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

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
- Special Collections
- World War I
Events & Classes

Using Ancestry Library Edition

Ancestry.com is one of the most popular genealogy databases available. You can use the Library Edition for free throughout the SAPL system. Come and learn some of the resources available through it to help you in doing your family history research. Registration is recommended.

Wednesday, July 18, 6:00 p.m.

Central Library - Connect Training Area
600 Soledad 78205
210.207.2500

Finding Out Who You Are: Beginning Your Genealogy Research

Learn how to begin un-puzzling your family history in this introduction to genealogy. Get tips on how to start your research and the kind of genealogical gems you can find in courthouse records, church records, cemeteries, archives and even your own San Antonio Public Library!

Wednesday, July 18, 11:30 a.m.

Potranco Library
8765 State Hwy 151
San Antonio, TX 78245
Phone (210) 207-9280
Mayor's Summer Reading Club

Registration for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club opened June 1. Sign up online or at any San Antonio Public Library location.

Read or listen to books and attend programs to get entries to win prizes!

Read eight books, attend eight programs, or do a combination of reading and programs to reach eight to earn a free book and an extra entry to win.

Take a look at the new books list below in this newsletter. Books marked with an asterisk (*) also have copies outside of the department that you can check out.

These will count towards your summer reading total.

New Publications

A Genealogical Study of the Kincaids of Uvalde: Including Sinclair, Lockhart and Burnett Descents
GENEALOGY 929.2 KINCAIDS 2017

Burials of the Church of Punta de Lampasos, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, 1812-1820
GENEALOGY 972.13 BURIALS

The Cry of a Stone or A Treatise Showing What is Right Matter, Form and Government of the Visible Church of Christ
GENEALOGY 974 COACHMAN 2016

Between Two Worlds: How the English Became Americans
GENEALOGY 974 GASKILL 2014

White Pennsylvania Runaways, 1769-1772
GENEALOGY 974.8 WHITE 2015

1999 Interim Report on the APVA Excavations at Jamestown, Virginia
GENEALOGY 975.5 JAMESTOWN

Jefferson County Georgia Lottery Drawers for 1827 and 1832
GENEALOGY 975.8 JEFFERSON 2016

Jefferson County Georgia Tax List, 1796-1803
GENEALOGY 975.8 JEFFERSON 2016
Native American Genealogical Resources for New Mexico
GENEALOGY 978.9 DANIEL 2008

New Mexico Baptisms, Church in Anton Chico, 1857-1872
GENEALOGY 978.9 GUADALUPE 2016

New Mexico Baptisms, Church in San Juan de los Caballeros, 1726-1798
GENEALOGY 978.9 RIO ARRIBA 2016

New Mexico Baptisms, Church in Santa Clara Pueblo, 1841-1854
GENEALOGY 978.9 RIO ARRIBA 2016

New Mexico Baptisms, Church of Santo Tomas de Abiquiu, Volume 3, 1861-1869
GENEALOGY 978.9 RIO ARRIBA v. 3

San Miguel del Bado, NM, Burials 1829-1848: Also includes Pecos from 1796-1829 and Ribera from 1857-1850
GENEALOGY 978.9 SAN MIGUEL 2015

San Jose del Bado: The 1803 Land Grantees
GENEALOGY 978.9 SAN MIGUEL 2016

San Miguel del Bado del Rio de Pecos: The 1803 Land Grantees
GENEALOGY 978.9 SAN MIGUEL 2013

New Mexico Baptisms, Church in San Ildefonso, New Mexico, 1700-1796
GENEALOGY 978.9 SANTA FE 2016

Santa Cruz Marriages 1826-1849 and Roots Ltd, Addendum
GENEALOGY 978.9 SANTA FE 2013

New Mexico Confirmations, Taos, New Mexico, 1830
GENEALOGY 978.9 TAOS 2016

Gonzalez of Texas: A Congressman for the People
TEXANA 328.73092 GONZALEZ BIOGRAPHY 1996

