Resources for Genealogy Research

http://www.cah.utexas.edu

General Guides
Winfrey, Dorman H. “Gone to Texas”: Sources for Genealogical Research in the Lone Star State. Salt Lake City, UT: Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 1969.

Ship Passenger Lists
United States. National Archives and Records Service. Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels

Ship Passenger Lists in manuscript collections:
Blasig (Anna Justine) Papers, 1854-1930
Castro (Henri) Papers, 1839-1884
German Manuscripts, Ca. 1850-1852
Verein Zum Schutze Deutscher Einwanderer In Texas Collection, 1842-1861

Telephone and City Directories
The Center for American History has a significant collection of telephone and city directories for most Texas cities and towns from roughly the late 19th century through the present day. They are indexed by town in a card file in the reading room.

Published Texas Resources
The University of Texas Libraries' catalog (UTNetCAT) gives access to eight million items, including books, journals, other materials and selected Web resources held by branches on campus. Keyword searches allow you to limit your search to items held by the Center for American History. Here are some suggested search terms:
- Genealogy
- [name of a county] - Genealogy
- [name of a county] - Biography
- a specific family name, such as "Brown Family"
- [name of an ethnic group] - Genealogy

Local and Family Histories
There are many published county and town histories at CAH. You may find them by searching under the county or town and "history" as a subject keyword in UTNetCAT, or by consulting an index such as Cracker Barrel Chronicles, on the CAH reference shelves. Published genealogies may be found by searching under the family name in UTNetCAT.

Biographical
Bailey, Ernest E. Texas Historical and Biographical Record: with a Genealogical Study of Historical Family Records. Austin, TX: s.n., 1900.
Index to Biographical Studies of Texas. (8 vols. including “Explanation of Symbols” vol.)
Census and Vital Statistics


Jackson, Ronald V. *Texas 1850 Census Index.* Bountiful, UT: Accelerated Indexing Systems, 1976


Mullins, Marion D. *The First Census of Texas, 1829-1836; to which are Added, Texas Citizenship Lists, 1821-1845, and Other Early Records of the Republic of Texas.*


Texas State-wide Records Project. *Index to Probate Cases of Texas.* San Antonio, TX: The Project, 1940+. Located at Library Storage Facility.


Military Records

Land Grants
Ericson, Carolyn. *First Settlers of the Republic of Texas: Headright Land Grants which were Reported as Genuine and Legal by the Traveling Commissioners, January, 1840.* Nacogdoches, TX: Ericson Books, 1982.
Texas. General Land Office. *Abstract of all original Texas land titles comprising grants and locations to August 31, 1941, 1941-

German, Czech and Polish Origin
Chabot, Frederick C. *With the Makers of San Antonio; Genealogies of the Early Latin, Anglo-American, and German Families with Occasional Biographies.* San Antonio, TX: Artes Graficas, 1970.
Czech Heritage Society. *Nase dejiny.* Hallettsville, Texas, 1982-
*Czech Settlements and Families in Texas Before 1900: Being a Translation and Reprint of the Chapters of Texas.* Houston, TX: Albert J. Blaha, Sr., 1983.
Geue, Chester W. *New Homes in a New Land; German Immigration to Texas, 1846-1861.* Waco, TX: Printed by Texian Press, 1970.
*Handbook and Registry of German-Texan Heritage.* San Marcos, TX: German-Texan Heritage Society, Southwest Texas State University, 1989. (See also the Society’s periodicals)
Polish Genealogical Society of Texas. *Surname Index.* Houston, TX: The Society, 1990-
Reaves, Patricia I. *German genealogical primer.* Brookfield, IL: P.I. Reaves, 1997.
Native American Origin


Spanish Origin


African-American Origin

*Guide to Freedman’s Bureau records for Texas in the National Archives*. S.1. : s.n., 19--?


