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INVENTORY
of the
COUNTY ARCHIVES
of
TEXAS



ROBERTSON COUNTY
No. 198
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TEXAS HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

### INVENTORY OF THE COUNTY ARCHIVES

OF TEXAS

No. 198. ROBERTSON COUNTY (FRANKLIN)

Prepared by

The Texas Historical Records Survey
Division of Community Service Programs
Work Projects Administration

Bureau of Research in the Social Sciences The University of Texas, Official Sponsor

> Published by Robertson County, Texas March 1941

### FOREWORD

The <u>Inventory of the County Archives of Texas</u> is one of a number of guides to historical materials prepared throughout the United States by workers on the Historical Records Survey Program of the Work Projects Administration. The publication herewith presented, an inventory of the archives of Robertson County, is number 198 of the Texas series.

The Historical Records Survey Program was undertaken in the winter of 1935-36 for the purpose of providing useful employment to needy unemployed historians, lawyers, teachers, and research and clerical workers. In carrying out this objective, the project was organized to compile inventories of historical materials, particularly the unpublished government documents and records which are basic in the administration of local government, and which provide invaluable data for students of political, economic and social history. The archival guide herewith presented is intended to meet the requirements of day-to-day administration by the officials of the county, and also the needs of lawyers, businessmen and other citizens who require facts from the public records for the proper conduct of their affairs. The volume is so designed that it can be used by the historian in his research in the unprinted sources in the same way he uses the library card catalog for printed sources.

The inventories produced by the Historical Records Survey Program attempt to do more than give merely a list of records - they attempt further to sketch in the historical background of the county or other unit of government, and to describe precisely and in detail the organization and functions of the government agencies whose records they list. The county, town, and other local inventories for the entire country will, when completed, constitute an encyclopedia of local government as well as a bibliography of local archives.

The successful conclusion of the work of the Historical Records Survey Program, even in a single county, would not be possible without the support of public officials, historical and legal specialists, and many other groups in the community. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.

The Survey Program was organized by Luther H. Evans, who served as Director until March 1, 1940, when he was succeeded by Sargent B. Child, who had been National Field Supervisor since the inauguration of the Survey. The Survey Program operates as a Nation-wide series of locally sponsored projects in the Division of Community Service Programs of which Mrs. Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner, is in charge.

Howard O. Hunter Commissioner

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### PREFACE

The Texas Historical Records Survey is a unit of the Texas State-wide Records Project which is sponsored by the Bureau of Research in the Social Sciences of The University of Texas, and operates under the Research and Records Section of the Division of Community Service Programs of the Work Projects Administration.

The objective of the Survey in Texas is the preparation of complete inventories of the archives of each county, municipality, and other local governmental unit.

This publication, an inventory of the archives of Robertson County, includes, in addition to descriptive entries for each extant records series, a historical sketch of the county and a map of its past and present boundaries; an essay on the present governmental organization and records system, accompanied by a structural chart; a discussion of the conditions under which the records are preserved, accompanied by floor plans of the courthouse; a section devoted to abbreviations and symbols; and a brief statement of the legal status of each office and agency, prefatory to the listing of its records.

The Survey is now engaged in preparing a comprehensive statement of the general law regulating county government, to be entitled County Government in Texas. It is expected that this book will serve as a handbook on the organization, structure, and evolution of county government and records in Texas, and will make it unnecessary to repeat in each inventory information applicable to all counties in the State. The office essays in this inventory are, therefore, limited to the creation of the office and its present status, the manner in which it is filled, the term, and special legislation affecting Robertson County. Pending issuance of the volume on County Government in Texas, it is suggested that the reader consult the inventory of the County Archives of Texas, No. 94, Guadalupe County, for more detailed essays than those found in the present inventory.

The <u>Inventory of the County Archives of Texas</u> will, when completed, consist of a separate volume for each county of the State. Each unit of the series is numbered according to the particular county's respective position in the alphabetical list of the 254 counties. Thus, the volume for Robertson County, herewith presented, is No. 198. Units of the <u>Inventory</u> are issued in mimeographed form for free distribution to State and local public officials, public libraries in Texas, and to a limited number of libraries and governmental agencies outside the State. See page 140, this inventory, for a list of the publications of the Texas Historical Records Survey Project.

The records of Robertson County were listed January-August 1937, and a verification check was made in May 1940. The volume was compiled and edited in the State office of the Texas Historical Records Survey Project.

The courteous cooperation of the Robertson County officials, for whom this work was done, is acknowledged.

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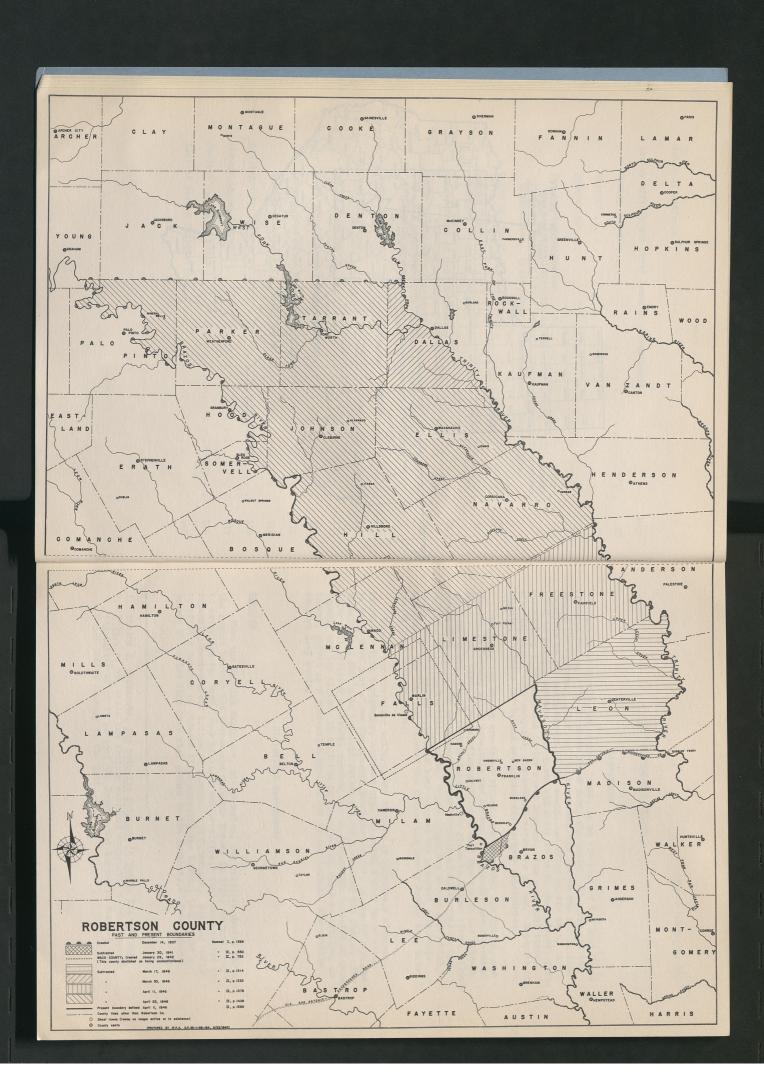
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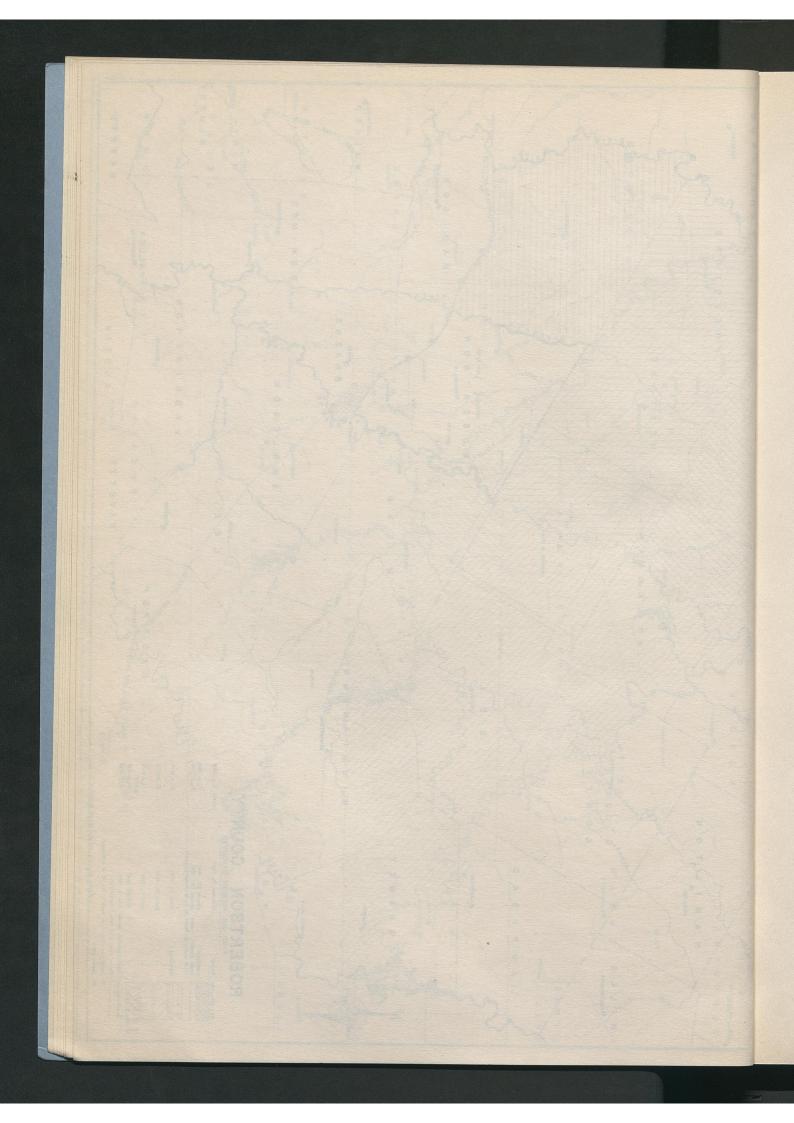
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### 1: HISTORICAL SKETCH

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### Topography

Robertson County, in central Texas, is on the edge of the East Texas timbered region. The Navasota River forms the eastern boundary and the Brazos the western. Falls and Limestone Counties are to the north, Leon County is to the east, Brazos to the south, and Milam to the west. A level to rolling terrain, with sands and sandy loams in the uplands, gives way to deep alluvial soils in the river bottoms. The principal timbers are elm, pecan, ash, mesquite, and several varieties of oak. Deposits of lignite, fuller's earth, and brick clay are largely undeveloped.

Draining the county are three rivers, the Navasota, the Brazos, and the Little Brazos, which parallels the Brazos at distances never exceeding 3 miles. These streams, flowing through deep ravines in the uplands and issuing upon almost prairie country, are given to sudden rises. Floodwaters have again and again dropped rich deposits of black soil in the valleys, until the fertility of the bottom lands has become proverbial. Since flood control methods have been adopted and malarial conditions eliminated, the lowlands between the Brazos and Little Brazos have materially increased in value.

Except for the river valleys, the terrain is relatively high and unbroken. This topography, combined with the heavy timber which stood in early days just above the present southern boundary of the county, was an important factor in the exploration and settlement of the region. The sandy soil provided a natural roadbed for the cumbersome vehicles of early travel; and the timber, in addition to its inherent value to settlers as lumber, served as a protection against the plains Indians, who usually avoided deep woods.

### Historical Background

# Spanish

When the Spanish explorers, missionaries, and soldiers passed through the region between the Brazos and Navasota Rivers in 1716, on their way to establish the East Texas missions and presidios, they encountered the friendly, semi-nomadic tribes of Tonkawas and Tawakonis. Bearing north to avoid a network of streams after crossing the Brazos, they found a course which led them over high ground to the Navasota. Their route

Carlos E. Castaneda, <u>Our Catholic Heritage in Texas</u>, II, end map.
 <u>Ibid.</u>, p. 53, tells how Indians attached themselves to the Spanish expedition after it crossed the Brazos, and before it reached the Tejas Indian country to the east.

became the main path of travel, called  $\underline{\text{El Camino}}$   $\underline{\text{Real}}$  (The King's Highway),  $^3$  which was in use for nearly a century and a half.  $^4$  This portion of their trail now marks the southeast boundary of Robertson County.

## Mexican and Anglo-American

Although present Robertson County was approximately midway between the important settlements of San Antonio de Bexar and Nacogdoches, the Spanish Government apparently made no effort to develop this region. Anglo-American colonization began soon after Mexico won her independence in 1821. 5 In 1825 Robert Leftwich, agent of a Tennessee company, 6 received permission to settle 800 families in Texas. The territory now included in Robertson County fell within his grant. 7 After some adjustments within the company, Sterling C. Robertson became empresario of the Texas grant. 8 On his initial visit to the region in 1826, he found a squatter named Early, who apparently was the first settler here. Little is known of Early except that he stubbornly resisted efforts to remove him. 9 Various circumstances delayed colonization and created dissension between all parties involved; eventually Stephen F. Austin and Robertson became involved in a controversy over ownership of the grant'. The Mexican Government passed the contract back and forth between Austin and Robertson to the very eve of the Texas Revolution. 10

In the meantime, colonists had settled the lower reaches of the disputed territory, particularly that portion which later became Robertson County. They came in groups of four or five families, and built their houses close together for protection against Indians. Families of these "neighborhoods" regularly borrowed meat from each other. Since the settlers believed it impossible to cure beef in that section of the country, they seldom tried it, but simply agreed that only one family at a time would butcher. Everyone in the neighborhood borrowed from that family

<sup>3.</sup> Charles W. Hackett (ed.), "Locations of the Early Spanish Missions and Presidios in Nacogdoches County," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, XLI (1937-38), 218.

<sup>4.</sup> Castaneda, Our Catholic Heritage in Texas, II, end map. The principal route of travel changed gradually to north and south, beginning in the 1820's, when Stephen F. Austin's first colonists came from the coast into central Texas. Ibid.

the coast into central Texas. Ibid.

5. The Texas Almanac for 1939-40, p. 62, hereinafter cited as 1939-40 Almanac.

<sup>6.</sup> Eugene C. Barker, The Life of Stephen F. Austin, Founder of Texas, 1793-1836, p. 331, hereinafter cited as Barker, Life of Austin.

<sup>7.</sup> Translations of Empresario Contracts, p. 22 (ms. in Texas General Land Office, Austin).

<sup>8.</sup> Barker, Life of Austin, pp. 336-358.

<sup>9.</sup> Eugene C. Barker (ed.), The Austin Papers, vol. I, pt. II, p. 1304. 10. Barker, Life of Austin, pp. 371-373.

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until the meat was gone, whereupon a calf was killed by another family, and so on around the borrowing circle. 11

About 1829 a group of Irish immigrants settled in the wooded sections just north of the San Antonio-Nacogdoches road (El Camino Real). This settlement, first known as Staggers Point, and later as Benchley, was the first within the present limits of Robertson County, 12 In 1830 the Mexican Government established the military post of Tenoxtitlan on the Brazos River, just below the road, to protect the frontier and encourage settlement, 13 At least 20 grants were made to land within present Robertson County during 1833 and 1834. 14

Homes of the early settlers were generally simple log cabins, built of whatever timber was available; some had puncheon floors, others earthen. Oak pins took the place of nails; mud served as mortar, 15 Sometimes the cabins were built in a circle, or a square, with outside walls as high as 12 feet and the roofs slanting inward. 16 Practically every little settlement had its own blockhouse or stockade. The Wheelock and Dunn families both had strong houses, and the Parkers built such a combination of stockade and blockhouse that it was called Parker's Fort. Other stockades, built later, were at Fort Boggy and on Cobb's Prairie. 17 Although successful Indian raids were made on outlying cabins, no record has been found of any blockhouse being taken save Parker's Fort; and this fell when the region had been all but depopulated during the Revolution. 18

It is not definitely known when Robertson's vast colony was organized as the Mexican municipality of Viesca, but it had an ayuntamiento, or governing board, as early as 1830, 19 Delegates from Viesca were seated at the various meetings of the colonists which preceded the Texas Revolution. Representing Viesca at the San Felipe Convention in 1832 were Jared E. Groce, Joshua Hadly, and William Robinson; 20 and at the Consultation

<sup>11.</sup> Prendergast, H. D., "History of Robertson County," American Sketch Book, IV (1878), 324, 325, hereinafter cited as Prendergast, "History of Robertson," Sketch Book.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Origin of Names of Robertson County," Hearne (Tex.) Democrat, Apr. 9, 1936, hereinafter cited as "Origin of Names."

<sup>13.</sup> Mattie Austin Hatcher, Letters of an Early American Traveller, Mary Austin Holley, p. 133.

<sup>14.</sup> Texas General Land Office, Map of Robertson County, Jan. 1919, hereinafter cited as Land Office Map.

<sup>15.</sup> Lawrence Ward St. Clair, History of Robertson County, pp. 50, 51 (ms. Master's thesis in University of Texas Library), hereinafter cited as St. Clair, Robertson County.

<sup>16.</sup> James T. De Shields, Cynthia Ann Parker, p. 10, hereinafter cited as De Shields, Cynthia Ann.

<sup>17.</sup> St. Clair, Robertson County, pp. 57-60.

<sup>18.</sup> De Shields, Cynthia Ann, pp. 12-19.
19. Gam. Laws, I, 355.

<sup>19.</sup> Gam. Laws, I, 355.

<sup>20.</sup> Ibid., p. 479.

of 1835, were J. G. W. Pierson, J. L. Hood, Samuel T. Allen, A. G. Perry, J. W. Parker, and Alexander Thompson. 21 After the death of Ben Milam, who fell while leading the Texan attack on San Antonio late in 1835, the Provisional Government changed the name of the municipality of Viesca to Milam in his honor. 22 In the Constitutional Convention at Washington on the Brazos, March 1, 1836, Sterling C. Robertson and George C. Childress were representatives from Milam. 23

- 4 -

In addition to other hardships connected with the revolution, the settlers saw the worst stages of the "Runaway Scrape" of 1836. The San Antonio road, from the crossing on the Navasota to Robbins' Ferry on the Trinity, was choked with women and children and all the livestock they , could drive, fleeing before the advance of Santa Anna's army 24 Many sections of Robertson's colony were practically depopulated. 25 During and immediately after the revolution, the Indians made successful raids on the weakened settlements. With Anglo-American dominance established at the Battle of San Jacinto, 26 the soldiers, and the families who had fled, returned to the abandoned areas. Although Indian depredations abated, it was on May 18, 1836, shortly after San Jacinto, that the Comanches made their historic raid on Parker's Fort, massacred most of its inhabitants, and kidnaped Cynthia Ann Parker. 27

# Creation and Organization

On December 14, 1837, the Second Congress of the Republic of Texas created Robertson County out of Bexar, Milam, and Nacogdoches Counties. The new county, named for Sterling C. Robertson, included only a part of Robertson's colony, and much land that had not been included in his colonial grant. The chief justice, chosen by Congress, was directed to give 10 days' public notice of an election for a county seat. The act of creation also attached the county to the Senatorial district of Milam, and set forth that it was entitled to one Representative in Congress. The county was placed in the third judicial district, and a schedule of court terms was established. County court was to be held on the third Mondays of February, May, August, and November; district court on the Mondays next succeeding the fourth Mondays in April and October. 28

No record of the first election is available, but in March 1838 county officials began to file their bonds. Chosen by popular election

<sup>21.</sup> Gam. Laws, I, 508.

<sup>22. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, p. 1002.

Ibid., p. 824.

<sup>24.</sup> St. Clair, Robertson County, p. 63.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Texas Towns of Historic Interest That Have Been Abandoned or Remain Small Towns Today," The Texas Almanac for 1936, p. 124. 26. 1939-40 Almanac, pp. 66, 67.
27. De Shields, Cynthia Ann, pp. 12-15.

<sup>28.</sup> Gam. Laws, I, 1398.

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were Alanson Hardy and Robert Henry, justices of the peace. 29 Harrison Owen, county clerk and recorder; 30 John D. Smith, "high Sheriff"; and William C. Watson, district clerk. The following officers had earlier been chosen by Congress: Francis Slauter, chief justice; A. W. Cooke, county surveyor; Thomas Dillard, president of the board of land commissioners; A. L. McCoy, clerk of the board of land commissioners and register of the Land Office; Alanson Hardy, postmaster at Navasota; the first post office in the county. 31 In November 1838 John R. Henry was appointed by the county court to assess the county for 1838 and 1839.

In 1839 a frontier company of minute men was organized to guard the outlying settlements north of the San Antonio-Nacogdoches road, and between the Brazos and Navasota Rivers. Capt. Eli Chandler commanded the organization, and its headquarters was at Franklin. 33 Other units of militia were organized along the frontier at approximately the same time, and some new blockhouses were erected, among them Fort Boggy in present Leon County. 34

The rudimentary character of the county administrative setup and its intimate relation to the community in the spring of 1840 is illustrated by the fact that County Clerk Harrison Owen was unable to issue an eloping couple a marriage license until the cows came home. Owen could not get into the courthouse because the key to that building was taking the place of a clapper in a calf's bell. 35

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# Boundaries Doundaries

All or part of 17 other present-day counties 36 have been created from the vast territory over which the first officers of Robertson County had jurisdiction. The original boundaries were:

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<sup>29.</sup> Bond Book, vol. 1, pp. 4, 5, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>30.</sup> Probate Minutes, vol. A, p. 2, see entry 187.

<sup>31.</sup> Bond Book, vol. 1, pp. 1-7, 37, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>32.</sup> Ibid., pp. 20, 21.

<sup>33.</sup> St. Clair, Robertson County, pp. 80, 81.

<sup>34.</sup> W. D. Wood, "Sketch of the Early Settlement of Leon County, Its Organization, and Some of the Early Settlers," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, IV, (1900-1901), 205, 206.

<sup>35.</sup> Prendergast, "History of Robertson," Sketch Book, IV (1878), 324,

<sup>36.</sup> See map, p. 1. The judicial county of Waco, which the legislature attempted to create Jan. 29, 1842 (Gam. Laws, II, 752) was never organized, a decision of the Supreme Court at its January term the same year declaring judicial counties unconstitutional (Stockton v. Montgomery, Dallam Tex., p. 473.

. . . the line beginning on the Brazos river at the county line of the county of Washington, and running on that line easterly to the Trinity river; thence up that river to the northern edge of the Cross Timbers; thence due west to the Brazos river; thence down that river to the beginning point 37

The first change in the Robertson County boundaries came on January 30, 1841, with the creation of present Brazos County. This took away from Robertson County a small portion of land above the San Antonio Road immediately east of the Brazos River, fixing the present southern line of Robertson at that point 38

A large section of Robertson County's original territory was removed from the southwestern part on March 17, 1846, when Leon County was created. 39 Three days later a large tract was subtracted from the northeast corner, when Dallas County was created 40

Limestone 41 and Navarro 42 Counties were created out of Robertson on April 11, 1846, and on that day the present Robertson County boundaries were defined as follows:

Beginning at the northwest corner of Brazos County on the Brazos River; thence up said river twenty-five hundred varas, above the northwest corner of a survey made for Jacob Welch, as represented on the county map made for Robertson County; thence, north, sixty degrees east, to the Navasota; thence down said river to the line of Brazos County; and thence, with said line to the point of beginning on the Brazos river. 43

## County Seats and Courthouses

The first election for a county seat resulted in the choice of Franklin,  $^{44}$  a site about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles southwest of present Franklin, and now referred to as Old Franklin. A house belonging to William Love was used as a temporary courthouse. 45 On June 8, 1838, a contract to build a courthouse was awarded to Leander Harl but in February 1839 the county court ordered that suit be brought against him for failure to carry out the

Quarterly, IV. (1800-1801), for, Non-

<sup>37.</sup> Gam. Laws, I, 1398. 38. Ibid., II, 550. Brazos County was first called Navasota.

Ibid., p. 1314.

<sup>40. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, p. 1314.

Ibid., p. 1378. 41.

<sup>42.</sup> Ibid., p. 1438.

<sup>43.</sup> Ibid., p. 1366.

<sup>44.</sup> Probate Minutes, vol. A, p. 5, see entry 187.

<sup>45.</sup> Ibid., p. 24.

<sup>46.</sup> Bond Book, vol. 1, p. 38, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

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conditions of his agreement. 47 Harl died, 48 and the building was completed by George W. Cox, and accepted by the county on August 17, 1839. This first courthouse was a two-room structure of "good strong timber," 20 feet wide, 28 feet long, and about 18 feet high. 49

A two-thirds' vote of the people on October 5, 1850, moved the county seat from Franklin to Wheelock. 50 On October 15, all county offices were ordered to move to the new county seat "as soon as it is possible for them to do so," and the November term of court was held at Wheelock. 51 A call for courthouse construction bids was ordered the next summer, 52 and the following November the commissioners decided upon specifications for another two-story, wooden county building, with an outside stairway.53

It was not until May 1852 that building plans submitted by A. L. Brigance were approved, 54 and still another year went by before the courthouse was finally accepted on August 15, 1853, nearly 3 years after the county government had taken up residence at Wheelock. The commissioners were not entirely pleased with the new building; they deducted from the contract price, \$65 "for failing to place the ballastrade around Said Roof," required the contractor to continue painting the roof, and stipulated that should it leak, he was to produce a "good and Substancial" new one. 55 The reason is not given, but in February 1854 Brigance was ordered to improve the roof, raising it "in proportion to the size of said Court House "56

But the building of a courthouse had given the county seat no permanence. On the very day that the commissioners entered their order accepting the new courthouse they announced the results of an election held a few days earlier, at which the voters had named the center of the county as their choice for a seat of government. The court accordingly appointed four commissioners to see if the center of the county were suitable for a town site, and if not, to choose one or two more places within 5 miles of the center, to do what they could toward procuring donations from the landowners. County offices and archives were, however, to remain at Wheelock until suitable quarters were provided elsewhere 57 The calm

<sup>47.</sup> Probate Minutes, vol. A, pp. 24, 25, see entry 187.

<sup>48.</sup> Bond Book, vol. 1, p. 20, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105. 49.

Ibid., p. 28. Of Land Certificate County Court (cover title, County Court Book County Records), vol. BC, pp. 179, 180, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>51.</sup> Ibid., p. 183.

Ibid., p. 199.

Ibid., p. 203.

<sup>54.</sup> Ibid., p. 218.

<sup>55.</sup> Ibid., pp. 250, 251.

<sup>56.</sup> Ibid., p. 275.

Ibid., pp. 249, 250.

attitude of the county fathers evidenced in this last order seems to have been particularly well-advised, for 3 years passed before the will of the people in the matter of this county seat change was gratified.

The commissioners appointed to find a county site near the center of the county and receive propositions made their report. They had chosen a place on the Francis Slauter headright, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast of the center of the county, "on the head of Cedar Creek." The county court accepted the report on November 22, 1853, at the same time declaring the place the new county seat "so soon as the legislature passes an act confirming the same," and recommending that the people petition the legislature for such confirmation. <sup>58</sup>

On February 13, 1854, the legislature passed an act "to Locate the Seat of Justice in the County of Robertson." It directed the chief justice to order an election, to declare any place within 5 miles of the center of the county chosen by a majority of the votes cast to be the county seat; provided that the seat be called Owensville, that as soon as the necessary buildings were erected there the county offices and courts should be moved from Wheelock, but not before. <sup>59</sup> In November 1854 the county court, still meeting at Wheelock but admitting itself desirous to locate the county seat "permanently," directed the chief justice to procure from the District Surveyor of the Robertson Land District a certificate showing the "precise center" of the county, appointed three commissioners to select two or more sites within 5 miles of the center and procure "the best donations they can and report the Same to the Chief Justice Instanter. <sup>60</sup> Their report has not been found, but an election was held on April 7, 1855, and a location on land donated by David H. Love, "on the Waters of Walnut Creek" was chosen. <sup>61</sup>

In November 1855 the commissioners contracted with A. L. Brigance to build a courthouse at Owensville. The specifications called for another two-story wooden building with outside stairway, this time to be 40 feet square, "to be set on good sound oak blocks," its doors to be fitted with "good locks & fastnings," and to be "well painted roof & all." Brigance was to complete the courthouse by August 1, 1856, and to receive as compensation one town lot in Owensville and \$2,750. 62 He met his deadline; the building was accepted on August 5, and county officers were ordered to move into their new quarters. County court met at Wheelock

<sup>58.</sup> Of Land Certificate County Court (cover title, County Court Book County Records), vol. BC, p. 258, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>59.</sup> Gam. Laws, III, 1553.

<sup>60.</sup> Of Land Certificate County Court (cover title, County Court Book County Records), vol. BC, pp. 302, 303, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>61. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, pp. 332, 333.

<sup>62.</sup> Ibid., pp. 352, 353.

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er Chief ion for the last time on August 19, 1856. It held a special term at the new courthouse in Owensville on August 28. 63

Owensville remained the county seat until July 12, 1870, when an act of the legislature moved the seat to Calvert. 64 The first session of the county court was held at Calvert on August 1 of that year. 65 Although it was the county seat for nearly 10 years, no courthouse was ever built there. Offices were rented for a time, 66 and at one period a building was leased by the year at \$75 per month. 67 Finally, a two-story house fronting on Main Street was acquired by the county and came to be known as the Court House Building. 68 In November 1874 the voters considered the proposition of removing the county seat to Englewood, but apparently voted to remain at Calvert, for on June 1, 1875, the county court dismissed a contest of the election; 69 and the court continued to meet at Calvert until March 1880. 70

At an election held December 16, 1879, Calvert lost the county seat to Morgan, 71 a development of the Texas Land Company 72 on the International and Great Northern Railroad. 73 On December 29 the commissioners appointed Captain Overall and Capt. H. Holdeman a committee to make arrangements for a courthouse at Morgan, to receive all donations made to the county, to see that the town was properly laid off, and to "report the best means of removing the records of the Court to Morgan." 74 But in

<sup>63.</sup> Records (cover title, Record of the County Court Robertson), vol. Dl, pp. 24, 25, 32-36, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>64.</sup> Gam. Laws, VI, 205.

<sup>65.</sup> Commissioners Court Minutes 1863 to 1871 (cover title, Police Minutes), vol. C, p. 340, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>66. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, p. 362; Day Book, vol. 2, pp. 2-53, <u>passim</u>, in Commissioners Court Minutes, <u>see</u> entry 1.

<sup>67.</sup> Commissioners Court Minutes 1863 to 1871 (cover title, Police Minutes), vol. C, p. 394, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>68.</sup> Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. A, p. 38, see entry 1, shows an order for an auction of this courthouse set for Apr. 21, 1880.

<sup>69.</sup> Day Book, vol. 2, pp. 235, 236, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1. On December 1, 1874, the court had questioned its own authority to decide election contests, but reached no decision; when the question was put to a vote, one member declined the issue, and the other two were of opposite opinions. Ibid., pp. 188, 189.

<sup>70.</sup> It met at Calvert for the last time Feb. 25, 1880 (Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. A, p. 28, see entry 1); at Franklin for the first time Mar. 8, 1880 (ibid., p. 37).

<sup>71.</sup> Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. A, p. 9, see entry 1.

<sup>72.</sup> On Feb. 9, 1880, the court ordered that the plan of the City of Morgan as presented by the Texas Iand Company be approved and that the company be authorized to name the streets (ibid., p. 12).

<sup>73.</sup> St. Clair, Robertson County, p. 100.

<sup>74.</sup> Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. A, pp. 9, 10, see entry 1.

the meanwhile it was discovered that there was already a post office named Morgan in Texas, and the commissioners renamed the new county site Franklin. 75 Early in March 1880 the records were moved to a "frame building 25 x 100 feet" in Franklin. 76 And on March 8, 1880, the commissioners court held its first term at the new site. 77 Almost exactly a year later the plans of F. E. Ruffini, Austin architect, for a \$30,000 courthouse were accepted, and the contract was let to J. B. Smith, Austin contractor. 78 This building, accepted on January 7, 1882, 79 still serves the county, although it has been extensively remodeled.

