

Guide to
MS 400
Thomas Family Papers

Span Dates 1915-1958
Bulk Dates 1948-1956

3 feet, 5 inches (linear)

Processed by Andy Moreno and Bobbi Sago, July 1999
Updated by Laura Hollingsed, May 2011

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

Biography

Paul D. Thomas, born about 1884 in Cleveland, Tennessee, came to El Paso, Texas in the early twentieth century, where he practiced law and later served as judge. He married Lillian Farr. Their son, Paul Farr Thomas, was born on September 15, 1920, and became a real estate broker and prominent farmer and rancher in Fabens, Texas. He graduated from Austin High School in El Paso and Amherst College in Massachusetts. During World War II, he was a ball turret gunner in a B-24 plane in the South Pacific. He served as Superintendent of the El Paso County Livestock Show and Rodeo, Director of the El Paso Valley Cotton Association, President of the Farmers' Gin, and Democratic Chairman of Precinct 90 for thirty years. He was a member of the El Paso County School Board, El Paso County Sheriff's Posse, and the El Paso Board of Realtors. Paul Farr Thomas passed away on April 14, 2007.

Series Description

Arranged in two series: Series I, the Paul D. Thomas Legal Files, 1915-1956, and Series II, the Paul F. Thomas Farming Records, 1948-1958.

Scope and Content Notes

Series I, the Paul D. Thomas Legal Files, contains two inches of material and deals with two legal cases. The first case in 1915-1917 is the Hipólito Villa jewelry claims. The second case from 1956, deals with land claims to a ranch in Chihuahua, Mexico by the Babícora Development Company of California.

The bulk of the material in this collection is in Series II, Paul F. Thomas Farming Records. Series II contains the records of Paul F. Thomas dealing with his ranch in Fabens, Texas from 1948-1958. This material is arranged in two sections, financial records and worker and production records. The financial records are comprised mostly of invoices, with some bank information. The worker records include correspondence, contracts, lists and receipts. The production records include correspondence, receipts, and pamphlets and reports from the Production Marketing Administration.

Provenance Statement

In 1999, the Special Collections Department purchased the Paul D. Thomas legal files from his son Paul F. Thomas. The Center for Immigration History acquired the Paul F. Thomas farming records from Mr. Thomas in 1999.

Restrictions

No access restrictions

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Thomas Family Papers must be obtained from the C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Box # Folder#

Series I – Paul D. Thomas Legal Files, 1915- 1917, 1956		
1	1	Hipólito Villa 1915-1917
1	2	Hipólito Villa 1915-1917
1	3	Agrarian Claims (paid in full) 1956
Series II – Paul F. Thomas Farming Records, 1948-1958		
Financial Records		
2	1	Income tax 1953
2	2	Bank Information
2	3	Deposit Slips 1954
2	4	Invoices - January 1955
2	5	Invoices – February 1955
2	6	Invoices – March 1955
2	7	Invoices – April 1955
2	8	Invoices – May 1955
2	9	Invoices – June 1955
2	10	Invoices – July 1955
2	11	Invoices – August 1955
3	1	Invoices – September 1955
3	2	Invoices – October 1955
3	3	Invoices – November 1955
3	4	Invoices – December 1955
3	5	Invoices – January 1956
3	6	Deposit Slips -- 1955
3	7	Invoices – February 1956
3	8	Invoices – March 1956
3	9	Invoices – April 1956
3	10	Invoices – May 1956
3	11	Invoices – June 1956
4	1	Invoices – July 1956

4	2	Invoices – August 1956
4	3	Invoices – September 1956
4	4	Invoices – October 1956
4	5	Invoices – November 1956
4	6	Invoices – December 1956
Worker and Production Records		
5	1	El Paso Valley Cotton Association (Braceros) 1950-1955
5	2	Immigration Records 1951-1954
5	3	Bracero Processing 1952-1954
5	4	Cotton Allotment 1949-1954
5	5	Cotton Records 1953-1955
5	6	Farmers Gin Company No. 1 PRT Cotton 1954
5	7	Farmers Gin LFT Cotton 1954
5	8	El Paso Valley Compress Company 1954-1955
5	9	Cotton Allotments 1955
5	10	Tomato Production Farm No. 1 1955
5	11	Farmer's Gin Company No. PRT1955-1956
5	12	El Paso Valley Compress Company 1956-1958
5	13	PMA 1949-1955 [Production Marketing Administration]
6	1	Cancelled Checks - Dec. 31, 1954-Feb. 26, 1955
6	2	Cancelled Checks - Feb. 26, 1955-Apr. 29, 1955
6	3	Cancelled Checks - Apr. 29, 1955- Jun. 29, 1955
6	4	Cancelled Checks - Jun. 29, 1955-Aug. 29, 1955
6	5	Cancelled Checks - Aug. 30, 1955-Oct.29, 1955
6	6	Cancelled Checks - Nov. 29, 1955-Dec. 31, 1955
6	7	Cancelled Checks - Dec. 31, 1955-Mar. 29, 1956
7	1	Cancelled Checks - Mar. 29, 1956-May 29, 1956
7	2	Cancelled Checks - May 29, 1956-Jul. 30, 1956
7	3	Cancelled Checks - Jul. 31, 1956- Sep. 26, 1956
7	4	Cancelled Checks - Sep. 26, 1956- Dec. 31, 1956
7	5	Check Stubs - Nov. 22, 1955-Mar. 26, 1956
7	6	Check Stubs - Dec. 16, 1954-Aug. 4, 1955
8	1	Check Stubs - Aug. 4, 1955-Nov. 19, 1955
8	2	Check Stubs - Mar. 9, 1956-Nov. 1, 1957
8	3	Ledger - Feb. 1948- Dec. 1948
8	4	Production Records - Dec. 8, 1956 - Dec. 13, 1956
8	5	Production Records - Nov. 29, 1956 - Jan. 1957
8	6	Production Records - Sept. 1957 - Jan. 1958
8	7	Farmers Gin Co. #1 LFT - 1955, 1956