McLennan County Democratic Party records
Baylor Collections of Political Materials, W. R. Poage Legislative Library
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Summary Information
Creator
McLennan County Democratic Party
Evans, Gene

Extent (quantity/size) 5 document boxes.

Language English

Abstract
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**


**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 27. Memorandum, Opinion, Order, Redistricting, Residency, Filing, 1971
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 8. Resolutions, General, 1974-1978
Box 2. Folder 9. Resolutions, Propositions, 1968
Box 2. Folder 11. Secretary of State, Directives, Voting, 1977
Box 2. Folder 12. Texas Election Code, Financing of Primaries, Correspondence, Bills, Resolutions, 1972

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 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 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 5. 1978 Democratic Primary, Election Judges, 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 13. Location of Voting Boxes, 1972-1982
Box 3. Folder 15. Map of Waco, Councilmen’s Wards, 1967
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


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 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 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 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 10. Ledger, 1934-1972
Box 5. Folder 11. Ledger, 1974-1986

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