

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Digital Commons @ Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Finding Aids: Guides to the Collection

Archives & Special Collections

2020

Farnsworth (Sarah Roach) Papers, 1907-1947

DRT Collection at Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.tamusa.edu/findingaids>



A Guide to the Sarah Roach Farnsworth Papers, 1907-1947

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Farnsworth, Sarah Roach, 1874-1968
Title:	Sarah Roach Farnsworth Papers
Dates:	1907-1947
Creator Abstract:	A descendant of legendary Texas pioneer Deaf Smith, Sarah Roach (1874-1968) was born in San Antonio, Texas, to Henry and Susan Fisk Roach. She married Otis M. Farnsworth and settled in San Antonio, where they operated the Original Mexican Restaurant. Farnsworth joined the Daughters of the Republic of Texas in 1903 and was a charter member of the Alamo Mission Chapter when it was formed in 1906.
Content Abstract:	Correspondence, research material, organization records, and printed material are part of the Sarah Roach Farnsworth Papers, documenting her patriotic and civic activities.
Identification:	Col 934
Extent:	2.46 linear feet (3 boxes, 1 oversize item)
Language:	Materials are in English.
Repository:	DRT Collection at Texas A&M University-San Antonio

Biographical Note

A descendant of legendary Texas pioneer Deaf Smith, Sarah Roach was born in San Antonio, Texas, in 1874 to Henry and Susan Fisk Roach. She married Otis M. Farnsworth and settled in San Antonio, where they operated the Original Mexican Restaurant.

Based on her descent from great-grandfather Deaf Smith and grandfather Nathaniel Fisk, also a Texas veteran, Sarah Roach Farnsworth joined the Daughters of the Republic of Texas in 1903. She was a charter member of the Alamo Mission Chapter of the DRT when it was formed in 1906 and served the chapter in several capacities, including three terms as president. She also held numerous positions at the state level, including President General from 1931 to 1935. She served several terms on the Executive and Alamo Committees and was the DRT Chaplain. Mrs. Farnsworth took the lead on committees assigned the task of producing a history of the DRT, which was published as *Fifty Years of Achievement* in 1941 after over a decade of planning and research.

Her interest and activity in the promotion of Texas history at the local and state level led to Mrs. Farnsworth's involvement in plans to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of Texas' independence. She served as Bexar County Chairman of the Texas Centennial Committee in 1932 and in 1934 was appointed to the Texas Centennial Commission, the permanent body charged with organizing the centennial celebration. She also participated in the organization of centennial events in San Antonio.

Mrs. Farnsworth was also an active member of a number of other organizations, including the Philosophical Society of Texas, Battle of Flowers Association, San Antonio Woman's Club, San Antonio Art League, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She and her husband were the parents of three children. Sarah Roach Farnsworth died in San Antonio in 1968 at the age of ninety-three.

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, research material, organization records, and printed material are part of the Sarah Roach Farnsworth Papers, documenting her patriotic and civic activities.

Organization of Collection

This collection is organized into four series.

Series 1: Daughters of the Republic of Texas

Series 2: Texas Centennial

Series 3: Miscellaneous material

Series 4: Separated material

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.

Index Terms

Personal Names

Farnsworth, Sarah Roach, 1874-1968.

Allred, James V., 1899-1959.

Wright, Phil.

Organizations

Daughters of the Republic of Texas--History.

Daughters of the Republic of Texas. Real Daughters.

Texas Centennial Commission.

Subjects

Texas Centennial (1936 : Dallas, Tex.)

Veterans--Texas.

Women--Texas--Societies and clubs.

Locations

Texas--Genealogy.

Texas--Centennial celebrations, etc.

San Antonio (Tex.)--Centennial celebrations, etc.

Genres/Formats

Personal papers.

Administrative records.

Biographies.

Correspondence.

Genealogies.

Manuscripts.

Printed ephemera.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Sarah Roach Farnsworth Papers, 1907-1947, Col 934, DRT Collection at Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Sarah Roach Farnsworth, 1957 July.

Processing Information

Processed by Warren Stricker, 1998 August.

