Lola Hopper collection
Baylor Collections of Political Materials
W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Waco, Texas

Summary Information

Creator
Hopper, Lola

Extent (quantity/size)
4 document boxes and 14 oversized boxes.

Language
English

Abstract
The Lola Hopper collection houses various materials collected by longtime Texas political activist Lola Hopper. Ranging from the 1960's to 2013, the collection consists primarily of campaign materials and items from Hopper’s trip to the 2008 Democratic National Convention as a delegate. There are also various physical artifacts from the Texas Capitol building during renovations, and papers, photographs, and items from Hopper’s time as secretary for Texas Representative and Senator Donald G. Adams.

Subjects

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access and Use
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Preferred Citation
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Lola Hopper Collection, Accession #51, Box #, Folder #, The Baylor Collection of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University.

Processing Information
Described by Joe Wilson and released on 2020-03-06.

Scope and Content
The papers and materials collected by Lola Hopper were donated to the Baylor Collections of Political Materials in the summer of 2012. The collection contains mostly campaign materials from various campaigns Lola Hopper supported over 50 years of political activity, including yard signs, T-shirts, bumper stickers, and a large collection of political buttons. Also included are a large number of photographs taken at various occasions.

Hopper worked as a secretary for Texas State Senator Donald G. Adams during the 1970's. The materials in this collection include letters from Adams and his wife Linda, some office materials, photographs of Adams and his staff, and newspaper clippings. The collection also includes several items related to the State of Texas honoring Donald Adams as Governor for a Day on October 15, 1977. This includes several photographs, some certificates and commendations, stationary and programs, clippings, coffee cups, and the gavel and block which “Governor” Adams used that day.

Hopper collected several artifacts from various renovations of the Texas Capitol Building, starting in the 1960's and continuing all the way to the 1980's. These artifacts include bricks, chunks of masonry, nails, and a light fixture. The stones and bricks have had one side covered in felt so that the artifacts can be displayed, and Hopper kept them out of a respect for their historical value.

Administrative/Biographical History
Lola Hopper was born near Houston and grew up there before moving to San Marcos prior to the start of high school. She was involved in high school student government, introducing a bill to desegregate extracurricular activities such as sports. The bill passed and sports were desegregated after she graduated. Hopper attributes her love for politics to the success of this early effort.

Hopper studied English and history at Austin Community College for one year before leaving school in 1965 to work as a secretary for Terrell Blodgett, Administrative Assistant to Texas Governor John B. Connally. In 1969, she became the office manager for Donald Adams, working for Adams during his time as a State Representative and a State Senator. When Adams left office in 1978, Hopper took a job in the TXU lobbying office until 1987 when she became office manager for State Senator Judith Zaffirini for two years. In the 1990's, Hopper worked for Texas Attorney General Jim Mattiox in his Outreach for the Blind Project, then for Attorney General Dan Morales’ Child Support Division. Finally, she worked for Texas Mental Health and Mental Retardation in Austin.

After a lengthy career working for various politicians and political organizations, Hopper retired in 2002. However, she remained an active volunteer for various Democratic Party politicians and political causes. Most notably, she was an early volunteer for the Hillary Clinton 2008 Presidential Campaign, coordinating volunteers when Clinton visited Waco on the campaign trail and recruiting veterans to attend the event. She was so active in Clinton’s campaign that she was chosen as a delegate to attend the 2008 Democratic
National Convention in Denver, Colorado, casting her vote for Clinton in the race eventually won by Barack Obama.

Related Resources
Related records in other Archive collections

Archival Arrangement
Prior to reprocessing, items in this collection were loosely organized by topic. Since being reprocessed in 2020, the items have been sorted topically into five series: I. Texas Capitol Renovation, II. Donald Adams, III. Campaigns, IV. 2008 Presidential Campaign, and V. Personal.

