

## Ransom Williams: A Nineteenth-Century Travis County Citizen

In 1872, Ransom Williams had to travel approximately 13 miles by horse or wagon (which would have taken the better part of a day) from where he lived near Manchaca, Texas to the Travis County courthouse in Austin, Texas, to register his horse brand and take care of other county business. Color Travis County red on the map below.

Download and print out a current brand registration form at <http://www.tscrabands.com/> and use information on that website to help you design a brand and complete the form.

Completed registration forms would have to be taken to the courthouse in your county. What county do you live in?

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Use the online map at <http://geology.com/county-map/texas.shtml> to locate your county and county seat. Color your county green on the map below. If you live in Travis County, draw a blue circle around it on the map.



Each of Texas' 254 counties has a county seat, a town or city where the county courthouse is located and where county business is conducted. In what town or city is your county seat?

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Search the Web for your official county website. On it, find five services your county provides and list them below. Draw a star by any services that would not have been available to Ransom Williams in the 1800s.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.