

President George H W Bush Collection

Photographs, correspondence and news clippings covering President Bush's life in Midland, TX, oil career and political life from the 1950's through 2000.

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	The Petroleum Museum
Title:	President George H W Bush Collection
Dates:	1950's – 2000 and undated
Abstract:	The collection consists of photographs, news clippings, magazine articles, and correspondence covering President Bush and his time in Midland, his career in the oil industry, his family, his visits to the Petroleum Museum, his election to the Hall of Fame and his political career.
Quantity:	½ box (1/2 linear foot)
Identification:	President George H W Bush Collection (non-accessioned)
Repository:	The Permian Basin Petroleum Museum

Biographical Sketch

President George H W Bush- George Bush brought to the White House a dedication to traditional American values and a determination to direct them toward making the United States "a kinder and gentler nation." In his Inaugural Address he pledged in "a moment rich with promise" to use American strength as "a force for good."

Coming from a family with a tradition of public service, George Herbert Walker Bush felt the responsibility to make his contribution both in time of war and in peace. Born in Milton, Massachusetts, on June 12, 1924, he became a student leader at Phillips Academy in Andover. On his 18th birthday he enlisted in the armed forces. The youngest pilot in the Navy when he received his wings, he flew 58 combat missions during World War II. On one mission over the Pacific as a torpedo bomber pilot he was shot down by Japanese anti-aircraft fire and was rescued from the water by a U. S. submarine. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for bravery in action.

Bush next turned his energies toward completing his education and raising a family. In January 1945 he married Barbara Pierce. They had six children-- [George](#), Robin (who died as a child), John (known as Jeb), Neil, Marvin, and Dorothy.

At Yale University he excelled both in sports and in his studies; he was captain of the baseball team and a member of Phi Beta Kappa. After graduation Bush embarked on a career in the oil industry of West Texas.

Like his father, Prescott Bush, who was elected a Senator from Connecticut in 1952, George became interested in public service and politics. He served two terms as a Representative to Congress from Texas. Twice he ran unsuccessfully for the Senate. Then he was appointed to a series of high-level positions: Ambassador to the United Nations, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Chief of the U. S. Liaison Office in the People's Republic of China, and Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

In 1980 Bush campaigned for the Republican nomination for President. He lost, but was chosen as a running mate by Ronald Reagan. As Vice President, Bush had responsibility in several domestic areas, including Federal deregulation and anti-drug programs, and visited scores of foreign countries. In 1988 Bush won the Republican nomination for President and, with Senator Dan Quayle of Indiana as his running mate, he defeated Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis in the general election.

Bush faced a dramatically changing world, as the Cold War ended after 40 bitter years, the Communist empire broke up, and the Berlin Wall fell. The Soviet Union ceased to exist; and reformist President Mikhail Gorbachev, whom Bush had supported, resigned. While Bush hailed the march of democracy, he insisted on restraint in U. S. policy toward the group of new nations. In other areas of foreign policy, President Bush sent American troops into Panama to overthrow the corrupt regime of General Manuel Noriega, who was threatening the security of the canal and the Americans living there. Noriega was brought to the United States for trial as a drug trafficker. Bush's greatest test came when Iraqi President Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait, then threatened to move into Saudi Arabia. Vowing to free Kuwait, Bush rallied the United Nations, the U. S. people, and Congress and sent 425,000 American troops. They were joined by 118,000 troops from allied nations. After weeks of air and missile bombardment, the 100-hour land battle dubbed Desert Storm routed Iraq's million-man army.

Despite unprecedented popularity from this military and diplomatic triumph, Bush was unable to withstand discontent at home from a faltering economy, rising violence in inner cities, and continued high deficit spending. In 1992 he lost his bid for reelection to Democrat William Clinton.

For more information about President Bush, please visit
[The George Bush Library and Museum](#)

(www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/gb41.html)

Scope and Content

The collection is made up of various photographs, correspondence and news clippings collected by the Archives Center and staff over the years. The time period covered is the 1950's through 2000. The materials cover various events that President Bush attended in Midland and at The Petroleum Museum as well as other correspondence between President Bush and museum staff. There are also general history and biography articles and news clippings about President Bush and his family, career in the petroleum industry, his residences in Midland and Odessa and his presidency. The collection contains one oversize black and white photo of the 1981 North Wing dedication ceremony and a cassette tape recording of the dedication ceremony and speech for the same ceremony. These two materials are stored in the oversize photos and oral history areas in the archives.

