



Special Collections Division
the University of Texas
at Arlington Libraries

Vol. XV * Nos. 1 & No. 2 * Spring & Fall 2001

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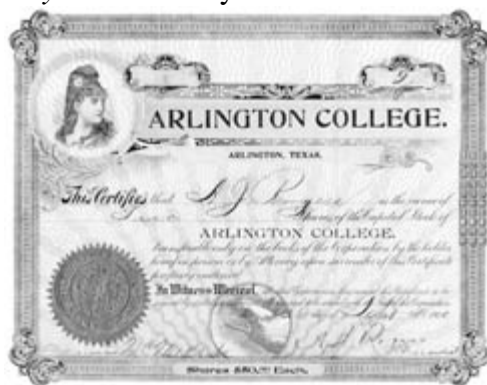
By Katherine R. Goodwin



The Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library (VGCHL) recently acquired the Murray Hudson Atlas and Geography Collection. The collection consists of 626 items dating from 1736 to 1988. The majority of the materials come from the nineteenth century and constitute a significant addition to the founding goals of the VGCHL. Goodwin relates how UTA acquired Hudson's atlases, describes the scope of the collection, and highlights a few of the treasures found in the collection.

[You've Got Guide](#)

By Shirley R. Rodnitzky



Special Collections has recently published *Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the Special Collections Division* compiled by Shirley Rodnitzky and edited by Gerald Saxon (Arlington, Tx., 2000). The *Guide* contains descriptions for more than 1,000 collections received from 1967 through 1999. Rodnitzky tells how the *Guide* is organized and what is contained within its pages, and the future direction of the *Guide*. Included in the article are several images taken from the collections.

[Samuel Maas and the Galveston Experience](#)

By Alexandra M. Perkins



In this extensive review of the Samuel Mass Papers, Perkins writes about the early history of this prominent Jewish German business man and his adventures when he moved to Galveston in 1839. Maas invested his money and life in the prosperity of Galveston and those ventures quickly aided in the development of Galveston's economy, politics, culture, and growth. The article is rich with views of life in early Galveston as well as the people involved in its development.

Galveston, Texas, ca.1852.

["The Grape and Canister Shot Poured Down on Them Like Hail"](#)

By Gary Spurr



*"Flight of Santa Anna from the
Battle of Cerro Gordo,"*

(Philadelphia: R. Magee, ca.1848).

Battle of Cerro Gordo,"

(Philadelphia: R. Magee, ca.1848).

The article features the recent acquisition of the journal of Thomas Lindsay, a soldier from Pennsylvania who landed with the forces at Vera Cruz during the Mexican-American War of 1846-1848. The journal, purchased by Special Collections with the assistance of Jenkins and Virginia Garrett, is an important addition to the well known Mexican War collections of the division. Spurr relates the events of the Vera Cruz landing and gives us the Lindsay's perspective on well-known battles Lindsay saw first hand. The journal covers one year of the war from the landings at Vera Cruz to June 25, 1848, when the war ended.

Fall 2001

[Special Collections Snags Two Grants](#)

By Ann Hodges



The library has been successful in raising external funds in support of two projects to improve access to Special Collections materials. Hodges describes the two projects. The first, an award from the National Endowment for the Humanities Preservation Assistance Grant, provides \$3,839 to purchase supplies to rehouse a portion of the photographic negatives in the W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photography Collections. Photographs from the collection are included. The second award is from the

TexTreasures program of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission which awarded the division \$20,000 to increase access to its holdings of oral history interviews with Tejano leaders. Photographs from the

[Special Collections Acquires *L'Amerique* Atlas](#)

By Katherine R. Goodwin

An extraordinary seventeenth century atlas by Nicolas Sanson d'Abbeville, has recently been acquired by the division. Goodwin describes the atlas and its value to the collection



[Libraries Reach Halfway Point in Endowment Campaign](#)

By Gerald D. Saxon



The Endowment campaign is in response to the challenge that accompanied the 1998 donation of more than 900 maps of Texas and the Gulf Coast by Virginia Garrett of Fort Worth. The donation, the largest such collection in private hands at the time, stipulated that UTA guarantee the historic collection be processed, cataloged, enhanced, and the focus of public and academic programs. Saxon reports on the progress of the endowment campaign to raise the funds and, in the process, describes the assets that have made UTA a leader in cartographic education.

[Seek and You Shall Find](#)

By Shirley R. Rodnitzky



I

In this popular column, Rodnitzky describes the most recently processed collections available for research in the division. This time, she describes the Robert Hanks Brister Papers, 1890-1965; the C. A. (Ce Estus Adam) Sharp Papers, 1868-1954; the University of Texas at Arlington, Office of the President, 1954-1975 (in two separate collections); and the Ed Watson Papers, 1966-2001. The article, as usual, includes some intriguing photographs.

[The Texas Electric Railway](#)

By Gary Spurr

Through the courtesy of S. W. Johnson, the Texas Electric Railway Collection



came to the division as a group of negatives largely taken in the late 1940s. Spurr describes the shots and notes that in the backgrounds are scenes of Dallas and other other Texas cities and locations. A sampling of the photographs are included in the article.

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Special Collections

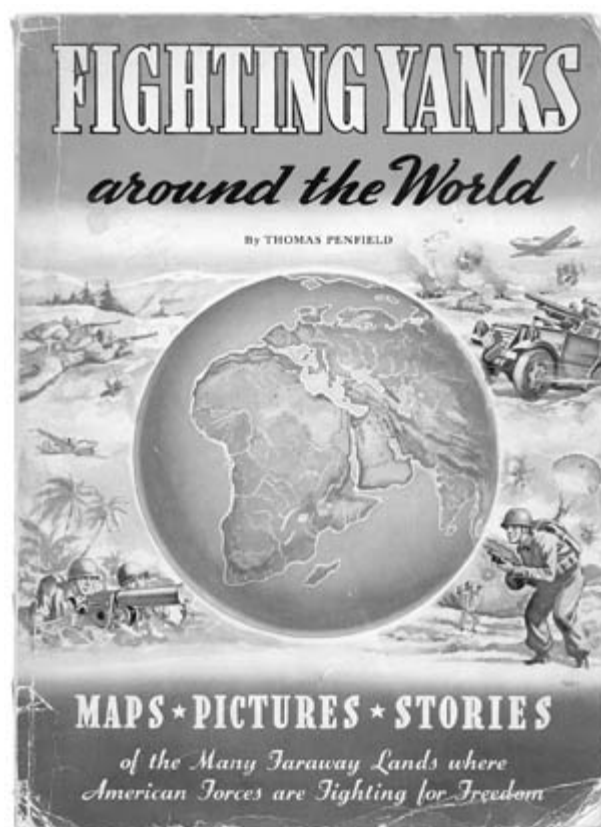
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This page last update on Wednesday, November 10, 2004

A Geographic Truth

By Katherine R. Goodwin



*Special Atlases, like this **Fighting Yanks Around the World** by Thomas Penfield, are a part of the Murray Hudson Collection.*

In Charlestown, Massachusetts, in 1793, Jedidiah Morse wrote, "The Science of Geography, like many other Sciences, is not stationary. So rapid are the improvements made in it by travelers and navigators—so fast do alterations and revolutions succeed each other, that it is not an easy matter for a Geographer to keep pace with them. What is this year a geographical truth, may the next year be a geographical error, and require correction." Morse would be as right today at the beginning of the twenty-first century as he was in the last years of the eighteenth with all the changes today's world is experiencing. However, he left us a remarkable record of his world and time. His atlases and geographies are some of the most enlightening sources with which to view our past.

The Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library (VGCL) recently acquired the Murray Hudson Atlas and Geography Collection. The collection consists of 626 items dating from 1736 to 1988. The majority of the materials come from the nineteenth century and constitute a significant addition to the founding goals of the VGCHL.

Murray Hudson is one of the nation's leading collectors and dealers of atlases and geographies. A Tennessee native, Hudson has been collecting cartographic materials for the past thirty-five years and has been featured on a number of television programs focusing on noted collectors and collections. Twenty years ago, Hudson turned his passion into a business called Murray Hudson Books and Maps, which he operates out of a historic building in Halls, Tennessee.

The acquisition of the collection was made possible by the generosity of Hudson, who donated half of the items to the library, and a matching award from The University of Texas System. The atlases and geographies were delivered in the fall of 2000 and currently are being processed by Special Collections staff.

The Hudson Collection is divided into four parts: commercial atlases, school atlases, foreign and special atlases, and geographies. Commercial atlases comprise forty percent of the overall collection and include titles from leading U. S. atlas makers. Prominent are publications from Samuel Augustus Mitchell, George Cram, and some of the earliest productions of the Rand McNally Company. Commercial atlases were designed for a domestic American market eager to track territorial expansion and to exploit business opportunities in a rapidly growing nation. The commercial atlases, more than any other cartographic product, reflect the state-of-the-art in mapmaking in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The commercial atlases date from 1766 to 1988.

The school atlases date from 1804 to 1942 and comprise forty percent of the materials received. School atlases were used for teaching history, geography and culture-based studies, and reflect the mores and attitudes of the time. Many of these atlases are by the leading cartographic publishers of the day (e.g. Samuel Augustus Mitchell, Jesse Olney, and

Sarah S. Cornell) and include detailed maps of the nation and its regions as well as map exercises for students.

Foreign and special focus atlases account for twenty-three percent of the acquisition. These atlases include European productions as well as titles published in the United States of a thematic nature, such as touring and road atlases, war atlases, and historical atlases. Special atlases in particular reflect the political and diplomatic trends of an era, such as the war atlases produced for World War I and World War II, as well as the dramatic changes brought about by the automobile. Of particular interest is an 1890 edition of *Arbuckle's Illustrated Atlas of Fifty Principal Nations of the World*, published in New York by Arbuckle Brothers. The atlas, unpagged and tied with cording, contains sheets with four chromolithographic views of different countries. The accompanying text is on the verso of the previous page. The edition is noted as an "early cigarette card-type coffee premium map series."



Map and graphic of North America from *Arbuckle's Illustrated Atlas of Fifty Principal Nations of the World* (New York, 1890).

There are only four geography titles in the collection, and they date from 1749 to 1809, but the single most important item in the Hudson Collection can be found here. It is Jedidiah Morse's groundbreaking work, *American Geography: Or a View of the Present Situation of the United States*, published in 1794 and includes twenty-five maps. Morse is considered the "father of American geography," having produced the first U. S. atlases and geographies shortly after the American Revolution. This 1794 edition acquired by Special Collections is one of only a few copies known to have all twenty-five maps, including some of the first dated maps of particular states.



The Murray Hudson Atlas and Geography Collection is a unique resource, reflecting the development of geographic knowledge from the time of the American Revolution to the late twentieth century. It is during this time period, which is so richly represented in the collection, that fledgling American cartographic businesses grew into an industry that rivaled and later supplanted the work being done in Europe. The school and commercial atlases depict a contemporary view of the development of the United States, and the foreign and special focus atlases, along with the geographies, offer unique additions to our current holdings. The Hudson Collection does not duplicate titles we currently hold, but rather complements areas where we lack depth, extends runs of specific mapmakers' works, and enhances all of the holdings of the library. Acquisition of the Hudson Collection reinforces the goals of the VGCHL to preserve, catalog, provide access, and foster creative uses for cartographic materials.

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This page last update on Wednesday, June 25, 2003



Special Collections Division
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Vol. XV * No. 1 * Spring 2001

You've Got Guide

By Shirley Rodnitzky



Arlington College Stock Certificate, 1900,
from the UTA Archives.

You have all heard of powerful Internet search engines—Alta Vista, Google, Hotbot, Yahoo, and others. Now Special Collections has one of its own—a 400 horsepower V12 [Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the Special Collections Division](http://libraries.uta.edu/SpecColl/findaids/guideIntr.htm), compiled by Shirley Rodnitzky and edited by Gerald Saxon. The **Guide** contains descriptions for more than 1,000 collections received from 1967 through 1999. A first edition was published in 1989, but during the past decade our collections have grown enormously, necessitating a revised, updated edition. As time allows, descriptions of collections received from the year 2000 and forward will be added to our Web page, which is located at [<http://libraries.uta.edu/SpecColl/findaids/guideIntr.htm>](http://libraries.uta.edu/SpecColl/findaids/guideIntr.htm).

The introduction to the **Guide** provides a history of the Special Collections Division's collecting and processing of archives and manuscript collections. Each **Guide** entry contains a capsule description of a collection's contents. In addition to the title, dates, and size, there is a biographical or historical sketch and a brief description of the materials, as well as the date a collection was received, whether a finding aid has been completed, and the collection number. A note in the description referring to a finding aid means that the collection is completely processed. Unprocessed collections will have briefer descriptions and no finding aid notation, but they may have an inventory for patrons to use.

The **Guide** entries are organized into six parts: the Historical Manuscripts Collection, Texas Labor Archives, Texas Political History Collection, University Archives, Historical Photographs Collection, and Unprocessed Collections. The Historical Manuscripts Collection contains material from Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins Garretts' original gift in 1974, and those collections acquired thereafter that pertain to the history of Texas, Mexico, and the Mexican War, as well as local history. The Texas Labor Archives Collection contains Texas labor union records and the papers of union members and attorneys with labor union clientele. The Texas Political History Collection contains the papers and records of congressmen and women, both state and national, politicians, and political action groups. The University Archives houses the university administration's papers, faculty papers, records of student organizations, and other historical material of lasting value related to the university and its forerunner schools. The Historical Photographs Collection contains collections of photographers, local newspaper photo archives, and photograph collections of people, events, and subjects primarily in north central and west Texas. The Unprocessed Collections, which include collections from the Texas Labor Archives, the Texas Political History Collection, and the University Archives, are described in brief. The Historical Manuscripts Collection and Historical Photographs Collection include both processed and unprocessed collections.

An index completes the **Guide**. Kit Goodwin, who transferred the text to the Web, is now linking the index entries of collection titles directly to the descriptions. Each **Guide** section has an alphabetical index. Searching by date, subject, or name can also be done within each part by single clicking on "edit" in the tool bar at the top of the page. Then single click on "Find [on This Page]" and input your term. "Find next" will take you to each place where the term occurs within that part.

This guide provides researchers access only to information at the collection level. The next step necessitates going to the finding aid, inventory, or collection itself for more detailed information. Because Special Collections continually acquires new collections, its guides are outdated as soon as they are completed, so researchers are advised to consult staff members or search the libraries' online catalog, PULSe, for new acquisitions. That Internet address is: <http://www.uta.edu/library/>.

A print copy of the **Guide** does not yet exist except for a reference copy in the division, but for those with access to the Internet, downloading our virtual guide and making a copy is a virtual cinch. Needless to say, we are very happy to have this document completed for the convenience of our researchers and the staff. The Web format allows it to be a fluid document and grow with the division's acquisitions throughout the twenty-first century. With the completion of this guide, we hope that researchers will be better able to determine if we have collections that both interest them and satisfy their information needs.



