



South Texas Researcher

August 2016

Texana / Genealogy



San Antonio Public Library Texana / Genealogy

Find Texana / Genealogy online by visiting mysapl.org/texana. Here you will find the *On this day in San Antonio* blog, past issues of *South Texas Researcher*, information about upcoming classes and guides to help you in your genealogy research.

Texana / Genealogy Department is located on the sixth floor of the Central Library, 600 Soledad 78205. The department is open to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays:

Tuesday	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm

These hours apply to the entirety of the sixth floor, as well as the Texana Department. Outside of these hours, you may request back issues of periodicals and genealogy books (other than those in the Texana Room) at the circulation desk on the first floor and they will be retrieved and brought downstairs for you.



Library Guides from Texana / Genealogy

The Library Guides are subject bibliographies with a current twist-databases, websites, event schedule, blogs, as well as books. The department now has the following guides on the library's website under *Resources*:

- Cemeteries
- Civil War
- Civil War in Texas
- Death
- Family History
- HeritageQuest Online
- Hispanic Genealogical Research
- Jewish Genealogy
- King James Bible
- La Meri
- Local History
- Texas History
- The Wild West

Events & Classes



There are no classes scheduled for August.

New Publications



The Ancestry of of the Family of John H. Mundine, Jr. of Uvalde, Texas Including Their
Hulman and Howard Heritage
GENEALOGY 929.2 MUNDINE

Baptisms of Our Lady of Monserrat Catholic Church, 1792-1799, Located in Cruillas,
Tamaulipas, Mexico
GENEALOGY 972.12 BAPTISMS V. 2

Prince George's County: A Pictorial History
GENEALOGY 975.5 PRINCE GEORGE'S

Greenville County, South Carolina Will Abstracts, 1787-1853
GENEALOGY 975.7 GREENVILLE

Marriage and Death Notices from the Southern Presbyterian, Vol. 3 (1880-1891) and Vol. 4
(1892-1908)
GENEALOGY 975.7 HOLCOMB

South Carolina's State Grants
GENEALOGY 975.7 STATE V. 1 & V. 2

Arkansas Place Names: US Geological Survey's Geographic Names Information System
GENEALOGY 976.7 ARKANSAS 2003

Abstracts from the Sharp County Record Newspaper: Published in Evening Shade,
Arkansas
GENEALOGY 976.7 SHARP VOLS. 7-25 (1901-1920)

New Mexico Civil War Bibliography, 1861-1865
GENEALOGY 978.094 RITTENHOUSE

The Treaty of Guadalupe and New Mexico Community Land Claims: (GAO Report 04-59,
2004)
GENEALOGY 978.9 TREATY

Constitution of the State of New Mexico, 1850
GENEALOGY 978.901 CONSTITUTION

Canarias En La Aventura Americana: El Malecón Insular
TEXANA 325.2649 HERNANDEZ GUTIERREZ

The Building Arts of South Texas: Stories of Endangered Building Arts and the Craftsmen
Who Keep Them Alive
TEXANA 690 HENDRICKS

Texas Clay: 19th Century Stoneware Pottery from the Bayou Bend Collection
TEXANA 738.30976 MUSEUM

Canarias, Viaje A Lo Desconocido
TEXANA 914.649 DELGADO GOMEZ

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria: Parques y Jardinas, El Corazon De La Ciudad
TEXANA 914.649 HONAINAINE

The Hills of Cherokee
TEXANA 976.4183 ROACH

Index to the San Fernando Church Burials, 1744-1808
TEXANA 976.4351 PATINO

The Memories of Will Conine: 1860's to 1890's
TEXANA 976.4518 CONINE

Historical Markers of Denton County, Texas
TEXANA 976.4535 MARKERS

Rural Cemeteries of Stephens County, Texas
(130 Years - 44 Cemeteries)
TEXANA 976.4546 RURAL

From Blackland Prairie to Blacktop: A History of Collin County
TEXANA 976.4556 FARMER

From the Top Old Hayrick: A Narrative History of Coke County
TEXANA 976.4723 PRITCHETT

The Free of Menard
TEXANA 976.4877 PIERCE

Community Partners



Los Bexareños Genealogical and Historical Society

Meetings are normally held at 9:30 a.m. at the Central Library Auditorium. Visitors are welcome to attend. Membership is not required. Speakers at the meetings are people with a passion for history, professional historians, genealogists, archaeologists and researchers.

