Electronic Databases

America: History and Life
Coverage: 1964 to the present
Description: This database covers nearly all aspects of U.S. and Canadian history, from prehistory to the present. It indexes books, dissertations, and articles from over 1,700 English-language journals published worldwide.

Heritage Quest
Coverage: 1790 to current
Description: A collection of research materials helpful in tracing family lineage and American culture, such as the complete US Federal Census from 1790-1930. The “Search Books” feature supplies the text of many books, articles, and pamphlets on Texas. It contains indexes and original page images of historical documents.

Historical Abstracts
Coverage: 1955 to the present
Description: This database covers world history since 1450 except for the U.S. and Canada. It contains linked articles, citations, and abstracts from worldwide literature in over 1,800 journals. It also covers thousands of books and dissertations.

Texas Digital Sanborn Maps
Coverage: 1867 – 1970
Description: Contains detailed information on towns and cities in Texas during the later part of the 19th and first half of the 20th century. Maps include information such as the outline of each building, the size, shape and construction materials, heights, and function of structures, location of windows and doors. The maps also give street names, street and sidewalk widths, property boundaries, building use, and house and block numbers.

Internet Resources

Daughters of the Republic of Texas
Location: http://www.drtl.org/
Description: This site contains an illustrated chronology of the Battle of the Alamo, a link to the Daughters of The Republic of Texas (DRT) library catalog, a list of historical events hosted by DRT, and two Alamo bibliographies, one for adults and one focusing on children’s resources. It also provides a link to an extensive list of other Texas History related sites.

H-Texas: H-Net Discussion Network on Life & Culture in Texas
Location: http://www.h-net.org/~texas/
Description: A discussion list focusing on Texas history and culture. Scholarly research and discussion, teaching aids and bibliographical information can be found within the discussion list.

Handbook of Texas Online
Location: http://www.tshaonline.org/
Description: A multidisciplinary encyclopedia of Texas history, geography, and culture sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association. Included is authoritative information on people, places, events, historical themes, institutions and other Texas topics.

Texas Beyond History
Location: http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/
Description: An award-winning virtual museum focusing on the prehistory of Texas from the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at The University of Texas at Austin. It provides results of archeological and historical research on the cultural heritage of Texas. Online exhibits cover a multitude of subjects regarding Texas’ prehistory. Teacher lesson plans and activities for kids are also available.
Texas Historical Commission
Location: http://www.thc.state.tx.us/
Description: The Commission is charged with preserving Texas’ heritage, from archeological sites to local courthouses and cemeteries. Information on cultural resource management, heritage travel and historic properties, among other topics, is available.

The Portal to Texas History
Location: http://texashistory.unt.edu/
Description: A digital library with collections from many Texas museums, archives, and private collections. Educators will enjoy the Primary Source Adventures and researchers will appreciate the ability to view digitized items of interest.

Texas State Library
Location: http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/general/
Description: The official site of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission lists archives and manuscripts held in the Texas State Library, as well as other resources about Texas. Resources range from the map collection to the searchable Confederate Pension Applications Index.

Lone Star History Links: Selected Texas History Primary Source Documents
Location: http://www.tshaonline.com/lshl/texhisdocs.html
Description: This site has links to thousands of primary documents from online collections dealing with Texas history.

Print Resources

DICTIONARIES
Texas Biographical Dictionary (Ref CT 262 .T47 1996)
Description: Organized alphabetically, this two-volume resource profiles the lives of many famous Texans both past and present.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS
The Encyclopedia of Texas (Ref F 384 .E52 1999) 2 volumes
Description: Organized by topic, this resource provides such information as biographies of Texas Governors and other influential Texans, a brief pre-historical and historical narrative of the state, city profiles, and a directory of state services.

Encyclopedia of the Alamo and the Texas Revolution (Ref F390 .H33 1999)
Description: A guide to the people, places, battles, politics, and documents of the Texas Revolution of 1835-36, and its most famous battle, the Alamo, covering the period from the settlements of Texas through the forming of the Republic, using both American and Mexican resources.

MICROFILM
Texas as province and republic, 1795-1845: as based on the bibliography by Thomas W. Streeter (Special Collections Microform)
Description: Listed chronologically, the bibliography contains sections composed of Texas imprints, Mexican imprints and U.S. and European imprints, compiled by the eminent Texas historian, Thomas Winthrop Streeter. This version has been edited to avoid duplication of materials included in the Western Americana collection.

