

Archivists of Central Texas Proxy Researcher List

This list has been compiled for your convenience and is updated semi-annually (last update 2025). Inclusion on the list is voluntary and *does not imply endorsement by the Archivists of Central Texas*. Potential clients should contact researchers directly.

Susan Burneson

nimbus@austin.rr.com, 512-459-9613

violetcrownvoices.com/moreinfo

Archive and online research for family and community historians, authors, lawyers (including serving as an expert witness), and others. More than 25 years of experience. Can provide high-quality digital images. Member, Association of Professional Genealogists, Austin Genealogical Society, and Texas Oral History Association. \$40/hour, plus related expenses. Free initial telephone consultation.

Emily Chappellear

emily@ngctours.com, 512-507-2067

ngctours.com

I'm a historian specializing in Austin history from 1835-1960, but very willing to dive into any Texas history subject.

Diana Claitor

diclaitor@gmail.com, 512-983-3446

Researcher/editor/writer with 30 years experience researching documents and images in Texas archives such as the Briscoe Center for American History and various University of Texas archives as well as archives in Houston, Washington D.C., Louisiana and Ireland. Client list includes biographers, publishers, online database companies, and documentary and feature filmmakers and videographers. Specializing in Texas history/culture, but experience doing research on a wide range of contemporary topics. Will travel.

Lynn Cowles, PhD

cowlesla@utexas.edu, 512-522-3220

Research plan development; document and archive discovery; reproduction; cataloguing; 19th-century Texas history; 20th-century Texas literature; manuscripts; correspondence; cartography; court records; visual culture; and land, census, and immigration documents. Minimum \$20/hr, free initial email consultation.

Frankie Davis

americanancestors@gmail.com, 202-568-4557

americanancestors.info

Follow the link to see services. Includes all of Texas. Minimum fee \$100.

Phillip L. Fry

fryp@sbcglobal.net, 512-567-8100

Ph.D. English Literature (UT, 1974). Dissertation: AN ANNOTATED CALENDAR OF LETTERS FROM E.M. FORSTER TO J. R. ACKERLEY IN THE HRC, 1974. Co-author of TEXAS COUNTRY SINGERS (2008) and co-editor of AUSTIN'S WALLER CREEK (2014). Contributor and editor, HANDBOOK OF TEXAS. Interest in British and American authors.

Helen L. Howell Graves

collinfieldlady@gmail.com, 512-994-8932

BFA, Studio Art/Art History; MA Museum Science (Former Employee Texas Historical Commission and Briscoe Center Employee). Texas History, Political History, Material Culture Research in Texas State Library, Austin libraries, Archives and Museums. \$40 per hour (2 Hour Minimum) plus expenses: flash drive, parking, travel or other.

Freda Hamric

fkhamric@yahoo.com, 512-217-9966

Twenty years experience performing Proxy Research at the University of Texas at Austin Harry Ransom Center, Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, the Texas Alamo Museum-San Antonio and other Texas libraries and museums. In depth research and analysis within collections and archives including specific needs. Digital images used. Clients have included professors in USA, UK, Europe and Canada; graduate students; biographers; authors; individuals and editors. Areas include newspapers, manuscripts, letters/correspondence, historical documents, and property/land title searches. Concentrations in American History and modern literature. Available to travel. Bachelor degree in English. Hourly or project fee.

Elizabeth Hansen

elizabeth@elizabeth-hansen.com, 512-983-7679

elizabeth-hansen.com

Researcher and media producer with more than 10 years of experience conducting proxy research at Austin-area archives including the Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, Harry Ransom Center, LBJ Presidential Library and Museum, and Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Holds an MA in media studies from the University of Texas at Austin. Specializes in audiovisual research. Current managing director of the Texas Archive of the Moving Image.

Jennifer Hecker

jenniferraehecker@gmail.com

jenniferhecker.info

MLIS, librarian, archivist, researcher, and consultant with over a decade of experience processing collections of literary, personal, and organizational papers at the Harry Ransom Center, the University of Texas Libraries, the Austin City Limits archive project at KLRU-TV, and three years providing reference services at the Austin History Center. Expertise and interest in 20th-Century American history and culture, including social and political movements, underground organizations, independent publishing, material and popular culture, Chicago architectural history, World's Fairs and Expos, and Central Texas natural and cultural history. Please note: I do not accept Austin History Center jobs to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest. 2 hour minimum.

Roseann Hogan

texas@AncestryResearchServices.com, 502-783-6750

Contact researcher for details.

Josh Jenkins

services@ancestorstalker.com

ancestorstalker.com

Professional Genealogical Research Services, including Family Trees, Civil War, Revolutionary War, DNA Consultation and Customized Projects, Native American determination, Land, Census, Immigration and more. Hundreds of satisfied clients. Minimum fee \$55/hr., minimum 5 hours at \$350.

