

# Genealogical Resources: Dallas History & Archives



A Division of the Dallas Public Library

By Brandon Murray, Librarian  
& Sammie Lee, Library Associate

# Who We Are...



- ❧ The collection of materials at the Dallas History & Archives Division is one of the largest of its kind in the nation. Our holdings span many aspects of the diverse history of not only Dallas and the surrounding area, but the entire state of Texas.
- ❧ The Dallas History & Archives Division collects, preserves, and makes available to patrons information in text, graphic, audio, and video formats.
- ❧ Please note that because of the many unique and fragile resources in the Dallas collection, no items circulate outside the Library.
- ❧ The Dallas History & Archives Division is part of the Special Collections department, which also houses the Fine Books Division.

# Our Renovation



## Background

- ❖ The 7<sup>th</sup> floor of Central Library closed on March 21, 2015 to begin the renovation process.
- ❖ From April 20, 2015 to March 21, 2016 the division operated out of a temporary 1<sup>st</sup> floor space with limited resources, as most materials were packed away.
- ❖ Over 250 pallets of materials and tens of thousands of reference books were moved back to the 7<sup>th</sup> floor for our re-opening on August 20, 2016.
- ❖ The total renovation project cost was nearly \$6 million.

# Our Renovation



## ❧ New Features

- ❖ Reorganization of 40,000 sq. ft. floor including increased public usage and meeting space.
- ❖ Updated mechanical, electrical, and plumbing.
- ❖ New fire suppression systems and controls for electrical and lighting.
- ❖ Increased & updated archival storage facilities with high density shelving.
  - ❖ Room to grow... Before the renovation, we had trouble fitting new books on shelves. Now we have room to expand for decades.
  - ❖ New high density microfilm cabinets and dedicated shelving for ledger books.
  - ❖ More space for map collection area as well as more floor space for card catalogs, cabinets, & processing areas.
  - ❖ Photo room has increased shelving, a dedicated room for negative storage, new computers & scanning equipment.

# Our Renovation



## ❧ New Features

- ❖ Built-in & mobile display cases to exhibit unique collections.
- ❖ Added the Kenneth Jonsson Gallery exhibit space to display rare books, artifacts, & art.
- ❖ Added the Margaret McDermott Study Room for small class instruction & quiet study.
- ❖ Added the Norma & Don Stone Room with technical enhancements ideal for board meetings.
- ❖ Added the Digital Interactive Gallery (DIG) for multi-person viewing of the digital collections
- ❖ Refreshed & updated the O'Hara Hall, including a new sound system & banquet furniture
- ❖ New & improved staff area including new office furniture & cubicles.

# Our Renovation



☞ The new 7th floor reading room



# Our Renovation



## ☞ The Digital Interactive Gallery (DIG)



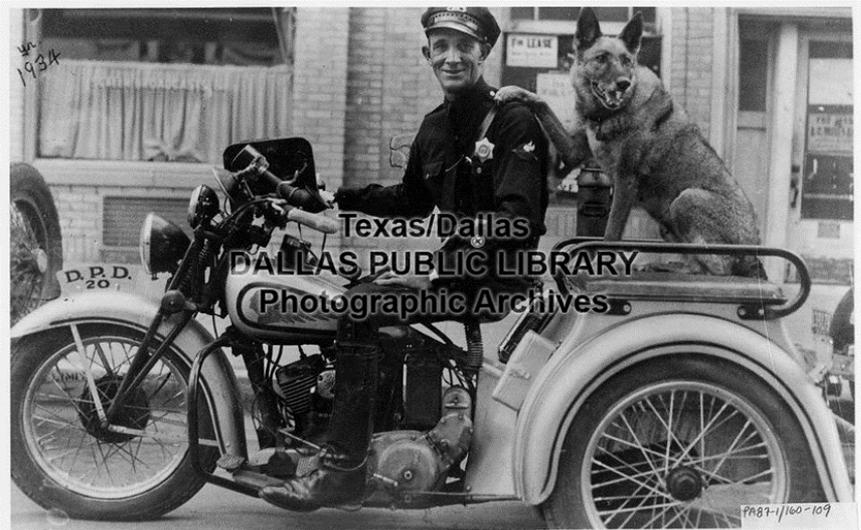


# Our Holdings



## Photographs

- ❖ Over 1 million images (over 6,000 images in online catalog)
  - ❖ Photographic Prints
  - ❖ Glass Negatives
  - ❖ Plastic Negatives
  - ❖ Slides
  - ❖ 10,000 visual file image cards in reading room



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Contact the Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division.

City Photographers Collection  
PA87-1-160-109

# Our Holdings



## Vertical Files

- ❖ DFW businesses, clubs and organizations, people, churches, crimes, and more
- ❖ Clipping dates from the mid-1950s forward, with a few earlier articles - including articles from the Dallas Morning News, the Dallas Times Herald, and other miscellaneous publications
- ❖ Election campaign materials (send us campaign flyers!)



# Our Holdings



## Serials

- ❖ Approximately 1,500 titles
  - ❖ Newspapers
    - ❖ Current and historical
    - ❖ Many Texas cities and towns
  - ❖ Magazines
    - ❖ Current and Historical

## Maps

- ❖ Over 7,000 – Texas & Mexico (ca. 1800-Present) Dallas (1846-Present)
  - ❖ Land Ownership
  - ❖ Streets and Highways
  - ❖ Trails and Railroads
  - ❖ Murphy and Bolanz
  - ❖ Sanborn Fire Insurance
  - ❖ ...and more...