Henry B. Gonzalez: Rebel with a Cause
TEXANA 328.73092 GONZALEZ BIOGRAPHY 2002

The Acequias of San Antonio
TEXANA 333.91009 ACEQUIAS

Red Wagons and White Canvas: A Story of the Mollie Bailey Circus
TEXANA 338.7617 BAILEY 1988

San Antonio 1718: Art from Mexico
TEXANA 709.72 SAN ANTONIO 2018

Mary Bonner: Impressions of a Printmaker
TEXANA 767.3092 BONNER BIOGRAPHY 2018

More Rawhides
TEXANA 813.52 RUSSELL 1946

Trail Dust: Friendly, Heart-Warming, Star-Dusted Philosophy by the Sage of Matador,
Douglas Meador
Through Mexico on Horseback: Forty Days and Nights in the Wilderness of Old Mexico
TEXANA 917.2 GOODWIN 1933

Backroads of the Texas Hill Country: Your Guide to the Most Scenic Adventures
TEXANA 917.64 CLARK 2008

Put up or Shut Up
TEXANA 917.64 PORTER 1950

Mavericks: The Salty Comments of an Old-Time Cowpuncher
TEXANA 917.8 KING 1947

Lady: The Story of Claudia Alta [Lady Bird] Johnson
TEXANA 973.923 JOHNSON BIOGRAPHY 1992

Texas Iron: Guns of the Texas Rangers
TEXANA 976.4 MOSER 2018

The Official Texas Historical Marker Inscriptions
TEXANA 976.4003 1977

A Crooked River: Rustlers, Rangers, and Regulars on the Lower Rio Grande, 1861-1877
TEXANA 976.405 COLLINS 2018

Tales of the Frio Canyon: Stories of the Texas Hill County
TEXANA 976.40924 KIRKPATRICK 2013

Saving San Antonio: The Preservation of a Heritage
TEXANA 976.4351 FISHER 2016

TEXANA 976.4351 SAN ANTONIO 1924

Black Land, Red River: A Pictorial History of Grayson County, Texas
TEXANA 976.4557 MCLEROY 1993

Archibald John Writes the Rocking Chair Ranche Letters
TEXANA 976.4831 TINKLER 1979

Aquarena Springs
TEXANA 976.4888 WEBER 2009

Tied Hard and Fast: Apache Adams-Big Bend Cowboy
TEXANA 976.4932 ADAMS BIOGRAPHY 2011

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:** July 7, 2018  
**Speaker:** Billy Kiser  
**Topic:** Confederate/Texas Diplomacy in northern Mexico during the Civil War

Billy Kiser received his Ph.D. in U.S. history from Arizona State University and is now an assistant professor at Texas A&M University-San Antonio. His research focus is the 19th century Southwest Borderlands and he has written three books: Turmoil on the Rio Grande: The Territorial History of the Mesilla Valley, 1846-1865 (published in 2011 by Texas A&M University Press); Dragoons in Apacheland: Conquest and Resistance in Southern New Mexico, 1846-1861 (published in 2013 by the University of Oklahoma Press); and Borderlands of Slavery: The Struggle over Captivity and Peonage in the American Southwest (published in 2017 by the University of Pennsylvania Press). He is currently writing a new book dealing with Civil War diplomacy in the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands.

**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

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**Canary Islands Descendants Association**

The Canary Islands Descendants Association's monthly meetings are open to the public. Association membership is not required to attend. There is a guest speaker at each meeting that shares information about historical events, facts or other related information on Texas, San Antonio or the Canary Islands.

**Event Details:**
Every third Saturday between January 20, 2018 and November 17, 2018
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Free

Venue:

- **San Antonio Central Library**
  - 600 Soledad Street
  - San Antonio, TX 78205
  - 210-207-2500

EVENT PRESENTED BY:

- Canary Islands Descendants Association
- cida.satx@gmail.com
- [http://www.cida-sa.org](http://www.cida-sa.org)

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**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](http://www.txsaghs.org)

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**Viva Hemisfair!**

The Institute of Texan Cultures
April 6 - December 31, 1968

Through historical photos, personal anecdotes, HemisFair memorabilia, archive film footage and more, the exhibit reveals what it took to put on the fair, and how it impacted San Antonio and the surrounding area.

