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### Navarro (José A., III) Papers, 1833-1952 and undated

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## A Guide to the José A. Navarro III Papers, 1833-1952 and undated

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Navarro, José A., 1877-1960
<b>Title:</b>	José A. Navarro III Papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1833-1952 and undated
<b>Creator Abstract:</b>	A resident of San Antonio, Texas, and the namesake of his grandfather, a prominent figure in San Antonio and Texas events, José Antonio Navarro III (1877-1960) was an enthusiastic student of Texas history and worked to foster an appreciation for the role of his family in the development of the state.
<b>Content Abstract:</b>	Correspondence, property records, family papers, research material, printed items, and photographs are included in the José A. Navarro III papers, reflecting an interest in Texas and family history.
<b>Identification:</b>	Col 904
<b>Extent:</b>	0.2 linear feet (1 box)
<b>Language:</b>	Materials are primarily in English. Some are in Spanish, with partial English translation.
<b>Repository:</b>	DRT Collection at Texas A&M University-San Antonio

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### Biographical Note

An enthusiastic student of Texas history, José Antonio Navarro III worked diligently to foster an appreciation for the role of his family in the development of the state. Born in Laredo, Texas, in 1877, he was named for his grandfather, a prominent figure in San Antonio and Texas events. Though José Antonio Navarro III was born after the death of his grandfather, he became acquainted with his ancestor's background through family stories, later supplementing them through research and contact with others interested in Texas history. Navarro also maintained an interest in the Confederate military service of his father, Sixto E. Navarro, and other family members who served Texas in the Civil War.

Navarro grew up in Atascosa County and San Antonio. He worked as a public and private school teacher, clerk, bookkeeper, and government worker, primarily in San Antonio, where he settled permanently in 1913. Most of his career was spent in financial offices for the City of San Antonio and Bexar County. He retired in 1957 after more than fifteen years as Deputy Tax Assessor for the county. Navarro was prominent in Catholic Church organizations, particularly the Knights of Columbus and the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and was honored by the Church in 1952 with the presentation of the Papal Cross.

At the time of his death in San Antonio in 1960, Navarro was the last surviving grandson of his famous forebear. Unmarried, he was survived by two sisters.

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## Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, property records, family papers, research material, printed items and photographs are included in the José Antonio Navarro III Papers, reflecting an interest in Texas history and the role of his family in the state's past.

Most of the letters received and sent by Navarro deal with his family history, particularly the life of his grandfather, José Antonio Navarro, statesman and signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. Also discussed is José Francisco Ruiz, another prominent Texan and likewise a signer of the Declaration. Navarro frequently received and answered requests for information and wrote to correct errors in published histories. In his family and historical research, Navarro gathered notes and sources on Ruiz and Navarro and wrote a biographical sketch of his grandfather.

Documents related to property include deeds for family land in Atascosa County and for Navarro's home in San Antonio. An affidavit outlines the genealogy of his immediate family in connection with the inheritance of his father's property.

Navarro's personal papers include birth and social security documents and a small number of items related to his activities as a member of the Knights of Columbus in San Antonio. Printed material includes clippings associated with his service in the National Guard during World War I.

In the papers are several items associated with José Antonio Navarro (1795-1871), including a report on his activities as a Mexican land commissioner, a letter written upon his election to the Coahuila y Texas Congress in 1835, a proclamation drafted in connection with the Texan Santa Fe Expedition of 1842, and a copy of a letter written by Navarro's wife, seeking his release from prison following the capture of that expedition.

A few photographs show Navarro in connection with the San Antonio Knights of Columbus and a historical ceremony and a snapshot of Navarro family property near Seguin.

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## Restrictions

### Access Restrictions

No restrictions. The collection is open for research.

### Usage Restrictions

Please be advised that the library does not hold the copyright to most of the material in its archival collections. It is the responsibility of the researcher to secure those rights when needed. Permission to reproduce does not constitute permission to publish. The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming to the laws of copyright, literary property rights, and libel.

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## Index Terms

### Personal Names

Navarro, José Antonio, 1877-1960.

Navarro, José Antonio, 1795-1871.

Navarro family.

Ruíz, José Francisco, 1783-1840.

Santa Anna, Antonio López de, 1794?-1876.

### Organizations

Knights of Columbus. San Antonio Council no. 786 (San Antonio, Tex.)

