Historically archives and museums have sought out collections to keep in their institution. Many members of the community are not ready to donate their cherished family heirlooms to a museum or archive. The East Texas Research Center (ETRC) at Ralph W. Steen Library views collecting material in a different light. They are helping to preserve and disseminate Texas cultural heritage through the promotion of preservation of Community Collections. ETRC temporarily borrows material from the community or members of the community bring their historic material to be digitized and added to the TIDES database.
The Community Helping to Document History

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The State of Texas

Be it known that whereas on the 25th day of September A.D. 1847, the Trustees of Nacogdoches University at their meeting held on that day passed the following Resolution to wit: "Resolved that the Trustees of Nacogdoches University do convey to Bennet Blake the following described tracts of land under

Land Transfer from Nacogdoches University to Bennet Blake, 1847
The State of Texas. I, know all men by these presents, that I, Hannah Crawford of the County of Hardeman and State of Tennessee, for and in consideration of the sum of five dollars, payable in full, do hereby sell and convey unto John White, son of Robert Crawford of the County of Hardeman and State aforesaid, a slave, who is to the further consideration of the sale of the above-named slave paid by my son, Robert Crawford, the sum of five dollars, payable in full, as aforesaid. I have the sum paid and keep with my possession during my natural life, unto my said son, Robert Crawford, and his heirs. The above sale of slave contains aged about twenty years and named, Bessie, said negro is in my right hand in sound and body and a slave for life. And in the distribution of any property among

Sale of Slave, 1864
MOLLIE BAILEY'S R. R. SHOW

COME AND SEE AUNT MOLLIE.
Will Arrive on Day and Date Advertised

SHOW QUEEN OF TEXAS.

Postcard Advertisement
One Dollar Wooden Certificate
Celebrating Nacogdoches 175th Anniversary, 1954
100 Dollar Republic of Texas Treasury Note, 1837
10 Cent Fractional Currency, 1874
Republic of Texas Currency
Blood Chit
Silk Scarf Map of Burma
Spanish Flintlock Pistol, ca. 1760
Spanish Escopeta Musket, ca. 1780
Bandolero Bullet Belt
Arkansas Toothpick Knife, ca. 1860’s
Confederate Bowie Knife, ca. 1860
Sheriff Milton Mast Watch and Badge
Sheriff Milton Mast’s handcuffs, 1870’s
Ceremonial Pipe Tomahawk
Quilting Stories of East Texas

The purpose of the project is to find, survey and document quilts in eastern Texas. The project highlights the unique stories behind East Texas quilts.
“Sunny Lone Star” Quilt, 1928

“Sun Rise” Quilt, ca. 1856
“Chips and Whetstones” Quilt, 1800’s
Unknown Quilt, 1865
“Log Cabin” Quilt, 1860’s
“Butterfly” Quilt, 1920’s