In preparation for the HemisFair exhibit, ITC graduate intern Garrett Bader generated a HemisFair Journal StoryMap. For a more comprehensive look into the HemisFair park area, the old neighborhood, the Polish Quarter, the historic homes, St. Michael's Church and more, access the journal [here](http://www.cida-sa.org).
Brewing Up Texas
The Institute of Texan Cultures
October 21, 2017 - October 28, 2018

From 1840 to the modern craft beer industry, follow the story of beer, brewers and breweries and how they left their mark on Texas culture.

Gathering at the Waters: 12,000 Years of People
13 January through 1 July 2018

Predators vs. Prey: Dinosaurs on the Land Before Texas
26 May through 3 September 2018

Connecting Texas: 300 Years of Trails, Rails and Roads
17 February through September 2018

Confluence and Culture: 300 Years of San Antonio History
3 March 2018 through 6 January 2019

Captain Seth Eastman's Journey with a Sketchbook: Down the Mississippi
5 April 2018 to 1 July 2018

100 Years of Printmaking in San Antonio: Bill Reily
12 April 2018 to 1 July 2018

HemisFair '68: San Antonio's World's Fair
3 May 2018 to 29 July 2018

Immersed: Local to Global Art Sensations
7 June 2018 to 2 September 2018

Egyptian Animal Mummies: Science Explores an Ancient Religion
23 March through 1 July 2018

Spain: 500 Years of Spanish Painting from the Museums of Madrid: A Tricentennial Exhibition
Through 16 September 2018

Marilyn Lanfear
24 August - 11 November 2018

Becoming John Marin: Modernist at Work
26 October 2018 - 20 January 2019

News

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?

Links

Free Online Genealogy Webinars

July 2018
Freedmen's Bureau Records - More Valuable to Anyone's Southern Research Than You Might Have Thought

- **Presenter:** Diane L. Richard
- **Date:** July 25, 2018
- **Time:** 8:00 PM Central
- **Description:** Many overlook records that they think pertain to only one group of people. Though an invaluable and rich resource for information on freed slaves, these records also cover many other southerners from DE to TX - including ex-soldiers, impoverished widows, and destitute parents. If your ancestors lived in the south in the immediate post-civil war time period, regardless of race and pre-war circumstances, you will want to learn about these records.

  - **Registration:** [https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2457401178861541122](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2457401178861541122)

Clayton Genealogy Library - Houston

**August 3-4, 2018** | Starting at 10:00 a.m.

The Frances Sprott Goforth Memorial Genealogy Weekend will be held August 3rd and 4th, 2018 at the Huntsville Public Library. This year's event, "Orphan Trains, Adoption, and DNA" is hosted by the Walker County Genealogical Society and the Huntsville Public Library. On-site registration begins at 9:30 a.m. both days with programs from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, August 3 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 4. A light supper will be provided on Friday. A silent auction, open to the public, will be held during the
weekend and will end at 4 p.m. Saturday.

The event is free but requires registration. Call 936-291-5471 or sign up online at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com.

Franklin County Genealogical Society

July 14, 2018 - The Franklin County Genealogical Society: Is holding an all-day seminar on "How to Research Military Information" presented by Martha Collins. It will be held Saturday, July 14, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a break for lunch around noon until 1:30. Bring a sack lunch or enjoy one of the many eateries around our town square.

108 East Main Street - Crescent Building, Mount Vernon, Texas

The cost is $5.00 for members of FCGS and $7.00 for non-members, this will cover the cost of printed materials.
Please RSVP to fcgensoc@suddenlinkmail.com or call 903-537-3931. Seating will be limited.

Archivists Showcase Rarely-Seen Texas Historical Records

Let archivists be your guide as you examine some of the state's most fascinating historical records. Archives À la Carte: Staff Picks, the most recent exhibit at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, looks at how the Texan identity is captured and perpetuated through items selected by state archivists and librarians.

