Guide

HATTIE GRACE ELLIOTT PAPERS
1912-1996 & undated

Manuscript Collection E46

Archives of the Big Bend
Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library
Sui Ross State University
Alpine, Texas
The Hattie Grace Elliott Papers were acquired in part from Hattie Grace Elliott, in part from the Estate Sale in 1997 and in part as a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Houston in 1999. The collection includes correspondence and business records of Hattie Grace Elliott, her husband Dave Elliott, her mother Irene Peters and brother Oscar, photographs, and savings materials.

Hattie Grace Elliott was born August 20, 1905 in Capitan, NM. When her father, George A. Peter, died, her mother, Irene Rogers Peters, brought her four young children and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rogers, to Alpine, Texas. Irene Peters taught fourth grade in Alpine for a number of years, after which she was employed in the Brewster County tax office by Sheriff E. E. Townsend [term 1918-1924] and then developed a private tax practice. Mrs. Peters also took in boarders to help support her family.

After graduating from tenth grade in 1922, Hattie Grace attended Sui Ross State Normal College for a year and a summer, completing her teaching certificate. For the 1923-1924 school year, she and her longtime friend Grace Covey, later Carter, taught at the Perry School in Terlingua, a position she got with the help of Sheriff E. E. Townsend. In the fall of 1924, Hattie Grace Peters married David Requa Elliott [1902?-1981] and moved to Tampico, Mexico where he was an accountant with Mexican Sinclair Petroleum Company.

In 1929, the Elliotts returned to Alpine and Hattie Grace opened a beauty shop in the back of their home, which supported them through some economic reverses during the Depression years. The Day Book [Box 7], which began as a ledger of the Alpine Independent School District for the years 1916-1921, ends with records of Hattie Grace's Beauty Shop, 1933-1936. These records include a barter account showing hairdos entered in payment for cream and eggs.

In 1943, she closed her beauty shop and the Elliotts returned to Mexico, where Dave Elliott worked for the Farm Labor Transportation Program of the Department of Agriculture “to assist in the selection and transportation of Mexican agricultural workers to the United States” during the war. That venture was cut short by the death of Irene Peters in Alpine in the fall of 1943, after which they returned to Alpine to stay. Dave Elliott worked at the Beard and Elliott Chevron/Standard Station with T. A. Beard and Norman Beard until his retirement.

The collection is rich in photographs which add to our understanding of the Papers and serve to illustrate Hattie Grace Elliott’s oral history interviews, which the researcher will want to study in connection with the papers. In the photographs are images of neighbors and lifelong friends like the Townsends, the Hectors, and the Hords; school days in Alpine and Terlingua, Texas in the early days of the twentieth century; events in Tampico, Mexico in the 1920s; and numerous fishing and camping trips.

HATTIE GRACE ELLIOTT PAPERS

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is housed in acid-free folders and sleeves in three document boxes, four photo album boxes, and one oversize box. Folders [f = folder] are numbered consecutively throughout.

Arrangement and description by Gaylan Corbin, Archival Assistant, Spring 1999.

Melleta Bell, Archivist.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES


   Mother: Irene Rogers Peters
   Father: George A. Peter [this is correct; the family name was changed]
   Brothers: Oscar Peters, George Peters, Andrew Peters
   Aunt(s): Ida Parker, Ida (Mrs. Tom) Newton [same person?]
   Cousin: Mabel Newton Hamilton
   Niece: Esther Grace Peters Houston (daughter of George)

2. David Requa Elliott, 1902?-1981

   Brother: Hamilton Elliott
   Nephews Harold (married Bertha?) & Joseph
   Sisters: Mrs. George Bless [Laura?]
   Elizabeth Jean Elliott (Mrs. Lowie) Ritchey
   Mrs. D. N. Hendricks 19??-1969

3. Aunts [from photograph identifications, associations not clear]

   Aunt Elizabeth Daugherty
   Auntie Beebe
   Aunt Mary [mother of Catherine, grandmother of Mary Kay (Mrs. Don Monrad)]