*Mule-drawn and electric trolleys traversing a downtown Fort Worth street.
From the Jack White Photograph Collection.*

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Samuel Maas and the Galveston Experience

By Alexandra M. Perkins



Graphic of Galveston, Texas, ca.1852.

Samuel Maas was one of the many adventurers of early Galveston who invested his money and life in the prosperity of his Galveston business. Such capitalistic ventures quickly led to the development of Galveston's economy, politics, culture, and growth. Maas contributed to this development through Texas land investments, mercantile businesses, translating land titles, and ship chandlery.

Maas was a prominent Jewish businessman in Galveston from 1839 to 1897. He immigrated from Germany in the 1830s to find financial success in America. He was not the typical immigrant of the nineteenth century. His family was wealthy, and he spoke English fluently before arriving in the United States.

Relying on the economic trends of early Galveston, Maas was shaped by Galveston's prosperous, yet sometimes dangerous, environment. In *Galveston: A History*, David G. McComb compares early Galveston to the oleander shrub, which was very popular in early Galveston landscaping. He explains that while the oleander produces a beautiful flower and scent, it can be poisonous to humans. Galveston was a land of opportunity, but it also had economic, health, and environmental dangers. Maas was directly affected by both Galveston's beauty and hazards. Maas responded to his circumstances in various ways, sometimes following traditional customs, and other times breaking accepted conventions.

Maas was born in Meinheim, Baden, Germany, on March 1, 1810. His European education taught him to speak fluent French and English. He used these linguistic skills as a tool to succeed in the Texas business environment. Maas' family owned a thriving gold and silver business. He had the opportunity to stay and help operate the family business, but decided to move to the United States instead. Maas was an adventurer who was willing to take bold risks, leaving the security of his family, their business, and his native country.

Sometime in the 1830s, Maas lived in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Maas made business contacts in many of the cities that he visited. In Pittsburgh, he met a Frenchman, who was six years his senior. This Frenchman was an experienced merchant and a colonel under Charles X. Maas later used this contact to help build his mercantile businesses in Galveston and Houston.

Maas did not stay in Pittsburgh very long, and moved to South Carolina, where he had relatives--the Hart family. Maas established business and personal relations with the Hart family, and became engaged to Caroline Hart. Maas again decided to leave the security of family and friends to find independent economic success. He left his fiancé in South Carolina and moved to Texas. He submitted to his adventuresome side and traveled west to seek his fortune. Maas' first attempt to move to Texas was a life threatening failure. The ship on which he was travelling was destroyed by a violent tropical storm, and Maas had to swim to shore. The ship was carrying the lumber that Maas planned to use to build his house in Texas. Though the trip cost him the lumber and nearly cost him his life, he was still determined to move to Texas. In 1836, he arrived in Nacogdoches County, where he became fluent in Spanish and found work

translating Spanish land titles into English.

Maas moved to Galveston in 1839, and lived there until his death in 1897. Because Galveston had a small population, it was less competitive than other port cities. There was also a constant flow of newly arrived immigrants in need of supplies and land. These immigrants were a large percentage of Maas' customer base. Maas' business generally prospered when ships, containing large numbers of wealthy immigrants, came to Galveston. In one letter, Maas stated that he hoped the Lord will make "... rich immigrants to flock into our country that the land trade may prosper."

Maas saw Galveston as a land of opportunity. "My chances, especially in the land business are great; some good strong transactions in aid business, yield always fair profits..." The port was convenient for his ship chandlery, and there was plenty of land in which to invest. He opened one mercantile in Galveston and another in Houston. He borrowed money from the Williams and McKinney Company, who provided banking services in Galveston. Among his many land purchases was an entire town from T. J. Pinckney. He divided the land into lots, sold the lots, and called the town Pinckneyville. Maas also worked as a trading agent for Ashbel Smith. Maas was excited to work in Texas. He believed that Texas was "expedient" for "new comers" because of its rich soil, commerce, and small population.

Though Galveston proved to be advantageous for Maas, it was not the land of milk and honey. Galveston was a young city when Maas arrived there. It was described as dreary and sandy, with very little landscaping or urban development. The city's drainage system consisted of ditches on the side of the roads. The combination of ships bringing diseases, poor waste management, and mosquitos caused horrible yellow fever epidemics. All of these conditions heavily impacted business and the economy.

By the 1840s, Galveston's appearance improved, and the population increased. The city built streetlights, sidewalks, theaters, and churches. The general infrastructure was improved. Galveston made all of these improvements, but did not industrialize. The Galveston boosters knew that industrialization was the proper direction for the city. Unfortunately, no one wanted to make the necessary investments in industrial equipment, fearing that the possibilities of a hurricane could ruin their investments. As a result, Galveston could no longer compete with other growing cities and lagged behind in progress.

Maas was affected by the advantages and disadvantages of Galveston. In his letter to Caroline Hart, he sometimes expressed his worries of economic insecurity. He explained how business was very "risky" for him. In 1839, Maas lost a large number of items during a shipment. They were accidentally dropped overboard. Though he was compensated \$200 in the settlement, the entire affair was a distressing experience. Maas was always concerned about the value of Texas currency. He did not feel confident enough to leave his business for a few weeks and visit Hart. He asked her to consider the consequences of leaving a business that does not have a dependable person to run it. "... must I not entirely depend upon my own means--whom else can I depend upon?" He was deeply disappointed that he could not go to South Carolina to see her, but he feared that his business would be in ruins upon his return.

Maas was a busy man in Galveston, yet, he wrote frequently to Caroline Hart. Though their relationship followed many nineteenth century customs, Maas did not always fit the historical stereotype. Maas exerted his dominance in the relationship, writing in an authoritative tone, sometimes sounding more like a father than a fiancé. He told her that she was too "timid and delicate" to withstand the Galveston environment. He reprimanded her for not genuinely expressing her love for him. "I tell you, I think you will sin most provokingly against all my higher affections, if you can't fall in love with me deeply, strongly above all other considerations...." He warned her that a war may break out, and that she must be strong without being masculine. He did not want her to submit to the female weaknesses of being terrified of war. He advised her to look to the women of the American Revolution for strength.

Though Maas followed the traditional gender roles, he was not one-dimensional. He also encouraged Hart to read



Letter from Samuel Maas to Caroline Hart, February 5, 1840.

newspapers and expand her knowledge beyond domesticity. By 1842, he no longer believed that she was too fragile for the Galveston environment, and he begged her to move to Galveston. In 1842, when she refused to make such a move, the engagement ended.

In 1844, on a visit to Germany, Maas met and married Isabella Offenbach. At the age of twenty-seven, Offenbach gave up Europe and royal suitors for a life in Galveston as Maas' wife. "Isabella left the salons of Europe, for the saloons of early Texas," wrote historian Natalie Ornish. Perhaps she was as adventuresome as Maas was. Shortly after arriving in Texas, Isabella was infected with the deadly disease, Yellow Fever. She overcame this fatal disease. She and Maas had four children: Maxwell, Julius, Miriam, and Rosa.

From 1846-1847, Maas reported from Vera Cruz on the war with Mexico for Mr. H. Stuart, the editor of ***The Civilian Galveston News***. He described the trains, carrying \$3.5 million to pay the troops, and supplies, that were attacked by a Mexican guerilla band. He described the loss of Texas and Mexican soldiers. Maas rented the Aurora shop on the Plaza de la Vendura where he maintained a mercantile business.

