# WHAT I HAVE LEARNED IN MY YEAR OF FEEDBACK

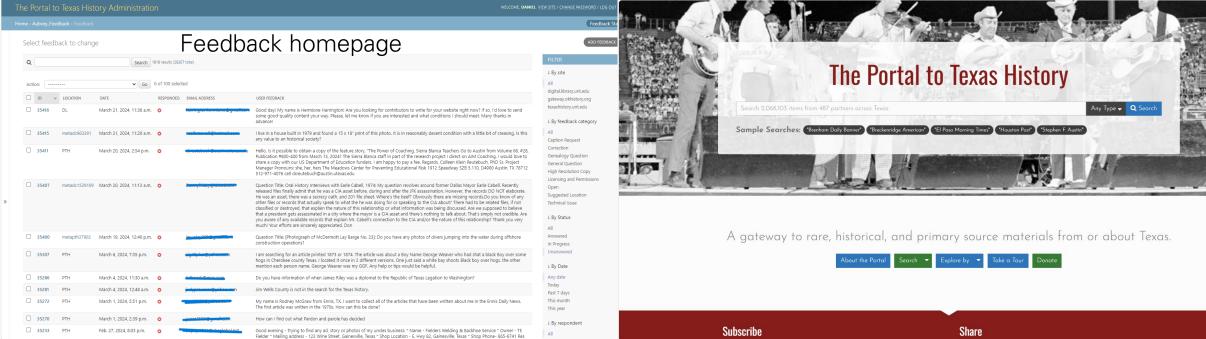


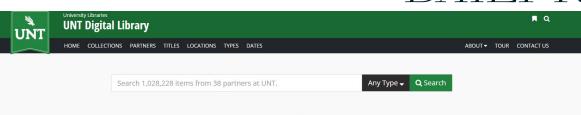


## ABOUT ME

- DANIEL ESPARZA
- SENIOR, COMMUNICATION STUDIES
- STUDENT FEEDBACK ASSISTANT
- INTERESTED IN HOW MY MAJOR OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES INFORMS MY APPROACH TO THIS POSITION.







Our creativity. Our scholarship. Our world.

About the Digital Library Search ▼ Explore by ▼ Take a Tour

## **Featured Collections**









A digital portal sharing Oklahoma's rich history and cultural heritage

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The Gateway employs cookies to assess our features and to improve your experience. Learn more