Periodicals


Austin, Texas: *Austin Genealogical Society* (Quarterly), 1986-

Bay City, Texas: *Oak Leaves*, 1985-

Boerne, Texas: (Publications of the Genealogical Society of Kendall County, Texas)

Bonham, Texas: *The Fannin County Genealogical Quarterly*, s.n., 1983-

Centerville, Texas: *The Leon Hunters Dispatch*, 1985-

Conroe, Texas: (Publications of the Montgomery County Genealogical (and Historical) Society)

Dallas, Texas: (Publications of the Dallas Genealogical Society)

El Paso, Texas: *The El Paso Jewish Historical Review*, El Paso Jewish Historical Society,
1982-1984
Fort Worth: (Publications of the Fort Worth Genealogical Society)
Granbury, Texas: Newsletter, Hood County Genealogical Society, 1984-
New Braunfels, Texas. Family footsteps quarterly.
Nacogdoches, Texas: Yesterdays, 1984-1993
Odessa, Texas: The Treeshaker, 1963-1990
Palestine, Texas: The Tracings, 1986-
Round Rock, Texas: Chisholm Trail, Williamson County Genealogical Society, 1982-
San Angelo, Texas: Stalkin’ Kin, 1973-
San Antonio, Texas: Our Heritage, 1959-
Tomball, Texas: The Roadrunner, Chaparral Genealogical Society, 1974-1987
Tyler, Texas: (Publications of the East Texas Genealogical Society)
Uvalde, Texas: Branches and Acorns, 1990-
Victoria, Texas: Victoria, Crossroads of South Texas, Victoria County Genealogical Society, 1980-
Waco, Texas: (Publications of the Central Texas Genealogical Society)
Wichita Falls, Texas: North Texas Pioneer, North Texas Genealogical and Historical Association, 1966-1973

Resources for other Southern States


Holdings of Other Repositories

Biographical Gazetteer of Texas: Publication of the Biographical Sketch File of the Texas Collection at Baylor University. Austin, TX: Morrison Books, 1985- (6 vols.)
Archival and Manuscript Collections

Collections with genealogical materials can be located in the CAH reading room by using the “Subject Index to Archives and Manuscript Collections.” This index is available online at: http://www.cah.utexas.edu/services/finding_items/archives.php. For full descriptions of many CAH archive and manuscript collections, visit Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO) at the website http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro.

For a printed index of CAH archives collected before 1962, consult The University of Texas Archives: A Guide to the Historical Manuscripts Collections in the University of Texas Library, compiled and edited by Chester V. Kielman (aka the "Kielman Guide.")

See also subject guide: Resources for Genealogical Research during the Texas Colonial Period, 1585-1836.

Here are some collections containing genealogy materials:

AUSTIN COUNTY (TEXAS) FAMILIES GENEALOGIES, 1938-1962. 1 in.
Papers consist of genealogical material concerning Austin County, Texas, families compiled by Olive Cartwright, partially from information obtained from the diaries of Sarah Charlotte Pier Wiley and her mother Lucy Merry Pier.

BEXAR ARCHIVES, 1717-1836. 168 ft., originals, 42 ft. translations, 172 reels, microfilm
The Béxar Archives comprise the Spanish and Mexican records of Texas from 1717 to 1836. In a quarter million pages, the Archives document government and military affairs, civilian settlements, and mission life, exploration and communication, legal affairs, farming, commerce, Indian relations, Anglo
settlements, revolutions, and many other topics of the era. Fully indexed, microfilmed, and partially translated, the Béjar Archives offer the richest resource available anywhere on early Latino history in Texas.

BLACK HISTORY COLLECTION, 1826-1867. .25 in.
Collection of documents relating to black history includes an estate and slave inventory, muster roll for U.S. Colored Troops. Freedmen's Bureau reports, share-cropping contract, and court records concerning slaves.

ANNA JUSTINE BLASIG PAPERS, 1854-1930. 13 items
Papers collected by Blasig while preparing a history of the Wendish settlers of Lee County, published as *The Wends of Texas* (1954). Materials include registers, notes, literary productions, letter, photograph, drawing, and pamphlets. An undated, annotated list of the materials, prepared by Joseph Wilson, Associate Professor of German at Rice University, is included.

FRANK BROWN PAPERS, Ca. 1863, 1899-1903 (also known as the “Annals of Travis County”). 2 ft. 9 in.
Literary production by Brown (1833-1913), historian and county clerk of Travis County, relates to the history of Austin and Travis County from earliest times to 1900. Papers are also known as “Annals of Travis County” or "Brown's Annals."

