
Guide to the

Haley/Miller Family Collection 1870s-1990s

.26 linear ft.

Accession Numbers: 0102-154; 0102-188; 0102-204; 0203-96

Collection Number: 50

**Prepared by Kevin Kendro
August 2004**

CITATION: The Haley/Miller Families Collection, 1870s-1950s, Collection 50, Box number, Folder number, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Biographical Sketch

William Haley and Lucinda Ewalt Haley came from Missouri to what is today's western Irving in 1857. The Haley family settled in the area of today's Belt Line Road and Pioneer Dr. in Irving in what became the Sowers community. Tom Haley, one of William's sons, married Fannie Tompkins, whose family were also early settlers in the area. Tom established a farm near the present-day intersection of Esters Rd. and Northgate Blvd. around the turn of the twentieth century on land given to him by his father as a wedding gift. Tom and Fannie had six children. Tom, a champion of education, was president of the Irving school board at the time the district built its first school building in 1913. Three of Tom and Fannie's daughters taught for many years in the Irving school system. John Haley, Tom's brother, became one of the area's first doctors and later served as mayor of Irving from 1927-1932.

Chaney Miller was born in Kentucky in 1854. Sometime after 1880, he moved to the community of New Hope in eastern Dallas County, Texas. He served six years as a Dallas County Commissioner beginning in 1898. In 1904, he and his brother Fletcher moved to the newly established city of Irving in western Dallas County. The brothers opened one of Irving's first mercantile businesses, Miller Brothers, a hardware and general merchandise store, in 1905. In 1908, they purchased the Merchants and Planters Bank in Irving and had it chartered as the Irving State Bank. Chaney served terms as Irving's mayor from 1917-1919 and from 1923-1927. He was also justice of the peace for Precinct 2 from 1929-1940. Fletcher was mayor from 1921-1922, at which time he moved to Dallas and established the East Grand Bank, where he worked until his retirement.

After the death of his wife Sarah in 1913, Chaney Miller asked his daughter Florence Duckworth and her family to come and live with him in Irving. His son-in-law W. R. (Bob) Duckworth joined him in business, and Miller Brothers store became Miller and Duckworth.

Lora Anderson, another of Chaney Miller's daughters, moved to Irving with her five sons in 1916.

The Haley and Miller families were joined when Velma Duckworth, daughter of Florence Miller Duckworth and Bob Duckworth, and granddaughter of Chaney Miller, married Frank Haley, who was the son of Tom Haley. The families were further entwined when C. C. Anderson, a grandson of Chaney Miller, married Vera Haley, who was a daughter of Tom Haley. C. C. Anderson would become the city of Irving's first full-time employee in 1939. He remained with the city until his retirement in 1972.

The Haley and Miller families have been involved in the history of the area from before the inception of the city to the present time.

Sources: The Haley/Miller Family Collection

Rice, Joseph. *Irving A Texas Odyssey* (Chatsworth, California: 1989).

Conversations with Sue Haley Huffman

Series Description

Series I. Family History Documents, 1916-2002. .01 linear ft. (1 file folder).

Material includes items related to Haley and Miller family history and to the history of the city, such as; newspaper clippings, personal reminiscences, and a 1934-35 Irving Schools PTA handbook.

Series II. Land Records, 1903-1946. .03 linear ft. (5 file folders).

Arranged chronologically by piece of property. Material includes deeds, releases of liens, vendor's liens, transfers of account, abstracts, and a letters testamentary.

Series III. Tax Receipts, 1921-1945. .02 linear ft. (5 file folders).

Arranged by piece of property and type of tax receipt. Material includes city, school, water district, and state and county tax receipts for the property on which stood Miller Brothers store, Chaney Miller's home property, and his daughter Lora Miller Anderson's property.

Series IV. Photographs, 1880s-1990 (bulk 1900-1940). .2 linear ft. (1 file folder).

Material includes, primarily, photos of Miller, Haley, and Duckworth family members. There are a few Irving street scenes, a class photo, and a photo of Irving High School's first baseball team.

