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### Fall 1998

#### [The W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photography Collection](#)

By Gerald D. Saxon



Fort Worth flood of 1949.

The Division announces the acquisition of the W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photography Collection of negatives dating from the early 1940s through 1989. The city of Fort Worth's leading commercial photography firm during the last half of this century donated approximately 190,000 negatives documenting the growth and development of the Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and the North Texas region. The article relates the career of Smith and displays a number of historic Fort Worth photos.

#### [Friends Celebrate First Decade](#)

By Gerald D. Saxon



Director of Libraries Tom Wilding  
and Friends'  
President Lannie Forbes.

A report of the Tenth Year Celebration of the Friends of UTA Libraries. The celebration focussed on the past, present, and future of the Friends. A number of the previous presidents were in attendance.

#### [Joys of Processing: Finding Paper Jewels](#)

By Maritza Arrigunaga



Miguel Hidalgo.

Arrigunaga reveals the treasures found in a recently acquired Mexican collection. Of special interest are two folders containing thirty-three items from the Bishop of Valladolid, Michoacán, Mexico, dating from 1778 to 1845. Valladolid had been the cradle of the Mexican independence movement and a large number of the province's clergy became involved. The movement progressed from the first plot in 1794 to the Dolores popular insurgency in 1810 led by Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla. The article reviews the history of the events as well as a description of the materials.

#### [Rangers and UTA Connect for Summer Program](#)

by Katherine R. Goodwin



Student reading an 1836 newspaper about the fall of the Alamo.

Every summer, a select group of students from the Fort Worth Independent School District who are participants of the Texas Rangers Summer Academy visit Special Collections to explore the division and its treasures. These young "Texas heroes" are met by a descendant of the Texas Revolution dressed in period dress and begin a three-hour morning of interactive sessions with teachers and Special Collections staff members. Goodwin recounts the fun and pleasure of students in the program.

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## Spring 1998

### [Friends Celebrate Ten Year Anniversary](#)

By Gerald D. Saxon

The Friends of UTA Libraries organization is now ten years old and the associate director for Special Collections Gerald Saxon, looks at the founding of the organization and the success it has attained in the last decade. Saxon also describes some of the more memorable programs and includes a list of past presidents.



### [A Decade of Friends' Programs to Tickle Your Fancy](#)

By Jennifer Gates

In the ten years that the Friends of the UTA Libraries have existed, the organization has sponsored programs to appeal to people with diverse tastes and interests. We thought it would be fun and informative to list *all* of the Friends' programs sponsored during the Friends' first decade. **Spring 1998.**

### [Adena de Zavala: Protector of Texas' Past](#)

By Diana Mays

The article by School Teacher and Archivist, Diana Mays, focuses on one of the smaller collections held in Special Collections. Mays describes the papers of a phenomenal woman who spent most of her life working to preserve Texas History.

### [Notes](#)

First in a new Lecture Series Announced

The UTA Libraries' Special Collections Division and the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography announce the First Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography. The Lecture, titled, *Soldier-Engineers on the Southwestern Frontier* will be held of Friday, October 2, 1998, in the Sixth Floor Parlor of UTA's Central Library. Distinguished scholars participating in this first lecture include Dr. Richard Francaviglia of UTA, Dr. W. Michael Mathes, with the Sutro Collection in California, Dr. Dennis Reinhartz of UTA, Dr. Paula Rebert of DeKalb, Illinois, Dr. Gerald D. Saxon also of UTA, and Dr. Ralph Ehrenberg, Chief, map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C. For more information, please contact Ms. Kit Goodwin by phone: (817) 272-3393 , or by fax (817) 272-3360, or by email at [goodwin@uta.edu](mailto:goodwin@uta.edu).

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#### Special Collections

The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries

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This page last update on Wednesday, June 25, 2003

## The W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photography Collection

by Gerald D. Saxon



*Fort Worth High School, ca. 1900. From the W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photography collection.*

was the first studio built in Tarrant County specifically for the photography business and was the state-of-the-art in design for its time. Shortly after the opening of the new studio, the Fort Worth City Council changed the name of the street on which it was located to Photo Avenue.

During his lifetime (1907-1988), W. D. Smith built a reputation as Fort Worth's finest commercial photographer. He was especially well known for his architectural photography because he had the rare ability to keep a correct vertical perspective when capturing the image of tall buildings. As a result of his reputation, a good portion of his commercial business was for construction progress photography. In addition, Smith was an avid local historian who knew photographers many years his senior, and they all allowed him to copy their historical photographs. The Smith Collection, as a result, has one of the largest extant collections of nineteenth and early twentieth century photos of North Texas.

**Gordon Smith, W. D.'s son, was born in 1927 and worked**

The Special Collections Division of The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries is pleased to announce the acquisition of the W. D. Smith, Inc. Commercial Photography negatives dating from the early 1940s through 1989. The W. D. Smith Company of Fort Worth was the city's leading commercial photography firm during the last half of this century. The collection includes approximately 190,000 negatives, both black and white and color, which document the growth and development of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and the North Texas region.

