

# Americana (Brazil) Oral History Project collection, 1978

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## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Americana (Brazil) Oral History Project collection, 1978  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 740  
**Extent:** 1.25 linear ft. (3 boxes), 1 oversized paper (OP), and AV Masters: 1 linear ft. (2 boxes)  
**Abstract:** The Americana (Brazil) Oral History Project collection includes transcripts of interviews, audiocassette and reel-to-reel recordings of interviews, photographs and slides, genealogical charts, clippings, printed material, and collected material relating to the ancestors of Confederate exiles in Americana, Brazil.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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## Administrative Information

### Restrictions on access

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### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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### Source

Gift, 1993, with subsequent additions.

### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Americana (Brazil) Oral History Project collection, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

### Processing

Processed by Barbara J. Mann, December 1998.

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## Collection Description

### Biographical Note

After the Civil War ended, many Confederate soldiers returned to their homes and found that nothing was left. The Old South as they knew it, no longer existed. Dom Pedro II, emperor of Brazil, offered the Confederates a solution. Dom Pedro saw the possibility of developing a cotton industry in Brazil and needed the know-how of the Confederates. He promised them land at twenty-two cents an acre.

The exact number of Confederates who emigrated is not known, but at least a few thousand went through the port of Rio de Janeiro. Most of the settlements failed, probably due to tropical disease, insufficient money supplies, poor lands and roads. The settlement that became Americana did survive and flourish.

In ca. 1866, Colonel William Hutchinson Norris and his son, Robert, of Perry County, Alabama, went to Brazil. Norris purchased a 500 acre tract of land on the undeveloped Machadinho Estate near Santa Barbara D'Oeste in San Paulo State. Here, the climate, soil, and topography were quite similar to that of Perry County. When the experiment proved successful, they wrote to family and friends and urged them to join them in Brazil. Family members and ca. ninety other Confederates came to the area in ca. 1867.

As other settlements failed, those who remained in Brazil also came to Americana. The population grew to almost two thousand. The Southern way of life continued. In 1869 a school was established near Campinas. A church and Masonic lodge were also established. The homogeneity of the settlers and the leadership of Norris helped to make this the happiest and most successful group.

In the 1870's, the railroad in San Paulo was completed. The Confederates began building homes near the station and the area became known as Estacao (the station). It was referred to by the Brazilians as Villa American. The area was incorporated as Villa Americana in 1900. In 1938 this was changed to just Americana.

Fraternidade Descendencia Americana was chartered December 4, 1955. This organization of descendants of the Confederates meets four times a year. They own and maintain the Confederate cemetery in Santa Barbara D'Oeste, which is unique in Brazil. Because Brazil is ninety percent Catholic, the Confederates, who were Protestant, were not allowed to be buried in the Catholic cemeteries.

The materials in this collection were created or collected by Dr. Eugene D. Carlisle as part of an oral history project to document this settlement. Sources used to compile this administrative history include clippings and articles found in the collection itself, *The Lost Colony of the Confederacy* by Eugene Harter (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1985), and "Confederate Emigration to Brazil" by Blanche Henry Clark Weaver, *Journal of Southern History* (Southern Historical Association, v. 27, 1961).

### Scope and Content Note

The Americana (Brazil) Oral History Project Collection includes transcripts of interviews, audiocassette and reel-to-reel recordings of interviews, permission forms, photographs and

slides, computer disks and printouts of directories, genealogical charts, clippings, printed material, and collected material.

The transcripts, audiocassettes, reel-to-reel tapes, permission forms, computer disks and printouts, and address list all concern interviews Professor Carlisle conducted in 1978 with descendants of the original emigrants. All of the interviews have been transcribed verbatim. They are arranged in the order designated by Professor Carlisle. The master copies of the audiocassettes and reel-to-reel tapes are housed separately. For aid in using the transcripts and the audiocassettes, the corresponding folder or audiocassette is included with each entry in the container list.

A master listing of the photographs and slides is included (Box 3: folder 8). The photographs and slides are of Americana, the interviewees, and of then Governor of Georgia Jimmy Carter's and his wife, Rosalyn's, visit to Americana in 1972 (Box 3: folders 9-11).

Also included is a genealogical chart, "Localizacao das Familias em 1875" (Box 3: folder 12), clippings about some of the interviewees, Jimmy Carter, and about Americana (Box 3: folders 13-16, OP 1). Collected material includes a bibliography of literature on Brazil, correspondence, typescript photocopy, in English, of *Soldado Descansa* by Judith MacKnight Jones, a typescript photocopy of "The American Colonies Emigrating to Brazil 1865" by Bellona Fergusson Smith, and a recording of "City of Americana Centennial" May 17, 1978 (Box 3: folders 17-25).

#### **Arrangement Note**

Arranged by record type.