# Our Holdings



## ☞ Manuscripts

- ❖ Over 500 collections
- ❖ Over 4,500 linear ft. of material
  - ❖ Pioneer families
  - ❖ Architectural
  - ❖ Ethnic communities in Dallas
  - ❖ Women's history
  - ❖ Council members and mayors
  - ❖ Business history



# Our Holdings



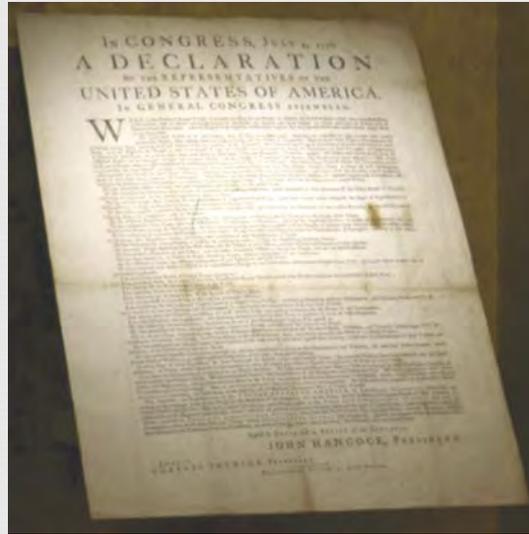
## Fine Books Division

- ❖ Dallas Public Library's Fine Books collection numbers over 2,750 volumes donated by Dallas citizens or purchased with endowment or gift funds.
- ❖ No tax revenues are used to acquire books for the collection. Fine Books holdings focus on three areas.
- ❧ Fine Books - Areas of Focus:
  - ❖ History of Printing and the Book
  - ❖ The History of Ideas - particularly those that have exerted major influence on Western civilization
  - ❖ Fine Printing - the Art of the Book

# Our Holdings



## Fine Books Division



- ❖ “Lost Copy” of Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

# Our Holdings



## Fine Books Division



- ❖ Shakespeare's First Folio, 1623

# Our Holdings



Frank Reaugh



❖ *Scene on the Brazos, 1893*

# Visit Our Division Online



 <http://dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory>



# How Does This Help Genealogists?



## ❧ A Local Emphasis

- ❖ While the 8<sup>th</sup> floor Genealogy Department of the Central Library has been previously rated by a leading family history magazine as one of the top ten genealogy collections in the United States, those researching family histories with strong Dallas and/or Texas connections can benefit from the holdings of the 7<sup>th</sup> floor Dallas History & Archives Division.
- ❖ The Dallas Public Library system (as a whole) has a number of useful resources as well.

# Documenting Ancestors



- ❧ To successfully document an ancestor, you must know the following:
  - ❖ Ancestor's name
  - ❖ Approximate date of birth and death
  - ❖ Location where ancestor resided
- ❧ To find that information, genealogists rely on the following records resources:
  - ❖ Census & Census substitutes
  - ❖ Tax Records
  - ❖ Vital Records
  - ❖ Cemeteries
  - ❖ Obituaries
  - ❖ Marriage Records

# Documenting Ancestors – Library & Online Resources



## ∞ Census & Census substitutes:

- ❖ The United States Census can identify an ancestor's residence every ten years from 1790 to 1940 (census records are closed to the public for a period of 72 years). All of the census records for Texas and the United States are on Ancestry.com
- ❖ One exception is 1890 due to a fire in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century which destroyed many of those records.
- ❖ 1880 census – started listing family.
- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> floor also has census on microfilm: 1790-1930.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library & Online Resources



## ∞ Census & Census substitutes:

- ❖ 8<sup>th</sup> floor also has Soundex System, which is a coding system for the census used to group people's last names together based on how they sound.
- ❖ It is useful for names with different spellings.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library & Online Resources



Soundex System. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), September 26, 2016:  
<https://www.archives.gov/research/census/soundex.html>

## Basic Soundex Coding Rule

Every soundex code consists of a letter and three numbers, such as W-252. The letter is always the first letter of the surname. The numbers are assigned to the remaining letters of the surname according to the soundex guide shown below. Zeroes are added at the end if necessary to produce a four-character code. Additional letters are disregarded. Examples:

- **Washington** is coded W-252 (W, 2 for the S, 5 for the N, 2 for the G, remaining letters disregarded).
- **Lee** is coded L-000 (L, 000 added).

## Soundex Coding Guide

Number	Represents the Letters
--------	------------------------

1	B, F, P, V
---	------------

2	C, G, J, K, Q, S, X, Z
---	------------------------

3	D, T
---	------

4	L
---	---

5	M, N
---	------

6	R
---	---

See also this [online Soundex Calculator](#) →

Disregard the letters A, E, I, O, U, H, W, and Y.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library & Online Resources



## ☞ Tax Records:

- ❖ Generally, tax records are a yearly listing of residence and status and come in to play once locality is established.
- ❖ Helpful in determining when a person arrives and departs an area, either by relocating or death. If by death, the next year may reflect the name of the widow.
- ❖ Tax records on microfilm are currently housed in the 8<sup>th</sup> floor Genealogy Department.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library & Online Resources



❧ City Directories help identify the ancestor's residence every year.