# Military History Civil War

When Texas seceded from the Union, Robertson County organized and equipped two companies, one commanded by William P. Townsend, the other by B. Brooks. These companies were active in many important battles of the Civil War. 80 Money, uniforms, and provisions were sent to them throughout the course of the conflict. At home, funds were raised for the support of destitute families of soldiers, and particularly for widows and orphans of men killed in action. Cotton cards were shipped in, and surplus cloth from the State penitentiary was brought to the county at various times. Beef and corn were purchased by the commissioners court for distribution to needy families.81

## World War I

63. Records topyer bitie, Record of the County Court Ho On June 5, 1917, there were 2,525 men of Robertson County registered for military Service, with 793 claiming exemption. The county had a wellorganized and efficient Local Board and an active County Council of Defense. Successful campaigns promoted the sale of Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps. The Red Cross, Food Conservation Staff, and various other war activities found men, women, and children eager to help.82

thes, wol, U. p. 394, in Complesioners Court Mine Complesioners Court Minetes, vol. 4, P. 38, Seg es

St. Clair, Robertson County, p. 101.

Reception Record (1872-97), notation on flyleaf, in Register of Instruments Filed for Record, see entry 40.

Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. A, p. 37, see entry 1.

<sup>78. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, pp. 137, 138.

<sup>79.</sup> Ibid., p. 201.

War of the Rebellion, Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, ser. I, vol. XI, pt. II, p. 569; vol. XII, pt. II, pp. 601,

<sup>616;</sup> Dudley G. Wooten, A Comprehensive History of Texas, II, 576-592. 81. Records (cover title, Record of the County Court Robertson), vol. Dl, pp. 247-425, passim, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

Seldon Bain Graham, War Activities of Robertson County, Texas, 1917-1919, pp. 5-7 (ms. Master's thesis in University of Texas Library).

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## Economic Development

Although a large number of the early settlers of Robertson County were from cotton-growing States, hunting, and the cutting of timber north of the San Antonio Road seem to have been the principal occupations of the earliest settlers. Fear of Indians for a time kept the settlers in the woods, away from the fertile river bottoms. Farming was for domestic purposes only. In the early fifties, settlers turned to rounding up wild cattle for the New Orleans market.83

## Farming and Ranching

Cotton raising was the inevitable pursuit of these people from the deep South. As soon as the development of the rich valley lands became practicable, they built large plantations and brought in Negro slaves to work and harvest the crops. About 1850 the county had its first gin, and was basically devoted to farming.84

A severe drouth in 1857 caused the only recorded corn crop failure of the pre-Civil War period. An old settler relates that in this year, he and his wife walked to his 10-acre corn field, gathered all the corn that grew, and took it home in his wife's apron to cook as roasting ears. 85 Good crops, however, were harvested in succeeding years. 86 Stock-raising continued to be important.87

In common with the whole South, the region suffered from the labor problem following the Civil War. In 1866 it was said of the freedmen:

. . . there are many doubts regarding their profitableness; they perform about two-thirds of what they did previous to emancipation; their wages range from \$8 to \$12 per month, or one third of the crop.88

The report for 1870 was that:

Freedmen do not improve, but are disposed to be idle and improvident. They usually hire for wages, which are usually \$15 per month in coin, for the year, and board. 89

<sup>83.</sup> Marjorie Rogers, "The Town of Calvert," Frontier Times Magazine, Oct. 1931, p. 581, hereinafter cited as Rogers, "Calvert," Frontier Times.
"Origin of Names"; Melinda Rankin, Texas in 1850, p. 125.

<sup>84.</sup> 

<sup>85.</sup> Prendergast, "History of Robertson," Sketch Book, IV (1878), 329.

The Texas Almanac for 1858, p. 43, see Iand Values, hereinafter cited as 1858 Almanac.

<sup>87.</sup> The Texas Almanac for 1857, p. 70; 1858 Almanac, p. 42.
88. The Texas Almanac for 1867, p. 150, hereinafter cited as 1867 Almanac.
89. The Texas Almanac for 1871, p. 145, hereinafter cited as 1871 Almanac.

With the coming of the railroad in 1869 came a tremendous increase in cotton production. The trains could transport as many bales over the 50-mile road to the nearest market in 1 day as 1,000 ox-teams could carry in 2 weeks. 90 Cotton buying centers grew up in the west, facilitating marketing of the fiber grown in Robertson County. 91 In 1876 one of the largest gins in the world - it had 21 stacks - was built at Calvert by John H. Gibson. In 1882, 32,000 bales were received in Calvert alone. In 1894 one man sold 3,400 bales from his own land 93

Numerous rains, some resulting in floods, early proved serious setbacks to farming. In 1899 heavy rainfall damaged the crops. One rain, unofficially measured as 30 inches in 34 consecutive hours, gave Hearne the world's record for cloudbursts. 94 Early in the twentieth century many acres of excellent farm land along the Brazos River seemed likely to be ruined by frequent inundations. Just prior to the first World War, levee construction was undertaken along the river banks in Robertson County and much land was reclaimed. 95 Robertson County today is regarded as one of the best farming counties in Texas. The Brazos bottoms are still covered with small plantations, worked chiefly by Negro farmers. 96

In recent years there have been numerous attempts to secure an appropriation to clear the channel of the Brazos and make it navigable again. Organization of the Brazos River Conservation and Reclamation District is considered an important step in this direction. 97

# Transportation - Howards and Hotal and Advance of the Honoroo

During the days of its early history, Robertson County lay not only on the principal route from San Antonio to the East Texas settlements, but also on the course most traveled from the coast to the rich river bottoms of east-central Texas. Oxcarts and covered wagons labored along the streets of old Franklin and Sterling. 98 With the development of the county, population centered along the roads. Old Franklin, established

<sup>90.</sup> Rogers, "Calvert," Frontier Times, Oct. 1931, p. 582. 91. J. L. Waller, "The Overland Movement of Cotton, 1866-1886," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, XXXV (1931-32), 141-144. Rogers, "Calvert," Frontier Times, Oct. 1931, p. 582.

J. P. McLendon, "Pioneer Citizen Writes of Early Robertson County History, Hearne (Tex.) Democrat, Oct. 2, 1936, hereinafter cited as McLendon, "Pioneer Citizen."

<sup>94.</sup> Texas Reclamation Department, Bulletin No. 25, Excessive Rainfall in Texas, pp. 27-39.

<sup>95.</sup> Frank W. Johnson and Eugene C. Barker, A History of Texas and Texans, II, 752.

WPA Writers' Program (comp.), Texas, A Guide to the Lone Star State, 96. p. 570.

<sup>1939-40</sup> Almanac, p. 136.

<sup>98.</sup> St. Clair, Robertson County, pp. 80, 81,

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as the county seat because the site was near the center of the county, yielded the courthouse to Wheelock, which was on the San Antonio Road. Farmers carted their produce over the level prairies to Sterling, and there sold it to teamsters who hauled it to San Antonio in wagon trains. 1 Benchley, then called Staggers Point, which by 1850 was an important community, was also on the San Antonio Road. 2

When the first train of the Houston and Texas Central line arrived in Robertson County it brought with it, among other things, an official name for Staggers Point, the temporary terminus. The Irish settlers agreed that the conductor's name should be adopted as the name of the station. The conductor was a Mr. Benchley, and the town is still known by that name. 3

- Although the residents had eagerly awaited the coming of the railroad, When the first train rolled in, horses wheeled and ran, and many of the farmers did likewise. The people of the rural community recognized its advantages, but the railroad did not affect their everyday lives for some time. For years trains did not run on Sunday because few would desecrate the Sabbath by riding in them. 4

Towns followed the railroads. This resulted in a general redistribution of population. The entire town of Sterling moved to meet the rails, and even took a new name, Calvert, to honor Judge Robert Calvert, who had persuaded the railroads to come through the county. 5 As the terminus of the rails, Calvert was a busy, thriving town. 6 In 1870 it became the county seat.

Its main street was lined with saloons, cowboys, cotton wagons; and stacks of gold were a common sight on the tables of the famous gambling houses. This village was one of the greatest trading points of the country. 7

The seventies saw the birth of three towns along the right-of-way of the Houston and Texas Central railroad: Hearne, Hammond, and Bremond. The International and Great Northern railroad gave new life to Franklin, and in 1879, it was voted the permanent county seat.8

<sup>99.</sup> See footnote 50, p. 7.

<sup>1.</sup> May Foster, "Picturesque and Aristocratic Old Sterling Once Was Dream Spot of Settlers," Dallas (Tex.) Morning News, Aug. 18, 1935, hereinafter cited as Foster, "Sterling."

<sup>2. &</sup>quot;Origin of Names."

<sup>3.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4.</sup> Rogers, "Calvert," Frontier Times, Oct. 1931, pp. 581, 582. 5. Foster, "Sterling."

<sup>6.</sup> Rogers, "Calvert," Frontier Times, Oct. 1931, pp. 581, 582.

<sup>7.</sup> Ibid., p. 581.

<sup>8.</sup> See pp. 9, 10.

(First entry, p. 39)

The old San Antonio Road along the southern border of the county is now a modern highway. The main route of north and south motor travel is State Highway 6, which connects Benchley and Bremond, via Hearne. From northeast to southwest runs State Highway 43, linking Easterly, Franklin, and Hearne. 9

# Social History of contract the second second

### Population Elements

Besides the Irish immigrants and the families from the frontiers of Arkansas, Tennessee, and Kentucky who followed Sterling C. Robertson into this region, the county, soon after it was created, numbered among its inhabitants several comparatively wealthy planters from Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, 10 who had brought their own slaves. A visitor to this region in about 1850 wrote:

Emigration has been immense during the last year, consisting of a highly valuable class of citizens, who not only possess the means of developing the resources of the soil but whose moral worth is happily calculated to make a favorable impression on society.11

With the increasing importance of cotton raising, more slaves were imported, so that by 1858 there were almost as many Negro residents as white 12 The result was that during the days of Reconstruction difficulties were political as well as economic. In 1869, 1,169 Negro voters registered in the county while only 714 white men registered. State police stations were set up at Franklin, Calvert, and Owensville to keep order. Following the fall of the Davis regime and the end of Reconstruction, most of the Negroes returned to the plantations as tenant farmers. 13 In the meanwhile, a number of foreigners had come in and set up a system of small farms worked by the owner. 14

They came with the railroads. Of the 23,021 county residents in 1887, 600 were Germans, 465 Poles, and 11,088 Negroes. 15

<sup>9.</sup> Texas Highway Commission, Highway Map of Texas, 1936.

<sup>10.</sup> Foster, "Sterling"; St. Clair, Robertson County, p. 54; U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Soils, Soil Survey of Robertson County, Texas, pp. 7, 8, hereinafter cited as Soil Survey.

Rankin, Texas in 1850, p. 125. 1858 Almanac, p. 93.

<sup>1871</sup> Almanac, pp. 226, 228. 13.

Soil Survey, pp. 8-52.

<sup>15.</sup> Texas Department of Agriculture, Insurance, Statistics, and History, Agricultural Bureau, Texas Agricultural and Statistical Report 1888, p. 188.

Benchley for years continued to be predominantly Irish. Mexican immigrants who came about 1871 concentrated largely at Hammond. 16 The Poles, most of whom came in the latter 1870's, established themselves in the town of Bremond, on the northern boundary of the county. 17 German immigrants, settled by the Texas Land and Immigration Company in 1881, colonized New Baden, on the International and Great Northern railroad. The residents of these communities have retained many of the social customs and other characteristics of their respective fatherlands. 18

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Old Franklin and Staggers Point (present Benchley), were the first villages in the county. Franklin was not only the county seat, but the headquarters of a vast land district, and therefore, of the land locators, "the most adventurous and daring class of persons on the frontier." The county seat touched the very rim of Indian country. Many newcomers stopped there to get information and to rest before making final locations. Indian fighters and surveyors gathered at the courthouse to exchange news and wait for opportunities to work. Large numbers of chain carriers and other help required by land prospectors assembled at Franklin. 19

Of more permanent character was the progressive Staggers Point. It had the first church in the county, the first shooting club, and the first race track. "It is said that many fine horses ran on this track and the betting became the talk of the state. This naturally drew much of the rough element, and caused much horse-stealing in this section." 20

Wheelock, the second county seat, named for Col. E. L. R. Wheelock, one of the organizers of Robertson's colony and later a Texas Ranger, was on the San Antonio road and one of the most colorful of the early towns. 21 Although it had an equal number of stores and saloons, 12 of each, it also had fine homes, at one of which Sam Houston was a guest. 22

Sterling, as Calvert was known in ante-bellum days, had yet another character, one more typical of the Brazos bottoms. Headed by Judge Robert Calvert, a descendant of Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore, 23 members

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<sup>16. &</sup>quot;Origin of Names."

<sup>17.</sup> Edward J. Dworaczyk, The First Polish Colonies of America in Texas, pp. 168-170, hereinafter cited as Dworaczyk, Polish Colonies.

<sup>18. &</sup>quot;Origin of Names."

<sup>19.</sup> Marjorie Rogers, "Surveyor's Fight," Frontier Times Magazine, Dec. 1931, p. 123.

<sup>20. &</sup>quot;Origin of Names."

<sup>21.</sup> Texas Commission of Control for Centennial Celebrations, Monuments
Commemorating the Centenary of Texas Independence, p. 155.

<sup>22.</sup> St. Clair, Robertson County, p. 90.

<sup>23. &</sup>quot;Origin of Names."

of a number of prominent Southern families settled here, and the plantation life which soon typified the bottoms centered at this point. 24

W. S. Allen, Calvert pioneer, remembers that:

In those days men were vain over their small feet. We paid Mr. Conitz fifteen and 20 dollars a pair for French calf-tongue boots with quilted Morocco leg tops. The tops were quilted in colored roses and other designs. When we put those fancy boots on and went to church . . . we felt mighty dressed up. 25

## Churches and Schools

One of the early acts of the county commissioners was to set aside land for the establishment of a public school, to be called Franklin Academy. 26 This move followed the 1839 Act of Congress which set apart for each county 3 leagues of land from the public domain "for the purpose of establishing a primary school or academy." 27 The following year the Congress added a league to each county's school land apportionment. 28 Land values, however, were too low to provide sufficient funds and the plan failed. 29 There is no further mention of Franklin Academy, or of school districts or teachers, in early records of the county. The first educators of the county were probably the circuit-riding preachers who led the old "field schools." 30 As late as 1850 it was remarked:

A very large majority of the rising generation of middle Texas
. . . are entirely destitute of school instruction . . in
many of our counties, common schools cannot be found. In many
neighborhoods the Sabbath school is the only means of instruction afforded . . . 31

One of the first ministers in the county was Rev. Robert Crawford, a Methodist from South Carolina, who had fought at San Jacinto 32 Probably the first house of worship in the county was the "Old Ireland Church," a log structure built by the Irish settlers of Benchley, who were Presby-

<sup>24.</sup> Foster, "Sterling."

<sup>25.</sup> Rogers, "Calvert," Frontier Times, Oct. 1931, p. 583.

<sup>26.</sup> Bond Book, vol. I, p. 47, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>27.</sup> Gam. Laws, II, 134.

<sup>28.</sup> Ibid., p. 320.

<sup>29.</sup> Frederick Eby, The Development of Education in Texas, pp. 88, 90.

<sup>30.</sup> Ibid., pp. 93, 94.

<sup>31.</sup> Rankin, Texas in 1850, p. 128.

<sup>32.</sup> Texas Commission of Control for Centennial Celebrations, Monuments Commemorating the Centenary of Texas Independence, p. 175.

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terians. The first pastor of this church was named Fullenwider. Of him it was said: a complete the said that the said cannot be said the said the said that the said the said

The minister did not only preach but worked wherever he was needed, helping to "clear the land, work the crops, nursing the sick, and burying the dead." He was a widely known Indian fighter; and once had to whip a man before he could convert

The second church built in this community, and possibly in the county, was intended for use as a schoolhouse; and was called Red Top. This house served as a community meeting place for many years. Here women teachers "tutored a child as long as he cared to attend school as grades were unknown at that time."34

In 1856 Chief Justice A. L. Brigance was ordered by the commissioners court to deed 2 county lots in Owensville "for school purposes," 35 and a description of the county published in 1858 mentions a "female academy" which was then under construction in Owensville. 36 Reference is made in the commissioners court minutes, November 22, 1859, 37 to a schoolhouse at Mount Vernon, and to a Methodist Church at McChristian's Mill, June 3, 1861. 38

Soon after the Civil War, there were seven or eight schools in various parts of the county. There were also four churches, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, and Christian. 39 On May 21, 1867, the "Quarterly Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, on the Owensville circuit," asked and received from the county a donation of 2 lots in Owensville, on which to build a church and a parsonage. 40 The Hearne Station Baptist Church was organized on April 18, 1869. 41 A number of churches came into being during the 1870's. Mention is made in the commissioners court minutes of the White Rock Church, May 27, 1873; 42 the

<sup>33. &</sup>quot;Origin of Names."

<sup>34.</sup> 

Records (cover title, Record of the County Court Robertson), vol. 35. Dl, p. 46, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>36.</sup> Jacob de Cordova, Texas: Her Resources and her Public Men, p. 252, hereinafter cited as De Cordova, Texas.

Records (cover title, Record of the County Court Robertson), vol. D1, p. 222, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>38.</sup> Ibid., p. 333.

<sup>39.</sup> 1867 Almanac, p. 150.

Commissioners Court Minutes 1863 to 1871 (cover title, Police Minutes), vol. C, pp. 144, 145, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>41.</sup> "70 Years History Behind Hearne's Baptist Church," Hearne (Tex.) Democrat, 50th Birthday Edition, Feb. 17, 1939.

<sup>42.</sup> Day Book, vol. 2, p. 4, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

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Freedman's Church, March 1874; 43 Chappel Hill and Mount Vernon Churches, July 1874; 44 Elm Church, 1876; 45 and Hickory Grove Church, February 1877. 46 Calvert at this time had four churches.47

In 1876 Father Mosiewicz organized the Polish parish at Bremond. For a time he served the church from Marlin in Falls County, but later, the Bremond colonists subscribed money to bring Father Peter Litwora from Poland.48

By 1880 Hearne had three Protestant churches and a Roman Catholic church for white residents; three churches for Negroes; and two schools. Englewood had one church building, shared by Baptists and Methodists, and "a good school." On June 22, 1880, a lot in the new county seat of Franklin was given to the Methodist Episcopal Church. By 1882 the Roman Catholics and all the leading Protestant denominations had organized churches and built houses of worship in the county, and regular religious services were being held by the Jewish residents of Calvert. 51

The State free school fund in the early eighties was apportioned to a scholastic population of 3,075 in Robertson County, and public schools were established for white and Negro children in proportion to their numbers. There were several private schools of primary grade, and at least one private high school. 52 The office of county superintendent of public instruction was set up in 1892. 53

## Newspapers A Translation of the Company of the Comp

The first newspapers in the county, the <u>Weekly Central Texan</u> at Bremond, and the <u>Tribune</u> at Calvert, were established in 1870. Although both publications were short-lived, Robertson County has never been without a newspaper since that time. All present-day newspapers are weeklies. They are the Bremond <u>Press</u>, the Calvert <u>Tribune</u>, the Franklin <u>Favorite</u>, and the Hearne Democrat. 54

<sup>43.</sup> Day Book, vol. 2, p. 84, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1. 44. Ibid., p. 123.

<sup>45.</sup> Minutes County Court Robertson County, vol. 3, p. 95, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>46.</sup> Ibid., p. 178.

<sup>47.</sup> McLendon, "Pioneer Citizen."

<sup>48.</sup> Dworaczyk, Polish Colonies, pp. 168-170.

<sup>49.</sup> H. M. Hoxie and Allen McCoy, Homes in Texas on the Line of the International and Great Northern Railroad, p. 97.

<sup>50.</sup> Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. A, p. 99, see entry 1.

<sup>51.</sup> Texas Commission of Insurance, Statistics, and History, The Resources, Soil, and Climate of Texas, p. 263, hereinafter cited as Resources.

<sup>52.</sup> Ibid.

<sup>53.</sup> Record of Election Returns, vol. 2, p. 17, see entry 33.

<sup>54.</sup> WPA Historical Records Survey Program (comp.), Texas Newspapers, 1813-1939.

Historical Sketch

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When yellow fever was raging through the South in the early 1870's, Calvert was almost depopulated. Most of the inhabitants, believing the fever to be directly contagious, left when it was discovered that a traveling printer had died from the disease in a room in the Bailey building. The town was quarantined, and trains were not allowed to stop. The windows of all coaches were tightly closed until the cars had passed beyond the town limits. Since there was no treatment for yellow fever, between three and four hundred persons died from it. 55

Soon after this scourge had passed, the development of several mineral springs led to the establishment of the new village of Wooten Wells, 3 miles west of Bremond, as a health resort, while the waters of the Overall mineral wells at Franklin were marketed. 56

The county commissioners in 1871 appointed a Dr. McDonnell as the first county physician, "to look after the sick paupers not otherwise provided for." 57

For years, the river lands were considered unhealthful, <sup>58</sup> and malarial attacks were more or less frequent along the rivers and creeks in the summer and fall. <sup>59</sup> The malaria was not severe, and in 1909 a survey of the county reported:

Since the greater part /of the lowlands/ has been put under cultivation, the sloughs have largely dried up, and this, coupled with the securement of excellent artesian water, has improved the conditions until the bottom land is about as healthful as the upland.60

The general standard of health has always been high on the prairies.61

### Fire

Calvert was several times almost destroyed by fire between 1870 and 1873.  $^{62}$  On July 23, 1873, the county commissioners ordered the purchase

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55. Rogers, "Calvert," Frontier Times, Oct. 1931, p. 583.

57. Commissioners Court Minutes 1863 to 1871 (cover title, Police Minutes), vol. C. pp. 419, 420, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

58. Soil Survey, p. 8.

59. Resources, p. 38.

60. Soil Survey, p. 8. 61. Resources, p. 38.

62. Prendergast, "History of Robertson," Sketch Book, IV (1878) 330.

<sup>56.</sup> Resources, p. 264; Texas Department of Agriculture, Insurance, Statistics and History, Geological Survey of Texas, Report on Grimes, Brazos, Robertson Counties, p. 83.

of furniture and stationery to replace that destroyed by fire, and paid J. C. Parnell \$5 for "guarding the County Records at the late conflagration." 63 There is a lapse in the commissioners court minutes from June 1, 1871 to May 27, 1873, indicating that these records may have been lost by fire. 64 Brick buildings generally replaced the frame structures which were destroyed in the series of Calvert fires. 65

Fire also leveled almost an entire block of Bremond's busiest trade section in the early 1890's. Here, too, brick buildings soon replaced the frame ones which had burned. 66

# 2. GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

Robertson County was created in 1837 1 and organized in 1838. 2 The keystone of its governmental structure is the county commissioners court, which consists of a county judge and four commissioners. Each of the latter represents one of the four commissioners' precincts into which the county is divided. The court has many diverse functions, the most important dealing with finance, taxation, welfare, public improvements, contracts, and elections. A brief examination of each of these will reveal the interrelationship of the various county offices as they revolve around the court.

The commissioners court has been designated as the custodian of the county's funds,  $^4$  which may be classified according to source or origin. The first class is set up by the Constitution,  $^5$  the second by statutes,  $^6$ and the third by order of the court. 7 It may transfer money from statutory funds of the various classifications; 8 it directs the treasurer to make disbursements; 9 it may, for certain purposes, issue non-negotiable interest-bearing county warrants, 10 independently of the voters' approval; 11

<sup>63.</sup> Day Book, vol. 2, pp. 12, 13, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

See entry 1.

<sup>65.</sup> Prendergast, "History of Robertson," Sketch Book, IV (1878), 330.

<sup>66.</sup> Dworaczyk, Polish Colonies, p. 168.

<sup>1.</sup> Gam. Laws, I, 1598.

<sup>2.</sup> Probate Minutes, vol. A, p. 2, see entry 187.

<sup>3.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 18.

<sup>4.</sup> Hurley et al. v. Buchanan et al., 233 SW 590 (1921).

<sup>5.</sup> Const. 1876, art. VIII, sec. 9.

<sup>6.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 1628.

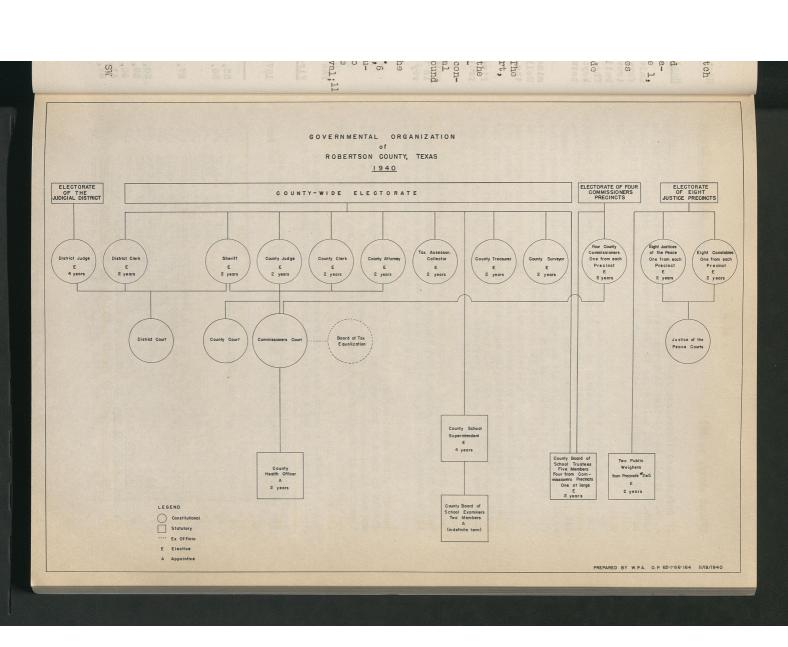
<sup>7. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, art. 1629.

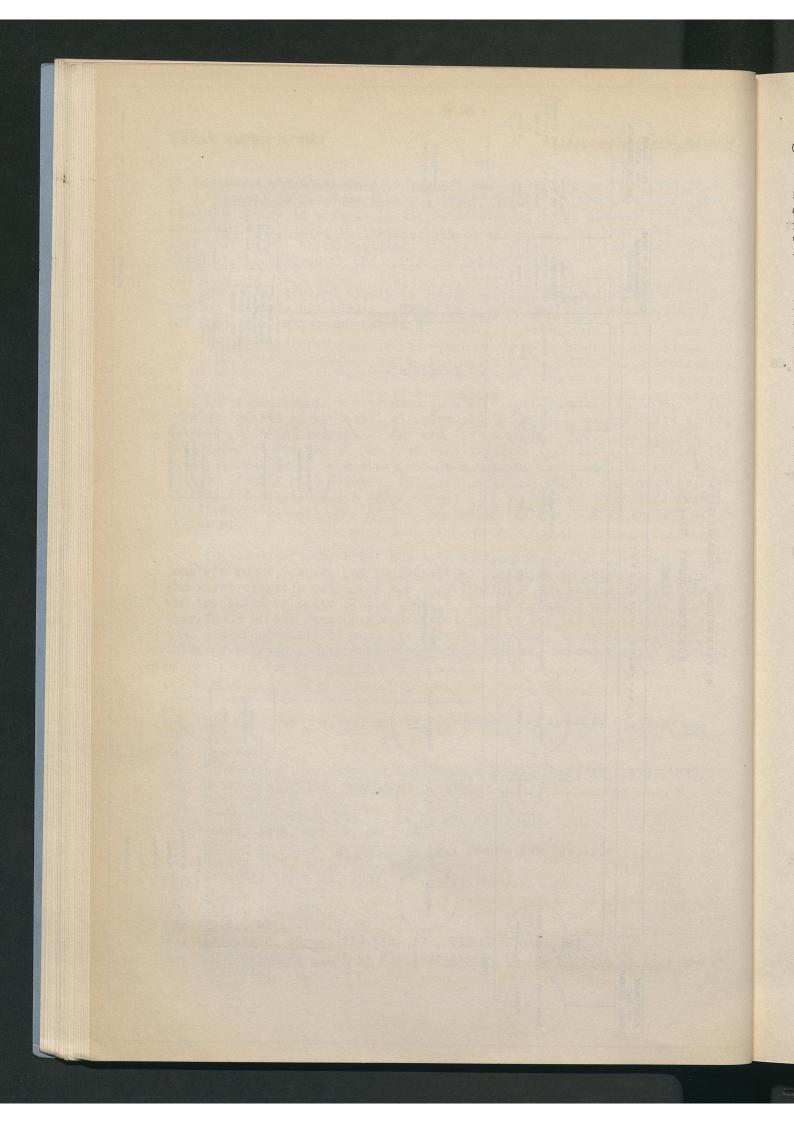
<sup>8.</sup> Ibid., art. 1630.

<sup>9.</sup> Ibid., art. 1709.

<sup>&</sup>lt;u>Lasater</u> v. <u>Lopez</u>, 110 Tex. 179, 217 SW 373 (1919). 10.

<sup>11.</sup> Commissioners Court of Floyd County et al. v. Nichols et al., 142 SW





it must approve claims against the county; 12 it supervises the keeping of the finance ledger; 13 it receives reports of collections and of the financial condition of the county; 14 and it may employ public accountants "to audit all or any part of the books, records, or accounts of the countv. "15

In order to finance the county, the commissioners court has been empowered to levy certain taxes, which may be divided, according to the purpose for which the disbursement is to be made, into four classes: 1) General, 2) road and bridge, 3) jury, and 4) permanent improvements. The total maximum of these four is 95 cents on the \$100 valuation, distributed as follows: 1) General, 25 cents; 2) road and bridge, 30 cents; 3) jury, 15 cents; and 4) permanent improvements, 25 cents. With the exception of the special road and bridge tax, the commissioners court may impose up to the maximum by its own order. The court may levy the additional 15-cent tax for the special road and bridge fund only after authorization by a majority of the taxpaying property owners 16 The court may also, after a majority vote by the voters in the district, levy a tax not to exceed \$1 on the \$100 valuation for the common school districts. 17

In addition, if a majority of the property tax payers participating in an election consent, road and bridge bonds may be issued, for which an additional 15-cent maximum tax shall be levied to pay the interest and create a sinking fund for their redemption. 18

By a statute of 1939 Robertson County's commissioners court "is authorized and empowered to fund or refund into the coupon bonds of Robertson County, Texas, such indebtedness of the county chargeable against the Road and Bridge Fund, as of January 1, 1939," including scrip and time warrants.19

In order to equalize "the valuation of all property subject to or rendered for taxation," the court each May meets as a board of equalization. 20

The court is responsible for furnishing the necessary support for, 21 and the burial of resident paupers. 22 It may make contracts for the medi-

<sup>12.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2351, sub. 10.

<sup>13.</sup> Ibid., art. 1607.

<sup>14.</sup> Ibid., art. 1665.

<sup>15.</sup> Ibid., art. 1641.

Const. 1876, art. VIII, sec. 9. 16.

<sup>17. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, art. VII, sec. 3; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2784.
18. <u>Ibid.</u>, arts. 718, 719, 722, 723.
19. Acts 1939, 46th Leg., Sp. L., p. 896.
20. Const. 1876, art. VIII, sec. 18.

<sup>21.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2351, sub. 11; Galveston County v. Ducie, 91 Tex. 665, 45 SW 798 (1898); Willacy County v. Valley Baptist Hospital et al., 29 SW (2d) 456 (1930).