Series 1: Texas Capitol Renovation. 1967-1986, undated

Summary Information
Media Photographic print

Administrative/Biographical History
Series I. Texas Capitol Renovation contains materials Lola Hopper collected during various Texas Capitol Building renovations between the 1960's and 1980's. Hopper personally took photographs during some of the renovations, including pictures inside the inner walls of the dome and pictures of the statue of the Goddess of Liberty when the statue was removed from the top of the dome. Hopper also collected several pieces of masonry from inside the Capitol building, including limestone, granite, marble, floor tiles, nails, and light fixtures. All of these three-dimensional materials are in their own separate box, mostly wrapped in foam for protection. The three-dimensional materials in this collection are in good condition, whereas the photographs are slightly faded and are in average condition.

Box 1. Folder 1. Photographs of inner walls of Capitol, 1977
Box 1. Folder 2. Photographs from Goddess of Liberty statue replacement, 1986
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 1. Limestone brick with nails, undated
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 2. 5 original floor tiles from Texas Capitol, undated
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 3. Inner wall limestone signed by John Connally, 1967
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 4. Limestone brick taken from inner walls, 1967
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 5. Chunk of marble with seal commemorating 64th Legislature/Texas Sesquicentennial, undated
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 6. Granite block, undated
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 7. Nails taken from walls, undated
Box 5 OVZ. Folder 8. Part of light used in top of Capitol Building, just below the Lady, undated

Series 2: Donald Adams. 1971-1977, undated

Summary Information
Media Photographic print
Administrative/Biographical History
Series II. Donald Adams contains materials related to Lola Hopper’s time as secretary for Texas State Representative and State Senator Donald Adams. Hopper kept many pictures of Adams, his staff, and his time in office, as well as letters and notes from Adams and his wife Linda, newspaper clippings, and stationery from the Texas Constitutional Convention. Hopper also collected a lot of material from Donald Adams’s Governor for a Day ceremony in 1977. This includes coffee cups, a gavel, booklets, newspaper clippings, and photographs. The folders are organized chronologically, with documents first and photographs second. The three-dimensional materials are housed in a separate box. The materials in this series are in good condition.

Box 1. Folder 4. Letters/Notes from Donald Adams, 1971-1977, undated
Box 1. Folder 5. Letters/Notes from Linda Adams, 1972-1977, undated
Box 1. Folder 6. Campaign materials, 1972, undated
Box 1. Folder 8. Thank You notes, 1973-1977, undated
Box 1. Folder 9. Texas Constitutional Convention, 1974
Box 1. Folder 10. Valentine’s Day office cartoon, 1975
Box 1. Folder 11. SR 462, Honoring State Senate Secretaries, 1975
Box 1. Folder 12. Clippings about Donald Adams Governor for a Day ceremony, Legislative Clipping Service, 1977
Box 1. Folder 13. Invitations for Governor for a Day ceremony, 1977
Box 1. Folder 14. “Donald Adams: Governor of Texas” booklet, 1977
Box 1. Folder 15. Thank You notes for Governor for a Day ceremony, 1977, undated
Box 1. Folder 16. Stationery and napkins from Governor for a Day ceremony, undated
Box 1. Folder 17. Federal Government directory, undated
Box 1. Folder 18. Photograph, State Representative Clyde Haynes, 1971
Box 1. Folder 19. Photograph, Autographed photo of Donald Adams, 1971
Box 1. Folder 20. Photographs, Photos at the Texas House, 1971
Box 1. Folder 21. Photographs, Donald Adams’s Birthday Party, 1973
Box 1. Folder 22. Photographs, Autographed photo of Donald Adams and staff before swearing in ceremony to State Senate, 1973
Box 1. Folder 23. Photograph, Lola Hopper in Donald Adams’s Office, 1975
Box 1. Folder 24. Photographs, Presiding over Texas Senate, 1975
Box 1. Folder 25. Photographs, Governor for a Day ceremony, 1977
Box 1. Folder 26. Photograph, Children eating cake, undated
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 3. Photograph, Donald and Linda Adams, 1971-1975
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 4. Photograph, Donald Adams at his seat in the Senate Chamber, 1971-1975
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 5. Photograph, Donald Adams being presented a gift by his staff, 1971
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 6. Photograph, Donald Adams’s staff, 1973
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 7. Photograph, Donald Adams and his Senate staff, 1973
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 8. Photograph, Donald Adams addressing high school students, 1973
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 9. Photograph, Donald Adams’s staff with Elsworth Greer, 1975
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 10. Photograph, Donald, Linda, and Donny Adams with Donny’s school class, 1975
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 11. Photograph, Donald Adams addressing high school students from his district, 1975
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 12. Photograph, Donald Adams and staff, 1977
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 13. Photograph, Staff on last night of legislative session, 1977
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 14. Photograph, Last night of legislative session, 1977
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 15. Certificate of Commendation for Service, Governor for a Day ceremony, 1977
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 16. Donald Adams and Lola Hopper, undated
Box 7 OVZ. Item 1. Etched paperweight, Sixty-Fourth Legislature, 1975
Box 7 OVZ. Item set 2. Two coffee mugs from Governor for a Day ceremony, 1977
Box 7 OVZ. Item set 3. Gavel and block from Governor for a Day ceremony, 1977