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

Finding aid updated by Rebeka Delgado, 2020 March.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Series 1: Daughters of the Republic of Texas

The first of four series consists of material associated with Sarah Roach Farnsworth's involvement with the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT). Correspondence is generally miscellaneous in nature, with some references to her work on compiling a history of the organization. More extensive are the general histories, chapter histories, and biographies gathered in connection with the history project of the 1930s and 1940s and other research on the genealogies of DRT members. Two manuscript versions of brief chapters from the published DRT history, *Fifty Years of Achievement*, covering the Clara Driscoll scholarship and a biography of DRT president Madge W. Hearne, are included. Other items associated with the history project are several brief histories of DRT chapters, provided by chapter officers or members.

In what apparently was another aspect of the history research, Mrs. Farnsworth collected the biographies and genealogies of "Real Daughters," DRT members only one generation removed from the Republic period of Texas history. About seventy brief accounts provide biographical accounts and first-person reminiscences. Several capsule biographies of Real Daughters and lists supplied by chapters were also produced. A three volume typescript entitled "Ancestors" consists of lists of individuals alongside their pioneer Texas ancestors. Only a few biographical details are included, and the work does not appear to be in any particular order.

The remaining DRT-related material includes a portion of the programs, reports, and minutes of the 1935 and 1936 annual meetings and a few scattered reports, programs, and miscellaneous items from various dates. Also included in this series are materials related to veterans of the Republic of Texas, including a necrology of veterans dating from about 1891 through 1897.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Correspondence, 1907-1947
		Historical research
	2	"History of the Clara Driscoll Scholarship"
	3	"Mrs. Madge Williams Hearne, State President Daughters of the Republic of Texas, 1937-1939"
	4	Rosa Tod Hamner, "Daughters of the Republic of Texas" Chapter histories
	5	Dr. Ducalion Aldridge Perry Chapter, Abilene

- Stephen F. Austin Chapter, Austin
 Reuben Hornsby Chapter, Austin
 Sam Houston Chapter, Belton
 Presidio Crossing Chapter, Crystal City
 Frances Cook Van Zandt Chapter, Fort Worth
 Gonzales Chapter, Gonzales
 President Houston Chapter, Huntsville
 Franklin Hardin Chapter, Liberty
 6 Thomas J. Read Chapter, Mexia
 George Washington Stell Chapter, Paris
 James Power Chapter, Refugio
 Alamo Mission Chapter, San Antonio
 7 Moon-McGehee Chapter, San Marcos
 Ben Milam Chapter, Temple
 James Bowie Chapter, Texarkana
 Real Daughters biographical material
 8 Sallie Billingsley Alford
 Lida Gibbs Baker
 Sarah Fordtran Baker
 Benellen Walton Walker Banks
 Margaret Ann McAdams Barron
 Cornelia Pleasants Bell
 Adelia Long Belsher
 Sarah Groce Berlet
 Mary Emily Montgomery Berleth
 Annie Ayers Booker
 Linnie Gilmore Bradley
 Lillah Guerrant Brooks
 Lennie Jarvis Burgess
 Annie Darden Cruger
 9 Tabitha Ann Guerrant Davis
 Mrs. J. H. H. [Annie K. Robinson] Ellis
 Ella Gay Field
 Mrs. W. O. [Dollie Hamilton] Forester
 Mary Berry Gardner
 Vernie Alston Gouger
 Frances Jane Harling
 Dollie Bird Hill
 Mrs. W. B. Houston, see Kate and Zula Jones
 Marie Lea Hume