<sup>22.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2351, sub. 12.

cal care of indigents. 23 While the court is not required to provide hospitalization for the indigent sick, it must extend to them the benefits of such public hospital facilities as the county may possess. 24 The court may, upon the approval of the taxpayers, issue bonds to establish poor houses and farms. 25 In 1917 a law was passed permitting counties to pay small pensions to widowed mothers. The commissioners court authorizes their payment from county funds. 26

The county health officer is appointed by the court 27 He is required by law to attend sick county prisoners and indigents, to discharge duties relating to quarantine, and to perform such other functions as the State Board of Health may prescribe for the general welfare of the county 28

The court has the power to establish and maintain roads and, within certain limits, to discontinue or alter roads. 29 Furthermore, it must classify county roads into one of three statutory classes. 30 The preliminary surveys for new roads are made by a jury of five freeholders appointed by the court. 31 The jury may, if it wishes, avail itself of the services of the county surveyor. 32 Robertson uses its commissioners' precincts as road units; each commissioner supervises all road work within his precinct, the actual construction and maintenance being done by salaried county employees. 33 Bond funds raised to meet road obligations are handled by the commissioners court. 34 It also has the power to purchase road supplies and equipment and to condemn property for rights-of-way and road material. 35

Only the commissioners court may make contracts binding the county; these must be authorized by formal resolution of the court and recorded in its minutes. 36 Other county officials are powerless to make enforceable contracts, unless these be ratified by the court. 37

In order to equalize the adjustion of all property subject to or

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<sup>23.</sup> See footnote 21, p. 21.

<sup>24.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 4438.

<sup>25.</sup> Ibid., art. 718, sub. 3.

<sup>26.</sup> Ibid., art. 6228.

<sup>27.</sup> Ibid., art. 4423.

Ibid., art. 4427.

Ibid., art. 2351, secs. 3-6, and art. 6703.

<sup>30.</sup> 

Ibid., art. 6706. 31.

CAST. The Land . No Ibid.; Onken v. Riley, 65 Tex. 468 (1886); Stewart et al. v. El Paso County et al., 130 SW 590 (1910).

<sup>33.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 6713.

Austin Bros. Bridge Co. v. Road District No. 3 of Liberty County, 247 SW 674 (1923).

<sup>35.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. 752u, 752v, 6728, 6729, 6741, 6751-6753, 6763.

Ibid., art. 2365; Fayette County v. Krause et al., 73 SW 51 (1903).

Germo Mfg. Co. v. Coleman County, 184 SW 1063 (1916).

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The commissioners court also has important electoral functions. It must divide the county into election precincts, 38 appoint election of-ficers in each of these precincts, 39 and tabulate the election returns from all the precincts. 40 The county judge must, within 48 hours after the returns have been canvassed by the court, report the results to the Secretary of State; 41 and he issues certificates of election to the successful candidates. 42

In general the county clerk serves as clerk of both the county43 and the commissioners courts 44 and as custodian of the records of both courts; 45 he issues deposit warrants to the treasurer; 46 the clerk, together with the county judge and sheriff, serves on the county board which furnishes supplies to election officials; 47 and as recorder for the county he keeps many permanent records. 48

The trial courts within Robertson County are the justice of the peace49 and county courts. 50 Robertson is in the 85th judicial district, which also includes Brazos County. 51 In the general election of 1938 Robertson citizens elected eight justices 52 to preside over the justice of peace courts, 53 and eight constables 54 to serve as attendance and process officers. 55 The justices have jurisdiction over petty misdemeanor and minor civil cases, 56 hold examining trials 57 and inquests, 58 and act as local registrars of vital statistics. 59

Immediately above in the judicial structure is the county court, which, in Robertson by local statute in effect since 1917, is restricted

<sup>38.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2351, sub. 1, and arts. 2933, 2934.

Ibid., arts. 2937, 2938.

Ibid., art. 3030. 40.

<sup>41.</sup> Ibid., art. 3026a.

Tbid., art. 3032.
Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 20; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 1935.
Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 20; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2345.

<sup>. .....</sup> 

<sup>45.</sup> Ibid., art. 1942. Ibid., art. 1657. 46.

Ibid., arts. 2984, 2992. . 47.

<sup>48.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 20; Vernon's Texas St. 1936; RCS, art. 1941. .49. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 18.

<sup>50.</sup> Ibid., sec. 15.

<sup>51.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 199, sub. 85.

<sup>52.</sup> Record of Election Returns, current vol., 1938 returns, see entry 33.

<sup>53.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, Title 45.

Record of Election Returns, current vol., 1938 returns, see entry 33. 54.

<sup>55.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. 2400, 2401.

<sup>56.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 19; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. Porse 801 1880, 209, are. 2385-2387.

<sup>57.</sup> Ibid., CCP, art. 35.

Ibid., arts. 968, 990. 58.

Ibid., RCS, art. 4477, rule 36a. 59.

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to jurisdiction over cases concerning the following subjects: Probate and apprenticeships, and suits brought under the general condemnation statute regulating the exercise of the power of eminent domain. All other cases, original and appellate, tried by county courts under general laws were transferred by this act to the 85th district court. 60

The district court has original jurisdiction over the following: Suits on behalf of the State to recover penalties, forfeitures, and escheats; cases of divorce and dissolution of marriage; suits to recover damages for slander or defamation of character; suits for the trial of title to land and for the enforcement of liens; suits for the trial of the right of property levied upon by virtue of any writ of execution, sequestration, or attachment, when the value of the property levied on is equal to or exceeds \$500; contested elections; 61 suits to foreclose tax liens;  $^{62}$  proceedings seeking to classify a child as dependent or neglected;  $^{63}$  adoption proceedings;  $^{64}$  suits for the partition of real estate between joint owners or claimants;65 suits, complaints, or pleas, without regard to any distinction between law and equity, when the value is \$500 or more; 66 all causes of action for which the Constitution or laws do not assign jurisdiction. 67 The district court has jurisdiction in all criminal cases of felony and in all misdemeanors involving official misconduct. 68 It also has appellate jurisdiction and general supervisory control over the county commissioners court. 69 Inasmuch as the act of 1917 restricts the Robertson county court to probate and apprenticeship proceedings and eminent domain cases, the 85th district court exercises all other original and appellate jurisdiction normally possessed by the county court. 70

Robertson is in the 2d administrative judicial district, 71 and in the 10th supreme judicial district. 72

The county attorney is required to attend the terms of all courts within his county below the grade of district court, and to represent the State in all criminal cases tried in these courts; 73 he gives legal

<sup>60.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 199, sub. 85, and art. 1960; Const. 1876, art. V, secs. 16, 22; Acts 1917, 35th Leg., p. 256.

<sup>61.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 8; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 1906.

<sup>62.</sup> Ibid., art. 7326.

<sup>63.</sup> Ibid., art. 2329.

Ibid., arts. 46a, 46b.

<sup>65.</sup> Ibid., art. 6083.

<sup>66.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 8.

<sup>67.</sup> Ibid.; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 1909.

<sup>68.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 8; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, CCP, art. 54.

<sup>69.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 8.

<sup>70.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 199, sub. 85.

Ibid., art. 200a, sub. 2.

Ibid., art. 198, sub. 10.

Ibid., CCP, art. 26. 71.

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advice to county and precinct officers;74 he may in certain cases issue subpoenas; 75 he files and prosecutes delinquent tax suits for the State and for the county; 76 he may institute proceedings against local officers for official misconduct; 77 and, he may be called upon to represent the State in many civil actions. 78 In addition, since Robertson County has no resident criminal district attorney and the 85th district is not among the judicial districts in which a district attorney may be elected, the county attorney must represent the State in the district court.

The sheriff acts as process and attendance officer for the courts;80 he is the custodian of the jail81 and the courthouse, subject to the rules and regulations of the commissioners court;82 and he serves on the board of election supplies.83

The judge of the 85th judicial district presides over the district court. 84 The district clerk serves as its recorder. 85

Both district and county judges are required to appoint counsel for persons too poor to provide their own.86

The tax assessor-collector is the assessing officer for State and county ad valorem taxes levied upon physical properties within the county;87 in the case of ad valorem taxes upon intangible property, he prorates the State and the county taxes fixed by the State Board; 88 he must list all property within the county 89 and, subject to the approval of the board of equalization, he determines the value of it and the amount of the tax due;90 after the approval of the lists of taxable property, he prepares in triplicate the tax roll, one remaining with him, another going to the State Comptroller, and the third to the county clerk; 91 he may seize and

Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 334.

<sup>75.</sup> Ibid., PC, art. 978.

<sup>76.</sup> Ibid., RCS, art. 7326.

<sup>77.</sup> Ibid., CCP, art. 27.

Ibid., RCS, arts. 491, 1130; 1377, 3273, 3654, 3660, 3972, 4549, 4551c, 4666, 4668.

<sup>79.</sup> Ibid., art. 322.

<sup>80.</sup> Texas Jurisprudence, XXXVIII, 431, sec. 1.

Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 6871.

Ibid., art. 6872.

Tbid., arts. 2984, 2992. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 7.

Ibid., sec. 9.

Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. 1917, 1958.

<sup>87.</sup> Ibid., Title 122, ch. 7.

<sup>88.</sup> Ibid., arts. 7098, 7110-7113.

<sup>89.</sup> Ibid., art. 7189.

<sup>90.</sup> Ibid., arts. 7193, 7218.

<sup>91.</sup> Ibid., art. 7219.

sell the personal property of delinquent taxpayers; 92 and he is required to dispose of money received by him from taxes to accountable officers and depositories 93

The treasurer receives all money belonging to the county and pays it out upon orders from the commissioners court, which is responsible for the finances. 94 The treasurer may receive deposits only upon the authority of warrants issued by the county clerk. 95 All claims must be registered by the county treasurer in his claim register, in the order of presentation. 96 He may not pay out money except in pursuance of a warrant. Should be doubt the legality of any warrant be must withhold payment and report the matter to the commissioners court. 97 The county depository serves as the treasury of the county funds. 98

Since Robertson does not have an auditor, its county clerk must assume responsibility for the accounting system, and, under the supervision of the commissioners court, keep the finance ledger. 99

Heading the local public school organization is the county school superintendent, who is charged with the immediate supervision of the schools in the county. He appoints the members of the county board of examiners, 2 apportions the county's share of the State available school fund to the common school districts and the county funds to the common and independent districts, 3 and distributes free textbooks. 4 In addition, he serves as secretary 5 to the county board of school trustees, which consists of five elective members. 6

The board is incorporated and in its corporate capacity, may, for school purposes, acquire and own property, make contracts, sue and be sued, and do all other things necessary in the management of the common schools in the county.

<sup>92.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 7266.

<sup>93.</sup> Ibid., art. 7249a.

Ibid., art. 1709.

Ibid., art. 1657.

Tbid., arts. 1625-1627.

Thid., art. 1715.

Ibid., art. 1715.

<sup>98</sup> Ibid., arts. 2838, 2829.

Ibid., arts. 1607, 1675. 99.

Ibid., art. 2690.

<sup>1.</sup> Ibid., art. 2878.

Ibid., art. 2692.

Ibid., art. 2692.

Ibid., arts. 2693, 2875.

Ibid., art. 2681.

Ibid., art. 2676.

Thid., art. 2683 4. Ibid., art. 2681.
5. Ibid., art. 2676.

<sup>7.</sup> Ibid., art. 2683.

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Each of the common school districts has its own board of trustees elected from the district. 8 Its powers within the district are similar to those of the county board. 9 It manages and disburses district school funds, directs and controls the public school buildings and grounds in the district, determines the number of schools needed and their locations, employs teachers, passes upon claims for district money, 10 and may make such rules and regulations as are necessary for the government of the district schools. 11

The county board of school examiners, which serves "during the pleasure of the county superintendent," represents the State Board of Examiners in the county in giving examinations to applicants for teaching positions. 12

Robertson uses the county school superintendent and the peace officers of the county and of the justice precincts to enforce the compulsory education laws of the State.  $^{13}$ 

The county surveyor performs important functions relating to boundaries, roads, and highways. His records frequently are invaluable in settling title claims.  $^{14}$ 

In the 1938 election Robertson County elected from the justice precincts 15 two weighers 16

#### 3. HOUSING, CARE, AND ACCESSIBILITY OF RECORDS

The Robertson County Courthouse at Franklin is a 3-story structure approximately 82 by 67 feet, which was built in 1881 at a total cost of \$30,000. Remodeled in 1924, it today provides comfortable quarters for the agencies of the county government and adequate accommodations for both active and retired records.

With outside walls of brick, inside walls and ceilings of plaster, and floors of cement, the building is considered about 90 percent fire-proof. Approximately 90 percent of the records of the county are housed in the fireproof vaults of the county and district clerks, and metal

<sup>8.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2745.

<sup>9.</sup> Ibid., art. 2748.

<sup>10.</sup> Ibid., arts. 2749, 2754.

<sup>11.</sup> Bishop v. Houston Independent School District, 119 Tex. 403, 29 SW (2d) 312 (1930).

<sup>12.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. 2878-2881.

<sup>13.</sup> Ibid., arts. 2895-2897.

<sup>14.</sup> Ibid., Title 86, ch. 2, arts. 5277-5280, 6706.

<sup>15.</sup> Ibid., art. 5683.

<sup>16.</sup> Record of Election Returns, current vol., 1938 returns, see entry 33.

(First entry, p. 39)

Housing, Care, and Accessibility of Records

containers for records are the rule throughout the building. Lighting and ventilation are good in all offices, and the records are, in general, well protected from soot, dust, and dampness. Adequate provisions have been made in all depositories for the accommodation of persons desiring

Commissioners Court. The commissioners courtroom is on the south side of the second floor, and may be entered from the main corridor. Its records are in the custody of the county clerk and are kept in his department on the first floor. Records identified with the court in this inventory are contained in 49 volumes and 70 file drawers located in the county clerk's vault, and 8 volumes and 11 file drawers in the clerk's office.

to consult the records, which are for the most part easily accessible.

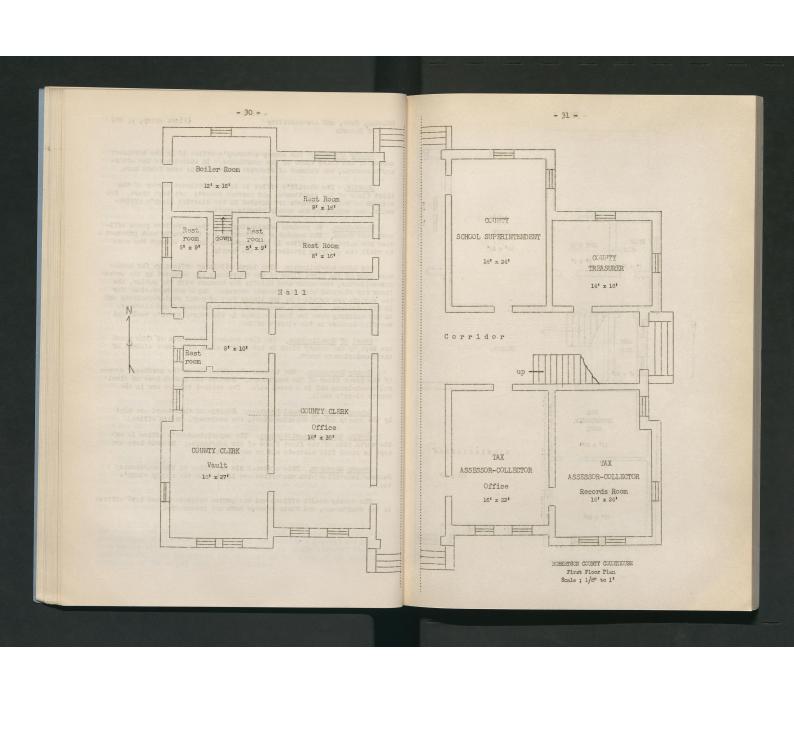
County Clerk. The county clerk is clerk of the county and commissioners courts as well as recorder for the county, and keeps numerous records in each of these capacities. His department consists of a large outer office opening off the main corridor and an adjoining inside records vault, occupying the southwest portion of the first floor of the courthouse. Both office and vault are equipped with metal roller-shelving and file drawers for housing records, the office having approximately 356 linear feet of shelving and 45 file drawers, and the vault 613 linear feet of shelving and 265 file drawers. The file drawers accommodate most of the papers and documents, but some 5,000 are kept in a steel locker in the vault, which has approximately 30 compartments. In addition to his own archives, the clerk's department houses scattering records from the sheriff's, treasurer's, and tax assessor-collector's offices, and all of the records identified with the office of county surveyor. There is very little space here for expansion, but present records are not crowded.

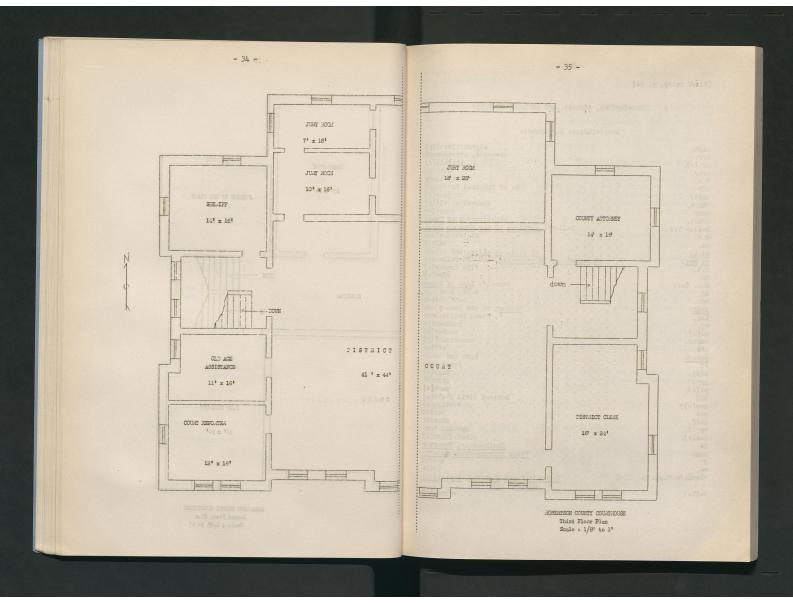
District Court. The district courtroom occupies the center of the third floor of the courthouse. Its records are kept by the district clerk in his office-vault adjoining the courtroom to the east. This room has 280 linear feet of steel roller-shelving, at present housing about 215 bound volumes, including one volume of sheriff's records; and 344 file drawers.

County Court. As already stated, the records of the county court are in the custody of the county clerk, and are kept in his department on the first floor with the exception of one volume which was found in the office of the county judge, in the northwest corner of the second floor. All of the 108 file drawers containing county court papers are located in the county clerk's vault; there are 95 bound volumes containing county court records in the clerk's vault and 10 in his office.

Justices of the Peace. The justice of the peace of precinct 6 - the county seat precinct - has an office in the northeast corner of the second floor of the courthouse. All of the justice's records are kept here except one file drawer of papers, which is in the district clerk's office-vault. The records of the justices of the peace of the outlying precincts of the county were not inventoried.

- 29 -.. ty Housing, Care, and Accessibility (First entry, p. 39) of Records County Attorney. The county attorney's office is in the northeast al, corner of the third floor of the courthouse. In addition to the attorney's records, two volumes of district court records were found here. e 3 Sheriff. The sheriff's office is in the northwest corner of the third floor of the courthouse, and current records are kept there. Two volumes of retired records are located in the district clerk's office-Its vault, one volume in the county clerk's vault. S Constables. No records originating with these precinct peace offihe cers were found. The constable of precinct 6 - the county seat precinct does not maintain an office in the courthouse, and no attempt was made to visit the outlying precincts of the county. Tax Assessor-Collector. Two large adjoining offices in the southeast wing of the first floor of the courthouse are occupied by the assesge: sor-collector, the outer used chiefly for contact with the public, the inner for clerical work and records storage. Ample accommodations for the records are provided by 160 linear feet of metal roller-shelving and **7**— 15 file drawers. The only records of this department found elsewhere ely in the building were two bound volumes in the county clerk's vault and ar two file drawers in the clerk's office. ost Board of Equalization. The five volumes of records of this board are kept by the county clerk in his vault, along with other records of 1 the commissioners court. County Treasurer. The treasurer's office is on the northeast corner e:e of the first floor of the courthouse. Records are housed here on steel roller-shelving and in a steel safe. Two retired volumes are in the county clerk's vault. 9 County Board of School Trustees. Records of this board are kept by the county school superintendent, its secretary, in his office. County School Superintendent. The superintendent's office is on the north side of the first floor of the courthouse. Records here are kept in steel file cabinets and on wooden shelves. County Surveyor. This official has no office in the courthouse Records identified with the office are located in the county clerk's vault. The county health officer and the public weighers do not have offices in the courthouse, and their records were not inventoried.





(First entry, p. 39)

# 4. ABBREVIATIONS, SYMBOLS, AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Abbreviations and Symbols

alph. arr. art(s). aver. c.c. CCP ch(s). chron. comp. Const.	alphabetical(ly) arranged, arrangement article(s) average county clerk Code of Criminal Procedure chapter(s) chronological(ly) compiler Constitution of Texas	t)) = x = ));
Dallam Tex.	Dallam's Opinions of the Supreme Court	
d.c.	district clerk	
ed.	editor	
et al	<u>et alii, et aliae,</u> and others	1
et seq. f.d.	et sequentes, et sequentia, and the following	
fm.	file drawer(s)	
Gam, Laws	form(s)	
hd.	Gammel's Laws of Texas	
hdw.	handwritten	
ibid.	ibidem, in the same place	
Leg.	· · · · · · · · · · · · Texas Legislature	
ms.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · manuscript	
no(s).	number(s)	
numer.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · numerical(ly)	
passim	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
PC	· · · · · · · · · · · here and there	
p(p).	Penal Code	
pr.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
pt(s).	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
RCS	Revised Civil Statutes	
sec(s).	section(s)	
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shff.	sheriff	•
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# Explanatory Notes

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Titles of Records. Exact titles of records are written in solid capitals without parentheses. In the absence of titles, descriptive titles have been assigned, which are written in solid capitals and enclosed in parentheses. If a record title is not descriptive of the contents of the record, an assigned explanatory title (or explanatory words), written with initial capitals and enclosed in parentheses, has been added. The current or most recent title of a record is used as the entry title, and title variation is indicated.

Dates. All dates used are inclusive. Missing records are indicated by broken dates.

Quantity. When two or more types of containers are considered in a single entry, the quantity is shown in chronological order, insofar as possible.

Labeling. Figures or letters in parentheses, following the number of volumes, file boxes, or other types of containers, indicate the labeling. If no labeling is indicated, it may be assumed that there is none.

Discontinuance. Where no statement is made that the record was discontinued at the last date shown in the entry, it could not be definitely established that such was the case. Where no comment is made on the absence of prior, subsequent, or intermediate records, no definite information could be obtained.

Description of Records. The description of the contents of a record applies only to the current or most recent record unless change in contents is actually shown in a record entry.

Indexing. All indexes to records, unless otherwise stated, are self-contained.

Condition of Records. Records are in good condition unless otherwise indicated.

Dimensions. Dimensions are always given in inches, and, therefore, the symbol for inches (") has been omitted.

Location of Records. When all or the majority of the records of an office have a common location, the location is indicated in the last sentence of the office essay instead of in each individual entry.

- 38 -(First entry, p. 39) Abbreviations, Symbols, and Explanatory Notes Cross References. Title-line cross references are used to show the continuity of a record series which has been kept separately for a period of time and with other records for different periods of time. An example is that in entry 7: "1842-71, 1873-90 in Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1." They are also used in all artificial entries, those set up to cover records which must be shown separately under their proper office even though they are kept in files or records appearing elsewhere in the inventory, as, for example, the title-line cross reference in entry 179, "In Official Bond Record, entry 105." In both instances, the description of the master entry shows the title and entry number of the record from which the cross reference is made, as for example, these words in entry 1 do: "Also contains claims against the county allowed for payment, 1842-.71, 1873-90, entry 7." Dates shown in the description of the master entry are only for the part or parts of the record contained therein, and are shown only when they vary from those of the master entry. Separate third-paragraph cross references from entry to entry, and See also references with subject headings or subheadings are used to show prior, subsequent, or closely related records which are not parts of the same series. emedian est universe, or other types is sometiment, indicate the labor to start and the indicate the labor to secure that the labor to the labor. It no laborates is indicated, it mer be secured that there is appearant. involuted, the tentor of novie equals ere anothered the colored . webte foothwilder does at to bis sent those ecitic out to some

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I. COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

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Since 1838, when Robertson County was organized, the governmental functions of Texas counties have been performed and their corporate business managed under the general direction of a governing court or board.1 The minutes of this body in Robertson County date from August 20, 1838, 2 but other county records indicate that it was organized in the winter or early spring of that year. 3

The present governing court, the county commissioners court, was established in 1876. It is composed of the county judge and four county commissioners, all elected at each biennial general election. Each county is divided into four commissioners' precincts, and a commissioner is elected from each. 4 The county judge is chosen from the county at large, and is the presiding officer of the court. 5 The county clerk is ex-officio clerk of the court, 6 and the sheriff its process and attendance officer. 7

All of the records of the commissioners court are in the county clerk's vault except as otherwise indicated in the entries.

# General Proceedings

1. COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES, Oct. 1, 1842-June 1, 1871, May term 1873--. 14 vols. (BC, Dl, C, 2, 3, A-I). Title varies: Of Land Certificate County Court (cover title, County Court Book County Records), Oct. 1, 1842-Nov. term 1855, 1 vol.; Records (cover title, Record of the County Court Robertson), Feb. 18, 1856-Oct. 24, 1863, 1 vol.; Commissioners Court Minutes 1863 to 1871 (cover title, Police Minutes), Nov. 16, 1863-June 1, 1871, 1 vol.; Day Book, May term 1873-Mar. term 1876, 1 vol.; Minutes County Court Robertson County, Mar. term 1876-Oct. 14, 1879, 1 vol. 1838-42 in Probate Minutes, entry 187.

'Clerk's record of proceedings of commissioners court in regular and special meetings, showing date and place of meeting, names of members present, To other acontains to the tone the terms of the first thinks

<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1836, Gam. Laws, I, 1201, 1208; Acts 1837, Gam. Laws, I, 1306; Acts 1846, Gam. Laws, II, 1639; Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 17, Gam. Laws, V, 868; Const. 1869, art. V, sec. 20, Gam. Laws, VII, 414; Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 18; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2339, et seq.

<sup>2.</sup> Probate Minutes, vol. A, p. 1, see entry 187.

<sup>3.</sup> Bond Book, vol. 1, pp. 1-7, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.
4. Const. 1876, art. V, secs. 1, 18; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. 1927, 2339, 2342.
5. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 15; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2342.
6. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 20; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2345.
7. Thid art. 2346.

Ibid., art. 2346.

disposition of business, and signatures of commissioners, judge, and clerk; business transacted includes classification and expenditure of county funds, levy of taxes and approval of tax rolls, care of paupers, construction and maintenance of public buildings and roads and management of other county works, calling of bids and letting of contracts, designation of election precincts, appointment of election judges, calling of elections, and approval of bonds of county officials. Also contains: Claims against the county allowed for payment, 1842-71, 1873-90, entry 7; orders appointing road overseers for the year, 1842-71, 1873-82, entry 28; official bond record, 1842-50, entry 105; deputation record, 1842-50, entry 108; orders of the court as board of land commissioners, 1844-56, entry 300 Arr. chron. by court term. No index, 1842-55; for index 1856--, see entries 2-5. Hdw. 1842-1907; typed 1907--. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

- 2. INDEX TO COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES, 1856--. 1 vol. Current index by subject of business to volumes Dl, C, 2, 3, A-I of Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1; at top of each page is printed alphabetical list of subject headings used throughout volume with beginning page reference to each subject; each entry shows date of proceedings, names of interested parties, nature of proceedings as indicated by printed headings, and volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by subject and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 650 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.
- 3. INDEX PROCEEDINGS OF COMMISSIONERS COURT, 1876-79. 1 vol. Discontinued; for current index, see entry 2.

  Obsolete abstract of and index by subject of business to volume 3 of Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1; at top of each page is broad classification by subject; each entry shows volume and page reference, date and number of court order, specific classification of order, and synopsis of proceedings. Arr. alph. by subject and chron. thereunder. Hdw. under hdw. hd. 500 pp. 16 x 12 x 3.
- 4. INDEX COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES DIRECT & REVERSE, 1888-97.

  1 vol. Discontinued; for current index, see entry 2.

  Obsolete partial index by name of interested party to Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1, showing nature of order or subject of business, date of court action, and volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by first letter of surname of interested party and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 320 double pp. 18 x 12 x 3.
  - 5. INDEX TO COMMISSIONERS MINUTES, 1893-1903. 1 vol. (2). Discontinued; for current index, see entry 2.

    Obsolete partial index by subject of business to Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1, showing information as in entry 2. Arr. alph. by subject and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 650 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.
- 6. MISCELLANEOUS (Commissioners Court Papers), 1849--. 5 f.d. Miscellaneous papers concerning business of commissioners court, including: 1849-1934, contracts and bonds relative to construction and repair of county property, blueprints, specifications, and letters regarding the construction and repair of roads and bridges, quarantine notices, election

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returns, sheriff's receipts for liquor and property seized, paid claims against county, reports of finance committees, abstracts and summaries of scholastic census, original grants of county school lands; and, 1932--, orders to lease county school lands, orders appropriating money for county agent's salary, county agent's monthly reports to commissioners court of daily work done in field and office, orders for special audits of county finances, orders of the court sitting as a board of equalization raising assessed values on property, with protests filed by property owners; and also, scattering executions and bills of cost of county court. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

### Financial Supervision

Claims (See also entry 6).

7. MINUTES OF ACCOUNTS ALLOWED, Feb. term 1891--. 7 vols. (1-4, three unlabeled). 1838-42 in Probate Minutes, entry 187; 1842-71, 1873-90, in Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1. Clerk's register of claims against the county, approved for payment by commissioners court, showing claim number, name of claimant, nature and amount of claim, date of action, amount allowed, and from what fund paid. Arr. numer. by claim no. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 320 double pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

For treasurer's claim register, see entry 268.

8. ACCOUNTS ALLOWED (Claims, Bank Statements, and Vouchers), 1928--. 5,000 papers in 40 f.d.

Paid and canceled claims for material and labor furnished the county, showing claim number, date and amount of payment, date of bill, name of claimant, itemized account of material or labor, and total amount due; bank statements showing name of bank, date of statement, dates and amounts of checks drawn and deposits made, and balance on hand; paid vouchers issued by county commissioners, showing commissioner's precinct number, date and amount of voucher, name of payee, and signature of commissioner. Arr. numer. by claim no. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

#### Accounts

9. FINANCE LEDGER, 1885-1937. 13 vols. (one unlabeled, 2, one unlabeled, 4-13).

Clerk's accounts of county finances by funds and departments, showing name of fund or title of county officer, dates, items, and amounts of charges, and total amount of charges; dates, items, and amounts of credits, and total credits. Arr. in sections by name of fund or title of county officer and thereunder chron. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 1885-1932, 1936-37; typed pr. hd. 1933-35. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. For treasurer's accounts of county funds, see entry 266.

