



VERTICAL FILES | RESEARCH GUIDE

Oklahoma Historical Society Research Center 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

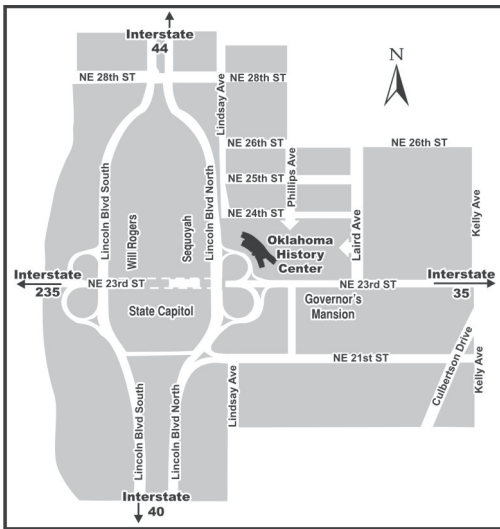
Click on “**Library Resources**” and then “**Vertical Files.**”

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

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

Research Center Hours

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

First Monday of the month
10:00am to 7:45pm

Closed Sundays & state holidays.

