personal Notebooks	1973-1977
2	11	Personal- Publicity	1993-1995
2	12	Personal- Tempe Development	N.D.
2	13	Personal- Tempe Rotary Club	1973-1984
2	14	Michael Monti Office Files- Amortization Schedule	1995-1996
2	15	Michael Monti Office Files- Arizona Mills Mall Development	1997
2	16	Michael Monti Office Files- Arizona Restaurant Association	1993-1997
2	17	Michael Monti Office Files- Computer System	1994
2	18	Michael Monti Office Files- Construction	1994-1995
2	19	Michael Monti Office Files- Correspondence	1993-1998
2	20	Michael Monti Office Files- Employee Handbook	1994
2	21	Michael Monti Office Files- Fiesta Bowl FAM Fantasy Evaluation	1996
2	22	Michael Monti Office Files- Financial Figures	1997-1998
2	23	Michael Monti Office Files- Historic Preservation Certification (photos)	1973-1996
2	24	Michael Monti Office Files- Inspection	1994
2	25	Michael Monti Office Files- Insurance	1970-1995
2	26	Michael Monti Office Files- Manager's Meetings	1993-1996
2	27	Michael Monti Office Files- Menu Ideas	1997
2	28	Michael Monti Office Files- Monti's at the Ranch	1996-1997
2	29	Michael Monti Office Files- Monti's La Casa Vieja Business Plan	N.D.
2	30	Michael Monti Office Files- Personal Notebooks	N.D.
2	31	Michael Monti Office Files- Restaurant Expansion, Golden, CO (photos)	1996
2	32	Michael Monti Office Files- R.E. Zona's Southwestern Oasis Business Plan	N.D.
2	33	Michael Monti Office Files- Super Bowl Steak Out Party	1995-1996

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
3	1	Photographs -Advertisements for La Casa Vieja	N.D.
3	2	Photographs -Cars	N.D.
3	3	Photographs -Events	1971-1997
3	4	Photographs -Exterior Views of Monti's La Casa Vieja	1880's-1998
3	5	Photographs -Family Members	1960-1996
3	6	Photographs -Hayden Flour Mill, Tempe, AZ	1880's-1960
3	7	Photographs -Identified People	1949-1986
3	8	Photographs -Interior Views of Monti's La Casa Vieja	N.D.
3	9	Photographs -Leonard F. Monti Sr.	1960-1973
3	10	Photographs -Leonard F. Monti Sr. Hiking Tempe Butte	1970-1979
3	11	Photographs -Leonard F. Monti Sr. with Identified People (see individual photos for names)	1930-1988
3	12	Photographs -Leonard F. Monti Sr. with Unidentified People	1971-1989
3	13	Photographs -Miscellaneous/Unidentified	N.D.
4	1	Photographs -Tempe	N.D.
4	2	Photographs -Travel	1961-1986
4	3	Photographs -Unidentified People	1962-1983
4	4	Photographs -World War II	1941-1945
50V	1	Oversized Material: Architectural Drawings for R.E. Zona's Southwestern Cafe	1987
50V	2	Oversized Material: Menus	N.D.
50V	3	Oversized Material: Placemats	1971
50V	4	Oversized Material: Sketch of Monti's La Casa Vieja Restaurant	N.D.
50V	5	Oversized Material: Tempe Calendar	1971
50V	6	Oversized Material: Miscellaneous-Aerial View of Tempe (2); Tempe Diablos	1960's-1982