

Descriptive Summary:

Creator:	Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution
Title:	[Waco] Daughters of the American Revolution: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter Collection
Inclusive Dates:	1956-2002, undated
Bulk Dates:	1977-2002
Abstract:	The [Waco] Daughters of the American Revolution: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter Collection contains materials concerning the organization's activities in the McLennan County area. These include minutes, scrapbooks, video tapes, yearbooks, programs, clippings, handbooks, and directories.
Accession #:	3481
Extent:	9.175 linear feet (9 document boxes and 3 oversized boxes)
Language:	Collection is in English.
Repository:	The Texas Collection, Baylor University, Waco, Texas.

Biographical Note:

The 1890s were a time of heightened patriotism, with many all-male fraternities celebrating an individual's ancestors who had fought in the American Revolution. Women were often excluded from this opportunity to celebrate one's lineage and patriotism. On 1890 October 11, a group of women banded together in Washington, D.C. to counter such exclusion. They formed the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR). The NSDAR had a three-fold mission of educating the public, historic preservation, and open displays of patriotism. Since its inception, the NSDAR has welcomed over 800,000 members into its ranks.

The popularity of the NSDAR quickly spread across the nation. On 1901 December 5, Mrs. Josie Downs Marshall and fourteen other charter members from McLennan County founded the Henry Downs Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Henry Downs was famous for having signed the Mecklenburg Declaration (1775). This declaration has stirred heated controversy in scholarly circles. Its signers from Charlotte, North Carolina, claimed that it was the first declaration of independence crafted in the original thirteen colonies.

Officers in the Henry Downs Chapter were quite particular concerning those whom they granted membership. Applicants had to be women of eighteen years of age or older who could trace their lineage to a Revolutionary War ancestor. In addition to these genealogical requirements, potential inductees had to exhibit strong moral character as well. The group, in addition to focusing on the three-fold mission of the national organization, was very involved within the local community.

For much of the twentieth century, the Henry Downs Chapter enjoyed relative success and growth. In 1976, as part of a bicentennial project conducted by the chapter, Sara Evans and Urena Johnson sought to create a new chapter of the DAR. One of the primary reasons for this course of action was the difficulty young mothers had in attending the meetings of the Henry Downs Chapter, which had always been held in the afternoon or evenings. Evans and Johnson were able to recruit the thirty-six members necessary in order to start a new chapter. On 1976 October 15, these women met in an

organizational meeting with the purpose of forging a new group: the Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter.

Elizabeth Gordon Bradley was the name chosen for this particular chapter for two reasons. First of all, the NSDAR encouraged new groups in the 1970s to name their chapters after influential females from the Revolutionary period. It was also fitting because this was the ancestor of Sara Evans.

Elizabeth Gordon, the heroine that this group celebrates, was born in Williamsburg Township, South Carolina, on 1730 May 4. In 1750, she married a landowner named Samuel Bradley. The couple openly supported the break from Great Britain. After Samuel's death in 1778, Elizabeth continued to aid the cause of the Revolution by making clothes and preparing food for the soldiers as well as conducting a makeshift hospital at her home.

Sources:

"About DAR." Available at <http://www.dar.org/natsociety/history.cfm>. Accessed 2012 May 16.

"Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter NSDAR." Available at <http://www.texasdar.org/chapters/ElizabethGordonBradley/>. Accessed 2012 May 16.

Johnson, Mrs. Hubert. "Daughters of the American Revolution, Henry Downs Chapter." In *The Handbook of Waco and McLennan County, Texas*. Ed. Dayton Kelley. Waco: Texian Press, 1972.

Scope and Content:

The chronology of the collection ranges from 1956 to 2002, but the bulk of the materials do not predate the mid-1970s. It was during this time, in 1976, that the Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter broke away from the Henry Downs Chapter of the NSDAR. There is a wide range of materials found within the collection. These include minutes from the chapter's inception to the time that the collection was donated (2002), five scrapbooks filled with photographs and certificates, yearbooks, video tapes, newspaper clippings, handbooks, directories, and other printed materials pertaining to the creation and running of the Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter.

Organization and Arrangement:

This collection, prior to processing, was well-maintained and well-organized. Similar materials were already grouped together. However, it had not been processed. Currently the collection is organized into four series: I. Minutes, II. Literary Productions, III. Audio/Visual, and IV. Scrapbooks. The materials in Series I. have been arranged chronologically. The remainder of the collection is organized alphabetically by type of material.

