The Luper Family Papers were acquired in two separate gifts by Myrl Luper. The first gift, given by Myrl Luper via her daughter Judy Cooper, was received on 2007 June 22. The gift consisted of two bankers boxes. The materials in these two boxes were transferred to seven document boxes during processing. The second gift, which Myrl Luper donated on 2012 April 23, consisted of one large cardboard box; the materials of which were transferred into thirteen boxes in processing. The collection begins in 1909 with some of the earliest love letters exchanged between Albert Luper and Fannie Mae Hawkins. It ends with some recent family correspondence exchanged in 1990. Series III. Family Correspondence and Series IV. Literary Productions are the largest series in the collection with eight and five boxes respectively. Most of the materials in the collection deal with the Luper family's experiences in Brazil, Portugal, and central Texas. Some of the most common subjects recurring within the papers are Baptist missionary activities, family developments, education, the Great Depression, and World War II.

Administrative/Biological History

Albert W. Luper and his wife, Fannie Mae Hawkins Luper, were Baptist missionaries who served churches in Portugal, Brazil, and central Texas from the 1920s to the 1950s.

Albert and Fannie Mae were already married when they received their degrees in 1919 May. Albert graduated from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Master of Theology. Fannie Mae, listed as “Mrs. Albert Luper” on her diploma, graduated from the Baptist Women’s Missionary Training School of the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary on 1919 May 28 with a Bachelor’s degree in Missionary Training.

From 1920 to 1922, the Lupers served as Baptist missionaries to Brazil. Fluent in Portuguese, the Lupers then moved to Lisbon, Portugal, to aid the spread of Baptist missionary efforts in Europe. For eight years, the couple struggled to earn a living from their missionary work at the small Third Baptist Church of Lisbon. The building itself was located in a slum of Lisbon, and the congregation was largely illiterate.

In 1930, as famine and economic depression swept across the United States and Europe, Albert became uneasy regarding his position in Lisbon. He informed the church elders that his financial supporters in central Texas could no longer afford to finance the church in Lisbon due to the Dust Bowl. The Lupers thus returned to central Texas where they remained for twenty-two years. The education of the Lupers’ five children (Albert, Francis, Harold, James Daniel, and Ray Fernando) was also a motivating factor in the decision to move back to the United States. Albert pastored congregations in Corsicana, Texas, as well as the First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff near Dallas.

By 1951, Albert W. and Fannie Mae Luper decided to return to the mission field in Brazil. Working with the Baptist College in Belo Horizonte and Brazil’s National Baptist Convention, the Lupers continued to devote their efforts to spreading the gospel.

Related Resources

Summary of related Archive materials
Luther-Bagby-Smith Family Papers

Related citations

Archival Arrangement

This collection was given as two separate gifts by Myrl Luper, the daughter-in-law of Albert and Fannie Mae Luper. Both gifts were completely unorganized. A box listing was prepared for each gift upon arrival. Overall, there are six series in the Luper Family Papers: I. General Correspondence, II. Portuguese Correspondence, III. Family Correspondence, IV. Literary Productions, V. Photographic Materials, and VI. Artifacts.

### Series 1. General Correspondence. 1909-1946, undated

**Extent (quantity/size):** Three document boxes.

**Administrative/Biographical History:** This series contains general English correspondence written to the Lupers. Most of the materials are written from church members in Texas, Brazil, or Portugal and are concerned primarily with religious matters. The materials are in good condition.

