City of Dallas

Books - Articles - DVDs - Collections - Oral Histories - YouTube - Websites

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Books


Articles


**DVDs**


**Collections**

A diverse, actively growing collection, the Museum Collection contains important primary and secondary resources of photographs, archival news footage, film, oral history interviews, documents, bibliographic materials and artifacts related to the history and culture of the city of Dallas and surrounding areas.

Please visit our [online collections database](#) for more information. For research assistance, please contact the Reading Room at readingroom@jfk.org or call (214) 741-6660 ext. 6646.

**Oral Histories**

For more information about the Oral History Collection

**Lindalyn Adams**

A community leader and an award-winning champion of historic preservation, Adams is chairman emeritus of the Dallas County Historical Foundation board of directors. She was a key leader in establishing The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza and devoted more than a decade to the project. Recorded January 15, 1997.

**Rodger Burson**

A longtime architect, Burson worked on the first phase of the adaptive reuse of the Texas School Book Depository building after it was purchased by Dallas County in 1978. Recorded February 13, 2002.
Robert W. Decherd

Chairman, president, and CEO of Belo Corp., Decherd played an important role in raising funds and obtaining local acceptance of The Sixth Floor Museum. Recorded March 2, 2001.

David Dunnigan

A Dallas native, Dunnigan was a reporter at the Galveston Daily News at the time of the assassination. He later went to work at the Dallas Morning News in 1966. In 1993, his PR firm handled media coverage of the 30th anniversary ceremony in Dealey Plaza. Recorded January 18, 2007.

Eugene George

George served as the restoration architect for The Sixth Floor exhibit and was charged with ensuring the historical integrity of the former Texas School Book Depository building during the design and construction of the exhibit. He remained an active member of the project team from 1978 to 1989. Recorded September 11, 2008.

Adlene Harrison

The first female mayor of Dallas (1976) and later the first chairman of Dallas Area Rapid Transit (1981-1986), Harrison was the only female member of the City of Dallas Planning Commission in 1963. She and her husband attended the luncheon at the Dallas Trade Mart on the day of the assassination. Recorded September 10, 2009.

James L. Hendricks

A fellow of the American Institute of Architects, Hendricks was the principal architect responsible for the adaptive reuse of the Texas School Book Depository building after it was purchased by Dallas County in 1978. He later designed the original Visitor Center and exterior elevator shaft for The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza. Recorded September 19 and December 1, 2008.

Conover Hunt

Hunt served as the original project director and curator for the Dallas County Historical Foundation and was instrumental in the planning, research and content of The Sixth Floor Museum's permanent exhibition. Hunt is the author of the Museum's official guidebook and JFK for a New Generation (1996). Recorded on March 26, 2003, and February 16, 2009.

J. Erik Jonsson

A notable mayor in the years following the assassination (1964-71), Jonsson was a longtime community leader who is credited with helping Dallas through that traumatic period. As president of the Dallas Citizens Council in 1963, he met the presidential party at Dallas Love Field and later
announced to the crowd at the Trade Mart that the president had been shot. Recorded June 30, August 17, and November 10, 1992.

**Stanley Marcus**

A longtime community leader and the late chairman emeritus of Neiman Marcus department stores, Marcus was U.N. Ambassador Adlai Stevenson's host during his visit to Dallas in October 1963. As a member of the Dallas Citizens Council, Marcus openly opposed President Kennedy's trip to Dallas in November out of concern for his safety. Recorded July 11, 1995.

**Robert Miller**

Assistant city editor at the Dallas Morning News in 1963, Miller attended the Trade Mart luncheon on November 22 and served as weekend city editor at the newspaper the morning Lee Harvey Oswald was shot. Miller provided detailed information about the atmosphere in Dallas at the time of the assassination. Recorded June 24, 2005.

**Dr. James W. Pennebaker**

Currently a professor at the University of Texas at Austin, Pennebaker was a social psychologist at Southern Methodist University in the 1980s. In that capacity, he conducted a series of studies in cooperation with the Dallas County Historical Foundation regarding the emotional impact of President Kennedy's assassination. Some of his findings were published in his book Opening Up (1990). Recorded October 17, 2008.

