



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES & RECORDS

CREATOR:

City of San Antonio, Office of the Mayor.
McAllister, Walter W., 1889-1984.

TITLE:

Office of the Mayor, Walter W. McAllister Records, 1961-1971

DATES:

1961-1971

QUANTITY:

6 ft.

LANGUAGES:

English

REPOSITORY:

[City of San Antonio, Office of the City Clerk, Municipal Archives & Records](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY:

Walter W. McAllister (1889-1984) was a prominent local San Antonio businessman, banker and politician. He founded the San Antonio Savings Association in 1921. He also established the San Antonio Union Junior College District (now Alamo Community College) in 1945 and served as its first president. In 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower appointed McAllister Chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, the federal agency supervising savings and loan associations. He served in Washington D.C. until 1956 and then returned to San Antonio.

McAllister was appointed to the San Antonio City Council in Place No. 8 on September 8, 1960 by Ordinance 28841 (in City Council [Ordinance Book KK](#),

page 51), to fill the vacancy created by the death of Theo W. Pinson, Jr. McAllister was elected to five sequential two-year terms as Mayor, from 1961-1971. He was elected to his first two-year term (1961-1963) as Mayor in the April 4, 1961 election, as designated by Ordinance 29374 (April 5, 1961, in City Council [Ordinance Book KK](#), page 545). He was elected to his second two-year term (1963-1965) in the April 2, 1963 election, as designated by Ordinance 31244 (April 3, 1963, City Council [Ordinance Book NN](#), page 65). He was elected to his third two-year term (1965-1967) in the April 6, 1965 election, as designated by [Ordinance 33189A](#), April 7, 1965. He was elected to his fourth two-year term (1967-1969) in the April 4, 1967 election, as designated by Ordinance 35301, April 5, 1967. He was elected to his fifth and final two-year term (1969-1971) in the April 1, 1969 election, as designated by Ordinance 37392, April 7, 1969. During his tenure as Mayor, San Antonio hosted the 1968 HemisFair World's Fair, a pivotal event for the city in the areas of economic and urban development, and community relations. McAllister served as an honorary co-chairman of HemisFair '68, along with Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez. McAllister died in San Antonio in 1984 at the age of 95.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

Records document the Office of the Mayor of the City of San Antonio during Walter W. McAllister's tenure from 1961-1971. The arrangement follows the original office filing system in the Mayor McAllister's office. In most cases, original folder titles have been retained. The records include correspondence and subject files. The content of the records reflects the predominant topics of the day, such as communism, race relations, labor issues, and urban development.

I-A. Correspondence General: From 1961-1963, the correspondence was filed chronologically. The correspondence includes letters to the San Antonio City Council. The bulk of the correspondence is from local citizens, business people, and organizations and covers a wide variety of topics. Persons, organizations and topics of note are listed within the inventory.

I-B. Correspondence Alphabetical. From 1966-1971, McAllister's office filed correspondence alphabetically by correspondent or organization. Of special interest is his correspondence with prominent local, state and national politicians. A prevalent topic is the preparations for and issues related to the HemisFair '68 World's Fair. Correspondents are many local San Antonio

businessmen and state, national and international holders of political office. The content reflects political topics of the day and McAllister's community affiliations, activities, and political agendas. While there are many notable correspondents from all levels of social and political life, the most widely recognizable of these are indicated by name within the inventory.

II. Subject Files. The subject files are arranged alphabetically by topic. The series consists primarily of correspondence, planning and organizational documents and reports. Some of the well-represented topics are: the HemisFair '68 World's Fair and the construction of the HemisFair Tower; urban renewal and development; and integration, race relations and police activity. This series also includes an itinerary and extensive travelogue of a European vacation Mayor and Mrs. McAllister took to Europe in the fall of 1965.

RESTRICTIONS:

Unrestricted access.

PREFERRED CITATION:

[Box #, item identification], Office of the Mayor, Walter W. McAllister Records, 1961-1971, City of San Antonio, Office of the City Clerk, Municipal Archives & Records.

PROCESSING INFORMATION:

This collection was processed with financial assistance from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

INDEX TERMS

Persons:

McAllister, Walter W., 1889-1984.

Gonzalez, Henry B. – (Henry Barbosa), -- 1916-2000.

Organizations:

City Public Service Board of San Antonio, Texas.

San Antonio City Water Board.

Fiesta San Antonio Commission.

San Antonio (Tex.) – Urban Renewal Dept.

San Antonio River Authority.

Model Cities Program (San Antonio, Tex.)

