Center to Develop New Digital Project on 19th Century Texas

During the 2015-16 academic year the Center began work on a new digital humanities project to compile and map sites of conflict between Native Americans, Anglo-Americans, and Mexicans from the first Mexican republic to the outbreak of the U.S.-Mexico War (1821-1846). “Border Land: The Struggle for Texas,” is part of a multi-year research project undertaken by Center director Sam Haynes to rethink the traditional narrative of Texas in the early decades of the nineteenth century. Web development for the site is being undertaken by the UT Arlington Library’s Digital Creation department.

“The main goal of this project is to shed light on Native Americans, the most under-studied ethnic group in Texas during this period,” Haynes said recently. “It’s no secret that the Anglo-American experience continues to dominate the traditional narrative of Texas history. Yet Texas was one of the most diverse regions in North America in the early decades of the nineteenth century. Anglo-Americans don’t actually become a majority in Texas until 1834, a year before the Texas rebellion begins.” This Anglo orientation can be seen, too, in our spatial understanding of the region. Much of the area we know as Texas today—the Upper Cross Timbers along the Red River in the north, the Trans-Nueces in the south, and the Low and High Plains—remained for many years almost entirely under the control of Native American peoples. Even the area of Texas populated by Anglos—the broad swath of land from the Nueces to the Sabine River—was home to a large number of Native Americans, at least until the Texas Republic’s policy of forced Indian removal in the late 1830s.

To date, no attempt has been made to compile information on acts of violence between the many peoples of Texas, much less digitally map them. Working with two graduate students in the department of History, Haynes has located roughly one thousand sites of violence involving Native Americans, Anglo-Americans, and Mexicans in Texas during this 25-year period. These episodes range from isolated Indian attacks on individual homesteads to large-scale, government-sponsored expeditions against Native American communities. Each entry provides information on the following: the date and approximate location of the event, the ethnic group and tribal affiliation of those involved, and the reason for the conflict, if known. Information on these events has been drawn from diaries, memoirs, newspapers, and other archival sources. Research for the project has been conducted at UT Arlington Library’s Special Collections, as well as the Bexar Archives and other manuscript collections at the University of Texas at Austin.

“This project seeks to demonstrate that we can do more with the extant materials to understand the matrix of violence that framed relations between the peoples of Texas,” Haynes maintains. When completed, “it will fill in at least some of the gaps in our knowledge of Native American peoples of Texas.” For example, mapping these sites of violence will enable scholars to better understand the factors that shaped the mobility patterns of the region’s nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes. How did these patterns change over time, both seasonally, and in the face of increasing Anglo-American settlement? The project will also help to shed light on Native American raiding activities. What were the principal motives of Indian raiding, and how did these motives vary according to individual tribe? Did civil authorities during the Mexican period (1821-36) respond differently to Indian raiding than Anglo-American civil authorities during the Republic period? This project will also help scholars better understand the role of surveying parties, who were seen by Native Americans as the front line of white territorial encroachment. Which tribes reacted most strongly to the presence of surveying parties? Did some Native American groups have different notions of territorial sovereignty than others?

The Border Land project will also be of value not only to scholars but to Texas history teachers and their students. “There is a real need for more material on Native Americans in Texas at the secondary school level,” Haynes says. “The Native American population was astonishingly diverse—a collection of nomadic, semi-nomadic, and sedentary peoples, many of whom migrated to Texas in the eighteenth and nineteenth centu-

continued on page 8
“Enlightenment Mapmakers and the Southwest Borderlands” Exhibit

The University of Texas at Arlington Central Library, Sixth Floor, Special Collections exhibits “Enlightenment Mapmakers and the Southwest Borderlands” from October 1, 2016 through January 15, 2017.