W. D. Smith was a native of Alvord, Texas, who began work as a professional photographer in Fort Worth in 1927. In the 1940s, his son, Gordon, a graduate of North Texas Agricultural College (now UTA), joined him as partner in the business. The company operated at 1307 West El Paso Street in the city until, in 1964-1965, the Smiths purchased property just off of Vickery Street and built the present studio. The building



*Street scene of Fort Worth, c1900, looking north on Houston Street at 11th Street.*

closely with his father. Gordon has had two compelling interests in his life--flying and photography. Not surprisingly, he combined these interests when he went to work with his father, enabling the company to build a robust business in aerial photography. Aerial views of Fort Worth and Tarrant County are another strength of the collection.

Because of health reasons, Gordon is no longer able to operate the business, but he wanted to ensure that the company's images were preserved and made available to the public. After a series of negotiations, UTA and Gordon and his wife reached a purchase/donation agreement that would bring the collection to Special Collections. At UTA, the Smith negatives complement other photographic collections held in the UTA Libraries' Special Collections Division, including the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Collection, *Fort Worth News Tribune* Collection, *Arlington Citizens-Journal* Collection, Basil Clemons Collection, Will Wood Collection, and Jack White Collection, just to mention the larger collections. The Special Collections Division has more than one million images in its holdings and does a lively business in providing copy photographs for publications, advertising, television productions, and other products.



*Aerial view of the Fort Worth Stockyards, ca. 1950.*

**For more information about the Smith Collection, please contact:**

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## Friends Celebrate First Decade

By Gerald D. Saxon



Director of Librarians Tom Wilding And  
Friends' President Lannie Forbes.

The Friends of the UTA Libraries "pulled out all of the stops" for their tenth birthday celebration held on May 1, 1998, on the sixth floor of the Central Library. The celebration focused on the past, present, and future of the Friends, and a great time was had by all of the 125 people who attended.

Current Friends President Lannie Forbes served as mistress of ceremonies, introducing the many speakers and special guests during the evening. Speaking about the organization of the Friends in 1986-1987 were Gloria Van Zandt, first president of the organization; Wendell Nedderman, president of UTA during those years; and Charles Lowry and his wife, Marcia. Lowry was the library director during the early years. He and Marcia spoke via videotape from the University of Maryland Library, where he is currently dean of libraries.

Lannie Forbes then introduced all of the former Friends' presidents and presented them with certificates of appreciation. The presidents honored included Gloria Van Zandt (1987-1988), Dessa Spidle (1988-1989), Mary Perry (1989-1990), Margaret Galloway (1990-1991), Bob Findlay (1991-1992), Jenkins Garrett (1992-1993), Joi Burton (1993-1994), Pat Skrtic (1994-1995), Pam Bagby (1995-1996), and Connie Campbell (1996-1997).

Following the recognition of the presidents was current UTA President Robert Witt, who spoke about the importance of libraries to universities and the importance of support groups like the Friends to libraries. Tom Wilding, current library director, discussed the many changes and challenges libraries face in the late 20th century and was joined by President Forbes to recognize donors to the library's Adopt-A-Journal Program. Wilding and Forbes also announced the recipients of the Friends Faculty Awards, who were Richard Francaviglia, director of the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography, and Mike Reimann, lecturer and assistant to the chair of the Information Systems and Management Sciences Department.



Past Friends' presidents from left to right include Mary Perry,  
Gloria Van Zandt, Margaret Galloway, Jenkins Garrett,  
Pam Bagby, Bob Findlay, and Joi Burton.

Forbes ended the formal part of the evening by conducting a drawing for an evening at the Ballpark in Arlington to be spent in Gloria Van Zandt's suite for a Texas Rangers game. The lucky Friends member who won the drawing was Dorothy Jones who, with a number of her family and friends, attended a Rangers game during the summer.

After the presentations and remarks, the Friends hosted a gala reception,



*Recipients of the Friends' Faculty Award include Richard Francaviglia (left) and Mike Reimann.*

including a huge birthday cake. The new officers elected early in the evening included Dennis Reinhartz, president; Bansy Johnson, first vice president; Charles Deur, second vice president; Evelyn Hellier, secretary; Tom Kennedy, treasurer; and Lannie Forbes, parliamentarian. The three individuals elected to the Advisory Council were Beth Anderson, Mary Anne Bailey, and Richard Francaviglia.

For more information about the Friends, please call Betty Wood or Gerald Saxon at (817) 272-3393 or Dennis Reinhartz at (817) 274-7086 .

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## JOYS OF PROCESSING: FINDING PAPER JEWELS

by *Maritza Arrigunaga*



*Miguel Hidalgo.*

In December 1988, the Special Collections Division acquired a large collection of Mexican manuscripts from a New York books and manuscripts dealer. Among these materials were two folders containing thirty-three items from the Bishopric of Valladolid, Michoacán, Mexico, dating from 1778-1845. Of all of the collections acquired from the dealer, this small collection was processed first because Valladolid had been the cradle of the Mexican independence movement. A large number of the province's clergy became involved in the independence movement, which progressed from the first plot in 1794 to the Dolores popular insurgency in 1810 led by Don Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla. After Hidalgo's execution, another parish priest from Valladolid, José María Morelos y Pavón, continued the insurgency until his own execution.