San Antonio (Tex.). Police Dept.
San Antonio Transit System.

Subjects:

HemisFair (1968: San Antonio, Tex.)
Water supply – Texas – San Antonio – Management.
San Antonio (Tex.)—Politics and government—History.
Texas – Race Relations – History – 20th century.
Urban renewal – Texas – San Antonio.

INVENTORY:

Location Contents

I. Correspondence, 1961-1971

BOX 1 A. General Correspondence, 1961-1963

1961

August-September

Local and international greetings and queries

San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

Military business and personnel

San Antonio Jaycees

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

October-December

Local and international greetings and queries

Fallout shelters

Liberty Mutual Survival Car II

KENS Radio

Mayor Richard J. Daley, Chicago

Mayor Gordon S. Clinton, Seattle

Mayor Earle Cabell, Dallas

San Antonio Citizen's Association – Pablos Grove Project

Theodore von Karman

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) – Pablos
Grove Project

Congestion relief on Pecan Street – with plat of Lot 8, NCB 139

Civil Aeronautics Board

Texas State Parks Board

1962

January-March

Local and international greetings and queries

Zoning Commission candidates

Mayor Ralph Seitsinger, El Paso

San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

Jack Roth, KONO Radio

American Legion Project – correspondence, survey plats,
NCB 11152, 919, 10833, 1566, A-52, A-53

January-March (cont.)

Congressman Ralph Yarborough
Housing Authority of San Antonio – with reprints from the
San Antonio Light and Express News, February 26, 1962
San Antonio Softball Association
Muscular Dystrophy Association –1960 report
San Antonio Housing Authority
San Antonio Conservation Society
American Municipal Association

April-June

Local and international greetings and queries
John R. Snell, Engineer
Victoria Plaza apartments
San Antonio Chamber of Commerce – urban renewal

July-December

Local and international greetings and queries
Edgewood Park
Municipal Auditorium
San Antonio Arsenal
R.L.B. Tobin
Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez

1963

January-June

Local and international greetings and queries
Race relations
Solid waste
Juneteenth Celebration

July-December

Local and international greetings and queries
Race relations
Taxes
Traffic

Acknowledgement, letters of, 1962-1963

Complaints, responses, 1961-1963

1961

October – December

Dogs
Property conditions

Complaints, responses, 1961-1963 (cont.)

- Pollution
- Loud ice cream trucks
- Fluoridation
- Traffic

1962

- February-June
 - Public works
 - Taxes
 - Dogs
 - Utilities
 - Solid waste
 - Public transportation
 - Parks

- July-December
 - Public works
 - Firearms
 - Traffic
 - Dogs
 - Segregation
 - Fiesta San Antonio
 - Telephone party lines
 - Zoning

1963

- January-June
 - Public works and sanitation
 - Crime
 - Race relations
 - Solid waste
 - Protest of John F. Kennedy portrait at airport

- July-December
 - Public works
 - Traffic
 - Police
 - Parks
 - Utilities

Congratulations on re-election, April, 1963

Invitations, 1961-1963
1961
1962
1963
January-June
July-December
Thank you letters, 1962-1963

BOX 2 Rosters, data sent to new city councilmen, undated
Letters sent to Mayor and City Councilmen, from citizens and
organizations, August-December, 1961
Letters to City Councilmen, from citizens and organizations, 1962-1964
1962
June-December
1963-1964
January-June
July-January 1964
City Manager's position, applications and resumes
October-November, 1961

BOX 2 B. Alphabetical correspondence files, 1966-1971
1966
A
B
C
- Joan Crawford, actor
- Governor John Connally
D, E, F
G
- Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez
H
- Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey
I, J
- President and Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson
K
L
M
Mc
N, O

P, Q

R

S

T

- Congressman John G. Tower

U, V, W

Y, Z

- Congressman Ralph W. Yarborough

1967

A

- Atlee B. Ayres, Architect

B

C

- Governor John Connally

D

E, F

- Congressman Ovie Clark "O.C." Fisher

G

- Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez

H

- Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey

- Robert H. H. Hugman, Architect

I, J

K

L

M

N

P

R

S

- O.P. Schnabel

- Lt. Governor Preston Smith

T

- Congressman John A. Traeger

U, V

W

Z

BOX 3

1968

A

- Atlee B. Ayres, Architect

B

C

- Henry G. Cisneros
- Governor John Connally

D

E, F, G

- Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez

H

I, J

- Congressman Jacob Javits
- Harry D. Jersig, President, Lone Star Brewing Company
- President and Mrs. Lyndon Baines Johnson

K

- Congressman Abraham "Chick" Kazen, Jr.

