



A Guide to the Yanaguana Society (San Antonio, Tex.) Records, 1931-1960

Collection Summary

Creator(s): Yanaguana Society (San Antonio, Tex.)

Title(s): Yanaguana Society (San Antonio, Tex.) Records

Date(s) (Inclusive): 1931-1960

Abstract: Correspondence, minutes, resolutions, membership records, printed material, financial records, and literary productions are part of the Yanaguana Society records. General Society records include the first proposals for the new organization, a fairly complete set of minutes, and routine business. Special projects documented include the Art Committee, which worked on the 1933 exhibition and the acquisition of the Gentilz paintings. Some items deal with the donation of Society records to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. A few personal papers of Frederick C. Chabot are also included.

Identification: Col 924

Extent(s): 1.67 linear feet (4 boxes)

Language(s): Materials are in English.

Repository: [DRT Collection](#)

Collection Details

Historical Note

The Yanaguana Society was formed in 1933 by a group of San Antonio, Texas, residents to, according to its charter, "encourage historical research into the earliest records of San Antonio, especially those relating to the period or periods previous to 1855." The organization, named for the Payaya Indian word for the village located at the site of San Antonio, was the brainchild of San Antonio historian Frederick C. Chabot, who first raised the idea in 1931. A primary function of the group was to be the publication of source documents related to the city's history.

The first meeting of the Yanaguana Society in 1933 October drew about 100 people to the Gunter Hotel, where by-laws and resolutions were adopted, setting membership categories and electing members. Most of the first members were prominent San Antonians, though others from around Texas and from other states were active throughout the life of the organization.

One of the group's first projects was an exhibit of San Antonio artwork, held at the Witte Museum in 1933 December. Also under the charge of its Art Committee, the society acquired thirteen paintings by San Antonio artist Theodore Gentilz and later obtained other works of art. The publication program began with the release of the thesis of Carlos E. Casteneda, *A Report on the Spanish Archives in San Antonio, Texas*, in 1937. A total of seven volumes were published by the Yanaguana Society, including a special release of Chabot's *With the Makers of San Antonio*.

Though the society continued to attract new members, activity declined during the early 1940s and practically came to a halt with Chabot's death in 1943. In 1946, an effort was made to reorganize and revive the society, but a lack of adequate interest led the directors to dissolve the Society on 1947 March 14. The Yanaguana Society's remaining publications and funds were transferred to the San Antonio Historical Society, while its paintings, Texana collection, and records were given to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library at the Alamo.

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, minutes, resolutions, membership material, printed material, financial documents, and literary productions are part of the operating records of the Yanaguana Society.

The papers provide a fairly complete record of the operations of the historical organization. The papers include general operating records and subgroups made up of the records of the Society's Art Committee, records generated by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas in connection with the Society's papers, and records of Frederick C. Chabot.

The general material includes extensive correspondence, beginning with Chabot's first proposals for the organization in 1931, through initial membership recruitment in 1933, specific projects, and routine business, up to the dissolution of the Society. Copies of letters sent were maintained. Some letters, especially those written to Chabot, cover other topics, such as historical research.

A fairly complete set of minutes exists. The minutes often contain the text of resolutions adopted by the directors and letters sent and received. A ledger contains minutes of the final three years of the society's existence.

The actual working manuscripts of society's publications consist of a complete manuscript of *McFarland's Journal*. A few short papers by Chabot are also included.

Financial records include orders for Society publications, some bills and receipts, and bank records, which are somewhat scattered and incomplete. A ledger contains annual financial reports for each year of the organization's existence.

The Art Committee subgroup consists of correspondence related to the Yanaguana Society art exhibition of 1933 and the acquisition and use of paintings, particularly works by Theodore Gentilz. Other documents related to the Gentilz paintings are also included. References to the disposition of these paintings upon the dissolution of the society can also be found in the general correspondence and resolutions.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas material includes correspondence and other items produced after the Yanaguana Society was disbanded and its papers were donated to the DRT Library. Much of the correspondence concerns the purchase of Yanaguana Society publications.