Select Texas Newspapers on microfilm (Special Collections Microform)
Description: Newspapers in this collection include the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, La Prensa, Galveston Daily News, San Antonio Herald, Austin-Statesman, Texas as Province and Republic series. Holdings information may be found in Portal, the library’s online catalog.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
The Texas Family Land Heritage Registry* (Texas Documents A900.5 F21)
Description: Published annually by the Texas Department of Agriculture since 1974, this resource records the histories of families who have held onto continuously productive land for more than 100 years. Farms and ranches are listed alphabetically by Texas county. In earlier volumes, recipients of the Family Land Heritage certificate of honor are indexed alphabetically by last name.

The Catalog of Texas Properties in the National Register of Historic Places* (Texas Documents H2000.5 .C28tep)
Description: In 1984 the Texas Historical Commission published this catalog which lists major historical buildings in Texas. Descriptions include the date they were built, when they entered the National Register of Historic Places, and why they are important to Texas. The buildings are arranged alphabetically by Texas county.
The Medallion* (Texas Documents H2000.6 M466)
Description: A monthly magazine published by the Texas Historical Commission with feature articles about Texas History and historic preservation. Archived issues from 2006 to 2009 are available online at http://www.thc.state.tx.us.

OTHER PRINT

The Handbook of Texas (Ref F 384 .H3) 3 volumes
Description: Organized alphabetically, this reference work includes information covering a wide range of Texas topics. This work is especially helpful in locating information concerning lesser known Texans of distinction.

The New Handbook of Texas (Ref F 384 .N48 1996) 6 volumes
Description: In addition to the material covered in the original edition, this expanded revision of The Handbook of Texas includes coverage of persons and topics after 1952.

Texas Almanac (most recent copy at Reference Desk) (Ref AY 311 .D3 T5)
Description: Covers such topics as education, religion, crime and politics. Numerous lists and tables are included as well as the full text of the Texas Constitution. Also included are profiles of all 254 Texas counties.

The Texas Almanac, 1857-1873: a Compendium of Texas History (Ref AY 311 .W3 D3)
Description: Selections from the first 16 editions of the Texas almanac.

Chronology of Texas History (Ref F 384 .W5 1982)
Description: The chronology begins with the pueblo-building people moving into the Canadian River Valley in the year 900 and ends with the year 1920. Also contains a large index.

Documents of Texas History (Ref F 386 .W3 v.1)
Description: Includes such documents as William Travis' last appeal for aid at the Alamo, the Constitution of the Republic of Texas, the Treaty of Annexation with the United States, and many primary source materials.

Papers of the Texas Revolution, 1835-1836 (Ref F 390 .J53) 10 volumes
Description: This multi-volume set includes letters, orders, and other correspondence written during the Texas Revolution. The last volume contains an extensive index.

The 1840 Census of the Republic of Texas (Ref F 390 .W59)
Description: The first census of the new Republic of Texas provides a great insight into those living in this frontier land during the first half of the 19th century. Included in each entry is the number of persons in the household, the number of acres owned, as well as the number of slaves and livestock.

Texas Women of Distinction (Ref F 385 .M19)
Description: This biographical history profiles women who have made a significant contribution to the history of Texas. The work is organized in such a way that one must use the table of contents or the index to locate the desired entry. Published in 1962.

Historical Atlas of Texas (Ref Atlas F 386 .S86 1989)
Description: Many historical lists and maps including Federal Military Posts before the Civil War, Indian Reservations in the 1850’s, WWI and WWII Military Installations, the Butterfield Overland Mail Route, Cattle Trails, Major Oil and Gas discoveries, and more.
For More Information

For more information or assistance in researching topics related to the history of Texas please contact the following librarians at the Bell Library:

Zachary Allred, Government Documents Librarian
(361) 825-5702, zachary.allred@tamucc.edu

Dr. Thomas Kreneck, Associate Director for Special Collections and Archives
(361) 825-2301, thomas.kreneck@tamucc.edu

The Special Collections & Archives of the Mary and Jeff Bell Library at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has, as its primary focus, to locate, acquire, preserve, and make available to researchers materials that document the development of Corpus Christi and its South Texas environs. The department includes items dealing with history, urban and ethnic studies, literature, folklore, art, photography, government, anthropology, sociology, the sciences, and other disciplines. Special Collections & Archives has a growing body of papers of individuals, organizations, and institutions that reflects the growth of the Corpus Christi metropolitan area; it also contains approximately 20,000 books, periodicals, and other printed primary and secondary items dealing with Texas, Mexico, South Texas and Corpus Christi. In addition, the unit has an active oral history program to supplement the written and visual materials. Special Collections & Archives works closely with faculty and students to provide local research topics to enrich the classroom experience. The unit plays a particularly active role in the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi history program. Students not only receive specialized assistance with research projects, but instruction on research methods, use of primary documents, and the study of public, urban, Mexican American, Texas, and local history as well as archival management and oral history technique.

*Note: As of July 2011 Texas has cancelled the state level depository library program.

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