



South Texas Researcher

June 2017

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

D-I-V-O-R-C-E:

Grass widows, sod widows & scandals

Our class will explore where to find historical divorce records for genealogy research and how to navigate those records.

Registration is required.

Saturday, 24 June 2017, 2:00 p.m.

Central Library Auditorium

600 Soledad Street

Call 210.207.2500 for more information.



New Publications

Family Maps of Benton Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 BENTON

Family Maps of Black Hawk Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 BLACK HAWK

Family Maps of Decatur Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 DECATUR

Family Maps of Fayette Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 FAYETTE

Family Maps of Jasper Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 JASPER

Family Maps of Jefferson Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 JEFFERSON

Family Maps of Henry Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 HENRY

Family Maps of Keokuk Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 KEOKUK

Family Maps of Linn Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 LINN

Family Maps of Madison Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 MADISON

Family Maps of Page Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 PAGE

Family Maps of Poweshiek Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 POWESHIEK

Family Maps of Ringgold Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 RINGGOLD

Family Maps of Story Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 STORY

Family Maps of Union Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 UNION

Family Maps of Warren Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 WARREN

Family Maps of Washington Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 WASHINGTON

Family Maps of Wayne Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 WAYNE

Family Maps of Winneshiek Co., Iowa
GENEALOGY 977.7 WINNESHIEK

Miles and Miles of Texas: 100 Years of the Texas Highway Department
TEXANA 388.10976 DAWSON

Houston of the Move: A Photographic History
TEXANA 976.41411 STROM

Caesar Kleberg and the King Ranch
TEXANA 976.4472 KLEBERG

Trammel's Trace: The First Road to Texas
TEXANA 976.405 PINKERTON



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: June 3, 2017

Speaker: Mary Esther Escobedo

Topic: Two Families' Journey from Mier Y Noriega to San Marcos

Mary Esther Escobedo is a native of San Marcos, Texas and the oldest of 11 children born to Guillermo and Esperanza Hernandez. She has a Bachelor of Arts in History and Spanish from Southwest Texas State College, a Master of Arts in History and Anthropology from the University of Texas, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Texas. She has had two careers-one in teaching and one in practicing law. She retired from the Office of the Attorney General of Texas.

Mary Esther acquired her initial genealogical information when at the age of 13 she interviewed her mother, her maternal grandmother and her mother's eldest cousin. Most of her information was gathered after she joined Los Bexarenos LG&HS. She is an active member of Los Bexarenos and has held several positions and worked in a number of Society events and projects.

Two lines of her ancestors came from the same town in Mexico to the same town in the United States. These two families journeyed from Mier y Noriega to San Marcos, Texas which serves as the basis for her presentation.

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



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 21, 2017 and November 18, 2017
- 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Free

Venue:

- **San Antonio Public Library - June 17, 2017**
- 600 Soledad Street
- San Antonio, TX 78205
- 210-538-0905

EVENT PRESENTED BY:

- Canary Islands Descendants Association
- cida.satx@gmail.com
- <http://www.cida-sa.org>



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



The 46th Annual Folklife Festival

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

June 9-11, 2017

Located on the grounds of the Institute of Texan Cultures on the UTSA Hemisfair Campus, the three-day event showcases the Lone Star State's diversity and rich heritage through a wide variety of ethnic food, music, dance, arts, and crafts.



Texas in the First World War

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

Opened April 6, 2017

A century since the U.S. formally entered World War I, the events that unfolded continue to have a profound impact on modern international affairs and society.



Texas Missions and Churches of Roberto Cardinale

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

4 March - 20 August 2017

San Antonio's Spanish Missions have been an inspiration to artists and storytellers for generations. This spring, the UTSA Institute of Texan Cultures will offer an exhibit capturing the missions and other religious sites in sculpture



Wild Weather

27 May 2017 - 4 Sept. 2017

Whales: Giants of the Deep

27 May 2017 - 4 Sept. 2017

Natural Beauty: Fiesta of Land, Water and Sky

20 April - August 13, 2017

Broadway: 100 Years of Musical Theater

18 January - 18 June 2017

LP to MP3: The Original Cast Recording

18 January - 18 June 2017

Leigh Anne Lester: A Variety of Forms Recovering from Transubstantiated Clarity

4 August 2016 - 30 June 2017

The Magic of Clay and Fire: Japanese Contemporary Ceramics

14 Dec. 2016 - Fall 2017

Carlos Merida: Selections from the Permanent Collection

8 July 2016 - August 2017



News

Midwestern Ancestors? You Betcha!

