

2020

Guide to MS471 J. L. and Harriet Dodson papers

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Guide to
MS471
J. L. and Harriet Dodson papers
1943 – 1990s
12 feet, 5 inches (linear)

Processed by Joan Isichei
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Donated by the Dodson Estate.

Citation: J.L. and Harriet Dodson papers, MS471, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso

Biography

John Leslie (“J.L.”) Dodson (d. 1999) was an El Paso business owner. He was the principal owner of the Mountain Pass Canning Company, which included the Old El Paso food brand. The cannery was located in Anthony, Texas since the 1940s and became the largest seller of Mexican foods, such as beans, tamales, and chiles, in the U.S. In the 1960s, the company was sold to Pet Foods. Dodson also raised peacocks, pheasants, guinea hens, and chickens in his backyard.

Harriet Dodson (d. September 2000) was an accomplished artist, wove some of her own clothes, and played the organ.

The Dodsons left their estate to the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). The Les and Harriet Dodson Endowed Excellence Fund provides scholarships for students, research grants, and funding for the UTEP Library.

[Sources: <https://www.elpasotimes.com/story/news/local/el-paso/2020/07/16/old-el-paso-brand-launched-upper-valley/5454287002/>; https://www.utimco.org/funds/allfunds/2003annual/st_utep_03.asp; *NOVA Quarterly* Winter 2001; all accessed September 18, 2020]

Series Description or Arrangement

Materials were left in the order found by the archivist.

Scope and Content Notes

The J. L. and Harriet Dodson papers date from 1943 – 1990s. Types of records include correspondence, photographs, reports, financial statements and receipts, and clippings. The papers help document the Dodsons’ lives as well as the history of Old El Paso foods and the Mountain Pass Canning Company.

Provenance Statement

Donated by the Dodson Estate. Received November 12, 2001.

Restrictions

Some financial documents (i.e. statements, tax returns, etc.) may be restricted. Please consult with the archivist before viewing the papers.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from these papers must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, J.L. and Harriet Dodson papers, MS471, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

See also:

NOVA Quarterly, Winter 2001

Container List

Box #	Folder #	Description or Title	Date
1	1	Paradise Acres 65769 Docs (Correspondence, <i>The Aurora Advertiser</i> newspapers)	1963-1973
1	2	Tax Documents, Rescue Mission of El Paso documents, Various Bills and Payment Receipts	1973
1	3	State National Bank of El Paso statements, First National Bank Statements, Gas Receipts, credit card bills and statements	1973
1	4	Tax and other financial documents, Rescue mission of El Paso documents.	1974
1	5	Gas Receipts, Bank and other Financial Statements	1974
1	6	Farm Documents, Court Case Document	1973-1975
1	7	Aurora Bank statements and other Financial Documents, Farm Photos	1974-1975
1	8	1975 Diary, Insurance and other Financial Documents	1975
1	9	Bank Statements and other Financial Documents, Various Bills and Receipts	1975
1	10	State National Bank Financial Documents, Gas Receipts	1975
1	11	State National Financial Docs, Various Bills and Receipts	1980
1	12	State National Financial Docs, Various Bills and Receipts	1980
1	13	John M. Dodson receipts	1964-1965
BOX 2	1	El Paso Art Association letters, The Vinegar Home guide book by Emily Thacker	1986
2	2	Correspondence, Various, Family Photos, Christmas Cards, The Southwestern Sun Carnival Association Exhibition Catalogue, Jury Summons, 1985	1965-1985
2	3	1983 Year Book of El Paso Art Association, Jury Summons 1979, Christmas Cards and Clippings	1979, 1983
2	4	Newspaper clippings, various	
2	5	Miscellaneous Notes and Diary Pages	

2	6	Family Photos, Business Cards, Wallet	
2	7	Correspondence, Newspaper Clippings, various, 1996 Republican National Committee pin, Miscellaneous Notes, Musical Sheets.	1952-1996
2	8	Cards, Birthday, Christmas, New Year Etc.	1992-1998
2	9	1963-2000 Year Books of El Paso Art Association, Blue Book of Telephone Numbers (2 Copies), Rio Grande Arts Workshop 1996 Catalogue/Schedule	1993-2000
2	10	State National Bank Black Books(2)	1952-54
2	11	State National Bank Black Books(2)	1969-1974
2	12	State National Bank Black Books(2)	1977-85
2	13	1977 Monthly Minder Black Notebook	
2	14	Black Diaries(2)	
2	15	Dale Carnegie Course documents and Certificate	1964-1965
2	16	Various Notebooks/Diaries(7)	
BOX 3	1	Tax Returns	1943-1959
3	2	Tax Returns	1960
3	3	Tax Returns	1961
3	4	Tax Returns	1960-1962
3	5	Tax Returns	1966
3	6	Farm Documents	1966
3	7	Pet Incorporated Docs.	1968-1970
3	8	Bills, Receipts, various, Clippings, Tax and other financial documents	1963
3	9	Checks and Check Records, Various	1953-1993
BOX 4	1	Various Correspondence, Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records, and various Financial documents.	1964-1965
4	2	Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records, and various Financial Documents.	1983-1984
4	3	Farm Bills, Receipts, and various Financial Documents.	1976-1977
4	4	Farm Bills, Receipts and Various Financial Records Documents.	1968
4	5	Correspondence, Farm Bills, Receipts and Various Financial Records.	1965
4	6	Correspondence, Farm Bills, Receipts and various financial records.	1965
4	7	Pheasant Farm Documents	
4	8	SNA Nut Company Correspondence, Various Nut	1967-1992

