



ArchivesSpace

## Guide to the Tom B. Saunders Family Papers 146

---

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on September 22, 2017.

Archives and Special Collections, Mary Couts Burnett Library

Mary Couts Burnett Library

Texas Christian University

TCU Box 298400

Fort Worth, Texas 76129

[LibSpecialCollections@tcu.edu](mailto:LibSpecialCollections@tcu.edu)

URL: <http://lib.tcu.edu/spcoll/>

---

## Table of Contents

---

|                                                                      |   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Summary Information .....                                            | 3 |
| Detailed Biography .....                                             | 3 |
| Collection Scope and Content Summary .....                           | 4 |
| Arrangement .....                                                    | 4 |
| Administrative Information .....                                     | 5 |
| Controlled Access Headings .....                                     | 5 |
| Collection Inventory .....                                           | 6 |
| Series I. Administrative Records and correspondence, 1899-1969 ..... | 6 |
| Series II. Subject Files, 1907-1976 .....                            | 6 |
| Series III. Printed Material, 1936-1974 .....                        | 7 |
| Series IV. Memorabilia, 1952-1973 .....                              | 8 |

---

## Summary Information

---

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Repository:</b>               | Archives and Special Collections, Mary Couets Burnett Library                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Creator:</b>                  | Saunders                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Creator:</b>                  | Saunders, Tom B.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Creator:</b>                  | Saunders, Tom B., II                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Creator:</b>                  | Saunders, Tom B., III                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Title:</b>                    | Tom B. Saunders Family Papers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>ID:</b>                       | 146                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Date [inclusive]:</b>         | 1899-1974                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Date [bulk]:</b>              | 1923-1974                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Physical Description:</b>     | 2.71 Linear feet                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Physical Location:</b>        | Vault BB 5-6                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Language of the Material:</b> | English                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Abstract:</b>                 | Administrative records, correspondence, and memorabilia document the Tom B. Saunders Company from 1899 to 1974. The collection includes material on other notable Texas trail drivers collected by the family. The family's Fort Worth Stock Show planning material is also included. |

### Preferred Citation

Tom B. Saunders Family Papers. Special Collections, Mary Couets Burnett Library, Texas Christian University.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Detailed Biography

---

The Saunders family began raising cattle in Texas in 1850, when Thomas B. Saunders started his first ranch near Gonzales. His grandson, Thomas B. Saunders II, became the first cattle dealer on the Fort Worth Stockyards in 1902. The Saunders family enjoyed Fort Worth and stayed to form one of the

strongest livestock businesses on Exchange Street. Saunders II, along with his sons, started the Tom B. Saunders & Company livestock commission. After the death of Tom Saunders II, his eldest son took over management. The family enterprise operated in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. In 1933, Thomas B. Saunders III reorganized the business into a cattle clearinghouse. The family still owns ranches in Benbrook, Weatherford, Cresson, and Parker County, Texas. Tom Saunders III participated in the National Cutting Horse Association, The Texas Southwest Cattle Raisers Association, and the Fort Worth Stock Show. At his own ranch in Weatherford, he established the Twin V livestock brand. A bunkhouse at the Weatherford ranch has been converted into a family museum with photos dating back to the early 1800s. After six generations of Saunders' men, the family continues to operate their ranches and serve on committees for the Fort Worth Stock Show. In 1981, the city of Fort Worth named a park after the family on Marine Creek.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Collection Scope and Content Summary

---

Administrative records, correspondence, subject files, printed material and memorabilia document the Saunders family ranches, cattle business, and involvement in the Fort Worth Stockyards from 1899-1974. The collection is divided into four series: I. Administrative Records and Correspondence, 1899-1969; II. Subject Files, 1907-1976; III. Printed Material, 1936-1974; and IV. Memorabilia, 1952-1973. The first series includes administrative papers of the Tom B. Saunders Company, such as contracts, mortgage papers, land titles, and bank statements, and correspondence from 1899 to 1923 related to the family's business and personal affairs. The subject files include material of particular interest collected by the Saunders family. The printed materials series is an assortment of published programs and magazines related to the cattle business, including Tom B. Saunders III's own writings in *Cuttin Hoss Chatter*. The last series, memorabilia, contains artifacts from the company's office and early photographs of the family.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Arrangement

---

Arranged in four series: I. Administrative Records and correspondence, 1899-1969; II. Subject Files, 1907-1976; III. Printed Material, 1936-1974; IV. Memorabilia, 1952-1973.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Publication Statement