Series 3: Campaigns. 1984-2013, undated

Summary Information

Media
Photographic print

Administrative/Biographical History

Series III. Campaigns contains a wide variety of materials Lola Hopper collected during her time volunteering for and supporting political campaigns. Hopper vigorously supported the Democratic Party in Texas and nationwide, and this series holds many campaign materials she collected from local, state, and federal elections. She was also active in many non-electoral political causes, including denuclearization and women’s issues. Her collection of campaign material includes campaign buttons, bumper stickers, yard signs, printed material, and photographs. Among the three-dimensional materials in this collection are t-shirts and hats with candidates’ names and messages printed on them. The materials in folders are sorted by candidate’s last name when a candidate is mentioned, and alphabetically when a specific candidate is not named. Most of the materials in this collection are in good condition although some of the buttons are slightly rusty.

Box 1. Folder 27. Baird, “Re-Elect Judge Baird Texas Court of Criminal Appeals” sticker, undated
Box 1. Folder 29. Bell, Happy New Year card from the Bells (Alison, Chris, Atlee (12) & Connally (11)), undated
Box 1. Folder 30. Cantrell, “Re-Elect Cantrell County Commissioner” button, undated
Box 1. Folder 31. Carter, “Re-Elect Carter/Mondale” button, undated
Box 1. Folder 32. Clinton, “Bill Clinton for President” bumper stickers, undated
Box 1. Folder 33. Clinton, “Clinton/Gore” button, undated
Box 1. Folder 34. Clinton, “92 Clinton/Gore” button, undated
Box 1. Folder 35. Edwards, “Chet Edwards Congress” yard sign, 2010
Box 1. Folder 36. Edwards, “Vets for Chet” yard sign, 2010
Box 1. Folder 37. Edwards, “Chet Edwards Congress” stickers, undated
Box 2. Folder 1. Edwards, “I’m a Chet Fan” fan, undated
Box 2. Folder 2. Edwards, “Chet Edwards for Congress” bumper sticker, undated
Box 2. Folder 3. Edwards, “Chet Edwards Congress” bumper stickers, undated
Box 2. Folder 4. Edwards, “Republicans for Chet Edwards” bumper sticker, undated
Box 2. Folder 5. Edwards, “Vets for Chet” bumper sticker, undated
Box 2. Folder 7. Edwards, Photo of group including Chet Edwards and Lola Hopper, undated
Box 2. Folder 10. Emley, “Dave Emley for Waco City Council” nail files, undated
Box 2. Folder 11. Evans, “Elect Cindy Evans” sticker, undated
Box 2. Folder 12. Gassaway, “Re-Elect Judge Mike Gassaway” pin, undated
Box 2. Folder 14. Layman, “Elect Joe Layman Democrat” advertising booklet, undated
Box 2. Folder 15. Logue O’Herren, “Katherine Logue O’Herren for Justice” advertising booklet, undated
Box 2. Folder 16. Mayfield, “Elect Alan Mayfield Judge” pamphlet, undated
Box 2. Folder 17. McGovern, “McGovern” button, undated
Box 2. Folder 18. Mondale, “Democrats Let’s Send Ronnie and Phil the same message we sent Bill” button, undated
Box 2. Folder 19. Mondale, Photographs, Mondale-Ferraro Rally, 1984
Box 2. Folder 20. Murphey, Campaign materials for Sam Murphey, stickers, flyer, yard sign, 2008, undated
Box 2. Folder 21. Noriega, “Rick Noriega for U.S. Senate” buttons, undated
Box 2. Folder 22. Pickle, Pickle shaped pin with “Jake” on it, undated
Box 2. Folder 24. Seley, “Wimp Seley for District Judge” thimble, undated