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:

Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter. National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Daughters of the American Revolution.

Daughters of the American Revolution -- History.

United States -- History -- Revolution.

Related Materials:

[Waco] Daughters of the American Revolution: Henry Downs Chapter, #2108.

Separated Materials: According to the control file, the Texas Society, Daughters of the American Revolution Conference Proceedings were transferred to the library division of The Texas Collection in 2002.

Custodial History:

Acquisition:	This collection was given as a gift in 2002. Gift from Regent Martha Akins, 2002 May 2.
Citation:	[Waco] Daughters of the American Revolution: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter Collection, Accession #3481, Box #, Folder #, The Texas Collection, Baylor University.

Processing Information: Finding aid completed by Thomas A. DeShong, 2012 May 16.

Container List:

Series I: Minutes, 1979-2001, 0.9 linear feet (2 document boxes).

The following series is comprised of folders containing the official minutes of the Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. These papers reveal information such as the election of officers, special luncheons or events, guest speakers, and the financial contributions of the chapter's members. The materials are in excellent condition.

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
1	1	Minutes: General: (1 of 21)	1979-1994
	2	Minutes: General: (2 of 21)	1979-1994

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
1	3	Minutes: General: (3 of 21)	1979-1994
	4	Minutes: General: (4 of 21)	1979-1994
	5	Minutes: General: (5 of 21)	1979-1994
	6	Minutes: General: (6 of 21)	1979-1994
	7	Minutes: General: (7 of 21)	1979-1994
	8	Minutes: General: (8 of 21)	1979-1994
	9	Minutes: General: (9 of 21)	1979-1994
	10	Minutes: General: (10 of 21)	1979-1994
	11	Minutes: General: (11 of 21)	1979-1994
	12	Minutes: General: (12 of 21)	1979-1994
	13	Minutes: General: (13 of 21)	1979-1994
	14	Minutes: General: (14 of 21)	1979-1994
	15	Minutes: General: (15 of 21)	1979-1994
	16	Minutes: General: (16 of 21)	1979-1994
	17	Minutes: General: (17 of 21)	1979-1994
	18	Minutes: General: (18 of 21)	1979-1994
	19	Minutes: General: (19 of 21)	1979-1994
	20	Minutes: General: (20 of 21)	1979-1994
	21	Minutes: General: (21 of 21)	1979-1994
2	1	Minutes: General: (1 of 4)	1996-1998
	2	Minutes: General: (2 of 4)	1996-1998
	3	Minutes: General: (3 of 4)	1996-1998
	4	Minutes: General: (4 of 4)	1996-1998
	5	Minutes: General: (1 of 3)	1998-1999
	6	Minutes: General: (2 of 3)	1998-1999
	7	Minutes: General: (3 of 3)	1998-1999
	8	Minutes: General: (1 of 5)	1999-2000
	9	Minutes: General: (2 of 5)	1999-2000
	10	Minutes: General: (3 of 5)	1999-2000
	11	Minutes: General: (4 of 5)	1999-2000
	12	Minutes: General: (5 of 5)	1999-2000
	13	Minutes: General: (1 of 4)	2000-2001
	14	Minutes: General: (2 of 4)	2000-2001
	15	Minutes: General: (3 of 4)	2000-2001
	16	Minutes: General: (4 of 4)	2000-2001

Series II: Literary Productions, 1956-2002, 2.7 linear feet (6 document boxes).

This series, the largest of the collection, contains printed materials pertaining to the Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter, including brochures, national and local directories, press books full of newspaper clippings, programs, and yearbooks. These materials are in good to excellent condition.

