



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, OFFICE OF THE CITY  
CLERK, MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES

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**TITLE:**

Office of the Mayor, Lila Cockrell Records, 1970-1981; 1989-1991

**DATES:**

1970-1981; 1989-1991

**QUANTITY:**

14 ft.

**LANGUAGES:**

English; Spanish

This collection was processed with the assistance of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

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**ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:**

Born in 1922, Lila Cockrell graduated from SMU University in 1942 then was active in the U.S. Navy's WAVES [Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service] program during World War II before moving to San Antonio with her husband Sid Cockrell in 1956. Cockrell's entry into politics began with her work with the League of Women Voters, serving as president for both the Dallas and San Antonio chapters (1959-1963). Her first attempt at public office came in 1963, when she ran of the Good Government Council's reform ticket as a city councilwoman. She was first elected to the San Antonio City Council in 1965, serving seven years as a councilwoman between 1965-1970 and 1973-1975, eventually becoming the city's first female mayor pro tem in 1969. As a councilwoman, she also initiated the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women in 1970 to evaluate and encourage equal treatment for women in San Antonio. In 1975, she became San Antonio's first female mayor, and also the first female mayor of a major metropolitan area in the U.S. (>pop. 700, 000), an office she would hold three times between 1975-1991. Cockrell was the first woman to serve in a number of different capacities, including as president of the Alamo Area Council of Governments and the Texas Municipal League, and she was the

first woman to serve on the boards of the Fireman and Policeman's Pension Fund, National League of Cities, National Association of Regional Councils, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. For her accomplishments, Cockrell has been inducted into the Texas Woman's Hall of Fame and San Antonio Woman's Hall of Fame and received honorary degrees from Southern Methodist University and Our Lady of the Lake University.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**

Records document the Office of the Mayor during the second (1977-1979), third (1979-1981), and fourth (1989-1991) terms of Lila Cockrell. Included are correspondence, memoranda, financial records, and subject files that document the activities of the Lila Cockrell administration. A majority of the records are from Cockrell's second and third terms as mayor of San Antonio (11 ft.), most notably correspondence documenting the administration of the city, preparations for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration of the founding of San Antonio, and efforts to designate the missions of San Antonio a National Historic Park. The records also include a small amount of material from Cockrell's third term in office from 1989-1991 (~3 ft.), consisting primarily of assorted correspondence with various city departments and assorted subject files.

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**ARRANGEMENT:**

- I. 1979-1981 [2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> terms]
  - A. Administrative files
    - 1. Correspondence
    - 2. Memoranda
    - 3. Assorted files
    - 4. Press releases
  - B. Financial statements
  - C. Newspaper clippings
  - D. Subject files [A-Z]
  - E. Printed materials
- II. 1989-1991 [4<sup>th</sup> term]
  - A. Administrative files
  - B. Subject files
  - C. Printed materials

**RESTRICTIONS:**

Unrestricted access.

**PREFERRED CITATION:**

[Box #, Folder title], Office of the Mayor, Lila Cockrell Records, 1970-1981; 1989-1991, San Antonio Municipal Archives.

**INDEX TERMS****Persons:**

Cockrell, Lila— Archives.

Bentsen, Lloyd -- Correspondence.

Gonzalez, Henry B. (Henry Barbosa), 1916-2000— Correspondence.

**Organizations:**

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park (San Antonio, Tex.).

South Texas Nuclear Project—History.

San Antonio (Tex.)—Dept. of Economic and Employment Development.

San Antonio (Tex.). Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women.

**Subject:**

Firemen and policemen's pension fund—San Antonio (Tex.).

Fiesta San Antonio (San Antonio, Tex.).

Mayors—Texas—San Antonio (Tex.).

San Antonio (Tex.) — Economic development.

San Antonio (Tex.) — Politics and government--History.

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**INVENTORY:**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>BOX 9</b>	Administrative files [1979-1981] <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Correspondence<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1978-1980</li><li>1980</li><li>1980-1981</li><li>1981</li><li>Thank you letters, 1980-1981</li><li>Greeting letters, 1979-1981</li><li>Mailgrams/telegrams, 1979-1981</li></ul></li><li>Memoranda<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Office of the Mayor<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1980</li><li>1980-1981</li></ul></li><li>City departments<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1979-1980</li><li>1980</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>
<b>BOX 10</b>	1981 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Press releases, 1980-1981</li><li>Assorted files, 1980</li><li>Financial statements<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Invoices<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1979-1981</li><li>1979-1980</li><li>1981</li></ul></li><li>Requisitions/purchases, 1979-1981</li><li>Expense reports (travel), 1980-1981</li></ul></li><li>Assorted newspaper clippings, 1980</li></ul>
<b>BOX 1</b>	Subject files <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Academy for Contemporary Problems, 1978</li><li>Alamo, 1979</li><li>Alamo Area Council of Governments, 1979-1980</li><li>Amado, Juan Jose [Panamanian ambassador], 1980</li><li>Amtrak, 1980</li><li>Archar, Inc., 1980</li></ul>