Scope and Content Note

The Haley/Miller Family Collection is contained in a one-half size manuscript box containing 13 file folders totaling one-fourth of a linear ft. The collection is divided into four series.

Series I. consists of an assortment of items relating to the history of the Haley and Miller families and to the history of Irving. Included in the material is a newspaper clipping relating to the open house being held at the first house constructed in Irving as part of the city's celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the city in 1953. Otis Brown

built the house in 1903; he sold it to Chaney Miller in 1905. Miller's daughter, Florence, purchased it in 1948. Also included is an Irving schools PTA handbook from 1934-1935; an Irving Church of Christ publication called Glad Tidings from December 1926; the reminiscences of Sue Haley Huffman, the great-granddaughter of Chaney Miller and granddaughter of Tom Haley; and a piece of the Miller family genealogy relating to Sue Haley Huffman.

Series II. is made up of land records such as deeds, vendor's liens, releases of liens, and abstracts. The records relate to Chaney Miller's home property, lots 9 and 10, block 11, and his store property on lot 8, and part of lot 7, block 3. The records provide a history of the land transactions on lot 8 dating from the lot auction of December 19, 1903, when the land was purchased by W. L. Smith, to Smith's building a store on the site, through his financial difficulties, to the purchase by the Miller Brothers, and finally to Bob Duckworth's buying out Fletcher Miller. Also in this series is a Letters Testamentary in which Chaney Miller's children are named executors of his estate. A brief description of each land transaction document is included in the container list.

Series III. consists of tax receipts from the various taxing agencies on the Miller property at lots 9 and 10, block 11, and lot 8 and part of lot 7, block 3, and on Lora Miller Anderson's property at lots 3 and 4, block 3. The receipts date from the early 1920s through 1945.

Series IV. is made up of photographs of the Haley and Miller families. There are a few photos of Irving included in the collection. The photographs provide a good pictorial history of the Haley and Miller families and of Irving during its first few decades.

Provenance Statement

The Haley/Miller Family Collection, was donated to the Irving Archives in four accessions: accession number 0102-154 was donated on April 12, 2002; accession 0102-188 was given on April 22, 2002; accession 0102-204 was donated on May 23, 2002; and accession 0203-96 was donated on Jan. 14, 2003. The collection was donated by Sue Haley Huffman. Prior to its donation to the Archives, the material was in the possession of Sue Haley Huffman.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from the Haley/Miller Family Collection must be obtained from the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Note to Researcher

See also: Haley/Littlepage Collection, Collection 44, Irving Archives.

Container List

Series I. Family History Documents, 1916-2002

Box 1

Folder

1 Family History Documents, 1916-2002

Contains a 1953 newspaper article about the first house built in Irving being part of the parade of homes during the golden anniversary of the founding of the city; two newspaper photos of early Irving taken from the 1964 golden anniversary of incorporation issue of the Irving newspaper; a copy of Glad Tidings, the monthly publication of the Irving Church of Christ, December 1924 (the publication's cover is an article by Lewis Hancock describing Irving of the time); a program from the commencement exercises of the Irving High School graduating class of 1916; a genealogical chart showing part of the Miller/Duckworth/Haley family line; a Parent-Teacher Association handbook from 1934-1935; and the reminiscences of Sue Haley Huffman about her life and her Miller and Haley ancestors, primarily Chaney Miller and Tom Haley.

Series II. Land Records, 1903-1946

2 Land records related to property owned by the Miller family, 1903-1946:

Warranty Deed (acknowledged Dec. 19, 1903) - Schulze and Brown sell to W. L. Smith lot 8, block 3, December 19, 1903 (the day of the town lot auction) for \$50. To be paid as follows: \$17 in hand and two notes each for \$16.50 payable on Dec. 19, 1904, and Dec. 19, 1905.

Warranty Deed (photocopy - acknowledged Nov. 5th, 1904) - Schulze and Brown sell to C. G. and Fletcher Miller, lot 7, block 3, for \$125.

Lien (dated January 26, 1905) - Document in which J. O. Schulze places a lien on lot 8, block 3, and the building on the lot for W. L. Smith's failure to pay \$67.26 for materials furnished by J. O. Schulze to build the 2-story store on lot 8. The document is handwritten.

