Lamar Elementary School Time CapsuleFinding Aid

Compiled by Miguel Calvillo

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

2016



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SUMMARY

Size	4.64 cubic feet
Geographic Locations	Edinburg, Texas.
Inclusive Dates	1938-1969
Bulk Dates	1965, 1966
Languages	English
Summary	The collection contains materials pertaining to the Lamar Elementary School Time Capsule Project of 1965. There are several formats including documents, magazines, photographs, letters, coins and recordings dealing with the life in Edinburg, Texas in 1965.
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	Lamar Elementary School Time Capsule Margaret H. McAllen Memorial Archives, Museum of South Texas History, Edinburg, TX.
Stack Location(s)	RGDOC 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, B:28; RGDOC 805, B:27; RGDOC 806, B:19; RGDOC 807, B:25; RGDOC 808,809,810, 811, B:21; RGDOC 812, 813, S:18

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

The Lamar Elementary School Time Capsule Project took place during the years 1964-1965. The idea of the time capsule originated in the fifth grade class at Lamar Elementary School and was carried out by them as well. Principal of Lamar Elementary School, Charles Florence, was a major part of making this project possible.

The Time Capsule was buried in what is now the Edinburg Volunteer Fire Department but formerly known as the Edinburg Municipal Building. The Time Capsule was to be opened fifty years after its burial which would be in the year 2015. Items from Edinburg, Texas were donated to the school to be placed in the Time Capsule. The purpose of the Time Capsule was to show people in the year 2015 a glimpse of what life was like in the year 1965.

Fire Chief, Shawn M. Snider, uncovered the Time Capsule. At the time of the time capsule's removal, Snider explained that remodeling from years past had made the Time Capsule hard to find. A full layer of concrete had to be broken for the time capsule to be found. Once the Time Capsule was found, the surviving students were contacted and invited to attend the Time Capsule's opening ceremony.

The ceremony took place on July 4, 2015. A television crew attended the ceremony along with eight of the surviving students and a group of the general public. Items were spread out on a conference table in the Fire Department as the students helped explain the materials to those attending the ceremony. A letter was found which gave instructions as to what to do with the Time Capsule. The letter explained that the Time Capsule and its remains should be donated to the nearest museum, in which case was the Museum of South Texas History. Only the lid of the time capsule and the contents were kept by the Museum of South Texas History. As for Lamar Elementary School, it has been torn down to make room for an additional medical building in the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains materials pertaining to the Lamar Elementary School Time Capsule Project of 1965. The various materials included give an insight to life in Edinburg, Texas in that year. The materials survived fifty years underground and range from school work from the Lamar Elementary School students to county meeting reports and local newspapers. Some items of note are letters that were sent from and to Charles Florence, principal of Lamar Elementary School; screwworm booklets; emergency survival plans; and *Child Labor Requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act*. In addition to school photographs and other school related materials, the students preserved postcards and maps of Edinburg and Pan-American College. Census rolls found in the time capsule give us more information about the students and families in Edinburg. The students made predictions of the year 2015 to include in the capsule. Businesses in Edinburg in 1965 involved with the time capsule provided their cards. *Life* and *Post*

Lamar Elementary School Time Capsule

1938-1969

Acc. #2015.034 MHMM Archives

magazines were also found along with *U.S. News* and *World Reports* newspapers, a phone book, brochures, flyers, coins, and several posters.

Not all the contents of the time capsule were recovered due to some unexpected pens leaking ink causing some materials to be unrecoverable.

LIST OF SUB-GROUPS, SERIES, AND SUBSERIES

- I. Instructions
- II. Lamar Elementary
- III. Pan-American
- IV. Education
- V. Miscellaneous
- VI. Local Community
- VII. Other Schools
- VIII. School
- IX. Published Materials
 - (i)Magazines
 - (ii)Newspapers
- X. Classroom Posters

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

I. Instructions

The instructions series contains information regarding the Fifth Grade Lamar Elementary School Time Capsule. The instructions mention the purpose of the time capsule and what the wishes of the fifth graders were after it was uncovered. The series also contains newspaper clippings and donation handouts, magazine from which the idea originated, photographs of Lamar Elementary first grade class 1964-1965, student predictions for 2015, scripts for time capsule, reflections on the year 1965, and an interview script of a radio interview.

