

**McLennan County Democratic Party records**  
**Inclusive: 1922-1992, undated; Bulk: 1970-1979**  
**Baylor Collections of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library**  
**Baylor University, Waco, Texas**

**Summary Information**

<b>Creator</b>	McLennan County Democratic Party Evans, Gene
<b>Extent (quantity/size)</b>	5 document boxes.
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	The McLennan County Democratic Party records contain meeting minutes, financial records, ballots, and other election materials from the mid-twentieth century. The collection was donated by Gene Evans, a former chair of the organization.

**Subjects**

Correspondence. / Democratic Party (Tex.) / Democratic Party (U.S.) / Election districts. / Elections -- Texas. / Financial records. / McLennan County (Tex.) -- History. / McLennan County (Tex.) -- Politics and government. / Political campaigns -- Texas -- McLennan County. / Voting -- Texas.

**Administrative Information**

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**Preferred Citation** When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is:

McLennan County Democratic Party records, Accession #16, Box #, Folder #, Baylor Collections of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library, Baylor University.

**Processing Information** Described by Jonathan Tomes.

### **Scope and Content**

The McLennan County Democratic Party records cover a broad portion of the twentieth century, from 1922 to 1992. The majority of the materials span the chairmanships of Walter William and Gene Evans, focusing particularly on the 1970's.

Series I. Democratic Executive Committee and Series II. Election Materials are the largest series in the collection. The records address a variety of local issues, including the discontinuation of paper ballots, redistricting, and presidential primaries. There is a wide range of materials in the collection including correspondence, financial reports, ballot results, newspaper clippings, and minutes.

### **Administrative/Biographical History**

Waco was the site of Texas's first Democratic Convention in 1857. Since 1873, Waco Democrats have served in influential positions throughout state and national politics. The party maintained dominance in the local area for much of the twentieth century.

After Dr. Walter William resigned as McLennan County Democratic Chairman in 1979, the Executive Committee appointed Gene Evans to serve the remainder of William's term until 1980. Evans ultimately served as Chair until the fall of 1988 when his term expired. After his tenure, Evans donated various party records to the W. R. Poage Legislative Library.

Four of the most significant changes that impacted the McLennan County Democratic Party while Evans was chair were the discontinuation of voting by paper ballot, the election of the first Republican governor of Texas since Reconstruction, redistricting, and presidential primaries. It is noteworthy that McLennan County was one of the last Texas counties to discontinue the use of a paper ballot.

### **Related Resources**

#### **Related citations**

"A Brief History of the McLennan County Democratic Party." McLennan County Democratic Party: 200th Anniversary, July 1992.

["H. Gene Evans." "Waco Tribune-Herald." Accessed September 10, 2020.](#)

### **Archival Arrangement**

The collection was originally housed in acidic boxes. Inventories were created by staff members in 1993 and 1998, but no finding aid existed prior to this current round of processing.

The original order of the collection has largely been maintained. The records are now arranged into four series based on material type: I. Democratic Executive Committee, II. Election Materials, III. Financial Records, and IV. Subject Files.

## **Series 1: Democratic Executive Committee. 1922-1984**

### **Administrative/Biographical History**

Series I contains correspondence, meeting minutes, propositions, resolutions, charts, lists, and election results pertaining to the Executive Committee of the McLennan County Democratic Party. Most folders deal directly

with the Democratic primaries held in the 1970's, although the minutes for the committee stretch as far back as the early 1920's. The materials are in average condition.

