

The San Marcos-Hays County Collection at the San Marcos Public Library

- Books & Documents of Local Historical Interest
 - Tula Townsend Wyatt Collection
 - Frances Stovall Collection
 - Newspaper Archive

Introduction & Acknowledgments:

The San Marcos-Hays County Collection serves as a center for gathering and preserving books, photographs, maps, documents, newspapers and other archival materials related to the history, geography, and cultural life of San Marcos and Hays County.

Included in the San Marcos-Hays County Collection, is the Tula Townsend Wyatt Collection. The Wyatt Collection was named for local historian Tula Townsend Wyatt who donated an extensive collection of photographs, manuscripts, newspaper clippings, and other materials to the San Marcos Public Library in 1977. Mrs. Wyatt's generous gift served as the catalyst for the library to begin gathering and organizing a local history collection.

In 2001, historian Frances Stovall generously donated her extensive collection of local history materials to the library. The Frances Stovall Collection was dedicated as part of the San Marcos-Hays County Collection in January 2001.

In addition to the outstanding contributions of Mrs. Wyatt and Mrs. Stovall, many other members of the community have helped the collection grow through their generous donations of historical materials. Several dedicated volunteers have contributed countless hours toward the organization and maintenance of the collection. The library staff would particularly like to acknowledge the contributions of the following volunteers: Elizabeth McSwain, Bobbie Wayne, Jerrie Harper, Beth Rankin, and the late Mary McSwain. Mary McSwain cataloged materials for the collection for nearly twenty years prior to her death in 1998.

Ongoing financial support for the collection is provided by the City of San Marcos and Friends of the San Marcos Public Library.

How to donate materials to the Collection:

The library welcomes donations of photographs and documents relating to the history of San Marcos and Hays County. If you have materials which you would like to donate, please request a copy of the San Marcos-Hays County Collection policy statement and donor form. The policy statement provides detailed information for donors about the purpose, scope, and administration of the collection. The donor form will help us to identify and properly catalog the materials you have donated.

How to locate materials in the San Marcos-Hays County Collection:

Books related to San Marcos and Hays County are indexed by author, title, and subject in the library's main computer catalog. The catalog may be accessed through computer terminals located in the library or through the library's web site:

www.sanmarcostx.gov/library

Files of clippings, photographs, and other documents are indexed by subject. The subject index is maintained in a bound notebook located at the reference desk.

Newspaper articles published in the San Marcos Daily Record since 1993 can be located through our *Index to the San Marcos Daily Record*. The index is produced by library staff and volunteers and is available on the library's web site in the "Genealogy & History" category of *Research Links*:

www.sanmarcostx.gov/library

Reference librarians are available at the library to assist you in your research.

Materials of particular interest:

Clear Springs and Limestone Ledges: a History of San Marcos and Hays County, by Frances Stovall, *et al.* Hays County Historical Commission, 1986.

A Brief History of Hays County and San Marcos, Texas, by Dudley Richard Dobie, 1948.

Hays County Historical and Genealogical Society Quarterly, 12 volumes, 1967-1978. Includes records of marriages, land grants, cemetery records, military records, historical markers, genealogies of some Hays County families, probate records, tax rolls, etc. The final issue includes a subject index, and each issue has a name index.

Hays County, Texas, Cemetery Inscriptions, copied and compiled by Jo Ann Elam Hearn, Dorothy Wimberley Kerbow, and Carolyn Harmon Parman, 2 volumes. Hays County Historical Commission, 1990. This work is also available on the Internet at:

www.hayshistoricalcommission.com/cemeteries/Inscriptions-Main.php

Historical Markers in Hays County, 1907-1976, by Tula Townsend Wyatt. Hays County Historical Commission, 1977.

Historical Markers in Hays County, 1977-2002, by Frances Stovall, 2003.

Sanborn Maps of San Marcos These very detailed maps were made at the turn of the century through the 1930s for insurance companies. Each structure is carefully outlined and its use is often noted.

San Marcos Telephone Directories: 1899-present.

Hays County Newspapers:

The library has an outstanding collection of Hays County newspapers. Most back issues are on microfilm. Some are maintained in paper copy.

Chautauquan

1999-2001

Dripping Springs Century News

June 1990-present

Hays County Citizen

1957 - 1978

Hays County (Onion Creek) Free Press

1982 - present

Hays County Times and Farmers Journal

July 1886 - March 1912 (incomplete)

Hays County Guardian

1989-1994

Kyle Eagle

1985 - present

Kyle News

January 1926 - February 1957 (incomplete)

La Otra Voz

1970-1972

San Marcos Free Press

November 1877 - August 1890 (incomplete)

San Marcos News

August 1982-May 1982

San Marcos Record, later *San Marcos Daily Record*

May 1919 - present (incomplete)

San Marcos Times

September 1873 - November 1873
West Texas Free Press & San Marcos Valley Times
December 1873 - February 1874
West Texas Free Press
February 1874 - December 1875
Wimberley Mill
1966-1976 (incomplete)
Wimberley View
1992 - present

Census Records & Vital Statistics available at the San Marcos Public Library:

The following United States Census records for Hays County are available in microfilm:
1850; 1860; 1870; 1880; ** ; 1900; 1910; 1920.
** 1890 was destroyed in a fire at the National Archives.

Hays County Birth Records:
1873-1879; 1903-1930, microfilm;

Hays County Death Records:
1903-1934, microfilm
** 1932 and 1933 records are not included

Hays County Marriage Records:
1848-1931, microfilm

Hays County Tax Rolls:
1848-1910, microfilm

City & County Records available through local government offices:

Births

Records of hospital births in the city of San Marcos from 1878 to the present may be found at the City Clerk's office. Records for the entire state of Texas are available as well, from 1926-. Inquiries must be from a blood relative, and there is a \$22 charge for the first copy and \$3 each additional copy. Records of home births in Hays County from 1903- (and sometimes earlier) may be found at the County Clerk's office.

Deaths

Records of deaths occurring in the City of San Marcos from 1917- are obtained from the City Clerk for \$20 for the first copy and \$3 each additional copy. Records of deaths occurring outside the City, but in Hays County from 1903- are obtained from the County Clerk's office for \$20.

Marriages

The Hays County Clerk's office has marriage records from 1848-.

Property Deeds

The Hays County Clerk's office records deeds to all real property, cemetery lots, state-owned lands, and liens against property.

San Marcos City Cemetery Records

The caretaker of the San Marcos City Cemetery may be contacted to locate specific graves. Call his pager at 512/396-8256, and he will return your call.

Other Nearby Library Collections which include materials of local historical interest:

Barker Texas History Collection/Center for American History

Sid Richardson Hall
University of Texas at Austin
Austin, TX 78705
512/495-4515

Texas State Library--Genealogy Collection

1201 Brazos
Austin, TX 78701
512/463-5463
Open Tuesday through Saturday.

Alkek Library--Special Collections

Texas State University
San Marcos, TX
512/245-3861

Church of Latter-Day Saints Genealogical Library

120 Suncrest
San Marcos, TX 78666
512/353-8672
Call for hours before visiting.