Mary Ann McDonald Hunsaker
Henrietta O. Jones
Kate and Zula Jones, Mrs. W. B. Houston
Carrie Franklin Kemp
Hattie Terrell Ketchum
Sarah S. King
Julia Turner Knowles
Lillian Fuller Knight
Anna Randle Kyle
Alice Lee
Henrietta Young Lorenzo
10 Martha Wright McMeans
Maggie Grant Tod Milby
Elinor Edwards Mosby
Emma Brill Mulcahy
Sue Gillaspie Murrelle
Josie Gossett Newton
Eunice M. Noble
Georgie Cupples Smith Olivarri
Mary Summers McFarland Peyton
Anne Perry Phillips
Mattie Ethel McAdams Roberts
Lydia M. Robertson
Nora Allen Rogers
Maggie Mooring Rudd
11 Edith Carleton Simpson
Martha Miranda Smith Stahr
Bassette Bouldin Stanley
Cornelia Branch Stone
Johnnie Elizabeth Thornton
Mattie Votaw Tracht
Maude B. Wallis Traylor
Henrietta Bock Trube
Mrs. T. C. [Ida Zarr] Walker
Mrs. W. E. [Anna Aikin] Wallace
Annabel Wallace
Jesse Cleveland Washington
Marion McGary Wells
Mary Louise Wells
Annie Campbell White

Willie Ruby Graves White
Eady Caroline Wilson
Theodosia McAdams Wilson

12 Real Daughters, lists
"Ancestors"
13 Volume I
14 Volume II
15 Volume III

Box	Folder
2	Proceedings
16	Annual meeting, 1935
17	Annual meeting, 1936
18	Committee reports, 1941
19	Resolution
20	Certificate
21	Programs
	Texas Veterans material
22	General
23	List of veterans' deaths
24	Miscellaneous material

Series 2: Texas Centennial

The second series is made up of material associated with Mrs. Farnsworth's participation in the 1936 Texas Centennial celebration. Correspondence refers to the business of the statewide committees formed to plan the event and some of the activities taking place during the centennial. Letters and transcripts of letters addressed to Texas Governor James V. Allred and San Antonio Mayor Phil Wright are responses to invitations to other governors and state officials to attend centennial events at the Alamo.

Other material includes minutes of a few meetings of the Texas Centennial Commission and other related committees, proposals from cities seeking to host the Central Exposition, and a series of press releases containing Texas history vignettes and information on centennial events. A list of historical markers placed during the centennial, schedules of events, programs, invitations, broadsides, newsletters, and centennial publications are also found here.

Box	Folder
3	Correspondence
	General
25	1932-1933
26	1934
27	1935

	28	1936
	29	Undated
	30	Daughters of the American Revolution correspondence, 1935
	31	James V. Allred correspondence, 1936
	32	Phil Wright correspondence, 1936
	33	Minutes, 1934-1935
		Central Exposition proposals
	34	Dallas
Box	Folder	
	Oversize	Houston (map)
	1	
Box	Folder	
3	35	San Antonio
	36	San Antonio Centennial material
		Press releases
	37	1934
	38-42	1935
	43	Undated
	44	Historical markers
	45	Petition
	46	Resolutions
	47	Schedules
	48	Programs
	49	Invitations
	50	Broadsides
	51	Sticker
	52	Newsletters
	53-56	Publications
	57	Miscellaneous material

Series 3: Miscellaneous material

The third series consists of a small amount of miscellaneous material related to personal activities and other organizations and includes a letter, poetry, and printed items.

Box	Folder	
3	58-59	Miscellaneous material

Series 4: Separated material

Collection

Ephemera
Collection

Ticket: Gonzales Centennial Exposition, 1935

Invitation: Texas Centennial Exposition Eleanor Roosevelt luncheon,
Dallas, Texas, 1936

Program: Pioneer Women of Texas statue dedication, Denton, Texas,
1938

Program: R.E.B. Baylor statue dedication, Waco, Texas, 1939

Program: Texas Veteran's Memorial dedication, San Jacinto Battlefield,
1940

Collection

General
Collection

Nelson M. Davidson. *Pencil Trails: Texas Centennial Exposition and
Texas*. Dallas, Texas: Dealey and Lowe, 1936.

Pictorial Parade of Texas: Attend the Texas Centennial Celebrations,
1936.

Official Austin: Austin, Texas 1936. Austin, Texas: State Board of
Control, 1936

Collection

Vertical
files

Texas Centennial Review, 1936 May 13.

Invitation: First Annual Dogwood Festival, Palestine, Texas, 1938.