- ❖ The 7<sup>th</sup> floor Archives Division maintains a collection of telephone, city, and criss-cross directories for cities across Texas, in hard copy and microfilm.

- ❖ Lists ancestor's residence and occupation. In many cases, the name of the wife is included.

- ❖ **Note that it took a year to compile and publish. Therefore 1950 directory reflects information from 1949.**

- ❖ A complete list of Texas/Dallas city directories holdings is located on the department web page, [www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory](http://www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory)

# Documenting Ancestors – Library & Online Resources



- ❧ Older city directories have three types of listings:
- ❖ Name (by name of person or business).
  - ❖ Street (after 1901; arranged alphabetically by street name and then by number).
  - ❖ Type of business or occupation (i.e. grocers, attorneys, banks, etc.).

# Documenting Ancestors - Library & Online Resources



- ❧ City Directories - Be aware of street numbers:
  - ❖ Streets were renumbered at least two times (1891-92 and 1911).
  - ❖ The 1911 directory gives both the old and new numbers.
- ❧ If the building you are researching pre-dates 1901, find the 1901 directory street listing and note the name of the occupant. Then try to trace the name of the occupant in earlier directories.
- ❧ When using city directories, refer to beginning of directory for lists of helpful abbreviations, symbols, and demographic information.
- ❧ Some early directories may even indicate death dates.

# Documenting Ancestors - Library & Online Resources



*It's the* **AMERICAN LAUNDRY** *In Dallas* VI 8177

## WORLEY'S GREATER DALLAS CITY DIRECTORY 1952

Including Town of Highland Park and City of University Park

Copyright, 1952, by John F. Worley Directory Co.

For List of General Abbreviations see opposite page

### ABBREVIATIONS OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

DI .....	Dixon	FE .....	Federal	LO .....	Lozan	FR .....	Prospect	UN .....	Union
DE .....	Drexel	FD .....	Forest	MA .....	Maple	RA .....	Randolph	VI .....	Victor
ED .....	Edgemont	FR .....	Franklin	MI .....	Milton	RI .....	Riverside	WE .....	Westbrook
EL .....	Elmhurst	HA .....	Harwood	MO .....	Mohawk	ST .....	Sterling	WT .....	Winfield
EM .....	Emerson	HE .....	Hunter	NI .....	Nichols	TA .....	Taylor	WO .....	Woodlawn
EV .....	Evergreen	IM .....	Imperial	NO .....	Norwood	TE .....	Tepson	YA .....	Yale
EX .....	Express	JU .....	Justin	OA .....	Oakland	TR .....	Tremont	YU .....	Yukon
FA .....	Fairdale	LA .....	Lakeside						

### SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

A&P .....	A&P Food Stores	DAV .....	Disabled American Veterans	OPS .....	Office of Price Stabilization
BOER .....	Baltimore & Ohio Railroad	IAI .....	Industries Inc	RFC .....	Reconstruction Finance Corp
CAA .....	Civil Aeronautics Administration	FBI .....	Federal Bureau of Investigation	SMU .....	Southern Methodist University
CB&Q .....	Chicago Burlington & Quincy Railroad Co	FHA .....	Federal Housing Administration	SPL .....	Southern Pacific Lines
CMSP&PRR .....	Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Co	GC&SF .....	Gulf Colorado & Santa Fe Railway Co	SLSW .....	St. Louis Southwestern Railway Co
CRI&PRR .....	Chicago Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Co	GMAC .....	General Motors Acceptance Corp	SWDrug .....	Southwestern Drug Corp
CVAC .....	Consolidated-Vultee Aircraft Corp (Fl Worth)	IBM .....	International Business Machines Corp	T&NORR .....	Texas & New Orleans Railroad Co
		KCSRR .....	Kansas City Southern Railway	T&PRR .....	Texas & Pacific Railway Co
		L&AR .....	Louisiana & Arkansas Railway	TEMCO .....	Texas Aircraft Corporation
		M-K-TRR .....	Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad Co		(Grand Prairie)
		M&P .....	Magnolia Petroleum Co		
		NYC Sys .....	New York Central System	USDA-PMA .....	United States Department of Agriculture
				VA .....	Veterans Administration

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Scrap Iron  
Scrap Steel  
Scrap Metals

*We Solicit Your Account*

**SELL AMERICAN**

2215  
LATIMER

Phone Hunter  
2861-2-3-4

Worley's Greater Dallas City Directory, 1952

**A&P...**

Among retailers of fine foods, the most famous name in the world!

