

Guide to

MS 287

**Jonathan R. Cunningham
papers**

Span dates: 1958 – 1978
50 inches (linear)



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Updated by Laura Hollingsed, February 2010

Donated by Anne Cunningham in 1981.

Citation: Jonathan R. Cunningham papers, MS 287, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

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

Biography

Jonathan R. Cunningham served as Director of Planning for the City of El Paso, Texas, from 1958 until his retirement in 1978. He received an undergraduate degree from New Mexico State University and a Master of Arts degree from the University of New Mexico. He later studied Public Administration and City Planning at the University of Chicago. He taught political science and coached track and field at Las Cruces High School. In 1940 he joined the United States Air Force and retired later from the Air Force Reserve as a colonel. Before coming to El Paso, he worked as Director of Planning for Spokane County in Washington from 1952-1956, and taught political science at Whitman College. While in the northwest he also worked as a consultant for local cities. As the Director of Planning for El Paso, Cunningham was instrumental in the Chamizal Settlement which set the boundary between the United States and Mexico. He also taught classes in municipal planning at The University of Texas at El Paso, the International City Managers Association, and the Texas Municipal League. He was married to Anne Cunningham.

Series Description or Arrangement

The Jonathan R. Cunningham papers are arranged in six series: Series I. Personal papers, Series II. Professional papers, Series III. City of El Paso, Series IV. Juarez city planning, Series V. U.S.-Mexico border, and Series VI. Other cities.

Scope and Content Note

The Jonathan R. Cunningham papers, composed primarily of research and municipal planning documents for the city of El Paso, Texas, were collected by Cunningham during his years as Director of Planning for El Paso (1958 - 1978). The collection consists of correspondence, copies of speeches, and reports concerning areas such as city planning and zoning, the Chamizal, relocation of the Rio Grande, the El Paso International Airport, urban land use, community development, United States/Mexico border improvement and development, the environment, the Franklin Mountains Wilderness Park, Pueblo de la Ysleta del Sur, historic preservation, local history, population and housing trends, transportation and traffic projections, and international

relations. Some coverage of areas outside of El Paso such as Ciudad Juárez, Mexico; Spokane County, and Walla Walla, Washington is included.

Provenance Statement

The papers were donated by Jonathan R. Cunningham's wife, Anne Cunningham, in 1981. The original accession number was 1020.

Restrictions

None

Note to Researchers

Related collections:

MS 204, El Paso Department of Planning collection
MS 367, City of El Paso records

Container List

PERSONAL PAPERS		
BIOGRAPHICAL/PERSONAL		
Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Resume
1	2	Job Description-Director of Planning, City of El Paso
1	3	Jonathan R. Cunningham Personal File
1	4	Personal Correspondence
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PROFESSIONAL		
SPEECHES AND PAPERS BY JONATHAN R. CUNNINGHAM		

1	6	1972 Speeches
1	7	Department of Planning and Zoning
1	8	El Chamizal
1	9	El Paso City of Planning Speech
1	10	Felix Candela
1	11	International Planning in the El Paso-Juarez Area
1	12	The Laws of the Indies: America's First Planning Legislation
1	13	Municipal Annexation: One of the Tools for Use in Resolving the Metropolitan Problem
1	14	Organization and Concept for Urban Land Use Planning, New Mexico State University (1967)
1	15	Planning and Zoning
1	16	Planning in the Small City
1	17	Planning the Small City
1	18	Political Behavior in New Mexico, Dec. 19, 1940
1	19	Private/Public Sector Coordination
1	20	Statement before the State Senate Interim Committee on Urban Affairs
1	21	Statement of Objectives to the Gulf-Southwest Chapter of the American Institute of Planners
1	22	Water Supply in El Paso
1	23	Speeches - Spokane
STUDY OUTLINES: COURSE ON CITY PLANNING		
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1	25	Department of Planning Research and Development: 1970
1	26	Municipal Planning Administration, 1971
1	27	The City of El Paso Executive Development Program 1972
1	28	American Institute of Planners: Short Course for Planning Commissioners 1973, 1976
2	29	Concepts and Problems in Municipal Government and Urban Development, 1974
2	30	Program for Sixth Annual Short Course for Planning Commissioners and Elected Officials, 1977 Part I
2	31	Program for Sixth Annual Short Course for Planning Commissioners and Elected Officials, 1977 Part 2
2	32	Principles and Practice of Urban Planning, n.d.
2	33	Miscellaneous Class Outlines & Questions, n.d.
CITY OF EL PASO		
ANNUAL REPORT		
2	34	Operations 1960, El Paso, Texas