Drawn from the collection of Virginia Garrett at the University of Texas at Arlington Libraries’ Special Collections, this exhibit will include over eighty original maps dating from the years 1688 to 1800. An illustrated gallery guide by UTA Cartographic Archivist Ben Huseman accompanies the exhibit and will contain information on the maps as well as biographies of the people who constructed them. The maps will be displayed chronologically by the nationality of the cartographers who produced them: French, Spanish, British, Dutch, German, Austrian, Italian, and American. Geography depicted includes the entire southern portion of North America, from the Carolinas to California and Mexico, with a focus on the area that became Texas.

The maps reflect the story of the southwest borderlands and the political and military rivalries of the powers that coveted them during the eighteenth century. A special feature of the exhibited maps and guide is the focus on dozens of personal stories and rivalries within the European and American map trade itself. Unlike a work of art, a map is often the collaborative product of many different people.

The UTA Libraries’ Special Collections Sixth Floor is open 9-5 Tuesday thru Saturday and on Mondays from 9-7 during regular semesters. For special information call 817-272-3393 or contact huseman@uta.edu

Virginia Garrett Cartography Lectures to be held November 11-12

Map enthusiasts and scholars will chart a course to Arlington Nov. 11-12 for the 10th Biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography and the Texas Map Society Fall 2016 meeting. The event is hosted by UT Arlington Libraries Special Collections and the Texas Map Society.

Scholars from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Oregon, and Mexico will speak at the Garrett Lectures. This year’s theme, “Profiles in Cartography: Mapmakers and the Greater Southwest,” examines the work of various cartographers who mapped “the Southwest”—an elusive term as this encompassed a shifting geographic concept that drifted across the continent during the United States’ westward expansion.

Among the speakers will be two scholars long associated with the Center. Richard Francaviglia, Professor Emeritus and former director of the Center, will deliver a presentation entitled “Mapping Deseret: Nineteenth-Century Mormon Cartography in the Southwestern Borderlands” on Friday, November 11; and Dennis Reinhartz, Professor Emeritus and former Center Fellow, will speak on “The Cartographer as Popularizer: Herman Moll and the North American Greater Southwest.”

“Indians at the Center: Rethinking U.S. History and Geography” Symposium and Workshop

The Center for Greater Southwestern Studies will host a symposium for the general public and a one-day workshop on Native American history for social studies teachers on the campus of UT Arlington on February 18, 2017, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Included in the symposium’s morning sessions will be scholars of the Native American experience, including: Juliana Barr, Duke University, “Mapping Indian Power in the European Cartography of Texas”; Andrés Reséndez, University of California at Davis, “Native Americans and the Greatest Slave Revolt of the Southwest”; and Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, California State University, Hayward (retired), “Recasting the Frame and Narrative of United States History.” Center Director Sam Haynes will deliver a luncheon talk entitled “Indians at the Center of 19th Century Texas: The Border Land Website Project,” which will introduce the Border Land project and explain its pedagogical value. (See lead story on page 1.)

The afternoon will feature a workshop for teachers of Texas history, U.S. history, and geography. This workshop is designed to help teachers explore new ways to incorporate the digital humanities into their curricular instruction. Social Studies Education Center director Mary Curtis and Geospatial Education Consultant Anita Palmer will train attendees in the uses of GIS technology and help them use the Border Land website to build their own interactive story maps for Texas History curricula.

At 7:30 p.m. on Friday, February 17, Dr. Reséndez will speak to the Friends of the Library on his new book, The Other Slavery: The Uncovered Story of Indian Enslavement in America.

Special Collections to Commemorate Texas Labor Archives’ 50th Anniversary

In 2017, UT-Arlington Library’s Special Collections will host a series of events commemorating the 50th anniversary of the creation of its Texas Labor and Political Archives. Starting January 30 and running until August 20, the Special Collections exhibit, “Walking the Line: the Diverse History of Organized Labor in Texas,” will feature materials from the collection, such as photographs, minute books, letters, badges, posters, cartoons, and garments. The exhibit will be curated by labor historian and UTA professor emeritus George Green, who was responsible for establishing the archives in 1967.