Corrections & Problems

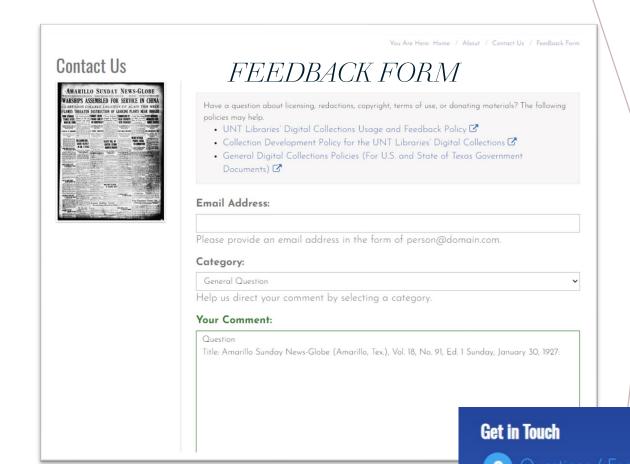
Questions

## HOW IT WORKS?

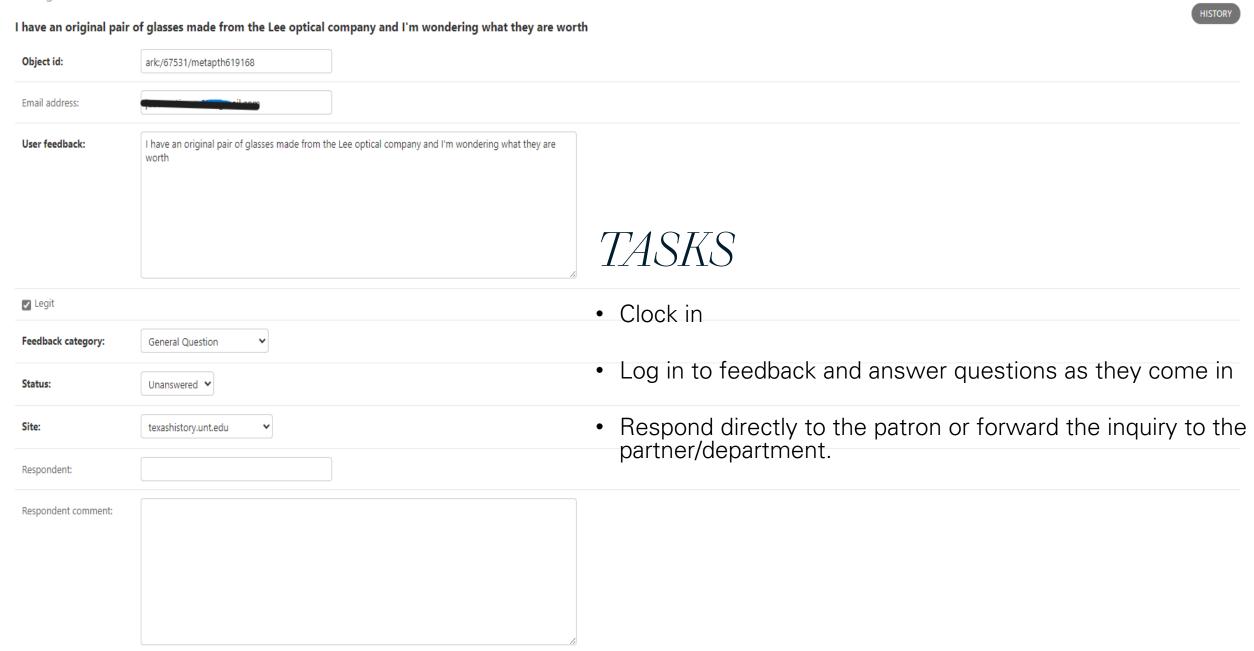
Through **feedback forms** on the Portal and Digital Library, users can submit various types of questions:

- Metadata corrections (filling in gaps within information, location suggestions, etc.)
- Licensing and Permissions (requesting high resolution copies, interested in using an item in publication)
- General reference (looking for obituaries, how to best utilize the repository, trying to find information on a topic)

Goal: Through collaborating with avid users and patrons, as well as partners and institutions, we can improve the accuracy of our resource descriptions, ultimately making these resources more accessible.



## Change feedback



 Page information 14 Texas Fashion Collection 15 UNT Press

Search Digital Project

Go Search

16 Theses and Dissertations and Texas Register

17 Usability

18 Website Performance

19 Non-Newspaper Imaging Problems or Errors

20 Manditory Reporting

## ARTsource questions or metadata corrections

Mark Phillips, Mark.Phillips@unt.edu™

Items in this collection were purchased from a vendor an involved with this project at CVAD is now gone.

https://digital.library.unt.edu/explore/collections/UNTART/

### Art-related questions [edit]

Texas Fashion Collection .. see below.

Rebecca Barham, Rebecca.Barham@unt.edu™

Items Rebecca might receive questions about: https://dig

### Audio-Video Transcripts/Captions [edit]

Creation of captions or changes to existing captions Will Hicks, Will.Hicks@unt.edu™

### Government Documents [edit]

govinfo@unt.edu™ and Government.Information.Connection Items GovDocs might receive questions about: https://dig

### Media Library collections [edit]

Steven Guerrero, steven.guerrero@unt.edu™ Items Steven might receive questions about: https://digita

## Music Library metadata corrections and Collect

Blaine Brubaker, Blaine, Brubaker@unt, edur

Items Blaine might receive questions about: https://digita

### Music Library reference [edit]

Maristella Feustle, Maristella Feustle@unt.edur

## Any newspaper-related or newspaper-partner-

Ana Krahmer. Ana.Krahmer@unt.edu™

https://texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/TDNP/₫

### OCR errors or other questions about OCR files

Mark Phillips, Mark.Phillips@unt.edu

■

## General Rules to Follow [edit]

## Basics [edit]

- When answering, always put, "The Portal to Texas History Feed! the title and in the body of the email somewhere. Explain who yo
- Always paste the feedback somewhere in your email so the user like "You wrote: " and then past their original message.
- If something looks like spam, don't answer it. Obvious spam can Sarah Lynn. If someone is trying to sell something unrelated to the displayed on the Portal, or has a fishy email address, this is sparexplanation why.
- Never say that someone came to the Portal in error, even if they newspaper we host). Instead thank them for visiting, and sugges they are looking for.
- If feedback is hateful or crazy, feel free to ignore it. For a while the were hiding the fact that President Kennedy was a black widow s respond to that. If someone is venting frustration, you may apolo so. Most of the time, when a real human answers them, they are frustrated. If you ignore it, please mark it answered, and enter a
- individually.
- If an email returns to you unsent because the email address was Comment in the feedback system for that comment so everyone "Email bounced."
- Review the ALA's Code of Ethics with respect to user privacy and