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## Reports (See also entry 6)

- 10. COUNTY CLERK REPORTS MONTHLY AND ANNUAL EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, 1928--. 1 f.d.
- County clerk's reports, including:
  - i. Annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of fees collected and expenses incurred, showing name of reporting officer, year, classifications and amounts of fees earned, total amount earned, total collected; and total uncollected for current year, year preceding, and other years; classifications and amounts of items of deductible office expenses; signature of reporting officer; and notarization.
  - ii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, 1937--, showing name of reporting officer, period covered by report, items and amounts of collections, total monthly collections, signature of reporting officer, and notarization.
  - iii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of expenses incurred, 1930-36, showing name of reporting officer, period covered by report, items of expenses incurred in conduct of office, including stamps, stationery, premiums on official bonds and insurance, and salaries of deputies and assistants.
- Arr. chron. by years. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed.  $11 \times 5 \times 14$ .
  - 11. DISTRICT CLERK REPORTS MONTHLY (Quarterly) & ANNUAL EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, 1927--. 50 reports in 1 f.d.
- District clerk's reports, including:
  - i. Annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of fees collected and expenses incurred, 1928-37, showing information as in entry 10-i.
  - ii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, 1936--, showing information as in entry 10-ii.
- iii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of expenses incurred, 1930-32, showing information as in entry 10-iii.
  - iv. Quarterly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, 1927-35, showing name of reporting officer, ending date of quarter, list of cases upon which fees were collected with number and style of each case, amount of judgment, fine, or jury fee, name of payer, amount collected, amounts of officer's commissions, dates and amounts of payments to county treasurer, and grand totals for quarter.
- Arr. chron. by years. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.
  - 12. COUNTY JUDGE REPORTS MONTHLY & ANNUAL EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, 1930--, 40 reports in 1 f.d.
- County judge's reports, including:
  - i. Annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of fees collected and expenses incurred, showing information as in entry 10-i.

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ii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of expenses incurred, 1931-33, showing information as in entry 10-iii. Arr. chron, by years. No index. Hdw. and hdw. pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14.

13. JUSTICE OF THE PEACE REPORTS, 1930--. 600 reports in 6 f.d. Justices' of the peace reports, including:

i. Monthly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, show-

ing information as in entry 10-i.

ii. Quarterly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, showing information as in entry 11-iv, and also justice precinct number.

Arr. numer. by justice precinct no. and the reunder chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS MONTHLY & ANNUAL - EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, 1931--. 100 reports in 1 f.d.

County attorney's reports, including:

. i. Annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of fees collected and expenses incurred, 1932-33, showing information as in entry 10-i.

ii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, show-

ing information as in entry 10-ii.

iii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of expenses incurred, 1931-33, showing information as in entry 10-iii. Arr. chron, by years. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. ll x 5 x 14.

15. SHERIFF'S REPORTS MONTHLY & ANNUAL - EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, 1929--. 200 reports in 1 f.d.
"Sheriff's reports, including:

i. Annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of fees collected and expenses incurred, 1929-38, showing information as in entry 10-i.

ii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, 1936 -- ,

showing information as in entry 10-ii.

iii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of expenses incurred, showing information as in entry 10-iii. Arr. chron. by years. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

16. CONSTABLE AND DEPUTY SHERIFF REPORTS, 1936--. 75 reports in 1 f.d.

Constables' reports, including:

i. Annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of fees collected and expenses incurred, showing information as in entry 10-i.

ii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of fees collected, showing information as in entry 10-ii. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and hdw. pr. fm. ll x 5 x 14. The express and real most tages the paint and the hours and the second back and the second

- 44 -County Commissioners Court -Financial Supervision 17. TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR REPORTS MONTHLY & ANNUAL (and) EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, 1927--. 100 reports in 1 f.d. Tax assessor-collector's reports, including: i. Annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of debits and credits, 1927-39, showing name of assessor-collector, county and State, year date of report, items of collection as debits (ad valorem, poll, penalties and interest, inheritance, delinquent, and insolvent), and total debits; items of credit (receipts returned unused, erroneous assessments, commissions, fees, and remittances), and total credits.

ii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of taxes collected and disposition thereof, 1938 -- , showing approximately same information as assessor-collector's monthly statements, entry 250.

iii. Monthly reports to commissioners court of expenses incurred, 1931-37, showing information as in entry 10-iii. Arr. chron. by years. No index. Haw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14.

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18. OCCUPATION TAX REPORTS (State Comptroller's), 1894--. 200 papers in 1 f.d. State Comptroller's invoices of occupation tax receipts forwarded to tax assessor-collector, showing date of statement, year for which receipts are to be used, series numbers, quantity and value of each series, and signature of Comptroller. No obvious arr. No index, Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14.

- . 19. DELINQUENT TAX RECORD, 1895--. 6 vols. (B-G). Clerk's record of tax assessor-collector's annual reports (form 18) to State Comptroller, of lands and lots delinquent for year, showing information as in entry 257, with exception of signatures. Arr. chron. by years and thereunder alph, by owner's name. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 1895-1929; typed pr. hd. 1930--. 250 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.
- 20. TREASURER'S REPORTS (Quarterly), 1930 -- 40 reports, 4,000 warrants in 10 f.d. County treasurer's quarterly reports to commissioners court of receipts and disbursements of county funds, showing date of report, nature and amount of receipt or disbursement, name of fund, and balances; each report includes exhibits of individual items received and disbursed for each county fund; and also, original paid warrants for period covered by report. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. off.
- 21. MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS (Treasurer's Annual), 1926-30, 1938, 1939. 100 reports in 1 f.d. County treasurer's annual reports to commissioners court (and to State Auditor and district court) of fees collected and expenses incurred, 1938, 1939, showing date of report, name of treasurer, name of county and population; amounts of treasurer's commissions on county funds, amounts on road district funds, and total commissions, amounts of author-

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ized expenditures for operation of office, amount of treasurer's salary for year, affidavit of treasurer, and notarization. Also, county tick inspector's monthly reports, 1926-30, to commissioners court, showing month of report, number and kinds of stock inspected and dipped, number of hours worked each day, totals for month, and signature of inspector. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. off.

22. SCHOOL & CITY BUDGETS, 1933--. 400 papers in 1 f.d. Clerk's copies of city budgets (copies also to State Comptroller) compiled annually by mayor as budget officer and approved in open hearing by the city council; of independent school district budgets compiled by the president of the board of trustees and approved by the board; and of common school district budgets compiled by the county school superintendent and approved by the county board; show year date of budget, date of approval, amounts and classifications of expenditures for preceding year, amounts and classifications of budget appropriations, recapitulation of total expenditures and appropriations, amounts and sources of revenue receipts for preceding year and estimates for current year, totals of actual and estimated receipts, signature of budget officer, and notarization. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

### Miscellaneous

- 23. BOND ISSUES, 1933-. 150 papers in 1 f.d.
  Orders authorizing bond issues, letters from State Comptroller certifying registration of county bonds, letters and opinions from Attorney General relative to bond issues, and certificates of tax assessor-collector to assessed valuations. Arr. chron. by date of instrument. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 24. CONVICT BOND RECORD, 1887-1917. 2 vols. Title varies: Record of Convict Labor, 1887-99, 1 vol. Discontinued.

  Record of bonds made by persons hiring convict laborers to insure payment of fines and costs, showing name of convict, by what court and at what term sentenced, total amount of fine and costs, date of contract, on what type of labor employed, name of party hiring, number of months employed, rate of pay per month, date of final payment, and remarks (escaped, discharged, or released). Arr. alph. by first letter of convict's surname and thereunder chron. by date of contract. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 150 pp. 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. off.

### · Welfare

25. RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS - WITHDRAWAL OF BONDSMEN (and Pension Applications), 1915-33. 50 instruments in 1 f.d.

Applications for Confederate pensions, applications of widows with dependent minor children for pensions, resignations of county officials, applications for appointments as superintendent of county farm and as

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public weigher, and applications to withdraw as sureties on official bonds. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., hdw. pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

26. RECORD OF CONFEDERATE PENSIONS, July 2, 1909-Sept. 11, 1920. 1 vol.

Record of applications for Confederate pensions, showing name and address of applicant, name of husband if applicant a widow, date of application, names and addresses of witnesses to service record, name of company and regiment number, date and place of enlistment and date and place of discharge, date pension refused or sent to applicant by commissioners court, amount of fee and date of payment; also, if applicant a widow, date of husband's death, date of marriage, and length of residence in Texas. Arr. chron. by date of application. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 200 pp. 18 x 16 x 1.

27. (OID AGE PENSION LISTS), Dec. 1936-Sept. 1939. 1 vol. Discontinued.

Lists of recipients of old age pensions paid by State Old Age Assistance Commission, showing month date, county number, pension case number, name of recipient, amount paid, and warrant number. Lists arr. chron. by months; each list arr. alph. by pensioner's name. No index. Typed pr. hd. 300 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

# Roads (See also entries 6; 36)

28. MINUTES OF APPOINTMENTS OF ROAD OVERSEERS, Feb. term 1883-Feb. term 1886, Nov. term 1899-Feb. term 1917. 2 vols. (A, 2). Title varies: Road Minutes Commissioners Court, Feb. term 1883-Feb. term 1886, 1 vol. 1838-42 in Probate Minutes, entry 187; 1842-71, 1873-82 in Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1. Clerk's record of proceedings of commissioners court appointing road overseers for the year, showing date of court term and names of court officers present, recorded copy of court order, showing name of overseer, expiration date of appointment, name and number of road precinct, bounds of precinct, and authority to summon all persons liable to work within precinct. Arr. chron. by date of court term. Indexed alph. by first letter of overseer's surname and chron. thereunder, 1883-86; no index, 1899-1917. Hdw. pr. fm. 320 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

For lists of overseer's appointed, see entry 29.

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29. INDEX TO ROAD MINUTES (Classification of Roads, Lists of Overseers), 1895-1920. 2 vols. (C, 2). Title varies: Road Minutes, 1895-99, 1 vol.

Record of classification and boundaries of county roads made by commissioners court, showing road number, classification by first, second, or third class, inclusive beginning and ending points, and beginning and ending points of sections of road supervised by individual overseers; also, lists of names of overseers, showing year date of appointment, section for which appointed (first, second, or third), and, 1895-99

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shows also file number of order appointing overseer. Arr. one road to each page and chron. thereunder. Indexed alph. by first letter of overseer's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 16 x 3. For orders appointing overseers, see entry 28.

- 30. PETITIONS AND CONTRACTS, 1892-1938. 300 papers in 1 f.d. Petitions for holding bond issue elections, for issuance of road district bonds, for revocation and cancelation of road district bonds, for construction of public roads, for holding stock law elections, and for the employment of tick inspectors and county agents; contracts for construction of bridges, for purchase of machinery by county, and for lease of county-owned land. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 31. BIDS AND PROPOSALS, 1923-38. 50 papers in 1 f.d. Bids for refunding indebtedness of road districts and for audits of county accounts and records; applications for appointments as county health officer and as manager of county farm; contracts for repair of county buildings and for purchase of machinery; and orders for warrants to issue for county obligations. No obvious arr. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 32. REPORT OF ROAD AND SCHOOL DEPOSITORIES BRIDGE BONDS, 1893-1915.

  l f.d.

  Blueprints of bridges, contracts to build bridges, and bonds made by bridge contractors; copies of county depository's annual reports on school funds to State Superintendent of Public Instruction; and reports made by secretaries of road districts on expenditures of road district funds. No obvious arr. No index. Blueprints, hdw., and typed. 11 x

(See also entry 30)

33. RECORD OF ELECTION RETURNS, Nov. 3, 1874--. 4 vols. (one unlabeled, 2, two unlabeled).

Tabulations of results of elections, made from commissioners court's canvass of votes, showing kind and date of election, names of offices with list of names of candidates opposite each office, location and number of each voting precinct, number of votes received in each precinct by each candidate, and total number received by each candidate. Arr. chron. by date of election. No index. Hdw. 1874-87; hdw. pr. hd. 1888--. 80 double pp. 18 x 12 x 1.

34. ELECTION JUDGES - NOMINEES ETC. (Primary Election Papers),
1932--. 50 papers in 1 f.d.
Notices from Secretary of State certifying nominees of political parties
for Congress and for State offices, election returns from county chairman of Democratic Executive Committee certifying nomination of county and
precinct officers, lists of judges of election precincts, and lists of
precinct chairmen. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm.
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- 35. SPECIAL ELECTIONS MISCELLANEOUS, 1919--. 50 papers in 1 f.d. Orders calling special elections on stock and hog laws, special elections for State officers, elections on special bond issues, and elections for incorporation of cities; also, notices of the elections and orders declaring results thereof. No obvious arr. No index. Typed pr. fm. and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 36. SPECIAL ELECTIONS ROADS, 1929-30. 20 papers in 1 f.d. Road bond election papers, including petitions, orders setting hearings on petitions, election notices, orders declaring results, and orders authorizing issuance of bonds. No obvious arr. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 37. SPECIAL ELECTIONS SCHOOL, 1929--. 150 papers in 1 f.d. Petitions for elections for consolidation of common school districts, for school bond elections, and for special tax elections in school districts, orders setting hearings, and orders declaring election results. No obvious arr. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

For additional school election papers, see entry 279.

- 38. SPECIAL ELECTIONS PROHIBITION, 1933--. 100 papers in 1 f.d. Petitions for elections to determine the legality of sale of beer in various justice precincts, and orders setting hearings, calling elections, and declaring results of elections. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 39. RECORD OF OFFICIAL BALLOTS, 1904-15. 1 vol. Discontinued. Statements of ballots furnished the election precincts by the county election supply board, showing kind and date of election, name of presiding officer of election precinct, election precinct number, and number of ballots delivered. Arr. chron. by date delivered. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 620 pp. 12 x 10 x 3.

#### II. COUNTY CLERK AS RECORDER

A county clerk was one of the group of officers who composed Robertson County's first governmental organization. I For a period of about 6 years, when the office of county clerk was discontinued by the Constitution of 1869, the district clerks were the recorders of Texas counties; with this exception, the county clerk has always served in that capacity. 3

<sup>1.</sup> Probate Minutes, vol. A, p. 2, see entry 187.

<sup>2.</sup> Const. 1869, art. V, sec. 9, Gam. Laws, VII, 412. See Daniel v. Hutcheson, 86 Tex. 51, 22 SW 933 (1893), discussing question as to how long Constitution of 1869 was in force.

Acts 1836, Gam. Laws, I, 1210, 1215; Acts 1846, Gam. Laws, II, 1542; Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 18, Gam. Laws, V, 869; Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 20.

The county clerk is elected from the county at large at each biennial general election. 4

## Registration

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40. REGISTER OF INSTRUMENTS FILED FOR RECORD, July 4, 1872--. 13 vols. (one unlabeled, 2-13). Title varies: Reception Record, July 4, 1872-1902, 2 vols.

Register of instruments relating to sale or transfer of property filed with county clerk for recording, showing names of grantor, grantee, and person filing, kind and date of instrument, filing date, and name of person to whom delivered. Arr. chron. by filing date, 1872-97; arr. alph. by first letter of grantor's surname and thereunder chron. by filing date, 1897--. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 320 pp. 17 x 14 x 3. C.c. va.

41. DEHD RECORD, 1838--. 141 vols. (A, C, D, G, H, J, L-Z, 1-42, 44-121).

General registration books of the county, used for recording instruments affecting property titles, including deeds to real property; wills and codicils; various contracts, agreements, assignments, and releases; each recorded copy shows clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. For index, see entries 42, 43. Hdw. 1838-1909; typed 1909--. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

42. GENERAL INDEX TO DEED RECORD (Direct), 1838--. 16 vols.
Abstract of and grantor index to Deed Record, entry 41; Map Record, Mar.
10, 1926--, entry 44; and Assignment Record Oil and Gas Lease-holds, Apr.
20, 1920-May 4, 1922, entry 53; printed alphabetical key table at top of each page shows various combinations of first two letters of surnames and beginning page numbers for entries by first letter of given names; each entry shows name of opposite party, kind of instrument, filing date, volume and page reference, abstract and certificate numbers, lot or block number, and number of acres. Arr. alph. by first two letters of grantor's surname, thereunder alph. by first letter of grantor's given name, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

For grantee index, see entry 43.

43. GENERAL INDEX TO DEED RECORD (Reverse), 1838--. 16 vols. Abstract of and grantee index to deed Record, entry 41; Map Record, Mar. 10, 1926--, entry 44; and Assignment Record Oil and Gas Lease-holds, Apr. 20, 1920-May 4, 1922, entry 53; shows information as in entry 42. Arr.

<sup>4.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 20.

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alph. by first two letters of grantee's surname, thereunder alph. by first letter of grantee's given name, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

- 44. MAP RECORD, Mar. 10, 1926--. 1 vol.
  Recorded copies of maps and plats of cities, towns, subdivisions, additions, and surveys of tracts of land, showing name of map, scale of miles, metes and bounds, roads, names of surveys, block numbers, and number of acres. Arr. chron. by recording date. For index, see entries 42, 43.
  Blueprints, and pen and ink. 250 pp. (14 used) 18 x 28 x 2. C.c. off.
- 45. INSTRUMENTS RECORDED, 1868-1934. 5,000 papers in 27 compartments of 1 steel locker.

  Instruments filed for record and unclaimed by owners, including deeds, deeds of trust, contracts and agreements, releases, field notes of surveys, and other instruments relating to sale and transfer of property. Arr. alph. by first letter of grantee's surname and chron. thereunder.

  No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. Compartments 6 x 6 x 12. C.c. va.
- 46. ROBERTSON COUNTY DEEDS, 1889--. 400 papers in 2 compartments of 1 steel locker.

  Deeds conveying land to the county, showing date and place of execution, name of grantor, name of county as grantee, amount of consideration, description of land, and signature of grantor. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and hdw. and typed pr. fm. Compartments 6 x 6 x 12. C.c. va.
- 47. TAX DEEDS, Jan. 10, 1897-Jan. 11, 1898. 1 vol.
  Recorded copies of deeds given by sheriff on land sold to State in satisfaction of judgments for delinquent taxes, showing name of county, date order of sale issued, date of judgment, name of person against whom judgment rendered, amount of judgment; name of sheriff, date property levied upon, date advertised, statement granting title to State by reason of there being no other bids; name of owner; abstract, certificate, and survey numbers; original grantee (if acreage), or city or town and lot and block numbers (if city lot), signature of sheriff; signature of clerk to acknowledgment; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 500 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.
- 48. REDEMPTION REGISTER LANDS, 1883-97, Sept. 20, 1907-Apr. 18, 1910. 2 vols.

Record of lands redeemed after foreclosure and sale for delinquent taxes, showing abstract number, original grantee, date of sale, date of redemption, name of person against whose property taxes were assessed, number of acres, amounts of State tax, county tax, and costs; total taxes and costs, tax receipt number, name of person to whom sold, and name of person redeeming. Arr. numer. by abstract no. Indexed alph. by first letter of original grantee's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 400 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. C.c. va.

For assessor-collector's annual reports of redemptions, see entry 264.

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49. RECORD OF CERTIFICATES OF REDEMPTION, Jan. 28, 1901-Nov. 10, 1927. 2 vols. (1, 2).

Recorded copies of certificates issued by State Comptroller to persons redeeming land after foreclosure and sale for delinquent taxes, showing place of execution, number of receipt, statement of receipt of delinquent tax receipt from county tax collector, description of property, date of certificate, signature of Comptroller, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 640 pp. (20 used) 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va. For redemption receipts, see entries 262, 263.

50. ALIEN OWNED LAND RECORD, Apr. 15, 1932--. 1 vol. No entry except on Apr. 15, 1932.

Recorded copy of affidavit filed by alien landowner to report ownership of land, showing name of alien, occupation, birthplace, personal description, last foreign residence and allegiance, date and place of arrival in United States, present residence and address, length of residence in Texas; number of acres owned, description of property, from whom and date bought, with volume and page reference to Deed Record, entry 41, and signature of alien; notarization; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Indexed alph. by first letter of alien's surname. Typed. 150 pp. (2 used) 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. off.

51. OIL AND GAS LEASE RECORD, Mar. 17, 1919--. 6 vols. (1-6). Title varies: Lease Oil Record, 1919-21, 1 vol.; Oil Lease Record, 1920-22, 1 vol.

Recorded copies of oil and gas leases, showing date of execution, names of contracting parties, total amount of consideration, description of property, terms of agreement, signatures of contracting parties, notarization, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. For index, see entry 52. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 1919-31; typed 1932--. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

- 52. INDEX TO OIL AND GAS LEASES, 1919--. 1 vol.
  Abstract of and lessor-lessee index to Oil and Gas Lease Record, entry
  51; each entry shows name of opposite party, date of instrument, volume
  and page reference, abstract number, and number of acres. Arr. alph.,
  direct by first letter of lessor's surname on left pages, reverse by
  first letter of lessee's on right, and chron. thereunder. Typed. 500
  PP. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.
- 53. ASSIGNMENT RECORD OIL AND GAS LEASE-HOIDS, Apr. 20, 1920-May 4, 1922. 1 vol.

  Recorded copies of assignments of leases on oil and gas properties by Warren Oil Company, showing amount of consideration, name and address of assignee, description of acreage leased, volume and page reference to 0il and Gas Lease Record, entry 51, date of execution, signature of company secretary, notarization, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. For index, see entries 42, 43. Hdw. pr. fm. 300 pp. 14 x 8 x l. C.c. off.

54. BILL OF SALE RECORD, Feb. 1, 1870--. 3 vols. (one unlabeled, 1, 2).

Recorded copies of bills of sale on personal property, including livestock, showing date and place of execution, names of vendor and vendee, amount of consideration and terms of contract, description of property, signature of vendor, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature; and also, in unlabeled volume, 1870-82, affidavits made by persons shipping cattle, showing name of owner and marks and brands on cattle, and affidavits made by county clerk registering marks and brands, showing name of owner, facsimiles of brand and earmark, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. by recording date. No index, 1870-82; indexed alph. by first letter of vendor's surname and chron. thereunder, 1882--. Hdw. 1870-1906; typed 1906--. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.

- 55. MARK & BRAND RECORD, 1870--. 2 vols. (1 unlabeled, B). Title varies: Revised Mark & Brand Record, 1870-90, 1 vol.

  Register of marks and brands on livestock, showing register number, name and residence of owner, description of marks and brands, location of brand on animal, and date of registration. Arr. alph. by first letter of owner's surname and chron. thereunder, 1870-90; arr. numer. by register no. and chron. by registration date, 1890--. No index, 1870-90; for index 1890-1905, see entry 56; indexed alph. by first letter of owner's surname and chron. thereunder, 1898--. Hdw. pr. hd. 460 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.
- 56. INDEX TO MARK & BRAND RECORD, 1890-1905. 1 vol. Discontinued. Index by name of owner to part of volume B of Mark & Brand Record, entry 55, showing name of owner, register number, and page reference. Arr. alph. by first letter of owner's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. C.c. va.

57. ESTRAYS, 1897--. 150 papers in 1 f.d. Instruments relative to sale of estrays, consisting of:

i. Affidavits made by persons taking up estrays, showing State and county, name of affiant, number and description of animals; statement that marks or brands have not been altered or disfigured since animal taken up, that notice has been given according to law, and that no owner has appeared to claim livestock; signature of affiant, and attest of justice of peace.

ii. Affidavits of two appraisers, showing names of appraisers, statement of examination and affirmation of description by kinds of stock and marks and brands, amount of appraised value, signatures of appraisers, and attest of justice of peace.

iii. Bonds executed by takers-up to insure compliance with estray laws, showing name of person impounding stock as principal, names of sureties, name of justice peace in whose favor bond made, amount and conditions of bond, and signatures of principal and sureties.

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iv. Copies of affidavits made by persons impounding livestock under present law providing for sale by constable, showing State and county, date of affidavit, name of person impounding stock, date stock impounded, description of stock with marks and brands if any, signature of affiant, and notarization.

No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., hdw. pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

For recorded copies of first three types of papers, see entry 58.

58. ESTRAY RECORD, Jan. 6, 1876-Nov. 16, 1925. 2 vols. (one unlabeled, 1). Mar. 29, 1870-Jan. 10, 1876 in Record (Miscellaneous), pp. 3-88, entry 106.

Recorded copies of first three types of instruments relative to sale of estrays described in entry 57. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of taker-up's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 420 pp. 14 x 8 x 2. C.c. va.

## Liens and Mortgages

59. ABSTRACTS OF JUDGMENTS, 1892-1931. 250 papers in 1 f.d. Abstracts of judgments, 1897-1931, issued by clerks of courts or justices of the peace, showing name of clerk or justice, from what court issued, names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, name of party from whom judgment recovered, date and amount of judgment, date from which judgment bears interest, rate of interest, amount of costs, volume and page of minutes where judgment originally recorded, amount of credits, amount still due, and signature of clerk or justice. Also contains:

i. Annual reports made by public utility companies to Secretary of State, 1906-13, in compliance with franchise tax laws, showing name of corporation, date of report, amount of authorized capital stock, amount of bonded indebtedness, amount of mortgages on property, value of tangible property, annual cost of operation, amount of annual gross earnings, prices charged public, and prices charged city or town under contract. For recorded copies, see entry 89.

ii. Mandates from court of civil appeals, 1892-1910, entry 121.
iii. Mandates from court of criminal appeals, 1892-1910, entry 147.
No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. off.

60. JUDGMENT RECORD, Jan. 23, 1880--. 2 vols. (A, B). Abstracts of judgments, showing docket number, filing date, recording date, names of plaintiff and defendant, date of judgment, in what court rendered, amounts of judgment and costs, rate of interest, amount of credit at date recorded, amount due at date recorded, and remarks (date from which judgment bears interest, rate of interest, costs of suit, and volume and page reference to Deed Record, entry 41, where release recorded). Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph., direct by first letter of plaintiff's surname, reverse by first letter of defendant's, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

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- 61. RECORD OF ATTACHMENT LIENS, Nov. 19, 1889--. 1 vol.
  Record of attachment of property pending settlement of civil suits, consisting of abstract or register at top of each page, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, from what court and from what county issued, amount of debt, and filing date; recorded copy of writ of attachment, showing name of county, name of defendant in attachment, probable value of property to be attached unless replevied, name of court and date of future court proceedings, and signature of clerk of court; recorded copy of officer's return, showing date writ received, date of levy, description of property, and signature of officer; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. For index, see entry 62. Abstracts hdw. pr. hd.; writs and returns hdw. and typed. 159 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. C.c. off.
- 62. INDEX TO RECORD OF ATTACHMENT LIENS, 1889--. 1 vol.
  Index by names of plaintiff and defendant to Record of Attachment Liens, entry 61, each entry showing name of opposite party, filing date, and volume and page reference. Arr. alph., direct by first letter of plaintiff's surname on left pages, reverse by first letter of defendant's on right, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. off.
- 63. LIS PENDENS RECORD, Oct. 6, 1906--. 2 vols. (1, 2). Recorded copies of notices filed by plaintiffs in civil actions to prevent sale or disposal of property during litigation, showing names of plaintiff and defendant, case number, filing date, in what court filed, nature of suit, location and description of property, signature of plaintiff, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letters of plaintiff's and defendant's surnames and chron. thereunder, each entry showing name of opposite party. Hdw. pr. fm. 1906-24; typed 1925--. 450 pp. 18 x 16 x 3. C.c. va.

64. FEDERAL TAX LIENS (and Notices of Discharge), 1923--. 20 papers in 1 f.d.

Notices filed by U. S. Collector of Internal Revenue to establish tax liens, showing date and place of execution of instrument, citation to statutes by virtue of which lien exists, name and residence of taxpayer, nature of tax, inclusive dates of taxable period, amount of tax assessed, amount of additional penalty if any, date assessment list received, signature of Collector, notarization, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature; and also, notices of discharge of liens, showing date and place of execution, statement that lien is discharged in full, name and residence of taxpayer, nature of tax, dates of taxable period, amount assessed, signature of Collector, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. ll x 5 x l4. C.c. va.

For recorded copies, see entry 65.

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- 65. FEDERAL TAX LIEN RECORD, 1923--. 1 vol.
  Recorded copies of Federal tax lien notices and releases, showing information as in entry 64. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of taxpayer's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 640 pp. 18 x 16 x 3. C.c. off.
  - 66. CROP LIENS, May 22-Nov. 16, 1877, May 24, 1879-Dec. 28, 1880. 2 vols. 1881-84, 1893-95, 1904-11, 1916-- in Chattel Mortgage Register, entry 75.

Record of liens against crops, consisting of recorded copies of liens, 1877, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, kind of crops, year to be grown and gathered, description and location of premises, amount of loan, rate of interest, signature of mortgagor, attest of witness, acknowledgment of signatures by county clerk, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature; and register of liens, 1879-80, showing date and hour of reception, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of instrument, amount secured, due date, description of crops, and location of farm. Arr. chron. by recording date, 1877; arr. alph. by first letter of mortgagor's surname and chron. thereunder, 1879-80. Indexed alph. by first letter of mortgagor's surname and chron. thereunder, 1877; no index, 1879-80. Hdw. pr. fm. 1877; hdw. under hdw. hd. 1879-80. Aver. 295 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

- 67. MECHANIC'S LIEN RECORD, Jan. 19, 1875--. 4 vols. (one unlabeled, 2-4). Untitled, Jan. 19, 1875-1915, 1 vol. Recorded copies of instruments filed to establish mechanics' liens on real estate: Contracts between property owners and mechanics, showing names of contracting parties, terms of contract specifying improvement and material to be furnished, description of property, amount and terms of consideration, signatures of contracting parties, and notarization; affidavits filed by mechanics, showing itemized accounts of material and labor, amount due for each item, total amount due, signature of mechanic, and notarization; each shows clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Also contains: Contractor's lien record, 1875-1931, entry 68. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of mechanic's or laborer's surname and chron. thereunder, 1875-1915; indexed alph. by first letters of surnames of both parties and chron. thereunder, each entry showing name of opposite party, 1915--. Hdw. 1875-98; typed 1898--. 640 pp. 18 x 16 x 3. C.c. off.
- 68. CONTRACTOR'S LIEN RECORD, July 16, 1932-. 1 vol. (1). 18751931 in Mechanic's Lien Record, entry 67.

  Recorded copies of affidavits filed to establish liens against contractors, to insure payment for labor or material furnished, showing name of affiant, itemized statement of labor performed or material furnished, description of land and buildings owned by contractor, signature of affiant, notarization, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph., direct by first letter of affiant's surname on left pages, reverse by first letter of contractor's on right, and chron. thereunder. Typed. 640 pp. (20 used) 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

69. RENTAL LIEN RECORD, June 17, 1933--. 1 vol. Last entry Sept. 29, 1933.

Recorded copies of itemized statements and supporting affidavits of rent due and unpaid, made by landlords or persons renting or leasing storehouses or other buildings to tenants for commercial purposes, filed to establish and record statutory liens upon chattels owned by tenants and located in the building, showing names of landlord and tenant, itemized statement of rents due and unpaid, conditions and obligations of rental contract, recital of claim to landlord's lien with citations to statutes, and signature of landlord; signature of landlord to affidavit that account is true and correct and to acknowledgment of instrument; attest of clerk; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letters of landlord's and tenant's surnames and chron. thereunder, each entry showing name of opposite party. Typed. 220 pp. (18 used) 14 x 9 x 1. C.c. off.

- 70. DEED OF TRUST RECORD, May 27, 1859--. 35 vols. (A-E, G-Z, 1-10). Title varies: Mortgage Record, May 27, 1859-98, 12 vols. Recorded copies of mortgages and deeds of trust on real property, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of execution, description and location of property, terms and date of contract, signature of mortgagor, notarization, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. Separate index, see entries 71, 72; also self-indexed alph. by first letter of mortgagor's surname and chron. thereunder, 1859-98. Hdw. 1859-98; typed 1898--. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.
- 71. GENERAL INDEX TO DEEDS OF TRUST (Direct), 1859--. 1 vol. Abstract of and mortgagor index to Deed of Trust Record, entry 70, showing name of opposite party, kind of instrument, filing date, volume and page reference, and description of property. Arr. alph. by first letter of mortgagor's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.

For mortgagee index, see entry 72.