In conjunction with the exhibit, Texas Christian University professor Max Krochmal will discuss his new book, Blue Texas: The Making of a Multiracial Democratic Coalition in the Civil Rights Era, a study of post-war Texas labor and the civil rights movement, at a Friends of the Library meeting on March 25. On April 8, 2017, UT Arlington Libraries will host a reception celebrating the Texas Labor Archives, and to honor those who helped to build and develop the archives over the course of five decades. Plans are also underway for a panel discussion in the late spring or early summer, 2017, that will highlight the Archives, its importance, and the continuing efforts by Special Collections to acquire Texas labor records.

The Texas Labor Archives contain archival material from hundreds of union locals and labor councils, statewide labor organiz
William J. Hansard has been awarded the Shinko and Tom McDonald Scholarship for 2016-17. William is a first-year Ph.D. student in the Transatlantic History program, and is also pursuing a certificate in Archival Administration. He completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a minor in Geography summa cum laude at UTA in December 2015. Since Fall 2015 he has served as the president of the Omicron Kappa chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honors Society. In January 2016, he served as a delegate of Omicron Kappa and UTA at the Phi Alpha Theta National Conference, held at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando. While his research interests are varied, his current focus is on historical geography. Over the past year he has served as a research assistant to Dr. Milson and others in the Geography program, exploring a wide range of topics from medieval monasteries in Europe to scientific explorers in the Louisiana Territory. He is currently researching the story of John Calvert, a Philadelphia-born metalsmith who traveled to Spanish Texas in the 1790s and lived among the Indians, and later became involved in blazing the Santa Fe Trail. The project will seek to use Calvert’s largely untold story as a new avenue to discuss imperial tensions and rivalries on the North American continent.

Texas History Goes Online

This semester, two Texas History courses (Texas History to 1850 and Texas History, 1845 to the Present) will be available to UT Arlington students online. The courses will be taught by Center director Sam Haynes and Center Fellow Gerald Saxon. Drs. Haynes and Saxon, who have both taught Texas history for many years at UT Arlington, spent several months converting their course materials to the digital classroom format. In addition, funding from the History department allowed Haynes and Saxon to film some of their lectures at various historical sites around the state. “One of the real benefits of teaching Texas history online,” according to Dr. Haynes, “is that we are no longer confined to a regular classroom setting, and can present material to our students in ways that go well beyond a traditional lecture format.”

During the summer, Haynes and Saxon filmed portions of their lectures in Central Texas (at the Alamo, San Fernando Cathedral, the Ben Milam statue, and the San José Mission) and in East Texas (at the San Jacinto Battlefield, Spindletop, and Sabine Pass). They intend to do additional filming at other historical sites during the course of this academic year.

All course materials and assignments are available 24/7. Each course uses power points, instructor-produced videos from historical sites, interactive discussions and quizzes, exams, popular culture, book reviews, and digital storytelling to explore the history of the Lone Star State.

Southwestern Studies Award Winners

William Kingren received the Ida V. Hall and George Kohfeldt Endowed Scholarship in Southwestern Studies for 2016-17. William is a graduate student at the University of Texas at Arlington, currently enrolled in the PhD Program in Transatlantic History. His main interest is in nineteenth-century migration to the Americas with a primary goal to ensure that “the Americas” includes the study of the movement of people and ideas on both the North and South American continents. Mr. Kingren has also been working on a digital humanities project for the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies entitled “Borderland: The Struggle for Texas, 1821-1846,” a project that locates and describes points of conflict among the people of Texas.
New Center Fellow

Erin Murrah-Mandril earned her Ph.D. at the University of New Mexico. She is an assistant professor of English and a core faculty member of the Center for Mexican American Studies. Having spent her life in New Mexico and Southern California, Dr. Murrah-Mandril is glad to remain in the Southwest at UT Arlington. Dr. Murrah-Mandril is currently working on a book project titled In the Mean Time: The Temporal Colonization of Mexican America, which examines the ways Mexican American authors navigated the colonizing force of U.S. time in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. Her articles have appeared in Western American Literature, Arizona Quarterly, the Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage series, and a new article that is forthcoming in Aztlan: A Journal of Chicano Studies.

