

Link found to birth of Texas

by UPI

DALLAS - Historians in Dallas say a scribbled scrap of paper found in a university file is a missing link from the frantic first days of the Republic of Texas.

The paper, 5 inches long and 8 inches wide, is an 1836 order to publish the Texas Declaration of Independence that declared the region independent from Mexico, The Dallas Morning News reported Monday.

The paper was found several months ago in Southern Methodist University's DeGolyer Library by Houston author James P. Bevill while he was researching his soon-to-be published book, "The Paper Republic," about the coins and currency that funded the nation in its early days.

The paper was found in the files of John N. Rowe III, a collector who acquired the document after it likely was stolen from state archives in the 1950s or 1960s, the Morning News reported.

The order to print hastily scribbled 173 years ago resulted in the printing of 1,000 copies of the Texas Declaration, an estimated 15 of which are known to exist today.

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