Dallas County Records
of Interest to the Genealogist
at the
J. Erik Jonsson Central Library
Dallas Public Library System

Compiled by Shirley Remnant Sloat
for the Dallas Genealogical Society and
the J. Erik Jonsson Public Library
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INTRODUCTION

This guide was created to show what Dallas County records are available for research by genealogists working at the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library, a part of the Dallas Public Library (DPL) system. It is a subset of the Dallas County Records Inventory Project begun by members of the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) in 1998 and still in progress in 2001. The output from the Inventory Project’s efforts will be published in traditional book media as volumes which can be purchased by libraries and other repositories, with some of the summary results available on the internet through the Dallas Genealogical Society’s web page at www.dallasgenealogy.org. It is envisioned that the information about which county records exist, the kind of data contained in them, and the years covered will be of use to county employees as well as to interested researchers, whether they are genealogists, historians, writers or merely curious citizens.

THE DALLAS COUNTY RECORDS INVENTORY PROJECT:

Members of the Records Preservation Committee of the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) participating in the Dallas County Records Inventory Project include:

Dava Beisecker Ladymon
Dr. Alan N. Miller II
James Monaghan, Jr. (deceased 20 September 1999)
Shirley Remnant Sloat
Kathy Williston.

BACKGROUND:

Dallas County was created by the first legislature of the State of Texas on 30 March 1846, comprising 900 square miles of what was then Nacogdoches County, east of the Elm Fork of the Trinity River, and what was then Robertson County, west of the Trinity River.

Although record inventories have been published for various other Texas counties, none has been done for Dallas County. This is the first Texas county inventory to base its record reporting on the official Texas State Record Retention Schedule published by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. These schedules attempt to define all possible county record types and their mandatory minimum retention. No local government office may dispose of a record listed in this schedule prior to the expiration of its retention period. (The originals of records in the schedule may be disposed of prior to the expiration of the stated minimum retention period if they have been microfilmed or electronically stored pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Code, and rules of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.)
Dallas County has gone a step further in record retention. In a 1995 Commissioners’ Court Order, Dallas County Commissioners made the formal commitment1 that those records which are legitimately eligible for destruction will be first offered to the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library (DPL), in its capacity as an approved member of the Regional Historical Resource Depository and Local Records Program (RHRD) of the Texas State Library. The DPL communicates this information to the Records Preservation Committee of the Dallas Genealogical Society, and the records in question are reviewed to ensure that items of sufficient historical interest will be saved from destruction and moved to the RHRD section on the 7th floor of the J. Erik Jonsson Library.

Members of the Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) have been key in gathering and publishing abstracts of local records. Originally called The History and Genealogical Society, it published The History and Genealogical Society Quarterly; then, renamed The Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS), it has published The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly and, more recently, The Dallas Journal, an annual publication2. Copies of all these journals are available in the Genealogy section on the 8th floor of the J. Erik Jonsson Library.3

Thanks to those who reviewed and contributed information to this guide:

- The DPL History and Social Sciences Division
- The DPL Genealogy Section
- The DPL Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division
- The DPL Government Publications Division
- For reviewing Appendix A, the Courts Section
- For locating and identifying miscellaneous resources
- For editing, typography and moral support

Heather Williams
Lloyd Dewitt Bockstruck
Carol Roark
Rob Martindale
Patricia A. Haynes
Lois Hudgins and Ed Boehringer
Ed Millis

1 Court Order # 95–466, dated March 21 1995, motion made by Commissioner Mike Cantrell and seconded by Commissioner Kenneth Mayfield
2 Call number 929.10973 L811L in the 8th floor Genealogy section.
3 Note that many articles published in the DGS journals have no author listed; usually this means that the current editor of the journal wrote the article or did the record abstraction.
Locations of Official Dallas County Records

Official Dallas County records are stored in a variety of places, but requests for them are usually made through either the office of the County Clerk, located in the Dallas County Records Building, at 500 Main Street or the office of the District Clerk, located in the George L. Allen, Sr. Courts Building, at 600 Commerce Street. Many of the older county records are housed in the central County Records Storage Facility, from which they are retrieved when requested through either the County Clerk’s or District Clerk’s offices.

Some older, more historical Dallas County records have been placed in the J. Erik Jonsson Central Library (DPL) in the RHRD archives section of the Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division. A partial list of genealogically-interesting records in the RHRD is included in Appendix B. Some additional older records (most generated before 1920) have been identified as historically significant, even though their retention codes would indicate they could be disposed of, and these have been placed in a special section in the county’s Records Storage Facility. These older records will be identified in the formal publication of the Inventory Project.

In addition to those official Dallas County records which reside in the county, the Texas State Library and Archives, and the General Land Office of the State of Texas are repositories for some of the older, very historical documents, including those having to do with land grants, election registers, etc. Copies of birth and death records may be obtained from the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics. The Texas State Library has an extensive collection of Texas County vital records indexes, including births, delayed births, deaths and divorces. Note that birth records are public after the 50th anniversary of the date on which the record is filed with the Bureau of Vital Statistics or local registration officer. Death records are public after the 25th anniversary of the filing date.

Some public records are becoming available on the Internet. The following Internet addresses may be useful for additional research:

- Texas State Library and Archives(TSL)  http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/local/index.htm
- Dallas Public Library(DPL)  http://dallaslibrary.org
- DPL:Texas/Dallas History(CTX)  http://dallaslibrary.org/ctx/ctx.htm
- Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS)  http://www.dallasgenealogy.org
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS)  www.familysearch.org

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4 The District Clerk is by law the ministerial officer and record keeper for the Civil, Criminal, and Family District Courts. There are currently 37 such District Courts in Dallas County and, with the assistance of 242 deputies, the District Clerk has custody of all papers and instruments filed in all lawsuits within these District Courts. “Permanent retention” records for which the District Clerk still has responsibility may go back as far as 1846.

5 See the DPL 7th floor discussion which follows for more complete details on the RHRD program.

6 Texas State Library and Archives, 1201 Brazos St, P.O. Box 12927, Austin, TX 78711-2927; phone 512-463-5465 or see internet address.

7 General Land Office of the State of Texas, 1700 North Congress St, Austin, TX 78701-1495.

8 Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1100 W. 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3191 phone 512-458-7111 or 512-458-7364.
Some genealogically-significant Dallas County records have been microfilmed by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS), and microfilm copies may be found on the DPL 7th floor, and/or may be ordered through the LDS Church’s film rental program, either at the DPL or at neighborhood LDS Family History centers. A full listing of the records filmed by the LDS Church and available through their rental program is available either on CD-ROM in the DPL Genealogy section on the 8th floor or through the LDS Internet site (listed above).

DPL: THE HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DIVISION

The History and Social Sciences division housed on the eighth floor of the Central Library is comprised of two distinctly different service areas, History & Social Sciences and the Genealogy section.

THE HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES SECTION

The History and Social Sciences section (8th floor) contains over 139,000 volumes, 35,000 periodicals, and 2,000 videos. The collection is primarily circulating but includes substantial reference sources in the fields of history and law. For the family historian, this collection is a good starting point for historical research. Available to the genealogy researcher are the following: geographical sources including atlases, maps, gazetteers and historical travel guides; biographical indexes and sources on well-known Americans; a wide array of historical sources including chronologies and city, county, and state histories; military sources including first-person accounts, regimental histories, and guides for military uniforms, decorations, medals and insignia. In addition, the division has a good selection of circulating genealogy “how-to” manuals, and Texas and local histories.

THE GENEALOGY SECTION

The Genealogy section (8th floor), part of the DPL History and Social Sciences Division, is a highly regarded genealogy research facility, and houses a large collection of books, microfilm and microfiche pertaining to Dallas County.

None of its materials circulate outside the department. The Genealogy section has both a card catalog and a computerized catalog. Since only a portion of the microfiche and microfilm holdings are on the computerized catalog, it is advisable to use the card catalog to identify all book, microfiche and microfilm items associated with Dallas County, and also to pick up any items newly added to the collection. The card catalog is in two sections; by geographic locality and by surname. The geographic section is organized by locality, alphabetically by state, then alphabetically by county within the state. At the front of each state’s counties are some general entries that may span county boundaries. Call numbers for books provide the information necessary to locate the books on the shelves established for the specific state locality (e.g. Texas), where they are arranged by the Dewey decimal classification system. After utilizing the specific Dallas County books, film, and fiche, it might be fruitful to peruse...
the general (front) section of the Texas section of the card catalog in case there is some
Dallas-related data included in more general records.

Many (but not all) Dallas resources included in the current card catalog are detailed in the
various record category groupings described in this document.

DPL: The Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division

The Texas/Dallas History and Archives division (7th floor) collects and makes available to
researchers materials related to Dallas and the State of Texas. It is comprised of two service
areas, the RHRD section and the Texas/Dallas Collection, both of which are treasure troves
of local and state history.9 A trained staff, archival finding guides, and subject indexes
provide access to the collections. Because of the many unique and fragile sources in the
collection, no items circulate outside the library. They are located in a limited access area and
retrieved by staff members for researchers.

RHRD Section (Regional Historical Resource Depository)

The 7th floor Texas/Dallas History and Archives division has a special role as custodian for
local government records. Credit for much of the following description of the RHRD
function and holdings is due archivist Cindy C. Smolovik for her article Researching in the
Texas/Dallas History & Archives Division, published in the June 1989 issue of The Dallas
Quarterly.

A portion of the Texas/Dallas holdings concentrates on the city and county of Dallas. One of
the best genealogical resources are the county records which are housed in the Texas/Dallas
collection as a result of its membership in the Regional Historical Resource Depositories
(RHRD) system. The Regional Historical Resource Depository and Local Records Program
of the Texas State Library is a network of local libraries created to preserve historical
materials. The Texas State Library states the purpose of the RHRD twenty-five regional
depositories system as:

“To locate, identify, and preserve local government records and private records of
permanent value; to make them available to the public for research and to assist
researchers in using them…”

This network of libraries was developed in order to give better access to the records by
locating them in various areas instead of everything being stored in Austin. The Texas/Dallas
History and Archives Division of the Dallas Public library is one of the depositories in the
RHRD system.

Each county in Texas decides when and what records will be placed in the RHRD holdings.
Since the 1989 publication of Ms. Smolovik’s article, many more records have been added to
the RHRD holdings, due principally to activities of the Dallas County Records Inventory
Project which is still in progress. Some, but not all, of these recently-added records have been
filmed by the LDS Church.

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9 Article by Cindy C. Smolovik and Carol Roark, appearing on page 12 of the DALLASEARCH manual
published by the Dallas Genealogical Society, 1993
A variety of interesting and useful resources for Dallas County can be found in the RHRD holdings. See Appendix B for a partial list. Some of these same records may be referred to throughout this research guide as specific areas of interest are addressed.

**The Texas/Dallas Collection**

The **Texas/Dallas collection** contains a number of resources for genealogists with family ties in Texas. Included in the holdings are newspapers, tax rolls, county histories, biographical encyclopedias, archives collections, photographs, maps and books relating to Texas and to Dallas.

Finding aids include:
- Index binders describing microfilm holdings of Texas and Dallas area newspapers.\(^{10}\)
- Index binders pointing to publications of various civic organizations and clubs, and to the yearbook collection.\(^{11}\)
- A collection\(^{12}\) of Criss-Cross directories and Dallas City Directories on microfilm from 1875 to 1975 and actual directories from 1975 until the last published issues. Data from 1881 and 1882 directories has been abstracted and published by the Dallas Genealogical Society in *The Dallas Journal*.
- In the near future, online access will be available to pre-1953 Sanborn maps.
- A card file index to Biographical Studies of Texans, prepared in 1933–1935 by the Texas Historical Society
- Indexes to various District Court Civil case papers (arranged by case number and by witnesses), Minute Books and indexes, and Reverse and Direct Indexes to File Dockets for the various district courts.

The 7th floor houses a large collection of early Dallas and Texas maps, Texas almanacs, a very extensive photographic collection for Dallas, oral histories and files of private collections for family or subject research. It has copies of early magazines including *Dallas* (published by the Dallas Chamber of Commerce), *Farm & Ranch*, and *Beau Monde*, a publication reflecting the early social life of Dallas.

The Texas/Dallas photography collection concentrates on Dallas and contains over half a million negatives, the majority from the Hayes, Rogers, Haskins and Dallas City Photographer collections. It has good representation of Dallas in the late 1880's through the 1970's. Images include street scenes, personalities, businesses, parades, and buildings. The collection is accessed by a visual file that consists of contact prints mounted on cards and arranged by subjects. Prints are available for a fee.

The Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division also houses microfilm of many Texas and Dallas-area newspapers, Texas death rolls and Dallas County records, District Court Civil

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\(^{10}\) Listed on DPL CTX website, [http://dallaslibrary.org/ctx/ctx.htm](http://dallaslibrary.org/ctx/ctx.htm).

\(^{11}\) Listed on DPL CTX website, [http://dallaslibrary.org/ctx/ctx.htm](http://dallaslibrary.org/ctx/ctx.htm).

\(^{12}\) Listed on DPL CTX website, [http://dallaslibrary.org.ctx/ctx.htm](http://dallaslibrary.org.ctx/ctx.htm).
case papers from 1846 to the early 1900's, and Texas county tax rolls 1846–1920, and, for Dallas County, to 1959.

**DPL: The Government Publications division**

The Government Publications division (6th floor) contains atlases, maps, and state, federal and international government publications.

It houses most U.S. topographical maps, including those for Dallas County, along with recent aerial photos of Dallas County13, as well as county road maps.

It is a U.S. Federal Depository and houses statistical summary census information for Dallas County, as well as the Serial Set of every report and document published by Congress between the time of the Continental Congress to 1992 (including federal pension awards). It also houses lists of U.S. Navy, Marines and Coast Guard military casualties (wounded, killed and missing in action) in World War II. There is a section for the state of Texas.

Additionally it houses records on U.S. patents and copyrights, which often include birth year and place of residence of those registering intellectual property.

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13 Early aerial maps of Dallas County may be found on the 7th floor.
Genealogically-interesting Dallas County Records at the DPL

Histories/Atlases/Directories/Maps

Genealogy Section (8th floor):

Histories

*Memorial and Biographic History of Dallas County, TX 976.428 M533
  includes Index prepared by Davis, Irene Chenault

History of Dallas County, TX, 1837–1887, Brown, John Henry 976.428 B878H
  combined with

Dallas County, a record of its pioneers and progress, Cochran, John H.

Everyname Index to the above named combination,

Smith, Michael Kalen 976.428 B878H

*A Place Called Dallas; the pioneering years of a continuing metropolis, Greene, A. C. 976.428 G799P

A History of Greater Dallas and Vicinity (2 vols.), Lindsley, Philip 920 L753H

Reminiscences, A Glimpse of Old East Dallas 976.42812 R388

*Proud Heritage: pioneer families of Dallas County, (2 vols.), Dallas County Pioneer Association 976.42811 P968

History of Duncanville, Texas 976.42811 D912H

*Lancaster, a history, 1845-1945, Lancaster Historical Society 976.42811 L245

Hardscrabble, Pleasant Run and the origins of Lancaster, Fitzhugh, Newton 976.42811 F555H

Elm Fork Settlements: Farmers Branch and Carrollton, Ogle, Georgia Myers 976.42811 O35E

A Stake in the Prairie (Mesquite) 976.42811 S782

Lisbon, a History, Anthony, Helen B. 976.428 A628L

History of Balch Springs, 1848-1910, Tabb, Jeanne J. 976.42811 T112T

Sachse Remembered (1840-1940), Jones, Mary Allene 976.42811 J78S

*Dallas, an illustrated history, Payne, Darwin 976.42812 346D

White Cliffs of Dallas, Story of LaReunion, Santerre, George Henry 976.428 S234W

*The Lusty Texans of Dallas, Rogers, John William 917.64 R727L

*Miss Ada’s Pleasant Grove community, Carothers, Meredith 976.42811 C292M

First African American Families of Dallas: creative survival

Homeward Bound: the heart and heritage of Buckner (Children’s Home), Bullock, Karen O’Dell 362.73209 B938H

*It’s Our Dallas County: the story of self-government since 1846, Switzer, David S. 976.428 S979I

*A Century of Class; Public Education in Dallas 1884-1984, Rumbley, Rose-Mary 379.764 R936C

* Additional copies available in either History and Social Sciences or Texas/Dallas History sections.
*Greater Dallas Illustrated: the most progressive metropolis of the Southwest, Friends of the Dallas Public Library 976.42812 G786
History of the Dallas Medical and Surgical Clinic, Spence, Harry M. 362.1209 S744H
Sarah Horton Cockrell in early Dallas, Cockrell, Monroe F. 929.2 C666C
Dallas County Roots in Old Nacodoches, published in vol. 17, March 1988 issue of Texas Kin
Dallas County in 1858, published in The Dallas Journal, vol. 15, June 1969
One Hundred Twenty Years: A History of the Dallas Pioneer Association 367.97642 O58
Mayors of Dallas, Cullom, John H. 929.2 C967M

Directories
Texas State Gazetteer and Business Directory, vol. 2, 1884–1885 published by the R.L. Polk & Co, has been abstracted by DGS members for geographical areas belonging to Dallas County, and published in The Dallas Quarterly.\(^\text{15}\)
Dallas City and County Directories for 1881 and 1882 have been abstracted by members of the Dallas Genealogical Society and published in vols. 25-27 (1979–1981) of The Dallas Journal.
Published city and other directories for Dallas, including Dallas social registers, City Directory for Greater Dallas, and
The Negro City Directory, 1947–1948 917.64281 N393

History and Social Sciences Section(8th floor)
(circulating)\(^\text{16}\)

Histories
Dallas, an illustrated history, Payne, Darwin 976.42812 P346D
Dallas’s first hundred years, 1856-1956, Santerre, George Henry 976.428 S234D
Dallas: a history of “Big D”, Hazel, Michael V. 976.42811 H429D
Big D, triumphs and troubles of an American supercity in the 20th century, Payne, Darwin 976.42812 P346B
Big D is for Dallas, Howard, James 917.64 H849B
African American families and settlements of Dallas: on the inside looking out, McKnight, Mamie L. (Black Dallas Remembered)
Dallas: her golden years, Sanders, Barrot Steven 976.42812 S215D

\(^{15}\) The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly, vol. XXXVIII, #1, March 1992 includes Cedar Hill, Dallas(part), #2, June, 1992 includes Dallas(part), Duck Creek, Duncanville, Eagle Ford, Elam, Farmers’ Branch, #4, December 1992 – includes Grand Prairie, Jimtown, Klerkburgh, Lancaster, Letot, Lisbon, Mesquite, Miller, Morris, Pleasant Valley, Richardson, Rylie, Sceynne(sic), Seagoville, Sowers, Sprowls, Sweets, Trinity Mills, Wright, and a list of operating railroads.

\(^{16}\) * Additional copies available in Genealogy or Texas/Dallas History and Archives sections.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author/Librarian</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Dallas, the deciding years – a historical portrait,</td>
<td>Greene, A. C.</td>
<td>976.428 G799D</td>
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<td>Dallas, the making of a modern city,</td>
<td>Hill, Patricia Evridge</td>
<td>976.42811 H647D</td>
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<td>Dallas yesterday,</td>
<td>Acheson, Sam</td>
<td>976.42812 A177D</td>
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<td>Diaper Days of Dallas</td>
<td>Dealey, Ted</td>
<td>976.428 D279D</td>
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<td>*First half dozen years: Dallas County, as seen through the</td>
<td>Lu, Helen Mason, and Neumann, Gwen</td>
<td>929.37642 F527</td>
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<td>Commissioners Court Minutes,</td>
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<td>A Guide for seeing Dallas County history,</td>
<td>Dallas County Historical Commission</td>
<td>917.64281 G946</td>
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<td>*Dallas Rediscovered; A Photographic Chronicle of Dallas</td>
<td>McDonald, William Lloyd</td>
<td>076.42812 M135D</td>
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<td>Urban Expansion 1870-1925</td>
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<td>A history of Dallas: from a different perspective,</td>
<td>Prince, Robert</td>
<td>976.42812 P956H</td>
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<td>Land is the cry!: Warren Angus Ferris, pioneer Texas</td>
<td>Starling, Suzanne</td>
<td>B F394S</td>
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<td>Surveyor and founder of Dallas County</td>
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<td>*A Century of Class; Public Education in Dallas 1884-1984,</td>
<td>Rumbley, Rose-Mary</td>
<td>379.764 R936C</td>
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<td>*The Lusty Texans of Dallas, Rogers, John William</td>
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<td>917.64 R727L</td>
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<td>*A Place Called Dallas; the pioneering years of a continuing</td>
<td>Greene, A. C.</td>
<td>976.428 G799P</td>
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<td>metropolis</td>
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<td>*Proud Heritage: pioneer families of Dallas County,</td>
<td>Dallas County Pioneer Association</td>
<td>976.42811 P968</td>
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<td>A Place Called Dallas; the pioneering years of a continuing</td>
<td>Greene, A. C.</td>
<td>976.428 G799P</td>
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<td>metropolis</td>
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<td>*Pioneers of yesteryear: Pleasant Mound “Public” Cemetery and</td>
<td>Bryant, Stella Vinson</td>
<td>976.428 B915P</td>
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<td>Memorial Park, 1848-1973</td>
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<td>Women and the creation of urban life: Dallas, Texas 1843-1920,</td>
<td>Enstam, Elizabeth York</td>
<td>305.40976 E59W</td>
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<td>(approved and authorized by the Bar Association of Dallas in 1934)</td>
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<td>Southern Methodist University; founding and early years,</td>
<td>Thomas, Mary M. H.</td>
<td>378.764 T459S</td>
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<td>Education in Dallas; ninety-two years of history, 1874-1966,</td>
<td>Schiebel, Walter J. E. (Dallas</td>
<td>370.9764 S332E</td>
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<td>Independent School District)</td>
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<td>The Park Cities: a walker’s guide and brief history,</td>
<td>Galloway, Diane and Matthews, Kathy</td>
<td>917.64281 G174P</td>
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<td>*Greater Dallas Illustrated: the most progressive metropolis of the</td>
<td>Friends of the Dallas Public Library</td>
<td>976.42812 G786</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southwest,</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Texas/Dallas Archives and History Division (7th floor)17

**Histories**

*WPA Dallas Guide and History*, written and compiled from 1936 to 1942 by the workers of the Writers’ Program of the Work Projects Administration in the City of Dallas, Saxon, Gerald D.  

Dallas guide and history; written and compiled by the Dallas unit of the Texas Writers’ Project in 1940  

*Memorial and Biographic History of Dallas County, TX* includes Index prepared by Davis, Irene Chenault  

*Dallas, the deciding years – a historical portrait*, Greene, A. C.  

As Old as Dallas Itself; a history of the lawyers of Dallas, Payne, Darwin  

*Lancaster, a history, 1845-1945*, Lancaster Historical Society  

*History of Grand Prairie, Texas*, Vail, Marvin  

City of Dallas Mayors and city councils (1856–1963), Armstrong, W. Lee  

LaReunion: a fourieristic colony founded by colonists from France, Switzerland and Belgium, in Dallas County, TX, Blain, Samuel S.  

History of early Dallas, Cockrell, Frank M.  

Early Days in Dallas and Oak Cliff, 1856–1920, Cretien, Charles F.  

*It’s Our Dallas County; the story of self-government since 1846*, Switzer, David S.  