Restrictions

Restrictions regarding access

Library and Archive materials must be used in the library reading room. Prior appointment is preferred but not absolutely necessary.

Open for Research -

No materials within the collection are to be withheld from researchers.

Photographs-

The photographs in this collection are both copyrighted and restricted from reproduction. Researchers must obtain written permission from the copyright owners before the archives will allow any reproductions.

Index Terms

The subject headings used by the Petroleum Museum Library and Archives Center are derived from the Library of Congress and/or locally developed.

Subjects:

Barbara Bush
President George H W Bush
George H W Bush Presidential Library
President George W Bush
IDECO
Hugh Liedtke
Midland, Texas
Odessa, Texas
Petroleum Hall of Fame
Petroleum Industry
The Petroleum Museum
Petroleum Pioneers
President Ronald Reagan
Zapata

Related Material

For related materials located at the Petroleum Museum see the following collections:

President George W Bush Collection

Administrative Information

Preferred Initial Citation:

The Petroleum Museum Archives and Library Center, 1500 W. I20, Midland Texas 79701.

Preferred Subsequent Citations:

President George H W Bush Collection, The Petroleum Museum.

Provenance:

This collection is not accessioned; it is an institutional/informational collection. The staff of the Petroleum Museum and Archives Center gathered the materials in this collection over time. The Processor imposed chronological order on this collection with an attempt to also group materials by subject. Excessive duplicate materials were discarded.

Processed By:

Amy Hooker, 2005

Additional Sources

The White House web page www.whitehouse.gov
President Bush's biography copied from The White House web page history section
www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/gb41.html

Collection Inventory

Box 1 of 1

Folder 00

-Collection Inventory

Folder 1: 1st Pink Elephant Ball Midland, TX 1964

-Photocopy of photograph of ball 89-2.10 with identifications
-Negative of photograph 89-2.10

Folder 2: Attending The Petroleum Museum's Grand Opening 1976

-Photocopies of photographs of celebration 76-98.13 & 76-98.42
-Photocopy of a page from Oil in West Texas and New Mexico by Walter Rundell

Folder 3: North Wing Dedication 1981: Invitation

-Invitation to celebration in envelop (2 copies)
-Invitation signed by George Bush

- Duty list for servers at Bush luncheon
- Midland Reporter Telegram 11/14/1981 "Day Rekindles Old Memories"

Folder 4: North Wing Dedication 1981: Official White House Photographs

- Business card of James B McClellan – Presidential Communications
- Photographs and photocopies of photographs of Vice President Bush greeting museum staff and visitors, some photos are identified

Folder 5: North Wing Dedication 1981: Photographs 1 of 2

- Miscellaneous notes
- Black and white photographs of outdoor dedication ceremony
- Color slide of outdoor dedication ceremony

Folder 6: North Wing Dedication 1981: Photographs 2 of 2

- Color photograph (in folder) of Vice President Bush touring the North Wing
- Black and white photographs of Vice President Bush touring the North Wing

Folder 7: 1981 Inaugural Program

- Full color brochure with short bios of Ronald and Nancy Reagan and George and Barbara Bush with a schedule of the Inaugural events

Folder 8: 1987 Inaugural Program

- Packet containing correspondence, photograph photocopies and an invoice concerning the printing of the 1987 inaugural book

Folder 9: 1988 Permian Energy Forum: Tickets & Schedule

- Packet with tickets to event at the Petroleum Museum (4) clipped to an address card for George Bush
- Detailed copy of Vice President Bush's schedule for the event at the Petroleum Museum (Joyce Montgomery's copy)

Folder 10: 1988 Permian Energy Forum: Correspondence

- Memo Assistant Director Carey Behrends to staff Re: security check for Bush's visit 1 copy to Martha 1 copy to Betty 10/6/1988
- Notes on Bush visit detailing installation of phone jacks for visit and itinerary 10/6/1988
- Detailed copy of Vice President Bush's schedule for event at the Petroleum Museum 10/6/1988
- Telephone list for Vice President's visit 10/7/1988
- Hand written ticket list of museum staff and their guests for visit 10/1988
- Letter to Joyce Montgomery from Bush Re: visit 10/31/1988
- Letter from Betty Orbeck to Thomas Collamore Re: thank you for visit 12/6/1988
- Museum Memo with highlight of Energy Forum and photo of Bush on the back Dec 1988/Jan 1989