Saturday, June 3, 2017 | 10:30 AM - 12:45 PM

Explore your Midwestern roots with back-to-back programs covering the genealogical resources of America's heartland. Reservations required, please call 832-393-2600.

Midwestern Research: The Great Lakes States are Really Great | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Do you have family that resided in the states formed from the Northwest Ordinance? The states of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, and Wisconsin and resources available for research in these states will be presented. Come and learn about the Midwest from a Midwestern gal, Clayton Library staff member Sue Kaufman.

Our Rural Ancestors | 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM

Learn more about your Midwestern rural ancestors as we explore county histories, agricultural censuses, farmer directories, and local newspapers. We'll look at examples and discuss where to find these colorful resources. Presented by Clayton Library staff member Joy Oria, dontcha know.

World War I Centennial Commemoration

With guest author Andrew Carroll

Saturday, June 17, 2017 | 2 PM - 4 PM

No reservations required. Adults/Teens.

This past April marked the centennial of America's entry into World War I, and to commemorate this monumental anniversary, Andrew Carroll-author of four bestselling books and director of the Center for American War Letters-gives readers a stunning work of narrative history in *MY FELLOW SOLDIERS: General John Pershing and the Americans Who Helped Win the Great War* (Penguin Press). Carroll has made it his life's mission to raise public awareness about the need to find and preserve war letters and diaries to honor and remember veterans, troops, and their families. In this new book, Carroll includes little-known and newly uncovered letters by General Pershing, as well as those who served with him, to create an incredibly vivid and poignant account of the American experience in World War I.

Simultaneous with the book launch, Carroll will initiate the "Million Letters Campaign," a nationwide effort encouraging Americans to seek out and preserve 1,000,000 letters from every U.S. conflict. To mark the war's centennial, Carroll helped curate two exhibits both called *My Fellow Soldiers*, at Chapman University and the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum. Carroll was also featured in the PBS film about World War I, *The Great War*, which premiered on April 10, 2017.

About the Author

ANDREW CARROLL is the founding director of the Center for American War Letters at Chapman University. Along with editing the New York Times bestsellers *War Letters* and *Behind the Lines*, Carroll edited *Operation Homecoming*, which inspired the Emmy-winning documentary of the same name. Carroll lives in Washington, D.C. and Orange, California.

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

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps Now Online

The Library of Congress has placed online nearly 25,000 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, which depict the structure and use of buildings in U.S. cities and towns. Maps will be added monthly until 2020, for a total of approximately 500,000.

The online collection now features maps published prior to 1900. The states available include Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Alaska is also online, with maps published through the early 1960s. By 2020, all the states will be online, showing maps from the late 1880s through the early 1960s.

In collaboration with the Library's Geography and Map Division, Historical Information Gatherers digitized the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps during a 16-month period at the Library of Congress. The Library is in the process of adding metadata and placing the digitized, public-domain maps on its website.

The Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps are a valuable resource for genealogists, historians, urban planners, teachers or anyone with a personal connection to a community, street or building. The maps depict more than 12,000 American towns and cities. They show the size, shape and construction materials of dwellings, commercial buildings, factories and other structures. They indicate both the names and width of streets, and show property boundaries and how individual buildings were used. House and block numbers are identified. They also show the location of water mains, fire alarm boxes and fire hydrants.

In the 19th century, specialized maps were originally prepared for the exclusive use of fire insurance companies and underwriters. Those companies needed accurate, current

and detailed information about the properties they were insuring. The Sanborn Map Company was created around 1866 in the United States in response to this need and began publishing and registering maps for copyright. The Library of Congress acquired the maps through copyright deposit, and the collection grew to 700,000 individual sheets. The insurance industry eventually phased out use of the maps and Sanborn stopped producing updates in the late 1970s.

The Library's Geography and Map Division is among the world's largest map collections, holding some six million cartographic items in various languages dating from the 14th century to the present. Some of its most important collections are available online at loc.gov/maps/collections/. Further information about the Geography and Map Division can be found at loc.gov/rr/geogmap/.

