



Welcome!

The Zoom webinar will begin shortly.
All participants are muted.



Locating County Records

Archives and Information Services

Webinar Series

October 22, 2021



What This Session Covers

- Overview of County Records
 - What are county records?
 - Where are county records found?
- Locating County Records
 - Online digital sources
 - Regional microfilm and original records sources
 - County and other local records sources
 - County history resources
- Q & A



Texas State Library and Archives Commission

1201 Brazos Street, Austin, Texas 78701



ALL POLITICAL POWER
IS INHERENT IN THE
PEOPLE AND ALL FREE
GOVERNMENTS ARE FOUNDED
ON THEIR AUTHORITY
AND INSTITUTED FOR THEIR BENEFIT;
FIRST CONSTITUTION, STATE OF TEXAS, 1845

Casey Dunn Professional Photography



Texas State Library and Archives Commission

- Mission:
 - Provide Texans access to needed information
 - Preserve the archival record of Texas
 - Enhance the service capacity of public, academic, and school libraries
 - Assist public agencies in the maintenance of their records
 - Meet the reading needs of Texans with disabilities
- Service Areas:
 - Reference and Information Center
 - Texas State Archives
 - Sam Houston Center (Liberty, TX)

www.tsl.texas.gov

ASSESSMENT

359, by New Mand, Assessor and Collector of Travis

REAL PROPERTY.											
LAND.					TOWN LOTS.				TOWNSHIP.		RANGE.
ORIGINAL GRANTER.	FROM WHAT TRACT TAKEN.	CLASS OF CLAIM.	NO. OF ACRES.	On what Street.	NO. OF NO. OF LOT.	NO. OF NO. OF BLOCK.	Where Situated.	Value.	NUMBER.	VALUE.	NUMBER.
					125456	79	112	12	Creston	1811	
					125466	79	112	122	"	811	
					646	131	"			151	
											1
	Sticks			Little Walnut							5
	New York Valley			by Geo Q			Creston	1811	3	2211	
		91		Colorado					5	5211	2
					2	24	Creston	1911			
					702	41	"	1711		155	1
	Samuel Cushing			National bank							
	John G Brooks			St. National					9	7711	11
	Elijah Gage			Union bank							
					703	27	Creston	811			
					754	25	"	1711			
					5456	702	117	Creston	1811		
					142	53	"	511			

OVERVIEW
OF
COUNTY
RECORDS



What are county records?



- Vital records: birth, death, marriage, and divorce.
- Taxes and delinquent tax rolls.
- Tax assessor abstract books, property assessment records.
- Deeds and deeds of trusts.
- Civil and criminal dockets and case files.
- Probate dockets and case files.
- Inquest records.



- Scholastic census and other old school records.
- Elections and appointments.
- Voter registration records.
- Poll tax records.



Only records that have met restriction year limits will be available to the public. For example, original birth records are made public after 75 years.



Where are county records found?

- Online Sources:
 - Indexes and digitized images of records available on genealogy websites such as Ancestry and FamilySearch or on county websites.
- Regional Sources:
 - Some microfilm and original county government records may be available from a regional depository library.
- County Government Sources:
 - County Clerk, District Clerk, or county archives.
- Non-government Sources:
 - Local library, museum, or historical society.
 - Private school, church, hospital, or cemetery.

1
Drawer 101
County Records
Atascosa Co., 1856

366043

W3
Atrop County

riage Records
1814-1818
Vol. 1

366044

18044
Bastrop County

Probate Minutes
1819-1819
Vol. A
1819-1847
Vol. B

366045

W0045
Bastrop County

Probate Minutes
1848-1851
Vol. C
1851-1858
Vol. D
1858-1868
Vol. E

366046

W0046
Bastrop County

Probate Minutes
1868-1890
Vol. F

366047

W0047
Bastrop County

Probate Minutes
1890-1898
Vol. G
1898-1898
Vol. H

366048

W0048
Bastrop County

Probate Minutes
1898-1898
Vol. I

61532

Atrop County

Wed record
1800-1800
Vol. 31
Part
1800-1801
Vol. 31
Probate minutes

1541513

Bastrop County

Probate minutes
1819-21
Vol. A
1821-1824
Vol. B
1814-14
Vol. C
Part

1541514

Bastrop County

Probate minutes
1824-25
Vol. D
Part
1825-26
Vol. E
1826-28
Vol. F

1541515

Bastrop County

Probate minutes
1828-29
Vol. H
1829-31
Vol. I
1831-31
Vol. J
Part

LOCATING COUNTY RECORDS



Online: FamilySearch

FamilySearch Family Tree Search Memories Indexing Activities

- Records
- Images
- Family Tree
- Genealogies
- Catalog
- Books
- Research Wiki

Find your family
Discover your roots

www.familysearch.org



Online: FamilySearch

Search by:

Place | Surnames | Titles | Author | Subjects | Keywords

Place

United States, Texas, Hays

Start typing to
auto-fill location

Search for:

Call Number | Film/Fiche Number

Availability

- Any
- Online
- Family History C

Select to find digitized
indexes or records

Search

Reset



Online: FamilySearch



Notes

Hays County was created and organized 1 March 1848 from Travis County. County seat: San Marcos. A Spanish settlement was in the area from 1808 to 1812. Mexican land grants date as early as 1831. The first Anglo-American arrived around 1835, the first church was organized in 1847 and the first school was organized in 1849.