Center Fellow Updates

Center director Sam W. Haynes co-authored a much-revised second edition of his collection of primary source documents and essays, Major Problems in Texas History (Cengage Publishers). He also co-edited a bibliographic essay, “Wars of Mexico and the US, 1836-1848,” for Oxford Online Bibliographies. In 2015-16 he delivered several public talks, including “Unbecoming Southern: The Roots of Texas Exceptionalism,” as part of the Hutchins Lecture Series at the Center for Southern Culture, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He also delivered the keynote talk, “Myth, Monument, and the San Jacinto Battlefield,” at the East Texas Historical Association. Haynes continues to serve as managing editor of A Continent Divided: The U.S.-Mexico War; a multi-year project to digitize the UT Arlington Library’s extensive U.S.-Mexico War collection. He is also developing a second digital humanities project in collaboration with the UT Arlington Library, “Border Land: The Struggle for Texas.” This project, an extension of his current research project on early nineteenth century Texas, will use GIS software to map sites of conflict between Anglo-Americans, Native Americans, and Mexicans in Texas during this time. He continues to work on a full-length monograph, a re-examination of Texas from the First Mexican Republic to the outbreak of the U.S.-Mexico War. He is also working on an article on the subject of gender and the shaping of public memory in Texas.

Stephanie Cole is currently doing research on the work lives of rural women in twentieth-century Texas. Her co-edited volume, Texas Women: Their Histories, Their Lives (University of Georgia Press) won the Liz Carpenter Award for Best Book in Texas Women’s History from the Texas State Historical Association for 2015. She presented on “Texas Women and the Struggle for Citizenship” at Tarrant County Community College in March 2016.

This past year Paul Conrad completed a 28-page chapter entitled “Indians, Convicts, and Slaves: An Apache Diaspora to Cuba,” in a book of essays entitled Linking the Histories of Slavery: North America and its Borderlands. In addition, he has a journal article scheduled for publication this fall in Early American Studies. Dr. Conrad also spearheaded efforts to secure a UTA Interdisciplinary Research Grant for a project entitled “A Collaboration between UT-Arlington and the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas to Assess the Needs of the American Indian Population in North Texas. He continues to work on his book manuscript, “Captive Fates: Displaced Indians in Colonial North America and the Caribbean,” now under advanced contract by the University of Pennsylvania Press.

Christopher Conway is finishing a book for the University of New Mexico Press about Westerns in Mexican film and comic book history. His manuscript explores how Mexican movie studios and publishers used Western archetypes to create entertainments that criticized the United States, celebrated Mexican identity, and explored the borderlands experience. Conway continues to grow his private collection of Mexican, Spanish, and Argentinian comic books and pulps for the purpose of mining it for future studies about mass culture in the twentieth-century Spanish-speaking world.


Gerald D. Saxon is currently working to put his Texas History course (HIST 3364) on-line and also working on a biography of Texas empresario Sterling Clack Robertson (1785-1842).

CENTER FELLOWS

Sam W. Haynes, Professor of History and Center Director
Stephanie Cole, Associate Professor of History
Paul Conrad, Assistant Professor of History
Chris Conway, Associate Professor of Modern Languages
Robert Fairbanks, Professor of History
Erin Murrah-Mandril, Assistant Professor of English
Gerald Saxon, Associate Professor of History
The story of American nativism is a familiar one to students of history. As growing waves of new immigrants—mostly Catholic—landed on America’s shores throughout the nineteenth century, so increased the pitch of anti-Catholic rhetoric among those born in the U.S. Historians have increasingly considered nativist sentiment and immigrant responses to it within the context of national crises, especially during the Civil War era, that became pivotal moments in the national memory.

