
Guide to the

CITY OF IRVING - OFFICE OF THE MAYOR LYNN BROWN ADMINISTRATION RECORDS 1962-1967

.4 linear ft.

Collection Number: 4

**Prepared by Jan Hart and Kevin Kendro
December 1997**

**CITATION: City of Irving - Office of the Mayor - Lynn Brown Administration
Records, Collection 4, 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 the 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 Lynn Brown was elected as Irving's fourteenth mayor and served four consecutive two-year terms from 1959-1967. The 1960s was a decade of explosive population growth in the City of Irving. During this time the city underwent a change of character, from a small farming town to the fastest growing city in Texas. It was during Brown's tenure as mayor that Irving changed from a City Commission form of government to a City Council form of municipal government (April 1963). Mayor Brown felt some of the major achievements of his administration were: the annexation of the Carpenter Ranch, work on the Cooper Reservoir plan, the expansion of Irving's business community, and the growth of the University of Dallas.

Irving Lynn Brown, known as Lynn, was born June 17, 1914, in Irving, Texas. Lynn was the youngest son of Otis Brown, city founder and first mayor, and Onetta Barcus Brown. In 1919, his family moved to a seventy-five acre section of land located at the northeast corner of the intersection of the Rock Island Railway track and Story Road. The Browns used the land as a dairy farm until 1926, after which Brown's father, Otis, converted the land into Irving's first golf course.

Lynn Brown attended school in the Irving Independent School District, graduating from Irving High School in 1931. Brown then attended the University of Texas, where he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in civil engineering. After graduation, he was appointed to the

United States Geological Survey. He stayed in this position until the outbreak of the Second World War. During the war, Lynn Brown served as an ensign in the 110th Naval Construction Battalion, known more commonly as the CBs. At the close of the war, Brown returned to Irving and went into business with his brother, Stanley, as Brown and Brown, Architect and Engineer.

On May 27, 1948, Brown married Catherine Fakes. The couple made their home in Irving. The Browns had one daughter, Catherine Lynn. In addition to serving as mayor, Brown was a member of the board of the Irving Independent School District during the 1955 teacher walkout. He was also a member of the Irving Chamber of Commerce. Lynn Brown died in 1990.

Sources:

Oral history interview conducted by Estelle Bates with Stanley, John and Lynn Brown, 1975. Irving Archives, Oral History Collection.

Scope and Content Note

The City of Irving - Office of the Mayor - Lynn Brown Administration Records consist of material collected by the City of Irving's Office of the City Secretary during Lynn Brown's terms as mayor of Irving, 1959-1967. Contained in a half-size document box, the materials include correspondence, invitations, and telegrams received and created by the Mayor's Office during the Lynn Brown administration.

The collection consists of one series: Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams. The vast majority of the collection is comprised of correspondence to and from the Mayor's Office. Although Brown was Mayor from 1959-1967, this collection contains only records from September 1962- February 1967, excluding September-December 1965. More specifically, the material in the collection contains invitations to various local, state, and national functions, letters to and from concerned citizens regarding problems within the city, numerous letters of congratulations to newly elected city and state officials, and several employer requests for character references from Mayor Brown.

The collection is arranged in five folders which are arranged in reverse chronological order. The material in each folder is also in reverse chronological order. The collection was processed in 1984, and the finding aid was revised in 1997.

Provenance Statement

The City of Irving - Office of the Mayor - Lynn Brown 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 - Lynn Brown 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.

For further information on Lynn Brown and the development of the City of Irving during the 1950s-1960s, see Collection 6, The Chamber of Commerce Scrapbooks, in the Irving Archives. Further information on the Brown family can be found in Collection 4, The Otis and Netta Brown Papers.

CONTAINER LIST

Series I. Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams, 1962-1967

Box 1

Folder

- 1 Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams, Jan. 1967-Feb. 1967
- 2 Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams, Jan. 1966-Dec. 1966
- 3 Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams, May 1965-August 1965
- 4 Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams, Jan. 1965-April 1965
- 5 Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams, June 1964-Dec. 1964
- 6 Correspondence, Invitations, and Telegrams, Sept. 1962-May 1964