*Dallas Rediscovered; A Photographic Chronicle of Dallas Urban Expansion 1870-1925*, McDonald, William Lloyd  

Dallas Express, a Negro newspaper: its history, 1892-1971, and its points of view, Margot, Louis, III  

The Dallas Express as a forum on lynching, 1919-1921, Turner, William Douglas (thesis)  

The early history of medicine in Dallas, 1841–1900, Giles, Marie Louise  

*A Century of Class; Public Education in Dallas 1884-1984*, Rumbley, Rose-Mary  


Dallas, log cabin to metropolis; a narrative history with pictures of Dallas’ first 125 years, Langston, Frank  

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Call Numbers</th>
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<td>WPA Dallas Guide and History</td>
<td>Saxon, Gerald D.</td>
<td>976.42811 W111</td>
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<td>Dallas guide and history</td>
<td></td>
<td>976.428 W956D</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Dallas County Boundaries, Ferris, Warren Angus</td>
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<td>976.428 F394D</td>
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<td>Memorial and Biographic History of Dallas County, TX</td>
<td>Davis, Irene Chenault</td>
<td>976.428 M533</td>
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<td>Dallas, the deciding years – a historical portrait</td>
<td>Greene, A. C.</td>
<td>976.428 G799D</td>
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<td>As Old as Dallas Itself; a history of the lawyers of Dallas</td>
<td>Payne, Darwin</td>
<td>340.09764 P346A</td>
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<td>Lancaster, a history, 1845-1945, Lancaster Historical Society</td>
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<td>976.42811 L245</td>
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<td>History of Grand Prairie, Texas</td>
<td>Vail, Marvin</td>
<td>976.428 V129H</td>
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<td>City of Dallas Mayors and city councils (1856–1963)</td>
<td>Armstrong, W. Lee</td>
<td>352.008 A738C</td>
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<td>LaReunion: a fourieristic colony founded by colonists from France,</td>
<td>Blain, Samuel S.</td>
<td>976.428 B634L</td>
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<td>Switzerland and Belgium, in Dallas County, TX</td>
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<td>History of early Dallas</td>
<td>Cockrell, Frank M.</td>
<td>976.428 C924E</td>
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<td>Early Days in Dallas and Oak Cliff, 1856–1920</td>
<td>Cretien, Charles F.</td>
<td>976.428 S979I</td>
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<td>It’s Our Dallas County; the story of self-government since 1846</td>
<td>Switzer, David S.</td>
<td>976.428 M135D</td>
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<td>Dallas Rediscovered; A Photographic Chronicle of Dallas Urban</td>
<td>McDonald, William Lloyd</td>
<td>076.42812 M135D</td>
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<td>Expansion 1870-1925</td>
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<td>Dallas Express, a Negro newspaper: its history, 1892-1971, and its</td>
<td>Margot, Louis, III</td>
<td>071.64281 T954D</td>
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<td>points of view</td>
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<td>The Dallas Express as a forum on lynching, 1919-1921,</td>
<td>Turner, William Douglas (thesis)</td>
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<td>The early history of medicine in Dallas, 1841–1900</td>
<td>Giles, Marie Louise</td>
<td>610.9 G472E</td>
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<td>A Century of Class; Public Education in Dallas 1884-1984</td>
<td>Rumbley, Rose-Mary</td>
<td>379.764 R936C</td>
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<td>Dallas, log cabin to metropolis; a narrative history with pictures</td>
<td>Langston, Frank</td>
<td>976.428 L285D</td>
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<tr>
<td>of Dallas’ first 125 years</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17 * Additional copies available in either History and Social Sciences or Genealogy sections on 8th floor.
History of an opportunity. Facts about Dallas: Business and Directory of Dallas, TX, 1911, Wilson, L. A. 917.64 W749H

*Greater Dallas Illustrated: the most progressive metropolis of the Southwest, Friends of the Dallas Public Library 976.42812 G786
Greater Dallas illustrated, American Illustrating Company 976.42812 A512G

Periodicals
Texas Historian 976.4005 T355

Map Collection
There are many different types of maps in the Texas/Dallas Collections – railroad maps, Sanborn fire insurance maps, historic maps of Texas, commercial atlases, and city and county maps with heavy concentration on Dallas. Many of the original maps have been transferred to Mylar, making them stronger for handling. Once a Mylar map has been made, the originals are no longer available for use. However, the Mylar maps show essential details and can be copied. Paper copies can be ordered from the Mylar maps for a fee. A few of the historic maps are available for sale at the BookEnds shop in the lobby of the J. Erik Jonsson central library.

Mylar maps include for the City of Dallas:
1846: Map of the Town of Dallas
1860: Grigsby League and Original Township of Dallas
1875: Official Map of Dallas, Texas
1878: Jones and Murphy’s Map of Dallas
1887: Murphy and Bolanz’ Official Map of City of Dallas and East Dallas, TX
1911: Kessler plan for the City of Dallas
1930–1936: City maps
1941: Zoning map

Mylar maps include for Dallas County:
1889: Reconnaissance Map Texas – Dallas Sheet
1900: Sam Street’s Map of Dallas County (also in Genealogy Section, with index)
1918: Geological Map
1920: Soil Map
1943: Road Map
1946: Post Offices, Dallas County
1955: Norman’s Map of Dallas and Dallas County

Maps on microfilm
There are two microfilm map sources that are important: Land Grant Maps and Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. The Land Grant records include an abstract index for Land Grants (1835–1889). From this index researchers are directed to county maps on film to locate the property. Sanborn Fire Insurance maps are available for Dallas from 1885–1970. They enable researchers to locate homes, businesses, churches, and other buildings and are useful for
giving an in depth look at the layout of the city. “Soon” there will be remote access to Sanborn maps from 1885-1927 for people who have a DPL library card.

Maps – other locations
Genealogy Section 8th floor
U.S. Department of Interior, Geological Survey, Carrollton, TX, 1959
Cemeteries of Dallas Co, TX, 1986, Barnes, Rita
Street Map of Grand Prairie
*1900: Sam Street’s Map of Dallas County (also in Texas/Dallas Collection)
Index to Sam Street’s Map of Dallas County, Helfrey, Gwen S. 929.37642 H474I
NEWSPAPERS/Genealogical Periodicals

Newspapers

Newspapers are not always accurate, but they are one of the best sources for giving a glimpse of the past. Newspapers are available for Dallas as well as smaller holdings for other Texas towns.

Texas/Dallas Archives and History Division (7th floor):

The 7th floor has an index binder describing its microfilm holdings of Dallas area newspapers, and the Adair Index, an index card file by date, subject and proper name to articles written by W. S. Adair in the Dallas Morning News from Oct 1920–Feb 1933. There is a Texas Newspaper Name Index for the years 1830-1885 that was developed by the University of Texas in Austin; their card file index is available on microfilm, is alphabetical by last name, and includes obituaries, advertising, minor mentions, as well as longer feature stories and in depth articles. A wide variety of early Texas newspapers are included, including The Dallas News and Dallas Herald. There is also a microfilmed subject index to The Dallas Morning News for the years 1916–1971 but it is rather cumbersome to use. It is inconsistent, not always accurate, and is in date order within subject entries that have been termed “sometimes bizarre and illogical.”

Newspapers in the holdings include (but are not limited to)\(^{18}\)

- The Dallas Weekly Herald 1830s–1885
- Dallas Morning News October 1885–present
- Dallas Times Herald 1886–9 December 1991 (a.k.a. Dallas Herald\(^{19}\), and a.k.a. Dallas Daily Herald)
- Dallas Morning News Index 1917–1976

Newspapers for Oak Cliff, Pleasant Grove, Irving, Lancaster, Plano, and Richardson

Various Hispanic and African-American publications

One other newspaper resource is the vertical files, consisting of newspaper clippings and other materials ranging from the mid-1940’s to the present time. A wide range of subject headings such as cities, county, crime, current events, biographies and elections make up this extensive collection. The papers currently being clipped by the Texas/Dallas staff include The Dallas Morning News and The Dallas Observer. (The Dallas Times Herald was clipped until its demise in 1991.)

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\(^{18}\) A full listing is available online at the DPL CTX website.

\(^{19}\) On January 15, 1862, The Dallas Herald suspended publication – the editor and all the office force had joined the southern army.
Genealogy Section (8th floor):

The Southwestern Presbyterian, 1869–1876
   (Abstracts, Helen Lu) (also on microfiche) 929.376 L926S
The Texas Presbyterian, 1846–1877
   (Abstracts, Helen Mason Lu) 929.3764 L926T
The Texas Baptist – 1859–1869
   (Abstracts, Helen Mason Lu) 929.3764 L926T
The Texas Christian Advocate – 1872–1881
   (Abstracts, Helen Mason Lu) 929.3764 L926T

Periodicals

Genealogical and Historical Society (8th Floor):

The 8th floor Genealogy section has computers that contain, among other things, the PERSI PEriodical Source Index. Searching for entries of the sort “Dallas County Texas” and optionally selecting from a list of record types like “biography”, “directories”, “history” will create pointers to articles in various genealogical periodicals which could be of great value to a researcher.

Dallas Genealogical Society (DGS) 929.37642 D111
The Quarterly, published by the Local History and Genealogical Society (precursor of The Dallas Genealogical Society)—replaced by The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly
Guide to The Quarterly (1955-1982), DGS 929.10973 L811L
The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly (replaced by The Dallas Journal)
The Dallas Journal (published annually) 929.10973 L811L
Mesquite Tree – Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society (also on microfiche) 929.37642 M582
Texas Kin – Balch Springs 929.37642 T355
Garland Local History and Genealogical Society Quarterly20 976.428 G233
Elm Fork Echoes, Peters Colony Historical Society of Dallas Co. 976.428 P483E
Quarterly Newsletter of the Dallas County Pioneer Association

History and Social Sciences section – 8th floor

Texas Historian 976.4005 T355

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20 Publication discontinued but Quarterlies on file in the Genealogy section on the 8th floor.
Vital Statistics Records

General
Beginning in 1903, Texas county clerks began to register all births and deaths although compliance was not universal at first. Later, large cities (like Dallas) with vital record offices and city secretaries maintained separate series of birth and death records. Justices of the Peace also recorded births and deaths.

Birth records become public 50 years after they have been filed with the Bureau of Vital Statistics; death records are public after 25 years from the filing date.

Today the Dallas county clerk records those births and deaths that occur within Dallas County but outside the Dallas City limits, and the City of Dallas records all others. Information about recent births or deaths occurring within the Dallas City limits may be obtained at the Dallas City Hall or from the State of Texas, provided there is a “need to know” such that legal privacy provisions are observed.

Provided the same provisions are met, copies of birth and death certificates may be obtained by the public from the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics through the County Clerk’s offices and outlying Justice of the Peace offices or by writing directly to the Texas Department of Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Once recording of births and deaths became mandatory (1903), copies of county records have been maintained at the Bureau of Vital Statistics. Statewide birth and death indexes were microfilmed by the Texas State Library, and copies are additionally available at the DPL. The birth index covers 1903-1976 and is alphabetized by year. The death index is alphabetical within broader periods of time: 1903–1940; 1940–1945; 1946–1955; then annually for 1956–1996.21 The indexes contain the deceased’s name, date of death, county where death occurred and the death certificate number, by which a full certified copy of the death certificate can be ordered from the State, provided the record is old enough to be “public” or there is a “need to know”.

If a birth or death record is not found at the state level, it is prudent to check the proper municipal or county office.22

Probated or delayed birth registrations23 were sometimes submitted to the respective county court. These were then forwarded to the State Bureau of Vital Statistics. Microfilm indexes to

21 Also available online at http://rootsweb.com.
22 Ancestry’s Red Book, American State, County & Town Sources, Edited by Alice Eichholz, Revised edition 1992, p. 703
23 Individuals born before issuance of birth certificates often applied for a delayed birth certificate to document their age for Social Security or passport applications, insurance, or other benefits. Those applying for a delayed birth certificate had to provide some evidence of their age. In some cases 1880 and 1900 census enumerations were used; others submitted baptismal certificates, Bible pages, school records or affidavits from relatives or attending physicians present at birth. Information recorded on the delayed birth certificate can include applicant’s name, date of birth, and name, place of birth and race of mother and father. Supposed to be noted on the certificate is the evidence presented with the application.
delayed birth records include Texas residents born elsewhere, many of whom were seeking Social Security registration. The bureau ended delayed birth registrations in 1959.\(^\text{24}\)

Delayed birth records in Dallas County have been abstracted and include individuals born many places other than Dallas or Texas, but living in Dallas at the time they filed their application. In some cases, ordering the actual birth certificate might be the only proof of birth date and location.

Adoption records generally result from court processes and, for privacy considerations, recent and even older adoption files are usually sealed and inaccessible without a court order. Most adopted children have amended birth certificates using the adoptive parents’ names.\(^\text{25}\)

*Note:* In Dallas County, Judge Hal Gaither of the 304\(^{th}\) Family District Court is supportive of appropriate access to adoption data. The desk reference in the Genealogy Section (8\(^{th}\) floor) has more details. There are several Internet sites of interest for those interested in pursuing this topic.\(^\text{25}\)

Early marriage records are in the jurisdiction of the county clerk where the license was issued. Marriages of blacks were frequently recorded in separate volumes. Statewide recording of marriages began in January 1966, but certified copies are not available through the state office.

In Texas, marriage licenses issued in one county are valid in any other Texas county.

Marriages are recorded by the County Clerk. Dallas county marriage records available at the County Clerk’s office include:

- Marriage license applications dated 1 Jan 1940 – 8 Oct 1963 \(\approx\) 39 rolls of microfilm.
- Marriage Record books for the early years through 1964, beginning 1847\(^\text{26}\)
- Indexes to marriage records, 1847–1963; \((3 \times 5\) cards filed alphabetically by last name, in two sections, one for males, one for females)\(^\text{26}\)
- Indexes to marriage records 1964–current, by male and female, alphabetized by surname.

