

Early Texas History Found in Slave Trade Records

by Kathryn Black Morrow



Kathryn is a working historian and researcher. She just completed a three year project with Texas Southern University, summarizing and indexing a series of more than 200 original documents pertaining to the slave trade in early Texas. Her book on this series, *The Guide to the Texas Slave Trade Series, 1818-1886*, was published in December 2006, and her book *Defender of America's Gulf Coast; Ellington Field, Texas 1917-2005*, is due out in the Spring of 2007. She has also published several poems and short stories.

Kathryn is a native Texan, born in the Garden Oaks subdivision in Houston. She was the youngest child of an Air Force officer who served at Ellington Field in the early 1950's. She began her career as a professional historical and genealogical researcher at the North Carolina Department of Archives and History in Raleigh, North Carolina and teaching family history and research methods at the Coastal Carolina Community College. She now has thirty-eight years of experience in academic document research, family research and historical documentation. She has been a seminar instructor in research methods, organization, strategy, and primary source documentation. Her specialty is United States history and genealogical research with an emphasis on Texas, Oklahoma, Native American, and African American history. She works on independent grant projects, and offers research support for Master's and doctoral papers, as well as book research and supportive writing. Kathryn is currently working with the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance on the Museum of Houston Online project.

Kathryn and her husband Michael live in Clear Lake, and have four children and nine grandchildren scattered across the United States.

Kathryn holds a B.A. in Modern Languages from the Oklahoma City University, 1980; an M.A in History, University of Houston, Clear Lake, 2003.

Her recent projects are: Speaker, AAGHS, Houston, "African American Family History Research in Texas"; published a book, *Guide to The Texas Slave Trade Documents Series, 1818-1886*; was a committee member for the University of Houston, Clear Lake Veterans Day, where she also prepared an exhibit on Ellington Field, Texas in World War II. She was recently hired by The Greater Houston Preservation Alliance to work on the Willie Lee Gay Collections at TSU and the Houston Metropolitan Research Center, HPL.. Her paper titled " a New Primary Resource for African American History and Family History: The Texas Slave Trade Documents Series, 1818-1886", was accepted for presentation at the AAAHRP (Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation) Conference in Seattle, Washington. She gave a workshop for Friendswood Library on "Writing Narrative History" She was the consultant for Texas Southern University in the digitizing and microfilming of their Texas Slave Trade documents and a research consultant on the "Journey to Freedom" Jordan Plantation grant project for the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife. Three years ago, she was selected by the French Consulate in Houston to be the historian for the international observance of the 60th Anniversary of D-Day ceremony, held June 6th, 2004.