

Reference & Access - Proxy Researchers

Due to staffing constraints, the Briscoe Center's staff is not able to provide in-depth research services as part of its reference function. Only simple, ready reference queries can be addressed via correspondence and telephone.

The proxy researchers listed below have requested that their names be given to people who are unable to visit the Briscoe Center in person to conduct extensive research. Inclusion within this list does not imply endorsement by The Briscoe Center for American History, nor does the Briscoe Center assume responsibility for arrangements made with these researchers. The Briscoe Center for American History will not recommend researchers. Please contact these researchers directly concerning fees and arrangements.

Susan Burneson
(512) 459-9613
nimbus@austin.rr.com

More than 20 years of experience as an archive researcher at the Briscoe Center and other repositories. Can provide high-quality digital images. Clients: authors, history and nonprofit organizations, family historians, television and film producers, lawyers, and others. Related skills: in-depth online research, professional genealogy, and personal and community histories (print, web, and video). Bachelor's degree in journalism.

Diana Claitor
(512) 983-3446
diclaitor@gmail.com

Researcher/editor/writer with 25 years experience researching images and documents in Texas libraries, as well as archives in Washington D.C., Louisiana and Ireland. Client list includes biographers, publishers and online database companies; extensive experience with documentary and feature filmmakers. Specializes in Texas history/culture. Will travel.

Ralph L. Elder
(512) 484-9158 (cell) (512), 453-6927 (home)
Ralph.L.Elder@gmail.com

Ralph.L.Elder@gmail.com Possesses a B.A. degree in History/Political Science and M.L.S. degree in Library Science; over 30 years experience as professional archivist/librarian; long-time former Head of Public Services and Assistant Director at the Barker Texas History Center/Dolph Briscoe Center for American History. Familiarity with all Austin-area libraries and archives; exhaustive knowledge of all holdings at the Briscoe Center for American History. Specialties include U. S., Texas, and University of Texas history.

Helen L. Howell Graves
(512) 994-8932 or (512)833-0053
collinfieldlady@gmail.com

BFA in Studio Art, Masters Degree in Museum Science with 20 years of experience as a researcher, writer, editor, curator and graphic illustrator. She has worked extensively with material culture collections, managed and updated databases associated with several area and statewide collections. Familiarity with Briscoe Center for American History, LBJ Library, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, Tarlton Law Library, Austin History Center and online research. Emphasis includes Texas Historical topics, Political History, general research in Austin area libraries, archives and museums, special skills include digital photography of documents, publications and historic photographs.

Freda Hamric
(512) 217-9966
fkhamric@yahoo.com

Fifteen years experience performing Proxy Research at the University of Texas at Austin Harry Ransom Center, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, the Texas Alamo Museum-San Antonio and other Texas libraries and museums. In depth research and analysis within collections and archives including specific needs. Digital images used. Clients have included professors in USA, UK, Europe and Canada; graduate students; biographers; authors; individuals and editors. Areas include newspapers, manuscripts, letters/correspondence, historical documents, and property/land title searches. Concentrations in American History and modern literature. Available to travel. Bachelor degree in English. Hourly or project fee.

Elizabeth Hansen
(512) 983-7679
elizabeth@elizabeth-hansen.com
www.elizabeth-hansen.com

Researcher and media producer with experience conducting both personal and proxy research at several Austin-area archives including the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History. MA in media studies from the University of Texas at Austin. More than 10 years of experience working in museums and archives, primarily with audiovisual collections. See website for more information.

Rusty Heckaman
(574) 780-5022
Rusty.Heckaman@gmail.com

B.A. degree in History and M.L.S. in Library science with over 12 years work experience as a professional archivist, including as the Reference Archivist at the Austin History Center. Well acquainted with all Austin-area libraries and archives. Comfort with all multimedia formats, such as photographs, film, audio and video recordings and digital files. Proficient in working with special collections, managing property research, and locating and acquiring historic images.