Tyler Johnson’s book, *Devotion to the Adopted Country: U.S. Immigrant Volunteers in the Mexican War* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2012), is unique in that it centralizes an earlier national-imperial moment. Highlighting the U.S.-Mexico War, Johnson examines how immigrants’ supporters used their participation in the conflict to counter nativist arguments about the desirability of these new arrivals.

Exploring the U.S.-Mexico War within the story of nativism makes sense, as Johnson shows us. Anti-Catholicism was particularly heated in the early 1840s, as Protestants associated the religion with Old World authoritarianism and aristocracy. As such, adversaries portrayed these “allies of Rome” and their beliefs as incompatible with American Republicanism. A central issue, the use of the King James Version of the Bible in public schools, even brought some northeastern cities to riot, most notably Philadelphia in 1844. According to Johnson, the Catholic and Democratic presses, as allies to immigrants, saw the participation of Irish and Germans in the war as an opportunity to promote their patriotism, proving their worth as members of American society.

Newspapers like Father John Hughes’ *Freeman’s Journal* and *Catholic Register*, *The Boston Pilot*, and *The Pittsburgh Post* related accounts of Catholic migrants’ deeds in Zachary Taylor’s army, of which they made up nearly half. Johnson divides his book among some of the major themes of these accounts, like enlistment, combat, and ethnic memory, with two of the later chapters focusing on particular events and historical actors. The chapters focusing on the portrayal of the Jasper Greens Riot and the wartime work of John McElroy and Anthony Rey, two priests sent to accompany the army, are standouts. As a unit made up of mostly foreign-born Irish, the Jasper Greens of Savannah were early darlings of the Catholic and Democratic presses. These presses were forced to expend a good deal of ink and energy, however, after the unit was involved in a fight with another Georgian unit en route on the Rio Grande, leaving a Colonel severely wounded.

The press had an easier time extolling the virtues of Fathers McElroy and Rey. President Polk tapped John Hughes, Archbishop of New York, to select two Spanish-speaking clerics to accompany the army with the charge of allaying fears among Mexican prelates that the United States intended to destroy the Mexican Catholic Church. Neither McElroy nor Rey spoke Spanish, and virtually all of their time was devoted to tending to the sick, wounded, and dying, of which there were many due to disease. Rey’s service to the men during the battle of Monterrey gained particular attention, and he later died in an ambush by Mexican guerillas. Despite their numerous deathbed baptisms and conversions, the priests’ actions still required defense in the press after there was confusion that led many to believe they had converted the son of a prominent Presbyterian minister, illustrating that there was still a hard road ahead for opponents of nativism.

While Johnson admits early in the book that Catholics themselves did not notice a waning in nativist attacks during the war, he concludes that it was still an important moment in moving toward a greater acceptance of Catholic immigrants. Stories of Irish and German heroism in the war were used to defend immigrants for decades after, and several military units leading up to the Civil War were named for Irish-born General James Shields. Johnson’s book is concise, clear, and smartly organized, but much of the agency of the migrants themselves is missing. Instead, what we really learn about are the tactics used by their defenders to shape the national narrative. This is certainly important, but it would be equally compelling to know as much as possible about the immigrants’ own thoughts and feelings as to their role in the conflict, and what it meant to their position in society. Regardless, *Devotion to the Adopted Country* is a fine addition to both the literature on the Mexican-American War as well as the history of nativism and migration studies. Certainly the questions that Tyler Johnson raises will prompt further research in an area that appears overdue for study.

*Cory Wells*

*University of Texas at Arlington*
For many readers of Southwest history and literature, the term “Apache captive” likely calls to mind Anglo Americans captured by Indians. The saga of white captives became widely known in the United States in part because of the popularity of their published captivity narratives. This genre has a long history, but its heyday in the Southwest was in the mid-to-late nineteenth century, when a number of former captives wrote dramatic accounts of their lives “among the Indians.”