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## Container List

### Transcripts

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Index of transcripts and audiocassette recordings
1	2	Becker, Callie Daniels, January 31, 1978
1	3	Brechmacher, Helen Steagall, June 6, 1978
1	4	Carr, Eduardo King, June 19, 1978
1	5	Cataloging Cemetery, July 7-8, 1978
1	6	Coimbra, Esther Smith, June 6, 1978
1	7	Coimbra, Esther Smith and Lillian Mercedes Smith, July 1, 1978
1	8	Conti, Rosa Bookwalter Carr, May 31, 1978
1	9	Davison, Jenny Thomas, June 7, 1978
1	10	Fraternidade de Descendencia Americana, July 9, 1978
1	11	Harris, Mary MacKnight, June 5, 1978
1	12	Jones, James R., May 20, 1978
1	13	Jones, Judith MacKnight, May 17, 1978
1	14	Jones, Judith MacKnight, July 9, 1978
1	15	Jones, Judith MacKnight, July 11, 1978
1	16	Lane, Lydia MacKnight, June 20, 1978
1	17	Lokofsky, Marion Williamson, May 27, 1978
1	18	Lozano, Dora Pyles, June 7, 1978
1	19	MacFadden, Bessie Ruth Ferguson, May 26, 1978
1	20	MacFadden, Charles B., May 24, 1978
1	21	MacFadden, Charles B., home tour, June 3, 1978
1	22	MacKnight, Elizabeth McAlpine, May 20, 1978
2	1	MacKnight, Lia Gomer, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews)
2	2	MacKnight, Morris Gomer, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews)
2	3	MacKnight, Patti Jones, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews)
2	4	MacKnight, Prudente Orlando, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews)
2	5	Mathews, Sara Belle, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews)
2	6	Moog, Clodomir Vianna, June 27, 1978
2	7	Oliveira, Betty Antunes de, June 28-29, 1978
2	8	Pfaffenbach, Elsie MacKnight, May 24, 1978
2	9	Pyles, Carlos [Billy] Wilson, May 30, 1978
2	10	Pyles, Florence Bookwalter and Roberto, June 5, 1978
2	11	Pyles, Ross Emery, June 3, 1978
2	12	Raines, Marie Workman, Winter 1977
2	13	Schwarzenbeck, Alice June MacKnight, June 5, 1978

- 2 14 Steagall, Jessie Thomas, May 30, 1978
- 2 15 Steagall, John Homer, May 30, 1978
- 2 16 Thomas, Arlino, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews)
- 2 17 Vassao, Anita MacKnight, June 20, 1978
- 2 18 Vaughn, Charles, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews)
- 2 19 Wheelock, Catherine Bookwalter and Rosa Bookwalter Carr Conti, May 31, 1978
- 2 20 Williamson, Carl, May 27, 1978

### Audio recordings

- AV2 - Becker, Callie Daniels, January 31, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6whk]
- AV1 - Brechmacher, Helen Steagall, June 6, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6bdh]
- AV1 - Carr, Eduardo King, June 19, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6b6p][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6bb7]
- AV2 - Cataloging Cemetery, July 7-8, 1978 (reel 1) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6w9r][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6w7g]
- AV2 - Cataloging Cemetery, July 7-8, 1978 (reel 2) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6w6b][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6wc1]
- AV2 - Cataloging Cemetery, July 7-8, 1978 (reel 3) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6wgf][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6w8m]
- AV2 - Cataloging Cemetery, July 7-8, 1978 (reel 4) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6wf9]
- AV1 - Charlie MacFadden Homes, June 3, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r2c]
- AV1 - Coimbra, Esther Smith and Lillian Mercedes Smith, July 1, 1978 [original: open  
reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6pdj][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6pb8]
- AV1 - Coimbra, Esther Smith and Lillian Mercedes Smith, July 1, 1978 (7 inch reel)  
[original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6pcd][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6pgt]
- AV1 - Coimbra, Esther Smith, June 6, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6b93]
- AV2 - Conti, Rosa Bookwalter Carr, May 31, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zw7]

