

Guide to
MS 560
Acosta Solís-Vargas family papers

Span dates 1752 – 1927,
Bulk dates 1821 – 1912

5 inches (linear)

Processed by Abbie Weiser
June 18, 2008

Donated by Francisco Acosta

Citation: Acosta Solís-Vargas family papers, 1752 – 1927, MS 560, 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 or Historical Sketch

The Vargas family played an important role in the politics of the Ciudad Juárez – El Paso area during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Well-known family members include Sebastián Vargas (padre) and his son, Sebastián Vargas (hijo). The elder Vargas belonged to the Republican Party and served as secretary for the political leadership of Paso del Norte in 1865 and 1866. He also served as a representative to the XXVIII local legislature. He died on November 9, 1912 in El Paso, Texas. His son, Sebastián Vargas (hijo) was elected tax collector for income tax in Juárez in 1910. He was reelected in 1911 and 1912, and served as a member of the Constitutional Assembly of El Paso. Through his position he authorized and managed the issuing of paper currency in the town. Sebastián Vargas (hijo) died in 1946.

(Sources: *Diccionario de historia, geografía y biografía Chihuahuenses*; Acosta Solís-Vargas family papers)

Series Description or Arrangement

The Acosta Solís – Vargas family papers are arranged in one series:

- I. Family, land, and government documents.

Series is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Content Notes

The Acosta Solís-Vargas papers date 1752 – 1927, bulk 1821 – 1912. Types of records include government documents, certificates, property deeds, land sale and government documents, wills, and correspondence. Arranged in one series (Family, land, and government documents), these papers document the family's history, land and property transactions, and the political activities of Sebastián Vargas, Sr. and Sebastián Vargas, Jr.

Provenance Statement

Donated by Francisco Acosta in 2008.

Restrictions

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Acosta Solís-Vargas family papers, must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, Acosta-Vargas family papers, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

Some of the Acosta Solís-Vargas family papers are fragile and brittle. Please handle with care. Photocopying of materials in poor condition may be restricted.

Special thanks to Yvonne Thompson for helping to identify and translate the documents from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Her notes (on orange paper) are included in the folders.

Container List

Series I. Family, land, and government documents

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	Testimony in lieu of title to orchard and house in Paso del Norte	1752, March 7, 1827
1	2	Promissory note, Villa de San Felipe (near Chihuahua)	March 30, 1775, 1779, 1780
1	3	Land sale document – Juan Alderete to Francisco Durán for land in Paso del Norte and subsequent transactions	March 27, 1797
1	4	Document for transfer of property	1809 – 1898
1	5	Will and last testament of María Gertrudis Lucero Viuda de Telles [1817 will written; 1818 executor's wishes done]	1817 – 1818
1	6	Land sale document, José Antonio Telles to his brother-in-law Antonio Garcia	1821, 1824 – 1825
1	7	Land transfer and sale document	July 16, 1827, August 28, 1843
1	8	Various land sale documents	1832 – 1869
1	9	Legal documents	1860, about 1881
1	10	Property deed from Doña Petra Espalín to José Maese	March 16, 1861, 1863, about 1870, January 22, 1863
1	11	List of properties transferred to Sebastián Vargas from his father, property inherited from his mother, Luz María Pedregón (land, house, household goods)	February 11, 1866
1	12	Will of Paula Vargas	July 6, 1869
1	13	Marriage certificate of Sebastián Vargas and Concepción Sánchez (civil)	July 25, 1869
1	14	Sale documents for rooms	April 30, 1872, May 2, 1872
1	15	Registration of brand of cattle by Juan Vargas	May 17, 1872
1	16	Mortgage of land by Guadalupe Vargas to Sebastián Vargas	March 27, 1874
1	17	Rental contract agreement between Epitacio Corral and Sebastián Vargas	February 22, 1879
1	18	Property documents for a lot in front of	May 16, 1882

		the homes of Juan Vargas and Sebastián Vargas	
1	19	Letter from Felix Brunschwig to Sebastián Vargas	May 2, 1891
1	20	Term of appointment for Sebastián Vargas from governor	April 13, 1897
1	21	Political appointment for Sebastián Vargas	April 14, 1897
1	22	Letters to Sebastián Vargas (Vargas?) from Gilberto Carbajal	1901
1	23	Letters to Sebastián Vargas from José Alert	1901
1	24	Copy of will of Sebastián Vargas (hijo)	about 1901
1	25	Document from Joaquín Cortázar, Governor of Chihuahua regarding Sebastián Vargas' position	June 5, 1903
1	26	Letter from Valentín Oñate to Sebastián Vargas regarding position of <i>juez menor suplente</i>	June 8, 1903
1	27	Sebastián Vargas' acceptance of appointment to position of <i>juez menor suplente</i>	June 9, 1903
1	28	Letter from <i>Jefatura política</i> Silvano Mondemayor to Sebastián Vargas	July 2, 1903
1	29	Certificate naming Sebastián Vargas <i>Juez 3º suplente de juzgado de Distrito de Chihuahua</i>	April 29, 1904
1	30	Letter from Concepción S. de Vargas to Sebastián Vargas	March 1, 1905
1	31	Letter from the Office of the Governor of Chihuahua to Sebastián Vargas regarding building a monument to Benito Juárez	April 27, 1905
1	32	Reminiscences about Benito Juárez in Juárez on the 100 th anniversary of his birth	March 21, 1906
1	33	From the <i>Centario de la Independencia Comisión del Distrito</i> to Sebastián Vargas	December 18, 1907
1	34	Letter from M. Larrea to Sebastián Vargas	February 14, 1908
1	35	Protest to the governor of the state by Sebastián Vargas	June 24, 1911
1	36	Documents relating to the <i>Diputado Propietario á la H. Legislatura del Estado</i> (Chihuahua)	September 1911

1	37	Document from the Mexican consulate in El Paso regarding Sebastián Vargas' passport	July 17, 1912
1	38	<i>Manifiesto del H. Congreso del Estado</i>	August 6, 1912
1	39	Letter from Augustívo Flores to Sebastián Vargas	October 3, 1912
1	40	Possible will and household inventory	about 1927