The majestic city of Valladolid, now Morelia, was the capital of the state of Michoacán, and is located in west central Mexico. It was founded in 1541 in the vicinity of the pre-Hispanic Tarascan Valley of Guayangareo, by Mexico's first viceroy, Don Antonio de Mendoza (1492-1552). In 1828 the town was renamed Morelia in honor of patriot Don José María Morelos y Pavón. The word "Michoacán" comes from the Nahuatl terms "michin" (fish), "hua" (those who have), and "can" (place). Michoacán literally means "fisherman's place." UNESCO has designated Morelia "Patrimonio Cultural de la Humanidad" (a cultural heritage of humanity), and it is regarded as one of the richest folk art centers in Mexico.

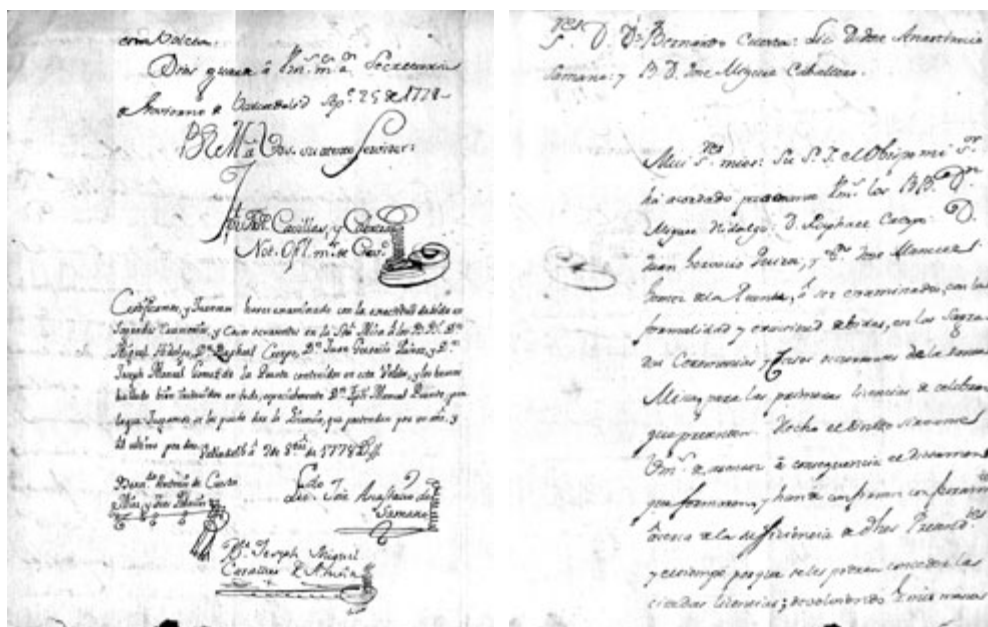
The Valladolid de Michoacán Diocese was created in 1536. When its first bishop arrived, Vasco de Quiroga, the Franciscan convent of Tzintzuntzan (located at the former capital of the Tarascan empire) briefly served as the provisional cathedral. Quiroga moved the cathedral to Patzcuaro, where the diocese remained from 1538 to 1580, when by royal command it was transferred to Valladolid. One of the most famous Mexican colleges, Real Colegio de San Nicolas de Valladolid, was located here. The college was originally founded by fray Juan de San Miguel in the 16th century. This college was Don Miguel Hidalgo's alma mater, and, from 1779 to 1792, he worked there as a teacher, vice-principal, treasurer, and principal.

Valladolid's cathedral chapter was managed by the bishop, and its chapter (Cabildo Eclesiastico) maintained by ecclesiastic tithes. The Cabildo was comprised of five dignitaries (dignidades), ten canons of whom five were by grace (gracia) and five by right (oficio), and twelve prebendaries. The chapter was the governing body for the cathedral. Moreover, in the case of Valladolid, the chapter, since the sixteenth century, was also responsible for the College of San Nicolas. However, for the diocesan administration the bishop relied on the Secretaría de Cámara y Gobierno, who had a main cleric serve as Secretario de Gobierno and assisting clerics to administer the records of the parochial clergy. In addition, they handled the bishop's private correspondence and other diocesan government matters, such as issuing titles of clerical appointments and licences to confess, officiating at mass, and overseeing the confraternities constitutions in all the parishes. The bishop's main officer was the Vicario General y Provisor. The vicar general had all the executive authority of the bishop and was the highest judge of the diocesan court (Provisorato). The ecclesiastic court was headed by the Judge of Testaments, Chantries and Holy Works. The episcopal curia handled all suits regarding ecclesiastical property except for tithes and the administration of diocesan foundations.

The preliminary appraisal of the collection showed that the records were from the diocesan administration of the bishopric and not from the cathedral chapter. Mostly, they were records of titles of clerical appointments, requests,

and licences to hear confessions and to officiate mass.