   See Casey f. 682 “Diary of Irene Rogers” student paper by Benny Jones
Hattie Grace Elliott

F.1 Correspondence, 1938-1995 & undated
F.2 Christmas Greetings: A-D [List of names at end of guide]
F.3 Christmas Greetings: E-M [List of names at end of guide]
F.4 Christmas Greetings: N-Z [List of names at end of guide]
F.5 Annotated Calendars, 1940, 1957-1959
F.6 Bank Statements, 1942
F.7 Household records, 1938-1957 & undated
F.8 Hattie Grace’s Beauty Shop, 1929-1943 & undated

F.9 Presbyterian Church, 1917-1964 & undated
David R. Elliott

F.11 Dave Elliott's speller, 1912
F.12 Mexico, 1926-1978 & undated
F.13 Dave Elliott: WWII, 1942-1944
F.14 Tampiqueno Club, 1954, 1966 & undated
F.15 Dave Elliott: Personal Papers, 1933-1965 & undated
F.16 Dave Elliott: Oil Business, 1948 & undated
includes photographs of 26\textsuperscript{th} Annual Conference of the National Association of Independent Tire Dealers, 1946 [OS]
F.17 Dave Elliott: The [San Esteban] Lake Club, 1944-1946
F.18 Big Bend National Park, 1943-1955 & undated
F.19 Recreation
F.20 Index to Topographical Maps of Texas
Irene and Oscar Peters

F.21 Irene Peters: Personal Papers, 1920-1943
F.22 Oscar Peters's Spanish Workbook, undated
F.23 Irene Peters: Tax Receipts, 1912-1933
F.24 Daybook, "Irene Peters, 1922" on cover with one page of figures, dated 1941 (1) and [blank] Ledger, 1926 (1)
F.25 List of Tax Judgments
F.26 Irene Peters: Land Documents, 1929-1946
F.27 Insurance, 1928-1941
F.28 Oscar Peters: Carpentry Jobs, 1928-1930
F.29 Irene Peters: Bank Statements 1941-42
F.30 Sympathy: Death of Irene Peters, 1943
Memorabilia and Reference

F.31       Poetry/Songs saved
F.32       "To My Sister" greeting
F.33       Newspaper Clippings/Obituaries, 1948-1994
F.34       Accounts of Early-Day Alpine, 1981 & 1983
F.35       Alpine Schools, 1916-1932
F.36       Sui Ross, 1937-1989
F.37       Business Advertising, 193?-1964 & undated
F.38       Ideal [perpetual] Calendar
F.39       Savings Material
F.40       Unity School of Christianity Literature & Related Material, 1930-1956
F.41       Peters/Elliott Library
PH BoxA  Photographs: School days, Mexico, Alpine

This album begins with a group of photographs of Alpine public school classes between 1909 and 1918 while Irene Peters, mother of Hattie Grace Elliott, was a teacher and/or while Hattie Grace and her brothers were in school. The group ends with a few images related to Sui Ross State Teachers College.

The second group records Hattie Grace's teaching year in Terlingua with photographs of Hattie Grace and fellow teachers, including Mrs. Cox and Grace Covey, the pupils and Perry School at Terlingua, Texas, followed by views of Santa Elena and Castolon, "cute soldiers," Bob Summerall and anoUfer Texas Ranger, and groups on outings in the area.

Next is a group of photographs of Mexico, primarily Tampico, where Hattie Grace lived from the time of her marriage to Dave Elliott in 1924 to 1929, when they returned to Alpine. This series includes Tampico friends, the construction of Tank 211 at Vinas Terminal, and the Amatlan fire.

The final group in this album includes views of Alpine, the Elliott and Peters houses on Holland Avenue, snow scenes, candids of Hattie Grace and other hairdressers, Dave Elliott at the Beard and Elliott station, the Elliotts at social events.
PH Box B   Photographs: Trans-Pecos, Davis Mountains & Big Bend

A note in with the photographs, but no longer clearly associated with a certain group, once identified "mostly pictures of Mr Townsend's which he gave mama." In this album, the arranger has grouped the photographs most likely to be those from Townsend: photographs of E. E. Townsend and family members, photographs with inscriptions or numbers in E. E. Townsend's hand, and photographs related by subject matter or type.

