

# Discovering Treasures in the D.R.T. Library

by Barbara Froebel and Susan E. Ball

The oldest patriotic women's organization in Texas and one of the oldest in the nation, The Daughters of the Republic of Texas's mission includes encouraging research into early Texas records, preserving historic documents, and encouraging the publication of historic records.

As part of this mission, the DRT have amassed an impressive collection of materials focusing on the Texas Revolution, the Republic of Texas, and the men and women who were involved in that pivotal time. Housed in the DRT Library, the 38,000 items in the non-circulating collection has been developed and is supported and maintained by the DRT for the use of all researchers. Documents, books, maps, letters, and other artifacts pertain to the Republic of Texas, history of Texas, San Antonio, and the Alamo. Materials are in closed stacks with access provided through inventories and an online public-access catalog. The library collections are available to all researchers by appointment (210-784-1512).

The Collection is now located in the Bexar County Archives Building (former Federal Reserve Building) in downtown San Antonio at 126 East Nueva Street.

The DRT, Texas A & M University San Antonio, and Bexar County have partnered to preserve and maintain the collection so future generations will better understand the cost of freedom and liberty.

Library staff conduct small group tours of the collection and facility. If you are interested in scheduling a small group tour of the DRT Library, please email Leslie Stapleton at [leslie.stapleton@tamusa.edu](mailto:leslie.stapleton@tamusa.edu).

See the DRT library website at <http://www.drinfo.org/> for a wealth of additional information and their online catalog. **If you are visiting San Antonio during the TxSGS 2018 conference and want to visit the DRT library, plan to make your reservation now.** If you won't have time this trip, the website has a fee schedule for ordering copies.

Happy Hunting! ★



DRT Library (<https://www.drinfo.org/drt-library>)

## Holdings at The Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library

**The general collection:** 17,000 book titles, primarily history, but including genealogy, politics and government, art, natural history and science, religion, folklore, and fiction, all associated with Texas. The library is fortunate to have received the extensive libraries of Dr. William Eager Howard, C. Stanley Banks, and Maury Maverick, Sr.

**Archival collections:** Approximately 450 collections of personal and family papers and organizational records dating from 1519 to the present. The "[Archival Collections](#)" page in the "Research" section of the DRT Library website provides an overview of these collections. The [National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections](#), lists 246 of the DRT Library's archival collections. Among the outstanding collections are: Newspapers: Bound volumes of consecutive editions, including Mexican War newspapers and the *Niles Register*, individual copies of newspapers associated with historic Texas events, and microfilm of early Texas newspapers.

**Maps:** More than 1,000 maps—land plats and world, national, state, county, and city maps, including a map dated 1579 by Abraham Ortelius; an 1827 manuscript map of Austin's Colony drawn by Stephen F. Austin, part of the *Cummings Family Papers*; and digital images of maps from the Robert L. B. Tobin Map Collection.

**Clipping file:** Approximately 400 linear feet of file folders containing newspaper clippings, letters, photocopies of documents, pamphlets, and genealogical charts. Files are arranged in two divisions, San Antonio and General, with each division subdivided by topic.

**Sheet music:** Approximately 200 sheet music titles relating to the Alamo, San Antonio, and Texas. Original pieces date from 1835 and include *Go Ahead: A March Dedicated To Colonel Crockett, 1835*; *The Flag of Texas : A National Song, 1836*; *The Texas Quick Step, 1841*; and *Smith's March, 1848*.

For more information about the DRT, see their website at <http://www.drinfo.org/>. To view the library catalog, see <http://www.drinfo.org/drt-library/research>.