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History:

The *Austin American Statesman* was first established in Austin, Texas in 1871 and titled the *Democratic Statesman*. The paper was the product of a resolution from the Democratic State Convention of that year which laid out the need for the creation of a party organ in Texas, a state otherwise dominated by Republican papers throughout the period of Reconstruction.

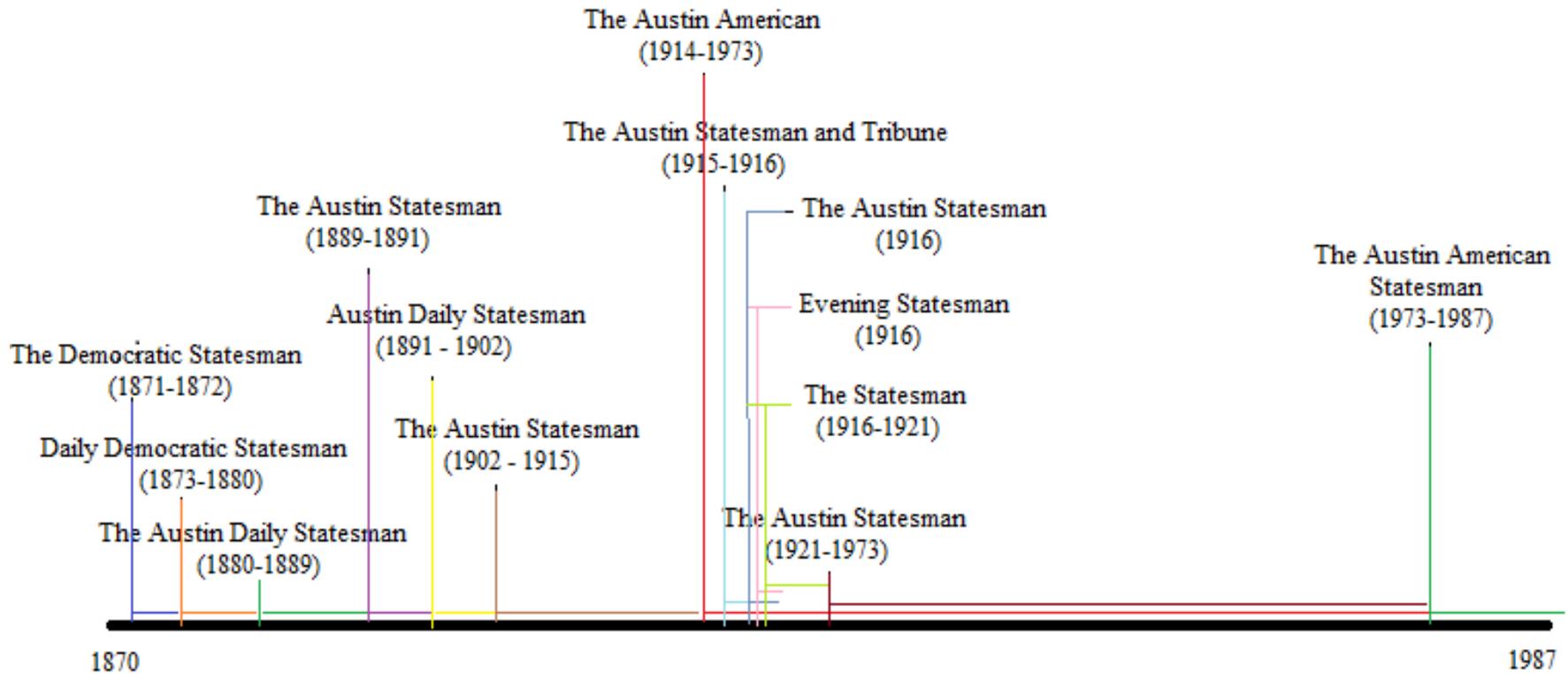
During its first two years the paper was published as a tri-weekly, with an additional weekly release. In January of 1873 the paper began publishing daily and became the *Daily Democratic Statesman*. Under the leadership of its first editor, John Cardwell, the *Statesman* experienced early success and saw the eventual incorporation of the Statesman Publishing Company. Following Cardwell's retirement in 1883 the paper saw a steady decline in subscription rates. In 1887, under serious threat of bankruptcy and dissolution, the Statesman Publishing Company sought new investors. It would find them in A.P. Woodridge and a group of the city's business professionals who organized to buy out the company and ensure the continuation of the *Statesman*.

With the new leadership came a new name and in 1891 the *Daily Democratic Statesman* became the *Austin Daily Statesman*, eventually the daily was dropped altogether in 1902. The paper experienced relative success and maintained its status among the daily's of Austin throughout the early 1900s. By 1914 the *Austin Statesman* and the *Austin Tribune* were the sole daily papers in Austin, however they would be joined that year by the *Austin American*. Together the *Statesman* and *American* each published a daily morning edition while the *Tribune* put out an afternoon paper. In 1915 the *Statesman* bought out the *Tribune* and quickly consolidated the two papers into a single afternoon edition abandoning the morning to the *American*.