Box 2. Folder 25. Turner, Yard signs for Chris Turner, undated
Box 2. Folder 27. Turner, “Chris Turner for State Representative” stickers, undated
Box 2. Folder 29. Turner, “I’m a Chris Turner Fan” fan, undated
Box 2. Folder 31. 1994 Texas Democratic Convention name tag, 1994
Box 2. Folder 32. “Better active today than radioactive tomorrow” button, undated
Box 2. Folder 33. “Don’t Yell at me: I’m a volunteer” button, undated
Box 2. Folder 34. “Had enough? Vote Democrat” stickers, undated
Box 2. Folder 35. “I [Heart] Waco” button, undated
Box 2. Folder 36. “I Like Ike” button, 1986
Box 2. Folder 37. “Is There Life After Law School?” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 1. Button, Laughing male politician, undated
Box 3. Folder 2. “Question Authority” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 3. “Read my Lipstick: I’m Voting Democrat” Emily’s List bumper sticker, undated
Box 3. Folder 4. “Texas Democrat” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 5. “Texas Democratic Women” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 6. “Texas Farm Workers Union” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 7. “Try the Rapist, not the Victim” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 8. “Turn TX Blue” bumper sticker, undated
Box 3. Folder 9. “United Steel Workers” bumper sticker, undated
Box 3. Folder 10. “Vote Democrat” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 12. “Women Against Nukes” button, undated
Box 3. Folder 13. Pin, Yellow dog & “Democrat” on blue Texas, red, white, and blue ribbon, undated
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 1. Photograph, Autographed Photo of Dan Morales with Lola Hopper, 1993
Box 6 OVZ. Folder 2. Photograph, Autographed Photo of Keith Oakley with Lola Hopper, 1993
Box 8 OVZ. Item 1. “Chet Edwards Congress” t-shirt, undated
Box 8 OVZ. Item 2. “Chet Edwards: He’s Working for Us” t-shirt, undated
Box 9 OVZ. Item 1. “Sylvia Garcia for Texas Senate” t-shirt, undated
Box 9 OVZ. Item 2. “Wendy Davis Texas Senator District 10” t-shirt, undated
Box 10 OVZ. Item 1. “Sam Murphey for State Representative, District 55” t-shirt, undated
Box 10 OVZ. Item set 2. “Chris Turner for State Representative” t-shirts, undated
Box 11 OVZ. Item 1. “Re-Elect Judge Mike Gassaway” t-shirt, undated
Box 11 OVZ. Item 2. “I hunted with Dick Cheney” and bullet holes t-shirt, undated
Box 12 OVZ. Item 1. “Baylor Democrats: Jesus didn’t ride in on an elephant…” t-shirt, undated
Box 12 OVZ. Item 2. “Elect JW Duke Justice of the Peace” baseball cap, undated
Box 12 OVZ. Item 3. Doll, George W. Bush with cowboy hat and boots, pants on fire, undated
Box 15 OVZ. Item 5. “America 2000 The Democratic Convention” tote bag, 2000


Summary Information
Media
Photographic print

Administrative/Biographical History
Series IV. 2008 Presidential Campaign contains materials belonging to Lola Hopper from the 2008 election, mostly from the Democratic primary process. Hopper was an enthusiastic supporter of Hillary Clinton for the Democratic nomination and collected a significant amount of Clinton campaign materials. Hopper was eventually chosen as a delegate for the State of Texas to the Democratic National Convention where she supported Clinton. Barack Obama ultimately emerged as the party's nominee.