Center Fellow Paul Conrad’s research focuses on another side of this history: the thousands of Apache Indians taken captive by Europeans, Anglo Americans, and other Indians. Apache groups from across the Southwest, known by outsiders as the Mescalero, Chiricahua, Lipan, Jicarilla, and Western Apaches, took captives of their own. They were also frequently the targets for capture, enslavement, and forced migration at the hands of their neighbors, however. Apache people were transported to prisons, households, mines, and ranches across North America and the Caribbean in the centuries after the arrival of Europeans and the ascendance of Plains Indians like the Comanche. Some passed through Comanche hands en route to lives in other Native societies or in New France. Some died en route to destinations like Mexico City and Veracruz, Havana or Louisiana. Others managed to escape and return home to tell their families about what had happened to them. This history had an important impact on Apache groups over time, helping to explain the strategies of mobility, warfare, and diplomacy that they later used to challenge U.S. colonial expansion into their homelands.

The story of Apache groups who remained in the Southwest is only half the story, however. Apache captives’ experiences in exile are a central focus of the book Conrad is currently completing titled, “Captive Fates: Displaced Apache Indians in Colonial North America and the Caribbean.” To what extent can we trace Native captives’ life trajectories and what do we learn from them? In existing scholarship, we still learn more about who took captives and why than we do about what happened to captives themselves, something that Conrad hopes to contribute to changing.

Three individual lives illustrate the human stories Conrad seeks to highlight in his work. The life of Maria de la Concepción, for example, reveals much about the nature of slavery for Apaches and other Indians in the seventeenth century. Maria was captured amidst conflict between Apaches, Pueblos, and Spaniards in mid-seventeenth century New Mexico when she was still a young girl. She first worked in the home of the governor of New Mexico in Santa Fe. Like several thousand other Apaches over the course of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, she eventually found herself much further from home. Many of her contemporaries ended up in mining towns in New Spain, transported by merchants hoping to make a quick profit off the sale of a wagon-load of Apache women and children.

Maria’s life took a different turn, however. After her master came under the scrutiny of the Office of the Inquisition, she was shipped with him to Mexico City and placed under the care of a new master who treated her poorly. Maria escaped and petitioned authorities for her freedom. As she understood it, the law allowed her to be subjected to unpaid labor for no longer than ten years. Since she had served this and much more, Maria requested that she be granted “the freedom she should enjoy” to choose an employer more to her liking. The documentary record suggests she was eventually successful, as the last record documenting her life describes her serving a different citizen of Mexico City.

Like any life, Maria’s was unique in its details, but it nonetheless illustrates a number of important themes. First, custom often mattered more than formal law in the practice of Indian slavery in Spanish America (and elsewhere). Maria was wrong, for example, in her understanding of her legal circumstances. From the perspective of the Spanish crown, she should not have been subjected to any period of unpaid labor—Indian slavery was illegal. In practice, however, local Spanish officials and residents often exploited Native captives anyway, creating titles and bills of sale and arguing that Indians captured in a “just war” or ransomed from other Indians could be subjected to terms of...
temporary enslavement, as they had done with Maria. In part because of such justifications, Apache slaves’ experiences were sometimes different than those of enslaved Africans. Though life expectancy was short, Apaches who survived were more likely to eventually work for wages and shed the status of “slave” than the slaves of African descent that they often worked alongside. They might find some hope in knowing that their children would not be as powerless as they had been. Or, like Maria, they might use understandings of the law to push to better their circumstances.

One of Conrad’s central contentions is that the loss of individuals like Maria influenced Apache communities over time as they negotiated for their return, retaliated against enemies for their role in slave trades, or fled and looked for some place where they would be more safe. A second example illustrates specific influences of captivity and forced migration on Apache groups in a microcosm. El Verde (“The Green One”) was a Chiricahua Apache man who grew up in an era of war. In the late-1700s, it became routine for the Spanish to deport Native war captives from the Southwest to the Caribbean basin. This state-sanctioned traffic served for the Spanish as means of removing what they claimed was a “dangerous” population, exploiting this population for its labor, and also as a negotiating tactic: ‘side with us and help us in war against other Natives, or we’ll be sure you never see your families again.’ No distance was necessarily far enough to prevent Apaches from escaping and returning home, however, as El Verde soon proved.