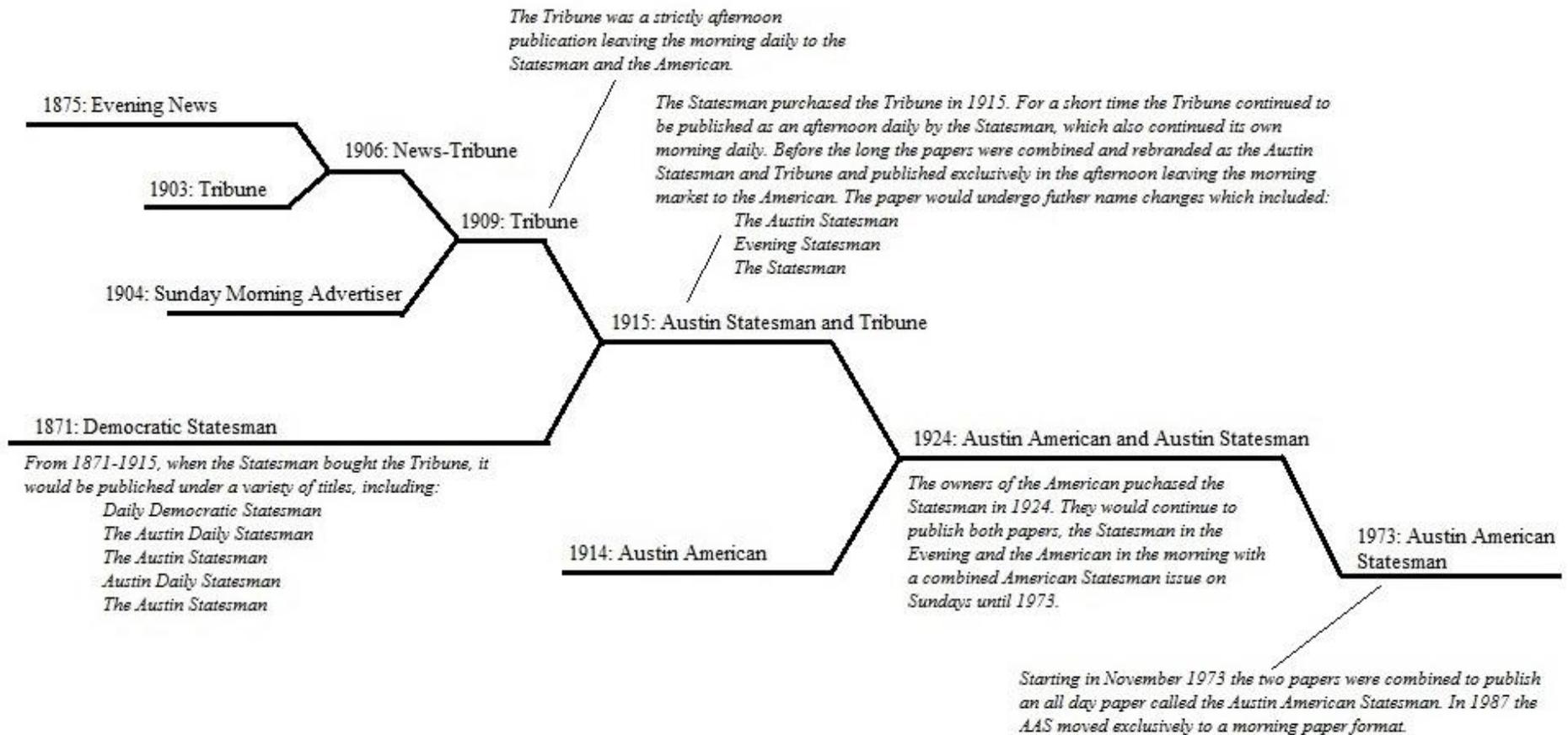
The paper found itself under new ownership in the Capital Printing Company, and with a new editor in Edmunds Travis from 1916 to 1925. In 1924, near the end of Travis' editorship, the paper was again sold, this time to the same partnership which owned the *Austin American*. The *Austin Statesman* was left to print the evening edition while the *Austin American* continued publishing the morning edition, while together they published a Sunday issue under the name the *American-Statesman*. From 1973 through 1987 the two newspapers combined to publish an all-day edition under the name of the *Austin American-Statesman*. In 1987, the paper moved to an exclusively morning edition format.

The *American-Statesman* has had many facilities over the years. In its early decades, it had a few locations on Congress Avenue. Between 1881 and 1885 it could be found at the intersection of West 10th and Congress. From 1885 through 1895 the paper was at 600 Congress, and from 1902 through 1906 at 4th and Congress. From 1915-1936 it was located at East 7th Street and Brazos. In 1936 it moved to West 7th Street and Colorado. In 1953, the *Austin American-Statesman* moved to a larger facility at West 4th Street and Guadalupe. An expansion to the *American-Statesman* building in The newspaper was purchased by Cox Enterprises in 1976 and moved again in 1981 to its present facility on the south shore of Town Lake at 166 East Riverside.