### Reference Questions [edit]

- Always search the Portal first when someone asks a reference q If you can't find an answer on the Portal, Google it. Try to spend
- If you can't find an answer, try to figure out somewhere that they don't want to tell people we can't help them without offering an al related to their query or a government office that might help. A go (https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online៤). You can also forward Request to Buy an Item [edit] especially true if the question is directly related to a partner's iter
- If you find an answer somewhere on the internet, always use a new property of the second of the s information so that the user can read the information you found.
- We don't do personal research. When someone asks about gene like, search that name on the Portal in quotations and send them Ancestry.com.

## Requests for Help [edit]

Remember that the goal is always to teach people how to use the answer a question that relates to finding something on the Portal (http://texashistory.unt.edu/search/advanced\_search/r₽) and brie

## Portal Feedback Response

### Contents [hide]

- 1 Request for Oral History Transcript or Access
- 2 Request to Buy an Item
- 3 Request for the Value of an Item
- 4 Request to Print an Item
- 5 Request to Zoom an Item
- 6 Request to Correct Metadata
- 7 Request to Obtain Image Rights or High Resolution Copy
- 8 Request for Transcripts or Translations (Non A/V Content)
- 9 Request for Permission Referral to Partner
- 10 Referral to Another Person in the Libraries
- 11 Response to someone sharing information about an item
- 12 Request for the Value of Stock certificate/Bond
- 13 Request for the Journal of Near Death Studies

## REFERENCE PAGES

## ■ Feel free to answer multiple queries in one email if they are from Request for Oral History Transcript or Access [edit]

We received your request for a copy of an oral history from the UNT Oral History Program. Currently, access to digitized transcripts on the UNT Digital Library/Portal to Texas History are restricted to UNT community use. You can request a copy of the oral history you're interested directly from the UNT Oral History Department. Please see http://oralhistory.unt.edu/our-collection@ and http://oralhistory.unt.edu/faq@ for more information.

We hope this helps with your research.

All the best.

Thank you for visiting the Portal to Texas History. We sincerely appreciate your feedback. I am contacting you in regard to your comment (below) about purchasing the object at this URL: [INSERT LINK]. The Portal to Texas History is operated by the University of North Texas Libraries. The Portal to Texas History acts as a digital repository for cultural heritage and historic materials from across the state. As part of our agreement with our over 450 collaborative partners to host these items online, but typically we do not own these items.

You can also download copies of images for personal research or learning. Please see our Guide about how to do this at (https://texashistory.unt.edu/help/guide/downloading/ 4)

If you have any other questions or comments, I suggest that you contact the partner that provided this object to be digitized for the Portal. You can find their contact information here: [INSERT LINK] and below.

Contact information

## Change feedback I have an original pair of glasses made from the Lee optical company and I'm wondering what they are worth Object id: ark:/67531/metapth619168 Email address: I have an original pair of glasses made from the Lee optical company and I'm wondering what they are User feedback: TASKS Legit Lack of feedback? Feedback category: General Question Kempner, Collection Icons, Scanning, THC-slide fix, social media posts Status: Unanswered > texashistory.unt.edu Site: Survey Analyses Assistant – Investigating descriptive practices for potentially harmful cultural heritage materials Respondent: Respondent comment:

## Patricia Fertel Paper Doll Collection



## **About the Digital Collection**

The Digital Collection includes selections from the Patricia Fertel Paper Doll Collection, including sets of dolls, fashion publications, and various other advertising and relevant materials ranging from the later 1800s to the present day. The materials cover the history of fashion and popular culture and give a glimpse of publications from Europe and the United States.

## **About the Physical Collection**

The Patricia Fertel Paper Doll Collection contains sets of dolls, fashion publications, and various other advertising and relevant materials ranging from the later 1800s to the present day. The materials cover the history of fashion and popular culture, and give a glimpse of publications from Europe and the United States. There are several wedding themed sets and articles featuring famous brides, sets themed around children and babies, sets and articles featuring foreign styles and language, celebrity sets with additional articles and memorabilia, fashion sets and catalogs with additional fashion plate etchings by Godey, sets of royalty with photographs and articles about them, and a large selection of sets designed by Queen Holden.