This series contains many materials from Hopper’s trip to Denver, Colorado for the convention, including tee shirts, programs, bags, backpacks, and the hat adorned with buttons that she wore on the convention floor. The series is organized alphabetically, with the Hillary Clinton materials first and the Democratic National Convention materials afterwards. The series is in excellent condition.

Box 3. Folder 15. Photographs, Chelsea Clinton at rally, 2008
Box 3. Folder 16. “Conversation with America” buttons, undated
Box 3. Folder 17. “Hillary” button, 2008
Box 3. Folder 19. Hillary Clinton campaign stickers, undated
Box 3. Folder 20. Photograph, Hillary Clinton speech, 2008
Box 3. Folder 21. “Hillary for President” bumper sticker, undated
Box 3. Folder 22. “Hillary for President” buttons, 2008
Box 3. Folder 23. “Hillary for President” hand signs, 2008
Box 3. Folder 25. “In it to Win it” buttons, 2008
Box 3. Folder 27. Letters from Hillary Clinton, 2008
Box 4. Folder 1. Clippings from Conventions, 2008
Box 4. Folder 7. Photograph, J. D. Steinhle at speech at Convention Center, 2008
Box 4. Folder 13. “Texas Democrat” bumper stickers, undated
Box 4. Folder 14. “[Texas] Democrat” bumper sticker, undated
Box 13 OVZ. Item set 1. Hat with campaign buttons worn to the 2008 Democratic National Convention, undated
Box 13 OVZ. Item set 2. Two flags, a USA flag and Texas flag, taken to 2008 Democratic National Convention, undated
Box 15 OVZ. Item 2. “08 DNCC” tote bag, 2008

Series 5: Personal. 1965-1990, undated

Summary Information

Media
Photographic print

Administrative/Biographical History

Series V. Personal contains materials which are not related to Lola Hopper’s political activities. This includes coffee cups, photographs, patriotic clothing and bumper stickers, Texas-themed items, and a Mother’s Day card. The series is organized alphabetically by subject. Overall, the materials are in good condition.

Box 4. Folder 15. Photographs, The Alamo, undated
Box 4. Folder 16. “Born to Boss” bumper sticker, undated
Box 4. Folder 17. Photograph, Capitol Building, Austin, Texas, 1973
Box 4. Folder 18. Certificate of Thanks from Texas Attorney General, 1990
Box 4. Folder 19. Coin, University of Texas Football, Cartoon Longhorn on front, Schedule on back, 1968
Box 4. Folder 20. Eradicate Mental Illness mailer from cast of television show “House”, undated
Box 4. Folder 21. Materials from visit to William J. Clinton Presidential Center, undated
Box 4. Folder 22. Photographs, Reception for Secretary of State John Hill, 1965
Box 4. Folder 23. Texas bumper stickers, undated
Box 4. Folder 24. Photographs, Texas Capitol on a snowy day, undated
Box 4. Folder 25. “Vote Mom!” Mother’s Day card and button, undated
Box 7 OVZ. Item 4. “LOLA” coffee mug, undated
Box 7 OVZ. Item 5. Texas Sesquicentennial coffee mug, 1981
Box 7 OVZ. Item 6. Paperweight, Appointment to the American Airlines Fair Ladies, 1967
Box 16 OVZ. Item 1. “Senate Staff – 1986 Texas Sesquicentennial” sweatshirt, 1986
Box 17 OVZ. Item 1. Star Spangled Banner shirt, undated
Box 18 OVZ. Item 1. Denim jacket with campaign button sleeves, Embroidered State of Texas on front, Embroidered American flag on back, Democratic Party pocket square, undated
Box 18 OVZ. Item set 2. Two flags, Texas flag and USA flag, undated