



## Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library

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### BRACKENRIDGE (R. DOUGLAS) RESEARCH PAPERS, 1886-1975

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#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** R. Douglas Brackenridge research papers

**Dates:** 1886-1975

**Accession Number(s):** 2010-001

**Extent:** 5 inches

**Language:** Materials are written in English and Spanish.

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#### Biographical Note:

Robert Douglas Brackenridge (1932 - ) is a Presbyterian educator and historian in Texas. Douglas was born on August 6, 1932 in Youngstown, Ohio. He obtained his Masters of Divinity and Masters of Theology from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in 1957 and 1959. Brackenridge served as pastor at the Crossroads Presbyterian Church in Washington, PA from 1957-1960. Following this post, he was awarded a Ph.D. from the University of Glasgow in 1962. In 1962, Brackenridge began his teaching career as an assistant professor of the department of religion at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. Brackenridge continued to teach at Trinity University for 38 years, becoming an associate professor in 1966, a professor in 1974, and the chair of the department of religion in 1977. Brackenridge retired from teaching in 2000.

Brackenridge's research interests primarily include three areas of American religious history: the relationships between Presbyterians and the Latter-Day Saints of Utah in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the history of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation, and the history of Presbyterian missions in Texas and their work with Mexican Americans in the Southwest. These interests have produced many publications including *Westminster College of Salt Lake City: from Presbyterian Mission to Independent College* (1998), *The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation: a Bicentennial History* (1999), and *Iglesia Presbiteriana: a History of Presbyterians and Mexican Americans in the Southwest* (1974).

#### Scope and Contents:

Five inches of drafts, notes, minutes, reports, printed materials, correspondence, ledgers, photographic material, and maps (1886-1975) are arranged in four series to document Robert Douglas Brackenridge's research for *Iglesia Presbiteriana: a History of Presbyterians and Mexican Americans in the Southwest*.

The bulk of the first series is comprised of Brackenridge's drafts, notes, and correspondence (1971) which are largely undated. The series also includes essays on Mexican American Presbyterianism by Brackenridge's students and materials related to seminars on "Ministries in the Southwest" and "Hispanics and Theological Interpretation."

The second series contains printed materials, correspondence, ledgers, and legal documentation (1895-1938) from Walter S. Scott, the first ordained clergy in Texas. Printed materials make up the bulk of this series (1895-1938) including the "Action of Assembly in 1895" Scrapbook and articles from the *Christian Observer*, the *Missionary Survey*, and the *Presbyterian Survey*. Items of interest include entries from Scott's ledger and his marriage license and divorce proceedings with Mary Pirie.

The third series includes correspondence, minutes, reports, and printed materials (1886-1947) of various Presbyterian mission organizations and documents the actions and policies regarding Mexican Americans and Presbyterians in Texas. The bulk of this series is comprised of correspondence (1902-1935) and minutes and reports (1886-1947). Items of interest include the correspondence of Rev. E.C. Caldwell and Rev. S.L. Morris, secretary of the Executive Committee of Home Missions, Rev. E. Trevino of the Texas-Mexican Presbytery, and Rev. A.G. Jones of the First Presbyterian Church of San Antonio, TX. The minutes and reports document the meetings of the Western Texas Presbytery, the General Assembly Presbytery (U.S.), the Committee of Home Missions, the Committee of Theological Seminaries, and Synod of Texas.

The fourth series is comprised of photographic materials (1896-1952) and contains 23 photographs and one sheet of microfilm that were used in the publishing of *Iglesia Presbiteriana: a History of Presbyterians and Mexican Americans in the Southwest*. Detailed identification of photograph subjects (when available) can be found in the holding record.

**Processing Information:**

Processed by Whitney Hughes, Archives Assistant, March 2010.

**Restrictions:**

Materials are available by appointment only. Contact the archivist for details.

**Index Terms:**

Brackenridge, R. Douglas.

Campbell, Robert Douglas, 1870-1955.

Scott, Walter S., 1865-1937.

Presbyterian Church in the U.S.--Synod of Texas--Committee on Home Missions.

Home missions.

Mexican Americans--Missions--Southwest, New.

Mexican Americans--Missions--Texas.  
Mexican Americans--Southwest, New--Religion.  
Presbyterian Church--Southwest, New--History.

**Preferred Citation:** R. Douglas Brackenridge research papers, 1886-1975, Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

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**Inventory:**

**Box                      Contents**

**B154                      Brackenridge (R. Douglas), 1914-1975:**

Drafts, undated  
Notes, undated  
Correspondence, 1971 and undated  
Educational material, 1971-1975 and undated  
Maps, 1914-1925

**Scott (Walter S.), 1895-1938:**

Printed material:  
    "Action of Assembly in 1895" Scrapbook, 1895  
    *Christian Observer*, 1898-1928  
    *The Missionary Survey*, 1913-1924  
    *The Presbyterian Survey*, 1929  
    *The Austin Seminary Bulletin*, 1938  
    *Texas Presbyterian*, undated  
    Unidentified, 1898 and undated  
Correspondence, 1902-1930 and undated  
Ledger entries, 1910 and undated  
Legal documentation, 1889-1914 and undated

**Presbyterian Missions, 1886-1947:**

Correspondence, 1902-1935  
Minutes and reports:  
    Western Texas Presbytery minutes, 1887-1903  
    General Assembly PCUS minutes, 1905-1908  
    General Assembly PCUS Home Mission reports, 1925-1937  
    General Assembly PCUS Report of Theological Seminaries,  
        1926-1930  
    Synod of Texas, 1911-1947  
    A.P.T.S. Board of Trustees, 1921  
Printed material, 1886-1921 and undated  
Certifications, 1896-1924

**Box**

**Contents**

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**D035**

**Photographic Materials, 1896-1952:**

Prints, 1896-1952 and undated

1. José María Botelló, undated
2. Camp meeting near Martindale, undated
4. Salinas, Scott, Cárenas, García, Alba, Samaniego, and Pérez, 1896
7. Robert D. Campbell, undated
8. Mexican Presbyterian Church, Waco, TX, undated
9. Texas-Mexican Presbytery Meeting, Corpus Christi, TX, 1952
12. Hospital, Bisbee, AZ, undated
13. Embudo Presbyterian Hospital, 1940
14. Rev. John A. Annin, undated
15. Plaza School, Holman, NM, 1933
16. Plaza School, Chimayo, NM, 1938
17. Canyon school bus, Chacon, NM, 1927
18. Evangelistic Conference, Albuquerque, NM, 1903
19. Rev. Gabino Rendon, undated
20. Rev. James A. Menaul, undated
21. Dr. Sarah Bowen, undated
23. Robert McLean, undated
24. Robert McLean, undated
25. Paul L. Warnshuis, undated
26. Home of Neighborly Service, Los Angeles, CA, 1936
27. 4-H Club, Chacon, NM, 1934
29. Camp Juárez, undated
30. Home of Neighborly Service, Azusa, AZ, 1923

Microfilm:

Collage, undated