The main paper doll publishing groups found in this collection are Saalfield, Artcraft, Whitman, Watkins Strathmore, Dover, Golden, Merrill, Merrimack, and Paper Studio Press. The additional articles and advertisements are spread across newspapers and old catalogs including The New York Times, Life Magazine, The New Yorker, Doll News, McCall's Magazine, Pictorial Review, The Ladies' World, The Woman's Home Companion, and Needlecraft. Major artists found in the collection are Tom Tierney, Peggy Jo Rosamond, Brenda Sneathen Mattox, Sandra "Sandy" Vanderpool, David









University Libraries / UNT Digital Library / Explore / Collections / Liquid Paper Corporation Records

## **Liquid Paper Corporation Records**



The records of the Liquid Paper Corporation and documents from its founder, Bette Graham. Material consists of correspondence; financial documents, literary productions including Letter Perfect, the Liquid Paper Art Collection, and the Liquid Paper Corporation, clippings, and audio recording tapes.

### **Additional Resources**

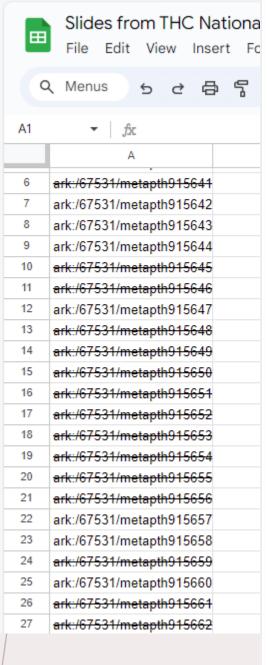
Read more about Bette Graham, inventor of Liquid Paper, on the Texas State Historical Association online *Handbook of Texas* here: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/graham-bette-clair-mcmurray

Search Inside this Collection

Other Search Options >

Look In: Full Text ▼







The Portal to Texas History

Home

our A

About ▼ Explore ▼

Search '

## About Overview History Collaboration Rescuing Texas History Texas History for Teachers Endowment Technology Policies Harmful Content Statement Help Accessibility Contact Us News Statistics API

You Are Here: Home / About / Statement on Potentially Harmful Content

## Statement on Potentially Harmful Content

The Portal to Texas History provides access to millions of freely available digitized and born digital items that have been preserved by hundreds of libraries, archives, museums, cultural heritage organizations, and other institutions and private individuals across the State of Texas. These materials, consisting of both primary and secondary sources, originate from many cultures and time periods and bear witness to historical events of interest to both lay and professional researchers.

Due to this variety of sourcing, users should be aware that The Portal to Texas History contains content that they may find objectionable and/or emotionally disturbing. Some of the materials presented on this site contain images of nudity, are of, or related to violence, record graphic events and their aftermaths, or have depictions of individuals who may now be deceased. Written and other media may reflect outdated, biased, offensive, and possibly violent ideologies or contain words and opinions reflective of systemic intolerances such as classism, racism, sexism, homophobia, religious discrimination, or xenophobia as they manifested at various points in time.

Additionally, the Portal archives a constantly growing collection of government produced documents, research, data, news, and both majority and minority opinionated works from private and public entities on politics, religion, gender, and other topics which are debated in contemporary discourse. The contents of these materials may challenge some individuals' belief systems, elicit shame and/or embarrassment, or be subject to prohibitions by members of certain communities.

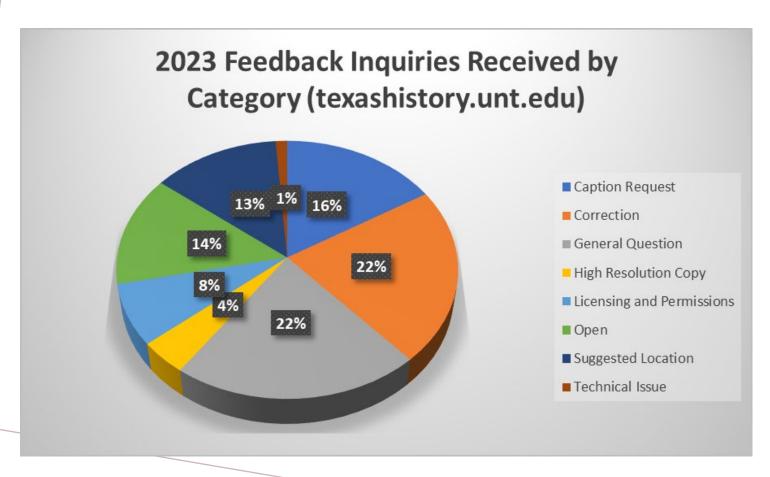
Finally, the Portal provides access to thousands of hours of archival video content, and though rare, some footage may contain scenes with periods of strobing or flashing that may affect photosensitive viewers and may not be labeled.