FAMOUS for





# Documenting Ancestors - Library & Online Resources



From 1998 Cole Directory - Denton,  
Lewisville, & Vicinity

## A NUMERICAL DIRECTORY

Arranged by telephone number

**Business Listing**

1776 * Longhorn Meat Pckr	900 E University	MC
2208 * Cdm Constrcn	302 E Hwy 380	PR
2408 * Prncatcon Cabinet	302 E Hwy 380	PR
2444 * Brookshv Fd Str 68	5000 Fm 423	TC
2924 * Texas Flying Clb	McKinney Arprt	MC
5161 * Anchor Redi-Mix	2105 S McDonald	MC
5280 * Country Clb Const	301 Industrial	MC
5612 * Murry Homes	8505 Clear Crk Cir	FR
5888 * Preston Rd Rltra	Preston Rd	FR
8262 * McKinney Title Co	212 E Virginia	MC
8553 * A&T Bearings&Supply	323 Industrial	MC
9300 * Cntry 21 Col Est	The Colony	
	21 RESIDENCE	18 BUSINESS

**Community Designation**  
(see following page for complete list)

**Telephone Exchange** — 381 EXCHANGE (NEW IN 1988-89)

**Area Code** — AREA CODE 817

**Exchange Location** — DENTON

**Year First Listed in Directory**

**Street Address**

**Personal or Firm Name**

**New Listing that is also a New Arrival to our Directory**

**New at this address, but listed previously in our Directory**

0003 II Scott Cox	904C Kilkenny Ct	
0004 John Allen Harris	3117 Broken Bow	
0005 Frank A Atkins	1600 E Windsor St	
0006 * Cozy Oaks Ratrnt	809 Sunset	
0007 V L Hayes	3804 Stuart Rd	
0008 Elwin L Creamer	RFD 5	
0009 Bob Jacobs	620 Hettie	
0010 A E Marza	600 Roberts	
	600 Roberts	
0012 - Christopher Tracey	316 Bryan	
0013 - Mark Pitts	2402 W Prairie	
0017 Larry Arnold	RFD 5	
0019 William D Overall	1501 Fort Worth Dr	
0020 II Lola Sligar	912 N Bell Ave	
0021 William E Swoms	917 Crescent	
0023 - Wida Johnson	2705 Winchester Ct	
0027 V R Clearman	615 Headlee	
0030 Gregory D Wyatt	RFD 1	
0031 Tommie L Shelton	3400 Joyce	
0032 James D Nance	2001 Azal	
0033 II S Werner	1738 Tessel	
0034 Lawrence P Forman	72P	
0035 Judy Goin	1105 M	
0036 - Co Commann	Kri	
0037 Robert Follet	1921	
0038 II Pro Systems	22	
0039 II Jeremiah Ng		
0040 Lewis OHara		
0042 * Action Water W		
0043 Mike Narramorr		

# Documenting Ancestors - Library Resources



## ☞ Vital Records:

- ❖ Birth and death records in Texas are a “modern” record. Vital records were not required to be recorded prior to 1903, except for a very brief time in the 1870s. Many births and deaths from 1903 up to as late as 1930 were never recorded.
- ❖ Some births during this time were later recorded in the late 1930s as Probated or Delayed births. What is available for Texas is located on [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).
- ❖ Death certificates is a primary source but contains secondary information.

# Documenting Ancestors - Library Resources



## ❧ Vital Records:

- ❖ Dallas History & Archives Division has indexes to births and deaths in microform.
- ❖ Birth Records: Indexes for 1903-1997; Birth certificates, 1903-1932. Birth records are closed/confidential in Texas for a period of seventy-five years.
- ❖ Death Records: Indexes from 1903-2000; Death certificates from 1903-1982. Death certificates are closed/confidential for a period of twenty-five years.
- ❖ To find these records use the following web sites:  
[www.ancestrylibrary.com](http://www.ancestrylibrary.com) or [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) (set up a user name and password)

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources



- ❧ Bureau of Vital Statistics: A New Addition to Central Library Building
- ❧ [http://dallascityhall.com/departments/waterutilities/Pages/vital\\_statistics.aspx](http://dallascityhall.com/departments/waterutilities/Pages/vital_statistics.aspx)
- ❧ For Fee-Based, Same Day Service:
  - ❖ Birth Certificates.
  - ❖ Death Certificates.
  - ❖ Birth Abstract (certificates from State records for all births outside of Dallas in Texas).
  - ❖ Acknowledgement of Paternity (by appointment).
  - ❖ Funeral Home Service.
  - ❖ Notary Service.

# Documenting Ancestors - Library Resources



❧ Bureau of Vital Statistics: A New Addition to Central Library Building

❧ Factors of Use:

- ❖ Involves Fees & requests must be in writing and with proper photo identification.
- ❖ Death records are available for deaths that occurred within the city of Dallas from April 1983 to present.
- ❖ Confidential records may only be released to a qualified applicant - person named on the record, a member of the immediate family. All other applicants must provide a notarized letter of authorization from an immediate family member and a copy of their valid photo ID.