Ransom Center's Goldbeck photo collection now online

Newly digitized images from the University of Texas at Austin's E.O. Goldbeck collection offer a glimpse of World War I-era San Antonio through the lens of the legendary commercial photographer and a handful of his contemporaries.

Almost 1,000 panoramic photographs dating primarily from the mid-1910s through 1930 were recently made available to the public through the Harry Ransom Center's digital collections [website](#).

"It's such a slice of American history," said Mary Alice Harper, head of visual materials cataloging at the university's research library and museum. "It really represents World War I on the home front."

Born in San Antonio in the early 1890s, Eugene Omar Goldbeck began taking panoramic pictures when he was in the Army Signal Corps during the conflict. Tours of military bases in and outside of the United States earned him the title of "the unofficial photographer of America's military," but Goldbeck photographed a wide range of subjects during a decades-long career.

In 1967, Goldbeck donated 60,000 negatives and 10,000 vintage prints to the Ransom Center, according to the Texas Handbook. He also donated his business records and works by other Texas panoramic photographers, including C.W. Archer, C.A. Stead and W.W. Mitchell. The repository currently houses more than 150,000 Goldbeck photographs. Although perhaps best known for the images he made with a Cirkut - a camera that took photographs by rotating horizontally while exposing a roll of film that was up to 6 feet long and 10 inches wide - Goldbeck also used a banquet camera early in his career. Popular for taking group photos in more intimate spaces, the banquet produced negatives that were 20 inches long and a foot wide.

Recently, the Ransom Center received funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Texas State Library and Archives Commission to preserve, catalog and digitize 993 banquet-format, cellulose nitrate negatives and three corresponding prints. "Looking at all the Goldbeck materials, it seemed like this was a great, do-able amount of images within a yearlong grant," Harper said.

San Antonio Express-News

Oct. 16, 2016



From the Archives

REPAIRS STOPPED

ON THE OLD HISTORIC ALAMO BUILDING

Alamo Plaza Citizens Summon State Official from the Capital to Inspect the Work

The work of repairs of the Alamo were begun yesterday by the city and Mr. G. Q. A. Rose. Scaffolding was put up in front and the workmen began scraping off the coat of dirt and the two coats of plaster or stucco on the outside of the stone front.

This morning there was a great furor in front of the Alamo and work was stopped nearly all the morning. Mr. H. D. Kampmann early visited the work and declared to several of his friends that the city would "ruin the antiquity of the building" if allowed to proceed. It was told to a Light reporter that County Judge Callaghan had called attention to the matter and Mr. Kampmann said he also had telegraphed the State Superintendent of Public Buildings Mr. John R. Mobley, to come over and see to it.

In response to this telegram Mr. Mobley arrived this morning and with Mr. Kampmann, Alderman Beckmann and Rev. Rose, went thoroughly over the building and saw the work going on. He did not intimate to a Light reporter what conclusion he had drawn or the nature of the report he would make on the matter.

He did not seem to be much alarmed, however, that the Alamo would be harmed.

During the progress of the examination, Mr. Kampmann and Mr. Rose had a sharp passage of words over the matter.

While removing the plaster in the building yesterday, a great many names were found carved in the stone, among them that of "Travis" with the date "1835" or "6". These cuttings are explained as having been the work of idle clerks during Grocer Grenet's long lease of the building.

San Antonio Light

April 4, 1896

PRESERVATION OF THE ALAMO

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The City Fathers Only Following the Efforts Made on Cleopatra's Needle, Westminster Abbey, Etc.

One thought, and one alone has governed in the present work upon the Alamo - that of preserving the venerable building. After counseling with many people interested in promoting this object, a contract was entered into, calling for the removal of the grime and dirt, simply from the edifice; with the sole view of showing "the original effect." And the contract further stated, "Nothing is to be removed of the original stone whatsoever; the object is to bring into prominence the Alamo of the time of the massacre."

Of course, in taking from the front the cheap whitewash and calsomine which has disfigured it in recent years, the structure will seem new in appearance for the moment; but all this will be changed in twelve months' time, when with the venerable look of the Alamo there will be restored anything of grave and beauty it formerly possessed; brought into striking contrast with its present untidiness and filth.