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
2	17	Literary Productions: Brochures: Daughters of the American Revolution	1978, undated
	18	Literary Productions: Directory: DAR Committees	1989-1990
3	1	Literary Productions: Directory: DAR Committees	1991-1992
	2	Literary Productions: Directory: DAR Committees	1994-1995
	3	Literary Productions: Directory: National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution	1995-1996
	4	Literary Productions: Directory: NSDAR	1996-1997
	5	Literary Productions: Directory: NSDAR	1997-1998
	6	Literary Productions: Guides: Membership	1963, 1987
	7	Literary Productions: Guides: Chapter Treasurers	1981
4	1	Literary Productions: Handbook: <i>DAR Handbook and National Bylaws</i>	1987
	2	Literary Productions: Handbook: <i>DAR Handbook and National Bylaws</i>	1990
	3	Literary Productions: Handbook: <i>DAR Handbook and National Bylaws</i>	1993
	4	Literary Productions: Handbook: <i>DAR Handbook and National Bylaws</i>	1996
	5	Literary Productions: Handbook: Junior American Citizens	1989
	6	Literary Productions: Manual: "A Public Relations Guideline for Chapters"	1992
	7	Literary Productions: Manual: "DAR Parliamentary Procedure Guide for Chapters"	1986
	8	Literary Productions: Manual: "The ABCs of Public Relations"	1995
5	1	Literary Productions: Pamphlet: DAR Schools	1986
	2	Literary Productions: Pamphlet: National Archives	1976
	3	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (1 of 2)	1993 February-1994 February
	4	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (2 of 2)	1993 February-1994 February
	5	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (1 of 2)	1994 March-1995 February

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
5	6	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (2 of 2)	1994 March-1995 February
	7	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (1 of 3)	1995 March-1996 February
	8	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (2 of 3)	1995 March-1996 February
	9	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (3 of 3)	1995 March-1996 February
	10	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (1 of 4)	1996 March-1997 February
	11	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (2 of 4)	1996 March-1997 February
	12	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (3 of 4)	1996 March-1997 February
	13	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (4 of 4)	1996 March-1997 February
6	1	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (1 of 3)	1997 March-1998 February
	2	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (2 of 3)	1997 March-1998 February
	3	Literary Productions: Press Book: Clippings: (3 of 3)	1997 March-1998 February
	4	Literary Productions: Printed Materials: Acts of Incorporation	1982, 1991
	5	Literary Productions: Printed Materials: Application Papers	1975, 1985
	6	Literary Productions: Printed Materials: Organization and Traditions	1956-1988
	7	Literary Productions: Program: 101 st Continental Congress: NSDAR	1992
	8	Literary Productions: Program: 102 nd Annual State Conference	2001
	9	Literary Productions: Program: 108 th Continental Congress: NSDAR	1999
	10	Literary Productions: Resolutions: NSDAR	1996, 1997
	11	Literary Productions: Registration Book: Meetings	1986-1990
	12	Literary Productions: Registration Book: Meetings	1990-2001
7	1	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1976-1977, 1977-1978
	2	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1978-1979, 1980-1981

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
7	3	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1981-1982, 1982-1983
	4	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1983-1984, 1984-1985
	5	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1985-1986, 1986-1987
	6	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1987-1988, 1988-1989
	7	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1989-1990, 1990-1991
	8	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1991-1992, 1992-1993
	9	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1993-1994, 1994-1995
	10	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1995-1996, 1996-1997
	11	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1997-1998, 1998-1999
	12	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	1999-2000, 2000-2001
	13	Literary Productions: Yearbook: Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter	2001-2002

Series III: Audio/Visual, 1995, undated, 0.45 linear feet (1 document box).

The following series contains two video tapes created by the Daughters of the American Revolution. The subject matter appears in the titles. The series is in good condition.

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
8	1	Audio/Visual: Video Tape: Historical Contest: "Colonial Music"	undated
	2	Audio/Visual: Video Tape: Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution Centennial	1995

IV: Scrapbooks, 1976-1998, 1 document box and 3 oversized boxes.

This series is comprised of five scrapbooks prepared by the Elizabeth Gordon Bradley Chapter. These scrapbooks are in good to excellent condition.

BOX NUMBER	FOLDER NUMBER	FOLDER TITLE	DATES
9 OVZ	1	Scrapbooks: Book One	1976-1980
	2	Scrapbooks: Book Two	1994-1996
10 OVZ	1	Scrapbooks: Book Three	1994-1995
11 OVZ	1	Scrapbooks: Book Four	1996-1998
12	1	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 1-5	1985-1987
	2	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 6-9	1985-1987
	3	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Page 10	1985-1987
	4	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 11-17	1985-1987
	5	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 18-23	1985-1987
	6	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 24-27	1985-1987
	7	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 28-36	1985-1987
	8	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 37	1985-1987
	9	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 38-44	1985-1987
	10	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 45-52	1985-1987
	11	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 53-62	1985-1987
	12	Scrapbooks: Book Five: Pages 63-66, loose	1985-1987