From the start, processing the Bishop of Valladolid collection created much excitement. The first letter, dated September 25, 1778, turned out to be a precious "paper jewel." It is a letter from Bishop Juan Ignacio de la Rocha's (1777-1782) senior clerk and notary, Joseph Francisco Cavillas y Cabrera, requesting the examination of Don Miguel Hidalgo and three other clergymen in the sacred ceremonies so that the appropriate licences could be granted. The licences were approved on October 2, 1778. What a joy to be able to share the exact dates of his final examination. [[Letter transcription and translation](#)]



*Letter of September 25, 1778, requesting the examination of Don Miguel Hidalgo and three other clergymen in the sacred ceremonies of the Catholic church, and the certificate (October 2, 1778) added thereto affirming their passing the examination.*

The documents in the Bishopric of Valladolid collection were placed into two folders. The first folder includes twenty manuscripts dating from 1778-1823. These are mostly titles of clerical appointments, examination orders, licences or renewals to confess and to officiate mass, and two letters regarding a disciplinary action. Some of these records are from insurgent clerics from the College of San Nicolas during the administration of Don Manuel Iturriaga. After Hidalgo's departure from the college, its administration was transferred to Iturriaga, canon by right from the cathedral chapter and former diocesan attorney. He was also a member of the failed 1809 Valladolid conspiracy and a collaborator with Allende and Hidalgo, who helped to formulate the revolutionary plan for independence. The second folder includes thirteen manuscripts dating from 1783-1845 relating to the diocesan administration of Santiago Camiña, who remained as the bishopric's secretary for more than thirty years and sided with the non-insurgency establishment.

The richness of this small collection, and especially the [Hidalgo document](#), has convinced me that jewels are also made of paper. The collection is now open for research.

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## Friends Celebrate Ten Year Anniversary

By Gerald Saxon



Librarian Lisa Smith with Mr. and Mrs.

Charles Lowrey.

On November 16, 1986, UTA President Wendell Nedderman and his wife, Betty, hosted a reception on the sixth floor of the Central Library. The reception had a few purposes: first, to welcome Lowry and me to the university community since we were both new to UTA; second, to formally open a major exhibition entitled "Mejico y Tejas, A Cartographic History, 1513-1850"; and third, to have Decherd Turner, then director of the Humanities Research Center at UT-Austin, talk about Friends' organizations in general. More than two hundred people attended the reception, prompting Lowry to announce that there would be a campaign in 1987 to form a Friends group. The commitment had been made.

In the spring of 1987, Lowry and I met with Elizabeth Leatherwood and others in UTA's Development Office to explore the creation of a Friends organization. Leatherwood was excited about such a prospect and promised to identify individuals in the community who would share this interest and be willing to help launch an organization. President Nedderman and Bill Baker, vice president for academic affairs, lent their enthusiastic support to the idea as well. True to her word, Leatherwood organized an advisory board for the proposed group. The first advisory board consisted of longtime supporters of the library, UTA alums, and key community leaders. The group included James Cribbs, Elizabeth Fagerstrom, Margaret Galloway, Jenkins and Virginia Garrett, Bob McFarland, Connie Meyer, Cheryl Moore, Mary Perry, Cherry Rainone, Dessa Spidle, Richard Stevens, Gloria Van Zandt, John Walker, and Jane Yarbrough. Charles Harrell, associate director of libraries, Lowry, and I were the library liaisons to the advisory board.

The board, called the Friends Advisory Council, selected Van Zandt as president and Spidle as vice president. Under Van Zandt's leadership, a set of bylaws were adopted, a membership program was proposed and approved, brochures about the Friends organization were printed, and the first public program was planned. Knowing how important the first program would be in attracting an audience and hopefully the membership core for the organization, a great deal of time and effort went into its planning. After much discussion, the board decided to invite Liz Carpenter to be the speaker for the Friends' first program. Carpenter seemed an ideal choice: she was a popular journalist and a great speaker; she had a high profile, having been Lady Bird Johnson's press secretary in the LBJ White House; she had a new book out entitled Getting Better All the Time; and, as a member of the Robertson family of Salado, she had UTA ties, since the Robertson papers were housed in the Central Library and her first cousin, Malcolm D. McLean, was a library staff member compiling and editing the papers for publication.

On October 30, 1987, the Friends sponsored Carpenter's presentation, selling tickets to the event. More than two hundred people attended the program and the reception and autograph party that followed. Ninety copies of her new book was sold, and the Friends garnered a great deal of positive news coverage. Based largely on the positive response of the community and the hard work of the Advisory Council in soliciting members, Friends membership grew that first year to 242, far exceeding our initial expectations.

Since this first program, the Friends have sponsored fifty-five programs in their ten-year history, attracting, on average, about one hundred people per program. Also, when totaling the number of people who have been members of the organization over a ten-year period, the number exceeds three thousand. Additionally, the Friends have broadened their initiatives to include sponsoring the Adopt-A-Journal Program, underwriting the Friends Faculty Award and the

Libraries STAR Award, providing liaison with individuals with collections of interest to the libraries or to foundations capable of assisting in library initiatives, and in other ways. The Friends have also revised their bylaws, revised their membership categories, and helped the Libraries sponsor a successful one millionth volume celebration.