II. Lamar Elementary

The Lamar Elementary series is composed of items such as *Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Migratory Education project, 1966-1967.* Other contents include a speech given at the "time capsule party," Edinburg CISD attendance from 1961-1962, student-made "Lamar Weekly Review Vol. II May7, 1965," Lamar Elementary field ribbons, physical education lesson plans, survival plan handouts, letters and paperwork relating to Charles J. Florence, Lamar Booster Yearbooks 1959-1965, photographs of 5th grade class 1965. Several pamphlets, newsletters, and magazines from 1965-1966 are also included along with photographs of faculty in 1965, Christmas cards and letters. *The "\$45 for 65" program,* the "Congress of Parents and Teachers," teacher employment papers, and Mrs. Weaver's 5th

II. Pan-American

Pan-American series contains sports brochures, brochures, Fine Arts Festival program, registration form, class catalogs, envelope from Pan-American College, education magazines, home improvement catalogs, and school and political letters. Also found here are *National Defense Education Act* pamphlet, transparency list from 3M Visual Products, Programs Under Title III of the National Defense Education Act of 1958, Elementary School Principals-Official Tours, Annual Meeting News, Report of the Resolutions Committee, 3M Brand Transparency Originals, 3M Brand Visual Products order form, and Annual Meeting 1965 folder.

IV. Education

Education series includes several documents such as a superintendent's office handout to all staff, teacher's self-evaluation checklist, *Implementation of the non-graded school*, letter for migrant budget approval, and E.C.I.S.D- plans for 1984. Other items found in the Education series are Veteran's Day Speech to teachers, *A Study of the Junior High School in Texas; A Project of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals, Letter containing "Leadership Through Creative Administration- E. Paul Torrance*, Board-Superintendent-Staff Relations Panel, duties of the director of athletics, Administrative Guidelines, Letter to Staff referring to vandalism vs. Americanism, Emergency Teaching Permits and Recognition for Minimum Foundation Program Salary Purposes of Degrees from Institutions of Higher Education outside the United States,

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Classroom Control, Project H-E-L-P, letter to Board of Trustees, and Student Personnel Survey, Public Law 80-10. Among these items are also several documents of a religious nature. These include New Testament Psalms Proverbs, 1,000,000 Prayers handout, If Christ Comes Today handout, Something to Hold handout, Being Thankful Make Everything Better booklet, There's one missing! And it's You! postcard, personal bible verses, A Great Sacrifice handout, Let's Get together! postcard, and The Birth of Jesus. Fiesta musical tickets, Texas Public School Week Handout, The March of Dimes Donation Pocket, Seminole Radio Warranty, Answers to 101 Questions about Cancer brochure, Credit for credit card union members brochure, Tornado precautions brochure, This we believe brochure, Jimmy Holcomb Motors One Dollar, Textbook Selection Texas Schools brochure, Okefenokee Swamp Park Brochure, Our 50 by the sixties brochure, What you should know about the National Plan for civil Defense and Defense Mobilization pamphlet, Emergency Sanitation At Home handbook, and Promoting Teacher Ethics in Texas handbook. Several holiday related items can also be found in this collection such as; God Rest You Merry Gentlemen napkin song, Joy to the world napkin song, Edinburg High School Choral Department Annual Christmas Concert program, Christmas Greeting Card, and Christmas Greetings greeting card. A thank you card to Lamar Elementary Faculty and other miscellaneous items that follow can be seen in the series; San Antonio Post Cards, Photograph of The Daily Review Staff, Photograph of officers of Edinburg Junior Service League 1964-1965, Special Student Bowling Card for Sarah Lynn Florence, Special Student Bowling Card for Mike Florence, Texas Education Week for 1965 attendees, Edinburg 4H Club 1964-1965, and Lamar Time Club 1964-1965.

V. Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous items found here include Federal Money For Education: Programs Administered by the U.S. Office of Education, Fiscal Year 1966 poster, Publisher Clearing House Transparency letter to costumer, discount coupons for Publisher Clearing House, Texas with sight-seeing guide road map, Kansas City Carnival Supply Co., INC. wholesale catalog, Dorothy Lou Pickens Day Miss Texas 1966 program, five year program for Capital Improvements 1964-1969. Along with these items it also contains United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural research service November 1962-Questions and Answers about screwworms eradication, Facts About Screwworm Eradication, First State Bank and Trust Co. checkbook, First State Bank and Trust Co. checkbook sleeve, First State Bank and Trust Co. costumer's draft check, Coin wrappers for dimes, pennies, and nickels, \$50 bill strap, automatic coin wrapper strap, Coin and Currency booklet, Gateway jokes, Junior Service League, Inc. Edinburg Texas Annual report 1963-1964, Employee's withholding exemption certificate, No laughing matter...commerce clearing house Inc., City of Edinburg 1963-1964 comparative assessed tax roll value and tax levy, County of Hidalgo Auditor's Annual Report, news YOU can use in your personal planning, Edinburg Pharr-San Juan- Alamo Summer School Pharr, Texas Summer Session June 4 to July 30, 1965.