		Processing Documents.	
4	9	Pheasant Farm Documents	
4	10	Poultry Records, Rescue Mission of El Paso Receipts	1978-1993
4	11	Ideal Poultry Records	1985-88
4	12	Correspondence with Faith .F. Parrish, Various Clippings, Baldwin Organ warranty, Faustina Manzor Verano? Photo, Undated.	
4	13	Correspondence to Secretary of State and US Department of Treasury, Merrill Lynch Financial Documents, Whitmore Inc. share certificated, Standard Silver Lead Mining Share Certificate,	1965-1996
4	14	Various Newspaper Clippings, Cleveland Family Record 10660 to 1635 – 1836, Various undated and unlabeled Photos of a house, El Paso Art Association Award Cert., 1978 Jury Summons	
4	15	Various Newspaper Clippings, The Dodsons' Marriage Certificate	
4	16	Various Newspaper Clippings	
4	17	Various Newspaper Clippings, IC Industries Magazine	
4	18	Maroon Colored Address Book, Scottish Freemasonry Receipt, Speeding Ticket, Correspondence with L .T. Woodall, National Geographic Society Lifetime membership certificate, GE Letter, Postcard from Denmark	1940-1962
4	19	1979-1980 and 1986 Year Book of El Paso Art Association Year Book, 8 th Sun Carnival Exhibit Catalogue, Women's Dept. of El Paso Chamber of Commerce 1960 Annual Report	1974-1986
4	20	10x13 sized brown envelope labelled Mrs. J. L. Dodson containing yellow colored notes	
4	21	Ideal Poultry Invoices, Checks and check records	1989-1994
BOX 5	1	Mountain Pass Canning Company Stock	1946-1963
5	2	Pet Incorporated Inc. Inventories, Financial Records and Miscellaneous Documents	1972-1976
5	3	Mountain Pass Canning Company Inventories, Performance review and other financial documents.	1976
5	4	Various Business Cards, Photos of Old El Paso	

		Products and trucks, Undated	
5	5	Old El Paso Products Booklet	
5	6	Old El Paso Tamale Cards (2 Packs)	
5	7	Brown Folder Labelled "Monthly Statements"	1953-1956
5	8	Large Black Folder containing Mountain Pass Canning Company Charter and Bylaws.	
5	9	Red Address Book, Telephone Book	
5	10	Light Brown Folder containing financial records?	
5	11	Pet Incorporated Annual Report	1992
5	12	Mountain Pass Canning's Old El Paso Newsletters	
5	13	Wall Street Journal Newspaper page 9-12	1983
5	14	Old El Paso Sun Country Cook Coupons	
5	15	7 1/2" x 10 1/2" brown envelopes containing various old El Paso Company Product labels, Three empty 4 1/8" by 9 1/2" envelopes	
5	16	Mountain Pass Canning Company Season Greetings Cards and Envelopes	
5	17	Large 9" x 12" Brown Envelope containing: Mountain Pass Canning Company profit sharing agreement and financial statements prior to 1968, Pet Inc. Re-organization plan	1967
5	18	Large 9" x 12" Brown Envelope containing: Status of Mountain Pass Canning Company Assets, Pet Inc., News Release, Mountain Pass 1975 April Monthly Report, Mixed Correspondence, 1974 Pet Inc. Annual Report, Mountain Pass Business Review F-1976, Pet Inc. Stock Purchases Plan, 1971 Pet Inc. Annual Report	1971-1975
5	20	Old El Paso Company Product Leaflets, 3 Copies, Old El Paso Company Recipes Book Flyers	
5	21	Large 9" x 12" Brown Envelope containing: Mountain Pass financial statements for the years 1960-1968, Various mixed Correspondence about Mountain Pass' Potential Buyers	1960-1968
5	22	Mountain Pass Canning Company proposed charter, Stockholder meeting minutes and report, Correspondence with Attorney Harris Walthall	1946-1947
5	23	Rohrer, Hibler & Replogle Booklet and Pamphlet	
5	24	Pet Inc. Shares prospectus, 1965 Statement of	1965