In short, much has been accomplished in the first ten years, and we in the Libraries have great expectations for the next ten. Special recognition and thanks should go to the Friends presidents, who include:

Gloria Van Zandt	1987-1988	Jenkins Garrett	1992-1993
Dessa Spidle	1988-1989	Joi Burton	1993-1994
Mary Perry	1989-1990	Pat Skrtic	1994-1995
Margaret Galloway	1990-1991	Pam Bagby	1995-1996
Bob Findlay	1991-1992	Connie Campbell	1996-1997
		Lannie Forbes (current)	1997-1998

For information about the Friends, please see our Home Page, or call or write Betty Wood or Gerald Saxon at (817) 272-3393 . The address is: Friends of the UTA Libraries, Box 19497, UTA Libraries, Arlington, Texas, 76019-0497 or e-mail [saxon@uta.edu](mailto:saxon@uta.edu).

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## A Decade of Friends' Programs to Tickle Your Fancy

By Jennifer Gates

In the ten years that the Friends of the UTA Libraries have existed, the organization has sponsored programs to appeal to people with diverse tastes and interests. We thought it would be fun and informative to list all of the Friends' programs sponsored during the Friends' first decade. They are:

- **October 30, 1987:** Liz Carpenter discussed her new book *Getting Better All the Time* with an audience of more than two hundred. Ninety copies of her book were purchased during the reception that followed.
- **December 11, 1987:** John H. Jenkins, noted author and Texana dealer, presented a program honoring Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm D. McLean for the publication of Volume XIII of the *Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas*. The Sweet Song String Band also performed for the Friends that evening.
- **April 15, 1988:** Dennis Reinhartz, associate professor of history at UTA and cartographic history specialist, discussed "The Mapping of History: The Myths and Mysteries of Maps."
- **June 3, 1988:** Alex Burton, the popular radio commentator and author, talked about his books *Just One Kiss Baby* and *The Widest Float in the Parade*. His books were for sale during the reception and an autograph party followed.
- **November 4, 1988:** Bobby G. Smith, owner and operator of La Buena Vida Vineyards in Parker County, presented a program about Texas wines. His discussion covered the long history of Texas wines. A wine tasting, featuring Texas wines, was held during the reception.
- **December 9, 1988:** Ron C. Tyler, director of the Texas State Historical Association, spoke of his forthcoming book *Texas Lithographs, 1818-1900*. Tyler presented a slide show and explained the process of lithography and its benefits. Also that evening, the Friends celebrated the publication of Volume XIV of the *Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas*, compiled and edited by Dr. Malcolm D. McLean.



**April 23, 1989:** The Friends sponsored a tour of, and a program about, the "Ramses the Great" exhibit at Dallas's Fair Park. Ninety-four people attended the slide show and lecture, given by UTA Egyptologist Rollin Phipps, and the excursion that followed. A second trip was scheduled for July 16, 1989, for those who could not attend this one.

- **June 10, 1989:** Jim Wellvang, head of the Preservation Department at UTA Libraries, Andy and Beckie Reisberg, owners of Photographic Archives Lab & Gallery in Dallas, and a number of staff members from the Special Collections Division, conducted a basic preservation workshop aimed at individuals with little or no experience in preservation. Techniques in preserving books, documents, news clippings, photographs, and other items, were taught to about one hundred people.
- **August 11, 1989:** Oliver Farres, Mexico's Consul General of Dallas, was the guest speaker for the program "Friends Fiesta." Farres spoke on "Leaving Problems Behind: The Relationship Between the United States and Mexico." One hundred Friends attended the program and enjoyed the mariachi band, Mariachi Los Reyes de Dallas.
- **September 29, 1989:** Ted W. Mayborn was honored for his significant gift to the UTA Libraries during this program. More than 135 Friends attended the event which also included the opening of a major exhibition focusing on the Mayborn Collection. Everyone who attended received a copy of *The Ted W. Mayborn Collection: An Exhibition Catalogue and Keepsake*.
- **November 19, 1989:** Louise S. O'Connor presented her photographic exhibition "Cryin' for Daylight," a series

of pictures that documented the rapid disintegration of South Texas cattle ranching. O'Connor also signed copies of her book of the same title.



- **December 8, 1989:** Tony Arangio, actor and producer, performed "A Dickens Christmas Celebration" for more than ninety Friends. In a room with Victorian decorations, Arangio read a shortened version of *A Christmas Carol*, the same version read by Dickens himself. TCU's Concert Chorale performed Christmas carols after the reading.