- 72. GENERAL INDEX TO DEEDS OF TRUST (Reverse), 1859--. 1 vol. Abstract of and mortgagee index to Deed of Trust Record, entry 70, showing information as in entry 71. Arr. alph. by first letter of mortgagee's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. W.
- 73. AMORTIZATION RECORD, Jan. 9, 1918-Jan. 20, 1923. 1 vol. Recorded copies of deeds of trust on homesteads and non-homesteads drawn in favor of Federal Land Banks to insure payment of loans made to farmers, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee, location and description of property, amount of lien, rate of interest and date due, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. in homestead and non-homestead sections and thereunder chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of mortgagor's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 140 pp. 16 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

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74. CHATTEL MORTGAGES, 1930--. 30,000 mortgages in 49 f.d.
Mortgages on personal property, showing names of mortgagor and mortgagee,
description of property, amount of lien, rate of interest, terms of payment, signatures of mortgagor and witness, file number, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date and signature. Arr. chron. by
years and thereunder numer. by file no. No index. Hdw. and typed pr.
fm. ll x 5 x l4. C.c. va.

75. CHATTEL MORTGAGE REGISTER, 1881-84, 1893-95, 1904-11, 1916--.
17 vols. (one unlabeled, E, J-L, 1-4, eight unlabeled).
Register of mortgages on personal property, showing file number, date and time of reception, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of instrument, amount secured, due date, description of chattel; and also, 1937--, notations of cancelations. Also contains: Crop liens, entry 66. Arr. alph. by first letter of mortgagor's surname and chron. thereunder. No index, 1881-84, 1893-95, 1904-11, 1916-36; for index 1937--, see entry 76. Hdw. pr. hd. 1881-84, 1893-95, 1904-11, 1916-36; hdw. pr. fm. 1937--. Aver. 450 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. 13 vols., 1881-84, 1893-95, 1904-11, 1916-36, c.c. va.; 4 vols., 1937--, c.c. off.

76. REVERSE CHATTEL MORTGAGE REGISTER (Index), 1937--. 4 vols. Mortgagee index to last four volumes of Chattel Mortgage Register, entry 75, showing name of opposite party and file number. Arr. alph. by first letter of mortgagee's surname and chron. thereunder. Typed pr. hd. 500 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

77. (CARD FILE OF ACTIVE CHATTEL MORTGAGES), 1933-. 4,000 cards in 30 f.d. When mortgages canceled, cards destroyed.

Card file of chattel mortgages which have not been released and canceled; each card shows file number, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, filing date, date of mortgage, how payable (monthly or quarterly), amount secured, and kind of property. Arr. alph. by first letter of mortgagor's surname and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 6 x 6 x 16. C.c. off.

78. CHATTEL MORTGAGE RECORD ON REALTY, Mar. 12, 1918--. 1 vol. Register of chattel mortgages against machinery attached to realty, showing mortgage number, date of reception, date of instrument, amount secured, due date, description of land upon which chattel is located, and remarks (date of filing of extension and date of filing of release). Arr. chron. by date of reception. Indexed alph. by first letter of mortgagee's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. off.

79. LIENS ON MACHINERY SITUATED ON REALTY, Aug. 13, 1923--. 1 vol. Recorded copies of chattel mortgages in the form of deeds of trust, granted to secure payment of promissory notes executed upon purchase of machinery, showing names of grantor and trustee, description of machinery, description of property upon which machinery is placed, amounts, dates, and due dates of notes, terms upon which contract is released, or upon default authority for trustee to hold public sale, and signature of grantor; notarization; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording

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date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letters of mortgagor's and mortgagee's surnames and chron. thereunder, each entry showing name of opposite party. Typed. 290 pp. (90 used) 16 x 9 x 1. C.c. off.

### Acknowledgments

80. STATEMENT CF ACKNOWLEDGMENTS (Clerk), July 16, 1874-Feb. 11, 1892. 3 vols. (1, 2, 2).

Record of acknowledgments or proofs of instruments taken by county clerk or deputy, Apr. 20, 1876-Feb. 11, 1892, showing number and date of acknowledgment, kind of instrument, names of grantor and grantee, date of instrument, name and residence of witness, whether witness and grantor known, name of county where land situated, and signature of clerk or deputy. Also contains, in vol. 1, pp. 1-189: District clerk's acknowledgment record, July 16, 1874-Apr. 18, 1876, entry 176. Arr. numer. by file no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 560 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.

81. RECORD OF ACKNOWLEDGMENTS (Notary Public), 1854-1922. 14 vols. Record of acknowledgments or proofs of instruments taken by notaries public, showing number and kind of instrument, description and location of land, original grantee, name and residence of grantor, name of grantee, amount of fees, date of acknowledgment, and name of notary. Arr. chron. by date of acknowledgment. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 150 pp. 12 x 8 x 1. C.c. va.

# Frofessional Licenses

82. EMBAIMERS' AND DENTISTS' LICENSES, EMPLOYEES' ACCIDENT INSUR-ANCE, Dec. 17, 1897--. 1 vol.

Recorded copies, on pp. 1-39, of licenses to practice issued to dentists, 1897-1938, and to embalmers, by respective State boards of examiners, showing name of State board, name of licensee, authorization to practice, signatures of board members, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Also contains, on pp. 302-317: Recorded copies of notices filed by employers that they have insured their employees in compliance with State Workmen's Compensation Act, 1917-32, showing date and place of execution, name and address of employer, name of insurance company, signatures of company officials, notarization, and filing date. Licenses arr. chron. by recording date; notices in no obvious arr. No index. Licenses hdw. and typed; notices hdw. and typed pr. fm. and typed copies pasted in. 320 pp. (55 used) 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. va.

For transcript, and subsequent recordings of dentists' licenses, see entry 83.

83. DEMTIST RECORD, 1897--. 1 vol. Transcribed Sept. 27, 1938. Transcript of dentists' licenses originally recorded 1897-1938, in entry 82, and subsequent original recordings. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of dentist's surname and chron. thereunder. Typed. 276 pp. (40 used) 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. off.

84. OPTOMETRY REGISTER, Jan. 25, 1922--. 1 vol. Clerk's record of optometrists authorized to practice in the county, consisting of register, showing name of optometrist, post office address at date authority granted, number and date of declaration certificate or license, and filing date; and, until Jan. 1923, recorded copies of optometrists' declaration certificates, showing certificate number, name and address of optometrist, signed affidavit declaring intention to practice optometry and to take required examinations, and signatures of members of State Board of Examiners in Optometry; and, Jan. 1923 -- , recorded copies of optometrists' licenses, showing citation to statutes under which issued, name and address of optometrist, grant of authority to practice, definition of practice, signatures of board members, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date: Indexed alph. by first letter of optometrist's surname and chron, thereunder. Register hdw. pr. hd.; declarations and licenses hdw. pr. fm. 175 pp. (22 used) 18 x 12 x 1. C.c. off.

85. RECORD OF RECISTERED NURSES, 1930--. 1 vol. Clerk's record of registered nurses, consisting of recorded copies of certificates issued to nurses by State Board of Nurse Examiners, showing date certificate issued, name of nurse, and signatures of board members; affidavits of two witnesses to personal acquaintance, name, and address of nurse, hospital or school of graduation, and moral character, with signatures of witnesses; affidavit made by nurse to name, age, place and date of birth, school of nursing, and date certificate issued by State board, with signature of nurse; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. alph. by first letter of nurse's surname and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 250 pp. 16 x 10 x 1. C.c. va.

# Business Records (See also entry 82)

86. FICTITIOUS NAME CERTIFICATES, 1921--. 200 papers in 1 f.d. Contains:

i. Certificates filed by owners of unincorporated business firms operating under assumed names, designating responsibility in the conduct of the business, showing assumed name, name and address of firm owner, location and rature of business, notarization, and signature of owner.

ii. Notices of dissolution of partnerships, showing name of partners, firm name and business address, date of dissolution, signatures of partners, notarization, signature of publisher to affidavit of publication of notice, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature.

Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Typed. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va. For recorded copies of notices, see entry 88.

87. FICTITIOUS NAMES REGISTER, 1921--. 1 vol.
Register of assumed names and owners of unincorporated business firms, showing on direct pages, name and address of firm, names and addresses of

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owners, file number, filing date, and notations of withdrawals with filing date of notices of withdrawal; on reverse pages, same information as on direct, except that names and addresses of owners appear first. Arr. in direct and reverse sections, thereunder alph. by first letter in name, and thereunder chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 150 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. C.c. off.

88. CERTIFICATES OF PARTNERSHIP (and Notices of Dissolution), Dec. 30, 1905--. 1 vol.

Recorded copies of partnership and limited partnership agreements, showing names and addresses of contracting parties, location of business, name of firm, general nature of business, amounts invested by each, and in the case of limited partnership, amounts invested by general and special partners, signatures of contracting parties, notarization, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature; and also recorded copies of notices of dissolution of partnerships, showing information as in entry 86-ii. Arr. chron. by recording

89. (RECORD OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES), 1905-20. 1 vol.

Recorded copies of annual reports made by public utility companies to Secretary of State, in compliance with franchise tax laws, showing information as in entry 59-i. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of corporation name and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 160 pp. 14 x 10 x 1. C.c. va.

date. No index. Typed. 95 pp. (7 used) 11 x 6 x 1. C.c. va.

- 90. REPORT OF STOCK KILLED BY R.R., 1925--. 2 f.d. (1, 2). Section foremen's reports to county clerk of animals killed or found dead on railroad rights-of-way, showing date animal found, kind of animal, marks and brands, color, apparent age, signature of foreman, filing date, and signature of county clerk. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va.
- 91. OCCUPATION TAX LEDGER, 1887-89. 1 vol.
  Record of licenses issued by county clerk upon presentation of occupation tax receipts, showing name and address of licensee, date and number of receipt, nature of occupation, inclusive dates of license, amount of State tax, amount of county tax, and total tax. Arr. one taxpayer to each page and thereunder chron. by date license issued. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. (15 used) 18 x 12 x 1. C.c. va.
- 92. LIQUOR DEALER'S BOND RECORD, 1893-1917. 5 vois. Recorded copies of bonds made by retail liquor dealers, showing State and county, business address, name of dealer as principal, names of sureties, amount of bond, conditions of obligation, date of execution, signatures of principal and sureties, notarization, signature of county judge to certificate of examination and approval, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of dealer's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 300 pp. 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. va.

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93. RECORD OF AUCTION BONDS, Apr. 12, 1939--. 1 vol. No entry except on Apr. 12, 1939.

Recorded copy of bond given by livestock commission merchant to insure compliance with agreements and payments of proceeds received to rightful owners, showing State and county, name of company and names of firm members, general nature of business, amount of bond, conditions of obligation, signatures of firm members, signature of county judge to approval of bond, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by recording date. No index. Typed. 200 pp. (3 used) 12 x 9 x 1. C.c. off.

### Vital Statistics

### Marriages

94. MARRIAGE LICENSES, 1897--. 21 f.d.

Marriage licenses issued by clerk and returned for recording after marriage ceremony has been performed, showing date license issued, license number, names and ages of contracting parties, authorization for performance of ceremony, and clerk's signature; return of officiating clergyman or magistrate, showing date of marriage ceremony, names of contracting parties, and signature of clergyman or magistrate; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. numer. by license no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va.

For marriage record, see entry 95.

95. MARRIAGE RECORD, Mar. 3, 1838-65, 1869--. 24 vols. (1-24). Record of marriages, consisting of recorded copies of marriage licenses issued by clerk and returned for recording after ceremony has been performed, 1838-65, 1872--, showing information as in entry 94; and of clerk's notations, 1869-72, showing names of contracting parties, date license issued, and date of return. Arr. chron. by recording date. For index, see entries 96, 97. Hdw. 1838-65, 1869-72; hdw. pr. fm. 1872--. Aver. 450 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.

96. GENERAL MARRIAGE LICENSE INDEX DIRECT, 1838-65, 1869--. 2 vols. (1, 2).

Index by name of male to Marriage Record, entry 95; printed alphabetical key table at top of each page indicates subdivisions of surnames and beginning page numbers of given names under each letter of alphabet; each entry shows name of opposite party, date license issued, and volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by first letter of male's surname, thereunder alph. by first letter of given name, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

For index by name of female, see entry 97.

97. GENERAL MARRIAGE LICENSE INDEX REVERSE, 1838-65, 1869--. 2 vols. (1, 2).

Index by name of female to Marriage Record, entry 95, showing information as in entry 96. Arr. alph. by first letter of female's surname, thereunder alph. by first letter of given name, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

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98. NOTICE OF INTENTION TO MARRY, June 15, 1929-Aug. 28, 1933. 2 vols. Discontinued; law repealed 1933 (Acts 1933, 43d Leg., p. 284).

Recorded copies of notices of intention to marry given by applicants for marriage licenses, showing names of contracting parties, date notice filed, affidavits to ages of contracting parties, number of male applicant's health certificate and name of doctor who issued it, and date license issued. Arr. chron. by filing date. Indexed alph., direct by first letter of male's surname, reverse by first letter of female's, and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 440 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.

#### Births

99. BIRTH CERTIFICATES, 1929--. 5,000 certificates in 4 f.d. Duplicate copies of birth certificates filed by local registrars of vital statistics, showing clerk's file number, place of birth (county, city or precinct number); full name of child, sex, date of birth, legitimate or otherwise; full name, color or race, residence, age at last birthday, and occupation of each parent, and maiden name of mother; number of children borne by mother including this child, and number born alive and now living; medical particulars, whether child stillborn or alive, hour and date of birth, and signature of physician or midwife; filing date, and signature of local registrar. Arr. numer. by clerk's file no. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va.

For recorded copies, see entry 100.

100. BIRTH RECORD, 1903--. 7 vols. (1, one unlabeled, 2-6). Clerk's record of births, consisting of register of births reported, 1903-17; register of birth certificates, 1917-29; and recorded copies, 1929 --, of birth certificates filed by local registrars of vital statistics, showing information as in entry 99. Arr. alph. by first letter of child's surname and thereunder chron, by date reported, 1903-17; arr. numer. by certificate no., 1917-29; arr. chron. by recording date, 1929-33; arr. chron. by filing date, 1933--. No index, 1903-17; indexed alph. by first letter of child's surname and chron. thereunder, 1917 --. Hdw. pr. hd. 1903-29; hdw. pr. fm. 1929-33; typed pr. fm. 1933--. Aver. 400 pp. 17 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

#### Deaths

101. DEATH CERTIFICATES, 1929--. 2,600 certificates in 2 f.d. Duplicate copies of death certificates filed by local registrars of vital statistics, showing clerk's file number, county and precinct number, name, address, length of residence in city where death occurred, sex, race or color, marital status, name of husband or wife, date of birth, age, trade or profession, and place of birth of deceased; names and birthplaces of father and mother; name of informant; place of burial, cremation, or removal, and name of undertaker; filing date, and signature of registrar; medical certificate showing date of death, inclusive dates of physician's attendance, date and time of day physician last saw deceased alive, principal and contributory causes of death, date of onset, kind of operation if any, date and type of test performed to confirm diagnosis

County Clerk as Recorder -Military Record; Official Bonds and Oaths

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and whether autopsy was performed, if death due to violence whether accident, suicide, or homicide, place and date of injury, whether in industry, home, or public place, manner and nature of injury, whether disease or injury related to occupation of deceased, and if so, how, and signature and address of physician. Arr. numer. by clerk's file no. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va. For recorded copies, see entry 102.

102. DEATH RECORD, 1903--. 5 vols. (1, one unlabeled, 2-4). Clerk's record of deaths, consisting of register of deaths reported, 1903-17; register of death certificates, 1917-28; and recorded copies of death certificates, 1929--, showing information as in entry 101. Arr. alph. by first letter of deceased person's surname and chron. thereunder, 1903-17; arr. numer. by certificate no., 1917-28; arr. chron. by filing date, 1929--. No index, 1903-17; indexed alph. by first letter of deceased person's surname and chron. thereunder, 1917--. Hdw. pr. hd. 1903-28; hdw. pr. fm. 1929-34; typed pr. fm. 1934--. Aver. 300 pp. 17 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

## Military Record

Recorded copies of certificates of discharge from the U.S. Army and Navy, and from the Texas National Guard, and of certificates issued in lieu of lost or destroyed certificates; also, copies of certificates issued by military authorities discharging drafted persons found unfit for military service. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of surname of discharged person and chron. thereunder. Hdw., hdw. pr. fm., and typed. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

#### Official Bonds and Oaths

Bonds and qualifying oaths of county officials; bond shows State and county, name of official as principal, names of sureties, name of obligee, amount and conditions of bond, signatures of principal and sureties, and notarization; oath, endorsed on bond, shows name of official, title of office to which elected or appointed, official's signature, and notarization; county judge's signature to certificate of approval, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. off.

For recorded copies, see entry 105.

105. OFFICIAL BOND RECORD, 1838-42, Jan. 28, 1850-June 1, 1870, Dec. 6, 1878-July 12, 1887, Nov. 14, 1900--. 6 vols. (1, two unlabeled, C-E). Title varies: Bond Book, 1838-42, 1 vol.; untitled, Jan. 28, 1850-June 1, 1870, 1 vol. 1842-50 in Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1; 1888-97 in Record (Miscellaneous), pp. 90-242, entry 106.

Recorded copies of bonds and qualifying oaths of county officials, showing information as in entry 104. Also contains: Deputation record, 1858-42, 1850-70, 1878-87, entry 108; bonds in probate, 1838-42, entry 179. Arr. chron. by recording date. No index, 1838-42, 1850-70; indexed alph. by first letter of principal's surname and thereunder chron. by recording date, 1878-87, 1900--. Hdw. 1838-42, 1850-70, 1878-87; hdw. pr. fm. 1900-1932; typed 1932--. 640 pp. 18 x 16 x 3. C.c. va.

106. RECORD (Miscellaneous) Mar. 29, 1870-Dec. 17, 1897. 1 vol. Contains: on pp. 3-88, Estray record, Mar. 29, 1870-Jan. 10, 1876, entry 58; on pp. 90-242, official bond record, 1888-97, entry 105, and deputation record, 1888-97, entry 108. Arr. chron. by recording date. No index. Hdw. 432 pp. (240 used) 15 x 10 x 2. C.c. va.

107. DEPUTATIONS, 1923--. 200 papers in 1 f.d.
Deputations and qualifying oaths of deputy county officials; deputation shows State and county, name of appointing officer, name of deputy, recital of authority to perform duties of office, signature of appointing official, and notarization; oath of office, endorsed on deputation, shows name of deputy, title of office to which appointed, recital of oath, deputy's signature, clerk's attest, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va.

For recorded copies, see entry 108.

108. DEPUTATION RECORD, June 20, 1891--. 2 vols. (A, B). 1838-42, 1850-70, 1878-87, in Official Bond Record, entry 105; 1842-50 in Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1; 1888-91, also 1891-97, in Record (Miscellaneous), pp. 90-242, entry 106.

Recorded copies of deputations and qualifying oaths of deputy county officials, showing information as in entry 107. Arr. chron. by recording date. No index, 1891-1904; indexed alph. by first letter of deputy's surname and thereunder chron. by recording date, 1905--. Hdw. pr. fm. 290 pp. 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. va.

109. COUNTY DEPOSITORY BONDS & PLEDGE CONTRACTS, 1921--. 75 bonds in 1 f.d.

Bonds made by banks contracting to serve as depositories of county funds, showing name of bank, amount and date of bond, conditions of obligation, president's or cashier's signature, notarization, and county judge's signature to certificate of approval by commissioners court. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va.

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County Clerk as Recorder Fees of Office; Miscellaneous

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110. NOTARY BONDS, 1927--. 700 bonds in 1 f.d.
Bonds and qualifying oaths of notaries public, showing State and county, name of notary as principal, names of sureties, name of obligee, amount and date of bond, conditions of obligation, signatures of principal and sureties, and acknowledgment; oath, endorsed on bond and signed by notary, clerk's signature to certificate of approval; and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14. C.c. va. For recorded copies, see entry 111.

111. RECORD OF NOTARY PUBLIC BOYDS, June 19, 1891--. 6 vols. (1-3, 3-5).

Recorded copies of bonds and qualifying oaths of notaries public, showing information as in entry 110. Arr. chron. by recording date. Indexed alph. by first letter of notary's surname and thereunder chron. by recording date. Hdw. pr. fm. 1891-1935; typed pr. fm. 1935--. 150 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. C.c. va.

## Fees of Office

112. GENERAL FEE BOOK, 1914-36. 2 vols. (1, 2). Discontinued. Clerk's record of receipts for recording instruments and of office expenses, showing date of entry, name of payer or names of grantor and grantee of instrument, kind of instrument, amount of fee; and dates, items, and amounts of disbursements. Arr. chron. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. 585 pp. 18 x 12 x 2. C.c. va.

113. RECORD OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, 1939--. 2 vols.
Title varies: Record of Fees Earned and Collected, 1939,
1 vol.

Accounts of fees earned and collected by county clerk, and of disbursements for office expenses, kept in following titled sections: Recording fees, chattel mortgage fees, marriage license fees, probate fees, lunacy fees, copies of office and records, notary bonds, depositions and acknowledgments, beer license, birth and death certificates, all other fees, and disbursement; fee accounts show kind of instrument, name of clerk, date of entry, name of payer, amount earned, amount collected, and page totals; disbursements show date of payment, to whom paid, nature of disbursement, and amount paid. Arr. in sections, as listed above, and thereunder chron. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 500 pp. 12 x 16 x 2. C.c. off.

## Miscellaneous

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114. RECORD OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS, May 21, 1918--. 1 vol.

Recorded copies of orders of county board of school trustees establishing school districts or redefining boundaries by reason of consolidations
or additions, and of field notes made under such orders, showing informa-

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tion as in entry 273, and in addition, clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. Arr. chron. by date of proceedings. Indexed numer. by school district no. Typed. 300 pp. (97 used) 14 x 8 x 2. C.c. off.

For minutes of orders, see entry 272.

115. RECORD OF HUNTING & TRAPPERS LICENSES, Aug. 31, 1925-Nov. 27, 1928. 1 vol.

Register of licenses issued by county clerk permitting hunting and trapping, showing license number, date issued; name, address, and personal description of licensee; amount of fee paid, amount of clerk's commission, and amount remitted. Arr. in sections for hunters and trappers and thereunder numer. by license no. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 100 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. C.c. va.

#### III. DISTRICT COURT

A district court was established in Robertson County upon its creation in 1837, <sup>1</sup> and the minutes of the court date from October 1, 1838. <sup>2</sup> The district courts in Texas have always been the superior courts of general original jurisdiction. <sup>3</sup>

The district court of the 85th judicial district is presided over by a district judge elected for a term of 4 years by the voters of Robertson and Brazos Counties, the two counties of which the district is composed.<sup>4</sup> Other officers of the court are the district clerk, who is elected by the voters of the county at each biennial general election, 5 the sheriff, 6 and the county attorney. 7

Under general laws, the district court in addition to its original jurisdiction has appellate jurisdiction over the county commissioners court, and in probate cases over the county court.<sup>8</sup> In Robertson County,

<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1837, Gam. Laws, I, 1398.

<sup>2.</sup> See Civil Minutes, entry 133.

<sup>3.</sup> Const. 1836, art. IV, sec. 3, Gam. Laws, I, 1073; Const. 1845, art. IV, sec. 10, Gam. Laws, II, 1286; Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 6, Gam. Laws, V, 866; Const. 1869, art. V, sec. 7, Gam. Laws, VII, 411; Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 8.

<sup>4.</sup> Ibid., sec. 7; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 199, sub. 85.

<sup>5.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 9.

<sup>6. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, sec. 23; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. 2022, 2333, 6873; <u>Texas Jurisprudence</u>, XI, 939.

<sup>7.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 21; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 322, and CCP, art. 26.

<sup>8.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 8.

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by special law, the district court is the court of appellate jurisdiction in cases appealed from the justice courts and other inferior courts within the county.

All of the records of the district court are in the district clerk's office-vault except as otherwise indicated in the entries.

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#### Case Papers

li6. CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF, June 26, 1843--. 7,900 cases in 172 f.d.

Papers filed in civil cases instituted originally and by appeal in district court, including plaintiffs' petitions, defendants' answers, verdicts, motions; citations, subpoenas, and other process issued by clerk, with officers' returns; writs of attachment, garnishment, sequestration, and certiorari; depositions, affidavits of inability, receivers' inventories of property, statements of fact, exhibits, cost bills, and bonds. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. ll.x5 x 14.

For recorded copies of case papers, see entry 117.

117. MINUTES DIST. COURT (Final Record), June 24, 1844-Sept. 29, 1859. 4 vols. (D, 1 unlabeled, A, H).

Recorded copies of papers filed in civil cases in district court, as partially listed in entry 116. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 16 x 6 x 1.

118. TAX SUITS, 1898, 1904, 1923--. 4,000 cases in 64 f.d.
Papers filed in delinquent tax suits in district court, including petitions for foreclosure of tax liens, answers, motions and exceptions, exhibits, tax notices, orders of sale, citations, schedules of property owned by taxpayers, proofs of publication, cost bills, and decrees.
Arr. numer. by case no. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

119. DIVORCES, Nov. 11, 1903--. 3,500 cases in 29 f.d.
Papers filed in divorce suits in district court, including plaintiffs'
petitions, citations for appearance with returns, defendants' answers,
motions, decrees, and judgments as to division of property and custody
of children. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed
pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

120. (TRANSCRIPTS OF EVIDENCE), 1914--. 100 loose sheets on shelves. Transcripts of evidence given in district court cases appealed to higher courts, showing number and style of case, date of proceedings, names

Court docket of delinquent fex surround

<sup>9.</sup> Vernon's Texas St., 1936, RCS, art. 2455, and CCP, art. 58; Acts 1917, 35th Leg., p. 256.

of court officers present, questions and answers on direct and cross examinations, and on redirect and recross examinations, signatures of attorneys and district judge to certificate that transcript is true and correct, and signature of district clerk to certificate of filing. No obvious arr. No index. Typed. Sheets 14 x 6.

(MANDATES FROM COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS), 1892-1910. In Abstracts of Judgments, entry 59-ii. Orders from Court of Civil Appeals on cases appealed from district court, showing number and style of case, and date and nature of order.

#### Dockets and Fees

- 122. CIVIL DOCKET DISTRICT COURT, fall term 1851-spring term 1857, Jan. term 1872-1908. 11 vols. Docket of civil cases in district court, showing number and style of case, cause of action, and notations of court orders; last volume used for tax suits and divorce suits only. Arr. chron, by court term. No index. Hdw. 1851-57; hdw. pr. hd. 1872-1908. Aver. 640 pp. 18 x 16 x 3.
  - CLERK'S CIVIL FILE DOCKET AND FEE BOOK, Jan. 30, 1893--. 13 123. vols. (F-H, 1-10). Title varies: Fee Book, Jan. 30, 1893-1900, 2 vols.; Civil Fee Book, 1900-1905, 1 vol.; Clerk's File Docket, 1905-9, 1 vol.

Clerk's accounts of fees in civil cases in district court, showing number and style of case, cause of action, itemized accounts of fees due clerk and sheriff, amounts of witness, jury, and other fees, and total; and also, 1905-11, shows on left pages, case number, names of attorneys and parties to suit, filing date, cause of action, date process issued, and officer's return with date citation received, date and manner executed, and signature of officer. Arr. numer. by case no. Indexed alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

124. RETIRED DOCKET (Disposed Cases), 1904--. 4 loose-leaf vols. Court docket of civil cases disposed of in district court, showing information as in entry 125. Arr. chron. by date of final order. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 1,000 pp. 10 x 16 x 4.

125. CIVIL DOCKET (Pending Cases), 1919--. 2 loose-leaf vols. Court docket of civil cases pending in district court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, cause of action, filing date, and notations of dates and kinds of court orders. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 150 pp. 8 x 16 x 1. For disposed cases, see entry 124.

126. DELINQUENT TAX DOCKET, 1895-1904, 1916, 1923--. 9 vols. (1, 2, 4-10).

Court docket of delinquent tax suits in district court, showing number and style of case, filing date, and notations of court orders. Arr.

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numer. by case no. Indexed alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder, 1895-1904, 1916, 1933--; for index 1923-32, see entry 127. Hdw. pr. hd. 325 pp. 16 x 10 x 3.

- 127. INDEX TO DELINQUENT TAX DOCKET, 1923-32. 6 vols. (4-9). Index by name of defendant to Delinquent Tax Docket, entry 126, showing case number and name of defendant. Arr. alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. 50 pp. 18 x 10 x 1.
- 128. JOURNAL (Tax Docket Cities and School Districts), Oct. 28, 1927--. 1 vol. Last entry June 22, 1937. Docket of tax suits in district court for delinquent school and city taxes, showing number and style of case, filing date, and notations of court orders. Arr. chron, by filing date. Indexed alph, by first letter of defendant's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 400 pp. (130 used) 18 x 12 x 2.
  - 129. TAX SUIT FEE BOOK, 1923. 1 vol. Accounts of fees in delinquent tax suits in district court, showing number and style of case, amounts of fees due district clerk, sheriff, and county attorney, and officers' receipts. Arr. numer. by case no. Indexed alph, by first letter of defendant's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 430 pp. 16 x 12 x 2.
    - 130. CIVIL DOCKET DIVORCE, June term 1905 -- 3 vols. (one unlabeled, 2, 3). Title varies: Civil Docket, June term 1905-1919, 1 vol.

Court docket of divorce suits in district court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, cause of action, filing date, and notations of court orders. Arr. numer. by case no. No index, 1905-19, 1933--; indexed alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron. thereunder, 1919-32. Hdw. pr. hd. 350 pp. 16 x 10 x 3.

- 131. JURY TRIAL DOCKET, May term 1877-Nov. 17, 1922. 1 vol. Docket of civil cases set for trial by jury in district court, showing case number, names of parties and attorneys, date jury demanded and by whom, and notations of court orders. Arr. chron. by date demanded. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.
- 132. MOTION DOCKET CIVIL, June 16, 1875--. 1 vol. Docket of motions filed in civil cases in district court, showing case number, names of attorneys and parties to suit, nature of motion, filing date, and action of court. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

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133. CIVIL MINUTES, Oct. 1, 1838--. 20 vols. (1 unlabeled, C, 1 unlabeled, I-U, W-Z). Title varies: Minutes Dist. Ct., Oct. 1, 1838-Apr. 29, 1843, 1 vol.; Minutes Dist. Court, Oct. 23, 1843-spring term 1880, 10 vols.

Clerk's journal record of proceedings in civil cases entered under direction of district judge, and of all other acts and proceedings in district court not recorded in separate volumes, including orders appointing jury commissioners, bailiffs, court stenographers, interpreters, and other appointive court officers; orders empaneling and discharging grand juries; reports of grand juries; and reports of bar committees; shows date of proceedings, names of officers present, nature of matter before the court and of the proceedings therein for each day of sessions, and signatures of district judge to approval of minutes for each term and for vacation sittings. Also contains: Criminal minutes of the district court, 1838-80, entry 151. Arr. chron. by court term. For index, see entries 135, 153. Hdw. 1838-1905; typed 1905--. 510 pp. 16 x 12 x 3.

For transcript of volume C, see entry 134.

134. TRANSCRIBED MINUTES, Oct. 23, 1843-Apr. 8, 1850. 1 vol. (C). Transcription of "District Court Book 'C'" ordered by commissioners court, Feb. term 1877 (Minutes County Court Robertson County, vol. 3, p. 171, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1).