The Frederick C. Chabot records include a copy of Chabot's will, letters, and other items related to the Yanaguana Society's dealings with his estate. A small amount of printed material and financial documents pertain to Chabot's professional activities outside the Yanaguana Society.

▼ Collection Restrictions

Access Restrictions

No restrictions. The collection is open for research.

Usage Restrictions

Please be advised that the library does not hold the copyright to most of the material in its archival collections. It is the responsibility of the researcher to secure those rights when needed. Permission to reproduce does not constitute permission to publish. The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming to the laws of copyright, literary property rights, and libel.

▼ Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Yanaguana Society (San Antonio, Tex.) Records, 1931-1960, Col 924, DRT Collection.

Acquisition Information

Gift of the Yanaguana Society, 1947.

Processing Information

Processed by Warren Stricker, 1991 May.

Finding aid edited and encoded by Caitlin Donnelly, 2011 December.

Updated to EAD3 by Rebeka Delgado, 2021 March.

▼ Subject Terms

Index Terms :

- **Personal Names :**

- Persons*

- Chabot, Frederick C. (Frederick Charles), b. 1891.
 - Gentilz, Theodore, d. 1906.

- **Organizations :**

- Yanaguana Society.

- **Subjects :**

- History--Societies, etc.

- o History publishing--Texas.
- o Art--Texas--Exhibitions.

• **Locations :**

Places

- o San Antonio (Tex.)--History Study and teaching.

• **Genres/Formats :**

Document Types

- o Administrative records.
- o Correspondence.
- o Financial records.
- o Manuscripts.
- o Minutes.
- o Printed ephemera.

∨ **Inventory**

Inventory Information

Detailed Description of the Collection

∨ **Title:** Yanaguana Society Records, 1931-1960

Title: Charter: 3 items [photostats], 1933

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 1

Title: Correspondence, 1931-1950

Box 1

Title: Letters sent: arranged chronologically, 1931-1950

Box 1

Title: 9 items, 1931

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 2

Title: 17 items, 1933-1934

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 3

Title: 19 items, 1935-1939

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 4

Title: 19 items, 1941-1945

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 5

Title: 52 items, 1946

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 6

Title: 33 items, 1947, 1950

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 7

Title: Letters received: arranged chronologically, 1931-1947

Box 1

Title: 31 items, 1931, 1933

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 8

Title: 24 items, 1934-1936

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 9

Title: 13 items, 1937-1939

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 10

Title: 32 items, 1940

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 11

Title: 16 items, 1941

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 12

Title: 22 items, 1942

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 13

Title: 26 items, 1943-1945

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 14

Title: 38 items, 1946

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 15

Title: 15 items, 1947

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 16

Title: Memorandum: publication policy, circa 1936

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 17

Title: Minutes, 1933-1947

Box 1

Title: 1933

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 18

Title: 1934

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 19

Title: 1935

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 20

Title: 1936

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 21

Title: 1937

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 22

Title: 1938

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 23

Title: 1939

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 24

Title: 1940

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 25

Title: 1941

Location: Box: 1 | Folder: 26

Title: 1945-1946

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 27

Title: 1947

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 28

Title: Ledger, 1945-1947

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 29

Title: Annual report: 10 pages, 1933-1934

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 30

Title: Resolutions: 4 items, 1946-1947

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 31

Title: Membership lists: 7 items, 1936-1938, undated

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 32

Title: Membership applications/dues: 40 items, 1932-1939, undated

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 33

Title: Proxies: 54 items, 1933-1947

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 34

Title: Press releases: 2 items, 1933, undated

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 35

Title: Inventories: "Manuscript Material Inspected for Harry Hertzberg," typescript, 5 pages, 1933