- **March 9, 1990:** Stanley Marcus, noted author and collector, hosted an "Evening with Stanley Marcus." The standing-room-only crowd heard Marcus speak on "Reminiscences of a Sometimes Publisher," a presentation which focused on how he came to love books.
- **May 25, 1990:** Charles B. Lowry, Wendell H. Nedderman, Jack Tinsley, Gerald D. Saxon, and Mary Perry spoke at the opening of the exhibition "News of the Day: The *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Collection." This program celebrated the donation of the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Collection to the Special Collections Division.
- **July 22, 1990:** Tom Vandergriff, former Arlington mayor and congressman, discussed the difficulties in bringing the Texas Rangers to Arlington during a program entitled "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." Former Rangers owner Eddie Chiles was also in attendance. After the program and dinner, the Friends attended a Rangers game.
- **September 21, 1990:** A. C. Greene discussed his new book *Taking Heart*. He explained how his heart transplant made him re-prioritize his life and transformed him into a kinder, more tolerant person.
- **November 10, 1990:** TU Electric's Comanche Peak nuclear plant outside of Glen Rose sponsored a behind-the-scenes tour for the Friends. The Friends then lunched at Linda's Too Restaurant in Glen Rose.
- **December 7, 1990:** Tony Arangio, actor and producer, performed "A Dickens Christmas Celebration" for a standing-room-only crowd. In a room festooned with Victorian decorations, Arangio read a shortened version of *A Christmas Carol*. UTA's Chamber Singers performed Christmas carols after the reading.
- **March 8, 1991:** Jane Roberts Wood, author, presented "Home Place: Mining Its Richness." Wood also presented her book *A Place Called Sweet Shrub* to the Friends. After her presentation, the Friends hosted a book sale, an autograph party, and a reception.
- **May 3, 1991:** Allen McCree, architect of the Texas Capitol, presented a slide presentation on the ongoing efforts to renovate, restore, and refurbish the Texas Capitol.
- **September 6, 1991:** Elizabeth Crook of Austin discussed her book *The Raven's Bride*. The book is a fictionalized biography of Sam Houston's first wife, Eliza Allen. Crook signed copies of her book after the program.
- **October 25, 1991:** Thomas Gadsden, head of the Education Office at the Superconducting Super Collider Laboratory, presented "The SSC: An Educational Resource to Capture the Imagination." A reception was hosted in his honor.
- **December 14, 1991:** Tony Arangio gave a dramatic reading of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* for the third year in a row. Christmas carols were performed by the UTA Chamber Singers. A standing-room-only crowd attended.
- **February 20, 1992:** David Woodward, professor of geography at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, discussed "The Renaissance Geographic and Cartographic Background to the First Century of Greater Southwest Discovery and Cartography." The Friends co-sponsored an all-day symposium entitled "Entrada: The First Century of Mapping the Greater Southwest," along with the Association of American Geographers, Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins Garrett, Summerlee Foundation of Dallas, Texas Committee for the Humanities, and UTA. After the presentation, the exhibit "Entrada" was opened.
- **April 24, 1992:** W. Thomas Taylor, an antiquarian book dealer specializing in English and American literature, spoke to the Friends on "A Seal of Scholarly Honesty."
- **September 18, 1992:** Bernard Weinstein, director of the Center for Economic Development at the University of North Texas, led a celebration commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Texas Labor Archives. After the presentation, the exhibit, "Labor's Legacy: The Texas Labor Archives at UTA," was opened. More than 125 people attended this event.