Transcript of volume C of Civil Minutes, entry 133. Arr. chron. by court term. For index, see entries 135, 153. Hdw. 600 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

- 135. INDEX TO DISTRICT COURT CASES, 1838--. 3 vols. (A-C). Index by names of plaintiff and defendant to civil proceedings in Civil Minutes, entry 133, and in Transcribed Minutes, 1843-50, entry 134; and to volume V of Civil Minutes Divorce, 1901-18, entry 139; each entry shows case number, name of opposite party, volume and page reference, and date of judgment; after 1923 shows also page number of Execution Docket, entry 141. Arr. alph., direct by first letter of plaintiff's surname on left pages, reverse by first letter of defendant's on right, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 18 x 16 x 2.
- 136. SCIRE FACIAS MINUTES, June term 1887-1920. 2 vols. (A, B). Clerk's record of district court proceedings wherein witnesses and defendants make recognizance bonds to insure appearance at subsequent terms of court, showing term of court, number and style of case, date of proceedings, and amount and conditions of recognizance bond; and record of proceedings wherein judgments nisi (conditional) and final judgments are recovered by the State in cases of forfeiture of bonds, showing term of court, number and style of case, date of proceedings, names of principal and sureties, amount of bond, declaration of conditional or final judgment, and signature of district judge. Arr. in sections: Witness' recognizance, defendant's recognizance, judgment nisi and judgment final against defendant, and judgment nisi and judgment final against defendant, and judgment nisi and judgment final against witness, and thereunder chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 500 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

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137. TAX JUDGMENT RECORD, Jan. 1, 1917--. 1 vol. (1). Clerk's record of proceedings in district court wherein the State recovers judgments for delinquent taxes, showing court term and names of officers present; order of court showing date of proceedings, number and style of case, years delinquent, amount of judgment, description of property, date from which judgment bears interest, recital of foreclosure of lien, and order to clerk to issue order of sale; and signature of district judge to approval of minutes for each term. Arr. chron. by court term. For index, see entry 138. Typed pr. fm. 450 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

138. INDEX TO TAX JUDGMENT, 1917--. 1 vol. (A). Index by name of defendant to Tax Judgment Record, entry 137, showing case number, volume and page reference, and date of judgment. Arr. alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 16 x 12 x 2.

139. CIVIL MINUTES - DIVORCE, July 7, 1901--. 3 vols. (V, Y, 1). Clerk's record of district court proceedings wherein decrees of divorce are granted, showing date of court term, names of court officers present; recorded copy of judgment, showing number and style of case, date of hearing, order granting divorce and, in cases where custody of children is involved, names and ages of children, and to whom custody is given; and signature of district judge to approval of minutes for each term. Arr. chron. by court term. For index, see entries 135, 140. Hdw. pr. fm. and typed. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

140. INDEX TO DIVORCE MINUTES, 1918--. 1 vol. (D). Index by names of plaintiff and defendant to volumes Y and 1 of Civil Minutes - Divorce, entry 139; each entry shows case number, name of opposite party, volume and page reference, and date of judgment. Arr. alph, direct by first letter of plaintiff's surname on left pages, reverse by first letter of defendant's on right, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 500 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

#### Process

EXECUTION DOCKET, Nov. 20, 1852--. 7 vols. (A, B, one unlabeled, 3-6).

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Clerk's register of executions issued to collect judgments in civil cases in district court, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, date and amount of judgment, rate of interest, amount of costs, to whom issued, and to whom delivered; and recorded copy of officer's return showing date of return, description of property levied upon or report of no property found, and signature of officer. Arr. chron. by date execution issued. No index, 1852-72; indexed alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron, thereunder, 1873-1928; indexed alph. by first letters of plaintiff's and defendant's surnames and chron. thereunder, 1928--; also separate index, 1873-97, entry 142. Hdw. 1852-59; register hdw. pr. hd. 1859--; returns hdw. 1859-94 and hdw. pr. fm. 1894--. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

- 142. INDEX TO EXECUTION DOCKET, 1873-97. 1 vol.

  Index by names of plaintiff and defendant to unlabeled volume and first part of volume 3 of Execution Docket, entry 141; each entry shows name of opposite party and volume and page reference. Arr. alph., direct by first letter of plaintiff's surname on left pages, reverse by first letter of defendant's on right, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.
- 143. RECORD SHERIFF'S RETURN ORDER OF SALE DELINQUENT TAX CASES,

  Dec. 21, 1927--. 1 vol.

  Clerk's register of orders of sale in delinquent tax suits, showing case

Clerk's register of orders of sale in delinquent tax suits, showing case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, amount of judgment, rate of interest, amount of costs, date of order of sale, and name and title of officer to whom delivered; recorded copy of sheriff's return, showing date writ received, city and county of execution, date of levy, description of property, date advertised, place and date of sale, name of buyer, amount received, amount of sheriff's costs, amount of court costs, amount paid to tax collector, date writ returned, and signature of sheriff. Arr. chron. by date of return. Indexed alph. by first letters of plaintiff's and defendant's surnames and chron. thereunder. Register hdw. pr. hd.; returns hdw. pr. fm. and typed. 160 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

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#### Case Papers

- 144. CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED, Jan. 18, 1887--. 6,500 cases in 71 f.d.
- Papers filed in criminal cases within the original and appellate jurisdiction of the district court, including complaints, indictments, warrants of arrest, capias, subpoenas, witness attachments, bail bonds, bonds for subpoenaed witnesses, appearance bonds, commitment bonds, habeas corpus petitions and writs, and applications for suspended sentences. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. ll x 5 x l4.
- 145. MISDEMEANORS, May 22, 1918--. 500 cases in 5 f.d. Papers filed in misdemeanor cases in district court, including information, sheriff's returns, appeal bonds, complaints, transcripts of judgments, warrants of arrest, appearance bonds, subpoenas, jury verdicts, bail bonds, and jury lists. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 146. EXAMINING TRIAIS, Aug. 25, 1929--. 100 cases in 1 f.d. Papers filed in examining trials in justice of peace courts resulting in felony charges, including transcripts of evidence and findings in justice court, complaints, warrants, and affidavits. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

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147. (MANDATES FROM COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS), 1892-1910. In
Abstracts of Judgments, entry 59-iii.
Orders from Court of Criminal Appeals on cases appealed from district
court, showing number and style of case, charge or offense, and date and
nature of order.

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- 148. CRIMINAL DOCKET, June term 1888-June 1910. 3 vols.

  Docket of criminal cases in district court, showing case number, name of defendant, charge, filing date, and notations of court orders. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 350 pp. 16 x 10 x 3.
- 149. CRIMINAL DOCKET (Disposed Cases), 1918--. 3 loose-leaf vols.

  Docket of criminal cases disposed of in district court, showing information as in entry 150. Arr. chron. by date of final judgment. No index.

  Hdw. pr. hd. 500 pp. 8 x 16 x 3.
- 150. (CRIMINAL DOCKET PENDING), 1923--. 2 loose-leaf vols.

  Docket of criminal cases pending in district court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, charge, filing date, and notations of kinds and dates of court orders. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 100 pp. 8 x 16 x 1.

For disposed cases, see entry 149.

## Minutes (See also entry 136)

- 151. CRIMINAL MINUTES DISTRICT COURT (General), June 7, 1880--. 9 vols. (A-H, N). 1838-80 in Civil Minutes, entry 133.

  Clerk's record of proceedings in criminal cases in district court, showing number of case, names of defendant, witnesses, and State's and defendant's attorneys, charge and date of charge, date of trial, plea, jury verdict, judgment of court, and signatures of district judge and district clerk. Arr. chron. by court term. For index, see entry 153. Hdw. 1880-1907; typed 1908--. 500 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.
- K-M).

  Clerk's record of final judgments rendered in criminal cases in district court, showing date of court term, names of officers present; recorded copies of court judgments of guilty or not guilty on plea of guilty or not guilty, reciting defendant's plea and verdict of judge or jury; recorded copies of sentences affirming verdict, of judgments on motions for new trials, and of judgments on motions made by State's attorney for dismissal of charges; all show date of execution, number and style of case, and nature of charge. Arr. in sections by type of judgment and thereunder chron. by court term. For index, see entry 153. Hdw. pr. fm. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

153. INDEX TO CRIMINAL JUDGMENTS, 1838--. 2 vols. (A, B). Index by name of defendant to criminal judgments in Civil Minutes, 1838-80, entry 133; in Transcribed Minutes, 1843-50, entry 134; in Criminal Minutes - District Court (General), 1880--, entry 151; and in Criminal Minutes (Final Judgments), 1911--, entry 152; each entry shows case number, volume and page reference, and date of judgment. Arr. alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 200 pp. 16 x 14 x 1.

#### Fees and Costs

154. CRIMINAL FEE BOOK, 1912--. 2 vols. (6, 7). Clerk's accounts of fees in criminal cases in district court, showing number and style of case, nature of offense, date judgment rendered, amounts of fine, jury fee, and costs, itemized list of fees due clerk, sheriff, and witnesses, recapitulation of all fees, fines, and costs, and signatures of officers receiving fees. Arr. one case to each page. Indexed alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 540 pp. 16 x 10 x 3.

155. MINUTES DISTRICT CLERK'S ACCOUNTS, 1924-36. 6 vols. 18871908, 1912-34, also 1924-28, in Minutes District Clerk and
District Attorneys Accounts, entry 157.
Clerk's record of district court proceedings certifying district clerk's
fees in criminal cases to State Comptroller, showing name of clerk, judicial district number term of court, number and style of case, nature

dicial district number, term of court, number and style of case, nature of charge, verdict, items and amounts of clerk's fees, total amount, signature of clerk to affidavit, and signature of district judge to approval of minutes. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 250 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

156. SHERIFF'S FEE BOOK - FELONY CASES, 1889-1936. 6 vols. Clerk's record of district court proceedings allowing sheriff's fees for arresting defendants and summoning in-county witnesses in criminal cases, showing number and style of case, nature of offense, amounts due sheriff for making arrests and for mileage, names of witnesses summoned with amount due for summoning each, amounts due for attending trial and habeas corpus proceedings, total amount due, signature of clerk to affidavit of correctness, and signature of district judge to approval of minutes. Arr. chron. by date of approval. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 300 pp. 16 x 12 x 2.

157. MINUTES DISTRICT CLERK AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ACCOUNTS, 1887-1908, 1912-28. 2 vols.

Contains: Minutes of district clerk's accounts, entry 155; minutes of district attorney's accounts, entry 158. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 136 pp. 16 x 12 x 1.

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District Court w Juvenile

158. MINUTES DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S ACCOUNTS, 1909-11, 1929--.
2 vols. 1887-1908, 1912-28 in Minutes District Clerk and
District Attorneys Accounts, entry 157.

Clerk's record of district court proceedings incident to allowance of district attorney's fees and expenses in felony cases, showing date of proceedings, number and style of case, offense, verdict, penalty, date of sentence, itemized account of fees due, signature of district attorney to affidavit of correctness of account, signature of district judge to approval of minutes, and attest of clerk. Arr. chron. by court term.

No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 300 pp. 16 x 13 x 2.

159. MINUTES JUSTICE PEACE - AND CONSTABLE'S FEES EXAMINING TRIALS, 1926-35. 1 vol.

Clerk's record of district court proceedings incident to allowance of fees of justices of peace and constables in examining trials, showing number and style of case, date of trial, and itemized account of fees due, signature to affidavit of correctness of account, signature of district judge to approval of minutes, and attest of clerk. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 400 pp. 16 x 13 x 2.

160. CLERK'S CERTIFICATE FOR SHERIFF'S PAY (Out-county), 1892--.
16 vols. Title varies: Sheriff's Account for Conveying Attached Witnesses, 1912-29, 1 vol.

Clerk's record, on State Comptroller's forms, of district court proceedings incident to allowance of out-county sheriffs' fees for summoning witnesses in felony cases before district court and grand jury, showing number and amount of certificate, name and residence of sheriff, number and style of case, nature of charge, names of witnesses with amounts due sheriff for summoning or attaching each, attest of district clerk, and approval of district judge. Arr. chron. by date of approval. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

161. WITNESS ACCOUNT AND CERTIFICATE BEFORE COURT, 1898--. 16
vols. Title varies: Non Resident Witness Fee Bill Before
Court, 1926-30, 2 vols.; Minutes of Subpoenaed Witness Accounts,
1930-35, 2 vols.; Out County Witness Account & Certificate,
1935-37, 2 vols.; Subpoenaed Witness Accts. and Certificates,
1937-39, 1, vol.

Clerk's record, on State Comptroller's forms, of district court proceedings certifying fees of non-resident witnesses for appearance in felony cases in district court, showing certificate number, number and style of case, name of witness, amounts due for mileage and per diem, signature of witness to affidavit of correctness of account with attest of clerk, and signature of district judge to approval of minutes. Arr. chron. by date of approval. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 354 pp. 16 x 8 x 2.

For grand jury witnesses' accounts, see entry 162.

162. WITNESS ACCOUNT & CERTIFICATE BEFORE GRAND JURY, 1913--. 4 vols.

Clerk's record, on State Comptroller's forms, of district court proceedings certifying fees of non-resident witnesses summoned before grand

jury, showing information as in entry 161. Arr. chron. by date of approval. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 345 pp. 16 x 8 x 2.

#### Juvenile Delinquency

163. JUVENILE CASES, 1917--. 50 cases in 1 f.d.
Papers filed in juvenile delinquency cases in district court, including complaints, information, warrants of arrest, commitments, and orders for discharge. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

164. JUVENILE RECORD, Aug. 4, 1921-. 1 vol.
Clerk's record of district court proceedings in juvenile delinquency
cases, showing number and style of case, offense, date complaint filed,
date warrant issued, and order of commitment to responsible person or to
an institution or order of discharge. Arr. chron. by date of proceedings.
Indexed alph. by first letter of juvenile's surname and chron. thereunder.
Hdw. pr. fm. 150 pp. 18 x 12 x 1.

## Naturalization

165. RECORD OF DECLARATION OF INTENTIONS, 1889-1903, 1913-28.

Original declarations of intention to become citizens, showing name of declarant, name of country of which applicant is a subject, country of birth, age, port and date of arrival in United States; statement of intention to become a citizen, of renunciation of allegiance to foreign power, and of allegiance to United States, signature of declarant, date of declaration, and attest of district clerk. Arr. chron. by date of declaration. Indexed alph. by first letter of declarant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 100 pp. 14 x 9 x 1.

166. PETITION AND RECORD (Final Naturalization Minutes), Jan. 4, 1892-June 14, 1897, Jan. 7, 1901-Jan. 11, 1906, June 22, 1908-Feb. 9, 1929. 5 vols. (one unlabeled, 1, 3, 2, 3). Title varies: Naturalization Minutes, Jan. 4, 1892-June 14, 1897, 1 vol.; Final Naturalization Minutes, Jan. 7, 1901-Jan. 11, 1906, 2 vols.

Clerk's record of action taken by district court on petitions for citizenship by aliens who have previously filed declarations of intention, with supporting evidence. 1892-97 shows date of proceedings, names of court officers present, recital of fact that applicant has presented petition and certified copy of declaration of intention (with transcript of declaration), of fact that affidavits of witnesses as to character of petitioner have been executed and that petitioner has taken oath of allegiance (with transcript of oath); and order of court admitting petitioner to citizenship, with signature of district judge. 1901-6 shows date of court term, names of officers present, recital of filing of petition and witnesses' affidavits as to character of petitioner (with

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transcript of petition signed by petitioner and attested by clerk and transcripts of affidavits signed by witnesses and attested by clerk); order of the court confirming that petitioner has filed declaration of intention, petition, and witnesses! affidavits, and that petitioner has subscribed to oath of allegiance, and admitting petitioner to citizenship, with signature of district judge. 1908-29 consists of original petition signed by petitioner and attested by district clerk, with clerk's attest to certificate of filing of declaration of intention, original declaration of intention (attached to page), affidavits of two witnesses (citizens of United States and personal acquaintances of petitioner) as to character of petitioner, signed by witnesses and attested by clerk, oath of allegiance signed by petitioner and attested by clerk, and order of the court granting or rejecting citizenship, signed by district judge. Arr. chron. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by first letter of petitioner's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. Aver. 150 pp. 18 x 10 x 2.

167. CERTIFICATE OF NATURALIZATION (Stubs), June 22, 1908-Jan. 16, 1928. 3 vols.

Stubs of naturalization certificates issued by district clerk upon order of district court granting citizenship, showing certificate number, name and age of applicant, date of declaration of intention, date petition filed, names, ages, and residence of wife and minor children, date of final court order with volume and page reference to Petition and Record (Final Naturalization Minutes), entry 166, and signature of certificate-holder. Arr. numer. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 50 pp. 8 x 4 x 1.

#### Jury Records

168. GRAND JURY DOCKET, 1932--. 2 vols.

Docket of cases to be investigated by grand jury, showing case number, name of defendant, offense charged, names and addresses of witnesses, and date set for hearing. Arr. chron. by date of hearing. Indexed alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 12 x 8 x 3. County attorney's off.

169. MINUTES OF THE CRAND JURY, 1891-1911. 3 vols.
Record of grand jury investigations, showing date of proceedings, names of defendant, witnesses, and person filing complaint, testimony heard, and result of investigation. Arr. chron. by date of proceedings. No index. Hdw. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

170. GRAND JURY LIST PETIT JURY LIST, 1924--. 1 f.d. Contains:

i. Lists of grand and petit jurors selected by jury commissioners, showing numbers and names of jurors, term of court, week of term, and signatures of jury commissioners.

ii. Sheriff's reports of liquor seized and applications to destroy, showing date and circumstances of seizure, inventory of property seized, and approximate value.

No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

171. JUROR'S TIME BOOK, 1893--. 6 vols.
Clerk's record of time served by jurors in district court, showing jury number, and names of jurors, with scrip number, days served, amount paid for meals, total amount of fees, and total amount due each. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. 320 pp. 14 x 10 x 1.

172. JURY CERTIFICATES (Stubs), 1937--. 5 vols.

Stubs of certificates for pay issued to jurors for service in district court, showing number and amount of certificate, court term, date issued, name of juror, number of days served, and whether petit or grand juror. Arr. numer. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 1,000 pp. 8 x 14 x 1.

#### Trust Funds

173. (TRUST FUND ACCOUNTS), 1887--. 2 vols. Clerk's accounts of money deposited, to be held in trust pending proceedings in district court, showing name of bank, number and style of case, dates, items, and amounts of deposits and payments, and balances. Arr. alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 175 pp. 18 x 10 x 1.

#### District Clerk Ex Officio

174. MEDICAL REGISTER, Mar. 14, 1859-May 2, 1860, Dec. 26, 1873--. 3 vols. (A, B, 2). Title varies: Minutes Dist. Court Medical Reg'r., Mar. 14, 1859-May 2, 1860, Dec. 26, 1873-June 21, 1907, 1 vol.

Register of physicians, Dec. 26, 1873-June 21, 1907, showing date of registration, name of physician, year diploma granted, and name and location of college; and recorded copies of certificates to practice issued by State examining boards to pharmacists, 1902-7, physicians, 1902--, and veterinarians, 1907--, showing certificate number, name and address of licensee and signatures of board members; and after 1933--, applicants' affidavits, showing name of applicant, certificate number, date certificate issued, date and place of birth, name of school conferring degree, kind of practice, post office address, and signature of applicant; signature of district clerk to certificate of filing and recording. Also contains, in vol. A, pp. 1-46: Chief justice's and clerk's probate fees, Mar. 14, 1859-May 2, 1860, entry 181. Arr. in sections for probate fees, register, and certificates and chron. thereunder, 1859-60, 1873-1907; arr. chron. by recording date, 1907--. No index to fees; register and certificates indexed alph, by first letter of licensee's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. 1859-60, 1873-1907; typed 1907-32; hdw. pr. fm. 1933--. 100 to 500 pp. 16 x 10 x 1 to 18 x 12 x 2.

175. DISTRICT CLERK'S FEE BOOK, Jan. 1, 1931--. 1 vol. Clerk's itemized monthly accounts of fees earned in civil and criminal cases in district court, showing month and year date, date of accrual, from what source received or explanation of fee, case number, classifica-

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tion of fee (State, civil, recording and filing, issuing certificates and certified copies, misdemeanor, or delinquent tax), totals for each class, and grand totals for month. Arr. chron. by months and thereunder chron. by date of accrual. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 550 pp. 18 x 14 x 2.

176. ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECORD (District Clerk), 1876--. l vol.
July 16, 1874-Apr. 18, 1876 in Statement of Acknowledgments
(Clerk), vol. 1, pp. 1-189, entry 80.

Record of acknowledgments taken by district clerk, showing date, number, and kind of instrument, names of grantee and grantor, name and residence of witness and whether known or introduced, original grantee, and location of land. Arr. chron. by date of acknowledgment. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 400 pp. 18 x 14 x 2.

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An inferior trial court called the county court was established in Robertson County upon its organization in 1838, 1 and with the exception of two brief periods when this tribunal was discontinued by general law, 2 has had uninterrupted existence. Throughout its history the county court has exercised exclusive original probate jurisdiction, and from time to time it has had limited original civil and criminal jurisdiction and appellate jurisdiction over cases brought up from the justices' and other inferior courts in the county. 5 Since 1917 the jurisdiction of the county court of Robertson County has, by special law, been limited to probate matters, apprenticeships, and condemnation suits instituted under the general law regulating the right of eminent domain. All other jurisdiction both original and appellate exercised by county courts under general law is exercised by the district court serving the county - the court of the 85th judicial district.4

The county judge is the judge of the county court. 5 Other officers are the county clerk, who serves as clerk of the court, 6 the sheriff, 7 and the county attorney. 8

<sup>1.</sup> Const. 1836, art. IV, sec. 10, Gam. Laws, I, 1074; Bond Book, vol. 1, p. 5, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>2.</sup> During the first 2 years of statehood, 1846-48, when jurisdiction in probate matters was vested in a special probate court (Acts 1846, Gam. Laws, II, 1614); and for about 6 years while the Constitution of 1869 was in force (Const. 1869, art. V, secs. 1-26; Acts 1870, Gam. Laws, VI, 282).

<sup>3.</sup> Acts 1836, Gam. Laws, I, 1208, 1213, 1214; Acts 1837, Gam. Laws, I, 1385; Acts 1848, Gam. Laws, III, 113; Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 16, Gam. Laws, V, 868; Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 16.

<sup>4.</sup> Acts 1917, 35th Leg., p. 256; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, arts. 1960, 1970 sub. 310, 2455, and CCP, art. 58.

<sup>5.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 15.

<sup>6. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, sec. 20; Vernon's Texas St. 1936; RCS, art. 1936.

<sup>7.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 23; <u>Texas Jurisprudence</u>, XI, 939. 8. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 21; <u>Vernon's Texas St. 1936</u>, CCP, art. 26.

All of the records of the county court are in the county clerk's vault unless otherwise indicated in the entries. and grand totals for month, are, carts, by months and thersunder cores, by date of scornel, ofto anders, lidy, on, hd, 550 pp, 18 x 14 x 2.

#### Probate

### 176, ACENOGRAPH RECORD (District Clerk), 1876--, 1 vo Case Papers

177. PROBATE FILE, 1838--. 2,600 cases in 89 f.d. (1-89). Papers filed in probate cases in county court, including wills; applications to probate wills, for letters testamentary, letters of administration, and letters of guardianship; judgments of heirship; appraisals for inheritance tax; inventories of estates; letters of administration, administrators' and executors' bonds and reports; oaths and bonds of guardianship; and papers filed in lunacy cases. Arr. alph. by first letter of surname of principal party and chron, thereunder, 1838-97; arr. numer. by case no., 1897 --. For index, see entry 178. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

178. INDEX (to Probate Case Papers), 1838--. 1 vol. Index by name of principal party to Probate File, entry 177, each entry showing file drawer number and case number. Arr. alph. by first letter of principal party's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. 200 pp. 16 x 12 x 2.

179. (BONDS IN PROBATE), 1838-42. In Official Bond Record, entry Recorded copies of bonds and oaths of persons appointed in probate cases, including administrators', curators', and guardians' bonds, and apprenticeship bonds; shows names of principal and sureties, name of obligee, date of execution, amount of bond, conditions of obligation, signatures of principal and sureties to bond, signature of principal to oath, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. The state of the sta

#### Dockets and Fees

- 180. PROBATE FEE BOOK AND DOCKET, Feb. term 1853--. 13 vols. Title varies: Probate Docket, 1853-1937, 12 vols. Docket of probate cases filed, showing case number, name of estate, name of administrator, executor, or guardian, filing date, and notations of court orders. Also contains: Probate fee book, 1937--, entry 182. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. 1853-64; hdw. pr. hd. 1864--. 640 pp. 18 x 16 x 3.
- 181. (CHIEF JUSTICE'S AND CLERK'S PROBATE FEES), Mar. 14, 1859-May 2, 1860. In Medical Register, vol. A, pp. 1-46, entry 174. Notations of fees due chief justice and county clerk in probate cases, showing date and kind of court order, and amount of fees.

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Accounts of fees in probate cases, showing case number, name of estate, name of attorney, date of entry, items and amounts of fees due county clerk, county judge, and sheriff, and total amount due each officer. Arr. chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by first letter of name of estate and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 400 pp. 18 x 16 x 3.

- 183. CLAIM DOCKET (Probate), May 1, 1871--. 1 vol.
  Register of claims filed by creditors against estates of deceased persons, showing names of estate and claimant, amount and date of claim, date from which claim bears interest, date and amount allowed, filing date, approval date, amount approved, and classification to establish priority.
  Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.
  - 184. ACCOUNT DOCKET (Probate), Feb. term 1872, Feb. term 1874.

Record of accounts of administration of estates, due to be filed by executors or administrators, compiled at February terms 1872 and 1874, showing name of executor or administrator, name of estate, date letters issued, and date account filed. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 288 pp. (3 used) 18 x 12 x 2.

- Record of administration of estates by guardians of minors, showing name of guardian, name of estate or minor, date letters granted, date of last settlement, date next settlement due, date citation issued, and remarks. Arr. one estate to each page and chron. thereunder. Indexed alph. by first letter of name of estate or minor and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 450 pp. (59 used) 14 x 8 x 2.
- 186. FEE RECORD COUNTY JUDGE, 1933-36. 1 vol. Discontinued. Record of fees received by county judge, showing date received, name of payer, amount of payment, classification of fee (probate, lunacy, beer), and total for each class. Arr. chron. by years and thereunder chron. by date of payment. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 118 double pp. (6 used) 16 x 10 x 2. County judge's office.

### Minutes

187. PROBATE MINUTES, Aug. 20, 1838--. 36 vols. (A, C-M, O, Q-T,

V, W, I, J, M, 1-14).
Clerk's journal record of proceedings in cases involving estates of decedents; guardianships of minors, idiots, lunatics, persons non compose mentis, and common drunkards; and apprenticeships of minors. Shows term of court, date of meeting, names of officers present, subject of hearing, names of interested parties, orders of the court, signature of county judge to approval, and attest of clerk. Also contains: Commissioners court minutes, 1838-42, entry 1; claims against the county allowed for payment, 1838-42, entry 7; orders appointing road overseers for the year,

1838-42, entry 28. Arr. chron. by court term. For index, see entries 188, 189; also self-indexed alph. by first letter of principal party's surname and chron. thereunder, 1838-90. Hdw. 1838-1909; typed 1909--. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

188. GENERAL INDEX TO PROBATE MINUTES, 1838--. 2 vols.
Abstract of and index by name of deceased person or minor to Probate Minutes, entry 187; each entry shows filing date, case number, name of administrator, executor, or guardian, kind of order or instrument filed, and volume and page reference to each order or instrument. Arr. alph. by first letter of deceased person's or minor's surname and chron. thereunder. Haw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

189. PROBATE INDEX, 1838-88. 1 vol.
Obsolete index by name of deceased person or minor to Probate Minutes, entry 187; each entry shows kind of case and volume and page reference.
Arr. alph. by first letter of principal party's surname and thereunder chron. by date of order. Hdw. 800 pp. 18 x 12 x 4.

#### Trust Funds

190. RECORD OF TRUST FUNDS, Apr. 5, 1937--. 1 vol.
Accounts of money deposited to be held in trust pending proceedings in county court, showing case number, name of estate, name of court, date received, from whom received, description of item, amount, date and place deposited; amount of disbursement, to whom paid, and date of payment.
Arr. chron. by date received. Indexed alph. by first letter of name of estate and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 110 pp. (4 used) 18 x 16 x 1. C.c. off.

# Lunacy (See also entry 177)

191. MINUTES COUNTY COURT LUNACY, Feb. 3, 1894--. 3 vols. (1-3). Clerk's record of proceedings in lunacy trials in county court, showing date of proceedings, names of court officers present, and recorded copies of the following papers: 1) Affidavit stating that defendant is of unsound mind and requires being placed under restraint, with signature of affiant, and attest of county judge and clerk; 2) order to sheriff for arrest of defendant, showing name of defendant, nature of charge, date set for trial, and signatures of clerk and judge; and officer's return, showing date of return, time and manner of execution, and signature of officer; 3) order to sheriff to summon jurors, showing date jurors to appear, name of defendant, nature of charge, date issued, and signature of clerk; and officer's return, showing date of return, date executed, names of jurors, and signature of sheriff; 4) affidavits made by witnesses giving evidence, showing date of affidavit, number and style of case, nature of evidence, signature of witness, attest of clerk, and signature of judge approving minutes; 5) verdict, showing number and style of case, date of verdict, answers of jurors to special issues, and signatures of jurors; 6) final order adjudging defendant a lunatic and ordering convey188,

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ance to State asylum, with signature of county judge; and 7), since 1937, case history, itemized account of property, and financial statement for each case. Arr. chron. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. and hdw. pr. fm. 1894-1937; typed 1937--. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

June 1, 1917. 1 vol. (1). Discontinued; law repealed.

Clerk's record of county court proceedings in lunacy trials conducted under commission form of hearing, showing date of proceedings, names of respondent and county judge; recorded copy of the report of the commissioners, showing name of respondent, case number, names of commissioners, findings and recommendations as to mental condition, treatment, restraint, age, causes of mental condition, amount of property owned, signatures of commissioners, and attest of county judge; court order discharging respondent, or adjudging a lunatic and ordering conveyance to State asylum; recorded copies of fee bills, showing amounts due judge, clerk, attorney, sheriff, and commissioners, and total amount of fees. Arr. chron. by date of hearing. Indexed alph. by first letter of respondent's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 81 double pp. 16 x 10 x 2. C.c. off.

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193. CIVIL CASES, 1896-1900. 200 cases in 2 f.d.
Papers filed in civil cases in county court, including plaintiffs' petitions, defendants' answers, motions; certiorari bonds, appeal bonds, supersedeas bonds, writ of error bonds, receivers' oaths and bonds, and cost bonds; requests that citations, subpoenas, and other process issue; writs of attachment, garnishment, sequestration, certiorari, and supersedeas; jury verdicts, judgments, bills of cost, evidenciary exhibits, depositions, and related papers. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

194. CONDEMNATION SUITS, 1927--. 50 cases in 3 f.d. (1-3).
Papers filed in condemnation suits in county court, including plaintiffs' petitions, defendants' answers, citations, and subpoenas. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

195. ASSIGNMENT, 1893-1914. 500 papers in 1 f.d.
Complete and supplemental inventories of assigned property, including affidavits and notes, list of creditors, assignment bonds, final reports of assignees, and applications for discharge. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

196. ATTORNEYS' RECEIFT BOOK - COUNTY COURT, 1876-88. 1 vol. Clerk's record of county court case papers taken from files by attorneys, showing number and style of case, kind of papers taken, date taken, date returned, and name of attorney. Arr, chron. by date taken. No index. Hdw. 215 pp. 12 x 8 x 1.

