



Austin History Center ★ Austin Public Library



## AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY SOURCES AT THE AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER

### START WITH THESE SOURCES:

Online Catalog	AHC's books and biography files are cataloged in the Austin Public Library's Bibliocommons catalog.
Archives Index	Indexes the Archives & Manuscripts collections in our archives. Finding aids for some of these collections are available at <a href="#">Texas Archival Resources Online</a> .
Genealogy Databases	APL subscribes to both HeritageQuest Online and Ancestry Library Edition and these are available on the <a href="#">Library's database page</a> . Ancestry can only be used from a computer in the Library.
African American Newspapers	For a comprehensive list, please refer to the African American Resource Guide.
<i>Austin American-Statesman</i>	For dates and formats see Indexes on page 5 of this handout.
Card Catalog	Name index for many older business and professional directories and for many older cumulative biographies; subject and name index for articles in selected periodicals issued in the 1970s and for selected published histories of the local area.
African American Resource Guide	A compilation of all AHC resources pertaining to African Americans. <a href="http://www.austinlibrary.com/ahc/downloads/afambiblio.pdf">http://www.austinlibrary.com/ahc/downloads/afambiblio.pdf</a>
Portal to Texas History	Gateway to Texas historical materials. Includes digitized items from Texas libraries, museums, archives, historical societies, genealogical societies, and private family collections

### ANNUALS AND DIRECTORIES

#### *The Blue Bonnet Hill*

Student annual of Tillotson College. 1930.

#### *Cactus*

Student annuals of the University of Texas. 1894 – present, with some gaps.

#### *Ramshead*

Student annuals of Huston-Tillotson. 1953– present.

#### High School and Junior High School Annuals.

Austin and Travis County area. Years collected differ with each school.

#### Austin. Telephone Directories

1905 – present with a few gaps.

#### Austin, Texas City Directories

1872 – current with a few years not published

#### *Criss-Cross Directory of Austin*

1957 –  
Travis County Directories  
1894 – 95  
1898 – 99  
1901  
1954-1962  
1972

## ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

For more detailed information on the following collections, please consult the African American Resource Guide: <http://www.austinlibrary.com/ahc/downloads/afambiblio.pdf>

AR.A.001

**Pease-Graham-Niles Papers**

[Contains several documents about slaves, slavery, and freedmen including, slave deeds, plantation lists, bills of sale, and land deeds]

AR.A.021

**Whitis Family Papers**

[Documents related to slavery, freedmen, and the hiring of slaves to work for the Rogan family]

AR.B.001

**Black Papers**

[Includes deeds of sale for two women and one man]

AR.D.003

**Austin Independent School District Papers**

[Contains school records, including graduate list for Anderson High, 1928-1950, teacher daily registers]

AR.D.010

**Bremond (Eugene) Papers**

[4 deeds for slaves: 1846, 1852.1853 (2)]

AR.I.002

**Franzetti Family Papers**

[Contains 72 black and white silver gelatin photographic prints, featuring African American subjects from about the 1890s to the 1930s.

AR.P.001

**Laws Papers**

[Record of arrests from January 1, 1876 to January 1, 1879. Ledger lists date, hour, name, nativity, by whom arrested, and charge]

AR.S.015

**Atkinson Papers**

[Lists of Negro farm owners/operators in Walnut Creek vicinity (1935-1936)]

AR.1994.077

**Hill (William Hickman, Jr.) Papers, 1850-1903**

[Slave deeds, Manor, TX]

AR.2002.027

**Travis County Records**

[Tax rolls, lot registers, voter registration lists, Travis County transfers, Record of Tubular Cases, Marks and Brands, convict labor, and school records]

AR.2003.003

**Arlene Youngblood Papers**

[Funeral programs for member of Travis County's African American community]

AR.2007.026

**Washington Family Papers**

[Personal documents, photos and receipts relating to the Washington Family]

AR.2009.074

**Froman Glass Plate Negative Portraits**

AR.2012.037

**Early African American Education Collection, 1866-1975**

AR.2015.017

**Friendly R. Rice Photograph Album**

[60 photographs documenting the life of Friendly R. Rice, principal of Blackshear Elementary School from 1931-1972]

**AUSTIN FILES- BIOGRAPHY, HOUSE/BUILDING, AND SUBJECT**

If your family is from Travis County, you may be able to research them by their name, address, or a subject related to them. Most of these are searchable in the library's catalog.