- Letter from Betty Orbeck to Judy Feldman Re: Bush and Museum Memo mentioned above
- Letter from Ed Rowland to Steve White stapled to envelope Re: thank you for photos of Energy forum event
- Letter from Robert Liebrock to George Bush Re: Bush's many visits to the museum and request to join museum board 12/10/1992

Folder 11: 1988 Permian Energy Forum: Photos

- Letter Thomas Collamore to Betty Orbeck Re: Bush wished him to forward some photos of event (it is unknown if the photos in this folder are the ones mentioned in the letter) 11/30/1988
- Official White House Photograph of rally (possible from Collamore)
- Color photographs of Bush's speech in oil patch

Folder 12: 1988 Permian Energy Forum: News Clippings

- Midland Reporter Telegram 10/4/1988 "Welcome Home Bash Planned for Bush"
- Midland Reporter Telegram 10/6/1988 photograph of plane with Bush's limo for event
- Midland Reporter Telegram 10/7/1988 "Welcoming Committee" color photograph of speech in oil patch
- Midland Reporter Telegram 10/7/1988 "Midlanders Flock to See Bush" photo essay
- El Paisano 10/17/1988 "Bush Addresses Area Oilmen"

Folder 13: Hall of Fame 1991: Photos for Video

- Black & white of Mr. & Mrs. Bush (4) with negative and color copy
- Black & white of President bush (7) with negative
- Photocopy of Rubin photo order envelope
- Photocopy of portrait of Dr. Dorothy W. Yvell
- Color autographed portrait of Mr. & Mrs. Bush
- Photo of President Bush & sister (young children)
- Photo of President Bush on Yale Baseball team receiving book from Babe Ruth
- Photo of President Bush in cockpit of plane
- Photocopies of photos
 - Hall of Fame portrait
 - Downtown Midland 1950's 76-93.299
 - Downtown Midland 76-93.303
 - Midland City Hall 1969 76-93.311
 - Scharbauer Hotel 1970 76-93.341
 - Midland Reporter Telegram 76-93.340
 - Petroleum Building 76-93.343

- George Bush at Desk & Derrick Club meeting 1957 88-24 & 89-1
- Wedding reception 1945 89-2.1
- Bush & family in front of plane 89-2.2
- Barbara Bush in Midland Service League 89-2.3
- George & Barbara 89-2.4
- 405 E Maple residence 89-2.5
- 1412 W Ohio residence 89-2.6
- 2703 Sentinel residence 89-2.7
- Bush with family 1959 89-2.8
- Bush with family 1959 89-2.9
- Bush with family 89-2.10
- 1966 Congress campaign office 89-2.11
- 1966 Congress campaign office 89-2.12
- Mr. & Mrs. Bush at 1966 campaign 89-2.13
- Mr. & Mrs. Bush at 1966 campaign 89-2.14
- Congressman Bush inspecting spacesuit material 1967 89-2.15
- Bush on rig floor 89-2.16
- Bush with son George 1956 89-2.17
- Zapata christening of Scorpion rig 89-2.18
- Aerial view of Midland 1979 90-5.4
- Bush speaking to oil hand 93-1
- Sign for Midland Rubin Collection
- Agnes Café 1953 93-3.C-24
- George W Bush with Jeb 1953 (2) 93-3.14216
- Aerial view of Midland 1958 Rubin Collection
- Bush in Shell Baseball Team portrait 1950 Rubin Collection
- Street scene Midland Rubin Collection (?)
- Photograph envelope from White House (2)

Folder 14: Hall of Fame 1991: Ceremony

- Invitation to ceremony (2)
- Program for ceremony (3)
- Photo of George W Bush next to father's Hall of Fame portrait

Folder 15: Hall of Fame 1991: Correspondence & Notes

- Various hand written and typed notes about President Bush's life and photos of Bush
- Memo to Ed Rowland from Betty Orbeck Re: George H W Bush and George W Bush and their service to the museum 6/7/1990
- Letter to Ed Rowland from Joseph W Hagin II Re: the President's ability to attend the ceremony 12/11/1990
- Letter to Barbara Hinkle Re: portrait of Bush (2) 1/18/1991

