

# Participatory learning activities with original documents

## Who should attend?

RIGS Alliance workshops are designed for genealogists, historians, or librarians who want to improve their research skills and techniques, need an introduction to regional archives, or want guidance with research in original records. This is not a beginner-level workshop. To assure a quality experience, the workshops accommodate a limited number of attendees.

## Find and interpret original records

Hands-on sessions in an exciting, integrated curriculum accentuate methodology and problem-solving skills while teaching participants how to effectively access original records. Attendees work in teams to complete assigned projects and to build confidence in research proficiency.

## Can you benefit even if you're not researching in the areas where the workshops are being held?

Yes! You will gain skills and knowledge that transfer to the same kinds of record groups and similar documents at any archives—whether national, regional, or local. Learn to create a research plan, use finding aids, read and interpret old handwriting, and analyze materials; then use this knowledge at *any* research repository.

## 2011 Workshop

**Fort Worth, Texas**      **26-30 September**

The 2011 RIGS Alliance workshop, in cooperation with the National Archives and Records Administration's Regional Archives System, will take place at NARA's South-west Region, (address to be announced), Fort Worth. The classroom is in close proximity to the research rooms. Lunch is brought in Monday through Thursday for the RIGSA workshop.

## What is RIGSA?

The Regional In-depth Genealogical Studies Alliance, Inc. is an independent non-profit corporation formed for the purpose of directing weeklong interactive learning sessions and hands-on research focusing on original documents and manuscripts at regional archives.

Principals are J. Mark Lowe, CG, and Linda Woodward Geiger, CG, CGL.

All RIGSA instructors are certified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists or are staff members of the National Archives and Records Administration's Regional Archives or of state and local archives.

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### RIGS Alliance, Inc.

P.O. Box 1273  
Jasper, GA 30143-0048

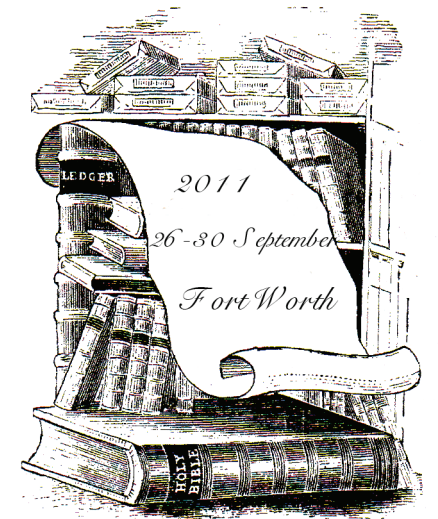
[www.RIGSAlliance.org](http://www.RIGSAlliance.org)  
E-mail: [info@RIGSAlliance.org](mailto:info@RIGSAlliance.org)

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# One-of-a-kind learning at regional archives



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Studies Alliance, Inc.

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## REGISTRATION



**RIGSA Workshops**  
**Regional In-depth Genealogical Studies Alliance**  
 in cooperation with  
**National Archives and Records Administration's Regional System**

Mail this form with your check or money order (payable to RIGS Alliance, Inc.) to: RIGSA 2011 Workshop ♦ P.O. Box 1273 ♦ Jasper, GA 30143-0048

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(As you want it to read on your name tag)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day): ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Evening): ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Tuition and Fees

Tuition and fees cover classroom facilities; all workshop materials; and lunch Monday–Thursday.

\$449 (postmarked by 15 Aug 2011) per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$549 (postmarked 16 Aug 2011 or later) per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Tuition \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I will attend the RIGSA workshop(s) in:

Fort Worth, Texas  
 26-30 September 2011

### Special Needs

Any workshop participants who requires special meals for health reasons must notify RIGS Alliance of their needs in writing when applying for this workshop.

### Refund Policy

Requests for refund must be submitted in writing before 15 August 2011 and will be subject to a \$50 cancellation fee. There will be no refunds after this date unless we are able to find another attendee to fill the vacated slot.

### Lodging and Transportation

Workshop participants are responsible for making their own reservations and paying for their own lodging in workshop cities, and for their own transportation. Make reservations as soon as possible to ensure that you have accommodations at a location and price you prefer. Visit the RIGSA Web site at *www.RIGSAlliance.org* to view, download, or print a list of hotels and rates for areas near the workshop sites. There are accommodations for all budget ranges near the archives facilities where workshops are held.

If you are interested in sharing a room or rental car with another workshop participant, send an e-mail to [info@RIGSAlliance.org](mailto:info@RIGSAlliance.org). There is no guarantee, but we'll try to put you in touch with another attendee interested in sharing.



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## WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

(Activities, topics, and schedules vary among workshop locations.  
 See [www.RIGSAlliance.org](http://www.RIGSAlliance.org) for detailed curriculum.)

All RIGSA workshops include participatory activities that teach and employ practical skills such as:

- Interpreting handwriting (paleography)
- Transcribing and abstracting records
- Citing sources
- Creating a research plan
- Using online and print finding aids (catalogs, NUCMC, Preliminary Inventories, Descriptive Pamphlets, etc.) to locate records
- Using online resources

These skills will be integrated with work in an array of record types, including but not limited to:

- Population and special census schedules
- Federal and local court records (criminal, bankruptcy, naturalization, and others)
- Federal land records
- Mapping
- Federal and state military records
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Records of the U.S. Postal System
- Manuscripts

Attendees may participate in interactive activities such as a mock court case, a census enumerators' test, and treasure hunts for answers that lie in the original records.

The 2011 sessions will be held at the National Archives at Fort Worth (exact location to be announced at a later date), Fort Worth, Texas.

## LEARNING FACILITIES

Workshop sessions take place in classrooms at the National Archives and Records Administration's Regional System facilities, in close proximity to research rooms. Our classrooms offer Internet access, dry-erase boards, flip charts, and overhead computer projection systems, all the tools we'll need for effective learning sessions. Lunch is brought in Monday through Thursday for workshop attendees.

## TUITION

Tuition of \$449 (postmarked by 15 Aug 2011) or \$549 (postmarked 16 Aug 2011 or later) covers all workshop materials and facilities as well as lunch Monday–Thursday. Attendees are responsible for their own air and ground transportation and lodging.