Ann Leifeste
(512) 745-4071
ann.leifeste@gmail.com

Two years' experience as Researcher for KUT-FM at both the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History and the Austin History Center. Five years' experience as Proxy Researcher at the Harry Ransom Center. Film researcher for the Texas Commission on the Arts and WNET/New York. Extensive copyright research, legal contract review and copyright clearance of literary correspondence, photography, television programming and historical documentary film. B.S. in Radio-TV-Film with Double Concentration in English from UT - Austin. Graduate studies in Architecture.

Ann Gaines Rodriguez
(830)263-2027
rosie@gvtc.com

Writer and picture researcher, former librarian and staff member at CAH. Besides doing research in CAH's printed collections, will also handle requests requiring research in special collections, including manuscripts, newspapers, microfilm and photographs. Specializes in finding images for use in books, documentaries, and museum exhibits. Will handle picture orders, permissions. Also has experience working on historical atlases and

family histories. Own research interests include the history of exploration and mapmaking, Native Americans, photography, art history, Texas history and women's studies. Makes trips to all libraries/special collections/museums in the Austin/San Antonio corridor and to Houston/Galveston. Can bill by the hour or the project.

Alice Shukalo
(512) 699-8452
shukalo@sbcglobal.net

Graduate work in journalism, including interviewing, and seven years of experience as a professional journalist. Ph.D. from University of Texas in American Studies [cultural history of the United States]. Thirty years of experience in researching for articles, dissertation projects, and in archival research done for academic writers and book projects. Specialties include 19th-century U.S. history and literature, including cultural history and history of ethnic and other socially defined groups. Familiarity with Briscoe Center for American History, LBJ Library, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, and online research. Experienced with microfiche and film research. Proficient in digitizing images for publication.

Beverly Spicer
(512) 453-1559

Author, editor, photographer, researcher. Former assistant to the publisher of Texas Monthly Magazine, has also worked in public television. Master of Science in Architectural and Interdisciplinary Studies from University of Texas School of Architecture (2000). Two books, *Open Ceilings* (1994) and *The Ka'bah, Rhythms of Culture, Faith, and Physiology* (2003). Research areas include broad or narrow topics in journalism, history, architecture, cultural studies or other field of your choice. Currently writes a monthly column called E-Bits for *The Digital Journalist*.

Cari A. Taplin
(303) 358-5761
cat.taplin@gmail.com

More than twenty years of research experience in repositories across the United States, with the last three in local Austin archives including the Briscoe center. Will provide digital images of manuscript collection items and/or conduct in-depth research and analysis, delivered in a written report of findings. Past clients have been authors, TV producers, lawyers, and family historians. Hold a Bachelor's of Fine Arts degree in Art with a minor in Women's Studies from the University of Wyoming, two years spent as a research assistant; working in the field of genealogy for seventeen years as an author, consultant, and researcher, speaking locally and nationally.

Elizabeth Whitlow
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emn1849@austin.rr.com

Owner of Texas History Research Services. UT graduate, history and geography major. Trained in historical research in the Texas State Archives -- served as editorial assistant. to the director during a period of Archives publishing program. Texas history research and writing for employers over more than thirty years. Positions have included: teaching social studies, including Texas history, in secondary schools; Development Dir., San Jacinto Museum Asn. La Porte -- including teaching Texas history to prospective donors and the public plus writing materials; and Education Dir., Heritage Society of Houston and Harris County -- including developing and teaching Texas history programs and supervising docents. Former chair, Scholarship Comm., TSHA; member and chair, San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy, Houston. Research and writing on contract in Austin since 2004. References available.

Patti Woolery-Price
pattiwoo@aol.com

Possesses an M.L.I.S.; 23 years experience as a professional librarian; specializes in historical and genealogical research and 19th and 20th century Texas history.

Susannah Worth Adams, Ph.D.
(512) 487-0667
sworth@consultant.com

Researcher/editor/writer with 25+ years of experience, doctorate in historic/ethnic costume/textiles

Specializing in visual arts including fine and decorative art history, architecture, flags, performing arts, costume/fashion/textiles, yachts, and 19th century American and Texas history. Humanities Texas speaker. Created and managed several archives. Familiar with all Austin-area libraries and archives, and able to travel to libraries and museums throughout the state of Texas.

Researchers must provide contact information and a brief description of their qualifications. Only researchers with skills which align with the Briscoe Center for American History collection strengths will be included on the list.