Date: August 6, 2016

Speaker: Cynthia Leal Massey

Topic: Researching Family History:

How a Family Story Inspired *Death of a Texas Ranger*

Award-winning author Cynthia Leal Massey was born and raised on the south side of San Antonio, Texas, and she has lived in Helotes, twenty miles northwest of the Alamo City, since 1994. A former corporate editor, college instructor, and magazine editor, she has authored hundreds of magazine and newspaper articles and six books. A full-time writer, she is a past president of Women Writing the West and the 2008 winner of the Lone Star Award for Magazine Journalism, given by the Houston Press Club, for her San Antonio Scene article, "Is UT Holding our History Hostage." Also active in civic affairs, Massey is a member of the Helotes City Council and is president of the Historical Society of Helotes. She will be talking about her book, *Death of a Texas Ranger, A True Story of Murder and Vengeance on the Texas Frontier*, which won the 2015 Will Rogers Silver Medallion Award for Western Nonfiction and a 2015 San Antonio Conservation Award. The title of her presentation is "Researching Oral History: How a Family Story Inspired *Death of a Texas Ranger*." The book will be available for sale at the meeting.

Help for the beginning genealogists:

The Society assists individuals in getting started with genealogical research through beginner's workshops. Beginners also receive assistance from the more experienced members of the Society.

Contact one of the following individuals by email or phone to schedule an appointment:

Dennis Moreno	210.647.5607
Yolanda Patiño	210.434.3530



San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society

In addition to Beginner and Intermediate Genealogy classes, the San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society is offering its Sunday afternoon *How to Find Out Who You Are* classes. Cost is \$5.00 for members, \$10 for non-members. Call 210.342.5242 or click on the "Ask Us" button on the website for reservations.

With over 16,500 volumes, 600+ maps, a large vertical file collection and internet access to several great databases, the SAG&HS Library is one of the best private repositories of genealogical and historical material in South Texas.

The San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society Library is located at 911 Melissa Drive, off Blanco Rd, outside Loop 410 and is open Monday 10am - 4pm, Wednesday 10 am -9pm, Saturday 10am - 4pm and Sunday 1 - 5pm. Members research free. Non-members may research for a \$5.00 donation per day. Tours of the library are free. For more information, visit www.txsaghs.org



Nuestra Historia

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

4 May - 4 September 2016

Featuring documents from the General Archive of the Indies in Seville, Spain, which was the launching point of Spain's exploration and expansion of the northern frontier of their new territory. Presented in partnership with Bexar County, at the Bexar County Presidio Gallery.



theMcNay


San Antonio Museum of Art

**Splendor on the Range:
American Indians and the
Horse**
through August 21

**Maya: Hidden Worlds
Revealed**
through 5 September 2016

Sheperd Fairey at the McNay
27 April - 11 September 2016

**Art for the Sake of Art:
Ornament Prints from the
Blanton Museum of Art**
27 April - 7 August 2016

Greg Smith: Loop
26 April - 28 August 2016

**Coney Island: Visions of an
American Dreamland: 1861-
2008**
11 May - 11 Sept. 2016

**Highest Heaven: Spanish and
Portuguese Colonial Art from
the collection of Roberta and
Richard Huber**
11 June - 4 September 2016

Mi Casa Your Casa
11 June - 21 August 2016

**Heaven and Hell: Salvation
and Retribution in Pure Land
Buddhism**
10 June - 3 Sept. 2016

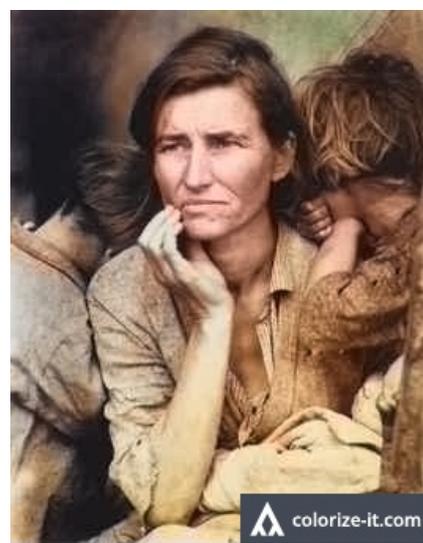
News



Instantly Colorize Your Old Black & White Photos

Do you have old black-and-white family photographs? A new service on Algorithmia uses a deep learning algorithm to add color to the photos. Yes, it works. The colors may not be perfect but they are almost always better than black-and-white. The service is easy to use and, best of all, is available **FREE of charge**.

