



ArchivesSpace

Guide to the Tom B. Saunders Family Papers 146

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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
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

Repository:	Archives and Special Collections, Mary Couets Burnett Library
Creator:	Saunders
Creator:	Saunders, Tom B.
Creator:	Saunders, Tom B., II
Creator:	Saunders, Tom B., III
Title:	Tom B. Saunders Family Papers
ID:	146
Date [inclusive]:	1899-1974
Date [bulk]:	1923-1974
Physical Description:	2.71 Linear feet
Physical Location:	Vault BB 5-6
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	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

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 <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 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1933	box 3
Fort Worth stock show planning (2), 1959-1974 <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 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1936	box 4
Clippings (5), 1928-1976 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1928-1976	box 4
Cowboys' Christmas Ball, Undated <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> Undated	box 5
"Cuttin Hoss Chatter: A Report from the President" written by Tom B. Saunders III, 1949 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1949	box 5
"How the Word Rodeo Originated A Applied to Western Events" written by Tom B. Saunders III, 1968 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1968	box 5
"Money on the Hoof-Sometimes" by Wharton Taylor, 1972 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1972	box 5
Parker County Frontier Days Programs, 1949-1973 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1949-1973	box 5
Programs, 1958-1974 <u>Date [inclusive]:</u> 1958-1974	box 5
Magazines, 1959-1974 <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 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : Undated	box 7
Clip Board, Undated <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : Undated	box 7
Photographs, 1952-1973 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1952-1973	box 7
Ryon Saddle and Ranch Supply Calendar, 1964 <u>Date [inclusive]</u> : 1964	box 7

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)