The Civil War destroyed the Galveston economy, threatening the livelihood of the Maas family. Commerce ceased for almost a year. Though the Confederate troops worked to defend Galveston, they were feared by Galveston citizens. The southern troops stole from merchants, tore down fences, and ransacked homes. Many citizens left Galveston because they feared northern and southern troops, and suffered from the ailing economy. The city's population decreased by at least fifty percent.

During the Civil War, Maas left Galveston, while his wife and children remained. Perhaps the reason that Maas left was because he was accused by the Confederate courts of "aiding the alien enemy." He was suspected of this crime because he accrued business debts owed to certain New York merchants. Maas was again separated from his wife and children. His wife, Isabella, and his daughter, Miriam, frequently wrote to him, requesting money and supplies. Maas' family could not leave Galveston because his son, Max, was sick with a bad fever. Isabella was very worried that northern soldiers would take Max away. She also had a great deal of trouble controlling the slaves. Isabella wanted to sell the slaves and take the children to Europe. Maas outlined all of her letters, listing all of the goods that she requested, and shipped the necessary items to her.

Many foreign citizens claimed citizenship to their native countries in order to avoid service in the Confederate army. John Henry Tobelmann, who was another Galveston businessman and friend to Maas, was one who claimed citizenship in Europe to avoid conscription. After the war, business returned to Galveston within days. Northern troops remained in Galveston during reconstruction, protecting the citizens from unruly southern soldiers. The Maas family also returned to life in Galveston as it was before the war.

Maas' letters reveal his distinct personality traits. First, it was very important to him that his family and other close relations make him feel loved. He wanted their expressions of affection to be sincere and honest. This is seen in many of his letters to Caroline Hart. He sometimes accused her of being shallow and insincere in her letters. When she wrote him a letter about her friendship with another man, he wrote that her games to make him jealous were not going to work, and that if she continued such tactics he would end the engagement.

Maas ended his relationship with his brother Nathan for the same reasons. Maas alienated himself from Nathan because Nathan seemed ungrateful, indifferent, and insincere. He wrote to Caroline Hart about his brother, stating, "I will pardon anything except ingratitude. I like sincerity, an openness of character-- among friends particularly." Maas also ended his relationship with his brother, Jacob, because he did not pay his debts owed to Maas. Maas sued Jacob for nonpayment, and sent the local sheriff to Jacob's house to collect payment.

Maas also had difficulty maintaining a healthy relationship with his wife. Isabella was often left alone for long periods of time. During the Mexican War, he was gone for an entire year. During the Civil War, she was left alone to protect the children and maintain the slaves. Isabella was very unhappy, so she separated from Maas and moved into the house across the street. It appears that when members of Maas' family did not meet his expectations, he either allowed the relationship to deteriorate or completely terminated his relationship with the individual.

Another personality trait of Maas was his interest in subjects outside of business. He was a man of letters, interested in

linguistics, reading, writing, and promoting cultural developments. He wrote several journals, which are now located at the University of Texas at Austin. In addition to writing Mexican War accounts to ***The Civilian Galveston News***, he also wrote reviews of local musical performances for the Galveston newspapers. Maas subscribed to a French newspaper for almost fifty years. Though he could have had a successful political career, he preferred to stay home and develop his personal and intellectual interests. In a letter to Caroline Hart, he stated that he tried to read and remain cultured in the middle of business pursuits.

A third personality trait of Maas was the way he conducted business. He expressed to Caroline Hart the importance of being an "honest and upright" businessman. Maas was only interested in conducting business with honorable men, who showed a great deal of strength. He dissolved partnerships if he believed someone was dishonest or weak. Maas was also a practical businessman, involved in only solid business deals. He was careful not to chase after "castles in the sky." Though Maas was an adventurous risk taker, he was also very cautious, and somewhat conservative in his business pursuits.

Maas died in 1897, at the age of eighty-seven. His last years were almost hermitlike. He stayed home, reading his books and newspapers. By the time of his death, he had seventeen grandchildren. Isabella died six years earlier.

The Samuel Maas Papers consist of personal correspondence and financial records dated from 1829 to 1900. The collection is .75 linear feet. The personal papers provide insight into Maas' family life. The financial records reveal the mechanics of his mercantile business and land investments. They include Texas land deeds, inventories, account ledgers, and bills of sale.

The papers provide an honest account of life for immigrants in early Galveston. They reveal business customs, social customs, and the hardships of war. Maas was shaped by the Galveston experience. Galveston was a land of opportunity, but also a city fraught with obstacles. Maas met these obstacles and became a successful businessman.

The Samuel Maas Papers are fully processed and located in the Special Collections Division of The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries. A Finding Aid for the [Samuel Maas Papers](#) is available online as well. For more information about the papers, please contact Shirley Rodnitzky, Archivist, Box 19497, UTA Libraries, Arlington, TX. 76019-0497, 817-272-3393 (phone), 817-272-3360 (fax), or email <rodnitzky@uta.edu>.

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"The Grape and Canister Shot Poured Down on Them Like Hail"

By Gary Spurr



"Flight of Santa Anna from the Battle of Cerro Gordo," (Philadelphia: R. McGee, ca.1848).

The last issue of the *Compass Rose* featured a graphic of the *USS Mississippi*, a frigate that participated in the landings at Vera Cruz during the Mexican War. In this issue, we feature the journal of Thomas Lindsay, a soldier from Pennsylvania who landed with the forces at Vera Cruz. The journal, purchased by Special Collections with the assistance of Jenkins and Virginia Garrett, is an important addition to the Mexican War collection.

The landing at Vera Cruz was the largest amphibious landing before World War II, and involved some fifteen thousand men. It was crucial to General Winfield Scott's campaign to defeat

Mexico. Scott had hoped to land in February 1847, and quickly move his forces out of the coastal region to avoid yellow fever. However, the invasion was delayed until March 9, 1847.

Thomas Lindsay titled his journal "History of the War of Mexico," and in it he covers one year of the war from the landings at Vera Cruz to June 25, 1848, when the war ended. In common with other journal writers, Lindsay occasionally gets dates incorrect. The most obvious example is his statement that the landing at Vera Cruz occurred in April, when it actually took place in March. This is no reason to doubt the authenticity of the journal, however. Other events and names of participants do correspond to the historical record.

Randy Hackenburg's *Pennsylvania in the War with Mexico* lists a "Thomas Lindsey" serving in the 1st Pennsylvania Regiment, Company F, of the Philadelphia Light Guards, under Captain John Bennett. This is more than likely our journal writer, with the name misspelled in the source that Hackenburg used for his research. The entry states that Lindsay enlisted as a private in Philadelphia, December 1, 1846, at the age of twenty-five, was promoted to corporal June 1, 1847, and mustered out with his company July 28, 1848. The journal writer mentions the 1st Pennsylvania Regiment, Captain Bennett, and that the 1st and 2nd Pennsylvania, the New York, South Carolina, and Massachusetts regiments were under the command of Colonel Wynkoop.

Hackenburg states that the Light Guards performed faithful service during the investment of Vera Cruz, the battles of Cerro Gordo and La Hoya, the defense of Perote, and the battle of Huamantla. They arrived in Mexico City on December 8, 1847, for occupation duty. This information is borne out by the journal, which describes actions and

encampments at Vera Cruz, Jalapa, Puebla, Perote, Cerro Gordo, and Mexico City. The writer describes his activities by the day and month, but it is difficult at times to follow what month he is describing. While the date is always listed, the change of month is not always noted. While Lindsay describes well-known battles of the war, it is the perspective of the soldier that makes this journal important. He describes places, battles, sickness, and hunger; news heard from other units; and the victory celebration when the war is over. The journal provides an excellent example of the average soldier's view of the war.