This "behind-the-scenes" tour of the State Archives features surprising historical finds - including items for music lovers and nature buffs. From our love of travel and frontiers to our fascination with myth and outlaws, the Texan experience in captured through some rarely-seen artifacts, manuscripts, photographs, maps, and recordings.
Among the items on exhibit are letters and ledgers that highlight some of the state’s most notorious outlaws. Correspondence regarding the reward for the capture of John Wesley Hardin and convict ledgers detailing the crimes and fate of Clyde Barrow (one half of the famous Bonnie and Clyde duo) will be on view and show the documented imprint of these well-known figures.

State Archivist Jelain Chubb selected a pair of letters written from Samuel F. B. Morse to Sam Houston. In his first letter, dated 1838, Morse offers the Republic of Texas "unconditional" rights to his new Electro-Magnetic Telegraph. Having never heard back, Morse writes to Houston again in 1860 revoking the offer. Chubb asks, "how might our history and our communications have changed if Texas had taken up Morse on his offer?"

State Librarian and Director Mark Smith adds, "historical records are a trove of insights and evidence - we learn about things that happened, and we also learn about the possibilities and context surrounding decisions that can sometimes remain hidden."

Through the exhibit, the public can experience history through the lens of research staff, whose insights into sometimes overlooked resources sparks a personal connection or curiosity about elements of our past.

The exhibit opened February 15 and runs through August 31, 2018 at the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building at 1201 Brazos Street just east of the Capitol Building in Austin.

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Historic Aerials

Historic Aerials claims to be "Home of the most comprehensive database of historical aerial photos of the United States." Indeed, it is a huge resource.

According to information on the Historic Aerials web site: "Take a ride in our time machine!
"Nationwide Environmental Title Research has spent the past 20+ years collecting the worlds largest database of historical aerial images and topographical maps of the United States. Our sources include USGS imagery, several private collections, and we are continually acquiring more. All the imagery we collect is painstakingly orthorectified to
provide the data in a searchable and precise geo-locatable format. Our web application allows you to quickly and easily search for any parcel of U.S. land and instantly view that same area in any other year where we could obtain an aerial photo."

While the basic service is free, the pictures displayed to free users have a rather obnoxious watermark pasted on top of each image. That makes the free images almost useless. Obviously, the web site owners want each user to sign up for a paid account in order to obtain more useful images.

Again, quoting the Historic Aerials web site:
"Need prints or digital assets?
"Simple! After selecting your geographic area, you are only a few clicks away from purchasing printed photos and/or digital images that are certified and unencumbered by watermarks that you can use for anything you need. You'll need to be a registered user to make purchases, but registration is free! Feel free to click around in the viewer to preview all that is available, and when you're ready to register, simply click on the Sign Up button and complete the short form.

"As a registered user you'll be able to order prints shipped right to your doorstep. Available print sizes include:

- 9x9 inch
- 18x18 inch
- 36x36 inch

"In addition to prints, you have the option to immediately download PNG, JPG, and GeoTIFF digital images of your selection. Purchase one year, or all available years for a particular parcel.
"...of course there's more!
"The new Historic Aerials website offers a special subscription product for you or your organization. You can choose from several levels of service depending on your requirements. As a paid subscriber you'll enjoy the following benefits:

- Full screen viewer
- no advertising
- PDF builder (a real time saver!)
- quick JPEG downloads
- multiple user accounts

As a user described Historic Aerials:
"Using this free website, I just learned that before the subdivision was built which included my childhood house, the property had been an airport.
"A person might think that since aerial photography didn't exits before the early 1900s, that it wouldn't be of much use for genealogists. But using Historic Aerials, I was able to see that the building which housed my great-grandfather's business during the 1890s still existed at the time an aerial photo was taken in 1967, but was no longer there at the time the next available aerial photo was taken in 1973."

You can find Historic Aerials at: [https://www.historicaerials.com](https://www.historicaerials.com).
System is Perfected at Camp Travis Whereby a Thousand Recruits are Easily Handled in One Day, the Men Passing Through Five Buildings, in Each of Which a Definite Part of the Process of Transformation is Completed, With the Result That Much Time, Energy and Public Money are Saved.