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VI. Local Community

The Local Community series contains items pertaining to the community of Edinburg in the year 1965. These items include; Jefferson School student roster 1964-1965 1st- 6th grade, recipe for oatmeal cake, *SRA Achievement Series* for language arts, arithmetic, and reading for grades 2-4, and The Centennial Celebration of the Organization of Hidalgo County in Texas December 7-13, 1952 booklet. Some other items in the series include a map of Edinburg, Texas, *Study of drop out over twelve year period 1949-1961*, *World News of The Week Monday 30, 1966* poster, Robert E. Lee School tokens, U.S Mint set coin collection (3), March of dimes donation sleeve, Fiesta Musical-1965 Pajama game, *Assurance of Compliance with the Department of Health Education and Welfare Regulation Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 1965, a thank you letter to W.T. Liston Pipe Company, 1965, <i>What is a boy?* Poem, *What is a girl?* Poem, Harper & Row, Publisher Price List 1966, The Macmillan Company Textbook Price list 1966, and The Macmillan Company foremost publishers of reading and language arts textbooks mailing address.

VII. Other Schools

Materials from other schools included in this series are Edinburg consolidated Independent School District Edinburg, Texas December 14, 1965; meeting of Board of Trustees; Meeting of the Board of Trustees March 9, 1965; letters to Governor Connelly and to the W.T. Liston Pipe Company; Edinburg Public Schools- First Six Weeks Calendar for Days Off & On Roll Slip; Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District student transfer forms; Edinburg-P.S.J.A. summer school forms; Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District six weeks attendance record form; E.C.I.S.D. Edinburg, Texas reporting periods 1965-1966- dated calendar by six weeks periods, The Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas maps, 1961, and *Teacher Shortage* cartoon. Other materials in the series showed an insight into the schools some of which are: Message to all staff members December 3, 1965, Motivational letter to Charles J. Florence from Thomas S. Pickens, Thanksgiving message to all staff members from Thomas S. Pickens, Today's Parody, Retirement Acceptance letter for Mrs. Adeline Dinger, Jefferson School Song, Program booklet for 50th Anniversary Band Concert Presented by Edinburg Senior Band, Interamerican University (Universidad Interamericana) flyers, Class assignments, Texas public School Week bookmark handouts, 64 significant facts about Texas Public Schools, Reading conference brochure, Edinburg School System Brochure, The Struggle To Be Free booklet, Message from Mr. Pickens to Mr. Florence, School Programs for Educationally Deprived Children Booklet, Faculty Directory 1965-1966, Texas Classroom Teachers Association with the Texas Education Agency Present a Regional Drive in Conference booklet, Garner State Park Information, The Case Against Merit Pay article, Faculty directory 1964-1965, Letter to Charles Florence from C.E. McArver, Letter to Charles Florence from Frank Kidd and envelope, Thank You note to Charles Florence from Mr. Keaton, Copy of *Migrant Program Details* for 1964-1965 to Dr. Leon R. Graham from T.S. Pickens, Copy of *Migrant Program* attendance from A.R. Ramirez to Jack McIntosh, Student photographs, Agriculture and the Child Labor requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act, Project OPPORTUNITY for Educationally Disadvantaged Children and for Teacher's Dedicated to Improvement of Educational Service to Them,

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The Steck company order blank and envelope, The Steck Company Catalog 1964-1965, Steck-Vaughn Company Envelope.

VIII. School

The School series contains Laughter is the best Medicine Reader's Digest, Reader's Digest May 1966, Reader's Digest September 1966, The Third Grade 3.2 Class Presents Texas Education Week at Jefferson School March 2-6, 1965, Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District Edinburg, Texas Six-Year Old Census 1965-1966, Adopted Policies and Regulations of the Board of Trustees, School Accident Protection Plan, Parent's Handbook Jefferson School, How Your Child Learns To Read A Primer for Parents, How to improve the teaching of reading, Letter to parents and patrons of the Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District form Thomas S. Pickens August 10,1966, Letter to parents from Charles J. Florence, Letter from Thomas S. Pickens to parents, photograph of staff of the school and city Tax Department May 1965, letter to the citizens of Edinburg and the Rio Grande Valley in the year A.D. 2015 from staff of the school and City Tax Department , 1963-1964 Comparative Assessed Tax Roll Value and Tax Levy, Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association sticker, Jefferson School spirit flags.

