

CHANGELOG_Delta_Main.md

Changelog

All notable changes to the TXDelta project will be documented in this file.

The format is based on [Keep a Changelog](#), and this project adheres to [Semantic Versioning](#).

[8.0.1] - 2026-05-25

Changes

- Changed the name of the README.md file to README_Delta_Main.md. This will distinguish this file from other README files.
- Changed the name of the CHANGELOG.md file to CHANGELOG_Delta_main.md. This will distinguish this file from other CHANGELOG files.

[8.0.0] - 2026-05-05

Major Release

This major version represents a significant overhaul of the TXDelta genealogical website with modernized architecture and enhanced features.

Added

- **JSON-based Configuration System:** Centralized configuration management
 - County_master.json for master county settings
 - Delta_config.json for comprehensive site configuration
 - Delta_navbar.json and Delta_navbar_AI.json for navigation structure
 - Delta_footer.json for footer management
 - Delta_sitemap.json for sitemap generation
 - Delta_search.json for search configuration
- **Enhanced Cemetery Features**
 - Comprehensive cemetery database interface
 - Dedicated African-American cemetery section (cemeteries-aa.php)
 - Cemetery image management system
 - GPS coordinates for cemetery locations
 - Memorial photo albums
- **Interactive Mapping**
 - GeoJSON support for geographic data

- Interactive maps for towns and locations
- Large map view functionality (`view-large-map.php`)
- Integration with Google Maps
- **Advanced Search Capabilities**
 - Site-wide search functionality (`search-site.php`)
 - Filtered search results (`search-results.php`)
 - AJAX-powered search with live results
- **Historical Records Management**
 - Church records database
 - School records and histories
 - Military records (WWI & WWII)
 - Marriage records
 - Census data integration
 - Land grant documentation
 - Early records archive
- **Community Features**
 - Message board system
 - Lookup volunteer coordination
 - Photo album sharing (`view-album.php`)
- **Administrative Tools**
 - Automated cron job system for maintenance
 - Database reindexing scripts
 - Image validation and reporting
 - Login attempt monitoring
 - Cemetery count statistics
 - Sitemap auto-generation
- **Developer Features**
 - SCSS/SASS preprocessing
 - Bootstrap 3.2.0 integration with custom replacements
 - Modular PHP architecture
 - AJAX endpoints for dynamic content
 - Build scripts for JavaScript compilation
 - VS Code task integration

Changed

- **PHP Version:** Upgraded to PHP 8.3.0
- **Architecture:** Modularized codebase with improved separation of concerns
 - Centralized configuration via `Delta_config.php`
 - Unified database connection handling (`Delta_dbconn.php`)
 - Standardized header/footer includes
 - AJAX-based content loading
- **Styling System**
 - Migration to SCSS/SASS

- Custom Bootstrap replacement styles
- Responsive design improvements
- Consistent styling across all pages
- CSS variable system for theming
- **Navigation**
 - AI-enhanced navbar (navbar_AI.php)
 - Dynamic menu generation from JSON
 - Improved mobile responsiveness
- **Database**
 - Optimized queries
 - Improved indexing
 - Enhanced data validation

Improved

- **Performance**
 - AJAX-based lazy loading
 - Optimized image handling
 - Reduced page load times
 - Efficient database queries
- **User Experience**
 - Modernized interface
 - Improved accessibility (ARIA labels)
 - Better mobile experience
 - Enhanced search functionality
 - Intuitive navigation
- **SEO**
 - Automated sitemap generation
 - Meta tag optimization
 - Google Analytics integration
 - Structured data markup
- **Documentation**
 - Comprehensive inline code documentation
 - Markdown documentation in .md-docs/
 - Wiki integration
 - Code standards documentation

Fixed

- Cross-browser compatibility issues
- Mobile layout problems
- Database connection handling
- Image path resolution
- Search result accuracy

Security

- Updated PHP to 8.3.0 for latest security patches
- Login attempt monitoring system
- Secure database connection handling
- XSS protection in output
- SQL injection prevention

Maintenance

- **Automated Scripts:**
 - Cemetery statistics updates
 - Missing image reports
 - Large image detection
 - Unused image cleanup
 - Database reindexing
 - Sitemap regeneration
 - Military record updates

Technical Details

- **Version:** 8.0.0
 - **Release Date:** May 5, 2026
 - **PHP Version:** 8.3.0
 - **Database:** MySQL (local: txdelta_db)
 - **Framework:** Bootstrap 3.2.0 (customized)
 - **Preprocessor:** SCSS/SASS
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[7.x.x] - Previous Versions

Notes

Previous version history is available in legacy documentation. Version 8.0.0 represents a complete modernization of the codebase.

Version History Summary

Version	Release Date	PHP Version	Major Changes
8.0.0	2026-05-05	8.3.0	Complete modernization, JSON config, SCSS, enhanced features
7.x.x	Legacy	Earlier	Previous implementation

Upgrade Notes

Migrating from 7.x to 8.0

- 1. PHP Upgrade Required:** Ensure PHP 8.3.0 or higher is installed
- 2. Configuration Migration:** Convert old configuration to JSON format
- 3. Database Schema:** Review and apply any schema changes
- 4. File Structure:** Update file paths to match new structure
- 5. CSS/SCSS:** Recompile SCSS files if customized
- 6. JavaScript:** Rebuild JavaScript files using build script

Breaking Changes in 8.0

- PHP 8.3.0 is now required (was 7.x)
- Configuration moved from PHP to JSON files
- CSS system changed from pure CSS to SCSS
- Some file paths and naming conventions updated
- Database connection method standardized

Future Roadmap

Planned for 8.1.0

- Enhanced mobile optimization
- Additional search filters
- Improved photo gallery system
- API for external access
- Advanced user accounts

Planned for 9.0.0

- PHP 8.4+ migration
 - Modern framework integration (potential Laravel)
 - RESTful API
 - Progressive Web App (PWA) capabilities
 - Real-time collaboration features
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Contributing

To contribute to this project:

1. Contact the county coordinators or webmaster
2. Submit records, photos, or corrections
3. Volunteer for transcription or lookup services
4. Report issues via the message board
5. Submit code improvements via pull requests

Support

For questions or issues:

- **Email:** webmaster@txdelta.org
 - **Message Board:** Available on website
 - **Documentation:** See `.md-docs/` directory
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Note: This changelog reflects the current state of the TXDelta project as of version 8.0.0. For older version history, please refer to legacy documentation.