197. CIVIL DOCKET COUNTY COURT, 1853-70, Dec. 23, 1881--. 7 vols.
Title varies: Docket, 1868-70, 1 vol.; County Clerks File
Docket, Dec. 23, 1881-Sept. 27, 1882, 1 vol.
Docket of civil cases (after 1917 condemnation suits only) in county
court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, cause of

court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, cause of action, filing date; and also, 1881-82, dates citations issued, and after 1882, notations of court orders. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 480 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

- 198. JURY TRIAL DOCKET COUNTY COURT, July term 1877-Apr. term 1878. 1 vol.

  Docket of civil cases filed in county court in which jury trial demanded, showing number of case, names of parties and attorneys, date jury demanded, and date set for hearing. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 475 pp. (14 used) 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.
- 199. STATE MCTION DOCKET, May 23, 1876-Nov. 25, 1916. 1 vol. (A). Docket of motions made in civil and criminal cases in county court, showing case number, names of parties and attorneys, kind and date of motion, and notations of court orders. Arr. chron. by date of motion. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 220 pp. 18 x 16 x 2.
- 200. SCIRE FACIAS DOCKET, 1876-1910. 1 vol. (A). Docket of cases involving bond forfeitures in county court, showing case number, names of defendant and attorneys, date writ issued, and notations of court orders. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.
- 201. CIVIL FEE BOOK COUNTY COURT, Oct. 15, 1877-Oct. 7, 1918, 1927--. 3 vols. (one unlabeled, 2, 3). Last entry 1932. Accounts of fees in civil cases in county court, showing number and style of case, items and amounts of fees due county clerk, total due clerk, items and amounts due sheriff and total due sheriff, names of witnesses and fees due each, total witness fees, amounts of fees due jury and county judge, and grand total. Arr. numer. by case no. Indexed alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron. thereunder, 1877-97; no index, 1897-1918, 1927-32. Hdw. pr. hd. 1877-97; hdw. pr. fm. 1897-1918, 1927-32. 317 pp. 18 x 16 x 2.

#### Minutes

202. CIVIL MINUTES, May 23, 1876--. 3 vols. (A-C). Title varies: Minutes County Court, May 23, 1876-87, 1 vol. Last entry May 17, 1929.

Clerk's record of proceedings in county court, in general civil cases, 1876-1917; naturalization, 1876-1904; and in condemnation suits only, 1917-29. Shows court term, names of officers present, subject of proceedings, orders of the court, county judge's signature to approval of minutes, and clerk's attest. Also contains: County court criminal minutes, 1876-81, entry 211. Arr. chron. by court term. For index 1876-1917, see entries 203, 204; indexed alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron. thereunder, 1917-29. Hdw. 1876-1905; typed 1905-29. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

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203. DIRECT & REVERSE INDEX CIVIL MINUTES, 1876-1917. 1 vol. Index by names of plaintiff and defendant to Civil Minutes, entry 202; each entry (one entry to page) shows case number, name of opposite party, volume and page reference to proceedings and judgment entry, date of judgment, and volume and page reference to Execution Docket - County Court, entry 207. Arr. alph., direct by first letter of plaintiff's surname on left pages, reverse by first letter of defendant's on right, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

204. INDEX TO DECLARATION OF INTENTION TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1876-1904. 2 vols.

Index by name of applicant for citizenship to naturalization proceedings in Civil Minutes, entry 202, showing volume and page reference. Arr. alph. by first letter of applicant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. 50 pp. 14 x 10 x 1. 1 vol., 1876-87, c.c. va.; 1 vol. 1887-1904, c.c. off.

205. SCIRE FACIAS MINUTES, Dec. 5, 1876-Mar. term 1901. 2 vols. Clerk's record of county court proceedings involving recognizance bonds made by defendants and witnesses in criminal cases to insure appearance at trial, consisting of: 1) Proceedings in which defendants' bonds made, 1876-Sept. term 1894, showing information as in entry 206; 2) proceedings in which judgments his are rendered against witnesses and defendants, 1876-1901, showing term of court, number and style of case, conditions of bond, and court order declaring bond forfeited unless good cause be shown at next term why judgment should not be final; and 3) final judgments against witnesses and defendants, Mar. term 1888-1901. Also contains: Witness recognizance, Dec. 5, 1876-Dec. term 1899, entry 206. Arr. chron. by court term. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 450 pp. 18 x 16 x 3.

206. WITNESS RECOGNIZANCE, Sept. 1, 1891-Mar. 5, 1894. 1 vol.

Dec. 5, 1876-spring term 1891, 1895-Dec. term 1899, also

1891-94, in Scire Facias Minutes, entry 205.

Clerk's record of proceedings in county court in which witnesses make
bond to insure appearance in criminal trials, showing court term, names
of court officers present, number and style of case, names of principal
and sureties, amount and condition of bond, and signature of county
clerk. Arr. chron. by date of court term. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 360

pp. ( 4 used) 16 x 10 x 2.

#### Process

207. EXECUTION DOCKET - COUNTY COURT, Oct. 9, 1876-Sept. 15, 1917. 1 vol. (A).

Record of executions issued to enforce collection of civil judgments in county court, showing names of attorneys, number and style of case, date of judgment, date execution issued, title and county of officer to whom issued, amount of debt, amount of costs, and total amount, and abstracts from officer's return, showing date of return, and how executed (by collection of cash, levy and sale of property, no property found, etc.).

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Arr. chron. by date execution issued. Indexed alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 215 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

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#### Case Papers

208. CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF, 1897-1903. 1,100 cases in 12 f.d. Papers filed in criminal cases in county court, including complaints, indictments; bail bonds, recognizance bonds, appeal bonds; warrants for arrest, writs of habeas corpus, subpoenas, capias, witness attachments; affidavits of witness attendance; and jury verdicts. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 11 x 5 x 14.

# Dockets and Fees (See also entry 199)

- 209. CRIMINAL TRANSFER DOCKET, 1886-1917. 7 vols.

  Docket of criminal cases in county court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, nature of offense, filing date, and notations of court orders. Arr. chron. by filing date, 1886-1908; arr. alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and thereunder chron. by filing date, 1908-17. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.
  - 210. CRIMINAL FEE BOOK, June 17, 1873-June 9, 1877, Sept. 14, 1885-Dec. 10, 1889, Jan. 1, 1900-Dec. 11, 1913. 5 vols. (one unlabeled, 2-5).

Accounts of fees in criminal cases in county court, showing date of trial, number and style of case, amounts of fees due clerk and sheriff, and dates paid. Arr. chron. by date of trial. Indexed alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 1873-77; hdw. pr. fm. 1885-89, 1900-1913. 380 pp. 16 x 12 x 3. C.c. off.

#### Minutes

- 211. CRIMINAL MINUTES, Sept. 5, 1881-1917. 4 vols. (A-D). 1876-81 in Civil Minutes, entry 202.

  Clerk's record of proceedings in criminal cases in county court, showing number and style of case, term of court, names of defendant, attorneys, and jurymen, nature of charge or offense, filing date, date of trial, verdict, and court orders. Arr. chron. by court term. No index, 1881-88, 1890-1917; for index, 1888-90, see entry 212. Hdw. 1881-1906; typed 1907-17. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.
- 212. DIRECT & REVERSE INDEX CRIMINAL MINUTES, 1888-90. 1 vol.
  Index by name of defendant to volume B of Criminal Minutes, entry 211, showing case number, volume and page reference, and date of judgment.
  Arr. alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder.
  Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

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## Liquor and Beer License Hearings

213. LIQUOR DEALERS DOCKET & FEE BOOK, July 13, 1907-Sept. 7, 1917. 1 vol. (1).

pocket of petitions for liquor dealers' licenses filed in county court and account of fees due thereon, showing case number, name of petitioner, kind of petition, filing date, date petition acted upon, date notice posted, and notations of orders granting or rejecting petition, signed by county judge; items and amounts of fees due clerk, total fees due clerk, items and amounts of fees due judge, total fees due judge, and grand total of all fees. Arr. chron. by filing date and numer. by case no. Indexed alph. by first letter of petitioner's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 360 pp. 16 x 12 x 1.

214. LIQUOR DEALERS' JUDGMENT RECORD, July 29, 1907-1917. 3 vols. Clerk's record of final judgments on petitions for retail liquor and malt dealers' licenses, showing case number, name and address of petitioner, and nature of petition; recorded copy of petition, showing date of petition, county of residence, age, kind of license, address of place of business, and signature of petitioner; order signed by county judge, showing findings, and the granting or rejecting of petition, and attest of county clerk. Arr. chron. by date of proceedings. Indexed alph. by first letter of petitioner's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 375 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

215. BEER LICENSE (Petitions), 1934--. 400 licenses in 1 f.d. Peitions made by dealers to county judge for licenses and supplementary licenses to retail beer; petitions for licenses show date, name of petitioner, kind of license, business address, signature of applicant, notarization, and signature of county judge to order granting license or rejecting application; petitions for supplementary licenses show, in addition, amount of gross sales of beer and food over a given period of time. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Typed pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14.

#### V. JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Justices of the peace have held office in their respective precincts in Robertson County since its organization in 1838. I Their courts are the tribunals for the trial of minor civil cases and petty misdemeanors. 2

2. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 19; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2385, and CCP, art. 60.

<sup>1.</sup> Const. 1836, art. IV, sec. 12, Gam. Laws, I, 1074; Const. 1845, art. IV, sec. 17, 31, Gam. Laws, II, 1287; Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 19, Gam. Laws, V, 869; Const. 1869, Art. V, secs. 19, 20, Gam. Laws, VII, 414; Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 19. For earliest recorded bonds of justices of the peace in Robertson, see Bond Book, vol. 1, pp. 4, 5, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105,

As committing magistrates, the justices hold examining trials for the purpose of making inquiry into criminal accusations to determine whether persons charged with crime should be discharged or bailed. They are also ex-officio coroners, 4 and registrars of births and deaths in their precincts.5

One justice is elected in each precinct, at the biennial general election; the number of precincts in the county must be not more than eight, not less than four. 6 In 1938 there were eight precincts in Robertson County, and a justice of the peace was elected in each. 7

Records of the justice of the peace of precinct 6, the county seat precinct, are in his office unless otherwise indicated in the entries.

## Civil and Criminal other the outer treatment and the test of the test of the contract to the contract to the contract the contract to the contrac

#### Case Papers

216. CIVIL CASES, 1929--. 1 f.d. Papers filed in civil cases in justice court, including petitions, answers, writs, bonds, and citations. Arr. numer. by case no. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. and typed. 12 x 4 x 18.

217. MISDEMEANOR CASES, 1930--. 300 cases in 3 f.d. Papers of misdemeanor cases in justice court, including complaints, bonds, warrants of arrest, writs, and affidavits. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 12 x 4 x 18.

218. FELONY CASES (Examining Trial Papers), 1928--. 100 cases in

Papers of examining trials in justice court, including indictments, warrants of arrest, and bonds. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. fm. 12 x 4 x 18.

#### Dockets and Fees

219. JUSTICE CIVIL DOCKET, 1897--. 5 vols. Record of proceedings in civil cases in justice court, showing number and style of case, filing date, names of attorneys, cause of action, date of proceedings, disposition of case, amount of court costs, amounts of fees due justice and constable, and total fees. Arr. numer. by case no. Indexed alph, by first letter of plaintiff's surname and chron, thereunder, Hdw. pr. fm. 292 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

<sup>3.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, CCP, art. 35; Childers v. State, 16 SW 903

<sup>4.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, CCP, arts. 968, 990.

<sup>5.</sup> Ibid., RCS, art. 4477, rule 36a.

<sup>6.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 18; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2373.

<sup>7.</sup> Record of Election Returns, current vol., 1938 returns, see entry 33.

Justices of the Peace - Inquests; Acknowledgments

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2373. 33. 220. JUSTICE CRIMINAL DOCKET, 1895--. 23 vols.

Record of proceedings in criminal cases in justice court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, offense, date complaint filed, disposition of case, amount of fine and costs, and amounts of fees due justice and constable. Arr. numer. by case no. Indexed alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

221. DEFERRED JUDGMENTS, 1931-33. 1 vol.
Record of deferred judgments in criminal cases, showing case number, name of defendant, offense, decision of jury, whether bond required, and date of trial. Arr. alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. 146 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

222. JUSTICE EXAMINING TRIAL DOCKET, 1928--. 3 vols.
Record of proceedings in examining trials in justice court, showing number and style of case, names of attorneys, date complaint filed, date warrant issued, amount of bond, itemized account of fees due justice and constable, and total amount due. Arr. numer. by case no. Indexed alph. by first letter of defendant's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 136 pp. 18 x 10 x 1.

223. GENERAL FEE BOOK, 1931--. 1 vol.
Accounts of fees received for services, showing case number, items of fees and costs, disbursements, totals, and balance. Arr. chron. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 160 pp. 14 x 10 x 2.

#### Inquests

224. INQUEST PAPERS, 1923--. 50 papers in 1 f.d.
Papers concerning investigations of deaths held by justice of the peace.
Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. and typed. 12 x 4 x 18. D.c. off.

Record of proceedings in inquests held by justice of peace, showing date of inquest, name and description of deceased person, information received, and date, place, and cause of death; name and residence of suspect, date of arrest, names and addresses of sureties on bond made by suspect, name of court and term designated for trial; and amount of costs and fees. Arr. chron, by date of inquest. Indéxed alph. by first letter of deceased person's surname and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. fm. 180 pp. 18 x 10 x 1.

## Acknowledgments

226. RECORD OF ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, 1920--. 1 vol.
Record of acknowledgments taken by justice of the peace, showing number and kind of instrument, description and location of land, name and resi-

dence of grantor, and whether known or introduced, amount of fees, name and residence of witness, amount of fee paid, date of acknowledgment, and name of acknowledging officer. Arr. chron. by date of acknowledgment. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 80 pp. 14 x 12 x 2.

#### VI. COUNTY ATTORNEY

Robertson County's first county attorney was appointed by the governing court in February 1867. 1 The office was abolished in 1871 2 but was reestablished as an elective one in 1876, 5 and Robertson County's first elected county attorney took office in April of that year.4

Since the judicial district in which Robertson is situate is not allowed a district attorney, 5 the county attorney represents the State and the county in all cases in all the courts within the county.6 He is frequently called upon by other county officers and by precinct officers for advice and counsel. 7

In counties like Robertson that have no criminal district attorney, a county attorney must be elected; he is elected from the county at large at each biennial general election.8

227. COUNTY ATTORNEY FEE BOOK, 1931--. 1 vol. Accounts of fees due county attorney for services, showing explanation of fee and date of collection; and itemized accounts of expenses incurred in conduct of office. Arr. chron. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. 160 pp. 18 x 14 x 2. County attorney's off.

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<sup>1.</sup> Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 16, Gam. Laws, V, 868; Police Minutes, vol. C, p. 138, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

<sup>2.</sup> Acts 1871, Gam. Laws, VI, 937. 3. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 21.

Minutes County Court Robertson County, vol. 3, p. 13, in Commissioners Court Minutes, see entry 1.

Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 322. Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 21; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, CCP, arts. 25, 26; Acts 1917, 35th Leg., 256.

Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 334.

Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 21.

Sheriff

(228 - 230)

### VII. SHERIFF

e Transit atterness des A sheriff was among the group of officers composing Robertson County's first governmental organization, and the office has since been filled continuously.2 The sheriff is the county's chief conservator of the peace 3 and process officer, 4 the custodian of the jail 5 and of the courthouse.6 He is elected from the county at large, and the term of office is 2 years. 7

Records of the sheriff are in his office unless otherwise indicated in the entries.

228. BAIL AND APPEARANCE BONDS - DISTRICT COURT, 1934--. 100 bonds in 2 f.d.

Bail and appearance bonds made to secure release from custody and insure appearance in district court, showing names of principal and sureties, date and amount of bond, and date appearance required. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 14 x 4 x 18.

229. BAIL AND APPEARANCE BONDS - JUSTICE COURT, 1936-- 50 bonds in 1 f.d.

Bail and appearance bonds made to secure release from custody and insure appearance in justice court, showing names of principal and sureties, date and amount of bond, and date appearance required. Arr. chron. by date of bond. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 14 x 4 x 18.

230. SHERIFF'S PROCESS DOCKET (General), 1935--. 1 vol. Record of service of process and of fees due thereon, showing number and style of case, name of county, date process received, date executed, and date returned, name of officer receiving process, and items and amounts of fees. Arr. chron. by date process received. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

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<sup>1.</sup> Const. 1836, art. IV, sec. 12, Gam. Laws, I, 1074; Bond Book, vol. 1, p. 3, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>2.</sup> Const. 1845, art. IV, sec. 13, Gam. Laws, II, 1286; Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 19, Gam. Laws, V, 869; Const. 1869, art. V, sec. 18, Gam. Laws, VII, 414; Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 23.

<sup>3.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, CCP, art. 41; RCS, art. 6876.

Ibid., arts. 2022, 2333, 2346, 2400, 2401, 6873.

Ibid., art. 6871.

<sup>6.</sup> Ibid., art. 6872; Wood, Sheriff, v. Anderson, County Judge, et al., 142 SW (2d) 96 (1940), now on writ of error to Texas Supreme Court.

<sup>7.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 23.

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- 231. SHERIFF'S PROBATE DOCKET AND FEE BOOK, 1889-1903. 1 vol. Record of process to be served by sheriff in probate cases and of fees due for service, showing case number, name of estate, kind of process, name of officer, date received, date executed, and date returned. Arr. chron. by date received. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 150 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. D.c. off.
- SHERIFF'S CIVIL (and Criminal) DOCKET COUNTY COURT, 1886-98. l vol. Record of process to be served in civil and criminal cases in county court and of fees due for service, showing number and style of case, name of county, date process received, date executed, name of serving officer, and items of cost. Arr. chron. by date received. Indexed alph. by first letter of plaintiff's surname in civil cases and of defendant's in criminal, and chron. thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 14 x 10 x 2. C.c. va.
- 233. JAIL REGISTER, 1915--. 2 vols. (3, 4). Register of prisoners, showing case number, name and description of prisoner, date of commitment, by whose authority committed, cost per day, and by whose authority discharged. Arr. chron. by date of commitment. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 150 pp. 18 x 14 x 2. 1 vol., 1915-30, d.c. off.; 1 vol., 1930--, shff. off.
- 234. COMMITMENTS, 1936--. 1 f.d. Orders issued to sheriff by magistrates committing persons to jail, showing name of prisoner, offense, date of order, and signature of magistrate. Arr. chron. by date of order. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 14 x 4 x 18.
- 235. BILL FOR BOARD FOR PRISONERS, 1930--. 1 vol. Accounts of money paid out for feeding prisoners, showing name of prisoner, race, date incarcerated, date released, total number of days confined, cost of board per day, and total cost. Arr. chron. by date of commitment. Indexed alph. by first letter of prisoner's surname and chron, thereunder. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

Const. 1835, Let. 1V, eac. 12, per laws, I. 1000; Sond Nor. vol.

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est. IV, eac. 19, Const. 1836; Const. 1865; crt. V. red. 18;
Const. 100; VII. 100; Const. 1850; est. 7, eac. 18;
Const. VII. 100; Const. 1850; est. 5, eac. 185
Const. VIII. Const. 1850; est. 5, eac. 185

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#### VIII. CONSTABLES

A constable qualified in Robertson County in April 1838, 1 and the office has been filled in each of the justice of the peace precincts ever since. 2 Constables are conservators of the peace; 3 process officers of all the courts, with authority to serve civil and criminal process throughout the county; 4 and the attendance officers of the justice courts. 5 They are elected by the voters of their respective precincts for 2-year terms. 6

No records of the constables were found.

#### IX. TAX ASSESSOR-COLLECTOR

When Robertson County was organized in 1838, the assessor of taxes was the appointee of the governing court, 7 and the sheriff was ex-officio collector. 8 Subsequently, the assessing and collecting functions have been combined in one office, separated, and again combined. 9 At present, an assessor-collector is required in counties like Robertson that have 10,000 or more population; the sheriff serves as ex-officio assessor-collector in the smaller counties. The assessor-collector is elected from the county at large at each biennial general election. 10

All of the assessor-collector's records are in his inner office, or records room, except as otherwise indicated in the entries.

<sup>1.</sup> Const. 1836, art. IV, sec. 12, Gam. Laws, I, 1074; Bond Book, vol. 1, pp. 8, 9, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>2.</sup> Const. 1845, art. IV, sec. 13, Gam. Laws, II, 1286; Const. 1866, art. IV, sec. 19, Gam. Laws, V, 869; Const. 1869, art. V, sec. 21, Gam. Laws, VII, 415; Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 18.

<sup>3.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, CCP, arts. 36, 95-103; RCS, art. 6886.

<sup>4. &</sup>lt;u>Ibid.</u>, arts. 2346, 6885, 6889.

<sup>5.</sup> Ibid., art. 6885.

<sup>6.</sup> Const. 1876, art. V, sec. 18.

<sup>7.</sup> Acts 1837, Gam. Taws, I, 1319; Probate Minutes, vol. A, p. 3, see entry 187; Bond Book, vol. 1, pp. 20, 21, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>8.</sup> Acts 1836, Gam. Laws, I, 1246.

<sup>9.</sup> Const. 1845, art. VII, sec. 29, Gam. Laws, II, 1294; Acts 1846, Gam. Laws, II, 1653; Const. 1869, art. XII, sec. 28, Gam. Laws, VII, 424; Const. 1876, art. VIII, secs. 14, 16.

<sup>10.</sup> Ibid.

#### Assessments

#### Abstracts

236. BLOCK MAP LANDS, 1885--. 16 vols. Title varies: Assessor's Abstracts, 1885-1901, 1913-22, 11 vols.; Assessors Abstracts of Lands, 1901-12, 1923-32, 3 vols.

Assessor's abstracts of lands, showing abstract number, commissioner's, justice, and voting precinct numbers, road and school district numbers; number and date of patent and name of person to whom issued; number of acres; number, class, and character of certificate, and name of person to whom issued; names and residences of owners and number of acres owned by each; and valuation of each tract subject to taxation. Arr. numer. by abstract no. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 1885-1931; hdw. and typed pr. hd. 1932--. 600 pp. 18 x 26 x 3.

237. BLOCK MAP ROBERTSON COUNTY (City Lots), 1883--. 20 vols.
Title varies: Assessor's Abstracts of City Lots, 1883-1931,
18 vols.

Assessor's abstracts of city lots, showing name of city or town, block number, road and school district numbers, commissioner's, justice, and voting precinct numbers; name and address of owner of each lot; lot number, name of addition or subdivision, and value of each lot for taxation. Arr. in sections by names of cities or towns, thereunder numer. by block no., and thereunder alph. by owner's name. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 1883-1931; typed pr. hd. 1931--. 500 pp. 18 x 26 x 3.

#### Inventories

238. (INVENTORIES OF PROPERTY), 1934--. 25 vols.
Renditions of real and personal property for taxation by owners or their agents, showing name and address of owner, year of assessment, description of real estate by number of acres and valuation, itemized list of personal property with valuation of each item, total value of real estate, total value of personal property, and grand total of all property; signature of person making rendition, and attest of assessor-collector. Arr. alph. by first letter of owner's surname and thereunder chron. by date of affidavit. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 800 pp. 8 x 14 x 5.

#### Rolls

239. (TAX ASSESSMENT ROLLS), 1885--. 55 vols.

Annual assessment rolls of real and personal property, rendered (form B) and unrendered (form D), including the property of railroads (form E - also used for rolling stock and intangible assets), State and National banks (form G), and all public utilities other than railroads (form H); show line number, name and post office address of owner; and under heading of real estate, abstract or lot number, certificate, tract, or block number, survey, division, or outlot, original grantee or city or town; and under subhead acreage property, number of acres rendered, valuation, valuation of that portion designated as homestead, and value of city

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property; value of personal property; total value of real and personal property for county tax and total value for State tax; amounts of State, county, road district, and district school taxes, and total amount of property taxes; amount of State poll tax and of county poll tax; date payment received, tax receipt number, and page totals for each column. Recapitulation (form Z) shows tax roll page numbers, page totals of each page of rolls, page totals of individual recapitulation sheets, grand totals for each subdivision of rolls, grand totals for all subdivisions, signature of assessor-collector to oath that rolls are true and correct; signature of county judge and county commissioners to certificate of approval and examination of rolls and of correction of valuations. Rolls bound by years; sometimes arr. alph. by owner's name, sometimes in sections in accordance with character of owner as individual or organization and alph. by owner's name thereunder. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 1885-1918; typed pr. hd. 1919--. 175 pp. 18 x 24 x 2. For supplemental rolls, see entry 240.

240. (SUPPLEMENTAL TAX ASSESSMENT ROLLS), 1920--. 1 vol. Supplemental assessment rolls of real and personal property (form F) not assessed on regular rolls, showing information as in entry 239; and supplemental roll of poll tax assessments, showing tax receipt number, name of taxpayer, and amounts of State and county tax. Arr. chron. by years, thereunder in property and poll subdivisions, and thereunder alph. by taxpayer's name. No index. Typed pr. hd. 600 pp. 18 x 24 x 4.

#### Collections

#### Property Tax

241. TAX RECEIFTS, 1931--. 80 vols.
Copies of receipts issued upon payment of property taxes, showing place and date issued, receipt number, page and line of tax roll, name and address of party assessed, abstract or lot number, certificate or block number, survey or division, original grantee or city or town, number of acres and value, value of personal property, total valuation, distribution of taxes as to State ad valorem, county ad valorem, county road, and district school taxes; total amount of taxes; and signatures of assessor-collector and deputy. Arr. numer. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 160 pp. (3 receipts to page) 18 x 10 x 1.

242. JUDGMENT RECEIPT, Dec. 31, 1932--. 1 vol.
Copies of receipts issued by assessor-collector to sheriff for money
realized on sale of real property under execution of tax judgments in
district court, showing receipt number, name and county of sheriff,
name of person to whom real estate sold, date of judgment, and district
court case number; date of sale, page and line of delinquent tax record,
name of person against whom delinquent taxes assessed, years sold or
delinquent, amounts distributed to State ad valorem, poll, interest and
penalty, and to county ad valorem, district school, interest and penalty;
abstract or lot number, survey or block number, original grantee or city

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or town, number of acres; date receipt issued, and signature of assessor-collector. Arr. chron. by date issued and numer. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 150 pp. (15 used) 10 x 12 x 1.

#### Poll Tax

243. POIL TAX RECEIPTS, 1935--. 26 vols.
Copies of poll tax receipts issued, showing State and county, precinct number, page and line of tax roll, number and date of receipt and town where issued; name and address of taxpayer, amount of poll tax paid, age, length of residence in State, county, and city, whether native-born or naturalized citizen, birthplace, sex, race, and occupation; place receipt issued, signature of deputy to jurat, and signature of assessor-collector. Arr. numer. by receipt no. and chron. by date issued. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 100 pp. 18 x 10 x 1.

244. EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES, 1939--. 1 vol.
Copies of certificates issued to persons exempted by law from the payment of poll taxes, showing number and date of certificate, name and address of person to whom issued, precinct number, age, length of residence in State and county, citizenship and birthplace, sex, race, reason for exemption, and signature of assessor-collector. Arr. numer. by certificate no. and chron. by date issued. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 200 pp. 14 x 10 x 1.

#### Wehicle Licenses

245. AUTOMOBILE REGISTER, 1934-35. 1 vol.
Register of licenses permitting operation of vehicles on public highways, showing year date, name of owner, and license number. Arr. alph. by first letter of owner's surname, and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 640 pp. 18 x 12 x 5.

246. OPERATOR'S LICENSE, 1936-37. 4,000 papers in 4 f.d. Copies of licenses issued by assessor-collector for State Department of Public Safety, to operators of passenger vehicles and to chauffeurs, showing license number, name, address, age, sex, height, weight, color of eyes and hair, and race of licensee, date issued, expiration date, and signature of assessor-collector. Arr. alph. by first letter of licensee's surname and thereunder chron. by date issued. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 4 x 6 x 24.

#### Occupation Taxes

247. OCCUPATION TAX RECEIPTS, 1897-1912, 1924--. 2 f.d. Copies of occupation tax receipts, showing date of payment, receipt and series numbers, name of taxpayer, kind of occupation, period covered, and total amount paid. Arr. chron. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 12 x 4 x 18. C.c. off.

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Register of occupation taxes collected, showing name of collector, month and year dates, receipt number, name of taxpayer, nature of occupation, character of receipt (annual, quarterly, or special), inclusive dates for which issued, amounts of State and county taxes, and total amount collected. Arr. chron. by month. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 375 pp. 18 x 14 x 2. C.c. va.

#### Disposition

- 249. (MONTHLY REPORTS TO STATE COMPTROLLER), July 1931--. 5 vols. Copies of assessor-collector's monthly reports to State Comptroller of tax money received, and monthly statements of collections and distribution. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Typed pr. hd. 700 pp. 14 x 18 x 3.
- 250. (MCNTHLY STATEMENT OF COLLECTIONS), Jan. 1938--. 1 vol. Assessor-collector's monthly statements of taxes collected and disposition thereof, showing name of assessor-collector, month and year date of report, amounts collected during month from current tax roll, supplemental roll, insolvent lists, redemptions, errors, occupation taxes, total collections for each item, and grand total for month; amount of commission for each class of collection, total amount of commission; distribution of collections to county funds, showing names of funds, amounts distributed to each, amount deposited in bank, and balances. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Typed pr. hd. 32 pp. 12 x 18 x 1.

For assessor-collector's monthly reports of collections to commissioners court, see entry 17-ii.

251. FORM 17 ERRORS IN ASSESSMENTS FROM 1920 TO (Annual Report), 1920--. 1 vol.

Assessor-collector's copies of annual reports to State Comptroller of errors found on the tax rolls, and of taxes uncollected thereon to be credited against totals charged on tax rolls, showing State and county, name of assessor-collector, year, page, and line of roll where assessment appears, name of owner, abstract or lot number, certificate, tract, or block number, survey, division, or outlot, original grantee or city or town, subdivision or addition, number of acres assessed in error, value of property, State ad valorem and poll taxes, county ad valorem, poll, and district taxes, and character of error (such as, does not own, over age, deceased, homestead, etc.); sworn certificate of assessor-collector to correctness of report, certificate of county judge and commissioners to examination of report, seal of commissioners court, and attest of county clerk. Arr. chron. by years and thereunder alph. by owner's surname. No index. Typed pr. fm. 600 pp. 18 x 28 x 2.

252. REPORTS OF AUTOMOBILE LICENSES ISSUED, Jan. 12, 1937--. 1 vol. Assessor-collector's copies of reports (form 158) made each Monday to State Highway Department, of collections for county road and bridge fund and for State Highway Department from motor vehicle licenses, showing week ending date of report, name of assessor-collector, county, license

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receipt form numbers, including passenger vehicle (form 1), commercial (form 2), farm truck (form 2a), motor busses (form 3), etc., number of vehicles of each class, inclusive receipt numbers of each class, and amount received from each, amount due county from each and due State, deductions for refunds and assessor-collector's commissions, net remittances to county and to State Highway Department; and assessor-collector's affidavit subscribed to before county clerk, with clerk's attest. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Typed pr. fm. 500 pp. 12 x 18 x 2.

253. (TEXAS LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD STATEMENTS), Jan. 1937--. 1 vol. Copies of monthly reports issued by the State Liquor Control Board of fees due the State from the sale of retail beer and wine licenses, showing date of statement, name and county of assessor-collector, date license issued, name and address of licensee, license number, receipt number, amount of each license, amount of assessor-collector's commission, and total balance due State. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Typed pr. hd. 200 pp. 8 x 14 x 1.

254. TAX COLLECTOR'S RECEIPTS, 1924--. 300 receipts in 3 f.d. Receipts issued to assessor-collector by county treasurer, State Highway Department, State Comptroller, and State Treasurer, upon deposit of money received from tax payments, showing number, date, and amount of receipt, purpose of payment, and signature of officer receiving money. Arr. chron. by date of receipt. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 4 x 4 x 10.