**Inventory:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>General Correspondence: Book (1-29)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
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<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>1911 January 25-1913 July 15</td>
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<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>1929 December 29</td>
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<td>Box 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>1928 March 12-May 9</td>
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<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Folder 5</td>
<td>1928 May 18-1929 March 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Folder 6</td>
<td>1930 January 2-August 22</td>
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<td>1930 September 5-21</td>
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<td>1930 September 27-October 10</td>
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<td>1930 October 18-November 26</td>
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<td>1930 December 27-1931 January 13</td>
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<td>1931 March 30-June 5</td>
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<td>1933 December 22-31</td>
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<td>Folder 7</td>
<td>1935 November 18-December 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 3</td>
<td>Folder 8</td>
<td>1936 January 2-April 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 3</td>
<td>Folder 9</td>
<td>1936 May 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 3</td>
<td>Folder 10</td>
<td>1936 July 6-October</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Box 3. Folder 11. General Correspondence: Letters, 1936 December 9-19
Box 3. Folder 12. General Correspondence: Letters, 1936 December 22
Box 3. Folder 13. General Correspondence: Letters, 1937 January 8-February 5
Box 3. Folder 14. General Correspondence: Letters, 1937 February 15-March 5
Box 3. Folder 15. General Correspondence: Letters, 1937 March 6-December 23
Box 3. Folder 16. General Correspondence: Letters, 1938 January 8-1939 May 22
Box 3. Folder 17. General Correspondence: Letters, 1940 June 14-1942 February 23
Box 3. Folder 18. General Correspondence: Letters, 1942 September 12-1943 June 10
Box 3. Folder 19. General Correspondence: Letters, 1943 July 29-1944 February 23
Box 3. Folder 20. General Correspondence: Letters, 1945 May-1946 August 12
Box 3. Folder 21. General Correspondence: Letters (1 of 3), undated
Box 3. Folder 22. General Correspondence: Letters (2 of 3), undated
Box 3. Folder 23. General Correspondence: Letters (3 of 3), undated

Series 2. Portuguese Correspondence. 1924-1937, undated

Extent (quantity/size) Three document boxes.

Administrative/Biographical History The following series contains letters written in Portuguese. They deal primarily with the Lupers' missionary activities in Portugal and Brazil. The materials are in average condition.

Inventory
Box 4. Folder 1. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (1 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 2. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (2 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 3. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (3 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 4. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (4 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 5. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (5 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 6. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (6 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 7. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (7 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 8. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (8 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 9. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (9 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 10. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (10 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 11. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (11 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 12. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (12 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 13. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (13 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 14. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (14 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 15. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (15 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 16. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (16 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 17. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (17 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 18. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (18 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 19. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (19 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 20. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (20 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 21. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (21 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 22. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (22 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 23. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (23 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 24. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (24 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 25. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (25 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 26. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (26 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 27. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (27 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 28. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (28 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 29. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (29 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 30. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (30 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 31. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (31 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 32. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (32 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 33. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (33 of 34), 1929
Box 4. Folder 34. Portuguese Correspondence: Book (34 of 34), 1929
Box 5. Folder 10. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, circa 1924
Box 5. Folder 11. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1924-1925
Box 5. Folder 12. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1925 June 30-1930 April 13
Box 5. Folder 13. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1930 April 15-September 15
Box 5. Folder 14. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1930 September 22-December 9
Box 5. Folder 15. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1930 December 30-1931 January 27
Box 5. Folder 16. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1931 January 28-February 6
Box 5. Folder 17. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1931 February 23-June 5
Box 5. Folder 18. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1932 March 4-November 27
Box 5. Folder 19. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1933 January 4-March 28
Box 5. Folder 20. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1933 April 2-July 29
Box 5. Folder 21. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1933 September 12-December 26
Box 6. Folder 1. Portuguese Correspondence: Letters, 1934 January 23-June 29
**Series 3. Family Correspondence. 1909-1990, undated**

**Extent (quantity/size)**
Eight document boxes.

**Administrative/Biographical History**
This series of family correspondence is the largest series in the collection. It contains letters exchanged between Albert and Fannie Luper as well as letters which they received from their children (Albert, Jr., Frances, Harold, James Daniel, and Ray Fernando). There are also letters from Fannie Mae's mother and sisters, Albert's father, and other close relatives. These materials are organized by the letter sender and are in good condition.