- Box 1. Folder 1. 1976 Democratic National Convention, Delegate Selection Plan, 1976
- Box 1. Folder 2. 1970 Democratic Primary, Election Results, 1970
- Box 1. Folder 3. 1972 Democratic Primary, Candidates, 1972
- Box 1. Folder 4. 1974 Democratic Primary, List, Candidates, Judges, 1974
- Box 1. Folder 5. 1974 Democratic Primary, List, Clippings, 1974
- Box 1. Folder 6. 1974 Democratic Primary, Referendum Results, 1974
- Box 1. Folder 7. 1978 Democratic Primary, Correspondence, Clippings, and Map, 1978
- Box 1. Folder 8. Campaign Headquarters and Organizational Chart, 1982
- Box 1. Folder 9. Candidate and Committee Meetings, 1982-1984
- Box 1. Folder 10. Committee Material, General, 1962-1966
- Box 1. Folder 11. Correspondence, Application for Sheriff, 1972
- Box 1. Folder 12. Correspondence, Constitutional Revision Commission, 1973
- Box 1. Folder 13. Correspondence, List, Candidates, 1977-1978
- Box 1. Folder 14. List, Committee Members, 1972-1978
- Box 1. Folder 15. List, Committee Members, 1974
- Box 1. Folder 16. List, Committee, Candidates, 1974
- Box 1. Folder 17. Memorandum, Meeting Agenda, 1972
- Box 1. Folder 18. Memorandum, Meeting Agenda, 1974
- Box 1. Folder 19. Meeting Minutes and Resolutions, 1922-1928
- Box 1. Folder 20. Meeting Minutes, 1930-1936
- Box 1. Folder 21. Meeting Minutes, 1938-1946
- Box 1. Folder 22. Meeting Minutes, 1948-1958
- Box 1. Folder 23. Meeting Minutes, 1960-1966
- Box 1. Folder 24. Meeting Minutes, 1968-1974
- Box 1. Folder 25. Meeting Minutes, 1976-1978
- Box 1. Folder 26. Meeting Minutes, 1979-1980
- Box 1. Folder 27. Memorandum, Opinion, Order, Redistricting, Residency, Filing, 1971
- Box 1. Folder 28. Plans, Statistics, 1981
- Box 1. Folder 29. Presiding Judge Folder, Return of a Primary Election, 1970
- Box 2. Folder 1. Presiding Judge Folder, Return of a Primary Election, 1971
- Box 2. Folder 2. Presiding Judge Folder, Return of a Primary Election, 1972
- Box 2. Folder 3. Presiding Judge Folder, Return of a Primary Election, 1974
- Box 2. Folder 4. Presiding Judge Folder, Return of a Primary Election, 1975
- Box 2. Folder 5. Presiding Judge Folder, Return of a Primary Election, 1976
- Box 2. Folder 6. Presiding Judge Folder, Return of a Primary Election, 1977
- Box 2. Folder 7. Primaries, Candidates, 1960-1970
- Box 2. Folder 8. Resolutions, General, 1974-1978
- Box 2. Folder 9. Resolutions, Propositions, 1968
- Box 2. Folder 10. Rules of the Democratic Party of Texas, 1974 National Conference on Democratic Party Organization and Policy, 1972-1974
- Box 2. Folder 11. Secretary of State, Directives, Voting, 1977
- Box 2. Folder 12. Texas Election Code, Financing of Primaries, Correspondence, Bills, Resolutions, 1972

## Series 2: Election Materials. 1949-1980, undated

### Administrative/Biographical History

Series II. Election Materials contains ballot counts, applications for a place on the ballot, precinct information, lists of candidates, and lists of registered voters. Most of the materials relate to Democratic primaries from the 1970's, though some folders do address statewide politics. The series is in average condition.

- Box 2. Folder 13. 1968 Democratic Primary, Ballot Count, 1968
- Box 2. Folder 14. 1970 Democratic Primary, Application for a Place on the Ballot, 1969-1970
- Box 2. Folder 15. 1970 Democratic Primary, Election Judges, 1970
- Box 2. Folder 16. 1972 Democratic Primary, Application for a Place on the Ballot, 1971-1972
- Box 2. Folder 17. 1972 Democratic Primary, Election Results, 1972
- Box 2. Folder 18. 1972 Democratic Primary, Return of a Primary Election, 1972
- Box 2. Folder 19. 1974 Democratic Primary, Application for a Place on the Ballot, 1973-1974
- Box 2. Folder 20. 1974 Democratic Primary, List, Candidates, 1974
- Box 2. Folder 21. 1974 Democratic Primary, Precinct Ballot Information, 1974-1976
- Box 2. Folder 22. 1976 Democratic Primary, List, Candidates, 1976
- Box 3. Folder 1. 1978 Democratic Primary, Application for a Place on the Ballot (1 of 2), 1977-1978
- Box 3. Folder 2. 1978 Democratic Primary, Application for a Place on the Ballot (2 of 2), 1977-1978
- Box 3. Folder 3. 1978 Democratic Primary, Ballot, 1978
- Box 3. Folder 4. 1978 Democratic Primary, List, Candidates, 1978-1980
- Box 3. Folder 5. 1978 Democratic Primary, Election Judges, 1978
- Box 3. Folder 6. Ballot Tallies, Democratic Primary, 1976-1978
- Box 3. Folder 7. Blank Ballot Applications, Correspondence, 1952-1960
- Box 3. Folder 8. Booklets, "Election Laws Passed by the 60th Legislature", 1967
- Box 3. Folder 9. Correspondence, Absentee Voting, 1978
- Box 3. Folder 10. List, Democratic County Chairmen of Texas, 1949
- Box 3. Folder 11. List of Boxes, "Guide to Voting Precincts", 1969
- Box 3. Folder 12. List of Voting Boxes, 1948-1975
- Box 3. Folder 13. Location of Voting Boxes, 1972-1982
- Box 3. Folder 14. Maps, Texas Congressional District, 1968
- Box 3. Folder 15. Map of Waco, Councilmen's Wards, 1967
- Box 3. Folder 16. Precinct Lines and Redistricting, 1968-1976
- Box 3. Folder 17. Registered Voter by Election Precinct (1 of 3), undated
- Box 3. Folder 18. Registered Voter by Election Precinct (2 of 3), undated
- Box 3. Folder 19. Registered Voter by Election Precinct (3 of 3), undated
- Box 4. Folder 1. Tally of Registered Voters by Precinct, 1970-1972
- Box 4. Folder 2. Voter Registration, 1974-1980

