

C.E. CRAIG COLLECTION OF TURNER TRACT DOCUMENTS
Finding Aid

Compiled by
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Museum of South Texas History
Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives
Edinburg, Texas

2014



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SUMMARY

Size	3 folders
Geographic Locations	Hidalgo County, Texas
Inclusive Dates	1903-1906
Languages	English
Summary	The documents in this collection include a typewritten history of the Turner Tract; a warranty deed from James A. Wells to the trustees for the promoters of the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railroad; and two property deeds.
Access Restrictions	The collection is open for research. If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please contact the Archivist at 956-383-6911 to make an appointment to visit the Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives (MHMMA) reading room.
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Related Collections	
Citation	C.E. Craig collection of Turner Tract documents. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.
Stack Location(s)	SMC 27, RGDOC 2, B:1

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

The land included in the Turner Tract was originally a part of the San Juan de Carricitos grant belonging to José Narciso Cavazas. According to a warranty deed dated September 13, 1903, Cavazas sold Partition Share number 24 to Josiah Turner in 1899. The land was used for raising cattle and the headquarters was known as Sabinas. At some point Turner sold the land to James B. Wells. In 1903 Wells sold the 12,177 acres to the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railroad for \$2.50 an acre. In 1906 it was sold to the Gulf Coast Irrigation Company for \$7.00 an acre.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The documents in this collection include a typewritten history of the Turner Tract; a warranty deed from James A. Wells to the trustees for the promoters of the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railroad; and two property deeds. The history of the Turner Tract was written by C.E. Craig, but it is undated. Most of the history deals with the years after 1906 and includes the names of those people involved in developing the land.

The warranty deed is a photostat copy of pages 447 and 448 in Volume K of the Hidalgo County, Texas Deed Records. It records the conveyance of the land for José Narciso Cavazas to Josiah Turner, then from Turner to James B. Wells who sold it to the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Railroad.

The first property deed is dated January 30, 1905 and conveys the land from Benjamin F. Yoakim, Samuel W. Fordyce, Edwards Whitaker, Thomas H. West and Robert S. Brookings to Alphonso C. Stewart, John F. Shepley and Robert McK. Jones. The deed was filed at Hidalgo County, Texas on July 23, 1906.

The second property deed is dated July 9, 1906 and conveys the land from Stewart and his partners to the Gulf Coast Irrigation Company. The deed was filed at Hidalgo County, Texas on July 24, 1906.