Within an hour after a Camp Travis recruit deposits his handbag alongside the receiving station, hustles inside and doffs his clothing, he is either a soldier, fully equipped and en route to barracks or he has been rejected as physically unfit and is on his way home. Probably no camp in the nation has such a record, for the system under which it is possible is a new one, having been developed from experience and necessity. Until two weeks ago another system was in vogue. That system was slow, toilsome and troublesome. It required days for the recruits to be examined, get their inoculation, their clothing, assignment and classification. Sometimes recruits were kept in camp as long as two weeks before being finally rejected or accepted. This resulted in great expense to the government, loss of time and interruption of training. Then came the new system worked out by men who have handled hundreds and thousands of men, and it is proving a winner.

Handle 1000 Men a Day

During the movement of 12,000 men to camp in the latter days of June as many as 1,000 men were examined, inoculated, fully uniformed, classified and assigned to organizations in a single day. It was the first time the system had been tried and its result was most pleasing. There is nothing spectacular in the operation of the new system: It is simply system. Five buildings have been assigned to the work. The men go into one building and come out at the fifth. During the hour they are in these structures they pass before many boards and they learn whether their bodies and minds qualify them to be soldiers.

The work of the receiving station is now conducted by the camp personnel office. The principal duties of the personnel office is to conserve time, ability and experience. As the way continues the work of the personnel office in every camp has grown until now that at Camp Travis has a personnel corps under the adjutant general’s department, where scores of clerks and officers are on duty. This office, with assistance and advice from other officers, has developed the new Camp Travis receiving system.

In this work they have had the aid of William Clark, a civilian who has been loaned to the government to assist in perfecting the personnel branch. Mr. Clark was formerly employment manager of the International Harvester Company, Chicago. At the outbreak of the war his services were requested by the government and his company "loaned" him to the government. He has spent many months in this work, having organized the first Camp Travis personnel office and having developed the carding system in this department. He has just returned from an extensive tour in the department instructing officers at many posts and stations in the new work. He found ready assistance a month the Camp Travis officers to develop the new scheme and it seems to have been worth the work that they gave to it. Here is the method of handling the recruits.

Incoming recruits are met at the train by two commissioned officers and a number of enlisted men and are escorted either to the receiving station or to detention barracks.

Recruits Divided by Counties
Recruits are directed to the receiving station unless the number of recruits arriving is greater than can be handled in one day at the receiving station; otherwise, they are taken to what are called detention barracks, where they are attached to companies and rationed and quartered until they can be handled through the receiving station.

Upon arriving at the receiving station, the recruits are taken to room 1, where they are divided by counties, local board forms collected and counter-checked for errors and checked back against the men to determine whether all of the men sent by the various local boards have arrived. In room 1 each man is given a large envelope with instructions to place all of his valuables therein. The men are then lined up single file and marched through room 1, passing by a table on which they drop the envelopes containing the valuables. At this point the man’s name and the county from which he comes are written on his envelope.

Upon arriving at room 2, the undressing room, the men divest themselves of all their clothing and lay it upon counters, where it is wrapped by clerks. Upon the bundle is written the man’s name, the county from which he comes and the name and address of the person to whom the bundle is to be sent. The clothing, after being thus wrapped, is turned over to orderlies, who arrange the bundles into piles alphabetically. Immediately upon the wrapping of the first bundles, agents of the express companies begin the preparation of express receipts and all bundles arriving in the forenoon are ready for shipment in the afternoon. Those arriving in the afternoon are shipped the following morning.

A Bath for Every Man

Stripped, the men pass out of room 2 and are inspected for diseases before going into the baths. From this inspection they march single file down a chute into the bath house, where they are issued a cake of soap; upon emerging from the shower, each man is issued a bath towel and he proceeds along a runway, wiping the water from his body, into a second barrack. Upon arriving in the second barrack all of his papers are returned to him and, armed with his local board forms and the towel, with which he continues to rub himself, he marches into room 3 to the various medical boards.