L

M

N, O

- Richard M. Nixon [private citizen]

P

R

S

- Sam Bell Steves

T

- Trinity University (James W. Laurie, President)

U, V, W

Y, Z

- Congressman Ralph W. Yarborough

1969

A

B

C

D

E, F

- Archbishop Francis J. Furey, Archdiocese of San Antonio

G

- Guadalupe Community Center
- Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez

H

- Douglas S. Harlan, resignation as Director, Department of Education and Human Resources [re: HemisFair]
- Jerry R. Holleman

I

- IMAGE (Involvement of Mexican-Americans in Gainful Endeavors)

J, K

- James E. Johnson, owner, Playland Park

L

- Congressman Frank J. Lombardino
- LULAC Park West Apartment Project

M

N, O

- President Richard M. Nixon
- Our Lady of the Lake College

P, Q

- Peacock Military Academy
- Planned Parenthood

R

- George Romney, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

S

- Governor Preston Smith
- Anastasio Somoza, President, Nicaragua

T

- Texas Manufacturers Association
- Congressman John G. Tower

U, V

W, Y, Z

BOX 4 1970

A, B

- Vice President Spiro Agnew
- Congressman Lindley Beckworth
- C.M. Blanks, Universal Hamitic Institute and Development League
- Norman Brock, Owner, Brock Book Store

- Congressman George H.W. Bush
- C, D
- Ambassador and Mrs. Henry E. Catto, Jr.
 - Lila Cockrell
 - Continental Airlines
- E, F
- G
- Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez
- H, I
- Holy Cross High School (Brother Stanley Culotta)
 - IMAGE (Involvement of Mexican-Americans in Gainful Endeavors)
- J, K
- Joske's of Texas
- L, M
- Rómulo A. Munguía
- N, O
- P, R
- S
- San Antonio Neighborhood Youth Organization (SANYO)
 - Southwest Texas State University (Billy Mac Jones, President)
 - Governor Preston Smith
- T
- Congressman John G. Tower
- U, V
- W, Y
- Wheatley High School -- "The Wheatley Site and Name Issue," paper presented by the Youth Leadership Conference for Community Progress, Pastor R.A. Callies, Sr., President
 - Congressman Ralph W. Yarborough
- 1971
- A-M
- N-Y
- Patrician Movement (zoning case 4171, St. John's Seminary, drug rehabilitation center)
 - Governor Preston Smith
 - Texas Transportation Museum (Missouri Pacific Depot)
 - Wheatley High School

II. Subject files

- BOX 4** Airport expansion bond issue, 1970
Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG), 1965-1971
American Academy of Achievement, 1967
Annexations, 1963-1970
City Public Service Board (CPSB), 1961-1971
 General correspondence, 1961-1964, 1968-1971
 Employment practices
 1963, 1967
 LULAC
 Dr. Max Morales
 Councilman Pete Torres
 Leroy G. Denman
 La Villita
 Convention Hall
 Unions
 Community Relations Commission hearings on
 employment discrimination
1968
 Report: "An Inquiry Concerning Employment Practices of the
 City Public Service Board," The Community Relations
 Commission of San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas,
 January 25, 1968
 Report: "A Brief Analysis of the Response of the City Public
 Service Board to the Community Relations Commission's
 Report on Employment Practices," LULAC Council No. 2,
 March 7, 1968
1969-1971
 "The Union de Obreros Mexico-Americanos Manifesto to City
 Public Service Board," April 26, 1969
 Eloy Centeno
 Federation for the Advancement of the Mexican American
 (FAMA)
 Congressman Joe J. Bernal
Rates, 1965
Reports, Annual Reports, Budgets 1968-1971

City Water Board

Reports and general correspondence (includes discussions of bond projects; discrimination in employment practices; site plans for new building)

1968-1969

1970

1971

Olmos Park, 1961-1962, 1967-1969

BOX 5

Civil Aeronautics Board, 1967-1969

Community Relations Commission, 1967-1970

Complaints, 1969

Convention Center

General correspondence, 1964-1970

Southwest Research Institute proposal, 1964

Council of Mayors, Bexar County, 1965-1966, 1970

Dogs, use of strays in medical research, 1962

Downtown San Antonio, Incorporated, 1967-1969

Economic Opportunities Development Corporation (EODC)

1968-1969

SANYO

Summer Jobs Program

Youth Opportunities Program

1970-1971

European vacation, Mayor and Mrs. McAllister's itinerary, and narrative

Travelogue (98-page, spiral-bound book), 1965

Fiesta San Antonio Commission, Inc.