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 36

Title: Lists, 1933-1942, undated

Box 2

Title: Yanaguana Society publications: 3 items, 1942

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 37

Title: Yanaguana Society publications: subscribers, 10 items, 1933-1942

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 38

Title: Yanaguana Society officers and records: 2 pages, undated

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 39

Title: Texas newspapers: 2 pages, undated

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 40

Title: Miscellaneous: 2 items, undated

Box 2

Title: Membership application form: draft, typescript

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 41

Title: Program: annual meeting, draft, typescript, 1933

Box 2

Title: Magazine cover: draft, typescript

Box 2

Title: Printed material, 1933-1946, undated

Box 2

Title: Programs: "Presentation of the Matachine Dance by Chichimec and Other Indians," 3 items, 1934

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 42

Title: Clippings: 13 items, 1934-1946

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 43

Title: Miscellaneous: 6 items, 1933, undated

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 44

Title: Financial records, 1933-1947, undated

Box 2

Title: Financial reports: ledger, 70 pages, 1935-1947

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 45

Title: Dues account book: 1 item, 1933-1947

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 46

Title: List of statements mailed: 2 pages, undated

Location: Box: 2 | Folder: 47

Title: Accounts receivable, orders, etc.: approximately 30 items, 1937-1946

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 48

Title: Accounts payable, bills, receipts, etc.: 26 items, 1934-1947

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 49

Title: Bank statements, deposit slips, checks, etc.: unsorted, 1940-1947

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 50

Title: Literary productions and manuscripts, 1934-1942

Box 3

Title: Chabot, Frederick C., supervisor, *A Survey of Historical Records: Bexar County, Texas* , 9 pages, 1934

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 51

Title: Chabot, Frederick C., "First Americans of San Antonio," 45 pages, 1935

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 52

Title: *McFarland Journal* , introduction, typescript, XLXI [LI] pages, 1942

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 53

Title: *McFarland Journal* , typescript, 154 pages, 1942

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 54

Title: *McFarland Journal* , notes and appendix, typescript, 39 pages

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 55

Title: *Texas Letters* , unbound volume, 188 pages, 1940

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 56

Title: Notes: 2 items, undated

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 57

Title: Miscellaneous material: 3 items, undated

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 58

Title: Card file: names, addresses, etc.

Box 4

Title: Art Committee, 1933-1950, undated

Box 3

Title: Correspondence: arranged chronologically, 1933-1950

Box 3

Title: Witte Museum Art Exhibit: 20 items, 1933-1934

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 59

Title: Art, acquisition and use: includes letters concerning Theodore Gentilz paintings, 39 items, 1934-1950

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 60

Title: Bills of sale, Gentilz paintings: 3 items, 1936-1937

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 61

Title: Copyrights, Gentilz paintings: 16 items, 1936-1937

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 62

Title: Insurance policy, Gentilz paintings: 2 items, 1937-1938

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 63

Title: Press release: drafts, 2 items, 1933

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 64

Title: Clippings: 1 item, 1933

Box 3

Title: Lists, 1933, undated

Box 3

Title: Witte Museum Exhibit/San Antonio art: 3 items, 1933, undated

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 65

Title: Yanaguana Society presentations, oil paintings: 2 items, undated

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 66

Title: Catalogs: "Catalog of a Loan Exhibition of Old San Antonio Paintings," 2 items, 1933

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 67

Title: Receipts for paintings: 2 items, 1946, 1949

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 68

Title: Notes: 3 items, 1933, undated

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 69

Title: Daughters of the Republic of Texas, 1943-1960, undated

Box 3

Title: Correspondence: 53 items, 1958-1959

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 70

Title: Inventories, 1947, undated

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 71

Title: List of Papers of the Yanaguana Society: 1 item, 1947

Box 3

Title: Yanaguana Unit-DRT Library: 1 item, undated

Box 3

Title: Subject file: Frederick C. Chabot, 2 items, 1943, 1960

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 72

Title: Frederick C. Chabot, 1933-1946

Box 3

Title: Estate papers: 14 items, 1940-1946

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 73

Title: Financial records, printed material: 5 items, 1933-1941

Location: Box: 3 | Folder: 74

▼ **Title:** Separated material

Administrative Information

Scope and Contents

The following books have been separated from the Yanaguana Society's records and placed in the DRT Library's general collection. See the library's online catalog for additional information about these items.