CAMARGO ARCHIVES, 1764-1909. 3 ft. 4 in.
The Camargo Archives includes genealogical resources particularly useful for patrons interested in the Camargo area. The collection includes birth registers that date from 1764 through 1888, marriage registers dating from 1764 to 1913, and death registers dating from 1798 to 1831. All records are associated with the San Agustín Mission and Convent and St. Anne's Parish Church and Vicarage in Camargo. The collection also includes monthly reports of the mission and parish as well as account books. Documentation associated with land title and land claim legal proceedings for the area surrounding Camargo date from the late 19th and early 20th century. Most records are photostat copies of the original Spanish manuscripts and have not been translated.

COUNTY SCRAPBOOKS
Arranged by name of county, these scrapbooks were produced by people with the Works Progress Administration during the Great Depression. The bulk of the material consists of obituaries that were clipped from various county newspapers. Most of the material is dated in the range 1930-1939. Also included are newspaper clippings about other events in individual counties, cities and notable sites.

HARBERT DAVENPORT PAPERS, 1800 (1835-1836) 1923. 3 ft., 2 in.
Research materials collected by Davenport (1882-1957), Brownsville attorney and historian, document the political and military events connected with James Walker Fannin, Jr., and the military units and persons under his command, in the Goliad Campaigns. Materials consist of copies of correspondence, notes, historical narratives, reminiscences, biographical sketches, muster rolls and rosters, military, legal, and governmental records. Included also are a biographical sketch of James B. Wells (1850-1923), a Brownsville attorney and Davenport's law associate, and material dealing with litigation (1920-1921) concerning the Ojo de Agua, Karnes County stream.

HENRY FRANCIS FISHER PAPERS, 1821-1870. 1 ft. 1 in.
Papers contain correspondence and financial records of Fisher (1805-1867) concerning his employment in England, his duties as German consul in Texas and Texas consul in Germany, his involvement with the San Saba Company and the Verein zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas.
to whom he sold the Fisher-Miller Land Grant for their emigration enterprise, as well as letters from family and friends and a scrapbook of domestic newspaper clippings.

**GERMAN COLONIZATION IN TEXAS PAPERS, 1844-1855.** .75 in.
Newspaper clippings and photostats of articles and legal documents concerning German colonization in Texas.

**ETHEL HANDER GEUE PAPERS, 1842-1978.** 10 ft., 5 in
Materials on genealogy of German immigrants to Texas and that of the Geue and Hander families.

**LOUIS WILTZ KEMP PAPERS, 1819-1956.** 23 ft.
Kemp spent his life studying and writing about Texas history. His work made possible the San Jacinto Historical Monument, along with other historical sites related to Texas History. The collection includes scrapbooks, committee papers, correspondence, biographical and historical files, diaries, research material, page proofs, photographs and other material related to Kemp's work.

**KIRCHENBUCH DER PROTESTANTISCHEN GEMEINDE NEW BRAUNFELS (TEXAS), NUMBERS I AND II.** 5 in.
Churchbook of the First Protestant Church of New Braunfels

**SPANISH MATERIAL FROM VARIOUS SOURCES, 1600-1921**
Laredo Archives, 1749-1836
Matamoros Archives, 1811-1859
Nacogdoches Archives, 1731-1836
Saltillo Archives, 1688-1876

**MIER ARCHIVES, 1767-1864, 5 in.**
Baptism registers, 1767-1853; marriage registers, 1768-1864; death registers, 1867-1864.

**MUSTER ROLLS, 1836-1874.** 121 items
Military muster rolls of men who served during the Texas Revolution, Mexican War, and Civil War.

**NEGRO SLAVES IN SPANISH AMERICA, 1563-1820.** 1 vol.
Volume 776, “Negroes in Spanish America,” transcribed by Ramsdell from the Mexican Archives.

**REYNOSA ARCHIVES, 1820-1892.** 3 ft. 3.5 in.
Material in this collection is especially useful for research relating to the Camargo, Reynosa, and Brownsville areas between 1820 and 1892. The collection contains birth registers that date from 1820 through 1892 and marriage registers from 1829 through 1837. Family records include information on parents and place of birth. These are available in Spanish. However, the material in the English translations is easier to access. The translations include family information for people with last names starting with the letters B, C, F, G, L, M, O, P, R, S, and V.

