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Guide to MS521 Coldwell Family papers

Eugenio Cantu

Guide to

MS521

Coldwell Family papers

1870, 1874 – 1954

1 foot, 4 inches (linear)

Processed by Eugenio Cantu

Donated by J. Sam Moore, Jr. and Colbert Coldwell.

Citation: Coldwell family papers, MS521, 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

Historical Sketch

The Coldwells were a pioneer El Paso family. Nathaniel Colbert Coldwell (born 1822) came to the El Paso area around 1840 as part of a wagon train going to Chihuahua. He also was part of the Doniphan Expedition. Nathaniel Colbert Coldwell, now a lawyer, moved to El Paso with his family in 1872. Although, Nathaniel Colbert Coldwell eventually moved, his son, William Mickey Coldwell, stayed in El Paso and raised his large family there. Over the years, various family members farmed in the Lower Valley, owned a real estate company (Coldwell-Banker Company), and worked as lawyers in El Paso.

Colbert Coldwell (1921 – 2010) was an El Paso lawyer, U.S. Commissioner (now known as a U.S. Magistrate Judge), and an El Paso county judge (elected in 1966). He also served as city attorney for Horizon City and was an active member of the Democratic Party, the El Paso County Historical Society, and St. Christopher and St. Brendan churches.

[Sources: Obituary, *El Paso Times*

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/elpasotimes/name/colbert-coldwell-obituary?id=8280211>, accessed March 30, 2022]

Series Description or Arrangement

Materials left in the order found by archivist.

Scope and Content Notes

The Coldwell family papers, MS521, date 1870, 1874 – 1954. Types of records includes photographs, correspondence, and court documents. There are also two transcriptions of Texas governors' inaugural addresses. These papers help document the Coldwell family's history and activities as well as Texas history.

Provenance Statement

Photo album and loose photographs donated by Colbert N. Coldwell on March 20, 2020. Collection name changed to Coldwell family papers. Original donation was made in 2005 by J. Sam Moore, Jr.

Restrictions

None.

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, Coldwell family papers, MS521, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

See also:

Oral history [Interview no. 768](#)

Container List

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	----	Photo album	undated
1	1	Correspondence	1874, 1921
1	2	School photographs, 1914; reunion 1954	1914, 1954
1	3	W.S. Collins [portrait]	undated
1	4	Coldwell family photographs	1911, 1917, 1944
1	5	Family correspondence	1919, 1950
1	6	Old client correspondence & court documents	1890s, 1901