



Summary Information

Title: Ed Baucum Collection

Collection Number: 2005:089

Creator: Joanne Baucum

Collection Dates: 1913-2000, bulk 1913-1915

Extent: .25 cubic feet (1 box)

Language: English

Collection Abstract:

Ed Baucum was an engineer for the Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company from roughly 1907-1915, when he was murdered by fellow employee Monroe Smith over a work promotion. This collection contains photographs of Ed Baucum with Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company locomotives, newspaper articles relating to Baucum's death, and a letter from TSE general manager E. C. Durham praising Baucum for his engineering skills. All of these records are reproductions of originals.

Repository:

The History Center
102 N. Temple
Diboll, TX 75941
936-829-3543
www.thehistorycenteronline.com

Author/Processing Information: Processed by Matt Gorzalski in June 2011.

Biographical/Historical Note:

William Edgar Baucum was an engineer for the Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company (TSE) of Diboll, Texas, working for the company as early as 1907. He married Lula Bell Turner in 1900 in Groveton, Texas. In 1915, Baucum was promoted to the position of master mechanic. In October of that year he was murdered by James Monroe Smith, a fellow TSE engineer, who was upset that he had been passed over for the promotion. Jess Morris was promoted to Baucum's master mechanic position. Baucum is buried in Groveton. Monroe Smith was sentenced on November 14, 1916 and entered prison on December 15. He was pardoned by Governor William P. Hobby on December 23, 1917.

Collection Scope and Content:

The Ed Baucum Collection is an artificial collection of photographs, a letter, and a newspaper article documenting the Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company engineer who was murdered in 1915. All of the records are reproductions of originals. The photographs include Ed Baucum with TSE engines 5 and 9 with crews, Baucum's funeral train at the TSE Depot in Diboll, Texas, the Baucum home in Diboll with Lula Bell and son Archie W. Baucum, Ed Baucum and his crew, and TSE engine 10 with engineer Jess Morris and family. The letter is from TSE manager E. C. Durham to Baucum praising his engineering skills, and the clipping report Baucum's murder. Also included is Henry Lonzo Smith's interview in the January 31, 1948 *Buzz Saw* containing his remembrances of Baucum.

Arrangement: This collection is arranged and described at the collection level.

Subject Terms

Topics

- Logging railroads -- Texas -- Diboll
- Murder -- Texas -- Diboll
- Railroads -- United States -- Employees
- Railroads -- Texas -- Diboll
- Trials (Murder) -- Texas -- Angelina County

Corporate Names

- Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company

Personal Names

- Baucum, Ed, d. 1915
- Smith, Monroe

Occupations

- Railroad engineers

Locations

- Angelina County (Tex.)
- Diboll (Tex.)

Access and Use

Access Restrictions: There are no restrictions on this collection.

Acquisition Information: The bulk of these materials were donated by Joanne Baucum from 2005-2008.

Custodial History: Joanne Baucum, granddaughter of Ed Baucum, provided digital scans of Ed Baucum photographs after her research on her grandfather brought her to Diboll, Texas. Some images were informally donated in 2005 and others in 2008. She maintains possession of the original records. The photographs were combined with existing resources related to Ed Baucum to create this artificial collection. The collection was accessioned retroactively with the 2005 number.

Citation: Ed Baucum Collection, 1913-2000, 2005:089, The History Center, Diboll, TX

Related Material:

Ed Baucum is also documented in the Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company time books from the collection Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company Records, 1902-1991, 1993:022, The History Center, Diboll, TX.

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Bibliography:

- "Shooting at Diboll: fatal result likely," *Lufkin News*, October 22, 1915, page 5.
- "Gone to trial," *Lufkin Daily News*, December 1, 1915, page 2.
- "Smith case reset," *Lufkin Daily News*, December 2, 1915, page 1.
- "Was allowed bail," *Lufkin Daily News*, January 11, 1916, page 1.
- "Cases set for trial," *Lufkin Daily News*, April 4, 1916, pages 1.
- "1915: a tragic year for TSE Railroad," *Diboll Free Press*, August 10, 2000.
- "News and Notices." *The Pine Bough* 13 (2008), 47. Diboll: T. L. L. Temple Memorial Library and Archives, 2008.

Collection Inventory

Box 1

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| Folder 1 | Photograph of Lula Bell Turner Baucum and Son Archie W. Baucum, Diboll Home, c. 1913 |
| Folder 2 | Photograph of Ed Baucum and Engine 9 Crew near Texas South-Eastern Railroad Diboll Depot |
| Folder 3 | Photograph of Ed Baucum with Texas South-Eastern Railroad Engine 5 and Crew near Water Tower |
| Folder 4 | Photograph of Ed Baucum and Crew near Texas South-Eastern Shop Area, c. 1915 |
| Folder 5 | Photograph of Jess Morris and Family inside Texas South-Eastern Railroad Engine 10 |
| Folder 6 | Photograph of Ed Baucum Funeral Train, Texas South-Eastern Railroad Engine 5 at Diboll Depot, 1915 |
| Folder 7 | E. C. Durham Letter to Ed Baucum Praising Baucum's Work (Box 4 Folder 18 of Arthur Temple, Jr. Business Papers), February 17, 1915 |
| Folder 8 | "Shooting at Diboll: Fatal Result Likely," <i>Lufkin News</i> , October 22, 1915 |
| Folder 9 | Interview with Henry Lonzo Smith, talks about Ed Baucum, <i>Buzz Saw</i> , January 31, 1949 |
| Folder 10 | "Tragedy strikes TSE in 1915," <i>Diboll Free Press</i> , August 10, 2000 |
| Folder 11 | CD of Baucum Collection Images |