-Letter to Barbara Hinkle Re: request for photos for Hall of Fame video
2/11/1991

-Reply from Barbara Hinkle

-Letter to Barbara Hinkle requesting photos 2/11/1991

-Letter to Barbara Hinkle requesting photos (2) 2/11/1991

-Letter to Barbara Hinkle requesting approval to use attached photos (2)
2/12/1991

-Memo to Ed Rowland Re: Barbara Hinkle contact info 11/8/1991

-Letter to Barbara Bush thanking her for portraits

Folder 16: Hall of Fame 1991: News Clippings

-Midland Reporter Telegram 10/2/1990 "Bush's Honor Well Deserved"

-Midland Reporter Telegram 4/14/1991 "Bush Son Stands in for Father"

Folder 17: Correspondence & Photographs 1992

-Letter to Bush asking him to serve on museum's board 12/10/1992

-Letter to Robert Liebrock from Bush declining board offer with attached
envelopes 12/29/1992

-Photograph of General Swartzkoph

-Photograph of George and Barbara Bush in Desert Storm

Folder 18: Correspondence Miscellaneous

-Letter from Odessa Chamber of Commerce Re: sale of life size Bush photo
2/15/1990

-Letter composed for George Bush to sign for museum's exhibit
"Dinosafari" 6/7/1990

-Letter from Bush congratulating Petroleum Pioneers 10/25/1991 stapled to
letter from Kathy L Super declining an honorary membership to Petroleum
Pioneers 11/25/1991

-Letter to Bush requesting speech for 1993 Petroleum Pioneers ceremony
2/19/1993 with reply from Bush declining 2/25/1993

-Letter to Bush requesting speech for 1995 Petroleum Pioneers ceremony
3/1/1995 with reply from Ainsley M Williams declining for George W Bush
6/12/1995 with a reply to Ainsley Williams requesting letter from George W
Bush for celebration 8/24/1995 with a letter from Cindy Brockwell re:
Governor Bush's letter 9/19/1995 with attached thank you to Ms. Brockwell
9/27/1995

-Letter to Decker Dawson Re: President Bush's inability to attend Pioneer's
ceremony 3/21/1995

Folder 19: Attendance to 1995 Hall of Fame: Liedtke Inductees

-Letter from George Bush expressing his desire to attend the 1995 HOF
12/12/1994

-Fax from Liedtke- list of family with addresses 1/10/1995

- Photo request from Tarlton Law Library 3/13/1995
- Odessa American 3/31/1995 "Dinner to Honor Oilmen"
- Biography of Hugh Liedtke
- Copy of Museum Memo story about Hall of Fame
- Short Biography of Liedtkes for Hall of Fame Committee consideration

Folder 20: Presidential Library 1995-1996

- Letter from Bush's office requesting material for documentary "A Tradition of Leadership" 10/30/1995
- Fax from Bush's office Re: material for Bush Library
- Fax from Jennifer Mirsky Re: Invoice for prints page 2 only 4/10/1996
- Color Brochure for Bush Library

Folder 21: Residences in Midland/Odessa

- Letter to Richard Donnelly Re: Bush residences (2) 8/19/1988
- Letter to Ellen Kern Re: Bush Residences with map (2) 1/18/1989
- Two different lists of Bush homes
- List of popular restaurants of Midland (2)
- Color photos of Odessa house with negatives
- Photocopies of photographs
 - Agnes Café 1953
 - Ranch House 1950's
 - Inside Ranch House
 - Rendezvous Café 1950-55
 - 1412 W Ohio residence 89-2-6
 - 2703 Sentinel residence 89-2-7
- News Clippings
 - Midland Reporter Telegram 4/23/2000 "Midlanders Seek to Preserve Bush Houses"
 - Life Magazine 11/1988 "George Slept Here"

Folder 22: Articles: Oil History

- Drilling 9/1955 "History of IDECO Began at Fabulous Spindletop" (2)
- The First Pictorial History of the American Oil & Gas Industry 1859-1983 1973- 1956 Scorpion photos and write up
- The Permian Basin: Era of Advancement by S.D. Myres- selected text and bibliography on Zapata
- The Oscars Movies from A-Z Zapata
- World Oil 6/1980 "Where the Candidates Stand"
- The Tulsa Tribune 9/23/1981 "Midland Texas Booming with a Vengeance" (2)
- American West Jan/Feb 1986 "George Bush: Texas 'Soap, rope & dope'"