Cynthia M. Kennedy

timelinesgenservices@timelinesgenealogicalservices.com, 210-860-6677

Texas State Archives, Texas General Land Office, UT Center American History. Texas Counties: Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Guadalupe, Kendall, Kerr, Medina, Real, Uvalde, Wilson. Member, Association of Professional Genealogists. \$30 per hour.

Diane Tofte Kropp

rekropp@prodigy.net

affordablegenealogy.com

FREE consultations on ALL USA Research; Access to Historical newspapers all USA email for area of interest search; create family charts to organize data. \$5/hr.

Elon Lang

Elon.lang@gmail.com, 512-820-2923

PhD in English from Wash. Univ. in St. Louis. Former part-time project archivist at Ransom Center on early books and manuscripts. Experience researching paleography and codicology; reading Middle English, French, Latin, and Hebrew. Lecturer in UT-Austin Humanities programs specializing in archival research methods and dramatic literature. Strong familiarity with HRC holdings: especially early books and manuscripts, performing arts collections (including Shakespeare), and 20th-century history, literature, drama, poetry, and film.

Ann Leifeste

ann.leifeste@gmail.com

Proxy Researcher at the Harry Ransom Center and the Dolph Briscoe Center both at The University of Texas at Austin. Archival research conducted in manuscript, film, television and photography collections. B.S. in Radio-TV-Film with a Double Concentration in English Literature from UT/Austin. Postgraduate studies in Architecture. Conducted film research for both the Texas Commission on the Arts, to establish an Independent Film Library, and for WNET/New York PBS documentaries and specials and serving as Series Associate Producer of "Television" (a history of television) negotiating for copyright clip clearance as well as participating in contract review. Also researched and developed oral history projects for public radio.

Ronald Livingston

brazoriaresearch@yahoo.com

brazoriaresearch.com

All areas of USA genealogical and historical research. (Texas, especially southeast TX colonial and early statehood, a specialty.) \$15/hr. using online sources and my extensive personal data collection, plus copy and postage expenses; \$16/hr. for library and courthouse research, plus expenses. Free initial e-mail consultation(s).

Mike Miller

mcmill33@gmail.com, 512-221-5946

Archivist, historian and consultant with over 25 years of archival experience in various institutions across the state of Texas, including 16 years as City Archivist and Manager of the Austin History Center, and author of 4 non-fiction Texas history books. As a researcher I have made extensive use of most archives in Central Texas, including, but not limited to, the Austin History Center, Briscoe Center for American History, Harry Ransom Center, Archives of the Texas General Land Office, and the Texas State Archives. In addition to proxy research services, I am available for historical writing/editing and exhibit development.

Ann Gaines Rodriguez

rosie@gvtc.com, 830-263-2027

Writer and picture researcher, former librarian and staff member at CAH. Besides doing research in CAH's printed collections, will also handle requests requiring research in special collections, including manuscripts, newspapers, microfilm and photographs. Specializes in finding images for use in books, documentaries, and museum exhibits. Will handle picture orders, permissions. Also has experience working on historical atlases and family histories. Own research interests include the history of exploration and mapmaking, Native Americans, photography, art history, Texas history and women's studies. Makes trips to all libraries/special collections/museums in the Austin/San Antonio corridor and to Houston/Galveston. Can bill by the hour or the project.

Danielle Sigler, Ph.D.

danielle.b.sigler@gmail.com

www.sharpened-pencils.com

More than 20 years archival research experience with specialties in 19th and 20th century history and literature. Ph.D. in American Studies with concentrations in U.S. religious history, African American history, and U.S. literature. Former associate director at the Harry Ransom Center. Available for proxy research at institutions across Central Texas. Editing and exhibition planning services available as well.

Jessica M. Taylor

info@legacytree.com, 800-818-1476

legacytree.com

Highest client-rated genealogy firm in the world, and recommended research partner of MyHeritage.com. We have onsite researchers around the globe. Specialize in: genetic genealogy, brick walls, etc.

John Taylor, Taylor Research Group LLC

JohnTaylor@taylorresearchgroup.com, 703-822-4658

Research in federal, state, local records. Perform broad, due diligence research or collect specific documentation (military records, corporate documents, city directories, regulatory records, government records, environmental issues, historical matters, etc.). Fee varies by project. Please contact us for a free estimate.

James E. Williams

jewilliams_1999_1999@yahoo.com, 512-455-9104

Research in Milam County, the Texas State Library, and the Center for American History in Austin. Research includes newspapers, military records, deeds, tax rolls, vital records, court records, etc. \$15 per hour plus copies and postage.

Patti Woolery-Price, MLIS

pattiwoo@aol.com

Services include complete pedigree search, specific record searches, lineage preparation, historical markers, county history publications, and scholarly endeavors. Specialize in 19th and 20th century Texas history. \$25, 2 hour minimum.