During the first years of the Republic of Texas, divorces were granted by special acts of Congress, but in 1841 District courts took over this responsibility. Now district courts have full jurisdiction over divorces and divorce records are now maintained by the District Clerk’s office. Divorce indexes have been maintained statewide by the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics since January 1968, but certified copies are not available from this facility. Divorce records from 1966–1997 are available online at \(\text{http://rootsweb.com}\).
Dallas Vital Records at the DPL

Births
Statewide Birth Indexes, 1903–1976, alphabetized by year 50 rolls of microfilm
Statewide Probate Birth Indexes, 1945 and prior 9 rolls of microfilm
Statewide Delayed Birth Indexes
Delayed Birth Indexes, Dallas County – abstracted by Dava Beisecker Ladymon and being published in the Dallas Genealogical Society’s Journal27

Marriages
Marriage Indexes
Marriages in Dallas County, Early to 1850, published by the Dallas Genealogical Society
Dallas County Marriage Record Index, Aug 1846–Oct 1963 16 rolls of microfilm
Volume 1 Marriage Books A–E 1846–1877, Edited by Helen Lu (DGS) 929.37642 L926M (also available on microfiche)
Volume 2 Marriage Books F–H 1877–1885, Published by DGS in book and microfiche format
Volume 3 Marriage Books I–K 1886–1889 DGS microfiche
Volume 4 Marriage Books L–N 1890–1895 DGS microfiche
Volume 5 Marriage Books O–Q 1896–1898 DGS microfiche
Volume 6 Marriage Books R–S 1898–1899 DGS microfiche
Index to Marriage Books A–D (1847–1874), Peggy Anderson 929.37642 548M
Texas Marriage Index 1966–1998 microfiche
Texas Surname Index – Texas Marriage Records 929.3764 T355
Dallas County, TX Marriages 1873–1876 Jane Douglas Chapter, NSDAR microfilm (DAR records, roll 4 microfilm (929.3 D5T))

Divorces
Texas Divorce Record Indexes, 1968–1996 129 microfiche
Divorces, Dallas County, TX, 1846–1905,28 abstracted by Jim Monaghan 929.37642 M734D

Deaths
Statewide Death Indexes
Alphabetical 1903–1940; 1940–1945 9 rolls microfilm
Alphabetical 1946–1955, then annually 1956–1973 9 rolls microfilm
Alphabetical 1964–1988 196 microfiche
Alphabetical 1989–1996, annually microfiche

28 Duplicate copy also on 7th floor.
Inquest Records (Justice of the Peace)

An inquest is held to determine cause of death in cases of violent, sudden or unexplained death or if the deceased has not recently been under a physician’s care. The findings of the inquest are recorded in inquest dockets or coroner’s reports. Data that might be included in an inquest record could include name and description of the deceased, date of death if known, where died or where body found, date of inquest, where inquest held, nature of information and by whom given, name of suspected person, principal or accomplice, residence of suspected person, date of arrest, where confined, date of bail bond, residence of persons on bail, names and address of sureties on bail bond. Inquests that used to be performed by Justices of the Peace are now performed by the Dallas County Medical Office.

The majority of original Justice of the Peace inquest records have been moved to the DPL 7th floor RHRD archives section. They have been microfilmed by the LDS church and copies of those films are available on the 7th floor and also through the LDS microfilm rental program.

Index to Justice of the Peace Inquest records – Various J.P. Precincts, years ranging from 1889–1969. microfilm
Justice of the Peace Inquest Records – Various J.P. Precincts, years ranging from 1889–1969. microfilm

Articles published about these inquest records include:


Funeral Home Records

Original records of the Ed C. Smith Funeral Home, Dallas, Texas, 1883–1978
Note that the original records consist of registers starting in 1909 and extending to 1978. From 1909–1926 they are in hard-cover binders and from 1927–1978 the records are in file folders, but in both cases they are filed by year and then alphabetically by first letter of last name within the year.
Records from the Ed C. Smith Funeral Home, 1909–1933, microfilmed by the LDS Church 10 rolls microfilm
Ed C. Smith Funeral Home Register for 1911 has been abstracted 29 by DGS members Linda Frank and Jennifer Miles

29 Records sorted by last name and the sequence of the page as it is filed in the funeral home register.
Cemetery Records

There are a few large perpetual care cemeteries that were established well after Texas started keeping death records on a statewide basis in 1903. Records of burials are available from these cemetery offices. Most cemeteries in Dallas County are small private cemeteries and in many cases there are no records other than the stones themselves. The Dallas Genealogical Society began a recording project in 1978, attempting to record and publish genealogically significant information from as many cemeteries as possible. The project is still active in the year 2001.

In addition to the following material on the 8th floor, the 7th floor Texas/Dallas History and Archives section has microfilm of interment and lot owners’ cards for Oakland Cemetery and burials in Calvary Hill Cemetery.

Books or periodicals or vertical file materials in the Genealogy section of the DPL include information about the following Dallas area cemeteries:

Reference to Texas cemetery records[^34], Parsons, Kim
Texas Jewish Burials[^35], Teter, Gertrude
Beeman Memorial Cemetery Corp – Records
Beeman Family Cemetery Survey, Jones, Richard S.
Historic Bethel Cemetery
Black Cemetery Grounds-Mesquite, published in

[^29]: Some of the cemeteries most frequently mentioned include Greenwood Cemetery, Grove Hill Memorial Park Cemetery, Oakland Cemetery, Oak Cliff Cemetery, and Five Mile Cemetery.
[^30]: See previous footnote for most frequently mentioned cemeteries.
[^31]: As of July 2001, the Grove Hill Cemetery General Manager is Mr. Steve Bates, 214-381-7118.
[^32]: This book is organized alphabetically by Texas county and lists cemetery names and locations, along with a bibliography of articles written about each cemetery, when applicable. The bibliography may include articles not present at DPL.
[^33]: An excellent reference to Jewish burials throughout the state of Texas, with lists of cemeteries and their locations organized by county, along with an alphabetized index of names of those interred in various cemeteries. Includes Agudas Ashim-Tiferet Israel Cemetery, Shearith Israel Memorial Park, Temple Emanu El Cemetery, Tiferet Israel Cemetery, and several sections within Hillcrest Memorial Park.

36 The Quarterly, published by the Local History and Genealogical Society (Dallas) was a predecessor to The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly and The Dallas Journal.


New Hope Cemetery (a.k.a. Pleasant Ridge or Sunnyvale), published in *The Mesquite Tree*, vol. 4


Old Cemeteries of Dallas County,\(^{38}\) Carlisle, Willie Flowers

*(Dallas) Pioneer Park Cemetery, the old cemetery*, Carlisle, Willie Flowers

Pleasant Mound Cemetery 1848–1973 (Pioneers of Yesterday), Bryant, Stella Vinson

Pleasant Mount Public Cemetery, Conger, William R.

Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Hinton, George W.


Rawlins Cemetery (1848–1979), published by the Lancaster Genealogical Society.

Rylie Cemeteries, Tabb, Jeanne J.

Western Heights Cemetery, Conger William R.

Genealogical data from Early Cemeteries (Project by the Dallas Genealogical society (DGS), published variously in book or microfiche format)

Volume 1 (both book and microfiche) covers the following:

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<th>Cemetery</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lilliard Family Cemetery</td>
<td>Elm Fork Settlement</td>
<td>H666P</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mooneyham-Sparkman Cemetery</td>
<td>Elm Fork Settlement</td>
<td>D145</td>
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</table>

\(^{38}\) Cemeteries include Carrollton vicinity: Frankfort, Furneaux, Perry Family, Warner Family; Cedar Hill vicinity: Holland(Pleasant Valley), Rhodes; Dallas vicinity: Beeman Family, Calvary, Caruth, Cockrell Family, Confederate, Cox, Daniel Family, Ferris, FishTrap, Glover Family, Greenwood, Grove Hill, Smith’s Hall, Hillcrest, Horton Family, King’s Daughters, Lagow, Letot, Letot Family, Lisbon, McCree, Merrifield Family, Miller Family, Mooneyham Family, Oak Cliff, Oakwood, Overton Family; Old downtown cemetery vicinity: City, Jewish, Masonic, Odd Fellow, Scott, Smith Family, Thomas Chapel, Western Heights(Troth); De Soto vicinity: Heath Family, Nance Family, Vincent Family; Duncanville vicinity: Five Mile, Husted[Hustead] Family, Little Bethel, Trees; Farmers Branch vicinity: Farmers Branch(Keenan), Cochran’s Chapel, Marsh Family, Merrell Family, Webb’s Chapel; Garland Vicinity: Garland Masonic, Garland(Mills), Pleasant Valley; Grand Prairie vicinity: Bowles(Jordon), Fugate, Southland; Grapevine vicinity: Grapevine, White’s Chapel, Lonesome Dove; Hutchins vicinity: Hutchins; Irving vicinity: Kit, Tompkins Family, Haley Family, Shady Grove, Sowers; Lancaster vicinity: Edgewood, Rawlins; Mesquite vicinity: Old Bennett Family, Bennett Family, Long Creek, Mesquite; New Hope vicinity: Loving Family, Lyons, New Hope; Pleasant Mound vicinity: Abraham Carver Family, Albert Carver Family, Elam Family, McKinney Family, Pleasant Mound; Richardson vicinity: Big Springs, Blewett Family, Floyd Family, Mount Calvary, Thomas Family; Rowlett vicinity: Big A, Cottonwood; Seagoville vicinity: Kleberg, Rylie, Lee; Wheatland vicinity: Daniel, Wesley Chapel, Wheatland.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cemetery Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Elisha Fyke Family Cemetery</td>
<td>Farmers Branch/Carrollton</td>
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<td>Warner Family Cemetery</td>
<td>Carrollton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myers Cemetery</td>
<td>Elm Fork Settlement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marsh [Family] Cemetery</td>
<td>Farmers Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keenan Cemetery</td>
<td>Farmers Branch</td>
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<td>Farmers Branch Cemetery</td>
<td>Farmers Branch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrollton Memorial Cemetery</td>
<td>Carrollton</td>
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<td>Bullock Cemetery</td>
<td>Coppell</td>
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<td>Parrish Cemetery</td>
<td>Coppell</td>
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<td>Bethel Cemetery</td>
<td>Carrollton</td>
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<td>Moore Cemetery</td>
<td>Coppell</td>
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<td>City Cemetery</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<td>Forest Lawn Cemetery</td>
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<td>Letot Family Cemetery</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<td>Calvary Hill Cemetery &amp; Mausoleum</td>
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<td>Perry [Family] Cemetery</td>
<td>Carrollton</td>
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<td>Snyder Kennedy Cemetery</td>
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<td>Hilltop Cemetery</td>
<td>Carrollton</td>
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<td>Webb[‘s] Chapel Cemetery</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smith Family Cemetery</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crown Hill Memorial Park</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Jackson, Sr. Graveyard (moved</td>
<td>Elm Fork Settlement</td>
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<td>to Greenwood)</td>
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<td>Merrell Cemetery</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<td>Caruth Family Cemetery (now part of</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<td>Hillcrest)</td>
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<td>Field Cemetery (African-American)</td>
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<td>Hillcrest Memorial Park &amp; Mausoleum</td>
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<td>Restland Memorial Park</td>
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<td>White Rock Garden of Memory</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<td>a.k.a. White Rock Union Cemetery and</td>
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<td>Scott Cemetery</td>
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<td>Collins-Chenault Cemetery</td>
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<td>McCree Cemetery</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<tr>
<td>a.k.a. Rodgers Cemetery</td>
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<td>Floyd Pioneer Family Cemetery</td>
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<td>Mount Calvary Cemetery</td>
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<td>Garland</td>
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<td>Blewett Cemetery</td>
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<td>Thomas Chapel Cemetery</td>
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<td>Rowlett</td>
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<td>Lauder milk Cemetery</td>
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<td>a.k.a. Axe Cemetery</td>
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<td>Sachse Cemetery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cottonwood Cemetery</td>
<td>N.E. Dallas County</td>
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<td>Mills Cemetery</td>
<td>Garland</td>
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a.k.a. Garland Cemetery
McShan Cemetery   Rowlett
Sacred Heart Cemetery   Rowlett
Pleasant Valley Cemetery   Between Sachse and Rowlett
Knights of Pythias Cemetery   Garland
Chiesa Road Cemetery   Rowlett
Ursuline Academy Cemetery   Dallas
Thomas Family Cemetery   Dallas

Volume 2 (both book and microfiche) covers the following:

Edgewood Cemetery   Lancaster
Porter Cemetery   Near Bear Creek
Floyd-Taylor Cemetery   Near Lancaster
Stadden Cemetery   Near Wilmer
Hutchins Cemetery (1875–1970)   Hutchins
Patrick-Pruit Cemetery   S.E. Dallas County
Rawlins Cemetery   Near Lancaster

Volume 3 (microfiche)

Note: * perpetual care cemeteries

Dallas City Cemetery   Dallas
Cochran’s Chapel Cemetery   Dallas
Garvin/Smith-Hall Cemetery   Dallas
Trinity Farm/El Rancho Cemetery   Dallas
   (formerly Arlington Park Cemetery)
Bear Creek Cemetery   Irving
Haley [Family] Cemetery   Irving
Harrington Cemetery   Irving
Kit Cemetery   Irving
Oak Grove Cemetery*   Irving
Smith Cemetery   East Irving
Sowers Cemetery   Irving
Tompkins [Family] Cemetery   Irving
Wild Briar Cemetery   Irving
American Memorial Park Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Antioch/St John’s Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Bradshaw Family Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Fugate Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Jordan-Hight Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Old Southland Cemetery*   Grand Prairie
Shady Grove Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Southland Memorial Park*   Grand Prairie
Small Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Turck Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Vernoy Cemetery   Grand Prairie
Robinson Family Cemetery   Oak Cliff
Scott Cemetery   Dallas
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<tr>
<td>LaReunion Cemetery (also see Fishtrap Cemetery)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Struck Cemetery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Heights Cemetery</td>
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<tr>
<td>(formerly Troth Cemetery)</td>
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<td>Volume 4 (microfiche)</td>
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<td>Oak Cliff Cemetery (includes Beaty Family Cemetery and some remains moved from Hord Family Cemetery)</td>
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<td>Volume 5 (microfiche)</td>
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<td>Horton Family Cemetery</td>
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<td>Crestview Memorial Park Cemetery</td>
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<td>Hord Family Cemetery&lt;sup&gt;39&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Beaty Family Cemetery&lt;sup&gt;40&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<td>Overton Family Cemetery</td>
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<td>- adjacent to Honey Springs Cemetery</td>
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<td>Kinnard Family Cemetery</td>
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<td>Hustead Family Cemetery</td>
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<td>Trees/Treese Cemetery</td>
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<td>Little Bethel “Pioneer” Cemetery</td>
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</table>

<sup>39</sup> See Oak Cliff Cemetery, vol. 4.
<sup>40</sup> See Oak Cliff Cemetery, vol. 4.
Obituary Records

Obituaries and death notices for some Dallas residents are published in the religious newspapers abstracted by Helen Mason Lu.\textsuperscript{41}

Other obituary records may be found in microfilm of area newspapers (7\textsuperscript{th} floor).

Some obituary data published in periodicals includes:

*Some Deaths Reported in the Dallas Morning News, 1889*, compiled by Chester Lambeth and published by the DGS in *The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly*.\textsuperscript{42}

*Some Deaths Reported in the Times-Herald, 1889*, compiled by Chester Lambeth and published by the DGS in *The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly*.\textsuperscript{43}

Probate/will Records

Probate records are generally related to wills but cases regarding the mentally ill (lunacy records) and the State Hospital are also found in these records. Probate dockets (part of the RHRD records) basically indicate names and dates when the court case was heard. The actual probate papers are separate. All original papers are located at the County Records Building, but the Dallas Genealogical Society filmed all the original papers of the probate packets and published an index in 1978. These are microfilm records that contain all the documents available pertaining to a particular probate case at the time of filming.

Probate records in Texas are under the jurisdiction of the County Clerk, except in heavily populated counties where probate courts may fill that function instead. Dallas County has three probate courts.\textsuperscript{44} The county provides record storage for wills “filed for safe-keeping” but these are not accessible to the public until they have been officially entered into probate.

Probate records include wills, court records such as estate, guardian or claims dockets, minutes, orders, decrees, judgments, executions, appeals and indexes, petitions for letters testamentary, letters of administration, guardianship for a minor or disabled person, lists of heirs, bonds (administrator’s, executor’s, guardian’s, appraiser’s or trustee’s), inventories, land divisions and sales (including settlements, dower rights, probate decrees, decree of heirship), and final accounts. All may be found in the probate records and/or minutes, although each type of record may be filed separately. Probate records can also include miscellaneous records such as changes of name, legitimization, judgments and appeals. Probate appeals from either the county or probate court are heard by district courts.

\textsuperscript{41} Texas Presbyterian Newspaper Abstracts available on microfiche from the DGS were also published in *The Dallas Quarterly*.


\textsuperscript{43} *The Dallas Quarterly*, vol. XXXVIII, June 1992.

\textsuperscript{44} See list of Dallas courts in Appendix A.
In early times, some probate case details were officially filed in deed books. Between 1869–1876, when the office of county clerk was temporarily abolished throughout the state, some probate records were filed in District Court Civil Minutes or District Court Minutes.

**Genealogy Section (8th floor)**

Dallas County Original Probate Packets, Cases 1–3100 (1846–1900), DGS microfilm

*Index to Probate Cases Vol. 1, 1846–1900, DGS (Lu, Helen)* 929.37642 D145I

*Dallas County Will Books A,B,C,D (Jan 27, 1847–Feb 17, 1897)*

Abstracted by the Jane Douglas Chapter, NSDAR 929.1 DSTEDJD

**Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division (7th floor)**

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<th>Original records</th>
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<td>Probate Inventory Records 1924–1929</td>
<td>1625-08</td>
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<td>Probate Bond Docket 1917–1930</td>
<td>1625-09</td>
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<td>Probate Case Papers 1846–1900</td>
<td>1625-10 microfilm</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Index to Probate Case Papers</em> (copies on both 7th and 8th floors) 929.37642 D145I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Probate Claim Docket 1870–1898</td>
<td>1625-11</td>
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<td>Probate Docket 1878–1914</td>
<td>1625-12</td>
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<td>Probate Minutes 1867–1869, 1883–1930</td>
<td>1625-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Probate Final Record 1850–1869</td>
<td>1625-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Probate Reports of Sale 1881–1931</td>
<td>1625-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probate Fee Book 1883–1911</td>
<td>1800-04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Court System

The following three paragraphs have been abstracted from *Ancestry’s Red Book*[^45].

Court names and jurisdictions in Texas changed over time. Although English common law is the basis for the court system in Texas, modifications are allowed as dictated by situations. These were usually changed based upon Spanish law, which proved beneficial to settlers. The county commissioners’ court conducts the daily business for each county, among other duties, setting tax rates and county budgets for such categories as schools, roads and the poor. The county clerk serves as recorder and clerk to the commissioners’ court and the county court.

County courts operating from 1836 [with the exception of the reconstruction period] hear most misdemeanor, civil, probate, and guardianship cases, all recorded by the county clerk, along with other instruments such as cattle brands, deeds, and marriage licenses. Naturalization records are found, prior to 1906, in county court records; after 1906, the district court continued to handle naturalization matters.

District courts are the principal trial courts in Texas and serve as the court of appeal in probate matters (from the county court) and for the commissioners’ court. District courts have original jurisdiction in felonies, divorce, land title, name changes, and, after 1931, adoption. In the 1890’s separate divorce minutes appeared.

Dallas was organized in 1846 and the district court met for the first time Dec 7th of that year. The minute books for the 14th District Court dating from its inception until March 1939 are available in the RHRD section of the Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division. The 14th District Court was the earliest court but the Texas/Dallas Division also holds the records of the other district courts in Dallas County from their founding until 1939. The second court, the 44th District, commenced July 1889 and the others were founded in the twentieth century. The extant loose case file papers for the same time period are housed in the RHRD section at the DPL.[^46]

**Historical note:** It is important to understand the impact of the reconstruction era on Dallas and Texas record-keeping. After the Civil War, the constitution of 1866 restored a civil government “provisional” until the state conformed to national guidelines. Military appointments were made to offices and, under “radical rule” or “military despotism,” all Democrats holding offices in the state/county were removed under military order as impediments to reconstruction; they were replaced by military appointments. From the Reconstruction Constitution of 1869 until the enactment of the Constitution of 1876, political power was transferred from the county level to the district (state) level. The power and jurisdiction and record-keeping (including probate) that had been assigned to the County Clerk’s office was transferred to the jurisdiction of the District Clerk. The commissioners’

[^46]: Helen Mason Lu, *The Dallas Quarterly*, vol. XXXIX, no. #4, p 209.
court (consisting of Commissioners and a County Judge) was replaced by newly appointed/elected Justices of the Peace, one of whom became the Chief Justice, and county courts were abolished temporarily in 1869, with jurisdiction transferred to district courts until 1876 when county courts were reinstated. In 1870, the 14th Judicial District was formed, consisting of the counties of Dallas, Tarrant and Ellis. It was not until the new Constitution of 1876 was approved that commissioners’ court was re-established and the positions of the County Clerk and the District Clerk were once again separated. Awareness of this political upheaval should cause the genealogist seeking records in this 1865-1876 time period to look in multiple locations.

Before 1891, all case appeals went directly to Austin’s appellate courts – the Supreme Court, one Court of Appeals, or a Commission of Appeals that sat in two separate sections. The Supreme Court’s jurisdiction was limited to civil cases appealed from district courts, the Court of Appeals handled all criminal appeals and a few civil appeals tried in county courts. In 1893 the 5th District Court of Civil Appeals was established; it had jurisdiction over all civil cases from trial courts within the district which at that time was made up of 32 northeast Texas counties, including Dallas. In 1895, Smith and Gregg counties were removed to lighten the load on the 5th District Court. In 1907, the 6th District Court was created in Texarkana and the 5th District was reduced from 30 to 17 counties. Since 1963, the 5th District consists of seven counties – Collin, Dallas, Grayson, Hunt, Kaufman, Rockwall, and Van Zandt. In September 1981, each Court of Civil Appeals was renamed “Court of Appeals” and in 1985 each of the supreme judicial districts was renamed “Courts of Appeal Districts.” Dallas County’s court is now named “5th Court of Appeals,” and it is located in the George L Allen, Sr. Courthouse.

Justice of the Peace courts were established in 1845. They handle civil and criminal matters under low dollar limits (originally $200, now $5,000) and issue warrants and writs. During the post-Civil War reconstruction period, JPs served in lieu of county commissioners. A historical list of Dallas County’s Justices of the Peace is available at the DPL, and could be useful in determining who was maintaining inquest and/or birth/death records for a specific geographical area and precinct and time period.

Appendix A contains a historical list of Dallas County Courts, which could be useful in identifying possible court jurisdictions for a specific time period. Note that court locations can, and probably will, change: these locations are current as of April 2001.

Most court records are retained by either the County Clerk or the District Clerk’s offices, but some historically significant Dallas area records have been moved to the RHRD archives section of the DPL 7th floor. See Appendix B for a listing of some of these.

47 These records could contain significant information for the genealogist. They are housed in the RHRD section of DPL, and microfilm of the records is available.
**Court Records** — Books and microform available at the library include:

**Genealogy Section** (6th floor)  
*Texas Minute Book A, 1848–1855 – 14th District Court Minute*  
Book abstracts, DGS microfiche  
*14th District Court – Minute Book A abstracts, DGS members*  
Lu, Helen Mason and Jamieson, Adrienne Bird., published in *The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly.*

*First half dozen years: Dallas County, as seen through the Commissioners Court Minutes,*  
Lu, Helen Mason., and Neumann, Gwen 929.37642 F527  
*Historical List of Justices of the Peace – 1846–2000,* Sloat 929.37642 S634H  
(also published in the June 2000 issue of *The Dallas Journal*)

**Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division** (7th floor)

Microfilm of the following records was created by the Genealogical Society of Utah for the LDS Church and is available either on the DPL 7th floor or by rental through the LDS Family History Library.

Dallas County District Court Civil case papers, arranged numerically by case number. These case papers can include summons, petitions, cancelled checks, orders of sale, depositions, bonds for attachments, jury lists, hearsay, cost bills, applications for continuances, oaths of witnesses, orders of sales, land deeds, plats, newspaper clippings, writ of injunctions, affidavits for change of venue, marriage certificates as part of land divisions in divorces or other disputes, and decisions of the court. These case papers have been indexed.