		Earnings, Chile: A New Mexico State university cooperative extension service circular 396	
5	25	Agreement and Plan of Reorganization (no company name stated)	1968
5	26	4 1/8" by 9 1/2" brown envelope containing Deed to Anthony house purchase	1965
5	27	<i>El Paso Times</i> clippings, pgs. 7 and 8	1974
5	28	<i>The Work of Rohrer, Hibler & Replogle</i> by Rohrer, Hibler & Replogle	
5	29	<i>The Anatomy of Teamwork</i> by Rohrer, Hibler & Replogle	
5	30	Booklet: <i>Making Managers Out of Salesmen</i> by Rohrer, Hibler & Replogle	
5	31	1958 Agreement of Lease between Ramsey Steel Inc. Hugh McMillan and Mountain Pass Inc.	1958
5	32	Mountain Pass Financial Statement & Schedules	1968
5	33	Mountain Pass Profit Sharing and Retirement Plan	1961
5	34	Mountain Pass Company Report	1962
5	35	Mountain Pass Company Report	1961
5	36	Mountain Pass Financial Statement & Supplementary	1962-1963
5	37	Mountain Pass Financial Statement & Supplementary	1964
5	38	Correspondence from Willis, Rock	1965
5	39	Correspondence from Accountants: Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.	1965
5	40	Pet Inc. 1969 Annual Report (2 Copies)	1969
5	41	Mountain Pass Accountants' Report	1965
5	42	Black Dairy/Notebook (contains inventory lists)	
BOX 6	1	Various Newspaper Clippings	1987-1989
6	2	Correspondence from Dorothy T. Lodge, Correspondence to Priesthood of AETH, Dodson House Plans	1959-1993
6	3	Booklet: Your Individually Compiled Horoscope (2 Copies), Book of Blanks Horoscope Chart, Horoscope Astrological Manual, Time Pattern Report for Mr. Dodson and for Mrs. Dodson, Several Papers with sketches of hands and handprints.	1969
6	4	Various Attorney Correspondence, 1956 GE Stock	1947-1980

		Certificate,	
6	5	Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records, and other Financial Documents	1980-1982
6	6	Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records, and other Financial Documents	1973
6	7	Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records, and other Financial Documents	1985-1987
6	8	Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records, and other Financial Documents	1967
6	9	Hydra-Spade Newsletters, Horticulture Handbooks and other Miscellaneous Hydra-Spade Documents	
6	10	Bantam Poultry Farm Documents, Receipts Bills and Correspondence	1981-1987
6	11	Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records and other Financial Documents	1989
6	12	Farm Bills, Receipts, Tax Records and other Financial Documents	1975-1988
BOX 7	1	5 Framed Photos, 1 Framed stock certificate for Frio Frozen Foods Inc., Unfilled Data Locator, Document, 1 Award Plaque	
7	2	10" X 13" Brown envelope containing family photos	
7	3	Correspondence from Norman Lindsay	1968
7	4	National Modena Club Bulletin	1968
7	5	Various empty different-sized envelopes, Blank Note Pad	
7	6	Texas Agricultural Extension Service B-1608: Infectious Laryngotracheitis Pamphlet	
7	7	2 art prints of chickens	
7	8	Chile: A New Mexico State University cooperative extension service circular 463.	
7	9	Processed Prepared Foods Magazine, April 1982	1982
7	10	Correspondence from A.A. Schumacher	1983
7	11	Processed Prepared Foods Magazine, April 1982	1982
7	12	Processed Prepared Foods Magazine, April 1982	1982
7	13	File containing The West El Paso Rotary Club of El Paso Texas Documents	
7	14	Various Pamphlets, One Notepad, Blue 1946 Desk Diary, 3 luggage Identification Tags, 2 Business Cards	

BOX 8	1	Old El Paso fine Mexican food magazine	
8	2	2 Rotary International Plaques, Old El Paso company truck photo	
8	3	Yellow note pad	
8	4	Dale Carnegie Course "Life Began at 41" Booklet, Various Cards, Season Greetings and others.	1965
8	5	File containing various cards: Marriage, work, etc., newspaper clippings, miscellaneous documents, undated and unlabeled photos of an older couple, (Mr. and Mrs. Dodson?)	
8	6	Class Reunion Correspondence from Gladys Elrod, Various Newspapers Clippings	
8	7	Black Address Book, Memo from Paul Elliott	
8	8	Brown Envelope Containing Family and Farm Photos	
8	9	Globe High School Diploma of John Leslie Dodson	
8	10	File containing various unlabeled and undated Photos	
8	11	Red Address Book, White Nylon Bag containing Photos, Green Box containing Bantam, Pheasant Farms and Old El Paso Company Business Cards	
8	12	Ziploc bag containing clippings and photos	
8	13	Novel: <i>2001 A Space Odyssey</i> by Arthur .C. Clark	
8	14	Novel: <i>The Satan Bug</i> by Alistair MacLean	
8	15	2 framed photographs	
8	16	Black 1976 Diary	
8	17	Mountain Pass Canning Company Seal Embosser	
BOX 9	1	Various Award Plaques, 1 Framed Certificate	
9	2	Mountain Pass Company Formula Plaque for the Method of Canning Pinto Beans	
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