# Documenting Ancestors - Library Resources



- ❧ Bureau of Vital Statistics: A New Addition to Central Library Building
- ❧ Factors of Use (Continued):
  - ❖ Legal representatives or legal guardians must provide legal documentation (such as contracts, or court order documents) that demonstrates a direct, tangible interest in the birth certificate.
  - ❖ Birth records are available for births that occurred anywhere in the state of Texas for the years of 1926 to present. Default for requesting birth certificate is certified copy of birth facts, i.e., (short form birth certificate/abstract).
  - ❖ Long form birth certificate which includes the parent's date of birth, must be specified request, and they can only provide long form birth certificate for births that occurred within the city of Dallas from April 1983 to present.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources



## ☞ Cemeteries:

- ❖ Burial records often provide birth and death dates.
- ❖ Mortuary records are also helpful.
  - ❖ Ed C. Smith Funeral Home Records located on the 8th floor.
  - ❖ A number of Dallas cemeteries have been published.
    - ❖ Shirley Remnant Sloat's book, *Dallas County Records of Interest to the Genealogist at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library Dallas Public Library System*, to determine what has been abstracted and where it was published. A copy is available at the 7<sup>th</sup> floor reference desk.
  - ❖ Oakland Cemetery, one of largest and earliest cemeteries in Dallas, is online ([www.dallasgenealogy.org](http://www.dallasgenealogy.org)) and on microfilm in the Genealogy Section.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources



## ☞ Cemeteries:

- ❖ Published abstracts for other Texas Counties are on the 7th and 8th floors.
- ❖ Other online cemetery resources:
  - ❖ [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)
  - ❖ [www.billiongraves.com](http://www.billiongraves.com)

# Documenting Ancestors - Library Resources



## ❧ Obituaries:

- ❖ Modern obituaries are a great source for obtaining information about the deceased. The further back you go, however, information may become less helpful.
- ❖ Newspapers are a vital source for birth and death information contained in obituaries. Dallas and other Texas newspapers are maintained on microfilm. A complete list of newspaper holdings is located on the CDH web page, [www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory](http://www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory)
- ❖ Obituaries are just a small part of information to be located in newspapers.
- ❖ Archives Division vertical clipping files can be useful for obituaries, marriage information, and more...

# Documenting Ancestors - Library Resources



## ☞ Newspapers as a resource:

- ❖ Notices of deeds of transfer.
- ❖ Probate matters.
- ❖ Civil and criminal court proceedings.
- ❖ Marriages
- ❖ Births
- ❖ Anniversaries
- ❖ ... and more...
- ❖ Dallas newspapers pick up information from all over the state.

## ☞ Funeral Homes as resource:

- ❖ Recent obituaries are sometimes published on funeral home websites, rather than the newspaper.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources



## ❧ The Historical Dallas Morning News

❖ A part of Newsbank, Inc., this database has:

- ❖ *The Dallas Morning News* (October 1, 1885 to December 31, 1984)
- ❖ *Fort Worth Star Telegram* (July 2, 1902 to May 31, 1991)
- ❖ *Fort Worth Morning Register* (January 1, 1897 to June 30, 1902) digitized and indexed for easy access.

The screenshot shows the NewsBank website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for "Other Products", "View History", "My Collection", "Login", "Help", and "Contact Customer Service". The main header features the NewsBank logo and the text "America's Historical Newspapers" with a sub-link "Explore news articles from 1885 - 1991 overview of content". Below the header is a search section with a "New Search" button, a search input field, and a "search" button. The search filters include "All Text", "AND", "Date(s)", and "Sort by: Best matches first". A checkbox option "Want to be alerted to the latest news on a topic? Learn More" is also present. The "Browse by:" section includes a "Filter Publications Below" table with columns for Publication, Related Titles, Source Type, Format, Language, Date Range, and Location. The table lists three publications: Dallas Morning News (1885-1984, USA - TX - Dallas), Fort Worth Morning Register (1897-1902, USA - TX - Fort Worth), and Fort Worth Star Telegram (1902-1991, USA - TX - Fort Worth). Below the table, it says "3 Publications. listing 1 to 3". At the bottom, there is a "Current Events" section with a link to "Special Reports of Hot Topics". The footer contains "Privacy Policy", "Terms of Use", and "©2018 NewsBank, Inc."

# Documenting Ancestors - Library Resources



## ∞ Marriage Records:

- ❖ Best source for learning the female's maiden name.
  - ❖ Dallas County's index to Dallas marriages, 1846-1963, is located on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor on microfilm.
    - ❖ The date in this index reflects the date the license was issued, not the date of marriage.
  - ❖ Marriage records are **ONLY** at the Dallas County Clerk office on 21st Floor of Renaissance Tower - 1201 Elm Street.
  - ❖ Marriage Records indexes for most Texas counties are on microfilm on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor.
  - ❖ Published abstracts for Dallas County have been published by the Dallas Genealogical Society.
- ❖ Marriage Records were long kept by individual counties, but there was not a requirement to keep a copy on record at the state level in Texas until 1967.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



- ❧ After names have been identified, a locality established, and birth and death information obtained for an ancestor... what next?
- ❧ Building a more complete picture:
  - ❖ Land Records
  - ❖ Probate Records
  - ❖ Court Records
  - ❖ Maps
  - ❖ Published Histories
  - ❖ Military Records
  - ❖ Church Records
  - ❖ Yearbooks
  - ❖ Serials/Magazines
  - ❖ Manuscript Collections
- ❧ Try searching for collateral associations – “A family leaves more records than an individual.”