After the surrender of Vera Cruz, Lindsay's unit marched toward Jalapa "under a hot sun with scarcely any water to drink . . . a great many men gave out from weakny [sic] and some were tired out . . . the road being the greater part of the way soft and sandy." On April 17th Lindsay comes down with billous (yellow) fever, a condition that will plague him for several days. He also mentions that on the 17th "General Twig obtained his position after a very hard battle in which he lost a great number of men killed and wounded." On the 18th the battle continued with the troops advancing through "chaparral which was so thick that they could not see 20 yards ahead and the grape and canister shot poured down on them like hail." As the battle ensued, Captain Bennett's troops took off in "a run and a yell" and caused the enemy to surrender "one of the strongest places in all of Mexico." This was Lindsay's description of the Battle of Cerro Gordo.

The ravages of yellow fever began to take their hold on Lindsay on the 19th through the 22nd of April. His entry for the 19th states that his unit marched for Jalapa, but he remained at the hospital "very low with a fever and no attendance . . . 20th still was no better . . . [I am] expected to die here . . . [I] was out of my head part of the time . . . still had no one to tend to me or fetch me water which I drank a great deal." On the 21st Lindsay continues, ". . . I went to my bed and laid there burning up with the fever not expected to live till morning." Lindsay did survive the night and later went to Jalapa to stay in the hospital there where there was plenty to eat and drink.

After his recovery, Lindsay described religious ceremonies and torch light parades. On May 19, he described four men who were caught stealing. Their punishment was to be whipped, have their heads shaved, and marched through town with a sign reading "robber" on their backs.

May 30th we learn that "report correct that Santa Anna had been taken prisoner." In addition, on June 2 "today is the day that Gen. Scott was to receive a final answer from the City of Mexico peace or not." The journal continues with accounts of a visit to the halls of Montezuma and a bullfight. Christmas of 1847 brought the prospect of no food. Lindsay started his entry for Christmas Day with the prospect of having nothing for breakfast and a poor prospect for the rest of the day. A Mexican mule driver arrived, and the soldiers robbed him in the presence of their officers. Because of this they had corn beef for dinner and dry bread and coffee for supper. A final entry for the 25th notes, "We went to bed hungry."

May 1, 1848, a grand review was held with Generals Patterson and Worth present among others. On May 25, word was received that the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo had been ratified. The evening of the 27th was very festive with a "grand spree among the soldiers . . . Blakely one of the newly elected officers gave a blow out . . . the quarters were brilliantly illuminated." This was followed with music and cheering. The group then proceeded to the quarters of Colonel Wynkoop, who then gave a speech. The journal concludes with Lindsay's company boarding the schooner *Sarah Churchman* bound for New Orleans. The final entry is a simple one: "Return home June 25th, 1848." Lindsay would be mustered out with his unit three days later.

While this journal does have some gaps due to its binding coming apart, it provides a personal view of the Mexican War from a soldier who was present at some of the important battles and had firsthand knowledge of the hardships of the war. We are also given a glimpse of what it was like for this young Philadelphia resident to experience what must have been a strange land.

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Special Collections Snags Two Grants

By Ann Hodges



Making biscuits on the plains, n.d.

From the W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photograph Collection.

The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries have taken a step forward this year in raising external funding in support of library projects. Gerald Saxon and Ann Hodges collaborated in the spring of 2001 to write three proposals seeking funding for projects to improve access to Special Collections materials. At the time of this writing, positive responses have been received to two of the proposals. The award deadline for the third proposal, a request to the Institute of Museum and Library Services for funds to catalog and digitize Mexican War materials, is pending.

A National Endowment for the Humanities Preservation Assistance Grant will provide \$3,839 to purchase supplies to rehouse a portion of the photographic negatives in the W. D. Smith, Inc., Commercial Photography Collection. The W. D.

Smith Collection, which was featured in the Fall 1998 issue of ***The Compass Rose***, was acquired by Special Collections in 1997 and contains well over 100,000 negatives. W. D. Smith opened a commercial photograph studio in Fort Worth in 1941 and, working with his son, Gordon, quickly established the company as the leading photographic firm in Fort Worth and the surrounding area. His clients included major businesses in the area, social clubs, fraternal organizations, individuals and families, and government entities. In the process of building his business, Smith documented the visual history of Fort Worth and environs, including their rapid growth after WWII.

The earliest items in the W. D. Smith Collection, approximately 8,670 negatives dating from the 1940s, were selected for preservation for two reasons. First, they are not only the oldest in the collection but are also the most heavily-used, and consequently are the most at risk from age and handling. Second, these negatives also include approximately one thousand copy negatives that Smith made from the work of some early photographers when he opened his company. Smith began working as a photographer in Fort Worth during the 1920s, and, since that time, built numerous relationships with the photographers he called "the old timers." These "old timers" allowed him to copy their images of Fort Worth and North Texas dating back to the 1890s. All of these photographers are now deceased; their collections have not survived, except in part in the W. D. Smith collection. Consequently, while Smith's negatives were actually made in the 1940s, the subjects that they document date back to the late-nineteenth century. In short, from a historical perspective, these negatives are the most important in documenting the early history of North Texas.



Will Rogers Center, Fort Worth, n.d.

From the W. D. Smith, Inc., Commercial Photography Collection.

NEH Preservation Assistance Grants are given to assist repositories



The circus comes to Fort Worth, n.d.

From the W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photography Collection.

to enhance their capacity to preserve their humanities collections and to increase their availability for research and education. The funds furnished by the NEH will allow the purchase of archival polypropylene negative sleeves; buffered, acid-free negative storage envelopes; and acid- and lignin-free storage boxes in order to rehouse the negatives according to professionally accepted preservation standards. Archivist Shirley Rodnitzky will direct the project, which will be in effect from September 1, 2001, through August 31, 2002. Student help is being used to create a database from the information present on the original negative envelopes. The database will enable the printing of the information on the new envelopes, and will also improve access to the collection by allowing electronic searching of information about the 1940s negatives. Access to the W. D. Smith Collection presently is achieved by use of Smith's client card file. It is hoped that the project will serve as a prototype for future extension of treatment to the remainder of the

W. D. Smith Collection.

The TexTreasuries program of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission awarded UTA Libraries \$20,000, the maximum amount permitted under the program's guidelines, to increase access to its holdings of oral history interviews with Tejano leaders. The TexTreasuries program, which is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is designed to assist public and academic libraries in Texas to provide access to their special or unique local collection holdings and to make information about those holdings available to library users across the state. UTA's proposal was ranked first among all applicants in the competitive evaluation process conducted by the TexTreasuries review panel.

The project, known as Tejano Voices, will provide access to 77 oral history interviews conducted during the 1990s by UTA political science professor, José Angel Gutierrez. The interviews emphasize the personal stories and struggles of Tejano leaders, many of whom are the first individuals of Mexican descent in their communities elected or appointed to government office. The interviews uniquely reflect the history of the Tejano community as it pressed for an end to racial segregation in the state and access to political power in the post-WWII period.

The Tejano Voices project will run from September 1, 2001, through August 31, 2002, and will be under the direction of Ann Hodges, Special Collections Projects Manager. Julie Williams, Kris Swenson, and Sarah Jones of the Libraries' Digital Library Services program area will create digital files and will design and implement the project web site. Digital Library Services Coordinator, Marie Irwin, is technical advisor to the project. In addition to staff resources, the Libraries will contribute the use of the equipment required by the project.

