



# VERTICAL FILES | RESEARCH GUIDE

Oklahoma Historical Society Research Center [www.okhistory.org/research](http://www.okhistory.org/research)

## About Vertical Files

The Research Center has more than 10,000 vertical files on a variety of subjects.

Vertical files at the Oklahoma Historical Society contain newspaper clippings, brochures, newsletters, programs and information about people in Oklahoma.

As a general rule, vertical files do not hold original documents, but rather photocopies or secondary sources such as newspaper clippings. To search for original documents, visit the Archives section of our online catalog.

Part of the joy of using vertical files is the surprise in what you may find.

Vertical files may contain information in a variety of formats including:

- personal correspondence
- WPA articles on places in Oklahoma
- biographical information
- compiled family histories
- reproductions of records
- newspaper clippings
- magazine articles
- brochures, fliers & pamphlets
- promotional materials
- research notes

## Topical Vertical Files

The topical vertical files explore various subjects relating to Oklahoma.

Many topical vertical files are part of a larger series pertaining to a specific topic. Examples of these series include Oklahoma counties, towns, and American Indian tribes. In addition, there are several files listed under “United States History – Civil War” that include information about locations, battles and veterans.

Another series of vertical files pertain to the Oklahoma City bombing.

In addition, some interesting files include “Oklahoma Firsts” – inventions, innovations and significant events. The vertical file entitled “Emblems – Oklahoma” contains information about the state flag, state seal, floral emblem, song and other Oklahoma state symbols.

## Biographical Files

The biographical vertical files offer information about individuals and families with Oklahoma connections. Files pertaining to a family are listed in the index under the family name – these include some unbound, short, family histories donated by patrons in the past.

A special section has a file for each of Oklahoma’s governors from territorial times to statehood. Biographical files for the first ladies are filed with their husband. Other biographical files include information on Oklahoma artists, authors, politicians, and other notable individuals. Included, for example, are biographical questionnaires completed by early members of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

## Accessing Vertical Files

In the Research Center, you can request the file and staff will retrieve it for you. You may make photocopies from materials found in the folder. Persons who cannot visit the Research Center who wish to order copies from the vertical files will need to send a research fee and plan to be invoiced for copies.



Subjects found in the vertical files can be accessed through the OHS website at [www.okhistory.org/research](http://www.okhistory.org/research)

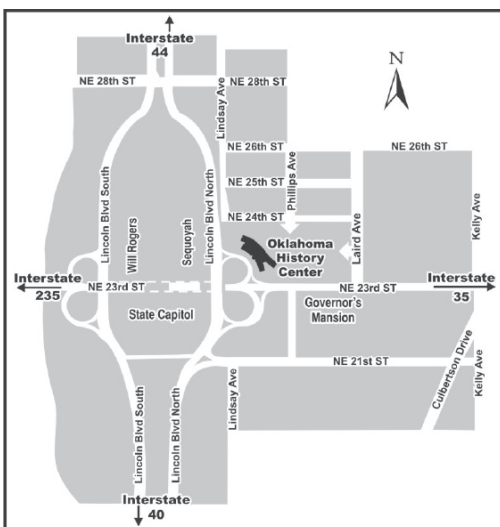
Click “**Vertical Files**” on the left-side navigation menu.

## Governors Since Statehood

Charles N. Haskell  
Lee Cruce  
Robert L. Williams  
James B. A. Robertson  
John C. Walton  
Martin E. Trapp  
Henry S. Johnston  
William J. Holloway  
William H. Murray  
E. W. Marland  
Leon C. Phillips  
Robert S. Kerr  
Roy J. Turner  
Johnston Murray  
Raymond Gary  
J. Howard Edmondson  
George P. Nigh  
Henry L. Bellmon  
Dewey F. Bartlett  
David C. Hall  
David L. Boren  
George P. Nigh  
Henry L. Bellmon  
David Walters  
Frank A. Keating  
Brad Henry  
Mary Fallin

## Territorial Governors

George W. Steele  
Robert Martin  
Abraham J. Seay  
William C. Renfrow  
Cassius M. Barnes  
William M. Jenkins  
William C. Grimes  
Thompson B. Ferguson  
Frank Frantz



## Oklahoma Historical Society

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## Research Center

(405) 522-5225  
[www.okhistory.org/research](http://www.okhistory.org/research)

## Research Center Hours

Tuesday - Saturday  
10:00am to 4:45pm

The Research Center is closed on all state holidays.