Try it here: <http://demos.algorithmia.com/colorize-photos/>



Free Online Genealogy Class

This free online course from the University of Strathclyde - Glasgow will help you develop an understanding of basic genealogy techniques and how to communicate your family history. They will consider how to effectively find and analyse sources and explore the potential of DNA testing as applied to genealogy. They'll help you add historical context to your family history and discuss how to record and communicate research findings in a clear fashion. The course is primarily designed for people at beginner to intermediate level.

Learn how to find and store information on your family tree

They'll get you to define what you want to research, and consider the best ways to go about finding and storing information on your family tree. A key challenge of genealogy - finding the right person among a number of possible candidates, with ever-changing spellings of surnames - will be considered.

They'll conclude by introducing the main types of tools genealogists use to communicate their research finds, including creating a family tree and look at how to write a meaningful family history.

Share your own genealogy finds with learners worldwide

Throughout the course, you'll follow the story of Chris, as she uncovers her own family history, and you'll be encouraged to share sources and ideas particular to your area of genealogical interest and geographic focus.

The course will not concentrate on a specific country's records or how to source these, so it will be useful to anyone around the world.

Develop your genealogy skills

The knowledge you gain from this course may prompt you to explore family history research more deeply or consider a career as a professional genealogist.

You may even wish to take your learning further, with the University of Strathclyde's online MSc in Genealogical Palaeographic and Heraldic Studies.

Get started here: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/genealogy/2>

Back Up Your Genealogy Files!

It is the first of the month. It's time to back up your genealogy files. Then test your backups!

Actually, you can make backups at any time. However, it is easier and safer if you have a specific schedule. The first day of the month is easy to remember, so I would suggest you back up your genealogy files at least on the first day of every month, if not more often. Of course, you might want to back up more than your genealogy files. Family photographs, your checkbook register, all sorts of word processing documents, email messages, and much more need to be backed up regularly. Why not do that on the first day of each month?

How Many Backup Copies of Important Files Do You Need?

Here's the old data center 3-2-1 rule-of-thumb for backing up:

- 3 copies of anything you care about - Two isn't enough if it's important.
- 2 different formats - Example: Dropbox plus DVDs or Hard Drive plus Memory Stick or CD plus Crash Plan, or more
- 1 off-site backup - If the house burns down, how will you get your memories back?

Ten Tips for Organizing Your Genealogy Research

1. **Sheet Control** - Use standard 8½" x 11" paper for all notes and printouts.
2. **Stay Single** - One surname, one locality per sheet for easy filing
3. **No Repeats** - Avoid errors; write legibly the first time.
4. **Dating Yourself** - Always write the current date on your research notes
5. **Be Color Clever** - Distinguish family line with different colored folders, binders, tabs, etc.
6. **File First** - File one research trip or effort before starting the next one.
7. **Ask Directions** - Write your own filing instructions, a big help when you take a long break.
8. **Supply Closet** - Keep a stash of folders, plastic sleeves, tabs, printer ink.
9. **One File at a Time** - Work through paper piles steadily; the mess didn't happen in a day.
10. **KISS** - Keep It Simple, Silly! Use an easy to set up, easy to maintain system.



From the Archives

Secession Times in Texas (part eleven) - James P. Newcomb - 1863

Is a remarkably well-built city, evidently containing at one time a much greater population than at present, it having now about eighteen thousand. The streets are broad and straight, and intersect at right angles. The main square is after the style of the "plaza de armas" in Monterey, having a neat fountain in the center. From the South side the plaza, leads out the market, where every thing is sold; produce, meat, vegetables, fruit, trinkets, wares of all descriptions; in fact a perfect mixture of everything in one market place.

Mexican towns seem generally, a collection of stores and little groceries. Durango has its share, and the imagination of the inhabitants seems to have been taxed to produce flashy signs, - the entire front of some of the merchantile [sic] establishments being painted with some such pictures as the "Crystal Palace," "the Colossus of Rhodes," the "Four Seasons," &c.

The "Alameda" is a beautiful little park in the Southern portion of the city, laid off in neat walks and drives and shaded by stately trees; running through in all directions, are ditches of water bordered by flower beds. This is the evening resorts of all who ride or walk, and you see some quaint old turn-outs, perhaps, after the style of the early of the early conquerors - great lumbering coaches, drawn by a span of little mules or ponies, upon each of which rides a postillion who belabors industriously the poor animals, while inside sit the gay señoritas, smoking, chatting, laughing, and making good use of their eyes. The "Alameda" is a lovely retreat summer or winter; it is now winter, but not winter weather - the trees of their foliage, and as you saunter over these grounds, there seems a solemnness in the music of the running waters and the rustling leaves under foot, consonant with the natural sadness in the faces of the people around you.

