



# Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of  
Plano Libraries

Genealogy Friends News  
July 2020

P.O. Box 860477, Plano, TX, 75086-0477

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## Schedule of Events

**Haggard Library is closed so we are holding our meetings via Zoom**

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2020. Meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice from 10:15 to 12:00. Invites will be send out the week before the meeting.

### This Month

**August 15, 2020—Zoom Meeting—**”Mining The Gems in a Civil War Pension File” by Bernard Meisner

### Future Events:

**September 19, 2020—Zoom Meeting—**”Researching with Excel” by Sandra Crowley

**October 17, 2020—Zoom Meeting—**To be determined

**November 21, 2020—Zoom Meeting—**To be determined

**December 19, 2020—Zoom Meeting—**Show and Tell—You will be able to share your screen so we can see the exciting family discoveries you made this year. More info to come soon.

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### Publications for Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

Public Land Survey Systems	\$5
Plano Star Courier Index 1904-1910	\$20
Plano Star Courier Index 1911-1917	\$20
Cemeteries of Collin County, TX	\$40
Collin County, TX Voter Registration Index 1867	\$20
Place Names of Collin County, TX	\$10
Railroads in Collin County, TX	\$10

### Genfriends Membership

Our membership year runs from October 1 to September 30. Individual memberships are \$30 a year and family memberships are \$50.

The money we raise is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library.

Download the membership form on our website <http://genealogyfriends.org/news/> send it in with payment to

Genealogy Friends of Plano Libraries, Inc  
PO Box 860477  
Plano, TX 75086-0477

### Genealogy Education & News

**Ancestry.com** 75% ownership was sold to Blackstone Group Inc., a private equity fund. The other 25% is being retained by GIC Pte the majority stockholder since 2016. There has been an announcement that the privacy policy and user terms and conditions will not change.

**Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference—Blazing Trails in the Heart of America** will be held virtually. Live Sessions September 2, 2020. On-demand sessions will be available between September 15, 2020 and March 15, 2021. There are three levels of on-demand sessions. Early bird registration ends August 15, 2020.

**Texas State Genealogy Society Conference**, “Remembering Your Heritage” is scheduled for November 13-14 and will be held virtually. 10 Live and 22 virtual presentations. Registration will open in late August.

<https://www.txsgs.org/2020-conference/>

**RootsTech**, there are recorded sessions from previous years available on their website. The 2021 conference is scheduled for Feb 3-6 in Salt Lake City. <https://www.rootstech.org/>

**National Genealogical Society Conference** “Deep Roots of A Nation” is scheduled for May 19-22, 2021 in Richmond, VA. <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/tag/2021-ngs-richmond/>

Many of the big institutes, week long classes, this year were held or will be held virtually. It is a great opportunity to attend without having to leave home.

**Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy** will be held in January 2021 virtually. <https://slig.ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=524>

**Texas Institute of Genealogical Research** is held every other year. The next institute will be in 2021. Information isn't available yet. <https://www.txsgs.org/featured-events/tigr-2019/>

**Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh** will be held June 20-25 and July 11-16, 2021. Courses have been announced but a decision has not been made on delivery method. <https://www.gripitt.org/grip-2021-course-schedule-announced/>

**Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research** is held each year in Athens, GA, 2021 dates are 25-30 July. Courses have been announced but delivery method has not. <https://ighr.gagensociety.org/ighr-courses/>

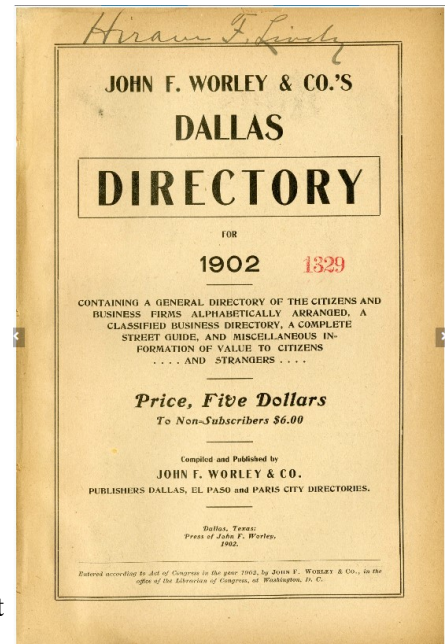
## City Directories

By Barbara Coakley

City Directories, alphabetical listing of residents and businesses, have been published in the United States since the late 1700's. Most directories include names, occupations and residences of residents, business advertisements, listings of schools, churches, fraternal societies, newspapers, and sometimes maps and a history of the city.

