

MIKE HEDGES GOLDEN JERSEY CREAMERY COW STATUE MATERIALS
Finding Aid

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

2014



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SUMMARY

Size	1 folder
Geographic Locations	Edinburg, Texas; Los Angeles, California
Inclusive Dates	1952
Languages	English
Summary	The items in the collection include a letter written by Martha Oathout Ayres, Los Angeles, California, to Mr. Hagedorn in Edinburg, Texas, in 1952 and a newspaper article about the cow statue and Ayres.
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	Harriette Hagedorn Martin speech: E.M. Everitt Building Historical Marker dedication, December 18, 1983. SMC 58, RGDOC 41, B:1.
Citation	Mike Hedges Golden Jersey Creamery cow statue materials. Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.
Stack Location(s)	SMC 57, RGDOC 41, B:1

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

In 1930 the Hagedorn family moved from Michigan to Edinburg, Texas. The Edinburg Chamber of Commerce encouraged them to set up a creamery in the city, so they packed their machinery on a boxcar and moved it to the Rio Grande Valley. They first set up business in the old E.M. Everitt Building on the corner of 12th Street and McIntyre Street. Since they were renting that space, they built their own plant in 1946 two blocks west. According to Harriette Hagedorn Martin the daughter of the family, no one in Edinburg had ever drunk pasteurized milk until the business, Golden Jersey Creamery, was established there.

In 1952 Mr. Hagedorn of the Golden Jersey Creamery commissioned Martha Oathout Ayres of Los Angeles, California, to sculpt a cow for the company. According to a newspaper article the cow weighed about 500 pounds and would sit on top of the building. The statue was shipped to the Creamery on August 12, 1952.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The items in the collection include a letter written by Martha Oathout Ayres, Los Angeles, California, to Mr. Hagedorn in Edinburg, Texas, in 1952 and a newspaper article about the cow statue and Ayres. The letter describes shipping details and how to handle the statue once it arrived in Edinburg. The undated newspaper article is from an unknown Los Angeles publication.