In addition to the usual index, Dr. Alan Miller has prepared an index to witnesses in the cases from the inception of the court in 1846 through 1900. There are three categories of testimony, i.e. depositions (responses to interrogatories), affidavits, and trial testimony. The manuscript is being bound and should be available on the 7th floor as well as viewable from the DGS web site www.dallasgenealogy.org. It is also available at the FHL in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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48 *Indicates item may be found in either the Texas History and Sociology or the Texas/Dallas History and Archives section.
50 Dallas County records available on microfilm are listed on the Texas State Library’s website: http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/local/index.htm.
51 Dr. Miller has recently begun to index witnesses for filmed cases from 1901–1921.
Dallas County Court Minute Books for District Courts 14, 44, 68, 95, 101, 116
(also referred to as courts A–F):

14th District Court (A) vols. A–Z, 1846–1891; vols. 1–61, 1891–1939
    Auxiliaries vols. A–I
44th District Court (B) vols. 1–63, July 1889–Mar 1940
    Auxiliaries vols. A–O
68th District Court (C) vols. 1–44, Feb 1909–Jan 1939
    Auxiliaries vols. A–I
95th District Court (D) vols. 1–23, Jun 1923–Nov 1939
    Auxiliaries vols. A–G
101st District Court (E) vols. A–P and 1–7, May 1925–Nov 1939
116th District Court (F) vols. 1–4, Jun 1930–Sep 1939), Index
    Auxiliaries vols. A-J

Indexes:
Reverse and direct indexes to File Dockets to January 1929, include dates, case # and names)
Reverse and direct indexes to Minute Books
    14th District Court 1846–1891; 1891–1920; 1921–1939
    44th District Court 1889–1920; 1921–1939
    68th District Court 1909–1939
    95th District Court 1923–1939
    101st District Court 1925–1939
    116th District Court 1930–1939
# Church Records

Books and/or periodicals include information about the following churches in the Dallas County area:

**Genealogy section – 8th floor**

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<tr>
<td>Antioch Baptist Church, published in the</td>
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<td>929.37642 B562C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 1972 issue of <em>The Garland Local History and</em></td>
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<td><em>Genealogical Society Quarterly</em></td>
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<td>Bethel Church - Convention</td>
<td>Coppell</td>
<td>286.1764 B592B</td>
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<td>Big Springs Baptist Church</td>
<td>Garland</td>
<td>286.67642 C368C</td>
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<td>Central Christian Church (1941–1945), Catter, Shirley</td>
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<td>284.17642 C554YC</td>
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<td>Christ Lutheran Church</td>
<td>University Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Church of Christ, published in the</td>
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<td>First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, Luper, J. Dan</td>
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<td>286.17642 L9650</td>
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<td>First Baptist Church of Oak Cliff, Pederson, Herbert L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Baptist Church of Richardson (1865–1990),</td>
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<td>Morgan, Elizabeth Johnson</td>
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<td><em>First Baptist Church of Dallas; centennial history,</em></td>
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<td>1868–1968, McBeth, Leon (286 M118F)</td>
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<td>First Christian Church (1893–1993), Jones, Judy Penrod</td>
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<td>First Methodist Church History, Werry, Adolphus</td>
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<td>History of the First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, TX, Sergeant, George</td>
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<td>First Presbyterian Church History, McCoy, John M.</td>
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<td>285.17642 M131B</td>
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<td>Highland Park Methodist Church, Directory 1966</td>
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<td>287.67642 H638D</td>
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<td>Highland Park Methodist Church, Johnson, Doris M.</td>
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<td>287.6 J66G</td>
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<td>Highland Park United Methodist Church (1916–1991)</td>
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<td>287.67642 B816</td>
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<td>Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Directories</td>
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<td>Junius Heights Baptist Church (1916–1935), Smith,</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>286 S651R</td>
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<td>J. Lloyd</td>
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*Additional copies available in History and Social Sciences or Texas/Dallas History and Archives sections.*
Lovers Lane United Methodist Church (1944–1971), Dallas  287.67642  S743J
  History, Spellman, Norman W.
Methodist Episcopal Church Register  South Coppell  929.37642  C785C
Oak Cliff Presbyterian Church (1890–1990), Oak Cliff  285.17642  C9760
  Currie, Thomas White
Park Cities Baptist Church (1939–1999), Dallas Park Cities  286.17642  B938T
  Bullock, Karen O'Dell
Ridgewood Park United Methodist Church (1954–1979) Dallas  287.67642  R544N
Salem Institutional Baptist Church (1888–1988) Dallas  286.17642  C9760
Southwood United Methodist Church, Dallas  287.6764  W953I
  Wright, Verda K.
St Matthew’s Cathedral (1852–1880) Dallas  929.37642  R337
St Pius X Parish (1954–1979) Dallas  282.76428  S149T
Sunset Preservation Church, Van Wunnick, Peggy T. Dallas  285.17642  V285M
Urban Park Baptist Church Directory 1982 Dallas  286.17642  U72C
West Fork United Presbyterian Church, (1870–1970), Grand Prairie
  Jones, Mary Wheeler
  285.17642  J78H
Westminster Presbyterian Church Year Book Dallas  285.17642  W532Y

Texas/Dallas History & Archives section  7th floor

*Unitarianism in Dallas: an outline history of the First Unitarian Church in Dallas, Texas, in its first seventy years, 1899–1968, Gard, Wayne  288.764  G217U
History of Central Congregational Church, 1902–1952, Comstock, E.B.  285.8  C739H
*The first Baptist Church of Dallas; centennial history, 1868–1968, McBeth, Leon  286  M118F
The Diocese of Dallas, 1895–1952, Moore, Gerald G.  283  M822D
Some High Points in the history of Tyler Street Methodist Church, Dallas, TX, 1962, Anderson, Crittenden H. C.  287.6  A545S
Transcripts of early Dallas church and lodge records and the diary of an early settler, James Campbell Chapter, NSDAR  976.428  D238T
St Matthew’s, 1857–1947. Dallas, TX. St Matthew’s Cathedral. Moore, Gerald G.  283  M822S

Note: see Newspaper section for newspapers published by religious organizations

53 * Additional copies available in History and Social Sciences or Genealogy sections.
LAND/DEED RECORDS

See *Ancestry’s Red Book* for a fuller discussion of Texas land records and where they are maintained. Various types of land records include head-rights grants, preemption (squatter) grants, bounty grants, and contracted grants. Once land was initially granted, all succeeding land transactions fell under the jurisdiction of the county in which the land was located at the time each record was created. It is useful to note that land ownership could be passed within a family without being recorded; it may not be until the first time land is sold outside the family that it and previous “private” transfers of property are officially recorded.

By law, all deed records are indexed by grantor and by grantee. Transcribed deeds from parent counties may be maintained in separate volumes. County land transactions, including deeds and mortgages, are located at the respective County Clerk’s office.

Deed records must be retained permanently by the County Clerk’s office. Earlier deed record books may contain entries in addition to straight land transactions. Occasionally included are dower release waiving a wife’s rights to property, deeds of gift transferring land, quit claim deeds releasing the right or title, marriage property settlements between spouses either before or after marriage, contracts such as leases, and indenture papers. Also found in early Dallas County deed books A and B are animal brands and earmarks, slave sales, apprentice papers, petitions, divorce proceedings, road construction approvals, approval of estate administration appointment, oaths of office of various county officials, Republic of Texas land grants and headright claims (land appraisals).

Deed record indexes and the deed records themselves may be accessed at the County Clerk’s office in the Records Building. For Dallas County, the original deed books and indexes have been retired from public use, with the originals placed in secure storage for safe-keeping, but the copies available to the public are clear and easy to read and handle and permit the production of excellent copies for legal purposes.

An article in the Dec 2000 issue of the *DGS Newsletter* describes how Dallas’s current County Clerk Earl Bullock has recently utilized the “records management and preservation fee.” It has paid for the implementation of the first optical imaging system in the State of Texas. This optical imaging system allows the public to do computer real estate searches as far back as 1964, and actual filed instruments can be viewed as far back as 1978. The fee has also paid for the re-creation of real estate Deed Books. Photostat copies (negatives – black page with white lettering) had been created back in the 1950’s when this was considered a good process, but it became obvious that this process was an unsatisfactory reproduction method. The County Clerk’s office is now converting these copies into positive copies (white pages with black lettering) from which satisfactory subsequent copies can be made. There is also a current project to re-create old real estate index records from 1846 to 1962. The fee also paid for online operation of issuing copies of birth records from the State

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54 The earliest Deed Book A, beginning 20 July 1846, contains descriptions of precinct boundaries
Bureau of Vital Statistics to the public through the County Clerk’s offices and outlying Justice of the Peace offices.

Note: Although not technically “land and property” records, the RHRD holdings on the 7th floor include chattel mortgage records from (1880-1910). These refer to mortgages on personal property; an article of personal or movable property as distinguished from real property; furniture, automobiles, livestock, farm equipment, etc. are chattels.

**Genealogy Section (8th floor)**

Dallas County Deeds – 1846–1899, Grantor and Grantee Index
- 112 rolls microfilm

Texas General Land Office – Abstracts of all original land titles comprising Texas land titles to Aug 31, 1845
- 8 rolls microfilm
- 76 microfiche

*Abstracts of original titles of record in the General Land Office,* Texas General Land Office
- 333.3 T355A


*Abstracts of Title – Munger Place*
Naturalization records

From the time Dallas County was formed in 1846 until 1906, any legal court or level could do naturalizations – the federal government did not mandate to local courts what they had to record. Naturalization records may be found in county court records up until 1906.

In 1906, the INS (Immigration Naturalization Service) was created, and only federal (district) courts could do naturalizations (or specific state courts given authorization). Since then district courts handle naturalization matters.

The district court Civil Minutes will give the date of declaration to become a citizen and the country of birth. The very early naturalization papers do not give much more information but will often contain an original signature. However, after the change in naturalization laws in 1906, the declarations of intent are much more detailed. They contain full names, age, occupation, a physical description including birthmarks or other distinctive marks and scars, place of birth, date of birth, where living at time of declaration, what vessel emigrated on, last foreign residence, and which port arrived at in the United States and the date of arrival.

Since it was impossible to get federal lands if an alien had not at least applied for citizenship, a search of homestead files or federal land files could also yield naturalization papers.

As of 1906, three steps had to be taken before the naturalization process was completed and a certificate of naturalization issued to an alien:

1. Filing of the Declaration of Intent could be made any time after the alien was in the Country, but at least two years prior to his admission to citizenship, and after he had reached age 18.
2. Filing of the Petition along with two photographs, not less than two or more than seven years after the Declaration of Intention. Immediately preceding the date of the Petition, the applicant must have resided continuously in the United States for at least five years and within the county where he resided at the time of filing, for at least six months. He was also required to reside continuously in the United States from the date of his petition to his admission to citizenship.
3. Hearing on the petition for the granting of the certificates of citizenship of final papers.

“Challenges” associated with researching declaration and naturalization records include the possibilities that a) a record may appear in several different sources with varying dates and spellings of the name; b) there were many applications for declarations for which no final papers were granted (some applicants moved and it is possible that some may have considered themselves to be citizens because they had filed their intentions to become one); c) some applicants may have filed more than one declaration; d) if the declaration was made in a different county or state, the only local record of a declaration may be in its mention in the final papers of an applicant; e) various dates supplied may not be accurate, and sometimes the residency requirements were not enforced.