Grant funds will be used to pay the salary of a professional cataloger, who will work on the project half-time for one year in Special Collections. Carolyn Kadri, who has worked half-time in Special Collections for four years as Virginia Garrett Map Cataloger, has been selected as Tejano Voices Project Cataloger. She will be a full-time Libraries employee for the duration of the project and will continue her work with maps. Kadri's contribution to the Tejano Voices project will include creating full-level catalog records for the interviews and contributing information to the project's database and web site. In other words, she will create the descriptive information that will permit greater access to the interviews.

A preliminary web site will provide an explanation of the Tejano Voices project and of the activities being performed by project staff, as well as biographical information about Professor Gutierrez and insight into his role as interviewer. When completed, the project web site will be a vehicle for access to the interviews. It will present a mechanism for searching the interview transcripts and will feature a list of the project interviews, with links to individual pages for interviewees. Each interviewee page will link to a text file of the interview transcript and to a streaming audio file of the interview. Additionally, each interviewee page will display a still image of the interviewee and biographical information about him or her, and will link to the interview's catalog record in PULSe, the Libraries' online catalog.

We are pleased that the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission found our proposals worthy of funding. Libraries staff are already at work on the projects. Researchers can look forward to improved access to the materials being addressed by the grants, thanks to the funds provided by the granting agencies and the hard work of Libraries staff members.

All of the resources being addressed by the projects are housed in Special Collections at the UTA Libraries. They are available for use by the public during Special Collections' normal operating hours of Monday 9:00 am-7:00 pm and Tuesday-Saturday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm. Please telephone (817) 272-3393 to confirm these times, as evening and Saturday hours vary with the academic calendar. Special arrangements can be made in advance for the convenience of researchers traveling from a distance.

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Special Collections Acquires *L'Amerique Atlas*

By Katherine R. Goodwin



"Amerique Septentrionale" in Nichol Sanson d'Abbeville, L'Amerique en plusieurs cartes, et en divers traités de géographie et d'histoire.... Published in Paris by N. Sanson d'Abbeville, ca.1662.

Courtesy of the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library.

The leather cover is worn and slightly scuffed; the pages neatly tucked into the tightly bound spine. Both indicators suggesting that the atlas has been rebound in the last hundred years or so. But turn the pages and you see the extraordinary seventeenth century cartographic work of a man who is called the founder of the French school of geography, Nicolas Sanson d'Abbeville. Special Collections recently acquired the atlas of the influential cartographer to add to its rapidly growing collection of atlases and geographies housed in the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library.

Born in 1600 in Abbeville, France, Sanson and the family dynasty he established, took an early lead in scientific mapping, as French cartographers dominated the map world in the seventeenth century. Sanson, who began drawing maps to illustrate his studies, moved into map publishing to provide a

living for himself and his growing family. In 1627, he moved to Paris where he caught the attention of Cardinal Richelieu, the advisor to the French King, Louis XIV. Richelieu was instrumental in appointing Sanson as the king's geography tutor, a fortunate happenstance, which began a lasting association between the teacher and Louis XIV. The king appointed Sanson "Géographe ordinaire du Roy" in 1630, a position he maintained for thirty-five years.

Sanson's influence was far-reaching and long lasting. His relationship with Louis XIV resulted in strong patronage of French geographers and mapmakers by the long-lived monarch. Sanson's teaching skills not only included the king, but also members of the prominent Del'Isle family, who established map houses in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The teacher-geographer-mapmaker also passed his knowledge to his three sons, Nicolas, Adrian, and Guillaume, as well as a nephew, Gilles Robert de Vaugondy, and grandson, Pierre Moulard-Sanson. All came into the family business and the firm flourished for almost a hundred years.

The Sanson maps were noted for detailed presentations that were as beautiful as they were scientific, at least by the standards of the day. The atlas recently acquired by Special Collections is an excellent example of Sanson's workmanship. The volume titled *L'Amerique en plusieurs cartes, et en divers traités de géographie et d'histoire...* was published in Paris, we believe, in 1662. There are eighty-two pages of text plus fifteen double page maps relating to the Americas. Among the more prominent maps in the atlas is one of North America depicting the region that will later be known as Texas—the region nestled on the map between "Floride" and "Nouveau Mexique." Others maps are *Le Canada, ou Nouvelle France*, showing a developing Great Lakes region; the *Audience de Mexico*, with many place names, stretching from just north of the Panuco River to Yucatan and northern Honduras. The atlas also includes maps of the Caribbean, Central America, and the South American continent along with the major countries of that continent. The work was originally one of a four volume series that was published both as a series and later as separate volumes at various times from 1648 to 1667. The other volumes included *L'Europe*, *L'Asie*, and *L'Afrique*.

In addition, the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library has copies of the *La Floride* map from the 1657 *L'Amerique* edition, as well as a beautifully colored copy of the influential map, *Amerique Septentrionalis*, 1650. The Virginia Garrett Library also counts a number of other productions from members of the Sanson family along with other French cartographers, who dominated the map trade in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The Sanson *L'Amerique* atlas joins an expanding atlas collection in Special Collections.

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**Special Collections Division
the University of Texas
at Arlington Libraries**

Vol. XV * No. 2 * Fall 2001

Libraries Reach Halfway Point in Endowment Campaign

By Gerald D. Saxon

For the past three decades, Special Collections has been building a cartographic history collection focusing on Texas and the Gulf of Mexico. Built largely through the private donations of individuals like Ted and Helen Mayborn, Lewis and Virginia Buttery, William Collins, W. E. Chilton, Jr., Robert Isham, Marvin and Shirley Applewhite, Murray Hudson, Jenkins and Virginia Garrett, and many others, and with the support of the Sid Richardson Foundation of Fort Worth and the Summerlee Foundation of Dallas, the collection now numbers more than 6,500 maps dating from 1493 to the present and 2,200 school and commercial atlases and geographies dating from the 16th through the 20th centuries. UTA is committed to not only amassing and preserving a unique resource like this, but also to making it available to a wide audience and developing programs and launching initiatives to ensure that the maps and atlases are accessible and used by researchers across the country.



*Sebastian Münster, **Typus Orbis Universalis**, ca.1550.
Courtesy of the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library.*

Three years ago Virginia Garrett donated more than 900 maps of Texas and the Gulf Coast to UTA—at the time this was the largest such collection in private hands. Mrs. Garrett's gift came with a challenge. Her collection was donated with the provision that UTA guarantee that this historic collection be processed, cataloged, enhanced, and the focus of public and academic programs. In short, she wanted the collection used and developed. Her ideas about the collection and the university's interest in preserving and providing wide access to it were essentially one in the same.

In order to ensure the viability and vitality of the collection and to carry out Mrs. Garrett's wish, the university has launched an endowment campaign with the goal of raising \$700,000. To date, \$351,000 has been raised or pledged from private sources. The Garrett Endowment's income is used to underwrite future acquisitions for the map collection, help preserve maps needing conservation treatment, implement programming focusing on cartographic history, and launch outreach initiatives informing students, scholars, and the general public of the collection and encouraging its use. The university has ensured the adequate staffing of the map collection by funding three positions in Special Collections: a cartographic archivist, a maps cataloger, and a paraprofessional who works with the archivist to plan and implement programs, exhibits, publications, and other projects.

In May 2001, the Carl B. and Florence E. King Foundation of Dallas approved a \$75,000 challenge grant for the Garrett Endowment with the proviso that UTA raise the match by April 1, 2002. This is a significant step toward the university reaching its fundraising goal. The King Foundation grant is serving as a catalyst for other gifts because it gives individuals, foundations, and businesses an opportunity to leverage their donations to the endowment.

