

Descriptive Summary:

Creator:	William Maury Darst, Robert Hodges Jr., M.D. Anderson Hospital
Title:	William Maury Darst Papers
Inclusive Dates:	1894-1973, undated
Bulk Dates:	1973, undated
Abstract:	The William Maury Darst Papers consist of manuscripts collected from 1894-1973. These papers contain literary productions and photographic materials, with essays, notes, slides, and other printed materials.
Accession #:	0594
Extent:	0.9 linear feet (2 boxes)
Language:	Collection is in English.
Repository:	The Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

Biographical Note:

The William Maury Darst Papers include essays, slides, notes, and other printed materials. Assembled by William Maury Darst, a professor at Galveston College, the collection reflects his historical research interests and medical work in the state of Texas.

Though very little is known about Darst, he was a professor at Galveston College at some point, probably in the 1970s, since most of his professional work dates from then. He must have been a prolific scholar, since he authored three entries in the Handbook of Texas Online and placed collections in both the Texas Collection and Rosenberg Library.

His two essays in this collection focus on a Confederate soldier in the American Civil War and Galveston's role in railway medicine. The Civil War essay was built around Hodges' letters home to his family. Transcriptions of these letters are included in the collection.

The subject of Darst's Civil War essay, Robert Hodges Jr., was a Confederate sergeant in Company H, 8th Texas Cavalry and later a lieutenant in Company F, 24th Texas Cavalry. Hodges survived the war, lived in Bellville, Texas, and raised cattle. He received a pension from the state of Texas. In 1905, Robert Hodges, Jr. died at 67 years old, and was buried in Snake Creek Cemetery, near Needville, Fort Bend County, Texas.

The Galveston medical essay was read at a symposium in M.D. Anderson Hospital. In this essay, Darst wrote about the 7th annual convention of the National Association of Railway Surgeons, who met at Galveston in 1894. The essay continues with a history of different rail lines that built to Galveston, focusing on the medical work needed while building such lines. Not until the 1920s did railroad safety become a priority, as more medical graduates began to take notice of the lax railroad safety standards.

Darst's transcriptions of rare Trans-Mississippi Confederate letters and work on Galveston railroad medicine are valuable items from his life and work. As a charter faculty member of Galveston College, he was well positioned to make a difference in local historical work. He was apparently well thought of at the college, because the school still awards two \$500 scholarships from money the faculty raised in memory of him.

Sources:

Galveston College. "Scholarship Options."

<http://www.gc.edu/gc/Scholarships.asp?SnID=5>. Accessed 2011 August 16.

The American Civil War Research Database. "Soldier Data: Robert Hodges."

<http://asp6new.alexanderstreet.com/cwdb/cwdb.object.details.aspx?handle=person&id=200667193>. Accessed 2011 August 16.

Scope and Content:

The William Maury Darst Papers were acquired by gift in two separate transactions from William Maury Darst. The initial gift of pamphlets, photographic material, and literary productions was given 1974 March 1. The second gift, also from William Maury Darst Papers, was of slides of county courthouses and railroad depots. This second gift was given on 1975 April 1.

The collection begins in 1894 and ends in 1973. Records include literary productions and photographic materials. A list of the courthouses and railroads is available in the collection and control file.

Organization and Arrangement:

The William Maury Darst Papers are arranged in 2 series: I. Literary Productions and II. Photographic Materials.

Restrictions: The collection is open for research.

Literary Rights Statement:

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator (s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

All requests for copying of materials must be submitted to The Texas Collection in writing. Please use the Request Form for Copying Materials sheet.

Index Terms:

Confederate States of America--Social conditions.

Medicine--Texas.

Soldiers--Texas--Biography.

Soldiers--Texas--Correspondence.

Texas--Medical affairs.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Cavalry operations.

West (U.S.)--Transportation--Railroads.

Related Materials: None.

Separated Materials: None.

Custodial History:

Acquisition:	Collection was acquired in two separate gifts in 1974 and 1975. Gift of William Maury Darst, 1974 March 1. Gift of William Maury Darst, 1975 April 1.
Citation:	William Maury Darst Papers, Accession #0594, Box #, Folder #, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

Processing Information: Finding aid completed by Paul Fisher, 2011 August 8.

Container List:**Series I. Literary Productions, 1894-1973, undated, 0.9 linear feet (2 document boxes).**

Series includes pamphlets, two essays, and a few supporting notes. The essays are on a soldier from the Tran-Mississippi area in the American Civil War, and the other is on Galveston's medical school advancing railway medicine. The series is in excellent condition.

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
1	1	Literary: General	1969-1974
	2	Literary: Printed Material: Galveston Hospital Association: Rules and Regulations: (1 of 2)	1944
	3	Literary: Printed Material: Galveston Hospital Association: Rules and Regulations: (2 of 2)	1944
	4	Literary: Printed Material: Galveston Hospital Association: Rules and Benefits	1972
	5	Literary: Printed Materials: M.D. Anderson Hospital	1973
	6	Literary: Pamphlets: M.D. Anderson Hospital	1973, undated
	7	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (1 of 9)	undated
	8	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (2 of 9)	undated
	9	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (3 of 9)	undated
	10	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (4 of 9)	undated

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
1	11	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (5 of 9)	undated
2	1	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (6 of 9)	undated
	2	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (7 of 9)	undated
	3	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (8 of 9)	undated
	4	Literary: Essays: "Robert Hodges, Jr.: Confederate Soldier": (9 of 9)	undated
	5	Literary: Essays: "Galveston's Contributions to Railway Medicine": (1 of 3)	1973
	6	Literary: Essays: "Galveston's Contributions to Railway Medicine": (2 of 3)	1973
	7	Literary: Essays: "Galveston's Contributions to Railway Medicine": (3 of 3)	1973
	8	Literary: Notes: Railway Medicine (1 of 4)	1894-1973, undated
	9	Literary: Notes: Railway Medicine (2 of 4)	1894-1973, undated
	10	Literary: Notes: Railway Medicine (3 of 4)	1894-1973, undated
	11	Literary: Notes: Railway Medicine (4 of 4)	1894-1973, undated

Series II. Photographic Materials, undated, 1 folder.

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BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
2	12	Photographic: Slides	undated