**Bob Ray Sanders**

A respected longtime newspaper, radio and television journalist in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Sanders was attending high school at an African-American school in Fort Worth in 1963. On Thanksgiving Day that year, his marching band performed a memorial tribute to President Kennedy. Sanders was later an active supporter of the civil rights and peace movements of the 1960s and 1970s. Recorded September 6, 2006, September 19, 2007, June 11, 2008, and January 13, 2012.

**C. Judson Shook**

Former director of public works for Dallas County, Shook played a crucial role in preserving the former Texas School Book Depository building by having the county purchase it. Recorded August 13, 1992.

**Tom Simmons**

Assistant managing editor at the Dallas Morning News in 1963, Simmons was present at the Trade Mart luncheon and supervised editorial content of the newspaper throughout that weekend. Recorded July 20, 1994.
YouTube

The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza Channel

The City of Hate: A Conversation with Quin Mathews and Bill Minutaglio

Following a screening of his 2013 documentary film "City of Hate: Dallas and the Assassination," longtime Dallas resident, journalist and filmmaker Quin Mathews participated in an informal discussion with University of Texas clinical professor of journalism Bill Minutaglio. Minutaglio, formerly a senior writer and columnist with The Dallas Morning News and San Antonio Express News, co-authored "Dallas 1963" along with Steven L. Davis.

Legacies 2015: Kennedy Memorialization in Dallas

For the 16th annual conference, held at the Hall of State at Fair Park in Dallas, Museum Associate Curator presented this paper entitled, “History in Conflict: Kennedy Assassination Memorialization in Dallas, 1964-1989.” A survey of the interesting and controversial permanent memorials that were created between the assassination and the opening of The Sixth Floor Museum.

Dallas 1963

Author Steven L. Davis discussed the book that he co-authored with journalist Bill Minutaglio, "Dallas 1963" (2013). The book examines the swirling forces that led many people to warn President Kennedy to avoid Dallas on his fateful trip to Texas. The conversation was moderated by KERA's Jerome Weeks.

JFK: The Dallas Perspective and The Sixth Floor Museum

McCuistion, a Dallas-based issues-oriented program, presented this conversation with former Dallas Mayor Wes Wise and Museum Associate Curator Stephen Fagin discussing the aftermath of President Kennedy's assassination in Dallas and the development of The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza.

Websites

Southern Methodist University-DeGolyer Library - The JFK Assassination

The JFK Assassination page provides links the papers of Earle Cabell, 1963 mayor and civic and business leader Stanley Marcus.

Dallas Historical Society – Collections

The collection of the Dallas Historical Society spans the history of not only the Greater Dallas area but the entire state of Texas.

Dallas Municipal Archives - The John F. Kennedy/Dallas Police Department Collection
Contains 11,406 documents and photographs, including homicide reports, affidavits, witness statements, newspaper clippings and correspondences. The Municipal Archives holds the original files related to the assassination, except those that have been permanently transferred to the federal government.

**Dallas Public Library – Texas/Dallas History & Archives Division**

John F. Kennedy Assassination Collection consists of published and documentary material relating to the life and assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The contents are described in much more detail in the online finding guide.

**Portal to Texas History - The John F. Kennedy Dallas Police Department Collection and John F. Kennedy Memorial Collection**

This collection contains 3700 items related to that include the “sniper’s nest” in downtown Dallas’ Texas School Book Depository Building, where Oswald allegedly fired on Kennedy’s motorcade; the back and front yards of the boarding house at 214 Neely; Dealey Plaza; the intersection at Tenth Street and Patton Avenue where Oswald allegedly fatally shot Dallas patrolman J.D. Tippit; interiors of the Texas Theater where Oswald was arrested by Dallas police; and the basement of Dallas City Hall where Jack Ruby shot and killed Oswald on Nov. 24, 1963.