- NP 1.2** Novelty maps of San Antonio and Austin, 1978
- BOX 1** Archdiocese, 1980  
 Arts Council of San Antonio, 1979-1980  
 Arts, 1980  
 Atlixco delegation, 1980  
 Ballet Folklorico de Guadalajara, 1980-1981  
 Barrio Betterment and Development Corporation (BBDC), 1979-1980  
 Bexar County Council of Mayors, 1979-1980  
 Bexar County Intergovernmental Council, 1979  
 Bentsen, Senator Lloyd, 1978-1981  
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     1979-1980  
     1980-1981  
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- NP 1.2** Fence permits, 1980
- BOX 1** Cable television  
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     1977-1981  
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 CCL [250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of San Antonio]  
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- BOX 2** 1981  
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 Chamber of Commerce, 1979-1980  
 China trip, 1979-1980  
*Christian Science Monitor*, 1980  
 City council orientation/bus tour, 1977-1979  
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1981 [affirmative action plan]  
1981 [Daily Address Record]  
City Water Board  
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Coal transportation, 1977-1981  
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Community Development Block Grant, 1980  
Consulates, 1979-1981  
Convention and Visitors' Bureau, 1981

**BOX 3**

COPS [Communities Organized for Public Service], 1978-1980  
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Department of Energy  
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Drainage Task Force, 1981  
Durazo, General Arturo visit, 1980  
Economic development administration, 1979  
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Edwards aquifer, 1980-1981  
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Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), 1978-1981  
Ex-offender placement services, 1980  
Export-Import bank, 1980  
Festival Calderon,  
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Fiesta Committee  
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Fire and police pension fund  
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Mariachi month, 1979-1980  
Market Square, 1980  
Master Plan for San Antonio, 1979-1980  
Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women, 1970-1981  
Mental Health-Mental Retardation Center, 1979-1981  
Metropolitan Health District, 1979-1980  
Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), 1980  
Metropolitan Tax Office, 1979  
Mexican American Unity Council (MUAC), 1979-1981  
Mexico City delegation, 1979-1980  
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**BOX 6**

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Municipal Court (Mattie Schultz)  
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National Women's Employment and Education, 1980-1981  
National League of Cities  
    1980-1981  
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Parks and Recreation, 1979-1980  
Partners of the Americas, 1980  
Personnel Department, 1980  
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Piedras Negras, 1979-1980  
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Portillo, Presidente Jose Lopez, 1980-1981  
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1980-1981  
Public utilities, 1980  
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San Antonio Museum Association, 1979-1980  
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Sanyo summer youth employment program, 1981-1982  
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*Secretaria de Presupuesto y Planceacion*, 1981  
Seminars, 1980  
Siglo Oro, 1980-1981  
Sniper victims fund, 1980  
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Spanish ambassador [José Llado], 1979  
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Texas Sesquicentennial Advisory Committee, 1979-1980  
Tower, Senator John G., 1978-1980  
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United San Antonio, 1980-1981

**NP 1.2**

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**BOX 8**

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Yellow Rose Committee, 1981  
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**BOX 11**

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Budget and research, 1989  
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Cable testimony, 1990  
Cattle Baron's Gala: fundraiser for the American Cancer Society,  
1990  
Citizens Against the Rollback Effort (CARE), 1990  
City Clerk, 1989  
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**BOX 13**

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Department of Economic and Employment Development (DEED),  
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**NP 1.2** City drainage project # 74 citizen complaint, 1989

**BOX 13** Finance department, 1989-1990  
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**BOX 14** Firemen and policemen's pension fund  
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M Trust, 1989  
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State Street Bank, 1989  
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**NP 1.2** Assorted clippings and prints, 1980

**BOX 14** Handicapped access, 1989  
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Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women, 1989

- NP 1.2** List of female mayors, 1989
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 Purchasing and General Services Department, 1989  
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 Rotary International, 1990  
 Rural Rental Housing Association, 1990  
 Salinas, Presidente Carlos visit, 1991  
 San Antonio Education Partnership, 1989-1990  
 Texas Employment Commission, undated  
 Texas Municipal League, meeting of the board of directors, 1991
- BOX 10** Washington D.C. trip, 1990  
 World League, 1990  
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- BOX 14** Printed Materials  
 Reports  
     "Religious leaders summit addressing solutions to gang related  
       problems for the City of San Antonio," 1991  
     "A preliminary proposal to establish a Euro Info Center in the  
       United States," 1990  
     "Geology of the Edwards aquifer: description and  
       recommendations," 1991