Directories can help with our family history:

- Trace an ancestor between census years and identify where they lived and worked.
- Substitute for the missing 1890 census.
- Finding aid to help locate your ancestor on the census using the address when you can't find them in an index.
- Identify a date of death when the spouse is listed as a widow.
- Identify family members living at the same address.
- Clues to ages of children—the first year someone is listed they reached working age. This includes unmarried daughters.
- Identify locations of schools, churches, fraternal organizations.
- Clues to other documents to search—what newspapers were published at that time, if they owned a home you need to search deeds, etc.



Images from Portal to Texas History

As with any record we need to understand the record before we use it:

- Why the directories were created—Directories were originally created for businesses to identify potential customers.
- How information was gathered—People went door to door and gathered information, if no one was home a card was left for the person to complete and mail in. The information for the 1890 Directory was gathered in 1889.
- Who is included—this varies by city and publisher. Look at the beginning of the directory for information on who was included.
- Abbreviations—there is usually a key to the abbreviations used at the beginning of the directory.
- Table of Contents—look at what is included in the directory—Newspapers, Churches, Fraternal Societies, Government Offices, Postage Rates, Railroads, Musical Organizations and Societies, Labor Organizations, Information about the City, Maps, etc. In addition to lists of individuals, there are listings for businesses and advertisements.

adv..... advertisement	E..... East	pass..... passenger
add..... addition	engr..... engineer	P. O..... Postoffice
agri..... agricultural	ea..... east side	pres..... president
agt..... agent	exp..... express	propr..... proprietor
al..... alley	ext..... extension	r..... residence
appc..... apprentice	frt..... freight	Rev..... Reverend
assn..... association	genl..... general	rms..... rooms
asst..... assistant	govt..... government	repr..... repairer
av..... avenue	hdqs..... home	R. R..... Railroad
aves..... avenues	hdqrs..... headquarters	R. T. Ry..... Rapid Transit Ry
bds..... boards	hlpr..... helper	Ry..... Railway
bkpr..... book keeper	ins agt..... insurance agent	S..... South
bidg..... building	inspr..... inspector	se..... southeast
bidr..... builder	lab..... laborer	secy..... secretary
blk..... block	mach..... machinist	slsmn..... salesman
blks..... blocks	mer..... merchant	ss..... south side
blksmith..... blacksmith	mdsc..... merchandise	st..... street
bt..... between	mfg..... manufacturing	steno..... stenographer
(c)..... colored	mfr..... manufacturer	supt..... superintendent
carp..... carpenter	mngt..... manager	sw..... southwest
cashr..... cashier	mkr..... maker	tehr..... teacher
clk..... clerk	N..... north	tel..... telegraph
Co..... company	ne..... northeast	tket..... ticket
condr..... conductor	ns..... north side	trav..... traveling
contr..... contractor	nw..... northwest	treas..... treasurer
cor..... corner	O. C..... Oak Cliff	W..... West
del..... delivery	O. I.....	whol..... wholesale
dept..... department	opp.....	(wid)..... widow
depy..... deputy	opr.....	wks..... works
dist..... district	p.....	ws..... west side
div..... division		yd..... yard



Abbreviations used in Directory . . . . .	PAGE	9	Junior Order United American	PAGE
Academies, Colleges and Private			Mechanics . . . . .	745
Schools . . . . .	728		Justice Courts . . . . .	724
Advertisements . . . . .	1-32		Knights of Honor . . . . .	748
Ancient Order of Hibernians . . . . .	746		Knights of Pythias . . . . .	748
Ancient Order United Workmen . . . . .	747		Labor Organizations . . . . .	749
Banks . . . . .	729		Masonic . . . . .	751
Building, Loan, Abstract and Real			Miscellaneous Societies and Organ-	
Estate Associations . . . . .	729		izations . . . . .	753
Business Directory of Dallas . . . . .	647-712		Municipal Government . . . . .	725
Catholic Knights of America . . . . .	747		Musical Organizations and Socie-	
Church Directory . . . . .	730		ties . . . . .	742