**BIRTH RECORDS**

*Early Texas Birth Records, 1838 – 1878.* (2 vols.)      A 929.3 Gr

**CEMETERY RECORDS**

*Assumption Cemetery Listing*      A 929.5 As

Listing of markers. Compiled in 1999.

*Austin Memorial Park Cemetery*      A 929.5 Sa

Indexed by last name. List of burials taken from cemetery books at AMP and the grave stones. Compiled by Robert Sage. (2004).

*Austin State Hospital Cemetery Record*      A 929.5 Au

Alphabetical list of those buried in this cemetery. Data includes name, race, county of origin, admission date, date of death, and plot number. Separate list by plot number.

*Cemeteries of West Travis County*      A 929.376431 Ha

List of gravestones in 37 small cemeteries in far western Travis Co. Compiled in 1977.

*Cemeteries of the Western Hill Country of Travis County, Texas*      A 929.376431 Pe

Tombstone inscriptions for 31 cemeteries. Includes name index. Compiled in 1991.

*City of Austin Cemetery System*      AR.2001.003

Includes biannual updates of Interment Reports of city cemeteries; dates of interment from 1800's to early 2000s. Alphabetical by name of deceased. Cemeteries included: Oakwood, Oakwood Annex, Mt. Calvary, Memorial Park, Evergreen, Travis Country International, Highland Park, Jewish Memorial, and Plummers. Ledgers record burials for the city cemeteries. Recorded are names, ages, sex, race, nativity, cause of death, attending physician, where buried, by whom buried.

Completeness of data varies from ledger to ledger and entry to entry. See [finding aid](#) for more information and location details.

*Davis Cemetery, Travis County*      A 929.5 Da

Tombstone listing compiled in 2001. Also includes history of cemetery, photographs of cemetery, articles about cemetery, and some obituaries and biographies of those buried there.

*Documentation of the Historic Fiskville Cemetery*      A 929.5 Do

Tombstone listing by Russell Yeager and Boy Scout Troop 454. Compiled in 1999.

*Evergreen Cemetery*      A 929.5 Sa

Indexed. List of burials taken from city records and the grave stones. Compiled by Robert Sage.

*1993 Survey of Manor, Texas Cemetery*      A 976.431 Do

List of markers by Evelyn S. Donnell.

*Oliver Cemetery*      [http://www.interment.net/data/us/tx/travis/oliver\\_cemetery.htm](http://www.interment.net/data/us/tx/travis/oliver_cemetery.htm)

*Park Springs Cemetery*      A929.5 Pa

Record of markers, compiled during 1994-95.

- Russell Collection of Cemetery Data from the Tombstones in Travis County, Texas* A 352.72 Ru  
Tombstone inscriptions for 24 very small cemeteries, including 6 cemeteries in Blanco Co. Includes name index. Compiled in 1964-65.
- Texas State Cemetery List* A 929.3 St
- Texas State Cemetery* A 929.3 Te  
Besides listing of burials also gives some biographical information on some of the people buried.
- Tombstone Transcription Project for Travis County <http://www.usgwtombstones.org/texas/travis.html>  
Tombstone listings for numerous cemeteries in Travis County.
- Travis County Cemeteries: Travis County 19<sup>th</sup> Century Pioneers* A 929.3764 Tr  
List of interments for people born in 19<sup>th</sup> Century and buried in selected Travis Co. cemeteries. Includes name index. Compiled in 1986.
- Webberville and the Manor Cemetery* A 976.431 We  
Besides lists of those buried in these two cemeteries there is a great deal of information on these two communities and its residents. Compiled by Banks McLaurin, Jr. (1995)
- Williamson Creek Cemetery, 700 Block Little Texas Lane, Austin, Texas 78745* A 363.7509764 Fl  
Inventory conducted by Dale L. Flatt from 8/23/200? to 9/21/2001. Accompanied by CD-ROM with text and 456 photos taken at the cemetery.