- **October 8, 1992:** Sandra Brown presented "The Life of an Author," her discussion of how she began her career as a writer and where she received her inspiration for her novels. She autographed copies of *French Silk* and *Texas Trilogy* after the presentation.
- **December 11, 1992:** Tony Arangio continued his tradition of reading Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. The UTA Chamber Singers sang carols after the reading.
- **March 12, 1993:** Ron Tyler, director of the Texas State Historical Association, was the guest speaker at this event, which celebrated the publication of Volume XVIII of the *Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas*, a series compiled by Dr. Malcolm D. McLean.
- **May 7, 1993:** Gary Cartwright, author and senior editor for *Texas Monthly*, presented "The Glorious Literary Tradition of Arlington." The Friends and the Friends of the Arlington Public Library co-sponsored a Spring Book and Author Dinner. One hundred fifty people attended the dinner at the E. H. Hereford Student Center. After Cartwright's discussion, the author's new book, *Galveston: A History of the Island*, was sold.
- **October 1, 1993:** Elmer Kelton, award-winning Western author, discussed his writing techniques and Western literature. After the presentation, Kelton signed two of his recent books, *Elmer Kelton Country* and *Slaughter*. Prior to his discussion, newly appointed Director of Libraries Tom Wilding was introduced to the more than 125 Friends who attended.
- **November 12, 1993:** James B. Miller, chairman of the board and CEO of Miller Business Systems, Inc., discussed his new book *The Corporate Coach*. His book focuses on running a service business and empowering and motivating employees.
- **December 10, 1993:** A. C. Greene read his unpublished story "The Christmas Train." The program, called "A Texas Christmas," also included a performance by The Staff Meeting, a local barbershop quartet. Greene was presented with a lifetime membership to the Friends in appreciation for his gift of his personal papers. Each person who attended the program received a free cookbook, *A Texas Christmas: Memories Shared*, compiled from favorite recipes of the Friends.
- **March 26, 1994:** J'Nell Pate, author of several books on Fort Worth, gave a presentation on the Fort Worth stockyards to the Friends during their trip to Cowtown on a "Westering Adventure." The trip took the Friends to the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History to view the exhibition "Thundering Hooves" and later to Joe T. Garcia's for Mexican food.
- **April 29, 1994:** Ronald L. Davis, author of the book *The Glamour Factory: Inside Hollywood's Big Studio System*, regaled the audience with stories he collected while conducting more than four hundred oral history interviews with Hollywood actors and studio executives.
- **October 21, 1994:** Perry C. Huston, art conservationist, gave a slide presentation focusing on his efforts to restore more than one hundred Library of Congress murals.
- **November 11, 1994:** Jane Roberts Wood returned to UTA for an encore performance. Almost 150 Friends and guests attended the discussion where she explained how she received inspiration for her writing. After the program, Wood signed copies of her newest book, *Dance a Little Longer*.
- **December 9, 1994:** Joyce Gibson Roach and Robert Flynn presented "A Better Christmas: A Dialogue of Memories." Roach reminisced about growing up in Jacksboro and Flynn remembered his childhood in Chillicothe. All 160 guests received a keepsake bookmark and pamphlet with holiday vignettes written by the authors. The UTA Jazz Combo also performed for the Friends.
- **March 25, 1995:** J. Howard Garrett, newspaper columnist and radio personality, talked about his new book *Howard Garrett's Texas Organic Gardening*. Garrett discussed organic gardening techniques for the Dallas-Fort Worth area.
- **April 28, 1995:** Lou Wetherbee, library consultant, presented a discussion on the Internet. Wetherbee talked about the so-called information superhighway and its potential benefits to the Friends and other users.
- **September 29, 1995:** A "progressive reception" was held in the three UTA Libraries. The reception included presentations by library staff from the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, Science and Engineering Library, and Central Reference and Access Services in the Central Library.
- **October 20, 1995:** John Hoyt Williams, author of *Sam Houston: A Biography of the Father of Texas*,

- participated in the conference "The Challenge of Statehood: A Sesquicentennial Symposium on Texas Annexation." The Friends co-sponsored the event and more than two hundred people attended the evening program to hear Williams discuss "Coquetry Personified- Sam Houston's Annexation Game."
- **December 8, 1995:** Christina Patoski, Fort Worth author and photographer, presented a Christmas slide show. The slides included photographs of yard decorations from 30 cities across the country. More than 175 people attended the event. Also, Mac Williams's wife, Madeline, donated his personal papers at the meeting.
  - **February 16, 1996:** Gerald Saxon led the Friends in celebrating the University's centennial anniversary. Saxon presented a slide show and discussed his new book, *Transitions: A Centennial History of The University of Texas at Arlington, 1895-1995*. An exhibit in Special Collections, "Thanks for the Memories: One Hundred Years of UTA's History," was formally opened after the presentation.
  - **April 19, 1996:** Friends co-sponsored the Libraries One Millionth Volume Celebration, which featured an afternoon slide presentation by Charles R. McClure, professor in the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, and a gala evening dinner where Jenkins and Virginia Garrett presented to the Libraries the broadside "Liberty, Constitution, and Federation!!!", dated July 15, 1835, to be added to Special Collections as the one millionth item. The evening also included a presentation, "Paths to Lifelong Learning," by Daniel J. Boorstin, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and former Librarian of Congress.
  - **September 27, 1996:** Robert D. Krebs, president and CEO of Burlington Northern-Santa Fe, was the guest speaker at "The Railroads and the West," a conference sponsored by the Friends, the UTA Libraries, Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography, and a number of corporate sponsors. After his presentation, Special Collections opened "Whistle Stops: Mapping 19th Century Railroads," a special exhibition.
  - **November 2, 1996:** Paul Boller, Jr., professor emeritus of history at TCU, spoke on "Campaigning for President: The Great American Shindig." After his talk, the Friends sold copies of his book *Presidential Campaigns*.
  - **December 13, 1996:** Jeff Guinn, author of *The Autobiography of Santa Claus: It's Better to Give*, presented the year's holiday program. The UTA Quartet performed that night, and more than 145 people attended.
  - **February 21, 1997:** George Wright, UTA's provost and historian, commemorated Black History Month. Wright spoke of "Race Relations: A Personal and Historical Perspective" to the audience. A reception followed the presentation.
  - **April 18, 1997:** E. R. Milner, author of *The Lives and Times of Bonnie and Clyde*, spoke on the notorious couple. Milner signed copies of his new book following the program.
  - **October 3, 1997:** Hans Mark, former chancellor of the UT System and former deputy director of NASA, discussed "The Apollo 13 Accident: A Personal History." This was the first program of the Friends' tenth year.
  - **November 14, 1997:** Author and museum consultant Conover Hunt discussed her new book *JFK for a New Generation*. After her presentation the Friends hosted a reception and autograph party honoring Hunt.
  - **December 13, 1997:** The Friends hosted their annual holiday program with Rose-Mary Rumbley as the special guest speaker. Rumbley told a poignant and funny story entitled "The Christmas Tree." Also, the UTA Quartet sang carols before and after the reading and a festive holiday reception was held in Rumbley's honor.
  - **February 20, 1998:** Sylvia Komatsu, vice president of television production for KERA and executive producer of a forthcoming PBS documentary, gave the Friends a behind-the-scenes tour of "The U.S.-Mexican War (1846-1848)" program to be aired in fall 1998. Komatsu also showed the Friends twenty-five minutes of the upcoming documentary.
  - **May 1, 1998:** The Friends' tenth year anniversary celebration. Watch for a report on this meeting in the next [Compass Rose](#).