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## **Frequently Asked Questions**

Where does this content come from?

## FUN STATS (2023)



- 3665 separate inquiries were submitted across all three repositories
- 2370 across the Portal and DL, 1414 answered by me!
- General reference and correction inquiries were our most popular

## MOST COMMON INQUIRES



Suggested Location: Users can provide geographical information regarding where an item originated. Easy to confirm, easy to implement.



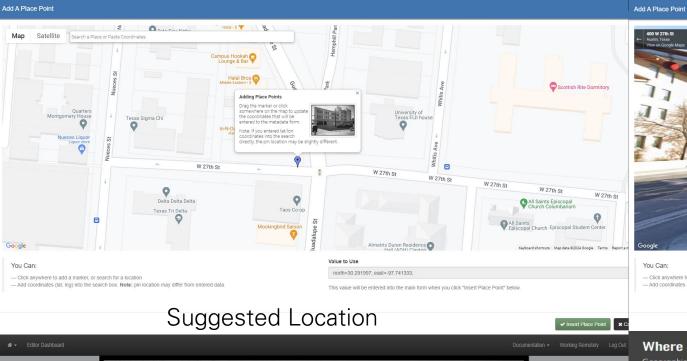
Correction Inquiries: We do not know everything and sometimes our records are missing information that users may be knowledgeable in. Its important to confirm the information: whether that be my own web search or contacting the partner to see if they know anything.



Licensing/Permissions and High-resolution copies: Users can request licensing for items on the repositories. While we have the digitized items, we do not release high-res scans and permissions without approval from the partner. Slightly difficult, relies heavily on our partners to be active and attentive.



Research: Users can send in research inquiries. These questions can be relatively easy to difficult. While we have over 4 million records across the three repositories, that is still very little compared to the world outside of Texas/Oklahoma.







- Click anywhere to add a marker, or search for a location

- Add coordinates (lat, Ing) into the search box. Note: pin location may differ from entered data.

north=30.291997; east=-97.741333;

This value will be entered into the main form when you click "Insert Place Point" below.

### Place Name

• United States - Texas - Travis County - Austin

### Coordinates

• 30.291997, -97.741333 **:=** 

## **Map Information**

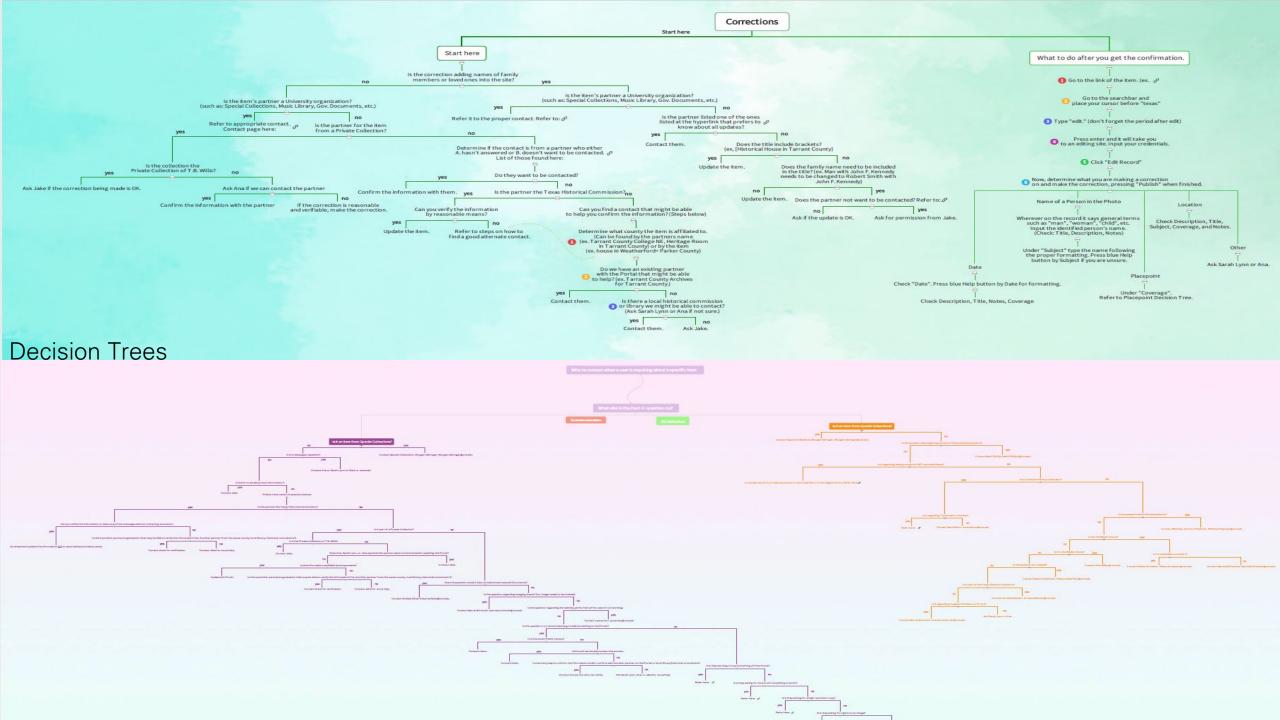
Precise coordinates.