- Midland Reporter Telegram 1/22/1989 “Most Majors see Flatness Declines”
- 2/15/1991 “The Zapata Story”
- Esquire 6/1991 “How Bush Made it”
- Typewritten history of Bush-Overby Drilling with hand written notes at the end 3/6/1995
- Harts Oil & Gas World 12/1996 “President & Mrs. Bush Host Wildcatters Ball”

Folder 23: News Clippings: Political & Campaign

- Bumper Sticker “Midland Texas is Bush Country”
- Mid-America Oil & Gas Reporter 10/1970 “Why Oilmen Should Support Congressman George Bush for United States Senator” (2)
- San Francisco Chronicle 9/23/1981 “Bush’s Big House Gift - \$124,700” (2)
- Midland Reporter Telegram 11/14/1981 “Bush Says Stockman Made Terrible Mistake”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 10/7/1988 “Dukakis’ Miracle due to Defense Effort”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 11/27/1988 “Allison ‘Missing Man’ in Bush’s Formation”
- 1988 Flyer stating Bush’s and Dukakis’ positions
- Midland Reporter Telegram 1/20/1989 “Bush becomes 41st U.S. President”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 1/20/1989 “Reagan Spends Nostalgic Final Hours in the White House” “Quayle Glade to be ‘Gainfully Employed Again’” “Bush Faces Lengthy ‘Honey-Do’ List”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 1/27/1989 “Oil Producers see Bush as Asset”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 2/18/1989 “Bush Scrapbook Shows True Friendship”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 7/26/1989 “Bush to Sign Gas Decontrol”
- Time 1/7/1991 “Men of the Year” “The TWO George Bushes”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 8/20/1992 “George Bush: Creates, Remakes Political Image”
- Time 8/24/1992 “The Fight of his Life – Exclusive – George Bush on his Presidency – A New Book on his Record – Also Barbara Bush Speaks her Mind”
- Odessa American 2/14/1993 “Bush Let Down Oil Industry”

Folder 24: Miscellaneous Biographies

- George Bush A Biography by Nicholas King 1980 – Texas chapter
- Short bio by Bill Collyns 7/31/1990
- Flight of the Avenger: George Bush at War by Joe Hyams 1991 – chapter on early life and acknowledgements

- Short bio by Betty Orbeck 2/13/1991
- George Herbert Walker Bush the Nations 41st President and the Petroleum Museum by Betty Orbeck 9/1/1997
- Encyclopedia of Presidents – George Bush 1 page showing family portrait

Folder 25: News Clippings Miscellaneous

- Midland Reporter Telegram 10/28/1988 “Bush Called ‘True Texan’ Despite Maine Home”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 12/11/1988 “Readers Views on Naming Grade School”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 1/19/1989 “George Bush: A Midland Scrapbook” front page only
- Odessa American 1/10/1990 “Heritage Foundation Wants Bush Honor for Presidential Museum”
- Tulsa World 4/23/1995 “Bushes Receive Warm Welcome at Tulsa Events”

Folder 26: Barbara Bush

- Midland Reporter Telegram 1/4/1989 “Mrs. Bush to Bring Less Formal Style”
- Midland Reporter Telegram 9/19/1989 “First Lady Leave Mark on New School”
- Ladies Home Journal 3/1990 “Barbara Bush At Home with a Woman You’d Like to Know”
- Barbara Bush – A Biography by Pamela Kilian 1992 –chapter on Texas
- Good Housekeeping 9/1994 “Barbara Bush Tells it Like it Really was with Friends and Foe in Washington”
- Barbara Bush – A Memoir – Title page and reviews only

Folder 27: Miscellaneous Family Photos and Calendar

- Autographed color photo of George & Barbara Bush
 - Color photo of George Bush
 - Color photo of whole Bush family and color copy
 - Color photos of fishing (2)
 - 1991 color calendar from the National Federation of Republican Women
 - Newsweek 7/23/1990 “A Crisis in the First Family”
-