

**Harris County Archives  
Houston, Texas**

*Finding Aid*

**William G. Sharman Collection  
1909 - 1951 (1912 - 1917)**

**Manuscript Collection:** MC025

**Size:** 48 items

**Accession Number:** 2008.010

**Restrictions on Access:** None

**Processed by:** Sarah Canby Jackson,  
2008

**Restrictions on Use:** None

**Acquisition:** Sharon Sharman Russell,  
2008

**Citation:** [Identification of Item], William G. Sharman Collection, MC025, Harris County Archives, Houston, Texas.

**Creator Sketch:**

William Granger Sharman was born on the family homestead north of Houston on Link Road in Harris County, Texas, on November 5, 1882, to Joseph Rosenfield Sharman (b. February 26, 1858) and Eada Kortge Sharman (b. May 30, 1857). He lived on the family land until his death in 1949.

After graduating from public schools, Sharman embarked on his lifelong career with Harris County beginning with the Harris County Road Department in 1900. In 1910 he worked as a constable and in 1912 he became a deputy sheriff under Frank Hammond. In 1916 he returned to the Road Department and ran for county commissioner in 1921. Sharman served as Commissioner for Precinct 3 from 1921 until 1932 when he resigned due to poor health. Sharman continued to work for the county as a bailiff in Judge Roy Campbell's 80<sup>th</sup> District Court until his death. In addition, during World War II he served as Chairman of the Selective Service Board #10 and also became a "dollar a year man" deputy sheriff for Sheriff Neil Polk.

A member of Reagan Lodge No. 1037, Sharman was a Mason and Shriner and a member of Reid Memorial Methodist Church.

On April 2, 1913 Sharman married Lena Minnie Eckhert (b. Sept 4, 1894) in Harris County. They had one son, William J. Sharman, born June 10, 1914. William G. Sharman died on October 11, 1949 while at home.

**Bibliography:**

Russell, Sharon Sharman, "Biography of William G. Sharman." Unpublished. Copy on file at the Harris County Archives.

**Scope and Contents Note:**

Correspondence (19) including postcards, greeting cards and letters 1909 - 1942, photographs (8) 1913 - 1949, printed materials (8) and artifacts (13) document the life of William G. Sharman, Harris County Commissioner 1921 – 1932. The bulk of the correspondence is comprised of early courtship letters and cards (1912) and letters (1917) written to Sharman's wife and son in Medina, Texas, and discusses working in the road camps along with daily news. Three photographs, including the earliest photograph of the interior, record locations in the 1910 courthouse: an exterior balcony (ca. 1930), a Justice of the Peace courtroom (1913), and the commissioner's office (ca. 1930). Also of interest is a family photograph with Sharman wearing his deputy sheriff's badge. Selective Service certificates document Sharman's service to the United States during World War II. Artifacts including his Masonic jewelry and apron, and his deputy sheriff's badge, provide material evidence of his fraternal and professional service.

## Inventory

Title / Description	Date	Location
Correspondence	1909– 1942, n.d.	0397-X-13
Photographs		
B/W Photoprint – Sharman, county commissioner.	ca. 1930	0011-P-11
B/W Photoprint – Sharman, constable; interior 1910 courthouse.	1913, 10	0005-P-00
B/W Photoprint – Sharman, county commissioner; exterior 3rd floor balcony 1910 courthouse.	ca. 1930	0005-P-00
B/W studio portrait -- W. G. Sharman.	ca. 1925	0011-P-11
B/W Photoprint – Sharman Family; deputy sheriff's badge.	n.d.	0011-P-11
B/W hand-colored studio portrait, Sharman.	n.d.	0020-P-00
2 - B/W snapshots -- grave site.	1949	0011-P-11
Printed Materials		
Selective Service Certificates	1940 - 1951	0009-V-00
Obituary, Newspaper Clipping	n.d.	0397-X-14
Funeral Home Book	1949	0397-X-15
Artifacts		
Penknife, silver-colored, 2 blades, 2 3/8" x 1/2" 2008.010.073.001	n.d.	
Glasses, gold wire-rimmed with black case. 2008.010.073.002	n.d.	
Ring, silver Masonic with red stone, Masonic emblem etched in white. Worn. 2008.010.073.003	n.d.	

Pendant, 10 K gold with blue and white enamel, Masonic symbols, 7/8" x 7/8" 2008.010.073.004	n.d.
Lapel pin, Masonic 1/2" x 1/2" 2008.010.073.005	n.d.
Lapel Pin, silver with gold and blue enamel, small red stone above scimitar, "Molay" 5/8" x 3/8" 2008.010.073.006	n.d.
Box, purple velvet with Masonic jewelry. 2008.010.077.001	n.d.
Chrome tube with Masonic symbol etched on outside, holds ceremonial apron. 2008.010.080.001	n.d.
Fez, black wool felt with silk cord tassel. Gold letters, "EL TEX 114" gold and purple embroidery of 2 crescent moons with stairs, tiger head, "D. O. K.K" 2008.010.081.001	n.d.
Women's bathing suit, yellow-green wool with appliqué black bows, 2 front, 1 back. 2008.010.008.002	n.d.
Bathing suit, brown wool with narrow orange horizontal strips across chest and hem. Men's. Condition good. Label: Rib stitch process © 1920. 2008.010.080.003	n.d.
Medal, Selective Service with service ribbon and lapel pin. 2008.010.073.007	n.d.
Badge, brass with gold plating, deputy sheriff, 2 1/8" x 1 3/4". 2008.010.073.008	n.d.