LIVING IN DURANGO

We found living in Durango very cheap and good; every variety of fine vegetables, meat, game and fruit. The fruits are principally the orange, apple, plantain, banana, pear, fig, chilemoya [sic] and the sweet potato, which is ranked among the fruits, being boiled and eaten with syrup. The tunas, or fruit of the prickly pear or cactus, seem to be the favorite with the natives, while to the stranger they are quite insipid. As to a game, a man comes to our door several times a week, with an ox laden with every variety of the wild fowl kind, at very reasonable rates: a brace of large ducks, five cents, a goose, ten cents, snipe, ten cents per dozen, etc.

CHURCHES, PENITENTIARY, MINT, MILLS, FACTORIES, ETC.

Being furnished a young Mexican cicerone by the Cura of the city, I made a pilgrimage to the churches and different places of interest about the city. Beginning with "San Augustine," in outward appearance quite neat; stepping inside, we had to pass through a row of beggars, double-file, each holding out a hand - a charitable guantlet [sic]; several worshipers were kneeling over the floor and some females entered, crossed themselves, dropped on their knees, and in this posture worked their way up to the main altar. No service was going on, no priest officiating, but candles were burning, and meek forms were bending in worship to God in some shape, and although no eye turned at our steps, I was awed by the solemn silence and preferred to take a hasty and imperfect glance. We passed on the the "Cathedral," its two steeples towering above all the rest, indicating a bishoprick, but the Bishop has been banished. It is a fine large edifice, and no doubt was once splendidly and richly ornamented and furnished, but Liberal and Federal law have, in turn, robbed these temples. Many fine old pictures decorate the walls, and full-sized images of saints stand in the niches and confront you upon the numerous altars. The lofty dome is elaborately painted, and its great aisles, fine altars and lofty arches, reminded me somewhat of the "Notre Dame" in Montreal; it contains two organs and its steeples have places for forty-eight bells, but half of them occupied, - these bells are remarkable for their silvery tone, owing perhaps to the clearness of the atmosphere - over and around the several entrance ways are elaborate carvings, and upon the roof stand full-sized angles - in stone!

"San Francisco," the next visited, is a fine little church; it seems even finer than the Cathedral, perhaps from the fact of its ornaments and embellishments being concentrated within a smaller space; - it is profuse with paintings, fancy altars and images, two which struck me as peculiarly novel, being black in complexion and woolly-pated. This church fronts upon a near little plaza, and adjoins an extensive building, once a convent, but now occupied by the Liberal troops as a barracks and a military prison.

"San Juan de Dios" I found but a repetition of the other churches, except that the walls at the entrance were covered with rude caricatures, representing the miraculous cures which had been performed on the sick through the intercession of the different saints: adjoining is a fine large hospital. There are several other churches, some occupied, and some falling to ruins. The beholder must be convinced, that when these temples were erected, the people were better off than now, and that they have been bled freely at the pocket, to feed and enrich a numerous and all-powerful priesthood. Half the wealth herein expended, directed to the education of these people and the establishment of proper industrial institutions, would now find them happier, better and richer; as it is, Durango is very poor; its churches are comparatively idle, the priesthood under bane of the authorities, not daring to ring a bell or perform mass without permission, and a great portion of the populations, in beggary or on the verge.

The unfinished penitentiary covers several acres of ground, the cells running in circles, and numbering several hundred, only five hundred of which are completed, in which were lodged the prisoners who were kept at work upon it some time back; revolutionary events stopped its further progress; when finished, it will be the largest and strongest prison in Mexico. Its labyrinth of walls, affords quarters and hiding places for thieves and robbers.

The mint is not to be boasted of, the stamps and machinery being all worked by hand; considerable gold coin is made here, copper money however, is the main currency, a sure sign of poverty.

The flour mill owned by the Bracho Bros. is one of the most complete establishments of the kind I have seen in Mexico. The machinery was imported from France and put up at cost of \$80,000.

Durango boasts two cotton and wool factories.

Editor's Note: We realize that some of the language used by Mr. Newcomb in 1863 may be offensive and/or derogatory. This document is provided for historical purposes only and the opinions therein are solely those of the late James P. Newcomb and do not reflect the opinions or of beliefs held by the San Antonio Public Library or its Texana/Genealogy Department. Also, all the unorthodox spellings were left as-written by Mr. Newcomb.

To Be Continued...



The South Texas Researcher is a publication of the San Antonio Public Library Texana/Genealogy department. For more information, or to submit program information for an upcoming issue, email genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov by the deadline provided:

- September 2016 by August 15
- October 2016 by September 15
- November 2016 by October 15