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Index to Naturalization Records 1872–1914, published by
the District Clerk’s office 929.37642 D1451

Index to Naturalization Records, Dallas County, Texas, abstracted by
members of the Local History and Genealogical Society,
(predecessor to the Dallas Genealogical Society) and published

Index to Naturalization Records found in Texas State, District,
and County Courts – ca 1846–1939 microfilm, roll 3 Texas

Original naturalization-related records in the RHRD section include:
   Declarations of Intention (to become citizen), 1906–1908
   Naturalization ex parte papers (can include declaration of intention, proof, residence,
      affidavits and petitions for naturalization)
   Naturalization records, 1889–1915 and 1872–1914 (also microfilmed)
Census Records

Federal – Dallas County - All available censuses and indexes – 1850–1920

1850-1880  Non-population Census schedules (included agricultural, manufacturers)  microfilm
  Dallas 1850 County census – compiled/indexed by DGS  929.3    T4DU
  Dallas 1850–1860 County census – compiled/indexed by DGS  929.3764   C739D
1860    Dallas 1860 County census  929.37642   E34
1870    Dallas 1870 County census  929.3    T4DU
1880    Dallas 1880 Texas census Index  929.3764   T355
1880    Soundex Index  microfilm
1900    Soundex Index  microfilm
1910    Soundex Index  microfilm
1920    Soundex Index  microfilm

Actual Dallas County Census records  (all microfilm):
1850
1850    Slave schedules and mortality schedules
1860
1860    Slave schedules and mortality schedules
1870
1870    Mortality schedules
1880
1880    Mortality schedules
1890    Mortality schedules
1890    Special schedule of 1890 enumerating Union veterans and widows of Union veterans of the Civil War - See 1890 tax lists for substitute of 1890 census
1900
1910
1920

See also: 1830 Texas residents, as computed from 1867 register of voters, residing now in the county of Dallas  929.3764   W584E

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56 The Desk Reference in the Genealogy Section (8th floor) contains a census section describing the data asked for on each federal census from 1790–1970, along with a list of official abbreviations to be used by the census taker.
57 The 1930 federal census will first become available to the public in the year 2002.
58 For the 1900 census, there exists a microfilm (roll 9, T1210), providing “Census Enumeration District Descriptions”
Miscellaneous non-Federal censuses for Dallas:

1860  *Old French Colony, Dallas County, 1860 Census,* abstracted in the March 1969 issue of *The Quarterly.*

1870–1874  *Dallas County Prisoners from Court records*\(^{59}\) *1870–1874,* abstracted by Terri Mulliken Allen and published in vol. XLIV, 1998 of *The Dallas Journal.*

1880  *Census for Dallas County Institutions* (the poor farm, an unnamed jail, and a small unnamed hospital), abstracted by DGS members Gerri Brannan and Cheryl Mann and published in vol. XLIV, 1998 of *The Dallas Journal.*


*Census for the Town of Dallas*

1868  *The Town of Dallas –1868 Census,* abstracted in *The Dallas Journal,* vol. XLI, 1995. (Data includes the number of white males over and under 18, the number of white females, black males over and under 18 and black females.)

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\(^{59}\) In working with Dallas County court records, DGS member Alan Miller discovered court cases in which the jailer sued the county in order to be reimbursed for prisoners’ food. In this lawsuit, the jailer submitted as evidence the names of the prisoners and the amount of money he was due for their upkeep. This abstract includes only the name and case file number in which the name appeared, but proves that the person was actually in Dallas County sometime during this time period.
**Tax Records**

Tax rolls on microfilm include ad valorem taxes and poll taxes.

Ad valorem taxes are for import duties or other fees levied in proportion to the certified value of the merchandise or goods. Poll taxes represent a head tax, a tax of specific sum levied on each person within a certain “class”, e.g. all males of a certain age, without reference to property or lack of it. They are valuable when attempting to locate laborers or tradesmen who did not own property but who did vote.

City of Dallas real estate and personal property tax rolls 1879–1919

Dallas County tax lists from 1846–1910, 1911–1959

1846 *Dallas County tax list* (including non-resident property owners), abstracted by Lloyd Bockstruck in vol. XXI, Dec 1975 issue of *The Quarterly*, published by the Local History and Genealogical Society, predecessor of the Dallas Genealogical Society.

1890 *tax rolls of Dallas County*

1890 *Dallas County Poll Tax List, Precincts 1–8* published in vols. 28, 1982, and 29,1983 of *The Quarterly*

**Election Records**

Register of Elected and Appointed State and County Offices 1838–1972

*List of Elected County Offices* from 1846–present, published by the District Clerk’s office, 1991

Historical List of Justices of the Peace, 1846–2000, Sloat, Shirley R.

**Voter Records**

1830 *Texas residents, as computed from 1867 register of voters, residing now in the county of Dallas* [929.3764 W584E]

Voter Registration Records - 1867–1869 (also abstracted in *The Dallas Journal*, vol. XLI, 1995), microfilm, roll 2, Texas

Voter Registration Records - 1914–1916. See Appendix B for this original record

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60 Original tax records for the City of Dallas are retained by the Dallas City Secretary’s Office.

61 This list of elected county officials is published by the District Clerk’s office and is normally updated every two years to reflect the results of recent elections. The next edition (expected in 2001) should contain Justices of the Peace for the first time.
Military Records

Revolutionary War and frontier conflicts and Post-Revolutionary wars to 1846
Consult the card catalogue for records produced by various patriotic lineage organizations


Republic of Texas

* Texas Under Arms: The camps, posts, forts and military towns of the Republic of Texas, 1836–1846, Pierce, Gerald S. 976.403 P616T

* Republic of Texas Pension Application Abstracts, Barron, John C. (Austin Genealogical society) 976.4 R426

* Defenders of the Republic of Texas, vol I, Texas Army: Muster rolls, receipt rolls, and other rolls, 1836-1841, Daughters of the Republic of Texas 976.404 D313

Mexican War (1845–1848)

Index to service records microfilm
Service records of MISS, PA, TN, TX, and Utah microfilm
Index to pension records microfilm

* Dallas Co, TX and the Mexican War 1846–1848: A History And Roster, Butler, Steven R. 973.62092 B986D

Civil War (1861–1865)

Consolidated index to Confederate service microfilm
(Also available in book form Confederate State Roster, 2 vols.) 973.7464 T355
Index to Texas Confederate service records microfilm
Texas confederate service records microfilm
Texas Confederate pension records microfilm
Indexes for Texas Confederate pensions given microfilm
Index to Texas Union service records microfilm
(Also available in book form The Roster of Union Soldiers 1861–1865, (volume 2 includes Texas) 973.741 R839
Confederate Indigent Families Lists of Texas 1863–1865 929.3764 M483C
List of Pensioners in Dallas County, Texas in 1883, published in vol. 36, March 1990 issue of The Dallas Genealogical Society Quarterly.

A History of Dallas County, Stark, Anne (7th floor) 976.42811 S795H
(includes details about Civil War Battles of Dallas companies)

Union Veterans buried in Dallas County is an article printed in The Dallas Journal, vol. XLI, 1995, which abstracts the veteran’s name, burial location and pertinent information.

62 * Additional copies available in History and Social Sciences or Genealogy sections
63 Volume 1 lists Confederate soldiers, organized alphabetically by soldier’s surname. Volume 2 is organized sequentially by units, (in order of cavalry, artillery, and infantry) with names of Confederate soldier.

Note: Dallas County Muster Rolls for the Civil War may be found in the Muster Rolls in the Texas State Library in Austin

WWI

Note: On 5 June 1917, the first selective service draft registration for World War I was held in the United States in an effort to register all men between the ages of 21 and 31, both native born or alien. On 5 June 1918 a second registration was held to register those men who had turned 21 since the first registration. A third draft registration was held on 12 September 1918 to list men between the ages of 18–21 and 31–45. This included men born between 1873–1900. Draft registration cards exist for about 242 million men. Not all men who registered actually served in the military; not all men who served in the military registered for the draft. Each of the registrations used a slightly different form, but all asked essentially the same information: full name, full date and place of birth, race, citizenship, trade or occupation, employer, marital status, dependents, and personal description. Cards are arranged by state, then county or city, then draft board, then alphabetically by the names of registrants.

Just prior to the first registration in Dallas, a local newspaper, The Dallas Daily Times Herald, printed a list of the polling locations where Dallas men were required to register. About three weeks after the registration, the newspaper began to publish the names of the registrants by printing one polling precinct per issue. Apparently they discontinued printing the lists before all precincts had been published.

Ms. Lee has abstracted this list of places “where Dallas men of military age will register” in The Dallas Journal, vol. XLI, 1995.

Members of DGS are involved in a project to abstract Dallas County draft registration records to be published in The Dallas Journal.

World War I, Texas draft registration cards, 1917–1918 6 rolls of microfilm

Texas Heroes, Daffan, Katie


976.4 D124T

929.10973 L811L

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65 The Dallas Daily Times Herald, 4 June 1917, page 1.
66 Lee, Sammie Townsend, ibid.
68 Currently being abstracted by members of the Dallas Genealogical Society and published in the Dallas Journal (1999, 2000, …)
WWII

Records listing (by state)\textsuperscript{69} war casualties (dead and wounded and missing in action for the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard) in World War II are housed in the Government Publications Section, 6\textsuperscript{th} floor.

Miscellaneous

\textit{50 Years of Pride in Serving America’s Best: Our Veterans, 1940–1990,}
Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center 362.868 F469

\textsuperscript{69} Note that the state association is determined by the residence of the next-of-kin at notification time.
### Historical List of Dallas County Courts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Court Name</th>
<th>First Justice</th>
<th>Current Location*</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1846–1848</td>
<td>6th Judicial District Court</td>
<td>William B. Ochiltree</td>
<td>Early court shared by Ellis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1848–1855</td>
<td>9th Judicial District Court</td>
<td>Benett H. Martin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1854–1885</td>
<td>14th Independent District Court</td>
<td>N.P. Norton</td>
<td>Replaced by 14th District</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1856–1866</td>
<td>16th Judicial District Court</td>
<td>Nat M Burford</td>
<td>10 counties; reorganized in 1858, 1860</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1857–1874</td>
<td>11th Judicial District Court</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866–1870</td>
<td>5th Judicial District Court</td>
<td>John J Good</td>
<td>32 counties, including Dallas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873–1876</td>
<td>Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Silas Hare</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885–1888</td>
<td>14th District Court</td>
<td>John Hanna</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888–current</td>
<td>14th Judicial District Court (“A”)</td>
<td>R.E.Burke</td>
<td>GA-3</td>
<td>Replaced 14th Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889–current</td>
<td>44th Judicial District Court (“B”)</td>
<td>Charles Fred Tucker</td>
<td>GA-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1893–1981</td>
<td>Court of Civil Appeals, 5th District</td>
<td>Henry W Lightfoot</td>
<td>Decreased from 32 to 7 counties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #1</td>
<td>N. G. Williams</td>
<td>CR-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907–1923</td>
<td>County Court at Law of Dallas</td>
<td>W.M. Holland</td>
<td>Name changed to County Court at Law #1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909–current</td>
<td>68th Judicial District Court (“C”)</td>
<td>J.C.Roberts</td>
<td>GA-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911–current</td>
<td>Criminal District Court #2</td>
<td>Barry Miller</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917–current</td>
<td>County Court at Law #2</td>
<td>Jack Thornton</td>
<td>REC-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923–current</td>
<td>County Court at Law #1</td>
<td></td>
<td>REC-4</td>
<td>Name changed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923–1924</td>
<td>Special District Court</td>
<td>Towne Young</td>
<td>(created for limited time to clear civil dockets)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925–current</td>
<td>101st Judicial District Court (“E”)</td>
<td>Claude M. McCallum</td>
<td>GA-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930–current</td>
<td>116th Judicial District Court (“F”)</td>
<td>Robert B. Allen</td>
<td>GA-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949–current</td>
<td>134th Judicial District Court (“G”)</td>
<td>William M. Taylor, Jr.</td>
<td>GA-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #2</td>
<td>Dean Gauldin</td>
<td>CR-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951–current</td>
<td>County Probate Court</td>
<td>F. W. Bartlett Jr.</td>
<td>OCC-2</td>
<td>(County Probate #1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Key to Current Court Location*  
e.g. CR-3 means Crowley Courts Building, 3rd floor

**Appendix A**

**Historical List of Dallas County Courts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Court Name</th>
<th>First Justice</th>
<th>Current Location*</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Key to Current Court Location**  
e.g. CR-3 means Crowley Courts Building, 3rd floor