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## ∞ Land Records:

- ❖ Land Grants: see *Texas Land Survey Maps for Dallas County* and *Sam Street's Map* (available in library catalog). Published land survey maps are available for other Texas counties.
- ❖ Deeds: Indexes and early deed records are on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## ☞ Probate Records:

- ❖ Wills and estate case papers, 1846-1900. On microfilm on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> floors.
- ❖ After 1900, the indexes are at the County Clerk's office. The records are located off-site and must be ordered from the clerk and viewed during a second visit.
- ❖ During slavery, slaves were sometimes included as property and may have the person's name.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## ☞ Court Records:

- ❖ All of the following records are currently located on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor.
  - ❖ District Court Records: divorces and civil cases; microfilm.
  - ❖ Naturalizations: Published index; Case Papers, 1872-1912 and Declarations of Intention, 1889-1903 on microfilm.
  - ❖ Inquest Records, microfilm for each district in Dallas.
  - ❖ May have death certificate from justice of the peace or a coroner.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## 🌀 Maps:

- ❖ Maps database on the Archives Division webpage, [www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory](http://www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory)
- ❖ Murphy & Bolanz maps also on webpage.
- ❖ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, on microfilm and one of Dallas Public Library's databases
- ❖ Bracey's Block Maps: 1937, 1942, 1949, 1954, 1958, microfilm – Identifies person who lives in a house.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



Maps database on the Archives Division webpage, [www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory](http://www.dallaslibrary2.org/dallashistory)

The screenshot shows the Dallas Public Library website interface. The search results page displays a list of 236 records from the Map Collection. The search criteria used were 'dallas' in the search field, sorted by date ascending, with 25 records per page. The results table includes columns for Map No., Date, Image, and Title.

Map No.	Date	Image	Title
V1880	18--	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dallas--Bird's Eye Views--1800's
F20	18--	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of Dallas County, Texas
311	1841	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plat Showing Original Patent Granted to John Neely Bryan by the Republic of Texas in 1841
759	1845	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of the Mercer Colony in Texas
223	1846	<input type="checkbox"/>	Central America . . . Including Texas, California, and the Northern States of Mexico
340	1846	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of the State of Texas Engraved to Illustrate Mitchell's School and Family Geography
185	1846	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of the Town of Dallas
186	1846	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of the Town of Dallas
NC1	1846	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of the Town of Dallas
195	1846	<input type="checkbox"/>	Post Offices, Dallas County, Texas, 1846-1946
116	1852	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of the State of Texas Engraved to Illustrate Mitchell's School and Family Geography
786	1854	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Map of that part of Dallas County Lying in Nacogdoches Land District
785	1854	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map of Dallas County
787	1855	<input type="checkbox"/>	A Map of Dallas County
119	1855	<input type="checkbox"/>	Texas [1855: Texas]
174	1856	<input type="checkbox"/>	Texas [1856: Texas]
490	1858	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plan and Survey of Building and Gardening Lots on the Ground of Reunion in Dallas County
491	1858	<input type="checkbox"/>	Survey and Partition of an Estate in Dallas County . . . Reunion
236	1860	<input type="checkbox"/>	Map Showing the Extension of the Town's Streets in the 1860's (Gripsby League

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## Published Histories:

- ❖ “Mug Book” histories about Dallas.
- ❖ Family histories and biographies.
- ❖ Historical overviews about Dallas.
- ❖ The same for other Texas Counties.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## ☞ Military Records:

- ❖ Best source for Texas military materials are located on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor.
- ❖ They have National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) records from the American Revolution to the Philippine Insurrection. Starting to get World War I.
- ❖ fold3 database available through Dallas Public Library – contains “...military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and women who served.”

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## Church Records:

- ❖ Establishing an ancestor's religion is necessary before a search can begin for church records.
- ❖ Not all church records are created equal.
  - ❖ If the ancestor is Catholic, vital information is often contained in registers belonging to the diocese.
  - ❖ If the ancestor was Baptist, expect to find church histories and records of membership, but very little vital information.

# Documenting Ancestors – Library Resources – A More Complete Picture



## ❧ Yearbooks:

- ❖ May contain early photos of an ancestor.

## ❧ Serials/Magazines:

- ❖ May have articles about the locality where ancestors lived and events that may have influenced their lives.

## ❧ Manuscript Collections:

- ❖ May contain letters, diaries, & other papers or ephemera.
- ❖ May have information about your ancestor or people who touched their lives or places where they resided.
- ❖ Certain genealogical collections exist within manuscript collections.

# Additional Online Resources



- ❧ Marion Butts “Lens on Dallas”
  - ❖ Photo Galleries
  - ❧ Oral Histories
    - ❖ Audio
    - ❖ Transcripts
  - ❧ Maps
    - ❖ Searchable Database
    - ❖ Digitized Content
  - ❧ Other Dallas Public Library Web Resources
    - ❖ Online Databases
      - ❖ Dallas Morning News Archive
      - ❖ America’s Genealogy Bank
      - ❖ ...and more...

A promotional graphic for Marion Butts' "Lens on Dallas" project. It features a black and white portrait of Marion Butts, a young African American man in a suit and tie, looking slightly to the right. The text is arranged around the portrait.