IX. Published Materials

The Published Materials series contains popular magazines 1965-1966, and Newspapers 1952-1965.

X. Classroom

The classroom series contains the alphabet poster cards, and a portrait of President John F. Kennedy.

INDEX TERMS

Edinburg, Texas 1965 Florence, Charles, 1919-? Lamar Elementary School, 1965 Time capsules

CONTAINER LIST

Stack Location	Box	Folder(s)	Contents (with dates)
B:28	RGDOC 800	1	Instructions, 1966
		2	Items For Time Capsule Wanted, 1965
		3	The Texas Outlook, 1965
		4	First Grade Class, 1964-1965
		5	Mrs. Weaver's Class Predictions for 2015, 1965
		6	Time Capsule Scripts, 1965
		7	Mrs. Guelker Class Predictions for 2015, 1965
		8	1965 In The Eyes of Mrs. Guelker's 5 th Grade Class, 1965
		9	Interview at KURV Radio Station, 1965
B:28	RGDOC 801	1	Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Migratory Education Project, 1966-1967
		2	Time Capsule Ceremonies, 1967
		3	Edinburg CISD Attendance, 1961-1962
		4	Lamar Weekly Review Volume II,1965
		5	Lamar School Field Day Ribbons, 1965
		6	Education, 1961-1965
		7	Education Plan, 1959
		8	Charles J. Florence, 1938-1966
		9	Lamar Yearbooks, 1959-1965
		10	Classes of Lamar Elementary School, 1965
		11	Pamphlets, Newsletters and Magazines, 1965-1966
		12	Child Development, 1956-1958
		13	Lamar School Faculty, 1965
		14	Christmas, 1964
		15	The 45 for '65 program, 1965
		16	Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers , 1965
		17	Teacher Employment, 1964-1965
		18	Mrs. Weaver's 5 th Grade (5.1) Class Autobiographies, 1965
B:28	RGDOC 802	1	Pan-Am College Sports, 1965
		2	Pan-Am college Brochures, Undated
		3	Pan-Am College Division of Teacher Education, 1965
		4	Pan-Am College Fine Arts Festival, 1965

		5	Pan-Am College Registration Forms, Undated
		6	Class Catalogs, 1964-1965
		7	Envelope From Pan American College, 1965
		8	Educational Magazines, 1965-1966
		9	Home Improvement, 1965
		10	School/ politics Letters, 1962-1965
		11	Department of Elementary School Principals Annual meeting 1965, 19658-1965
B:28	RGDOC 803	1	School Policies, Letters and Staff Surveys, 1963
		2	Church, 1951-1965
		3	Brochures and Handouts, 1958-1965
		4	Christmas, 1965
		5	Letters and Thank You Notes to Lamar Elementary, 1965
		6	San Antonio Postcards, Undated
		7	The Daily Review, 1963
		8	Edinburg Junior Service, 1964-1965
		9	Student Involvement, 1964-1965
B:28	RGDOC 804	1	Federal Money For Education: Programs Administered by the U.S. Office of Education, Fiscal Year 1966
		2	Publishers Clearing House, 1966
		3	Texas with Sight-seeing Guide (Enco) Map, 1961
		4	Kansas City Carnival Supply Wholesale Catalog, 1966-1967
		5	Dorothy Lou Pickens Day, 1966
		6	Five Year Plan For Capital Improvements 1964- 1969
		7	Screwworm Eradication, 1962-1963
		8	First National Bank and Bank Accessories, Undated
		9	Coins and Currency, Undated
		10	Gateway Printing Jokes, Undated
		11	Taxes: Annual Reports/ Forms and Handouts, 19659-1966
		12	Summer School, 1964-1965
B:27	RGDOC 805	1	Jefferson School Students, 1964-1965
		2	Recipe- Oatmeal Cake, Undated
		3	SRA Achievement Series Grades 2-4 Form A, 1955
		4	The Central Celebration of the Organization of Hidalgo County in Texas December 7-13,1952