**CR:**  Frank Crowley Courts Building 133 N. Industrial Blvd, Dallas 75207  
**GA:** George L. Allen, Sr. Courts Building, 600 Commerce, Dallas 75202  
**REC:** Dallas County Records Building, 500 Elm Street, Dallas 75202  
**OCC:** Old Criminal Courts Building (connected to REC)  
**ADM:** Dallas County Administration Building, 411 Elm Street, Dallas 75202  
**HW:** Henry C. Wade Juvenile Justice Center, 2600 Lone Star Dr., Dallas 75212
# Appendix A
## Historical List of Dallas County Courts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Court Name</th>
<th>First Justice</th>
<th>Current Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1954–current</td>
<td>Criminal District Court #3</td>
<td>William M. McCraw</td>
<td>CR-6</td>
<td>Created as special, then permanent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #3</td>
<td>James H Guthrie</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957–current</td>
<td>160th Judicial District Court (&quot;H&quot;)</td>
<td>Claude Williams</td>
<td>GA-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957–1977</td>
<td>County Domestic Relations Court</td>
<td>Beth Wright</td>
<td></td>
<td>Changed to 301st District Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957–1977</td>
<td>County Juvenile Court #1</td>
<td>Dwight L. McCormack</td>
<td></td>
<td>Changed to 304th District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959–1977</td>
<td>County Domestic Relations Court</td>
<td>John Mead</td>
<td></td>
<td>Changed to 302nd District Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court of Appeals #1</td>
<td>Newton Fitzhugh</td>
<td>CR-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963–current</td>
<td>County Court at Law #3</td>
<td>Fred &quot;Red&quot; Harris</td>
<td>REC-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963–current</td>
<td>County Court at Law #4</td>
<td>Ted M. Akin</td>
<td>REC-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963–current</td>
<td>162nd Judicial District Court (&quot;I&quot;)</td>
<td>Dee Brown Walker</td>
<td>GA-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963–current</td>
<td>Criminal District Court #4</td>
<td>John Mead</td>
<td>CR-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965–current</td>
<td>Criminal District Court #5</td>
<td>Jim Bowie</td>
<td>CR-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965–current</td>
<td>County Probate Court #2</td>
<td>Ted Z. Robertson</td>
<td>REC-2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967–1977</td>
<td>County Domestic Relations Court #3</td>
<td>Dan Gibbs</td>
<td></td>
<td>Changed to 303rd District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969–1977</td>
<td>County Juvenile Court #2</td>
<td>Ted Z. Robertson</td>
<td></td>
<td>Changed to 305th District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969–current</td>
<td>191st Judicial District Court (&quot;J&quot;)</td>
<td>Charles Spencer Carver</td>
<td>GA-3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969–current</td>
<td>192nd Judicial District Court (&quot;K&quot;)</td>
<td>Snowden M. Leftwich</td>
<td>GA-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969–current</td>
<td>193rd Judicial District Court (&quot;L&quot;)</td>
<td>Hugh T. Snodgrass</td>
<td>GA-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969–current</td>
<td>194th Criminal District Court</td>
<td>John C. Vance</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969–current</td>
<td>195th Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Roland T. Scales</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973–current</td>
<td>203rd Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Thomas B. Thorpe</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973–current</td>
<td>204th Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Richard Mays</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #4</td>
<td>Harold Entz</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #5</td>
<td>Carl Friedlander</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973–1977</td>
<td>County Domestic Relations Court #4</td>
<td>Oswin Chrisman</td>
<td></td>
<td>Changed to 330th District Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975–current</td>
<td>County Probate Court #3</td>
<td>Joseph E. Ashmore Jr</td>
<td></td>
<td>“Mental Illness Court”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>254th Family District Court</td>
<td>George Martinez</td>
<td>GA-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>255th Family District Court</td>
<td>Don Koons</td>
<td>GA-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>301st Family District Court</td>
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<td>GA-5</td>
<td>Changed from county domestic #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>302nd Family District Court</td>
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<td>GA-5</td>
<td>Changed from county domestic #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>303rd Family District Court</td>
<td></td>
<td>GA-6</td>
<td>Changed from county domestic #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>304th Juvenile District Court</td>
<td>Craig Penfold</td>
<td>HW-2</td>
<td>Changed from county juvenile #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>305th Juvenile District Court</td>
<td>Pat McClung</td>
<td>HW-2</td>
<td>Changed from county juvenile #2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>330th Family District Court</td>
<td>Oswin Crisman</td>
<td>GA-5</td>
<td>Changed from county domestic #4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Historical List of Dallas County Courts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Court Name</th>
<th>First Justice</th>
<th>Current Location</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #6</td>
<td>Berlaid Brashear</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #7</td>
<td>Charles&quot;Chuck&quot;Miller</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979–current</td>
<td>256th Family District Court</td>
<td>Linda Thomas</td>
<td>GA-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979–current</td>
<td>265th Criminal District Court</td>
<td>John Ovard</td>
<td>CR-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979–current</td>
<td>County Court at Law #5</td>
<td>Robert E.&quot;Bob&quot; White</td>
<td>REC-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>282nd Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Kelly Loving</td>
<td>CR-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>283rd Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Morris J. Hampton</td>
<td>CR-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>291st Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Gerry Holden Meier</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>292nd Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Mike Keasler</td>
<td>CR-6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1981–1985</td>
<td>District Court of Appeals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Removed &quot;civil&quot; from name</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court of Appeals #2</td>
<td>Tom Fuller</td>
<td>CR-3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #8</td>
<td>John Crowder Hendrik</td>
<td>CR-4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #9</td>
<td>George Shepherd</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981–current</td>
<td>County Criminal Court #10</td>
<td>Ed Kinkeade</td>
<td>CR-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982–current</td>
<td>298th Judicial District Court (&quot;M&quot;)</td>
<td>Sidney A.Fitzwater</td>
<td>GA-6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985–current</td>
<td>5th District Court of Appeals</td>
<td></td>
<td>GA-2</td>
<td>Name change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989–current</td>
<td>363rd Criminal District Court</td>
<td>Randall Isenberg</td>
<td>CR-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commissioners’ Court</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(County Judge + 4 Commissioners)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ADM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 1–1</td>
<td></td>
<td>GA-106</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 1–2</td>
<td></td>
<td>GA-99</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 2–1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2774 Valwood Parkwy, Farmers Branch</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 2–2</td>
<td></td>
<td>841 W Irving Blvd, Irving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 3–1</td>
<td></td>
<td>10056 Marsh Lane, Dallas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 3–2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1411 W Belt Line, Richardson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>305 N 5th St, Garland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 5–1</td>
<td></td>
<td>823 N. Galloway, Mesquite</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 5–2 (2 locations)</td>
<td></td>
<td>630 W Main St, Grand Prairie and</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 6–1</td>
<td></td>
<td>422 S Centre, Lancaster</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 6–2</td>
<td></td>
<td>410 S. Beckley, Dallas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 7</td>
<td></td>
<td>410 S. Beckley, Dallas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 8–1</td>
<td></td>
<td>7401 S. Westmoreland, Dallas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justice of the Peace 8–2</td>
<td></td>
<td>414 R L Thornton Fwy, Dallas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>414 R L Thornton Fwy, Dallas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- CR: Criminal
- GA: General
- ADMIN: Commissioners' Court (County Judge + 4 Commissioners)
- Location codes correspond to the court's location in the Dallas County area.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Retention Code</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1300-06</td>
<td>1880–1910</td>
<td>Chattel Mortgage records</td>
<td>Mortgages on personal property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1300-06x</td>
<td>1879–1886,</td>
<td>Direct and reverse indexes to chattel</td>
<td>Mortgages on personal property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1891–1896</td>
<td>mortgages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1325-30</td>
<td>1929–1933</td>
<td>Notice of Intention to Marry</td>
<td>Names, ages, places of residence of both parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1375-07</td>
<td>1890–1903</td>
<td>Occupation Tax Register</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1375-17</td>
<td>1846–1910,</td>
<td>County Tax Rolls^70 – microfilm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1911–1959</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1425-08</td>
<td>1889–1947</td>
<td>Dental Licenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1425-18</td>
<td>1948–1950</td>
<td>Naturopathic Licenses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1425-20</td>
<td>1923–1951</td>
<td>Nurses Records</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1450-03</td>
<td>1891–1917</td>
<td>Annual statement of school funds</td>
<td>(included staff salary lists)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1525-01</td>
<td>1879–1891</td>
<td>Acknowledgement Records, -</td>
<td>Can include land transfers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>County Clerk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1525-02</td>
<td>1858–1899,</td>
<td>Acknowledgement Records, Notary Public</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1874–1876</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1525-16</td>
<td>1888–1890</td>
<td>Register of instruments filed for record</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1525-01</td>
<td>1878–1905</td>
<td>Probate Annual Account Record</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1525-08</td>
<td>1924–1929</td>
<td>Probate Inventory Record</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1525-09</td>
<td>1917–1930</td>
<td>Probate Bond Docket</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1575-03</td>
<td>1867</td>
<td>County Civil Court case papers</td>
<td>(selected cases only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600-05</td>
<td>1884–1899</td>
<td>County Criminal Court Docket</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1625-10</td>
<td>1846–1900</td>
<td>Probate Case Papers (also microfilmed</td>
<td>By DGS members</td>
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<tr>
<td>1625-11</td>
<td>1870–1898</td>
<td>Probate Claim Docket</td>
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<tr>
<td>1625-12</td>
<td>1878–1914</td>
<td>Probate Docket</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1625-14</td>
<td>1867–1869,</td>
<td>Probate Minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1883–1930</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1625-15</td>
<td>1850–1869</td>
<td>Probate Final Record</td>
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<tr>
<td>1625-16</td>
<td>1881–1931</td>
<td>Probate Reports of Sale</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1650-06</td>
<td>1884–1899</td>
<td>County Civil and Criminal Court Minutes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800-04</td>
<td>1883–1911</td>
<td>Probate Fee Book</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1775-04</td>
<td>1892–1905</td>
<td>Liquor License Docket</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1900-04</td>
<td>1884</td>
<td>County Treasurer’s School Account</td>
<td>Register (names teachers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025-03</td>
<td>1846–1921</td>
<td>District Court Civil Case Papers</td>
<td>(also microfilmed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025-04</td>
<td>1866–1899</td>
<td>District Court Civil Dockets – various courts</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025-04x</td>
<td>1905–1927</td>
<td>Index to Civil Dockets, all courts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1911–1928</td>
<td>Reverse Index to Civil Dockets, all courts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2025-06</td>
<td>1867–1939</td>
<td>District Court Civil Minutes, all courts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025-06x</td>
<td></td>
<td>Indexes to District Court Civil Minutes, all courts (also microfilmed)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2025-03</td>
<td>1899–1956</td>
<td>District Court Civil Docket for delinquent tax suits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2075-10</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>Divorce Case Papers (one box only)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2125-05x</td>
<td>1905–1927</td>
<td>Index to District Court Criminal case papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>2125-06</td>
<td>1858–1905</td>
<td>Criminal Dockets – various courts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2125-06x</td>
<td>1915–1927</td>
<td>Index to Criminal Docket</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2125-07</td>
<td>1846–1939</td>
<td>District Court Minutes – combined criminal and civil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

^70 Before 1915, taxes were levied on animals, vehicles, goods, money, stocks and bonds, and other assets. Beginning in 1915, only real estate was taxed.
## Appendix B

**Official Dallas County Records in the RHRD Section Of The DPL Texas/Dallas History and Archives Division**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE RETENTION CODE</th>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>DETAILS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2125-08</td>
<td>1846–1939</td>
<td>Criminal Minutes – various courts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2125-08x</td>
<td></td>
<td>Index to Criminal Minutes – various courts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2150-05</td>
<td>1853–1888</td>
<td>District Court Docket – combined criminal and civil</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2150-08</td>
<td>1858–1935</td>
<td>Execution Docket and Indexes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2250-01</td>
<td>1906–1908</td>
<td>Naturalization declaration of intent, 44th District Court</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2250-02</td>
<td>1872–1914</td>
<td>Naturalization ex parte papers&lt;sup&gt;71&lt;/sup&gt;, all District courts, 18 boxes of case files in individual folders, filed alpha by surname of immigrant. (Case papers and index filmed by the LDS Church; microfilm available on the 7th floor)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2250-02x</td>
<td>1872–1914</td>
<td>Index to Naturalization records 1872-1914, prepared by the WPA and published by the District Clerk’s office in 1982. Index is alpha by surname of immigrant. – roll 3 Texas microfilm – 8th floor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2250-03</td>
<td>1865–1898, 1889–1903, 1890–1912, 1908–1914, 1912–1915</td>
<td>Naturalization records (also microfilmed by the LDS Church)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2275-01</td>
<td>1874–1879</td>
<td>Acknowledgement Record – District Clerk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2300-03</td>
<td>1952–1981</td>
<td>Chiropody (Podiatry) Register</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2300-04</td>
<td>1949–1961</td>
<td>Chiropractic Register</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2300-05</td>
<td>1887–1919, 1932–1981</td>
<td>Medical Register</td>
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<tr>
<td>2300-05</td>
<td>1978–1981</td>
<td>Temporary Medical Register</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2300-08</td>
<td>1911–1979</td>
<td>Veterinary Register</td>
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<tr>
<td>2350-04</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Various Justice of the Peace Civil and Criminal Dockets</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2375-02</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Justice of the Peace Inquest Records (also microfilmed)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3150-07</td>
<td>1914–1916</td>
<td>Voter Registration Record</td>
<td>An original record which appears to be a record of voters transferring into the county from another precinct or county. Lists name, age, residence, occupation, race, present address and where coming from.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4200-06</td>
<td>1890–1912, 1912–1939</td>
<td>District Clerk’s Jail Register</td>
<td>Record of convicts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<sup>71</sup> Naturalization ex parte papers can include declaration of intention, proof, residence, affidavits, and petitions for naturalization.
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