In this album are photographs of Margaret Townsend's birthplace in Presidio, Shafter, scenes along the Rio Grande, Santa Elena Canyon, Castolon, a candelilla wax factory, the Graef farm [Hovey, TX?], two unidentified cemeteries, Indian Lodge, Paisano Pass, Mitre Peak, Garden of the Gods, [Jordan Marble Quarry outside Alpine?], other local sights, and a series of hunting and fishing scenes, possibly connected with Thomas Skaggs, owner of the trading post at Lajitas and friend of Townsend’s.

Among those pictured are E. E. Townsend, Alice Townsend, Margaret Townsend [Hudgins], Philip F. Hudgins, Philip Townsend Hudgins, Irene Peters, Thomas Skaggs, Lte. Coronel Alfredo A. Castillon, Coronel Octavio Galindo, and M.A. Adams, Supt. of Elsinore Cattle Co.
PH Box C  Photographs: People

Grouped in this album are snapshots of friends, family, neighbors, and social events, including a series of camping trips with Berry and Lorraine Wilson, Walter and Emmy Lou Bradshaw, and Alonzo and Ethel (Et) Hord. Others appearing are the Pegg family; the Wells family; Lottie Laxon; Reginald and Frank Votaw; Geneva Duderstodt; Grace and Sydney Hillyard; June, Cricket, T. B., Patricia Larremore; Marie Seidenstricker; Auntie Beebe; Aunt Elizabeth Daugherty; Mrs. Fink; Mary Olive Hector [Flagg]; Rufus and Anna Maje Hector Kessler; Bill, Lila, J. W., Evalee Campbell; Murray Greenwood, son of Bev Greenwood; Kitten Shults; Caddo Mills baseball team; Billy and Marjorie Vest; Nellie Litchfield; Lucille Henderson; J. C. Cooley; Bill, Gladys, Betty, and Sally Duncan; Burwell, Catherine, and Bill Boudreaux; Dave Sublett; Bryan Wildenthal.

Places pictured include Pikes Peak; Beard's Hunting Lodge; Burnt House; Rio Grande; the Berry Wilson neighborhood in Detroit, Michigan; San Esteban Lake, south of Marfa; Chama, NM.

PH Box D  Photographs: People (Cardboard Mounts/Special Formats)

Includes several unidentified babies, one a tintype; "Aunt Mary's" granddaughter Mary Kay (Mrs. Don Monrad); Ruby Willis, boarder with the Peters family; Eddie Cox; Robert (Bob) Summerall, Texas Ranger; Polly Bierschwale (Mrs. Travis) Roberts; schoolteacher Grace Covey and husband Leslie Carter; Jan McEntire; Brewster County Sheriff Clarence Hord.

Sui Ross Brands, 1931 & 1933 (on shelf after Ph Boxes)

(be belonged to Fred Williams, given to HGE by "Fritz Bill")

OS Box  Oversize Materials

Day Book [folder 8]
Photographs (2) of 26th Annual Conference of National Association of Independent Tire Dealers, 1946 [folder 16]
Envelope with HGE notations
Christmas Cards

Alpine Lumber Company
Alpine Mercantile Company
Alpine Veterinary Clinic (Paul R. Weyerts, DVM)

Barnett, Nellie, Charlotte Jean and Ernest
Bayer, Gladys
Beard, Mr. and Mrs. T.A. & Barbara
Bishop, Mary Eunice
Bless, Mr. and Mrs. G.A.
Bonner, F.J.
Boudreauxs, The (Burwell & Catheryn & the boys)
Boudreauxs, The B. B.
Bounds, B.B.
Bows, The (2)
Bowers, Mr. and Mrs. Earl
Brewster County Motors
Brown, Eula
Bruton, Hazel
Bryson, Norman W. (2)
Burleson, Mr. and Mrs. 0.0. (0. D., Leona, Don, Mary Ann)

Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Leslie A. (2) [Grace Covey]
Cash, Minnie D. and Lewis
Chaffin, Bonnie (2)
Chaffin, Lucille (2)
Chaffin, Mrs. David and Daughters
Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. George W.
Clifford, Mr. and Mrs. N.M.
Coleman, Alyce Rose (2, one with Rose Winnette)
Corkran, Ford and Grace
Cotter, Bill and Eulalia
Cross, Margie and Jack

Davis, Mr. and Mrs. T.B.