Title: *An Act to Incorporate the City of San Antonio* . Austin, Texas: Tracy, Siemering and Co., 1870.

Title: Buck, Beaumont B. *Memories of Peace and War* . San Antonio: The Naylor Co., 1935.

Title: Chabot, Frederick C., ed. *Texas in 1811: The Las Casas and Sambrano Revolutions* . San Antonio: Yanaguana Society, 1941.

Title: Cole, Cornelia A. *Gen. Robert Anderson* .

Title: Cuyas Armengol, Arturo. *Gran Diccionario Ingles-Espanol* . Barcelona: Sociedad General de Publicaciones, 1928.

Title: Dobie, James Frank. *Folk-lore of the Southwest. What is Being Done to Preserve It* .

Title: Dobie, James Frank. *Publications of the Texas Folk-Lore Society* . Austin, Texas: Texas Folk-Lore Society, 1923.

Title: Dobie, James Frank, ed. *Texas and Southwestern Lore* . Austin, Texas: Texas Folk-Lore Society, 1927.

Title: *Estado General de las Fundaciones Hechas por D. Jose de Escandon en la Colonia del Nuevo Santander costa del seno Mexicano*

. Mexico: Talleres Graficos de la Nacion, 1929.

Title: Hunter, Robert Hancock. *Narrative of Robert Hancock Hunter* . Austin: Cook Printing Co., 1936.

Title: James, Vinton Lee. *Frontier and Pioneer Recollections of Early Days in San Antonio and West Texas* . San Antonio: Artes Graficas, 1938.

Title: Jameson, E. O.

The Biographical Sketches of Prominent Persons, and the Genealogical Records of Many Early and Other Families in Medway, Mass. 1713-1886
. Millis, Massachusetts: E. O. Jameson, 1886.

Title: Jones, W. Northey. *The History of St. Peter's Church in Perth Amboy, New Jersey: the Oldest Congregation of the Church of New Jersey* . 1924.

Title: Lozano, Ruben Rendon. *Viva Tejas: The Story of the Mexican-born Patriots of the Republic of Texas*
. San Antonio: Southern Literary Institute, 1936.

Title: Maverick, Mary Ann Adams. *Memoirs of Mary A. Maverick* . San Antonio: Alamo Printing Co., 1921.

Title: Newcomb, Pearson. *The Alamo City* . San Antonio: Pearson Newcomb, 1926.

Title: *Roster of Troops Serving in the Department of Texas, Commanded by Brigadier General Frank Wheaton, U.S. Army*
. San Antonio: Assistant Adjutant General's Office, 1894.

Title: Rubio Mane, J. Ignacio. *Los Piratas La Fitte* . Mexico: Editorial Polis, 1938.

Title: Ryan, W. M. *Shamrock and Cactus: The Story of the Catholic Heroes of Texas Independence* . San Antonio: Southern Literary Institute, 1936.

Title: Scott, Florence Johnson. *Old Rough and Ready on the Rio Grande* . San Antonio: The Naylor Co., 1935.

Title: Sloane, Charles Albert, ed.

I Remember: Being the Memoirs of Mrs. John Herndon (Maria Aurelia Williams) James Together with Contemporary Historical Events and Sketches of her own and her Husband's Families
. San Antonio: The Naylor Co., 1938.

Title: Thompson, Waddy. *Recollections of Mexico* . New York: Wiley and Putnam, 1846.

Title: Turton, W. H. *The Plantagenet Ancestry* . London: Phillimore and Co., 1928.

Title: Waugh, Julia Nott. *Castro-ville and Henry Castro, Emprasario* . San Antonio: Standard Printing Co., 1934.

Title: Wharton, Clarence R. *The Republic of Texas: A Brief History from the First American Colonies in 1821 to Annexation in 1846*
. Houston: C. C. Young Printing Co., 1922.

Title: Wharton, Clarence R. *San Jacinto: The Sixteenth Decisive Battle* . Houston: Lamar Book Store, 1930.