2 Transfer of Account (dated January 26, 1905) - Document in which J. O. Schulze releases his lien and claims on lot 8, block 3, to William Monnig for the sum of \$70, which cleared the \$67.26 that W. L. Smith owed for the building supplies furnished to him to build a store on the lot.

Transfer for Vendor's Lien Note (January 26, 1905) - Schulze and Brown transfer the lien and remainder of the note on lot 8, block 3, to William Monnig for the sum of \$17.75.

Release of Lien (dated July 1, 1905) - From Schulze and Brown to W. L. Smith. The release of the vendor's lien on lot 8, block 3, as the note executed on the property on December 19, 1903, is paid off.

Warranty Deed (photocopy - acknowledged July 12, 1905) - William Monnig sells to C. G. Miller and Fletcher Miller lot 8, block 3, for the sum of \$280.42.

Release of Lien (dated July 12, 1905) - Document in which William Monnig, as the holder of the note issued to W. L. Smith on December 19, 1903, releases his claims on the property and assigns title to lot 8, block 3, to C. G. Miller and Fletcher Miller.

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien (photocopy - dated July 26, 1905) - Miller brothers pay

W. L. Smith Et-al \$600 for lot 8, block 3. Terms \$300 down and a vendor's lien for \$300 due Oct. 1, 1906.

Release of Lien (photocopy - dated October 6, 1906) - Miller brothers pay off note on lot 8, block 3, and the lien on the property is released.

Release of Lien (photocopy - dated January 16, 1911) - W. R. Duckworth buys Fletcher Millers interest in lots 7 and 8, block 3, on Dec. 18, 1908, with final payment due on Dec. 18, 1910. Payment is made, and lien is released.

Warranty Deed with Vendor's Lien (photocopy - dated November 20, 1905) - Otis and Netta Brown sell to Chaney Miller lots 9 and 10, block 11, for \$800. Terms are \$400 down and \$400 due. The document says the payment is due on Nov. 20, 1905, which is the same day this document was executed. The release of lien for this payment indicates that the payment of \$400 was due on Nov. 20, 1906, so it is probable that the due date stated in this document is a misprint.

Release of Vendor's Lien (photocopy - dated March 31, 1915) - Otis and Netta Brown release the lien held on lots 9 and 10, block 11, to Chaney Miller.

Letters Testamentary (dated April 25, 1946) - Document in which Florence Lee Duckworth, Lora Mae Anderson, George R. Miller, and Emmett R. Miller are made executors of Chaney G. Miller's estate.

3 Abstract of Title to lots 3 and 4, block 3, Otis Brown Addition to Irving, February 2, 1917. Compiled for Curtis Hancock.

4 Abstract of Title to lot 7, block 3, Town of Irving, Dallas County, Texas, January 23, 1925. Compiled for Prudential Building and Loan Assn.

5 Abstract of Title to Part of lot 7, block 3, Town of Irving, Dallas Co., Texas, February 23, 1925. Compiled for Prudential Building and Loan Assn.

6 Abstract of Title to Part of lot 7, block 3, Town of Irving, Dallas Co., Texas, February 27, 1929. Compiled for Southland Building and Loan Assn.

7 Abstract of Title to Part of lot 7, block 3, in the Town of Irving, Dallas County, Texas, February 8, 1935.

Series III. Tax Receipts, 1921-1945

8 Tax receipts for county and state property taxes on lots 9 and 10, block 11, from 1921-1929.

9 Tax receipts for county and state property taxes on lot 8 and part of lot 7, block 3, from 1921-1925.

10 Tax receipts for county and state property taxes on lots 3 and 4, block 3, from 1923-1925.

11 Tax receipts for county and state property taxes on lots 9 and 10, block 11, and included

on the same receipt part of lot 7, block 3, from 1930 through 1945 (missing are 1941 and 1943).