Archives and Special Collections, Mary Couts Burnett Library

Mary Couts Burnett Library

Texas Christian University

TCU Box 298400

Fort Worth, Texas 76129

[LibSpecialCollections@tcu.edu](mailto:LibSpecialCollections@tcu.edu)

URL: <http://lib.tcu.edu/spcoll/>

### Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

---

## Controlled Access Headings

---

- Cattle -- Texas
- Cattle trade -- Texas
- Cutting horses
- Cutting horse competitions
- Livestock exhibitions -- Texas
- Stockyards -- Texas -- Fort Worth
- Ranching -- Texas
- Fort Worth -- History
- Business records
- Correspondence
- Publications
- Printed ephemera
- Tom B. Saunders & Company
- Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers Association
- National Cutting Horse Association (U.S.)
- Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show

## Collection Inventory

### Series I. Administrative Records and correspondence, 1899-1969, 1899-1969

Date [inclusive]: 1899-1969

#### Series Scope and Content Summary

The records are arranged in the original chronological order of the creator. Materials under each date range include correspondence, contracts, mortgage papers, bank statements, stock show contest results, and project developments with other cattle dealers and brokers. Since the establishment of the Saunders & Company, the Saunders corresponded with several cattle drivers and brokers. The correspondence file covers personal and business interests of the Saunders family's first years as a company.

| Title/Description                                                                        | Instances |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Administrative Records -- 1923-1931                                                      | box 1     |
| Administrative Records -- 1932-1938                                                      | box 1     |
| Administrative Records -- 1940-1949                                                      | box 1     |
| Administrative Records -- 1950-1959                                                      | box 1     |
| Administrative Records -- 1960-1966                                                      | box 1     |
| Administrative Records -- 1967-1969                                                      | box 1     |
| Correspondence [business and personal], 1899-1923<br><u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1899-1923 | box 2     |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

### Series II. Subject Files, 1907-1976, 1907-1976

Date [inclusive]: 1907-1976

#### Series Scope and Content Summary

Tom B. Saunders II collected materials related to family members, the Fort Worth Stock Show, and prominent cattle raisers associations.

| Title/Description                                                                    | Instances |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| George Saunders, 1933<br><u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1933                              | box 3     |
| Fort Worth stock show planning (2), 1959-1974<br><u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1959-1974 | box 3     |
| Texas Southwest Cattle Raisers Association (3), 1970-1976                            | box 3     |

Date [inclusive]: 1970-1976

Wiley S. Allison, 1907-1929

box 3

Date [inclusive]: 1907-1929

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

### Series III. Printed Material, 1936-1974, 1936-1974

Date [inclusive]: 1936-1974

#### Series Scope and Content Summary

The series contains printed material such as newspaper clippings, magazines, articles, and thesis related to ranching, cattle, and cowboys. Programs from numerous ranching events in Texas are also in the collection. Two of Tom B. Saunders' writings are included.

| Title/Description                                                                                                                 | Instances |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Chronicles of Oklahoma, 1936<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1936                                                                     | box 4     |
| Clippings (5), 1928-1976<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1928-1976                                                                    | box 4     |
| Cowboys' Christmas Ball, Undated<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> Undated                                                              | box 5     |
| "Cuttin Hoss Chatter: A Report from the President" written by Tom B. Saunders III, 1949<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1949          | box 5     |
| "How the Word Rodeo Originated A Applied to Western Events" written by Tom B. Saunders III, 1968<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1968 | box 5     |
| "Money on the Hoof-Sometimes" by Wharton Taylor, 1972<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1972                                            | box 5     |
| Parker County Frontier Days Programs, 1949-1973<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1949-1973                                             | box 5     |
| Programs, 1958-1974<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1958-1974                                                                         | box 5     |
| Magazines, 1959-1974<br><u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1959-1974                                                                        | box 6     |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Series IV. Memorabilia, 1952-1973, 1952-1973

Date [inclusive]: 1952-1973

### Series Scope and Content Summary

The series includes artifacts, photographs, and items associated with the Tom B. Saunders & Co.

| Title/Description                                                             | Instances |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Address Book, Undated<br><u>Date [inclusive]</u> : Undated                    | box 7     |
| Clip Board, Undated<br><u>Date [inclusive]</u> : Undated                      | box 7     |
| Photographs, 1952-1973<br><u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1952-1973                 | box 7     |
| Ryon Saddle and Ranch Supply Calendar, 1964<br><u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1964 | box 7     |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)