- AV2 - Davidson, Jenny Thomas, June 7, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zzh]
- AV1 - Fraternidade de Descendencia Americana, July 9, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6rfw]
- AV1 - Harris, Mary MacKnight and Alice June MacKnight Schwarzenbeck, June 5,  
1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6bcc]
- AV2 - Jones, James R., May 20, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zd9]
- AV2 - Jones, Judith MacKnight, May 17, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6wd5]
- AV1 - Jones, Judith MacKnight, July 9, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r9b]
- AV1 - Jones, Judith MacKnight, July 9, 1978 [original: open reel tape] (7 inch reel)  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6rcm]
- AV1 - Jones, Judith MacKnight, July 11, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r5s]
- AV1 - Jones, Judith MacKnight, July 11, 1978 (7 inch reel) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6rbg]
- AV1 - Lane, Lydia MacKnight, June 20, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6cr0]
- AV2 - Lokofsky, Marion Williamson, May 27, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zhq]
- AV2 - Lozano, Dora Pyles, June 7, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6037]
- AV2 - MacFadden, Bessie Ruth Ferguson, May 26, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zgz]
- AV2 - MacFadden, Charles B., May 24, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zjv]
- AV2 - MacKnight, Elizabeth McAlpine, May 20, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5z7m]
- AV1 - MacKnight, Lia Gomer, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews) [original: open reel  
tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r4n]
- AV1 - MacKnight, Morris Gomer, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews) [original: open reel  
tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r3h]
- AV1 - MacKnight, Patti Jones, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews) [original: open reel  
tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r72]
- AV1 - MacKnight, Prudente Orlando, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews) [original: open  
reel tape]

- [Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r6x]
- AV1 - Mathews, Sara Belle, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6rg1]
- AV1 - Moog, Clodomir Vianna, June 27, 1978 (7 inch reel) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6cpq]
- AV1 - Moog, Clodomir Vianna, June 27, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6cqy][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6cs4]
- AV1 - Oliveira, Betty Antunes de, June 28-29, 1978 (7 inch reel) [original: open reel  
tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6ct8][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6cnk]
- AV1 - Oliveira, Betty Antunes de, June 28-29, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6qvf][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6pfp]
- AV2 - Pfaffenbach, Elsie MacKnight, May 24, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zm4][Digital/  
digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zn8]
- AV2 - Pyles, Carlos [Billy] Wilson, May 30, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d61fq]
- AV1 - Pyles, Florence Bookwalter and Roberto, June 5, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6b8z]
- AV1 - Pyles, Ross Emery, June 3, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d600t]
- AV2 - Raines, Marie Workman, Winter 1977 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6wbw]
- AV2 - Steagall, Jessie Thomas, May 30, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zxc]
- AV2 - Steagall, John Homer, May 30, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d601z]
- AV1 - Thomas, Arlino, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6r86]
- AV1 - Vassao, Anita MacKnight, June 20, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6b7t]
- AV1 - Vaughn, Charles, July 9, 1978 (Campo Interviews) [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6rdr]
- AV2 - Wheelock, Catherine Bookwalter and Rosa Bookwalter Carr Conti, May 31,  
1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d6023]
- AV2 - Williamson, Carl, May 27, 1978 [original: open reel tape]  
[Digital/digitized copy available in the Reading Room: id d5zc5]

## Project files

- 3 1 Interviewee agreement: Sample
- 3 2 Interviewee agreement: Interviews 1-9
- 3 3 Interviewee agreement: 10-19
- 3 4 Interviewee agreement: 20-30
- 3 5 Interviewee agreement: 31-40, 44-45
- 3 6 Computer disks (ASCII file format) and printout of directories
- 3 7 1978 address list
- 3 8 Listing of photo-prints and slides
- 3 9 Photographs (index listings 1-31)
- 3 10 Photographs (index listings 32-39, Carter visit 1-10)
- 3 11 Slides
- 3 12 "Localizacao das Familias em 1875" [Location of Families in 1875-genealogical charts]

### Clippings

- 3 13 Clodomir Vianna Moog, "A Academia Aos 80 Anos" (photocopy)
- OP1 Clodomir Vianna Moog, "A Academia Aos 80 Anos" (original of 4:13)
- 3 14 Betty Antune de Oliveira, "Brazilian Visitor Searches for Roots in Chester County", News and Reporter, Chester, South Carolina, 19 September 1977
- 3 15 Miscellaneous re Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter, 1977-1978
- OP1 "Pour Que Carter Veio Ao Brasil", Manchete, 8 April 1978
- 3 16 Miscellaneous, 1913, 1917, 1921, 1928, 1977-1978, 1982, 1992, no date
- OP1 Miscellaneous clippings, 1982, 1992

### Collected Material

- 3 17 Literature on Brasil
  - 3 18 Letter: E.E. Tansil to "To All Whom It May Concern", 8 April 1868 (photocopy)
  - 3 19 Note of death of James W. Miller
  - 3 20 Sample of meeting notices sent to members of F.D.A.
  - 3 21 Letter of introduction for Eugene D. Carlisle from James R. Jones, Fraternidade de Descendencia Americana, 20 May 1978
  - 3 22 Reference list general information on Brazil
  - 3 23 Typescript: Soldado Descansa by Judith MacKnight Jones in English (given to Carlisle in 1978) (incomplete photocopy)
  - 3 24 Typescript: "The American Colonies Emigrating to Brazil-1865" by Bellona Fergusson Smith (photocopy)
  - 3 25 Recording: "City of Americana Centennial", 17 May 1978
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