### Genres/Formats

Personal papers.

Correspondence.

Photographs.

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], José A. Navarro III Papers, 1833-1952 and undated, Col 904, DRT Collection at Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

### Acquisition Information

Acquired from the estate of José Antonio Navarro III, circa 1960.

Gift of the San Antonio Conservation Society, 1977 September.

The papers of José Antonio Navarro III were apparently sold after his death by the attorney for his estate. A list and other descriptive information on the papers were compiled at the time, and a part of this group was acquired by the DRT Library. In 1977, several items matching descriptions in the original list were donated to the library by the San Antonio Conservation Society. It appears likely that these had been acquired at the time of the first distribution of the papers, though no information on provenance was available. These items, in folders 4, 5, 13, 14, 16 and 17, have been included with the papers acquired earlier by the DRT Library based on descriptive evidence that suggests their inclusion in the original body of papers.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Warren Stricker, 2000 September.

Finding aid edited and encoded by Caitlin Donnelly, 2010 August.

Finding aid updated by Leslie Stapleton, 2020 March.

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## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

### **José A. Navarro III Papers, 1833-1952 and undated**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	
1		Correspondence, 1912-1952
	1	1912-1929
	2	1935-1938
	3	1951-1952
		Property records, 1871-1935
	4	Deed: Angel Navarro, José Antonio G. Navarro and Celso C. Navarro to Sixto E. Navarro, 1871 April 20.
	5	Deed: José Antonio G. Navarro, Angel Navarro, and Celso G. Navarro to Sixto E. Navarro, 1872 February 12.
	6	Deed: Genoveva Navarro de Enriquez and Jesus Enriquez to José A. Navarro, 1917 October 24.
	7	Deed: Carl Prinz, Anna Prinz, and Minna Otto to José A. Navarro, 1922 July 14.
	8	Affidavit: José A. Navarro on distribution of Sixto E. Navarro property, 1935 August 9.
		Organizations, 1911-1952
	9	Knights of Columbus, 1911-1952
		Personal records, 1932-1951

- 10 Birth and baptismal records, 1932-1939
- 11 Social Security records, 1936-1951
- José Antonio Navarro (1795-1871) papers, 1833-1844 and undated
- 12 Report: work of José Antonio Navarro, Land Commissioner, Green  
DeWitt's Colony [translation], 1833 May 22.
- 13 Letter: José Antonio Navarro, Bejar, to Congress of Coahuila y  
Texas, 1835 April 6.
- 14 Proclamation: "A los habitantes de Santa Fe y los demas pueblos  
de Nuevo Mexico al Oriente del Rio Grande," possibly 1841.
- 15 Proclamation: "A los habitantes de Santa Fe y los demas pueblos  
de Nuevo Mexico al Oriente de Rio Grande" [transcription and  
translation, typescripts], undated.
- 16 Editorial: El Mosquito Mexicano [transcription], 1842 September  
27.
- 17 Letter: Margarita Garza de Navarro, Bejar, to Antonio López de  
Santa Anna, 1844 February 16.
- 18 Notes: references to laws, decrees, and actions, undated.
- Biographical, genealogical, and historical material, 1951 and undated
- 19 "Biographical Sketch of José Antonio Navarro, the Texas Patriot,"  
by his Grandson, José Antonio Navarro III [typescript, 2 copies],  
1951 September.
- 20 Biographical information, José Antonio Navarro III, circa 1939-  
1951.
- 21 Notes and sources, Navarro family, undated.
- 22 Notes and sources, José Francisco Ruiz, undated.
- 23 "Col. Francisco Ruiz, Signers of the Declaration of Texas  
Independence," undated.
- 24 "Ruiz, José Francisco" [typescript, 2 copies], after 1936.
- 25 "History of Southwest Texas," excerpt [typescript], undated.
- Printed material, 1918-1919 and undated
- 26 Clippings, 1918-1919 and undated
- 27 Invitation: William P. Hobby inauguration reception and ball, 1919  
January 21.
- Photographs, 1920, 1936, and undated
- 28 Centennial ceremony, Washington-on-the-Brazos, Texas, 1936  
March 2.
- José Antonio Navarro home, Seguin, Texas, undated
- Antonio Navarro, from publication, negative, undated.
- Knights of Columbus School, San Antonio, Texas, 1920
- Knights of Columbus Council No. 786, San Antonio, Texas,  
undated.