255. LETTER FILES, 1926--. 3 f.d.
Miscellaneous papers including correspondence with State Comptroller and
State Auditor. Arr. chron. No index. Hdw. and typed. 12 x 18 x 24.

# Delinquents

256. LIST OF DELINQUENT OR INSOLVENT TAXPAYERS, 1921-38. 18 vols. Assessor-collector's copies of lists of delinquent or insolvent taxpayers assessed on the rolls and advertised and reported (form 16) submitted annually to commissioners court and State Comptroller for credit as uncollected taxes, showing county, year date of report, year, page, and line of roll on which assessed, name of taxpayer, amounts of State ad valorem and poll taxes and county ad valorem, special, poll, and district taxes, total taxes due, and column totals; recapitulation showing page numbers, amounts from each page, and total for year; assessor-collector's certificate subscribed to before county clerk, and clerk's attest; commissioners court certificate that lists have been examined in open court and that persons listed have no property "out of which to make the taxes assessed against them or have moved from county," and schedule of credits allowed, date of certificate, signatures of county judge and commissioners, seal of court, and attest of county clerk. Arr. alph. by name of taxpayer. No index. Typed pr. fm. 20 pp. 18 x 12 x 1.

Tax Assessor-Collector Delinquents

257. DELINQUENT TAXES FORM 18 (Annual Reports), 1921-37. 2 vols. Untitled, 1921-34, 1 vol.

Assessor-collector's copies of annual reports (form 18) to State Comptroller of lands and lots delinquent for year, showing county, year, name of assessor-collector, page number of report, line numbers of report, year, page, and line of roll on which assessed, name of owner; abstract of lot number; certificate, tract, or block number; survey, division, or outlot; original grantee or city or town, subdivision or addition to city or town; number of acres reported sold or delinquent, amounts of State ad valorem and poll taxes; amounts of county ad valorem, poll, road, and school district taxes; total taxes; and if redeemed, date and number of assessor-collector's redemption receipt, and Comptroller's certificate number; assessor-collector's certificate, and commissioners court certificate of approval. Arr. chron. by years and thereunder alph. by owner's surname. No index. Typed pr. fm. 600 pp. 18 x 30 x 2.

For county clerk's record of these reports, see entry 19; for cumula-

tive record, see entries 258, 259.

258. DELINQUENT TAX RECORD, 1885--. 6 vols. Title varies: Delinquent Tax Roll Land, 1885-1924, 1 vol.; Delinquent Tax Record Land, 1919-34, 1 vol.; Compiled Rolls, 1925-32, 1 vol. Last compilation covers years 1919-37.

Assessor-collector's cumulative record of lands returned delinquent or reported sold to State and not redeemed for years covered by compilation, which is made about every 5 years, showing information as in entry 257. Also contains: Delinquent town lots, 1915-37, entry 259. Arr. in sections for acreage and town names and thereunder alph. by owner's surname. No index. Hdw. and typed pr. hd. 600 pp. 16 x 24 x 3.

259. DELINQUENT TAX RECORD - TOWN LOTS, 1885-1915. 5 vols.

1915-37 in Delinquent Tax Record, entry 258.

Assessor-collector's cumulative record of town lots, or parts of lots returned delinquent or reported sold to State, showing information as in entry 257. Arr. alph. by town names and thereunder alph. by owner's surname. No index. Hdw. 640 pp. 18 x 30 x 3.

Assessor-collector's copies of delinquent tax notices, showing date and place issued, name and address of person to whom mailed; name of person against whom assessment made; page and line of roll and of delinquent tax record, years sold or delinquent, amounts of State, county, road district, and district school taxes, costs, and total amount due; description of acreage or city lot; and recapitulation of taxes due, showing amounts of State, county, road district, district school, and other district taxes, redemption costs, and grand total; and assessor-collector's certification. Arr. chron. by date issued. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 100 pp. 12 x 16 x 1.

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# Cancelations

Assessor-collector's copies of certificates of cancelation of delinquency of land erroneously reported delinquent, submitted by commissioners court to State Comptroller for approval, showing State and county, Comptroller's and assessor-collector's certificate numbers, years delinquent, page and line of roll and of delinquent tax record, in whose name reported delinquent, abstract, certificate, and survey numbers, original grantee or city or town, number of acres, lot, block, and addition, total State tax, total county tax, reason for cancelation, date of commissioners court action, signature of county judge, seal of court, and attest of county clerk; certificate of cancelation of delinquency with signature and seal of Comptroller. Arr. numer. by certificate no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 150 pp. 12 x 14 x 1.

## Redemptions

262. (REDEMPTION RECEIPT STUBS), 1935--. 7 vols.

Stubs of receipts issued by assessor-collector for payments made in redemption of land sold for taxes, showing State, name and county of assessor-collector, name of person to whom issued, number, date, and amount of receipt, page and line as shown on form 18, entry 257, name of person assessed, years sold or delinquent, amounts of taxes, penalty, and interest due State and county; description of property redeemed; amount of costs; grand total; date and place of payment, and signature and seal of assessor-collector. Arr. numer. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 900 pp. 12 x 14 x 5.

263. REDEMPTION RECEIFTS, 1929--. 4,000 receipts in 5 f.d.
Redemption receipts issued by the assessor-collector and returned approved
by the State Comptroller, showing information as in entry 262, and also,
Comptroller's certification of redemption with seal and signature. Arr.
numer. by receipt no. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 24 x 12 x 10.
For recorded copies of redemption certificates, see entry 49.

264. LANDS AND TOWN LOTS REDEEMED FROM 1919 TO (Annual Reports), 1919--. 1 vol.

Assessor-collector's copies of annual reports to State Comptroller of lands and town lots redeemed (form 93), compiled from stubs of redemption receipts, entry 262, showing county, year of report, name of assessor-collector, years redeemed, in whose name assessed, by whom redeemed; abstract or lot number; certificate, tract, or block number; survey, division, or outlot; original grantee or city or town, subdivision or addition; number of acres redeemed; State ad valorem and poll taxes, penalty and interest; county ad valorem, and district taxes, penalty and interest; total State and county taxes, penalty and interest; total costs; date of redemption, assessor-collector's redemption receipt number, and Comptroller's certificate number; assessor-collector's certificate sworn to before clerk, and clerk's attest; commissioners court certificate to examination of report in open court and approval, showing year of report, date of ap-

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proval, schedule of taxes, signatures of county judge and commissioners, seal of court, and attest of clerk. Arr. chron. by year of report and thereunder chron, by date of redemption. No index, Typed pr. hd. 18 x 28 x 2.

For county clerk's redemption record, see entry 48.

# X. BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Since 1876 the county commissioners court has served ex officio as a board of tax equalization. I For the purpose of receiving "the assessment lists or books of the assessors of their counties for inspection, correction, or equalization and approval," the boards meet in May of each year. 2

265. MINUTES BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, June term 1908--. 5 vols. (1, three unlabeled, 1). Title varies: Ledger, 1932, 1 vol. Clerk's record of proceedings of commissioners court sitting as board of equalization to approve and equalize tax assessments, showing court term, name of property owner, original grantee, abstract or certificate number, number of acres, city or town, lot and block numbers, assessed value, and final value as determined by the board; and recorded copies of official oaths of board members. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. No index. Proceedings hdw. pr. hd. 1908-31, hdw. 1932, typed pr. hd. 1933--; oaths typed 1908-13 and 1932--, hdw. pr. fm. 1914-31. 470 pp. 18 x 12 x 3. C.c. va.

# XI. COUNTY TREASURER

Originally, the county clerks were ex-officio treasurers of Texas counties, but the separate office of county treasurer was created in 1840, 4 and the Robertson governing court appointed a treasurer in that year. 5 The office has been elective since 1850. 6 The treasurer receives and disburses county funds under the direction of the commissioners court. The officer is elected from the county at large for a 2-year term. 8

The treasurer's records are in his office unless otherwise indicated in the entries.

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<sup>1.</sup> Const. 1876, art. VIII, sec. 18.

<sup>2.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 7206.

<sup>3.</sup> Acts 1836, Gam. Taws, I, 1211.

<sup>4.</sup> Acts 1840, Gem. Laws, II, 200.
5. Probate Minutes, vol. A, p. 238, see entry 187.

<sup>6.</sup> Acts 1850, Gam. Laws, III, 521; Const. 1876, art. XVI, sec. 44.

<sup>7.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 1709.

<sup>8.</sup> Const. 1876, art. XVI, sec. 44; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 1703.

# Accounts

266. TREASURER'S ACCOUNT BOOK - TRANSFER, 1899--. 10 vols. Treasurer's accounts of county funds, showing fund, date and amount of receipt, from whom received, and source of receipt; number, date, and amount of voucher, to whom paid, and purpose of payment. Arr. by funds and thereunder chron. by date of entry. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 18 x 12 x 3.

For county clerk's accounts of county funds, see entry 9.

267. SCHOOL FUND REGISTER, 1894-96. 1 vol.
Treasurer's accounts with available school fund and cash accounts with each school district of the county, showing year date, items, amounts, and dates of cash receipts, and total receipts; date of payment, voucher number, school district number, name of payee, purpose of payment, and total payments; accounts with school districts show, in addition, school district number and name of school fund treasurer. Arr. in sections for available fund and cash accounts, thereunder numer. by school district number, and thereunder chron. by year date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 300 pp. 18 x 12 x 1. C.c. va.

## Claims

268. TREASURER'S CIAIM REGISTER, 1897-1905, 1921--. 4 vols. (one unlabeled, 1-3).

Treasurer's register of claims against the county, showing date of registration, date of payment, name of claimant, name of person presenting claim, authority given, type of service, and date, amount, and issue number of claim. Arr. chron. by registration date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 320 pp. 18 x 14 x 3

For county clerk's claim register, see entry 7.

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- 269. BOND REGISTER, 1912--. 10 vols. Treasurer's register of county bond issues, showing kind or style of bond, maturity date, amounts of principal and interest, inclusive serial numbers, and amounts of coupons, with dates due and dates canceled. Arr. by kind of bond and thereunder chron. by cancelation date of coupon. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 18 x 14 x 2.
- 270. TREASURER'S SCHOOL BOND REGISTER, 1914--. 2 vols. Treasurer's register of common school district bond issues, showing name of buyer; purpose, date, and amount of bond, amounts of principal and interest, date filed, date registered, date due, and date canceled. Arr. chron. by registration date. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 250 pp. 18 x 12 x 2.

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271. BOND REGISTER - FRANKLIN SCHOOL CORPORATION, 1894-1914. 1 vol. Register of Franklin independent school district bond issues, showing purpose, number, and date of bond, amount of principal and rate of interest, date issued, date due, and date canceled. Arr. chron. by date issued. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 80 pp. 18 x 14 x 1. C.c. va.

# XII. COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

The act of 1840 granting lands from the public domain to the several counties for educational purposes, Texas' first school law, placed the public free schools under the general supervision of the chief justice and the two associate justices, as a board of school commissioners. In 1845 management of the county schools became the responsibility of the governing court, 2 and so remained until it passed to a separate board of school directors in 1873. The board of directors was abolished in 1876, and from that time until 1911, duties involved in the supervision of county schools were divided between the county judge and the commissioners court.4

The present central board of school trustees was created in 1911, 5 and has served in Robertson County since August 16 of that year. 6 It is a corporate body, 7 and has general control of the schools of the county.8 There are five county school trustees, one elected from the county at large, and the other four from their respective commissioners' precincts; their term of office is 2 years. The county school superintendent is secretary of the board. 10

All of the records of the board are in the county school superintendent's office.

272. (MINUTES COUNTY BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES), Nov. 25, 1916--. 1 vol.

Record of proceedings of the county board of school trustees, showing date of meeting, names of members present, nature of business transacted, determinative orders, and signature of county school superintendent as

<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1840, Gam. Laws, II, 320.

<sup>2.</sup> Acts 1845, Gam. Laws, II, 1156; Acts 1854, Gam. Laws, III, 1461;
Acts 1866, Gam. Laws, V, 1088.

Acts 1873, Gam. Laws, VII, 540.

<sup>4.</sup> Acts 1876, Gam. Laws, VIII, 1035; Revised Statutes of Texas, 1895, RCS, arts. 3929a, 3930, 3938, 3938a; Revised Civil Statutes of the ... State of Texas, 1911, arts. 2763, 2815, 2827, 2837.

<sup>5.</sup> Acts 1911, 32d Leg., p. 34.

Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. D, pp. 613, 638, see entry 1.

<sup>7.</sup> Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2683.
8. Ibid., arts. 2676, 2681, 2741.
9. Ibid., art. 2676.

Ibid., art. 2676. 9.

<sup>10.</sup> Ibid., art. 2681.

secretary. Also contains, on pp. 1-13: Lists of pupils transferred, 1932-35, entry 288. Arr. chron. by date of meeting. No index to general proceedings; numer. list of school districts shows name and number of district and volume and page reference to recording of field notes of school district boundaries. Typed. 500 pp. (250 used) 16 x 10 x 2. For copies of orders establishing districts, see entries 114, 273.

273. FIEID NOTES (School District), 1907--. 1 f.d. Copies of orders of county board of school trustees establishing school districts or redefining boundaries by reason of consolidations or additions, and of field notes made under such orders, showing date of proceedings, names of members present, resolution approving action taken, description of district by metes and bounds, signature of chairman to approval of minutes and of county school superintendent as secretary. Arr. chron. by date of order. No index. Hdw. and typed. 6 x 6 x 12.

For recorded copies, see entry 114; for minutes of orders, see entry 272.

274. DEEDS TO DISTRICT BUILDING SITES, 1913-38. 100 deeds in 1 f.d. Deeds granting land to school districts as sites for school buildings, showing date of execution, names of grantor and grantee, consideration, description of land, signature of grantor, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. and typed. 6 x 6 x 12.

#### XIII. COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

The office of county school superintendent was first provided for in 1873, when the president of the board of school directors became exofficio superintendent. 1 When the board was abolished in 1876, the county judge became ex-officio school superintendent. Robertson County's first full-time superintendent took office in 1891, 3 under provisions of an act of 1887 authorizing the commissioners court to call an election to fill the office, at its discretion. 4 Since 1905 each county having a scholastic population of 3,000 or more has been required to elect a school superintendent. The term of office is 4 years. 5 The superintendent is entrusted with the immediate supervision of the common free schools in the county.  $^6$ 

All of the records of the school superintendent are in his office except as otherwise indicated in the entries.

<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1873, Gam. Laws, VII, 540.

<sup>2.</sup> Acts 1876, Gam. Laws, VIII, 1035.

<sup>3.</sup> Commissioners Court Minutes, vol. B, p. 503, see entry 1.

<sup>4.</sup> Acts 1887, Gam. Iaws, IX, 924.

<sup>4.</sup> Acts 1887, Gam. Iaws, IX, 924.
5. Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 2688.

<sup>6.</sup> Ibid., art. 2690.

### General Administration

## Accounts

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275. LEDGER, 1923-29, 1931--. 12 vols. Title varies: Superintendents' Record of School Districts, 1923-24, 1 vol.; Record of School Districts, 1931-35, 2 vols.

THE PROTECTION SOCIETY STATES SECURITY APPLIES. LET. C. L. C.

County school superintendent's accounts with school districts, showing name and number of school district, dates, items, and amounts of receipts and of disbursements, and total receipts and disbursements; and also, 1923-24, 1931-35, source of receipt or purpose of payment and to whom paid, and funds debited or credited. Also contains:

i. Register of outstanding bonds, 1931-35, showing date issued, number of years for maturity, denomination, rate of interest, by whom owned, and amounts paid and outstanding.

ii. School census figures, 1931-35, showing number of pupils in county as reported by census, number transferred in and out, and net number of pupils.

iii. Teachers' register, 1923-24, 1931-35, showing name and address of teacher, monthly salary, grade of certificate, and also, 1931-35, date certificate issued and date of expiration, and number of months in school term.

iv. Trustees' (district) service record, 1923-24, 1931-35, showing name and address of trustee and date of qualification and of expiration of term of office.

Arr. numer. by school district no. and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. pr. hd. 1923-24, 1931-35; hdw. under hdw. hd. 1925-29, 1932--. 200 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

276. DEPOSITS, 1935--. 400 papers in 2 f.d.
Duplicates of deposit slips issued by banks on deposit of school funds, showing date, name of fund, and amounts and items of deposit. Arr. chron. by date of deposit. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 6 x 6 x 12.

277. SCHOOL DISTRICT VALUATIONS, 1928--. 100 papers in 1 f.d. Appraisals of property for school district taxes, showing name and number of school district, amount of assessed value, and amounts of tax rates for maintenance and bonds. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Typed. 6 x 6 x 12.

278. OID TAX REPORTS, 1921--. 100 papers in 1 f.d.
Monthly reports made by assessor-collector to county school superintendent of school district taxes collected, showing name of assessor-collector, month and year date, school district number, amounts collected for each district, and total collections. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 6 x 6 x 12.

# Election Papers

279. PETITIONS (School Election Papers), 1913--. 4 f.d. Title varies: Bond Transcripts, 1913--, 1 f.d.; Orders for an Election, 1924-33, 1 f.d.; Sheriff's Notices, 1935-37, 1 f.d. Copies of papers relative to elections for school bond issues, for consolidation of common school districts, and for school district trustees; included are election petitions; orders of commissioners court calling elections; and sheriff's notices of election, with returns thereon. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Hdw., hdw. and typed pr. fm., and typed. 6 x 6 x 12.

For additional school election papers, see entry 37.

# Transportation

280. BUS CONTRACTS, 1932--. 200 papers in 4 f.d. Contracts between bus drivers and school trustees for transportation of pupils, showing date of contract, name of driver, length and term of contract, salary, and signatures of contracting parties. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Typed. 6 x 6 x 12.

281. BUS DRIVER'S EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, 1936-38. 50 papers in 1 f.d. Bills for gasoline and oil and for repairs to school busses, showing date of bill, name of firm, items and amounts due, and total amount. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. and typed.  $6 \times 6 \times 12$ .

282. BUS DRIVER'S MONTHLY REPORTS, 1939-. 400 papers in 1 f.d. Monthly reports made by bus drivers, of transportation of pupils eligible for free transportation (drivers are paid salaries by districts, and districts get refunds covering cost of transportation of pupils eligible), showing date of report, name of school; list of pupils, with name, age, and grade, number of days' attendance, and number of miles of transportation for each; name of school district, amount due school district for transportation of each pupil, monthly total, signature of school superintendent or principal, signature of bus driver, and attest of county school superintendent. Arr. chron. by date of report. No index. Typed pr. fm. 12 x 5 x 20.

### Properties

283. BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS, 1930-36. 1 f.d.
Sample building plans and directions issued by State Department of Education of specifications for labor to be performed and materials to be used in construction of school buildings. Arr. chron. by filing date.
No index. Typed. 6 x 6 x 12.

284. MAPS OF DISTRICTS, undated. 10 papers in 1 f.d. Maps of school districts, and building plans of new school buildings. No obvious arr. No index. Pen and ink and blueprints. 6 x 6 x 12.

County School Superintendent - Scholastics; Teachers

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285. EXPIRED POLICIES, 1935: 20 papers in 1 f.d. Expired insurance policies on school buildings, showing name of insurance company, amount of policy, and date of expiration. Arr. chron. by filing date. No index. Typed pr. fm. 6 x 6 x 12.

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- 286. (FAMILY CENSUS BLANKS), 1932--. 10,000 papers in 10 f.d. Family census blanks, showing school district number, county, last and first names of children, birth dates, ages as of September first, name of county in which family resided on April first last, length of residence in school district, nationality as indicated by language spoken at home, names of parents, signature of person rendering, and attest of census trustee. Arr. by school districts and thereunder chron. by year date. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 11 x 5 x 14.
- 287. SCHOOL CENSUS ROLLS (Consolidated), 1927--. 300 loose sheets. Consolidated census rolls of scholastics, showing name of child, name and number of school district, post office address, name of person rendering child, and age and sex of child. No obvious arr. of rolls, each roll arr. alph. by child's name. No index. Typed pr. hd. 15 x 8.
- 288. (LISTS OF TRANSFERS), 1932-35. In (Minutes County Board of School Trustees), pp. 1-13, entry 272.
  Lists of transfers, showing year date, names and numbers of school districts affected, names of pupils transferred, and name of school to which transfer is made.
- 289. (HICH SCHOOL RECORD), 1928-31. 1 vol.
  Scholastic record of high school pupils; showing name of pupil, name of school, attendance record, subjects taken, grades made, basic text used, books read, name of principal, credits, physical condition, and year date. Arr. alph. by first letter of school name. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 500 pp. 8 x 16 x 3.
- 290. (HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS RECORD), 1931-37. 150 cards in 1 f.d.

  Discontinued; each school now maintains separate record.

  Record of grades and of credits made by high school students, showing name of pupil, name of school, scholastic year, list of subjects with grades and number of credits for each subject, and total credits for year. Arr. numer. by school district no. and thereunder alph. by first letter of pupil's surname. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 6 x 6 x 16.

#### Teachers

291. TEACHERS' CERTIFICATES, 1893--. 1 vol.
Record of certificates held by teachers, showing name and address of teacher, kind and grade of certificate, date issued, date of expiration, date registered, and authority issuing certificate. Arr. alph. by first letter of teacher's surname and chron. thereunder. No index. Hdw. 350 pp. 14 x 8 x 2.

292. RECORD OF TEACHERS PERSONNEL, 1933--. 400 cards in 1 f.d. Registration cards for teachers, showing name and age of teacher, marital status, name and kind of school, name of district, address of school, address of teacher, number of teachers in building, number of years of teaching experience in other states, in Texas, and in present position, position now held, aggregate annual salary and number months taught for registration year and for 2 preceding school years, kind of college degree held and number of years of college and high school training, number of completed semester hours (college credit) in "Education," highest certificate held and whether obtained by examination or college work, kind of occupation for preceding year, number of semester hours credit for each major and minor field of study in college, names of colleges attended, whether or not degree received, and dates of attendance. Arr. alph. by first letter of teacher's surname. No index. Hdw. pr. fm. 6 x 6 x 16.

293. MONTHLY REPORTS TEACHERS, 1940. 800 reports in 1 f.d. Monthly reports made by teachers, showing name and number of school, school district number, date of report, amount of teacher's salary, number days taught during month, number pupils entering school for first time during year, number of pupils reentering school during year, number of losses, total membership, aggregate attendance, aggregate absence, aggregate days of membership, average daily attendance, percentage of attendance, number times tardy, number pupils between ages of 6 and 17 and number between ages of 7 and 15; name and residence of teacher, filing date of report, amount of voucher in payment of teacher's salary, name of fund to which chargeable, and signature of county school superintendent. Arr. in sections for white and Negro teachers and chron. thereunder. No index, Hdw. pr. fm. 12 x 5 x 20.

# XIV. COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

The county health officer, first provided for in 1909, 1 is the appointee of the commissioners court, and is appointed for a term of 2 years. 2 Besides duties discharged in caring for county prisoners and indigents, and in connection with county quarantines, he performs many others required of him from time to time by the commissioners court, and other officers of the county, and by the rules, regulations, and requirements of the State Board of Health.  $^{\rm 3}$ 

The records of the health officer were not inventoried.

<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1909, 31st Leg., 1st C.S., p. 340. 2. Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 4423.

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## XV. COUNTY SURVEYOR

The office of county surveyor was created in 1837, <sup>1</sup> and was made elective in 1840. <sup>2</sup> A county surveyor qualified in Robertson County on February 6, 1838, <sup>3</sup> and records of his services extend as far back as March 25, 1838. <sup>4</sup> The surveyor is elected from the county at large at each biennial general election. <sup>5</sup> He is, as his official title implies, the official land surveyor of the county. <sup>6</sup>

The surveyor's records are in the county clerk's vault.

294. BOOK OF FILES, Mar. 25, 1838-Feb. 2, 1888, 1895--. 2 vols.

Title varies: County Surveyors File Book, Oct. 6, 1900-Dec.

18, 1911, 1 vol.

Recorded copies of applications for surveys, Mar. 25, 1838-Feb. 2, 1888, Oct. 6, 1900-Dec. 18, 1911, showing name of applicant, description of acreage by metes and bounds, date of application, signature of applicant, and surveyor's filing certificate. Also contains: Notices from the General Land Office of the classification, appraisement, and sale of public free school lands, 1895--, showing date of notice, name of purchaser, section and certificate numbers, number of acres, price paid per acre, and date of sale. Arr. chron. by filing date, 1838-88, 1900-1911; arr. chron. by date of notice, 1895--. No index, 1838-88, 1895--; indexed alph. by first letter of applicant's surname and chron. thereunder, 1900-1911. Hdw. 1838-88, 1900-1911; hdw. pr. fm. 1895--. 250 pp. 14 x 8 x 2.

295. RECORD OF FIELD NOTES, Mar. 2, 1835-May 15, 1901, Mar. 25, 1939. 3 vols. (A, 2, 3).

Recorded copies of field notes of surveys, showing name of person for whom survey made, metes and bounds of lines run by surveyor, signatures of surveyor and chain carriers, and signature of surveyor to certificate of accuracy of field notes and to recording certificate. Arr. chron. by recording date. For index, see entry 296. Hdw. 1835-1901; typed 1939. 480 pp. 16 x 10 x 2.

296. INDEX SURVEYOR'S, 1835-1939. 1 vol.
Index by name of person for whom survey made to Record of Field Notes,
Mar. 2, 1835-May 15, 1901, Mar. 25, 1939, entry 295, and by name of
applicant to Surveyor's Record School Lands, Feb. 19, 1879-Sept. 21,
1937, entry 297; each entry shows amount of land, and volume and page
reference. Arr. alph. by first letter of surname and chron. thereunder.
Hdw. 50 pp. 16 x 10 x 1.

<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1837, Gam. Laws, I, 1406.

<sup>2.</sup> Acts 1840, Gam. Laws, II, 437.

<sup>3.</sup> Bond Book, vol. 1, p. 1, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>4.</sup> See entry 294.

<sup>5.</sup> Const. 1876, art. XVI, sec. 44; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 5283

<sup>6.</sup> Ibid., arts. 5277, 5280, 5290, 5291, 5293, 6706.

297. SURVEYOR'S RECORD SCHOOL LANDS, Feb. 19, 1879--. 1 vol. Last entry Sept. 21, 1937.

Record of school land surveys including:

i. Recorded copies of applications for surveys of public free school lands, showing name of applicant, citation to law under which purchase granted, location of land, date of application, and signature of applicant.

ii. Copies of field notes, showing name of surveyor, date of survey, metes and bounds, signatures of surveyor and chain carriers, and surveyor's certificate to accuracy of survey, and recording certificate with date and signature.

iii. Recorded copies of applications to prospect for petroleum and gas, showing date and place of execution, name and address of applicant, description of land, signature of applicant, and surveyor's filing certificate with signature.

Arr. chron, by recording date. Applications for surveys indexed alph. by first letter of applicant's surname and chron, thereunder, also separate index, see entry 296; no index to applications for petroleum and gas prospect applications. Hdw. 360 pp. (164 used) 16 x 10 x 1.

# XVI. PUBLIC WEIGHERS

The office of public weigher was created in 1875. 1 A public weigher is an officer authorized to engage in the occupation of weighing commodities for hire and to issue certificates of weights in accordance with which commodities are bought and sold. In Texas there are city, county, and precinct weighers. 3 In 1940 Robertson County had two precinct weighers, who had been elected at the general election in 1938. 4 Precinct weighers are elected from the justice precincts and serve 2-year terms. 5

# XVII. BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS (Defunct)

A board of land commissioners served in Robertson County from 1838, 6 when the county was organized, until the end of the year 1856, when the board ceased to operate by provision of general law. 7 At first the board was composed of three commissioners, one of whom was

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<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1875, Gam. Laws, VIII, 534.

Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 5680. <u>Ibid.</u>, arts. 5681, 5683, 5683a, 5683b, 5692.

<sup>4.</sup> Record of Election Returns, current vol., 1938 returns, see entry

Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 5683.

<sup>6.</sup> Acts 1837, Gam. Laws, I, 1407; Bond Book, vol. 1, pp. 1, 2, 37, in Official Bond Record, see entry 105.

<sup>7.</sup> Acts 1854, Gam. Laws, III, 1563.

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designated president, and a clerk, all elected by joint vote of both houses of the Congress, 8 but in 1839 these separate offices were discontinued, and the board was thereafter composed of the members of the county governing court and the county clerk. It was the board's duty to investigate all claims to lands from the public domain and to issue land certificates upon proper proof. 10

Records of the board are in the county clerk's vault.

298. CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS, Feb. 5, 1838-Dec. 4, 1843. 1 vol.

Register of headright certificates issued by board of land commissioners, showing certificate number, name of grantee, date issued, amount of acreage, date of immigration, and names of witnesses; recorded copy of affidavit made by applicant, showing date of immigration, marital status, number of acres applied for, and signature of applicant; affidavits signed by two witnesses to effect that statements made in application are true and correct. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. Poor condition. 150 pp. 12 x 8 x 1.

For transcript, see entry 299.

(TRANSCRIPT OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS), Feb. 5, 1838-Dec. 4, 1843. 1 vol. Transcribed Jan. 22, 1878.

Transcription of Certificates Issued by the Board of Land Commissioners, entry 298. No obvious arr. No index. Hdw. 150 pp. 12 x 8 x 1.

300. (ORDERS OF BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS), 1844-56. In Commissioners Court Minutes, entry 1.

Orders of commissioners court as a board of land commissioners, granting unconditional headright certificates, showing name of applicant, date, number, and class of certificate, and number of acres granted, applicant's oath to being a bona fide holder and owner of a claim to an unconditional certificate as shown in his conditional certificate, to facts that claim has not been alienated or transferred, and to fact that unconditional certificate has not been issued on the claim; also, if original claimant dead, copies of affidavits by two witnesses to the claimant's residence in county at time of death, and clerk's recording certificate, with filing date, recording date, and signature.

<sup>8.</sup> Acts 1837, Gam. Laws, I, 1407.

<sup>9.</sup> Acts 1839, Gam. Laws, II, 112; Acts 1843, Gam. Laws, III, 1324; Acts 1854, Gam. Laws, III, 1563.

<sup>10.</sup> See footnotes 8, 9, above.

Inspector of Hides and Animals (Defunct); Coroner (Defunct)

# XVIII. INSPECTOR OF HIDES AND ANIMALS (Defunct)

A law of 1871, passed for the protection of stock raisers and designed to prevent the illegal slaughter, sale, or removal of livestock from the county, as it was amended in 1876, makes of each county an inspection district, and provides for the election of an inspector of hides and animals in each district. 1 The office was abolished in a number of counties, including Robertson County, in 1933. 2

# XIX. CORONER (Defunct)

The office of coroner was created in 1836 by an act which required the election in each county of one coroner to hold office for 2 years. It was the coroner's duty to hold inquests in cases of all violent and sudden deaths in the county which came to his knowledge. When there was a vacancy in the office of sheriff, or when the sheriff was disqualified to act in a particular case, the coroner could perform all the duties of sheriff. The office of coroner was discontinued in 1869, when the justices of the peace became ex-officio coroners.4

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<sup>1.</sup> Acts 1871, Gam. Laws, VI, 1014; Acts 1876, Gam. Laws, VIII, 1131; Vernon's Texas St. 1936, RCS, art. 6972.

<sup>2.</sup> Acts 1933, 43d Leg., p. 14.

<sup>3.</sup> Acts 1836, Gam. Laws, I, 1243-1245; Acts 1846, Gam. Laws, II, 1666. 4. Const. 1869, art. V, sec. 20, Gam. Laws, VII, 415; Acts 1870, Gam. Laws, VI, 278.

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