**FRANCIS WILLIAM SEABURY PAPERS, 1714-1956.** 11 ft. 5 in.
This collection includes material that dates from 1714 to 1956. Along with a great deal of information on the Seabury family business affairs, the collection contains correspondence, wills, funeral notices, power of attorney notices, marriage licenses, surveys, and family trees. An index for the family trees is located in the manuscript portion of the collection. The trees themselves are available on microfilm. Places associated with the collection include Camargo, Mier, and Reynosa, México; Brownsville, Duval County, Rio Grande City, the Rio Grande Valley, Starr County and Zapata County, Texas. Two guides to the Seabury family tree and genealogical records, *Family Tree Book* and *Index to Family Tree Book*, are located in the Reading Room.
SOLMS-BRAUNFELS ARCHIVES, 1842-1957. 16 ft. 10 in.
The Solms-Braunfels Archives consist of two sets of material derived from the official business records of the Verein zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas that, when the organization became defunct, were removed from the Verein's offices in Wiesbaden and stored in the castle at Braunfels (hence the name): 1) transcripts of the official papers made in the Library of Congress from photostats of about one-third of the collection done in Berlin in 1930 by University of Texas history professor Rudolph Biesele and his students in 1933 and 2) microfilm of the papers copied from the original film made in Marburg, Germany, for the German federal archives in 1966. Some of the papers were separated from the collection between 1933 and 1966, and these are only partially to be found among the transcripts and not at all on the microfilm. The Verein Collection, a separate collection at the University of Texas at Austin, is one part of the missing papers. Collection contains transcripts and microfilm of the business records of the Verein zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas and consists of extensive correspondence between the members and their business managers and with emigrants and would-be emigrants, as well as detailed records of the Verein's financial affairs.

SAMUEL HOLLINGSWORTH STOUT PAPERS, 1837 (1860-1865) 1902. 22 ft., 4 in.
Letters, hospital records, and military papers documenting Stout’s career as Confederate Medical Director of Hospitals, Army of Tennessee.

TEXAS VETERANS ASSOCIATION PAPERS, 1870-1910. 3 ft., 5 in.
The Texas Veterans Association Papers consists of letters, minutes, legal documents, military discharges and register concerning Texas veterans of the Texas Revolution and the Mexican War. Papers consist of a personal dossier of each member; proof of military service; and official minutes of the Association. Papers relate to military affairs and social affairs.

VEREIN ZUM SCHUTZE DEUTSCHER EINWANDERER IN TEXAS RECORDS
Copies of original records owned by Yale University. The Adelsverein Zum Schutze Deutscher Einwanderer in Texas (Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas) helped to settle thousands of German immigrants in the nineteenth century in Texas. The records include correspondence by the principals of the Verein and documents of the organization and administration of the Verein’s business.

JAMES B. WELLS PAPERS, 1837-1926. 72 ft., 11 in.
Papers relate to Well's career as an attorney; elections; politics; San Diego Oil Company; Cameron County Democratic Committee; Brownsville Land and Town Company; Congressional Record of the 49th Congress; the Gainesville Eagle (1877); Rio Grande Railroad; Texas Custom House; administration of the King Ranch; evolution of the political situation in the Trans-Nueces area (1865-1920); Emile Kleiber blotters; Texas vs. Juan Morales; Louis Coholini vs. A.B. Cole; legal, political, and personal papers of Stephen Powers (1863-1882); legal, political and personal papers of Joe K. Wells (1922-1926).

WIED ARCHIVES, 1839-1881. 2 ft., 6 in.
Papers consist of the business records of the Prince of Wied dealing with the Verein zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer in Texas during its later years while the prince was president of that immigration organization.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY OF TEXAS (County probate case records)
The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was established as a national agency on May 6, 1935, by order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, as a relief measure during the Great Depression and lasted until 1943. The name was changed to Works Projects Administration in 1939. The Historical Records
Survey hired historians, lawyers, teachers, and clerical workers to prepare inventories of unpublished records and documents of each governmental unit.

**General Reference Index**
Name and subject index to articles in periodical literature pertaining to Texas and Texans. Also includes early church minutes and legislative histories listing memorials to individuals, biographical encyclopedias and obituaries from selected periodicals. Coverage in card file through 1998; continued by online databases on UTNetCAT.