12 Tax receipts from the Town of Irving, the IISD, and the Dallas County Irving Fresh Water Supply District No. 5. One group of receipts is for Chaney Miller's home property, which is lots 9 and 10, block 11. These receipts date sporadically from the mid-1920s to the mid-1930s. A second group of receipts is for lots 9 and 10, block 11, but also included on the receipt is the tax on part of lot 7, block 3. These receipts date from the late 1930s to 1945. The third group is a receipt for part of lot 7, block 3, only. This receipt is dated 1930. A fourth group is for part of lot 7, and lot 8, block 3. These are dated from 1923-1925. The final group of receipts is for lots 3 and 4, block 3. The receipts date from the mid-1920s.

Series IV. Photographs, 1880s-1990 (bulk 1900-1940)

Box 1

13 All photos are in photo sleeves. The photo identification numbers are:

50-01 Chaney G. Miller, portrait, sepia, 3½ in. by 5 in., c. 1910.

50-02 Chaney G. Miller and brother Fletcher Miller, black-and-white, 2¼ in. by 3½ in., Sept. 19, 1926.

50-03 Chaney Miller and wife Sarah Cook Miller, black-and-white, duplicate, 3½ in. by 5 in., c. 1880.

50-04 Interior of Miller brothers' store, Roy Miller on left (son of Fletcher) and Chaney on right, sepia, 7 in. by 5 in.

50-05 Interior of Miller brothers' store, Chaney Miller behind counter, black-and-white, 7 in. by 4¾ in., mounted on a paperboard backing which is 10 in. by 8 in.

50-06 Fletcher Miller, portrait, sepia, 4½ in. by 6½ in. on paperboard backing.

50-07 First house in Irving. Otis Brown built and later sold to C. G. Miller. House being added onto, left to right at the fence are: Florence Miller Duckworth, Sarah Miller, and Velma Duckworth, sepia, post card, 5½ in. by 3½ in., c. 1905.

50-08 Tom and Fannie Haley on 50th wedding anniversary, black-and-white, 3 in. by 4¾ in., no date.

50-09 Tom Haley (left) and Chaney Miller, black-and-white, 2¾ in. by 3¾ in., c. 1940-1941.

50-10 Main Street, Irving, Texas, sepia, postcard, 5½ in. by 3½ in., 1913.

50-11 Irving High School graduating class, black-and-white, 4½ in. by 3½ in., 1916.

50-12 Irving High School's first baseball team, sepia, 7 in. by 5 in., mounted on a paperboard backing which is 10 in. by 8 in., 1914.

50-13 Dr. John Haley, black-and-white, 2¾ in. by 4½ in., no date.

50-14 Haley family, left to right: Frank Haley, Vera Haley Anderson, Bess Haley Parker, and Frank's son Tom Frank, sepia, 2¾ in. by 4½ in., c. 1940-1941.

50-15 Brown and Haley families. Left to right on back row: Otis and Netta Brown, Tom and Fannie Haley, Blanche and Bill Haley, and children, black-and-white, 3¾ in. by 4¾ in., c. 1911.

50-16 Frank Haley's garage with Frank at the front of a car, Jack Biggs at the rear, sepia, duplicate, 5 in. by 3½ in., c. 1936.

50-17 Tom Haley and his children pose in front of a car, left-to-right are: Tom Frank, Vera, Bertha, Flora, Tom, and Edward. Not pictured is daughter Bess, color, 5¼ in. by 3¼ in., 1944.

50-18 W. R. (Bob) Duckworth and daughter Velma, sepia, 2½ in. by 3½ in., c. 1915.

50-19 Chaney Miller, Florence Miller Duckworth, Velma Duckworth Haley and child Sue Haley, black-and-white, 2 in. by 4 in., c. 1935.

50-20 Tom and Fannie Haley in front of their house on their property near the intersection of Esters Rd. and Northgate Blvd. on their 50th anniversary, black-and-white, 4¾ in. by 3 in., no date.