UTA has become a leader in cartographic education and the collection of cartographic resources, and the Garrett Endowment will help sustain the university's leadership position. Four factors have made this leadership possible:

Faculty. UTA has a faculty known for its research, writing, and teaching in cartographic history. For example, Dr. David Buisseret, the Jenkins and Virginia Garrett Endowed Chairholder in Southwestern Studies and the History of

Cartography, holds the only chair in cartographic history in the country. Dr. Dennis Reinhartz, professor of history, has written extensively about maps of the Spanish entradas and English mapmaker Herman Moll. Dr. Richard Francaviglia, director of UTA's Center for Greater Southwestern Studies, teaches and publishes in the areas of Southwestern history, maritime history, and the natural history of the Cross Timbers and Great Basin, all with a map emphasis. These individuals are just a few examples of the diversity of faculty at UTA who exploit the collection.

The Collection. As stated above, UTA holds one of the richest collections of maps and cartographic products focusing on Texas and the Gulf of Mexico outside of the Library of Congress. The collection complements the other historical resources in Special Collections, such as books, serials, manuscript collections, broadsides, and photographs. Taken together, the maps and the other materials found in Special Collections serve as a laboratory of sorts where individuals can ask and answer questions about the past.

Library Staff. UTA has invested heavily in developing and making the map collection accessible. Special Collections staff members are responsible for the collection's preservation, development, outreach programs, and administration. Sally Gross, program coordinator for Special Collections, manages the area, while Kit Goodwin, who has written and lectured on cartographic history, is cartographic archivist. Carolyn Kadri holds the position of maps cataloger, and Pratap Mandapaka is the staff member who works on exhibitions and other outreach and public programs spotlighting the map collection. All members of the Special Collections staff provide reference assistance for the collection. The maps and atlases are housed in the beautiful and functional Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library, a facility designed specifically for the collection located on the sixth floor of UTA's Central Library.

Commitment. UTA has made a university-wide commitment to promote and interpret the collection both inside and outside of the boundaries of the campus. For example, two years ago the university created a doctoral program in Transatlantic History based, in part, on the historical maps and other resources found in Special Collections. Moreover, the History Department's Public History Program on the master's level helps train students on ways to administer and develop historical collections like the map collection. UTA's Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography works closely with the Libraries in developing classes and curricula to incorporate maps into diverse courses across the university. In addition, the Center develops and sponsors public programs aimed at revealing the riches of Special Collections to both a scholarly and general audience. Several such programs have been held, including ones on Texas annexation, local history, the U.S.-Mexican border, the U.S. War with Mexico, and the natural environment of the North Texas region. Moreover, every other year Special Collections sponsors the Virginia Garrett Lectures in the History of Cartography. These lectures bring together cartographic history scholars from around the world to explore specific subjects and themes. To date, the themes of the lectures have been Soldiers and Engineers on the Southwestern Frontier and Maps and Popular Culture. In 2002, the theme will be The Third Coast: Mapping the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea.

Beyond the campus, the Houston Endowment, Inc. recognized UTA's push to broaden access to its maps when, in 1999, it granted the university \$200,000 to fund "Cartographic Connections: Improving Teaching Through the Use of Historic Maps," a project intended to connect teachers and students in K-12 with historic maps from UTA's collection. The overall goal of the project is to improve the classroom experience in the state and excite students about history and maps.

With the faculty, collection, library staff, and university commitment to outreach and cartographic history education in place, the final piece in the puzzle to assure the further development of the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library is the endowment. Progress is steady toward the goal of building a \$700,000 endowment thanks to support from individuals, foundations, and businesses. Those interested in making a gift to the Garrett Endowment can contact Gerald Saxon at 817-272-5318 or email at saxon@uta.edu.

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Seek and Ye Shall Find an Aid

By Shirley R. Rodnitzky

The culmination of several months of processing by archival students has resulted in descriptive finding aids for four diverse collections preserved in Special Collections: the personal papers of Robert Hanks Brister and C. A. (Ce Estus Adam) Sharp; the legislative papers of state representative Ed Watson; and the records of the University of Texas at Arlington, Office of the President, during the terms of Dr. Jack Woolf and Dr. Frank Harrison. Information about each collection was compiled from a variety of sources, and a summary of the content and organizational structure is provided in each guide. Completion of the processing of our collections makes them easier to use and provides the staff with a valuable resource for assisting users. Unprocessed collections, however, are almost always available for research. Exceptions include materials restricted by the donor, items that require preservation treatment, and extremely large collections for which there is no comprehensive inventory.

If any of the following collections are of interest to you, please request the finding aid by name and number when you visit the library. The finding aids for the collections described here and in all future articles will be available on the Internet linked to the Web version of *The Compass Rose* from the Special Collections homepage at <http://libraries.uta.edu/SpecColl/>.

For those without internet access, a photocopy of any finding aid in Special Collections may be requested by mail or telephone for a small photocopy and mailing fee. Please contact:

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Robert Hanks Brister Papers (AR434), 19 boxes (6.9 linear ft.)



Robert Hanks Brister (third from left) with the Decatur Baptist College Quartet, c.1912.

Robert Hanks Brister, 1890-1965, son of a pioneer Burleson, Texas, farm family, was a World War I army baker, math teacher, public school superintendent, Baptist deacon, and businessman. A graduate of Decatur Baptist College in 1912, he then attended Baylor College where he received a bachelor's degree in 1917, and later earned a masters degree from the University of Texas in 1928. He was principal of Ennis High School, 1914-1917, and school superintendent in Taylor, Texas, 1922-1935, and Waco, Texas, 1935-1944. He was elected president of the Texas State Teachers Association in 1938. A recognized leader in Texas education, Brister was described by the *Houston Post*, in 1939, as a pioneer in public school vocational and health education. He instituted off-campus

From the Robert Hanks Brister Papers.

dental decay. Brister lobbied for teacher pay raises and endorsed free school lunch programs in an era when most Texans resisted federal aid. In 1944-1947, he worked as an occupational specialist at the Veterans Administration's Vocational Rehabilitation Service in Waco and in 1950 became an insurance underwriter for Fidelity Union Life Insurance Company.

Brister married Ruby Irene Neal, of Weatherford, Texas, in 1921. The Bristers had two children, Robert Andrew Brister, who married Mary Ann Mullen, and Katharine Brister (Mrs. Shirley Maurice) Lockhart.

The Robert Hanks Brister Papers, 1786-1996 (bulk 1911-1965), document his life as a college student, math teacher, soldier, school administrator, civic leader, and Waco businessman. Correspondence, photographs, family histories and genealogies, financial records, speeches, school annuals, books, certificates, newspaper clippings, memorabilia, artifacts, and ephemera contain a wealth of information about Texas life in the first half of the twentieth century. Correspondence received during his years as a student and soldier describe farm life and contain social banter from classmates and girlfriends. Materials that document his years as an educator include speeches, reports to school boards, correspondence with colleagues, and his efforts to obtain employment upon resignation as Waco superintendent. Among Brister's World War I keepsakes are two patriotically designed handkerchiefs, an army spyglass, and a signaling mirror. An avid photographer, he illustrated his life and times with six captioned photo albums, ca. 1900-1920s. His Eastman-Kodak camera is included in the collection as well as additional family photographs that date from the 1880s. Brister advocated expanding facilities at African American schools in Waco, and he saved yearbooks from segregated Moore High School. The extensive family histories and genealogies include ties to the Eddleman, Neal, and Clark family trees.



Postcard addressed to "Sir Robert" from Ginett, September 1, 1918. From the Robert Hanks Brister Papers.