El Verde had already made the forced journey towards the Caribbean once when he was recaptured and shipped south again in the spring of 1796. When the coffle of war captives was on route from Mexico City to Veracruz, he and a companion managed to escape again. They travelled at night along the road back north, subsisting on horsemeat and corn gathered from local haciendas until they arrived at the camp of the Apache headman El Vivora. Unfortunately for the two men, El Vivora was now a Spanish ally. He turned the men in promptly to military officials at the nearby fort of Janos. “I didn’t understand why,” El Verde later explained, “when we hadn’t done any harm.” For El Verde, this decision led him to face exile a third time after he had already travelled several thousand miles on foot or on horseback in the preceding years.

If El Verde “didn’t understand why” someone he presumed was on his side would turn him in, El Vivora’s actions are not so incomprehensible when placed in context. Having witnessed so many Chiricahua Apaches being killed or exiled in recent years, El Vivora had likely weighed his choices and decided that the security of his own local group and family mattered most and alliance with the Spanish was in their interest. In part because many Chiricahuas shared El Vivora’s perspective, by 1800 a significant number of Apache groups had reached agreements with the Spanish to receive gifts and rations in exchange for peace and residence near Spanish military forts. It is likely that El Verde, meanwhile, lived out the rest of his life laboring on castle fortifications or in the shipyards of Veracruz or Havana. Ironically, the same Apaches deemed dangerous enemies in the Southwest were exploited to help make other corners of the Spanish empire safer.

A final example illustrates how the influence of captivity and forced migration on Apache people did not end with the Spanish colonial period. You probably have never heard of El Verde or Maria de la Concepción, but you almost certainly have heard of Geronimo. His skills in war, his incredible mobility, and his ethic of revenge are infamous in the United States and around the world. But rarely are these qualities contextualized within the long history of Apache groups’ interactions with their neighbors and the ways in which they had adapted to the frequent experience of captivity, enslavement, and forced migration. Geronimo’s story later in life fits within the long arc of Apache history as well. After his surrender to the United States in 1886, he and other Chiricahuas were forced into exile. By the late-1800s, transportation technologies had changed. Geronimo did not march on foot in chains like El Verde, or in a slow wagon train like Maria de la Concepción. But like them, Geronimo saw the familiar landscape of home change as his railcar clattered towards the coast and an old island fort near Pensacola, Fort Pickens, where he would be put to hard labor. After a few years in Florida, and then Alabama, Geronimo lived out the rest of his life in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Like so many of his ancestors before him, Geronimo died in exile in 1909, still a prisoner of war.
ries. It’s a complicated story under any circumstances—one that doesn’t lend itself to broad generalization. To tell it properly, it’s important to look at these tribal groups as separate entities, each with their own goals and concerns. The coastal Karankawas, the Wichitas of the Brazos River Valley, the Comanches of the Low Plains, and the Cherokees and other emigrant tribes of East Texas—to name just a few—all had their own agendas. This website will have interactive features that will enable the user to isolate specific tribes over a precise period of time, providing a valuable pedagogical tool that will help Texas history teachers tell the story of Native American interaction with Mexicans and Anglos in a way that students can actually visualize. Mapping sites of conflict also helps to draw attention to parts of the state that we don’t often think of as historically significant today,” Haynes says. “The fight for resources among the peoples of Texas often occurred in areas which we tend to think of as little more than exits on a freeway—if we think of them at all.” As an example, he cites the three forks of the Little River, near present-day Belton, which became a battleground in the 1830s and 1840s as Wichitas and westward moving Anglo settlers fought for control of the region.

The project has recently received a start-up grant from the College of Liberal Arts and funding from Humanities Texas. Beta testing of the site by the UT Arlington Library’s Digital Creation department is currently underway. The website is expected to be accessible to the general public on the UT Arlington Library server by the end of the year.