Place Name coordinates. (May be

A Repositioning map may be required for optimal

### **Mapped Locations**





## GENERAL LESSONS



## NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION

Communication quickly become an important skill to have.

- Items are provided by **different** collaborative Partners.
- Through practice (and written documentation), we begin to see which partner is consistent in their responses (or lack thereof), which partner wants to be notified when a correction is received, as well as how they want information presented once the item is live.
- Managing and controlling records can be seen as an **ongoing**, collaborative process.

While our collections find their origins in Texas/United States, we are in discussion with a world-wide audience.

- Mexico
- Philippines
- India
- European countries (France, Germany, England)

Highlights how useful a digital archive is compared to traditional archives. A worldwide audience gives multiple perspectives

Partners who would like to have the information confirmed with them:

Austin Public Library, Austin History Center

Longview Public Library

Midwestern State University

McMurry University

Denton Public Library

Marfa Public Library

Mexic-Arte Museum

Kileen Public Library

Hardin-Simmons University Library?

Deaf Smith County Librar

**Dallas Municipal Archives** 

Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

These partners are ones I personally would not recommend contacting:

Tarrant County College NE, Heritage Room

Partners that haven't answered in a considerable amount of time:

**Euless Public Library** 

Palestine Public Library

Danish Heritage Preservation Society

Lee College

Marshall Public Library

Star of the Republic Museum

Texas Historical Commission

We try to keep documentation of which partners are actively responding to us and which don't.

## LANGUAGE

Language and word choice are important.

- Feedback is primarily received and handled through email.
- With no access to nonverbal cues (facial expression, tone), there is an emphasis on **diction**.
  - Inquiry vs. comment

As members of library sciences, we are active participants in a broader institution that has origins rooted in colonialism, racism, and overall problematic beginnings. It is our job to cultivate a safe and approachable space for everyone.

Hello.

Thank you for contacting the Portal to Texas History. We have received the following inquiry from you regarding this item:

You wrote:

Begin actual response...

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any more questions, please don't hesitate on reaching out to The Portal to Texas History!

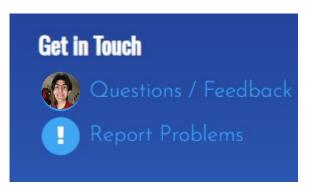
Have a great day,

Daniel Esparza
Feedback Assistant
Digital Libraries
UNT Libraries
<a href="https://texashistory.unt.edu/">https://texashistory.unt.edu/</a>
<a href="https://digital.library.unt.edu/">https://digital.library.unt.edu/</a>

- Metadata/record descriptions shape how an item is understood
- While working with the metadata aspect side is something I rarely do compared to others (not as extensive), language/word choice still play a vital part in user experience.
- In that moment, I represent UNT as an institution, what I say, how I say, and how I treat the patron reflects that. No one wants to feel disrespected, unwanted, or like a burden.

## CLOSING THOUGHTS

- Rhetoric and representation
- As I finish up with my undergraduate studies, I begin to think that much of what makes up rhetoric and communication derives from the language and symbols used in archives/repositories.
- We should be mindful of how we interact with these items; I think we can acknowledge their complex and messy histories while still seeing them as useful for the future.



## THANK YOU

Daniel Esparza Feedback Assistant



North Texas Review, [Issue 23], 2023 - Page 109 - UNT Digital Library

Search Results - - 51 Results - UNT Digital Library