## From: <u>Laurel Neuman</u> Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 11:50 AM Subject: Historical Resources at the General Land Office

## Greetings,

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks for inviting me to speak at last weekend's SRT Prince Solms Chapter meeting. I really enjoyed meeting and visiting with everyone! As promised, I have some great online resources to share, along with a walk through of how to best utilize these resources.

First, our Land Grant Database (click the link) is where we have all of our Original Land Grant records and supporting collections indexed. To search for an individual in the Land Grant Database, simply enter their name in the Original Grantee field in the following format: *Lastname, Firstname* or enter just the first initial of the first name (ex: *Crockett, D*). then click "search." The results list will show any records pertaining to that individual. Many of our Original Land Grant records have been scanned and are available to view online, save to your computer, or print at no cost to you! If a record has been scanned, a PDF link will appear in the far-right column of the search results. Additionally, clicking the link in the "abstract" field will yield more information about that particular record. If a record has not been scanned, give me a call and I will be happy to pull it and let you know what information is found within the file.

Another great resource available to you is our <u>Online Map Database</u> (click the link). This database contains over 45,000 maps and sketches, including maps of each county that show the layout of original land grants within that county. To search for county maps, simply select the county you are interested in from the drop-down list of counties, place a check mark in the "county" search filter, then click "Search." The results will yield several different maps of that county, each with a different creation date, and dimensions. To view a zoomable version of any of the maps on the search results list, click the link that says "more detail on ####." Once you are on the detail page, clicking the magnifying glass that says "zoom to see detail" will open a new window or tab with a zoomable version of that map. Using the navigation tools at the bottom of the zoomable map, you can zoom in and out, and pan around the map.

Our map database also contains many beautiful historical maps of Texas. To browse our different historical maps, leave all fields blank, and place a check mark in the search filter that you are interested in seeing (Pre-Republic, Republic, State, City, etc.) The Holcomb Collection that I mentioned in my presentation has it's own search filter as well.

One final resource I want to share is our <u>GIS Map</u> (click the link). This is a neat tool that allows you to view the layout of original land grants on a current mapping interface. To search for a particular land grant survey, click the magnifying glass at the top-center of the page, then click "county & abstract search." In the search box that opens, select the county, and enter the abstract number (found in your land grant database search results), then click "search." Clicking in the search results box will zoom the GIS map directly to the survey in question.

We are open for you to come in to do research 8-5, Monday through Friday. Additionally, we provide tours to anyone interested in learning more about the Archives at the GLO. Our tours include a showcase of some of our great documents and records, and a trip to the map vault where you can see our original maps in person. Tours are available Monday through Friday. If you are interested in a tour, please give me a call and we will get it scheduled!

Thanks again for inviting me to share the resources available at the GLO with your group. If you have any questions regarding research at the Archives, please do not hesitate to contact me via phone or email. I can be reached at (512) 463-5277.

Warmest Regards, Laurel

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