**Marion Butts:**  
Lens on Dallas

View over 1,800 historic images captured by a pioneering Dallas photographer

Bonus! African-American history lesson plans for seventh-grade Texas history teachers.  
[Details here!](#)

# Additional Online Resources



## Oral Histories

❖ Audio

❖ Transcripts



# Additional Online Resources



## Online Databases - (Some descriptions taken from Dallas Public Library Database webpages)

The screenshot shows the Dallas Public Library website interface. The browser address bar displays the URL: [catalog.dallaslibrary.org/polaris/Search/misc/resources.asp?tbl=1-1033.0.0.68&Category=47](http://catalog.dallaslibrary.org/polaris/Search/misc/resources.asp?tbl=1-1033.0.0.68&Category=47). The page header includes a navigation menu with links for Library Home, Catalog, My Account, Databases, Downloadable Media, Community, Connections, and Help. Below the header, there is a search bar with options for Keyword, Browse, Phrase, Advanced, Boolean, and My Lists. The main content area is titled "E-Source Home > Magazines, Newspapers & Journals" and features a section titled "Database Descriptions and Links". This section lists several databases with their descriptions:

- Academic Search Complete**: Academic Search Complete is the world's most valuable and comprehensive scholarly, multi-disciplinary full-text database, with more than 5,990 full-text periodicals, including more than 5,030 peer-reviewed journals. In addition to full text, this database offers indexing and abstracts for more than 9,990 journals and a total of more than 10,400 publications including monographs, reports, conference proceedings, etc. The database features PDF content going back as far as 1987, with the majority of full text titles in native (searchable) PDF format. Searchable cited references are provided for more than 1,000 journals.
- America's Genealogy Bank**: Quickly find your ancestors in over 300 years of historical newspapers, books, pamphlets and government reports. Search over 1,000 newspapers; the American State Papers; US Congressional Serial Set and more. Find obituaries, birth & marriage notices; pension records etc. Read every article on every page of the newspaper.
- Business Source Complete**: Business Source Complete is the world's definitive scholarly business database, providing the leading collection of bibliographic and full text content. As part of the comprehensive coverage offered by this database, indexing and abstracts for the most important scholarly business journals back as far as 1886 are included. In addition to the searchable cited references provided for more than 1,200 journals.
- Dallas Business Journal**:
  - Full Site Access Unlimited access to stories online, including premium content.
  - Digital Editions Exact digital replicas of the weekly business Journals.
  - Digital Book of Lists Our most popular business resource containing the names and contact information of hundreds of ranked companies.
- Dallas Morning News Archive**: This database provides full text of the Dallas Morning News from 1885 through 1984. Search options include the ability to limit to articles, matrimony notices, birth notices, and obituaries. Classified and display advertising, photos and graphics are also included. Major news topics and events are highlighted.

# Additional Online Resources



## Dallas Morning News Archive

The screenshot shows the NewsBank website interface. At the top, the URL is [infoweb.newsbank.com/iw-search/we/Homepage?pi\\_action=doc&p\\_theme=current&p\\_nbid=C5FA5DPSMTQC](http://infoweb.newsbank.com/iw-search/we/Homepage?pi_action=doc&p_theme=current&p_nbid=C5FA5DPSMTQC). The NewsBank logo is visible. Below the logo, it says "Welcome Dallas Public Library".

**Current Events**

- Hot Topics

**Special Reports**

- What's New (October)

**People in the News - Nobel Prize Winners**

**School and College Security**

**U.S. Presidential Campaign - 2016**

**Issues in the News - Bullying Prevention**

**National Hispanic Heritage Month**

**World Economics**

**World Health**

**Education Around the World**

*To search, click on an online resource listed below.*

**Archive of Americana**  
*Published by Readex, a division of NewsBank, Inc.*  
This family of historical collections contains books, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, government documents and e  

- The Historical Dallas Morning News**  
Searchable American newspapers enable users to explore America's past. Available here: Selected Historical News

**America's GenealogyBank**  
Quickly find your ancestors in over 300 years of historical newspapers, books, pamphlets and government reports. Search Congressional Serial Set and more. Find obituaries, birth & marriage notices; pension records etc. Read every article or

**America's News**  
**With unmatched U.S. news content from local, regional, and national sources, this resource is the largest of its kind** newspapers, blogs, journals, newswires, broadcast transcripts and videos. Explore a specific issue or event through the wide variety of viewpoints from across the country on topics such as politics, business, health, sports, cultural activities :  
Search Shortcuts:  

- Dallas Morning News, The**
- Acceda Noticias**
- Access Business News**
- Access Newswires**
- America's News Magazines**
- United States**

**America's Obituaries & Death Notices**  
**The largest and most comprehensive collection of newspaper obituaries and death notices.** Extensive editorial review obituaries for easy access. An easy-to-use interface allows searching by name, date range, or text such as institutional r activities, etc.