**Vertical Files**
Genealogical, biographical and subject clippings files. Genealogical files may include family trees, and many of the biographical files include obituaries. There is a card file in reading room and an index on the CAH website at http://www.cah.utexas.edu/db/verticalfiles/index.php.

**Texas and Nationwide Newspapers**
The Center's Newspaper Collections contain more than 4,500 Texas, Southern, U.S., and non-U.S. titles and is the largest collection of its kind in Texas. Most of the holdings are available on microfilm. A newspaper index is available in the Center's reading room and on the CAH website at http://www.cah.utexas.edu/services/finding_items/newspapers.php.

The Index to Selected Newspapers and the C.L. Greenwood index are card files with biographical citations, and marriage and obituary notices.

**Census Microfilm – Population Schedules**
- Texas (1850-1900, except for 1890; Index to heads of households for 1850 and 1860 in card file)
- Alabama (1830-1860)
- Arkansas (1830-1880)
- Florida (1830-1860)
- Georgia (1830-1860)
- Kansas (1870: Lincoln-Morris counties only)
- Kentucky (1820 (Barron-Hart counties only)-1860)
- Louisiana (1830-1880)
- Maryland (1830-1860)
- Mississippi (1830-1860)
- Missouri (1830-1860)
- North Carolina (1830-1860)
- Pennsylvania (1830: Philadelphia only)
- South Carolina (1830-1860)
- Tennessee (1830-1860)

**Online Genealogy Resources**
- **Texas State Library Genealogy Collection** (http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/genfirst.html)
  The state's primary genealogy collection, including microfilm of the federal census schedules for all states through 1910, and 1920 and 1930 census microfilm for selected
states, printed family and county histories and a variety of Texas Government records.

- **Cyndi’s List - Texas** ([http://www.cyndislist.com/tx.htm](http://www.cyndislist.com/tx.htm))
  Comprehensive collection of links to Texas genealogical resources
- **Cyndi’s List** ([http://www.cyndislist.com/](http://www.cyndislist.com/))
  Includes pages for all states as well as guides to doing family research
- **Ellis Island Records** ([http://www.ellisislandrecords.org/](http://www.ellisislandrecords.org/))
- **FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service** ([http://www.familysearch.org/](http://www.familysearch.org/))
  The genealogical web site of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City
- **HeritageQuest Online** (UT Austin and **TexShare** users) ([http://www.heritagequestonline.com/](http://www.heritagequestonline.com/))
  U.S. Census searchable 1790-1910 and over 25,000 family and local histories.
- **Immigration History Research Center (University of Minnesota)** ([http://www.ihrc.umn.edu/](http://www.ihrc.umn.edu/))
  Large collection of links on online immigration genealogy resources
- **Internet Family Finder (Genealogy.com)** ([http://www.genealogy.com/ifftop.html](http://www.genealogy.com/ifftop.html))
  A genealogy search engine
  How to obtain military records
- **Online Newspapers** ([http://www.lib.utexas.edu/news/search.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/news/search.html)) (UT Austin users)
- **Sanborn Insurance Maps – Texas** ([http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/sanborn/texas.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/sanborn/texas.html))
  An ongoing project of the University of Texas Libraries, so not all cities currently available
- **Social Security Death Index** ([http://ssdi.genealogy.rootsweb.com/](http://ssdi.genealogy.rootsweb.com/))
- **Texas Digital Sanborn Maps** (UT Austin and **TexShare** users) ([http://sanborn.umi.com/](http://sanborn.umi.com/))
- **Texas Land Grants** ([http://www.glo.state.tx.us/archives/landgrant.html](http://www.glo.state.tx.us/archives/landgrant.html))
  A guide to land grants available in the Archives and Records Division of the Texas General Land Office, with links to other relevant information in the Land Office.
- **Texas Landmarks County Index** ([http://www.rootsweb.com/~txlndmrk/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txlndmrk/))
  Keys to finding the location of Texas cemeteries, schools, churches, geographical landmarks and vanished communities
- **Texas Ranger Research Center** ([http://www.texasranger.org/ReCenter/resource1.htm](http://www.texasranger.org/ReCenter/resource1.htm))
  Information for genealogists interested in confirming service with the Texas Rangers Law Enforcement Agency.
- **Texas Topographic Maps** ([http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/texas/](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/texas/))
  Links to all of the GenWeb sites worldwide.