In room 3 he passes by a number of stations, the first of which is that of the tubercular board, composed of a number of specially qualified physicians, who give him a thorough examination for evidences of tuberculosis. He then goes to station No. 2, where the neuro-psychiatric board examines his nerves and mentality, determining whether the man has ever had "fits" or is fully competent in mentality to perform the high duties of a soldier; from the neuro-psychiatric board he goes to station 3, where dentist examine the condition of his teeth and mouth. At station 4 he is weighed and measured by experts. At station 5 the recruit mounts a long table where his feet are measured for shoes and the size of his shoes here determined his written on a small card strung about his neck. It is interesting to note that shoes are fitted in the most scientific manner possible and officers competent to express opinions have stated that the fitting of the shoes, as well as the clothing at the new receiving station has never been equaled heretofore.

No Detail Is Overlooked

From the station where the man’s feet are measured for the fitting of his shoes he passes to station 6, where orthopedists scientifically examine the prospective soldier’s feed and all the joints of his body. Passing to station 7, the recruit gets his general surgical examination, and from 7 to 8 his fingerprints, marks and scars are taken and noted on the proper military forms. At station 9 the vision of the recruit is tested; then follows
at station 10 a critical examination of his ears, nose and throat; thence he passes to
station 11, where specialists examine his heart. At station 12 the recruit passes before
the critical eyes of the chief surgeon, his physical examination and record is completed
and, if accepted, he goes to station 13.

If the recruit is rejected by any of the medical boards, or if there be any doubt as to his
physical, mental or nervous condition, after passing the desk of the chief surgeon he is
taken before a special board, which consists of the heads of all other boards before which
his previously has gone, and the special board finally determines whether he is to
become a soldier or is to be sent back to his local board. The special board is presided
over by Maj. B. R. Johnston. If the special board determines that the man is fit for military
duty he is turned to building No. 2 of the receiving station, where he joins his comrades at
station 13.

At station 13 all recruits accepted for service at issued a barracks bag containing mess
and sleeping equipment and a recruit kit containing every necessary toilet article. At
station 14 the recruit is issued his underwear, socks, trousers, blouse, hat, shoes, extra
shoestrings, hat cord, belt, shirts and all necessary equipment.

At stations 14 the recruit is fitted with trousers, blouse and shoes by experts, and it is
interesting to note that of the thousands of recruits received in the June increment not
one of them has been found but that was fitted perfectly in all of these essentials.

Passing from station 14 the recruit marches down a roped-off pathway in the course of
which he mounts a small table, where he is stopped by a medical officer and has his shoes
examined to determine whether they fit perfectly. If it is discovered that an error has
been made in sizing the man's shoes his shoes are taken from him and exchanged for
shoes that fit his feet to a nicety.

From Station 15 the recruit files down an enclosed runway prepared especially to
protect him and his new outfit from the weather, and proceeds to station 16, where his
valuables, taken from him in the initial process are returned.

**Records Carefully Kept**

Armed with all of his equipment and his valuables, the recruit passes to station 17
where the process of preparation of records pertaining to him is started. Here his local
board forms are again critically examined, the man's correct name and its proper spelling
is determined and his enlistment and assignment papers are completed. Carrying his
enlistment and assignment papers with him as well as his local board forms, he goes to
station 18, where his qualification record card is prepared by experts.

There are 48 men on the qualification record board. All of them attended a school
established at Camp Travis by the personnel offices for a period of six weeks prior to the
coming of the June increment of recruits and an extremely accurate estimate is made of
the recruit's education, his general ability, character, his trade or profession and the
degree of proficiency therein. In this manner and by this board of experts all the
mechanics of whatever description are ferreted out, their proficiency is determined and a
general inventory taken of all men of the increment.

The importance of the work of the qualification record board cannot be overestimated,
for the reason that it absolutely essential to the successful prosecution of the war that
ability and experience in any trade or profession be determined and conserved;
otherwise we should have highly skilled artisans and mechanics shouldering rifles and it
would become necessary for the government to educate men along technical lines;
whereas, under the present plan of classification the government is enabled to take
advantage of experience which soldiers have obtained in their civil pursuits.
"Sizing Up" the Recruit

From station 18 the recruit passes to station 19, at which sits a board of five men, who scrutinize carefully the qualification record card made out by the qualification record board and with the recruit before them, size him up and classify him according to ability and experience. The five men who sit at this board perform an extremely important function for the reason that by their skill and ability there is saved to the government an immense amount of rare ability in the recruits.