## CENSUS RECORDS

- The First Census of Texas, 1829 – 1836: To Which are Added Texas Citizenship Lists, 1821-1843 and other Early Records of the Republic of Texas*
- The 1840 Census of the Republic of Texas*
- Republic of Texas: Poll Lists for 1846*
- The State of Texas Federal Population Schedules; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850*
- Seventh Census, 1850; Population Schedules: Texas (Slave schedule), Travis County and others.* Microfilm.
- Travis County, Texas. The Five Schedules of the 1860 Federal Census*
- Ninth Census, 1870; Population Schedules: Texas, Travis County.* Microfilm.
- Schedule of Inhabitants in the City of Austin 1875*
- Tenth Census, 1880; Population Schedules*
- 1890 Travis County, Texas Census: Uniquely Reconstructed and Annotated*
- Twelfth Census of Population, 1900: Texas, Vol. 102: Travis County.* No name index. Microfilm.
- Thirteenth Census of Population, 1910: Texas: Travis County.* No name index. Microfilm.
- Fourteenth Census of Population, 1920: Texas: Travis County.* No name index. Microfilm.
- Fifteenth Census of Population, 1930: Texas: Travis County.* No name index. Microfilm.
- 16th Census of the United States, 1940, Population and Housing : Statistics for Census Tracts.*  
A 317.6431 UN

## CITY/COUNTY TAX RECORDS

- Travis County Tax Rolls, 1840 – 1910. Microfilm  
Alphabetical by name. Real property and personal property.
- Travis County Lot Registers, 1879-1974  
Arranged by legal description of the property and includes name of the tax payer and appraised value of the property.
- City of Austin Tax Department Records, 1876-1952. AR.1991.016  
Arrangement changes through the years (by ward (1876-1891), subdivision name (1908-1926), plat number (1927-1952), by owner name (1908-1943)). Includes owner name, land and improvement values listed separately.
- Travis Central Appraisal District Records, 1973-2011. AR.2014.027  
1973-1980 (City of Austin Tax Dept. records held by TCAD) arranged by parcel number. 1981-2011 records have several access points – street address, parcel number, owner name, and legal description.

## DEATH RECORDS

Alexander Eanes' records. AF C2150 (2)

City Sexton's record of death for October 1859 – May 1866. Includes the name of the deceased and whether they were freedman or slave.

*Bartholomew Diary* A 818 BaD

An account of daily events in Austin for the period 1853 – 1923 by Austin businessman, Eugene Carlos Bartholomew. Many local deaths are recorded. Separate death index.

Brackenridge Hospital death records AR.W.012 Box7

1947 – 1948, 1952 – 1958

Deaths logged by date. No name index.

*Obituaries of Travis County, 1900-1940: As Found in Travis County Scrapbook in Barker Library, Austin, Texas* A 929.376431 OB

Transcriptions of obituaries compiled by members of the Balcones Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Travis County Inquest Records-**transferred to Travis County Archives**

*Travis County Probate Index, 1840 – 1870.* Microfilm

*Travis County Index to Probate Minutes, 1870 – 1926.* Microfilm

*Travis County Probate Record, 1840 – 1896.* Microfilm

*Travis County Probate Minutes, 1894 – 1918.* Microfilm

*Online Texas Death Records & Indexes – A Genealogy Records Guide* <http://www.deathindexes.com/texas/>

## AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN

### 1871-1975

ProQuest database (*Democratic Statesman, Austin Daily Statesman, Austin Statesman, Austin Statesman and Tribune, Evening Statesman, Austin American*). Full text searchable. Because some of the publications overlapped, not all dates of a specific title of the publication were scanned and included and have resulted in some gaps and missing articles). Access is available at any library location or from any computer with your library card.

### 1973 – February 1981

Printed index of local news articles.

### 1981–1992

Article headlines and subject headings are computer searchable. Computer printouts.

### 1989 – present

Factiva and Newsbank databases. Full text searchable. Access is available at any library location or from any computer with your library card.

See the [Austin American-Statesman Resource Guide](#) for further details

## INDEXES

*Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly.* November 1960-present. Periodical

Indexed by name. Includes lists of Travis County cemeteries, baptisms and burials of St. David's Episcopal Church (late 1800s), and some Travis County marriage records.

*Biographical Gazetteer of Texas* A 929.3764 Bi AP

A finding aid for information about prominent individuals. Provides the name, a birth or death date, and the title and page number of the publications where the biographical sketch can be found.

*1840 Citizens of Texas* A 929.3764 Wh

Names gathered from land grants and tax rolls. 3 vols.

*Index to Applications for Texas Confederate Pensions* A 929.3764 Ki

Provides the names, county of residence, and pension numbers for 65,014 approved, rejected, and Confederate Home pensions. Searchable online at: <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/pensions/index.php>

## MARRIAGE RECORDS

*Annals of Travis County and the City of Austin from the Early Times to the Close of 1875*

In the years 1850 through 1875 many local marriages were recorded in these annals of Frank Brown. Marriages logged by year. No name index.

