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## **Guide to the**

### **CITY OF IRVING - OFFICE OF THE MAYOR ROBERT H. POWER ADMINISTRATION RECORDS 1967-1971**

**.4 linear ft.**

**Collection Number: 3**

**Prepared by Kevin Kendro  
June 1997**

**CITATION: City of Irving - Office of the Mayor - Robert H. Power Administration Records, Collection 3, Box number, Folder number, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.**

#### **Historical Sketch**

The City of Irving was established in 1903 by J.O. Schulze and Otis Brown. The founders selected an area of fertile farming soil between the West Fork and Elm Fork of the Trinity River. Key to the selection of the site was its location along the tracks of the Chicago, Rock Island and Gulf Railway. Irving was incorporated and elected its first mayor, Otis Brown, in 1914.

Irving elected its first mayor, Otis Brown, in 1914. Robert H. Power was the city's fifteenth mayor. Power served two consecutive two-year terms from May 1967-May 1971. This was a time of rapid growth for the city. Some of the major events addressed during Mayor Power's administration were the development of Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport, the development of Texas Stadium, the expansion of State Highway 183, the annexation of Bear Creek, and the raising of the city's bond rating.

Robert Power first passed through Irving as a teenager in 1950 as an employee of a pipeline company. In 1952, Power returned to the city and settled there. As an undergraduate he attended North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas). He then entered Southern Methodist University Law School, from which he graduated in 1958. Power was elected to the Irving City Council in 1963. After two terms as a councilman, he successfully ran for the office of mayor in 1967. As mayor, Power felt that Irving needed to draw business to the city in order to reduce the tax load on homeowners.

Following his term as mayor, Power served on the Dallas County Community College District Board and was instrumental in bringing North Lake College to Irving. He also served as a member of the DART Board. Power is now an attorney in private practice.

#### **Sources:**

Power, Robert H. Interview by Mrs. O.D. Bates, 1986. Tape recording. Irving Archives, Irving Public Library, Irving, Texas.

Rice, Joseph. *Irving: A Texas Odyssey*. Chatsworth, California: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1989.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The collection, in one legal-size document box, is composed of correspondence, memos, and publications received and sent by Mayor Robert Power during his two terms as mayor, May 1967-May 1971. Included is correspondence with various companies contracting with the city and correspondence with city officials and with elected state and national representatives. Also included are invitations and responses to invitations to luncheons and other functions and letters of congratulations and appreciation to students, concerned citizens, and government officials. Major topics addressed in the correspondence are highway construction, the Hacienda Inn private club vote, Texas Stadium, and the construction of Dallas-Fort Worth Regional Airport.

The original order of the collection was maintained. The folders are arranged in chronological order. The material in each folder is arranged in reverse chronological order. Many of the letters to the Mayor's Office were received in the Archives with the response attached to the letter. This order has been maintained, and the material is filed by the date of the response. There are no records from December 1968, December 1969, January 1970, and July 1970.

### **Provenance Statement**

The City of Irving - Office of the Mayor - Robert H. Power Administration Records were maintained in the Office of the City Secretary of the City of Irving during their active life. The records were then transferred to the Irving Archives.

### **Literary Rights Statement**

Permission to publish material from the City of Irving - Office of the Mayor - Robert H. Power Administration Records must be obtained from the Irving Archives.

### **Note to the Researcher**

See also: City Council minutes, resolutions, and ordinances; City Council committee minutes; and City board and commission minutes. These are on microfiche in the City Secretary's Office. The City Council minutes are also on microfiche in the Irving Public Library.

Consult the Irving Daily News and other area papers for additional information. These records are available on microfilm in the Irving Public Library.

### **Container List**

#### **Series I. Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, 1967-1971**

## Box 1

### Folder

- 1 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, May-July, 1967
- 2 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, August-October, 1967
- 3 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, Nov.-Dec., 1967
- 4 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, January-March, 1968
- 5 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, April-June, 1968
- 6 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, July-November, 1968
- 7 Interoffice Memos, May 1967-April 1968  
Contains brief memos sent to and from various city offices dealing with day-to-day city administration. The memos are primarily one-sentence inquiries and responses.
- 8 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, January-May, 1969
- 9 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, June-July, 1969
- 10 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, Aug.-Nov., 1969
- 11 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, February-June, 1970
- 12 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, Aug.-Dec., 1970
- 13 Correspondence, Memoranda, and Publications, January-May, 1971