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

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## **Adina de Zavala: Protector of Texas' Past**

by Diana Mays

*Archival and manuscript collections come in all sizes. Some are large, numbering hundreds of boxes and covering hundreds of linear feet of shelves, while others are relatively small. The article that follows focuses on one of the smaller collections held in the Special Collections Division--the Adina de Zavala Papers. Written by Diana Mays, a former graduate student at UTA who processed the papers and a seventh grade Texas history teacher, the article describes the papers of a phenomenal woman who spent most of her life working to preserve Texas history. The de Zavala Papers are now open for research.*

What images come to mind when you think of a ninety-three year old retired school teacher who never married? Meet Adina de Zavala, nothing like what you may have visualized. The vivacious and bold granddaughter of the Republic of Texas vice president, Lorenza de Zavala, was tenacious in her projects to preserve the history of Texas and its landmarks.

The Special Collections Division is pleased to announce the completion of the processing of the Adina de Zavala Papers. Adina de Zavala was a teacher, historian, writer, and organizer of numerous projects to promote and preserve Texas history. She is remembered primarily for her efforts in obtaining and protecting the property around the old Alamo mission, saving the Spanish Governor's Palace, and locating and preserving the grave sites and homes of significant Texans. She spent a lifetime fighting to keep Texas history alive.

The Adina de Zavala Papers came to UTA through the generous donation of Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins Garrett, well known for their altruism toward the university. The Adina de Zavala Papers include two boxes (.792 linear ft.) of personal correspondence, newspaper clippings, literary manuscripts and miscellaneous keepsakes. Over half the collection is made up of letters received by Adina de Zavala from various family members and friends. One of the most notable letters is from Elizabet Ney, the famous sculptress who moved to Texas from Germany in the 1800s. Many of the letters are responses to letters sent by Adina de Zavala. Therefore, the contents of the reply gives the reader a good idea of what Adina de Zavala had written to them. Many of these letters are responding to her requests for family information, help with a project, legal counsel, or personal advice. The correspondence dates from 1878-1957 and is arranged in chronological order.

The correspondence series also contains a collection of letters from five individuals: John Henry Brown, Victor Rose, Oran Roberts, Edmund Schmitt and Lorenzo de Zavala, Jr. Lorenzo de Zavala, Jr., was the step-uncle of Adina de Zavala and was present at the battle of San Jacinto in 1836. Most of the letters from him contain family information about her famous grandfather and his part in serving the Republic of Texas.

The newspaper clippings pertain to a variety of topics. The subject covered most frequently deals with the Daughters of the Republic of Texas controversy over the custodianship of the Alamo and the surrounding property. This controversy, between Adina de Zavala and Clara Driscoll, eventually led to Adina de Zavala locking herself into the long barracks of the Alamo for three days and nights without food, until officials yielded to her position on the preservation of the Alamo grounds. Other clippings include the attempts at establishing De Zavala Park on Buffalo Bayou in the 1950s. There are letters from Senator Ralph Yarbrough stating his support of the park and his support of the bill presented to Congress to establish the park.

The papers also contain the legal documents which were filed against Adina de Zavala in the Daughters of the Republic of Texas controversy concerning the split in the leadership of that organization. The papers charge Adina de Zavala with being the "leading spirit" in the turmoil of the leadership rift.

Adina de Zavala was born on November 28, 1861, on her grandfather's estate at Zavala Point on Buffalo Bayou. She was a bright child and learned to read at an early age; her favorite reading material being history, especially books about Texas. She attended school at Sam Houston Normal Institute, earning a teaching certificate. In 1884, she began teaching and retired in 1907 to make more time to devote to her preservation work. She lived in San Antonio most of her life and served her community and state in countless ways. Adina de Zavala was the founder of historic societies, one being the Texas Historical and Landmarks Association, which was responsible for the preservation of several historic sites in San Antonio. She served on countless committees and boards and received numerous honors and awards in recognition of her contributions to keeping the past alive for us today. She died on March 1, 1955. After concluding the processing of this collection, Diana Mays, the archival intern who completed the task, responded, "Having never married or raised a family, Adina de Zavala chose rather to reserve her passion for Texas and devote her energy to keeping the memory of its heroes alive."

For more information about the papers, please contact Shirley Rodnitzky at (817) 272-3393 (phone), (817) 272-3360 (fax), or <[rodnitzky@uta.edu](mailto:rodnitzky@uta.edu)>.

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