1964-1965

1969-1971

Fine Arts Commission, 1965

Ordinance establishing Fine Arts Commission for the City of San Antonio (mimeograph copy)

Report of the Fine Arts Commission: Historic Structures in

Brackenridge Park, by William A. Burns, Historic Sites Committee

Fire Department, 1967-1969

Food Stamp program, 1967-1971

Governor's [Preston Smith] Commission on Urban Affairs, 1970-1971

Reports and summaries

HemisFair '68, inventories of items donated to the city by foreign nations pavilions, 1968
Hospital District, 1966-1967
Housing Authority of the City of San Antonio (SAHA), 1963, 1965, 1967-1971
 Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez
 Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 Model Cities Program
 Council of Resident Associations Presidents
 Mayor's Housing Advisory Committee
Kelly AFB San Antonio Air Material Area (SAAMA), MOPAC overpass, 1970
Leon Valley de-incorporation, 1963, 1968-1969
Library, 1968-1971
 Budget and salaries
 Hertzberg Collection
 City-County library service
Mexico trip, Torreon, Coahuila, September, 1963
Model Cities Program
 1966
 Demonstration Cities Programs
 Improving the Quality of Urban Life: A Program Guide to Model Neighborhoods in Demonstration Cities, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD PG-47
 1967
 Model Neighborhood Proposal
 Crime reduction component
 Education section
 Manpower and economic development
 Model Cities Administration documents
 1968
 Citizens Participation Policy Committee
 Planning work documents
 1969
 Food Intake Study
 Model City area boundary maps
 Citizens Participation Policy Committee

1970-1971

Urban Beautification and Improvement Program
Citizens Participation Policy Committee
Family Planning Services
Bexar County birth rates map
City Demonstration Agency (CDA)

BOX 6

North Expressway, 1960-1963

Status of Highway Program for Bexar County, December 1960
Parks and Expressway Bond issue
San Antonio Conservation Society
Newsletter and letters from Senator Franklin Scott Spears
Brackenridge Park

Pension Fund for Firemen and Policemen, 1961, 1963, 1969-1971

Police Department, 1967-1971

General correspondence, 1967-1971

Alleged police brutality, 1968

Civilian Review Board, 1967-1970

Race relations, integration, 1967-1970

Transcript from City Council Meeting discussion,
July 20, 1967 (23 pages)

San Antonio Conservation Society, 1961-1970

Request for tax exemption

United States Arsenal (Military Museum)

Mission Parkway

Schultze House

San Antonio Little Theatre (SALT), 1968-1969

Insurance proposal

San Antonio Neighborhood Youth Organization (SANYO), 1970

San Antonio River Authority (SARA), 1967-1971

Apache Creek project

Urban renewal

San Antonio Channel Improvement Project, Status Report, July 1970

Feasibility Survey Application, February 23, 1971, Urban Renewal
Agency

San Antonio Tower Corporation (Tower of the Americas), 1965-1966

Construction planning, costs and contracts

Press editorials and public statements

Meeting minutes

- San Antonio Fair, Inc.
- Sign ordinance, 1971
- Texas Municipal League
 - General correspondence, 1966
 - Constitution, 1970
- Transit System, 1966-1971
 - General correspondence and reports
 - 1966-1969
 - Fare reductions
 - Transit Strike, 1969
 - Downtown bus stop study, Oct/Nov 1969
 - San Antonio-Bexar County Urban Transportation Study, 1964-1985, report No. 2, Part B, Office of the Planning Engineer, May 1966*
 - 1970-1971
 - Strike, September, 1969
 - "Downtown Bus Stop Study," October - November, 1969
 - Reports
- U.S. Conference of Mayors, correspondence and newsletters, 1961-1964
- University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), 1969-1970
 - Planning correspondence
 - Land Offer proposal to the University of Texas Systems, Southwest Foundation for Research and Education (undated)
- Urban Renewal
 - General correspondence, 1965-1971
 - Del Alamo Project (includes HemisFair)
 - Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - Rosa Verde Project, 1966-1970
 - Additional projects: Vista Verde, Mexican Market Committee
 - Rosa Verde Urban Renewal Plan, Texas Project No. Tex. R-78*
 - 'A Summary of Residential Bid Proposals' [with nine 8x10 color photographs], received March 3, 1970 for parcels in the Rosa Verde project, Tex. R-78
- Visitor Services Inc. correspondence (HemisFair '68 hotel participation)
 - 1966-1968
 - 1966-1967
 - 1968
- Zoning, 1966-1970