## Tract Books (continued)

### Alphabetical Listing

Abnot Bert, driver Mark Lowrey, r. 501 Jackson.  
 Abnot William P., bds 133 S. College av.  
 Abozzo Joseph, clk M. DeGrazler, r. 123 Cadiz.  
 Abram Andrew (c), lab, r. 392 Cottage Lane.  
 Abram Jasper (c), horse clipper, r. 151 Lawrence.  
 Abram Stephen (c), lab, r. 149 Lawrence.  
 Abrams Benjamin, clk, rms 276 Main.  
 Abrams Clarence A., clk, bds 190 Maple av.  
 Abrams Harold, instructor St. Matthew's Grammar school, r. 190 Maple.  
 Abrams Jesse (c), butcher, r. 198 S. Crowds.  
 Abrams Joseph (c), lab, r. 149 Lawrence.  
 Abrams Sallie (c), laundress, r. 149 Lawrence.  
**ABRAMS WILLIAM H., LAND and Tax Commissioner T. & P. Ry; office T. & P. bldg, r. 190 Maple av, 'phone 1370.**  
 Absalom Apple (c), lab, r. se cor Lamar & Ft. Worth rd, W. D.

The entries in this directory include the name, occupation including where they work, and residence.

Look for family members living in the same house:

Abrams, Clarence A. is a clerk who boards at 190 Maple Avenue.

Abrams, Harold is an instructor at St. Matthew's Grammar school who resides at 190 Maple Avenue.

Abrams William H is Land and Tax Commissioner T&P Railway. Their office is in the T&P building and he resides 190 Maple Avenue.

What is the relationship between Clarence, Harold and William?

Texas and Pacific Railway—General offices nw cor Pacific ave and Griffin; passenger depots, se cor N. Lamar, Pacific av, and junction T. & P. and H. & T. C. Rys; freight depot, ne cor N. Lamar, Pacific av; city tkt office, 270 Main. Geo. J. Gould, prest, N. Y.; L. S. Thorne, 1st vice-prest and genl mgr; J. W. Everman, asst genl mgr; Page Harris, chf clk; T. J. Freeman, genl atty for Texas; W. H. Cope, chf clk; Richard Fenby, auditor; E. W. Tower, asst auditor; L. S. Smith, asst secy and treasr; Abe L. Ewing, paymaster; C. A. Roden, cashr treasury dept; B. S. Wathen, chf engineer; J. F. Propst, chf clk; Frank Tremble, asst supt of telegraph; C. Ludolph, car accountant; E. L. Sargent, genl frt agt; H. L. Redfield, asst genl frt

The T&P Railway has an advertisement in the Directory and there is information in the Railroads section.

### Street Directory

In addition to the alphabetic listing of residences some directories have listings by address. Once you locate your ancestor's address in the alphabetical listing, look the address up in the street directory to see who the neighbors were.

### Locating Directories

The following websites have City Directories in their Collections:

Internet Archive—<https://archive.org/>

Google Books—<https://books.google.com/>

Hathi Trust—<https://www.hathitrust.org/>

New York Public Library <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/>

The Portal to Texas History <https://texashistory.unt.edu/>

Ancestry—<https://www.ancestry.com/>

Fold3—<https://www.fold3.com/>

My Heritage <https://www.myheritage.com/>

US Online Historical Directories <https://sites.google.com/site/onlinehistoricaldirectories/Home/usa>

### Search Strategies

- Look for various spellings, keep a list of all the possible spellings and use it when you search any records.
- Look for each year that is available to determine when your ancestor appears and is no longer listed.
- Use addresses to determine where children went to school, what churches were close by where the family may have worshiped.
- Use Street Directory to find the neighbors and add them to your list for collateral searches.

## Fredericksburg, Texas

Submitted by Barbara Brogdon

### Texas Historical Commission

Fredericksburg was founded in 1846 during the wave of German immigration to Texas. At first there were 120 settlers, growing to 1,000 just two years later. Now, the city of about 12,000 residents draws visitors who enjoy Fredericksburg's history, culture, and environment.

Applications are open for the 2021 Certified Local Government (CLG) grant program, which empowers local communities to better protect their historic resources. The deadline is November 2, 2020.

Each year, roughly \$150,000 is awarded for preservation projects to participating CLGs or a third-party organization within a certified CLG community. Projects can include preservation plans, National Register nominations, trainings, projects that focus on underrepresented communities, and more.

More information: [www.thc.texas.gov/.../certified-local-gover.../grant-information](http://www.thc.texas.gov/.../certified-local-gover.../grant-information)

