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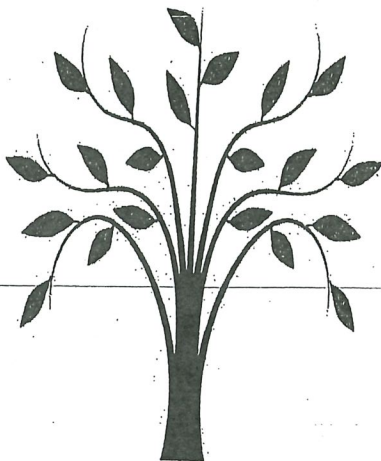
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Getting Started With Genealogy



Your First Steps

San Antonio Genealogical
and Historical Society

911 Melissa Drive

San Antonio, Tx 78213

Phone: 210-342-5242

Website: www.txsaghs.org

Start at Home

- Gather what you already have
 - Documents
 - Photographs
 - Artifacts
 - Family Bibles
 - Newspaper clippings
 - Diaries
 - Letters
- Interview family members
 - Take notes
 - Record interviews
- Consider software such as:
 - Family Tree Maker
<http://www.mackiev.com/ftm/index.html>
 - RootsMagic
<https://www.rootsmagic.com>
 - Legacy Family Tree
<http://www.legacyfamilytree.com>
 - Brother's Keeper
<http://www.bkwin.org>

Stay Organized

- Develop a filing system
- Use a research log
- Use forms to organize the information that you collect
 - Family Group Sheets
 - Pedigree Charts
 - Census Sheets
- Blank forms can be located here:
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Genealogy_Research_Forms#FamilySearch
- Create a timeline of the events in the lives of the family members you are researching. Information about timelines for genealogy can be found here:
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/US_Timelines_-_Creation_and_Use_with_Families
- Cite the sources of all information that you discover. Information about source citations can be found here:
 - [https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Cite_Your_Sources_\(Source_Footnotes\)](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Cite_Your_Sources_(Source_Footnotes))
 - <http://txsaghs.org/cpage.php?pt+21>

Investigate Educational Opportunities

Join a local genealogical society and ask about learning opportunities for beginning researchers.

- Find a mentor in the society who will guide you.
- Visit genealogical libraries and ask a librarian for assistance using the books and other resources.
- Take advantage of free, online learning opportunities, such as these, available from Family Search:
<https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/home.html>
- Obtain one or two how-to books for family history researchers. [See the last page of this brochure for suggestions.]