		5	Edinburg Map, Undated
		6	Study of Drop Outs, 1949-1961
		7	World News of the Week Classroom Poster Elementary Edition Monday, May 30, 1966
		8	Coin Collection, 1964-1965
		9	Ephemera: March of Dimes Fundraiser Card & Fiesta Musicals, 1965
		10	Assurance of Compliance with the Department of Health Education and Welfare Regulation Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 1965
		11	Thank You Letter to W.T. Liston Pipe Company, 1965
		12	What is a Poems, Undated
		13	Price List for Books, 1966
B:19	RGDOC 806	1	Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District Edinburg, Texas Meeting of the Board of Trustees December 14, 1965
		2	Edinburg Consolidated Independent School District Edinburg, Texas Meeting of the Board of Trustees March 9, 1965
		3	Letters to Governor Connally and W.T. Liston Pipe Company Regarding Time Capsule, 1965
		4	School Forms, 1964-1966
		5	District Maps of The Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, 1961
		6	Proverbs and Motivational Letters , 1961-1965
		7	Letter to Adilane Dinger, 1965
		8	Jefferson School Song and Edinburg Senior Band, 1965
		9	Interamerican University, 1966-1967
		10	Class Assignments, 1965
_		11	Brochures, Newsletters and Pamphlets,1964
		12	Letters to Charles Florence, 1964
		13	Migrant Program Details, 1964-1965
		14	Photographs of unidentified students, undated
		15	Agriculture and child labor Requirements, 1962
		16	Project Opportunity for Educationally Disadvantaged Children and Teachers Dedicated to
		17	Improvement of Educational Service, 1965
B:25	RGDOC 807	17 1	Book Catalog, 1964-1965 Reader's Digest, 1962-1966
D.23	MODOC 807	1	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1

		2	Texas Education Week at Jefferson,1965
		3	Six-year-Old Census, 1965-1966
		4	Adopted Policies and Regulations of the Board of Trustees, 1963
		5	For Parents, 1965-1966
		6	School and City Tax Department, 1963-1965
		7	Jefferson School Spirit, 1965
B:21	RGDOC 808		Newsweek, January 11, 1965
			Newsweek, January 18. 1965
			Newsweek, February 1, 1965
			Newsweek, December 27, 1965
			U.S. News & World Report, January 25, 1965
			U.S. News & World Report, January 24,1966
			U.S. News & World Report, April 11, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, April 18, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, May 2, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, May 16, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, July 4,1966
			U.S. News & World Report, July 11, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, July 25,1966
			U.S. News & World Report, August 1, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, August 8, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, August 15, 1966
			U.S. News & World Report, August 22, 1966
	RGDOC 809		Popular Mechanics, June 1966
			16mm Sound Film,1967
			Hoover's, 1965-1966
	`		Hoover's, 1965-1966
			American Handicrafts Company Holiday Selection, 1965-1966
			American Handicrafts Company, 1966
			TV and Movie Screen, 1966
			Program Aids, 1966
			Southern Education Report, 1966
B:21	RGDOC 810		Milway Catalog, 1966
			Montgomery Ward, 1966
	RGDOC 811		Piper Apache, Undated

	LIFE Magazine, 1965
	LIFE Magazine, January 29, 1965
	LIFE Magazine, February 5, 1965
	LIFE Magazine, February 5, 1965
	LIFE Magazine, August 5, 1966
	LIFE Magazine, August 12, 1966
	LIFE Magazine, July 8, 1966
	LIFE Magazine, July 22, 1966
	LIFE Magazine, July 26, 1966
	LIFE Magazine, January 21, 1966
	LIFE Magazine, July 15, 1966
	POST Magazine, March 26, 1966
	POST Magazine, July 16, 1966
	POST Magazine, July 30, 1966
	POST Magazine, August 13, 1966
	POST Magazine, August 27, 1966
RGDOC 812	Terry Ferris Store Catalog, Undated
	Electronic Equipment and Engineering Co. Catalog, Undated
	Newspaper Article Best Teachers Named Monday, Undated
	Newspaper Article Elementary Schools' Reading Labs Arrive, Undated
	Electronic Equipment & Engineering Co. Christmas
	Catalog, Undated
	The Daily Review, December 7, 1952
	SRA Insight, Fall 1961
	1964
	1965
RGDOC 813	Manuscript Wall Cards For Classroom Display (Alphabet)
	Portrait of John F. Kennedy