50-21 Women on porch. On left is Netta Brown, wife of Otis Brown; in center is Sarah Miller, wife of Chaney Miller; Sarah Miller is holding Loyd Brown; woman on right is unidentified, black-and-white, 3¾ in. by 3½ in., 1905

50-22 Haley family cousins, back row, left to right are: Bobby Haley, Glen Gleghorn, Tom Frank Haley, Virginia Haley, Majorie Gleghorn holding Chaney Anderson, Ann Duckworth (cousin to Frank Haley children); front row, left to right are; Joel Easter, Bill Haley, Ann Haley, Sue Haley, Jane Easter, Marinell Gleghorn, Vera Lou Gleghorn, black-and-white, 6 in by 4¼ in., c. 1938. (Photo 39-35 is a duplicate print of this photo).

50-23 Children of Tom Frank Haley and Velma Duckworth Haley. Standing are Virginia and Tom Frank; sitting are Bobby, Sue, and Billy, black-and-white, 3½ in. by 5 in., 1935.

50-24 Velma Duckworth Haley, sepia, 3¾ in. by 4¾ in., sepia, c. 1915.

50-25 Luncheon at Etta Roberts' home . Standing in back, left-to-right are: Annie Haley, wife of Dr. John Haley, Clara Lemmon, second wife of Tom Haley, and Sally Haley Ramsey. Sitting left to right are: Cora Haley Caster, unidentified, Kate Good Arthur, Etta Roberts, and Florence Miller Duckworth, black-and-white, 3½ in. by 3½ in., 1957.

50-26 Sons of Lora Miller Anderson. Left to right are: C. C., Elbert, Emmet, Lester, Bobby, and Ray, black-and-white, 4½ in. by 3¾ in, c. 1930.

50-27 Three of Tom Haley's daughters. Left to right are: Vera Haley Anderson, Bess Haley Parker, and Flora Haley Easter, black-and-white, 2¾ in. by 4., c. 1930.

50-28 Cleo Anderson (left) and Velma Duckworth, life-long friends, sepia, 2½ in. by 3½ in., 1915.

50-29 Velma Duckworth Haley (left) and Cleo Anderson, life-long friends, on Cleo's 90th birthday, color, 4¼ in. by 3½ in., 1990.

50-30 Chaney Miller holding his great-granddaughter Virginia Haley, next to him is his daughter Florence Miller Duckworth, and her husband Bob Duckworth is to her left. The child standing is Tom Frank Haley, brother of Virginia, black-and-white, 3¾ in. by 4¾ in., c. 1925.

50-31 Main Street, Irving, Texas, west side of the north 100 block. The Irving State Bank building is on the left, and Miller and Duckworth's store is on the right. The woman in the foreground is unidentified, black-and-white, 5 in. by 3¼ in, c. 1920.

50-32 The seven daughters of Benny and Mattie Barton. Left to right are: Irene Wood, Fannie Esters Squires, Claudia Foster, Jennie Tompkins, Bea Boling, Cora Lucas, Mary Boling, black-and-white, 4½ in. by 3¼ in., no date.

50-33 Himes City grocery store, black-and-white, 5¼ in. by 3¼ in., 1948.

50-34 Bobby Haley riding a pony named Pedro on the Gleghorn farm located on Finley Rd. east of Belt Line Rd., black-and-white, 3 in. by 4 in., c. 1940.

50-35 Haley family cousins. This is a smaller version of photo number 39-22, black-and-white, 5 in. by 3½ in., c. 1938.

50-36 Dedication of the state historical marker at the Haley family cemetery, 1991.

50-37 C. C. and Vera Anderson posing with their High Spirited Citizen Award, in the back are his sisters and nieces and the husband of a niece.

50-38 Frank Haley's garage. This is a larger version of photo number 39-22, sepia, 7 in. by 5 in., c. 1936.

50-39 Interior of B and H Drygoods Store, left to right are: Irene Wood, unknown first name Watson, Myrtle McCollum Nichols, unidentified, black-and-white, 7 in. by 5 in., 1954.

50-40 Interior of Liz Watson's store, The Fashion Bar, left-to-right are: Patsy Blaylock Spencer, and Irene Wood, black-and-white, 7 in. by 5 in., 1952.

50-41 Interior of C. T. Lucas store at the southeast corner of First St. (Irving Blvd.) and Main St.; behind the counter is C. T. (Charlie) Lucas; the man with the hat on is Benny Barton, Charlie Lucas's father-in-law, black-and-white.