The famous Cleopatra's Needle in the Central park of New York, after thorough inspection and consultation held by eminent architects and scholars after its arrival in

America, went through just the process now being applied to the Alamo. It was cleaned of extraneous matter, its inscription studied carefully, and in order to insure its preservation it was finally given a coat of material with foundation of wax.

Anyone who objects to the removal of what is being scaled from the exterior of San Antonio's greatest monument and treasure, must be called in all candor, a venerator of rubbish; nothing more. Westminster Abbey, Chester Cathedral, and many other historic buildings have had workmen upon them in recent years with a like purpose in view to one employed to let this generation see the Mission of 1836 of this city, which, at one time was a fortress of defence of Texan liberty, and a little later, a mausoleum of a band of heroes.

Two weeks since, the Alamo, about which we boast so much and do so little, contained a lot of election booths, showing the use to which San Antonians put their sacred relics. The booths have been removed to the city hall, while at the same time there was carried off the "historic" stove which had its rusty pipe out of a front window, causing smoke to discolor and blacken walls once crimson with patriots' blood.

Just here is an opportunity for the student of archaeology and the venerator of the glorious past to ask a few questions. Who was the degenerate Alcalde that gave the shameful order to open up the noble pile where Bowie, Travis and Crockett met their death, as a polling place? And was it the same man that allowed its hallowed precincts to be used as a police station and stables; the latter a desecration continuing at this hour?

If the Alamo is what we claim it to be, namely, an antique gem of the first water, it may also be asked why we suffer its existence to be threatened from day to day by the inflammable material now resting upon its very walls to the north?

Having acted with calmness and conservatism, after earnest counsel with many persons studious of the preservation of the Alamo in a manner in keeping with its historic value and associations, and proceeding to the task itself, I shall, of course, regret if the work now entered upon is not to be continued at this time. But, of this I am convinced, that the labor will proceed some day upon just the lines instituted by the present honorable mayor and city council of San Antonio, who deserve all credit for having resolved to sweeten with brush and water that which has too long remained neglected, foul and utterly disgraceful to the citizens of this municipality. Now is a good time then, to "remember the Alamo."

San Antonio Light

April 5, 1896, p. 5

THE ALAMO

State Superintendent Will Report and Return Tomorrow

State Superintendent of Public Buildings Mobley, who came over yesterday to prevent the city's workmen from tearing down the Alamo and rebuilding it to suit themselves, left last night for Austin, where he will report to Governor Culberson the result of his investigations. Before leaving, he took a run down to the Southwestern Insane Asylum to see that institution.

He will return tomorrow morning and will probably attend council meeting in the afternoon.

Rev. G. Q. A. Rose has addressed a letter to Governor Culberson, explaining just what is intended to be done toward the "preservation of the Alamo" "to cleanse, simply, this neglected building."

San Antonio Light

April 5, 1896, p. 8

ALAMO REPAIRS

WORK ABANDONED FOR THE NEXT TWO MONTHS

The Governor Will Inspect the Building, An Old Drawing Shows the Actual Construction

As soon as the weather clears, the scaffolds and tools now in the Alamo building, placed there by the contractors who began work of reinstating the Alamo building, but which work was stopped on representations of Judge Callaghan and Mr. Kampmann, will be removed and the work on the building suspended.

The city public improvement committee has received word from Mr. Mobley, the state building superintendent, advising a suspension of the work until Governor Culberson can make a personal investigation, which he said will be in about from 30 to 60 days, when the governor will visit San Antonio.

In support of Rev. Roses's and the public improvement committee's idea regarding the removal of the blue stucco or calsomine placed on the walls by the late Mr. Grenet, a copy of Raines, Bibliography of Texas has been secured, which shows a photograph of an old drawing on file in the state archives at Austin, of the Alamo as it stood just after the siege in 1836. This photo is the only official one extant and shows the Alamo with the stones bare as Mr. Rose intends they should be made after the work has been completed. The top of the front wall is rough and jagged, and the interior, as shown in another view, is very much wrecked. There are a great many more exterior carvings shown than exist in the the present structure.

A lady who is in the city today remembers the Alamo nineteen years ago [1867], when she came here, as of a sky blue color, with a row of blue barrels placed along the top of the front wall by Mr. Grenet.

San Antonio Light

April 8, 1896, p. 5



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:

- July 2017 by June 15
- August 2017 by July 15
- September 2017 by August 15

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)