Search for Historical Earthquakes in the Panhandle and El Paso Regions of Texas

Date
2018-06-10

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Metadata
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Description
A joint project between the Texas State Historical Association and the University of Texas Institute of Geophysics, this project was designed to research newspapers as historical sources to document earthquakes in the Panhandle prior to the 1920s and to explore this approach as a potential methodology for other areas. The project had two components. One consisted of inspecting the newspapers available for the Panhandle Region at the Center for American History of the University of Texas at Austin and to search for any information on earthquakes in the region. The second was to inspect the microfilm newspaper collections from the University of Texas at El Paso to determine the possibility of utilizing their newspaper and special collections to document historical earthquakes in the El Paso area in a similar vein that we have done for the Panhandle historical study.

Subject
earthquake
Texas
Texas Panhandle
El Paso

URI
http://hdl.handle.net/2152/65413

Citation

Collections
University of Texas Institute for Geophysics Technical Reports
The 1964 Alaskan earthquake, also known as the Great Alaskan earthquake and Good Friday earthquake, occurred at 5:36 PM AKST on Good Friday, March 27. Across south-central Alaska, ground fissures, collapsing structures, and tsunamis resulting from the earthquake caused about 131 deaths. Lasting four minutes and thirty-eight seconds, the magnitude 9.2 megathrust earthquake remains the most powerful earthquake recorded in North American history, and the second most powerful earthquake recorded in world.