English, Ade
Eppenauer, Genevieve

Faris, Leona and Bill (El Vado Ranch)
Fiedler, Leola, La Vera and Wallace
Finch, T.A.
French, Mrs.
Frys, The
Funk, Mrs. D.L. (2)
**Christmas Cards**

Garnett, Bertha  
Gilmer, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. (4, one with Jesse B.)  
Girdwood, Mr. and Mrs. David  
Goldsmiths, Hollis, Bess, and Marie  
Gourley, Mr. and Mrs. W.N.

Hannold, Bill and Edith  
Hannold, Edith  
Hardin, Ethel  
Henderson, Walter and Lucille  
Henderson, Lucille and Walter  
Hess, Claude and Katie  
Highland Flower Shop  
Hord, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Jr.  
Hord, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence (2)  
Huffaker, Mrs., Mellie & Bennie Mae  
Huffaker, Mother  
Hunter, Charles Family (Kenny, Mike, Ronny & Susan pictured)

Jennings, Frances  
John Bolander Co.

Kempen, Lucille  
Kessler, Rufus, Anna Maje and Rudy  
Kessler, The Trio  
Kokernot, Catherine and Lee  
Kunze, Maude H.

LaBeff, Mr. and Mrs. H. C.  
LaBeffs, The  
Larremore, Mr. and Mrs. Ted  
Lewis, Mr. and Mrs.  
Low, Maiden
Christmas Cards

McCollum, Arleen, Frank and Lee
McCollums, The F. L.
McCool, Mab
McGinley, Mr. and Mrs. D.H. & Deweylou
Maxey, Edna H. (3)
Merrell, Milton and Caroline
Moore, Mrs. and Russell & Mrs. Whitfield
Moore, Mrs. and Ruth W. [Whitfield?]
Moore, M.
Morris, Alice Mae
Murray, Mr. and Mrs. A.A.

Nail, Ethel M.
Neville, Joyce
Newman, Eunice and Jess
Newman, Verna and Henry
Nixon-Starnes Motor Company
Nutt, Mrs. Sam

Osborn, Ruth E.

Phelps, Mrs. Lilly, Jack & Anna Dee

Reid, Lou and Knox
Ritchey, Elizabeth and Lowie (2)
Ritchey, Mr. and Mrs. Lowie Clinton (2)
Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar (3)
Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Fred S.
Rolison, Mack

Seidenstricker, Marie
Shults, Kitten and Carl
Slight, Mr. and Mrs. Bernal
Sloan, Marbeth and Swede (2)
Smith, Mrs. G.P.
Smiths, The Joe
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. L.
Smith, Minyard and Cecil
Stambaugh, Mr. and Mrs. A.R.
Stambaugh, The
Starns, The
Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wallace
Sullins, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth
Christmas Cards

Teske, Mr. and Mrs. W.G.
Thompson, Genevieve et al.
Townsend, E.E. and Alice
Townsend, The
Townsend, E. E. and Ada Blocker

Vests, The Billy (2)

Waggoner, B.J.
Wassermans, The Ben
Watsons, The (2)
Weyerts, Margaret
Whiteside, Roy and Adeline
Wilson, The Berry
Winter Cleaners
Wright, Joel E.
Young, Mrs. Charles
Zants, The (Joe, Juanita & Cliff)

], Arthur and Recia [Rena?] ]
], Earline, Orville, and Girls ]
], Campbell, Eckie and Girls ]
], Murray, Alma and Jackie