**Inventory**
Box 7. Folder 1. Family Correspondence: General, 1913-1936
Box 7. Folder 2. Family Correspondence: General, 1937-1990, undated
Box 7. Folder 3. Family Correspondence: Albert and Fannie Mae Luper to Frances Luper, 1939 July 22
Box 7. Folder 4. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1933 October 17-1934 September 26
Box 7. Folder 5. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1934 October 4-December 7
Box 7. Folder 6. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1935 January 5-April 1
Box 7. Folder 7. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1935 April 29-May 20
Box 7. Folder 8. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1935 July 4-23
Box 7. Folder 9. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1935 August 11-1936 February 17
Box 7. Folder 10. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1936 March 9-May 11
Box 7. Folder 11. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1936 June 18-1942 May 7, undated
Box 7. Folder 12. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. and Elizabeth Luper to Albert and Fannie Mae Luper, 1937 June 24-1940 March 23
Box 7. Folder 13. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert Luper, Sr., 1934 October 18-1935 May 29
Box 7. Folder 14. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Albert Luper, Sr., 1935 July 30-1936 May 1
Box 7. Folder 15. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Jr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1934 May 13-1936 May 18
Box 7. Folder 16. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1909 December 27-1910 June 20
Box 7. Folder 17. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 June 25-July 13
Box 8. Folder 1. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 July 10-12
Box 8. Folder 2. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 July 12-16
Box 8. Folder 3. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 July 18-22
Box 8. Folder 4. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 July 23-31
Box 8. Folder 5. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 August 5-9
Box 8. Folder 6. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 August 10-12
Box 8. Folder 7. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 August 13-18
Box 8. Folder 8. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 August 24-30
Box 8. Folder 9. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 September 1-8
Box 8. Folder 10. Family Correspondence: Albert Luper, Sr. to Fannie Mae Luper, 1910 September 9-
Administrative/Biographical History
This series of literary productions contains newspaper clippings, programs, books, essays, and minutes pertaining to the Lupers' activities in the church. They are reflective of the family's time spent in Brazil as well as the United States. The materials are in average to good condition, and are organized by type.

Inventory
Box 15. Folder 1. Literary Productions: Artwork: Ship, 1930
Box 15. Folder 2. Literary Productions: Biographical Materials: Sam Houston, undated
Box 15. Folder 7. Literary Productions: Book: J. Daniel Luper: One Hundred Years of the Shepherd and His Sheep at the First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, 1960 August 19
Box 15. Folder 8. Literary Productions: Brochures: Ships, undated
Box 15. Folder 11. Literary Productions: Certificate: Marie Riddle: Texas Senate, 1971 May 21
Box 15. Folder 12. Literary Productions: Circular: Unification Committee, circa 1933
Box 15. Folder 14. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1955 September-October
Box 15. Folder 15. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1955 November 24
Box 15. Folder 16. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1956 December 22
Box 15. Folder 17. Literary Productions: Clippings: General (1 of 2), 1956 January 5
Box 15. Folder 18. Literary Productions: Clippings: General (2 of 2), 1956 January 5
Box 15. Folder 19. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1956 February 10-14
Box 15. Folder 20. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1956 February 23-August
Box 15. Folder 21. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1957 July 18
Box 15. Folder 22. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1957 August 22
Box 15. Folder 23. Literary Productions: Clippings: General, 1965, undated
Box 15. Folder 24. Literary Productions: Clippings: Wayland Baptist College, 1953
Box 15. Folder 25. Literary Productions: Clippings: Unification Committee, undated
Box 16. Folder 1. Literary Productions: Directory: First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, 1972 November
Box 16. Folder 3. Literary Productions: Directory: First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, undated
Box 16. Folder 4. Literary Productions: Directory: Oak Cliff Savings, undated
Box 16. Folder 8. Literary Productions: Essay: “Importance of the Spanish Language to the American People of Southern Texas and Especially of San Antonio”, undated
Box 16. Folder 9. Literary Productions: Map: South America: Baptist Missions, circa 1963
Box 16. Folder 10. Literary Productions: Minutes: Unification Committee, 1933 June 14
Box 16. Folder 12. Literary Productions: Minutes: Unification Committee, 1934 February 28
Box 16. Folder 13. Literary Productions: Minutes: Unification Committee, undated
Box 16. Folder 14. Literary Productions: Notes: Tithing, 1939 November 19
Box 16. Folder 15. Literary Productions: Notes: Unification Committee, undated
Box 16. Folder 17. Literary Productions: Postcards, undated
Series 5. Photographic Materials. 1909-1944, undated

Administrative/Biographical History
This small series contains photographs and negatives pertaining to the Lapers, their family and friends, Portugal, and (Dallas) Oak Cliff First Baptist Church. The materials are in average to good condition.

Inventory
Box 17. Folder 1. Photographic Materials: Negatives: General, undated
Box 17. Folder 5. Photographic Materials: Photographs: Oak Cliff First Baptist Church, 1909-1944, undated

Series 6. Artifacts. 1956-1957

Administrative/Biographical History
This small series contains souvenirs from the Brazilian National Conventions of 1956 and 1957. The materials are in good condition.

Inventory
Box 17. Folder 8. Artifacts: Buttons: Brazilian Baptist Convention, 1956