## Series 3: Financial Records. 1933-1986, undated

### Administrative/Biographical History

Series III. Financial Records contains expense accounts, financial reports, receipts, ledgers, and recommendations. Most of the materials relate directly to Democratic primaries held during the 1970's. The series also has a ledger dating back to the mid-1930's. The materials that comprise this series are in average condition.

- Box 4. Folder 3. 1970 Democratic Primary, Expense Account, 1970
- Box 4. Folder 4. 1972 Democratic Primary, Account for Holding Election, 1972
- Box 4. Folder 5. 1972 Democratic Primary, Expense Report, 1972
- Box 4. Folder 6. 1974 Democratic Primary, Account for Holding Election, 1974
- Box 4. Folder 7. 1974 Democratic Primary, Budget, 1974
- Box 4. Folder 8. 1974 Democratic Primary, Expense Account, 1974
- Box 4. Folder 9. 1974 Democratic Primary, Expense Estimates, Indexes, 1974
- Box 4. Folder 10. 1974 Democratic Primary, Financial Statement, 1974
- Box 4. Folder 11. 1976 Democratic Primary, Financial Statement, 1976
- Box 4. Folder 12. 1978 Democratic Primary, Expense Reports, 1978
- Box 5. Folder 1. Cash, Receipts, Disbursements, 1933-1942
- Box 5. Folder 2. Costs of Implementation of the Federal Voting Rights Act, undated
- Box 5. Folder 3. Democratic Primary, Budget, 1970-1972
- Box 5. Folder 4. Exemptions, Reports, Payments, 1974-1979
- Box 5. Folder 5. Expense Report, Democratic Primaries, 1960-1970
- Box 5. Folder 6. Expense Report, Democratic Primaries, 1972-1974
- Box 5. Folder 7. Financial Report, Supporting Candidates for Nomination or for Election as a United States Senator, 1972
- Box 5. Folder 8. Financial Reports, General, 1943-1964
- Box 5. Folder 9. "Index to Primary Financing Rules", 1978
- Box 5. Folder 10. Ledger, 1934-1972
- Box 5. Folder 11. Ledger, 1974-1986
- Box 5. Folder 12. Primary Election, Expense Report, 1972-1974
- Box 5. Folder 13. Recommendations, Reports, 1966-1974

#### **Series 4: Subject Files. 1972-1992**

##### **Administrative/Biographical History**

Series IV. Subject Files contains several files arranged by subject. The material covers a wide range of topics including Billy Goldberg, Gene Evans, Lyndon B. Johnson, party leadership, and the two hundredth anniversary of the McLennan County Democratic Party. Overall, this series is in average condition.

- Box 5. Folder 14. 200th Anniversary, Program, Independence Day Rally, 1992
- Box 5. Folder 15. Correspondence, Billy Goldberg, 1980
- Box 5. Folder 16. Correspondence, Gene Evans, 1972-1981
- Box 5. Folder 17. Lyndon B. Johnson, Booklet, "LBJ: Images of a Vibrant Life", 1973
- Box 5. Folder 18. Party Leadership, 1979-1988
- Box 5. Folder 19. Resolutions, 1973-1974
- Box 5. Folder 20. San Marcos Baptist Academy, Booklet, "Building a New Home", 1981