Part of [United States, Texas](#)

[Places within United States, Texas, Hays](#) ▶

- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Archives and libraries - Inventories, registers, catalogs \(2 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Cemeteries \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Court records \(2 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Court records - Indexes \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Land and property \(2 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Military records \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Naturalization and citizenship \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Naturalization and citizenship - Indexes \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Probate records \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Probate records - Indexes \(2 \)](#)
- ▶ [United States, Texas, Hays - Taxation \(1 \)](#)

[Print List](#)



Online: FamilySearch

▼ United States, Texas, Hays - Taxation (1)

[Texas county tax rolls, 1846-1910](#)

Author: Texas. Comptroller's Office; Texas State Library. Archives Division
(Texas)

Click the link to view
more information and
see access options



Tax rolls for later years are available for on-site research at TSLAC. Email the reference desk for more information.



Online: FamilySearch

- ▼ [United States, Texas, Hays - Archives and libraries - Inventories, registers, catalogs \(2 \)](#)

[Inventory of county records, Hays County Courthouse, San Marcos, Texas](#)

Author: FitzPatrick, Merry Kone; Clayton, Charles Edward

[Inventory of the county archives of Texas, no. 105, Hays County \(San Marcos\)](#)

Author: Historical Records Survey (Texas)



Inventories provide helpful information about how records were organized by the county.



Online: County Websites

TEXAS ASSOCIATION of COUNTIES [Calendar of Events](#) [Member Login](#)

[Education & Training](#) [Legal](#) [Legislative](#) [Health & Employee Benefits](#) [Risk Management](#) [Resources for County Officials](#) **[About Texas Counties](#)** [About](#)

- [About Texas County Officials](#)
- [County Best Practices Awards Program](#)
- [County Data](#)
- [Texas County Maps](#)
- [County Elections Database](#)
- [Texas County Websites](#)**

www.county.org




Online: County Websites

The screenshot displays the Erath County, TX website. The top navigation bar includes 'ERATH COUNTY, TX', 'GOVERNMENT', 'DEPARTMENTS', and 'ONLINE SERVICES'. A yellow arrow points to the 'ONLINE SERVICES' link. Below this, a secondary menu lists 'AGENDAS & MINUTES', 'COUNTY CLERK LAND RECORDS' (circled in yellow), 'BID POSTINGS', and 'DISTRICT ATTORNEY ONLINE'. A yellow arrow points from the circled 'COUNTY CLERK LAND RECORDS' link to a 'Home' button in the footer. The footer also contains a 'cart' button. The main content area features a 'Home Instructions' sidebar and several service tiles: 'Official Records Document Search', 'Vital Records Search', 'Marriage Applications & Searching', 'Marks & Brands Application & Copies', and 'Historical Index Search'.

ERATH COUNTY, TX GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ONLINE SERVICES

AGENDAS & MINUTES **COUNTY CLERK LAND RECORDS** BID POSTINGS DISTRICT ATTORNEY ONLINE

 **Erath County**
Clerk & Recorder's Web

Home cart

Home Instructions
Home Instructions

Official Records Document Search
Search Official Records including real estate and assumed names.

Marks & Brands Application & Copies
Search for an existing Mark and Brand. Apply for or renew

Vital Records Search
Search Birth, Death and Military Discharge

Historical Index Search
Historical Indexes for Grantors and Grantees - 1778-1864 (Burnt Deed Books), 1864-1910, 1910-1944

Marriage Applications & Searching
Complete a marriage application online or perform a search for an existing marriage record.



Regional Historical Resource Depository (RHRD) Program

- Collects, preserves, and provides access to records of local governments through 23 RHRD libraries in Texas.
- Microfilmed records are available to borrow through interlibrary loan (ILL).
- Some original records remained with the county, others may have been transferred to a county RHRD.



Not all counties or records were filmed. Contact the county or RHRD about original records.

www.tsl.texas.gov/aboutRHRD



Regional: Microfilm Records

County Records at TSLAC

TSLAC is the microfilm depository for the following Texas counties. Libraries may borrow the film through interlibrary loan (ILL). Select a county below to see which records have been filmed:

Atascosa	Bandera
Bastrop	Bexar
Blanco	Caldwell
Comal	Frio
Galveston	Gillespie
Grayson	Guadalupe
Harris	Hays
Karnes	Kendall

www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/local/index.html

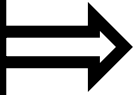


Regional: Microfilm Records

Hays County Records

These county records are available on microfilm from:

RHRD that holds
the reels

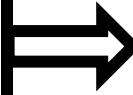


Texas State Library and Archives Commission in Austin, TX

Film for this county is available for libraries to borrow through interlibrary loan (ILL). Contact your local library to send an ILL request for the material you wish to borrow. Your request should include the specific reel numbers for the microfilm you wish to use, as well as the name of the county and name of the repository that houses the film reels. Individuals requesting to borrow film held by TSLAC may wish to [review our ILL policies](#).