At station 20 the recruit's papers are taken from him. He is put in a place set aside for his particular county and his vaccination and typhoid prophylactic record is issued to him. When all of the recruits of a particular local board have thus been assembled they pick up their barracks bags and march in single file past station 21, where they are vaccinated and the typhoid prophylactic is administered. They, turned over to orderlies, they are marched off to their company organizations, fully clothed, equipped and ready to begin active life as soldiers after a period of rest from the typhoid prophylactic.

All rejected men after coming from the special board are sent before a board for the discharge of soldiers. This board prepares the discharges and final statements. The discharged men are assembled in squads, marched to the quartermaster, paid off and sent to their respective homes. In this manner the recruit, if rejected, is paid and is on his way home within two days at the longest after his arrival in camp. By this simple expedient, in the June increment alone, more than $20,000 has been saved the government.

Advantages of the System

The following are among the advantages of the receiving station as worked out at Camp Travis:

1. A very large sum of money is saved the government, in that recruits are not held in camp over a long period of time awaiting their discharge, but their examination is completed, their acceptance or rejection determined, and they are paid off in a minimum of time.
2. The recruit immediately upon arriving in camp is completely outfitted and ready to begin drilling within a few hours after detraining.
3. The company commanders are relieved of all paper work, so that they can devote their entire time and attention to schooling the soldier.
4. All boards and officers connected with the receiving of recruits are gathered together at a central point instead of being scattered over the entire camp, as was the case before the present system was adopted.
5. Recruits are fitted with clothing and shoes in a most scientific manner, hence soldiers in poorly fitting uniforms are not to be seen in camp, and it is observed that recruits are much better satisfied and contented if they are enabled to get immediately in uniform.
6. The possibility of the spread of contagious or infectious diseases in camp is practically eliminated for the reason that soldiers diseased are detected immediately upon arriving in camp and are quarantined.
7. Immediately upon arriving camp the soldier is given a thorough bath and he puts on a clean and spotless suit of clothes from the skin out and from the soles of his feet to the top of his head.

Loafing Is Serious Offense
To a group of men rejected by the surgeons and who were returning to their homes, Capt. Luther Hoffman, personnel officer for Camp Travis, made this statement:

"While you gentlemen are leaving the army to return to civil life, let me impress seriously upon you that your duty as American citizens in civil life is just as high and equally as sacred as your duty would be as American soldiers. Indeed, you are American soldiers and are serving under the flag of our country at home just the same as those of us who are privileged to wear a soldier's uniform are serving the flag of our country in the field. I hope that each of you men will leave Camp Travis to return to your civil pursuits with the determination in your heart to do some useful and valuable thing in the whipping of the Hun.

Let me urge you, as one American to another, do not return home to idleness. Do something. Grow something. If you cannot raise foodstuff, get into something that is worth while. Do not loaf. If you are the right sort of an American loafing should appear a serious offense in your eyes. Do not overlook the fact that we must have men at home as well as at the front, and that you can render a service of tremendous value to our country as a civilian, in the same manner as one of these boys here is doing in shouldering a rifle and marching forward to the vanquishing of our common foe.

**The Duty of All Americans**

No sacrifice is too great for an American to make now. If you are unable to work try to get together enough money to buy war savings stamps or Liberty Bonds.

Show to your neighbors and friends that you are American to the core and that you are as determined to see this war through to a victorious conclusion as the best soldier in uniform is so determined."

To the men accepted for service, officers say: "You have answered the call. Make the best soldier you can. Help win the war."

And Camp Travis men are helping. Already some of them are on the firing line, others are soon to be there, and the recruits now coming to camp and passing through the receiving stations may, themselves, soon be on the front line. When they are they are expected to make the weight of their moral and physical selves felt.

*San Antonio Light*
July 7, 1918