C. A. (Ce Estus Adam) Sharp Papers (AR428), 2 boxes (.83 linear ft.)



Boyce State Bank Stock Certificate, January 10, 1929. From the C. A. (Ce Estus Adam) Sharp Papers.

C. A. Sharp, 1868-1954, an accountant, businessman, and farmer, grew up and worked all his life in and around Waxahachie, Texas. His primary income came from the cotton farm that he operated with his sons in Ellis County. He also had land holdings in Electra and Dimmitt counties. During his lifetime, Sharp was an accountant with the Anchor Insurance Corporation and later with the New Amsterdam Company, president of the Farmers Gin Company, and a cashier and stockholder of the Boyce State Bank. He and Mary Lucinda Morrison married in 1892 and had five children. Sharp was a respected member of the community and a guiding figure for the Sharp extended family. When he died in 1954, he left behind a large family whose roots spread from Kentucky to Texas.

C. A. Sharp's personal, farm, and business papers, 1871-1976, document his life and family in Ellis County. The collection contains personal and business correspondence, financial documents, legal documents, stock certificates, photographs, printed material, family genealogy, and artifacts. Business documents, 1891-1952, are related to his work as an accountant and bank cashier, as an officer of the Farmers Gin Company, and as a farmer and land investor. Wills and financial statements of family members, graduation certificates, a genealogy, and photographs document his position as financial advisor in the Sharp family. The C. A. Sharp Papers provide insights into the life of an ambitious businessman and farmer in small town Texas in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

University of Texas at Arlington. Office of the President (AR431), 6 boxes (2.2 linear ft.)



Arlington State College students protest the proposed renaming of the school by Texas A&M University, 1964. From The University of Texas at Arlington News Service Photograph Collection.

Dr. Jack R. Woolf, Dean of Engineering, became president of Arlington State College in February 1960, after serving as acting president from November 1958, when President Ernest H. Hereford died suddenly. Woolf's administration ushered in the institution's transition from a two-year college to a four-year college in 1959, and the university's change in affiliation from the Texas A&M System to the University of Texas System in 1965. Dr. Frank Harrison, associate dean of graduate studies at Southwestern Medical School in Dallas, was appointed acting president after Woolf's resignation

on August 31, 1968, and served as president from November 1968 until October 1972. Harrison directed the university's transition from a four-year school to a graduate university. During his tenure, twenty-two master's degree programs were instituted, and the engineering and psychology doctoral programs were approved. Harrison's term was marked by student unrest generated by objections to the school's spirit theme, "Rebels." After a close campus election in April 1971, Harrison recommended to the University of Texas System's Board of Regents that "Rebels" be replaced by "Mavericks."

The records, 1957-1973, were produced primarily during the presidential administrations of Dr. Jack R. Woolf and Dr. Frank Harrison, and include correspondence, memoranda, agendas, minutes, resumés, degree proposals, and printed materials. Although much of the collection documents the presidents' membership on the Inter-University Council of the Dallas and Fort Worth metropolitan area, the general work of a university president especially during the 1960s and early 1970s when counter cultural and civil rights movements were active on campus is of special interest. This small collection fills the gaps in two larger collections of the above administrations' records preserved in Special Collections: AR297, 30 boxes (12.9 linear ft.), 1954-1972; and AR298, 12 boxes (4.8 linear ft.), 1965-1975.



The flag of UTA, the Stars and Bars, was permanently removed from its pole in front of the student center, July 1968. From The University of Texas at Arlington News Service Photograph Collection.

Ed Watson Papers (AR432), 13 boxes (5.1 linear ft.)

Ed R. Watson was born in 1920, in Wallisville, Texas, and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the Korean War. In 1947, he joined the Shell Oil Company as an oil field operator and worked there until his retirement in 1984. He married Susan Geraldine Eaves in 1948. Watson was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1972, and served eight two-year terms representing District 17,



Ed Watson (right) with Ted Kennedy,
n.d. From the Ed Watson Papers.

Deer Park, near Houston. His particular interest in union activities and issues led him to serve on the Labor Committee, the Environmental Affairs Committee, and the Committee on Employment Practices. He was a delegate to the unsuccessful Texas Constitutional Convention of 1974, which attempted to modernize and revise the Texas state constitution. A long-time member of the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers International, Local 3-467, he served as its vice president and president. In addition, Watson was on the executive board of the Harris County chapter of the AFL-

CIO, and was involved in many civic and charitable organizations. He currently lives in Houston where he serves as liaison to Congressman Ken Bentsen.

The Ed Watson Papers, 1966-2001, document his sixteen years in the Texas Legislature. They include correspondence, proposed bills, news releases, reports, speeches, maps, newspaper clippings, petitions, pamphlets, certificates, questionnaires, photographs, and a scrapbook. The bulk of the collection is constituent correspondence, 1973-1979. Correspondence and newsletters regarding the failed Texas Constitutional Convention are included. The newspaper clippings reveal Watson's legislative activities and describe issues before the legislature. Photographs of Watson show him with Governor Ann Richards, Congressman Jim Wright, Senator Edward Kennedy, Walter Mondale, Geraldine Ferraro other prominent Texas and nationally recognized Democratic leaders. The scrapbook, 1986-1988, contains letters, snapshots, memorabilia, and printed materials from his last term in office. Personal papers and family correspondence comprise a small part of the collection.

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The Texas Electric Railway

By Gary Spurr

From 1916 until 1948, the Texas Electric Railway provided passenger and freight service to the citizens of North Central Texas. The railway combined the operations of the Texas Traction Company and the Southern Traction Company. With Dallas as its center, the railway operated three lines: one to Sherman and Denison, one to Ennis and Corsicana, and one to Hillsboro and Waco. These routes gave the Texas Electric 226 miles of track, making it the longest interurban west of the Mississippi River. While primarily a passenger line, Texas Electric Railway also offered mail and express service. In 1928, it began to haul freight as well and provided streetcar service in several towns that it served. The Texas Electric Railway was the last independent interurban line in Texas by 1942. While the line operated throughout World War II, ridership declined after the war due to the surge in private automobiles, buses, and trucks. The last run of the Texas Electric was on December 31, 1948.

Special Collections recently acquired more than sixty black and white negatives of the Texas Electric Railway courtesy of S. W. Johnson. The negatives, taken by an unknown photographer, were largely shot in the late 1940s in Dallas. However, other locations are featured as well, including Waco, Hillsboro, and Waxahachie. While the Texas Electric was primarily a passenger line, it did offer freight, mail, and express service. The photographer concentrated on photographing the freight equipment of the line. While there are photos of passenger cars, the bulk of the photos are of box motors, freight equipment converted from passenger cars, and other equipment built by the Texas Electric in its own shops.



The 327 about to enter the Dallas Interurban Terminal in Dallas, February 15, 1946.

The photos illustrate more than just the equipment of the line. In the backgrounds are scenes of Dallas and other locations in the 1940s. In views taken at the Dallas interurban terminal, buses, which would help lead to the demise of the Texas Electric, are visible. What follows are a sampling of some of the photographs from the collection. These negatives are an important addition to the historical photograph collections housed in Special Collections. For further information, contact Gary Spurr, Special Collections Archivist, by phone at

817-272-3393 or email at spurr@uta.edu.



The 315 with trailer leaves Dallas on the Waco run, January 1, 1946.



Class A freight motor 800 (left) rests between runs by the Dallas freight house, while box motors (right) wait



The 253 crosses the Brazos River in Waco on its way to Dallas, March, 1946.

in stalls, March, 1946.

All photos are from the Texas Electric Railway Negative Collection, Special Collections, The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries.

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