Record type and
time period

Reel number for
ILL request



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

DEATH RECORD, 1903-1934

Index: Volumes 2 and 3 were individually indexed; Volume 1 was not indexed.

Reel 1673728
1903-1910 Vol. 1
1910-1923 Vol. 2
1923-1934 Vol. 3

Creator of the
records





Regional: Microfilm Records



County Records at Other Depositories

Film for the following counties are housed at depositories throughout Texas and are also available for libraries to borrow through interlibrary loan (ILL). Select a county below to see which records have been filmed:

Anderson	Andrews
Angelina	Aransas
Archer	Austin
Bee	Bell
Bosque	Bowie
Brazoria	Brazos
Brewster	Brooks
Brown	Burleson
Burnet	Calhoun
Callahan	Cameron



Regional: Microfilm Records

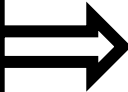
Angelina County Records

These county records are available on microfilm from:

[Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX](#)

Film for this county is available for libraries to borrow through interlibrary loan (ILL). Contact your local library to send an ILL request for the material you wish to borrow. Your request should include the specific reel numbers for the microfilm you wish to use, as well as the name of the county and name of the repository that houses the film reels. Individuals requesting to borrow film as a patron of TSLAC may wish to [review our ILL policies](#) for registration and request instructions.

RHRD that holds the reels



Record type and time period
Reel number for ILL request



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

DEED RECORD, 1846-1887

Index: For indexes to the Deed Record request the following reels:

Direct:

Reel 1035026 (A-R)

Reel 1035027 (R-Z)

Reverse:

Reel 1035027 (A-H)

Reel 1035028 (H-Z)

Creator of the records



County Clerk: birth, death, marriage, property records
District Clerk: divorce records, district court minutes and cases



Regional: Original Records at TSLAC

- TSLAC may hold original county records for some counties:
 - Records may still be unprocessed.
 - Provide staff with the county, dates, and types of records needed and we will check our holdings.
- Examples of types of records we have for some counties:
 - Scholastic census and superintendent records.
 - Marriage records.
 - Property records.
 - County court records.



Regional: Original Records at SHC

Local Records Available at the Sam Houston Center

Internal Links

[About the Depository System](#) | [Explanatory Notes About the Records](#)

Related Links

[Records from Chambers County](#) | [Records from Hardin County](#)
[Records from Jasper County](#) | [Records from Jefferson County](#)
[Records from Liberty County](#) | [Records from Newton County](#)
[Records from Orange County](#) | [Records from Polk County](#)
[Records from San Jacinto County](#) | [Records from Tyler County](#)
[List of Depositories \(RHRDs\)](#) | [County records available on microfilm](#)

www.tsl.texas.gov/shc/countyrecs/index.html



Regional: Original Records at SHC

County records series listed below are available for viewing and research purposes at the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center.

Creator of the records	Chambers County - County Auditor			
Record type and time period	Record Series	Dates	No. of Vols.	Cu. Ft.
	County Budgets	1982-1984	1	0.1
			↑	↑
			Physical properties	



County and Other Local Sources

County Government

County Clerk

District Clerk

County Archive

Local History

Public library

Historical Society

Museum

Private

Cemetery

School

Church

Hospital

Not sure which county?

Census records

Military records

State vital records

Newspapers

Published histories

www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/genfirst.html



County History Resources

- Texas State Historical Association
 - *Handbook of Texas*: www.tshaonline.org/handbook
 - *Texas Almanac*: texasalmanac.com/topics/counties/home
- FamilySearch Research Wiki: www.familysearch.org/wiki
- The Newberry Library *Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*:
publications.newberry.org/ahcbp
- TXGenWeb Project: www.txgenweb.org/county.htm



County boundaries may have changed over time. Check surrounding counties for early records.



Contact Us

Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC)

Physical Address: 1201 Brazos Street, Austin, TX 78701

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 12927, Austin, TX 78711

Phone: (512) 463-5455

Email: ref@tsl.texas.gov

Website: www.tsl.texas.gov

Sam Houston Research Library and Research Center

Physical Address: 650 FM 1011, Liberty, TX 77575

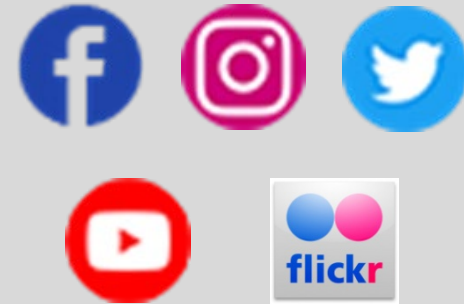
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 310, Liberty, TX 77575

Phone: (936) 336-8821

Email: SamHoustonCenter@tsl.texas.gov

Website: www.tsl.texas.gov/shc

Like & Follow Us





Summary

- Types of county records available
- Where to locate county records
- How to reach us for help





THANK
YOU