Timelines:



The timeline above serves to illustrate the variety of names by which the *Austin American-Statesman* has been published over the years and the years covered by each title. It can be helpful to refer to when conducting searches of ProQuest.



This timeline features the many papers in Austin whose eventual consolidation led to the current *Austin American-Statesman*. It demonstrates the variety of name changes that took place over the evolution of the paper amid the merges that have taken place throughout its history.

Indexes:

Electronic:

ProQuest:

- *Dates:* 1871 – 1978
- *Accessibility:* <http://library.austintexas.gov/database/austin-american-statesman-1871-1975>
The ProQuest database can be accessed at any library location or from any computer with your library card. Articles have been fully scanned and are accessible online as searchable PDFs.
- *Notes:* The ProQuest database includes the following publications and iterations of the *Austin American-Statesman* and their respective dates. Because some of the publications overlapped, not all dates of a specific title of the publication were scanned and included and have resulted in some gaps and missing articles. While this is rare, in any case where you suspect this might have occurred you are encouraged to check the microfilm for the complete record of the paper.

<i>Title of Publication:</i>	<i>Years of Pub.</i>	<i>Dates Included in ProQuest:</i>	<i>Gaps:</i>
The Democratic Statesman	1871 – 1872	1871 – 1872	
Daily Democratic Statesman	1873 – 1880	1873 – 1880	
The Austin Daily Statesman	1880 – 1889	1880 – 1889	
The Austin Statesman	1889 – 1891	1889 – 1891	
Austin Daily Statesman	1891 – 1902	(December 13, 1902)	
The Austin Statesman	1902 – 1915	(December 14, 1902 - June 30, 1915)	
The Austin Statesman and Tribune	1915 – 1916	(July 1, 1915 – June 21, 1916)	
The Austin Statesman	1916 – 1916	(June 22, 1916 – September 12, 1916)	
Evening Statesman	1916 – 1916	(September 13, 1916 – October 26, 1916)	
The Statesman	1916 – 1921	(October 27, 1916 – January 3, 1921)	
The Austin Statesman	1921 – 1973	(January 4, 1921 – November 2, 1973)	
The Austin American	1914 – 1973	(December 14, 1924 – December 31, 1967)	(Missing 1950)
The Austin American Statesman	1973 – 1987	(November 3, 1973 – December 31, 1975)	

NewsBank:

- *Dates:* 1989 – Current
- *Accessibility:* <http://library.austintexas.gov/database/newsbank>
NewsBank can be accessed at any library location or from any computer with your library card.
- *Notes:* The *NewsBank* database is full text searchable but not scanned PDFs. Content of the paper is viewable online via html. While the database does include death notices it does not include obituaries or any other paid portion from the paper. Some examples include advertisements and classifieds.

Factiva:

- *Dates:* 1989 – Current
- *Accessibility:* <http://library.austintexas.gov/database/factiva>
Factiva can be accessed at any library location or from any computer with your library card.
- *Notes:* Like *NewsBank* the *Factiva* is a full text searchable database that does not feature scanned PDFs. You'll discover the same content from each newspaper issue here as in *NewsBank* with the same portions excluded as well. This includes no obituaries, advertisements, or classifieds.

Austin American-Statesman Image

- *Dates:* Today's paper with a two month backlog.
- *Accessibility:* <http://library.austintexas.gov/database/austin-american-statesman-image>
AAS Image can be accessed at any library location or from any computer with your library card.
- *Notes:* AAS Image is a fully scanned PDF version of the daily *Austin American-Statesman*. Users can expect to find the paper in its entirety.

Austin American Statesman Index: (Internal use only)

- *Dates:* 1981-1992
- *Accessibility:* Refer to the archivist for a search of this database.
- *Notes:* Very limited search ability and functionality. Like the computer printouts and index cards this database is more of an index referring to a specific article in the paper that then must be accessed on the microfilm. It does not have PDFs or full printouts of any articles. However it does cover a portion of the years during which there would otherwise be a gap from the ProQuest database to the Newsbank and Factiva databases.

Print:

Computer Printouts:

- *Dates:* 1871-1877 / 1884 / 1973-1980
- *Accessibility:* These printed indexes can be accessed at the Austin History Center. They are available for review in the microfilm room on top of the cases housing the reels.
- *Notes:* The printouts are arranged chronologically and then alphabetically by subject heading. Entries include page information for reference to the paper.

Card Indexes:

- *Dates:* 1878-1883 / 1956-1973
- *Accessibility:* The card indexes can be accessed at the Austin History Center. They are available for review in the microfilm room in the left hand corner beside the door leading into the photo archives.
- *Notes:* Card indexes are arranged alphabetically by subject, person, title, etc...

See Also:

General Collection:

A 071 BU C1956 *History of the Austin Statesman, 1871-1956*

Archival Collections:

AR.2014.039 Austin American-Statesman Photographic Morgue
(Images from Austin American-Statesman photographers from 1958-1982)

Austin Files:

N2405 Newspapers – American Statesman