*Bartholomew Diary* A 818 BaD

An account of daily events in Austin for the period 1853 – 1923 by Austin businessman, Eugene Carlos Bartholomew. Local marriages are included, and are separately indexed.

*Travis County Marriage Records, 1883 – 1902* A 976.431 Go

*Travis County, Texas Marriage Records, 1840 – 1882* A 929.3 Pr

*Travis County Marriage Records, 1840 – 1939.* Microfilm

*Travis County Index to Marriage Records, 1840 – 1939.* Microfilm

Marriage names are followed by “col” or “(c),” “freedman,” or “freedwoman” after the Civil War.

## TRAVIS COUNTY RECORDS (NOT ELSEWHERE LISTED)

*Some Early Travis County, Texas Records* A 929.376431 Su

Records of General Land office of Texas having to do with wills, land ownership, lawsuits, and other assorted records. Name index.

*Travis County Civil Minutes, 1876 – 1894.* Microfilm

*Travis County Index to County Court Civil Minute* (for vols. A – I). Microfilm

*Travis County Criminal Minutes, 1876 – 1886.* Microfilm

*Travis County Deed Record, 1847 – 1882.* Microfilm

*Travis County Deeds, 1882 – 1886.* Microfilm

*Travis County Direct Index to Deeds, 1842 – 1893.* Microfilm

*Travis County Reverse Index to Deeds, 1842 – 1893.* Microfilm

*Travis County Transcript of Deed Record, 1837 – 1849.* Microfilm

*Travis County, County Clerk Naturalization Record, 1892 – 1907.* Microfilm

*Index to Naturalizations, 1890 – 1906.* Microfilm

*Travis County School Census Rolls, 1913 – 1970*

## AFRICAN AMERICAN GENERAL COLLECTION

For additional titles, please consult the African American Resource Guide:

<http://www.austinlibrary.com/ahc/downloads/afambiblio.pdf>

Anderson, Ada Collins. *History of the Collins and Rucker Families: A Time to Celebrate Two Hundred Years of Family Tradition.* (2003)

A 929.2097643 AN

Brown, Frank. *Annals of Travis County and of the City of Austin (from the earliest times to the close of 1875).* (1900)

A 976.41 BR

Campbell, Randolph B. *The Laws of Slavery in Texas: Historical Documents and Essays.* (

Clayborne-Edwards, Sarah Monroe. *Our Family History Cookbook: From Slavery to Present.* (2005)

A 929.2097643 CL

Crouch, Barry A. *The Freedmen's Bureau and Black Texans.* (1992)

A 976.400496 CR

Gregg, Webster. *From A Prince to A Slave.* (2009)

A 929.20973 GR

- Gretchen, Mark. *Slave Transactions of Guadalupe County, Texas*. (2009)  
A 976.400496 HI
- Hill, James O. *Emancipation of Eight Generations: The Chambers Family Treasure*. (2004)  
A 976.400496 HI
- Mears, Michelle M. *And Grace Will Lead Me Home: African American Freedmen Communities of Austin, TX, 1864-1928*. (2009)
- Overton Family. *Overton Family Reunion, July 4-6, 1986, Austin, Texas*. (1986)  
A 929.2 OV
- Price, Lucie Clift. *Travis County Marriage Records, 1840-1880*.  
A 929.3 PR [African Americans denoted by the letter "c"]
- Rivera, Jane H. *Austin's Rosewood Neighborhood*. (2012)
- Sutton, H. Eldon. *Austin Black Family Records Index*. (2004)  
A 305.896073 SU
- White, Gifford, editor. *The 1840 Census of the Republic of Texas*.  
A 929.3764 WH [Notes number of slaves owned]
- Williams, Mabel Crayton. *The History of Tillotson College, 1881-1952*. (1967)  
A 378.764 WI
- Zollar, Hattie P. Hurdle. *A.J. Hurdle Family Heritage*. (1974)  
A 929.20973 A

### OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST

The Austin History Center also has a collection of maps, oral history recordings, African American newspapers, and artifacts that may assist you in your genealogical research. For more information on these areas of interest, please refer to the African American Resource Guide: For more detailed information on the following collections, please consult the African American Resource Guide:  
<http://www.austinlibrary.com/ahc/downloads/afambiblio.pdf>

For further assistance, please feel free to call or e-mail the African American Community Archivist at:  
Office: (512) 974-7390 or E-mail: [latoya.devezin@austintexas.gov](mailto:latoya.devezin@austintexas.gov)

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