# Additional Online Resources



## ❧ America's Genealogy Bank

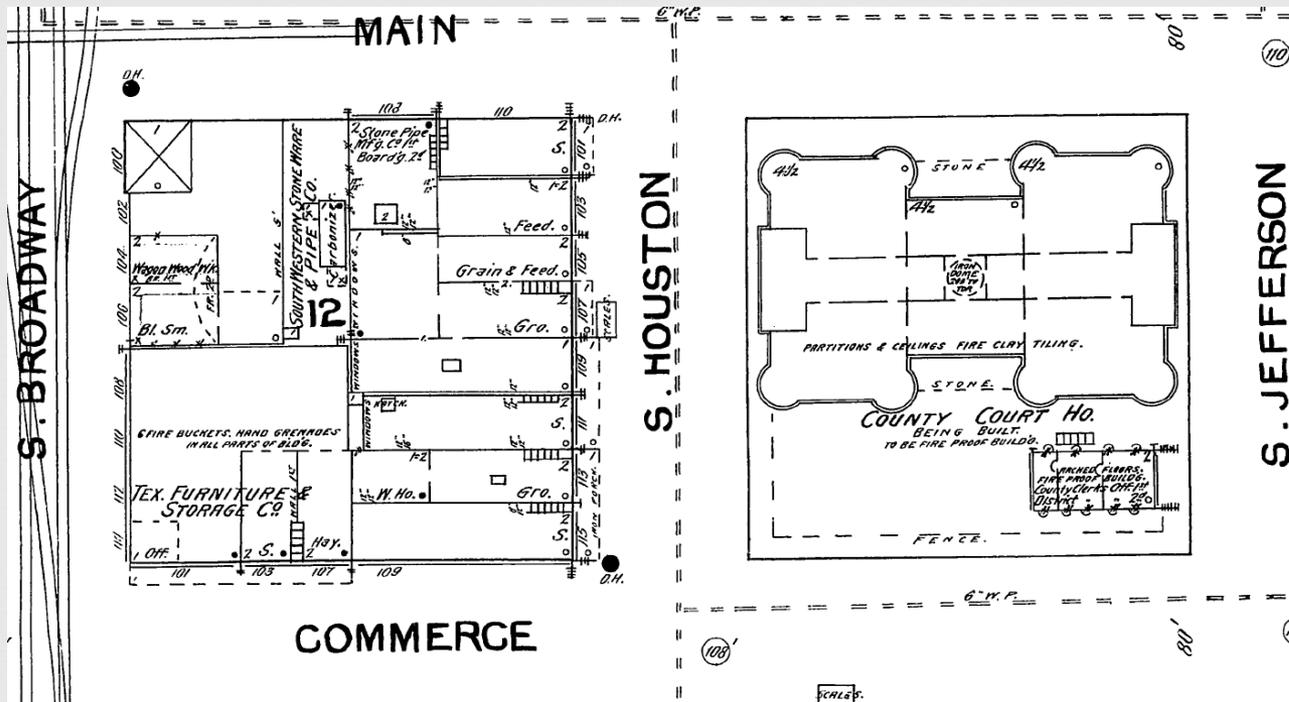
- ❖ Conduct genealogical searches with over 300 years of historical newspapers, books, pamphlets, and government reports.

The screenshot shows the homepage of America's Genealogy Bank. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the site name and a search bar. Below this, there is a large search area with fields for Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial, along with a 'Search Tip' and a 'SEARCH' button. To the right of the search area, there is a section titled 'Follow Your Family Through America's History' with a photo of a woman and a laptop. Below the search area, there are four main content sections: 'Historical Newspapers (1690 - 1922)', 'Historical Books (1749 - 1900)', 'Historical Documents (1789 - 1994)', and 'Modern America's Obituaries (1977 - Current)'. Each section provides a brief description of the content and a link to view more. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'New Content Added Daily - Keep Checking Back!' with a list of recent additions, including 'Dorset Eagle (Dorset, NH) 1794 - Current', 'Chronicle, The (Dorset, MA) 2014 - Current', 'City Herald News (Winn, NV) 2014 - Current', and 'Japan County Star News (Hokkaido, J) 2015 - Current'.

# Additional Online Resources



## Texas Digital Sanborn Maps



Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1892

# Additional Online Resources



- ❧ American Ancestors (library only)
  - ❖ Resources of the New England Historic Genealogical Society.
- ❧ America's Obituaries and Death Notices
  - ❖ "The largest and most comprehensive collection of newspaper obituaries and death notices". Dallas Morning News obituaries 1984 through September 29, 2014.
- ❧ Bibliography of Native North Americans
  - ❖ "...bibliographic database covering all aspects of native North American culture, history, and life."

# Additional Online Resources



## ❧ American Indian Histories and Cultures

- ❖ "...Manuscripts, artwork and rare printed books dating from the earliest contact with European settlers right up to photographs and newspapers from the mid-twentieth century."

# Additional Online Resources



## ❧ The American West

- ❖ "Sourced from the Everett D. Graff Collection at the Newberry Library, Chicago, 'The American West' allows browsers to explore tales of frontier life, Pioneers, Wild West shows, the Gold Rush, vigilantes and outlaws. Document types include: manuscripts, trade cards, wanted posters, photographs, claim certificates, news sheets, rare printed works, brand books, broadsides, correspondence, diaries, directories, journals, pamphlets, periodicals, and artworks."

# Additional Online Resources



## ❧ Handbook of Texas

- ❖ "An encyclopedia of Texas history, geography, and culture..."

## ❧ HeritageQuest

- ❖ "Combines digital, searchable images of U.S. federal census records (1790 - 1930) with the digitized version of the UMI® Genealogy & Local History collection."

## ❧ Marquis Who's Who (library only)

- ❖ "1.3 million biographies of notable men and women in all fields of endeavor from around the world."

## ❧ ReferenceUSA

- ❖ Millions of US/Canadian business and residential records.

# Contact Us



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Dallas History & Archives Division  
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Dallas, TX 75201

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