2	35	Annual Report of the El Paso City Plan Commission and of the Zoning Board of Adjustment (1969)
2	36	Annual Report, El Paso City Plan Commission, Department of Planning and Research 1972
2	37	The 49th Annual Report 1974: El Paso City Plan Commission, Department of Planning and Research
2	38	50th Annual Report 1975 El Paso City Plan Commission, Department of Planning Research & Development
2	39	The 51st Annual Report 1976 El Paso City Plan Commission and the Department of Planning, Research & Development
2	40	The 52nd Annual Report 1977 The El Paso City Plan Commission and the Department of Planning, Research & Development
2	41	The 53rd Annual Report 1978 The El Paso City Plan Commission and the Department of Planning, Research & Development
2	42	The 54th Annual Report 1979 The El Paso City Plan Commission & the Department of Planning, Research and Development
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2	45	The Chamizal Border Improvement Project Map
2	46	The Chamizal Settlement (1963)
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3	49	Chronology of the Chamizal Border Highway Project
3	50	Community Economic Analysis: Chamizal Planning Program, El Paso, Texas
3	51	Summary Report: Community Economic Analysis Chamizal Planning Program, El Paso, Texas (1966)
3	52	Frontera Nacional de Tejas - The Texas National Border (1965)
3	53	International Planning
3	54	Letter From Mayor Williams to U.S. House of Representatives Richard C. White Concerning the Border Highway (1966)
3	55	Preliminary Report Rendered by the Inter-Secretarial Commission Concerning the Urban Incorporation of El Chamizal with Ciudad Juarez Chih. (1964)
3	56	Press Release of Chamizal Agreement (1963)
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4	64	Franklin Mountains Wilderness Park: Master Plan & Long Range Development Plan; City of El Paso, TX 1972
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5	82	Lower Valley Parks and Recreation Program for 1975-1990: El Paso Comprehensive Plan
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5	84	Planning Atlas for El Paso: Text Summary and List of Maps 1968
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5	88	Review of Progress Under the Workable Program for Community Improvement 1968
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6	92	Department of Planning and Research Development
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6	100	Handbook on Government: El Paso and El Paso County, TX, 1973
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6	101	A Short History of Northwest El Paso, 1966
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7	103	A Short History of Ysleta, 1966
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7	117	Community Development Program, 1976
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7	120	Path for the Future-Goals for El Paso: A Report to the People
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8	123	International Northbound Origin and Destination Study, 1978: Traffic Movements from Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico to El Paso, Texas, United States, 1979
8	124	Transportation System Management, for El Paso Transportation Study
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8	126	El Paso Development Manual, 1968
8	127	Urban Development Action Grant, El Paso: South El Paso Revitalization Program, 1978
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8	128	Action of Upper Valley Tentative Sketch Plan, 1959 The City of El Paso, Texas, Chapter 25
8	129	Annexation: Incorporation and Consolidation of Municipalities
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8	131	City of El Paso Subdivision Ordinance, 1974
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8	134	Proposals to Change the Zoning Map - Letter, 1964
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8	136	Theory and Practice of Zoning and Zoners - Memos 1966

8	137	White Acres Retirement Village
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9	142	Fronteras 1976: San Diego/Tijuana - The International Border in Community Relations: Gateway or Barrier
9	143	Fronteras 1976: A View of the Border From Mexico
9	144	Illegal Aliens: The Need for a More Restrictive Border Policy
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9	146	Milton and Freewater, Oregon, Government and Financial Study, 1948
9	147	Oregon-Local Government
9	148	Metropolitan Texas: A Workable Approach to its Problems, 1967
9	149	The Texas Planner 1982 - 1983
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9	151	Puget Sound Regional Planning Conference and Council: Annual Report
9	152	Annual Report 1956: Spokane County Planning Commission
9	153	Domestic Water in the Spokane Valley, 1954
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9	157	A Study of the Organization and Administration of Municipal Government in Walla Walla, Washington 1951
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10	159	Administration (Preface and Chapter One)
10	160	American Institute of Planners: Journal Readings for AIP Examination, 1965
10	161	Career Corner: Orderly Urban Planning Needs Systematic Person, 1970
10	162	Caring for the Land: Environmental Principles for Site Design and Review, 1977
10	163	Check List for Positive Public Relations
10	164	City Planning: A Legislative Policy Making Job
10	165	Composition, Workload and Procedures of Planning Commissions
10	166	Eighth Annual Institute of Planning and Zoning, 1970

10	167	How to Get your Money's Worth From Your Planning Commission
10	168	Journal of the American Institute of Planners 1969
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