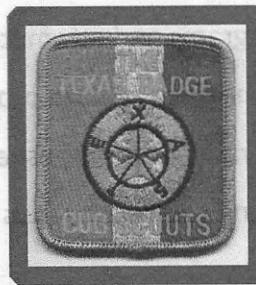


# Doctorate of Commissioner Science

## Thesis Project



### Texas Award



### Texas Badge



## Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic (San Jacinto Battlefield Hike)

Nicholas F. Urbanski  
Sam Houston Area Council  
12 September 2011

## **Summary**

As Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner in the Arrowmoon District from 2007 through 2009, I started searching for any Boy Scout-related programs that focused on Texas history to offer the units to implement during the summer to keep them active yearlong. I learned of the Texas Award, the Texas Badge, and the San Jacinto Battlefield Hike (Sam Houston Trail). Finding information on these programs on the Sam Houston Area Council website proved fruitless. Searching the web, I located haphazard and inconsistent variants on all three programs. Eventually I obtained black-and-white hard copies of the program books. After reviewing this material, I felt all three programs needed a champion to review them and to offer updated versions of the material to better promote them to the entire Scouting community.

Over the term of my work for the Doctorate of Commissioner Science, I reviewed the requirements for the Texas Award, the Texas Badge, and the Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic – The Battle of San Jacinto programs and attempted to complete them myself. I read numerous references (documented in the Texas Award program book), and re-edited the current support material for these programs. I accomplished a significant portion of the work supporting this thesis project by exploring southeast Texas and visiting numerous sites of the Texan War of Independence from Mexico.

Representing the completed product of my Doctoral Thesis Project for a Doctorate Degree in Commissioner Science, I present the Sam Houston Area Council Boy Scouts of America with the revised documentation for the Texas Award, the Texas Badge, and the Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic – The Battle of San Jacinto programs for their consideration.

## **Recommendations**

## **Background**

Additionally, please consider the following recommendations:

- The Texas Badge should be promoted for all registered and active youth members or adult leaders of a chartered Cub Scout unit. This program can be completed in a day by visiting units and promotes family participation in an outdoor event.
- The Texas Award should remain a program for registered and active youth member of a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, or Exploring unit chartered in Texas. The amount of work required to complete this program does not accommodate units visiting the state.
- The Sam Houston Trail Award should be promoted for all registered and active youth members or adult leaders of a chartered Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, or Exploring unit. This program can be completed in a day by visiting units and promotes family participation in an outdoor event.
- A review committee should have the freedom to allow deviations from these aforementioned recommendations as required.
- I offer my continuing service to the Council as editor of this documentation and reviewer of applications.
- Once the revisions / formats of these documents and any derivative supporting works are final, I trust that the Sam Houston Council will accept the documents for inclusion as links on the Council website to promote these worthwhile programs.

## **Background**

Recommendation

I first arrived in Texas by train on 29 October 1999 to attend a weeklong meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) in Dallas. Outside of attending the meeting, I explored little of Texas.

I returned to Texas to attend another AIChE meeting, this time in Houston, on 21 April 2001 – a date that meant nothing to me at the time. I remember getting into the rental car at George H. W. Bush Intercontinental Airport and thinking to myself, “It’s just a quick trip to San Antonio. I’ll take the morning to visit the Alamo.” As I drove westward along the I-10, I passed a sign I now see with regularity that informed me San Antonio lay 181 miles ahead of me. I almost turned around. Coming from the Northeast, this defined an almost impossible day trip to and from San Antonio. I decided to complete my quest. Arriving at the site, I felt the power of the crucible of Texan Independence, but did not fully appreciate it. Looking back, I must admit that “something” happened to me that day, for I soon made life choices that would lead me back to Texas. The embers of Texan independence and rugged individualism kindled within my being.

Between this last visit and May 2005, I completed my MBA program with a desire to leave my employer in search of additional opportunity. In October, I found myself, yet again, in Houston. During this trip, someone placed a job application into my briefcase for a position in College Station. Within a few short months, like many before me, I packed all my belongings, said “Good-bye” to my family, etched “GTT” in the doorframe of my apartment, and drove to Texas to start another chapter in my life.

I began my residence on 01 March 2006. Within a week, I broke all ties with my former state. That next weekend, I completed a pilgrimage to the Alamo. While on the tour, the guide made what I considered rather disparaging comments about the Texans and opined sympathies for His Excellency Antonio López de Santa Anna. I remember making some disparaging comments under my breath concerning the dictator and the guide to what seemed the delight of a very tall Texan standing next to me. I walked out of the barracks still muttering under my breath, when I felt a large, heavy hand on my shoulder, and heard, “Excuse me son.” I turned and looked up into the age-worn yet strong eyes of the tall Texan who stood next to me just minutes ago. “I heard your comments. You’re sure proud to be a Texan, aren’t you?” he asked. I

responded, "Sir, I just arrived in the Republic on the first of March. I apologize, but no one should be able to say such things in support of that brutal dictator and detract from the sacrifice of our Texan patriots." The tall Texan laughed, took off his cowboy hat, slapped me firmly on the shoulder, and introduced me to his wife. He spoke to this wife, "Honey, this young man just arrived in Texas days ago and has more respect than our own children and grandchildren." Turning back to me he continued, "Welcome to Texas, son. We are glad to have ya." He shook my hand, smiled, turned, and walked away, still chuckling to himself.

For the first time I fundamentally understood "something" changed me. Something influenced me over these many years to get to this point. That "something" was Texas. I never spoke in similar language about the history of my former home state. Texas became more than John Wayne, Fess Parker, and the Sons of the Pioneers. Texas became a part of me. Texas became my home. From that point on, I started ravenously reading all I could about Texas history, especially the events around independence. Living in College Station, Washington-on-the-Brazos served as a post to feed my hunger. Soon I found myself traveling across Texas, visiting the various sites about which I learned from my studies.

From the moment I entered Texas in 2006, I continued my service to the Boy Scouts as a Unit Commissioner and later as Cub Scout Roundtable Commissioner in the Arrowmoon District. From my Boy Scouting experiences, I knew of various programs sponsored by other councils supporting local history that helped youth and adult members learn about that history and keep units active all year. I started searching for any Boy Scout-related programs that focused on Texas history to offer the units to implement during the summer to keep them active yearlong. Many heard of such programs, but did not use them for various reasons. I learned of the Texas Award, the Texas Badge, and the San Jacinto Battlefield Hike (Sam Houston Trail). Finding information on these programs on the Sam Houston Area Council website proved fruitless. Searching the web, I located haphazard and inconsistent variants on all three programs. Eventually I obtained black-and-white hard copies of the program books. After reviewing this material, I felt all three programs needed a champion to review them and to offer updated versions of the material to better promote them to the entire Scouting community.

## **Research and Development**

Over the term of my work for the Doctorate of Commissioner Science, I reviewed the requirements for the Texas Award, the Texas Badge, and the Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic – The Battle of San Jacinto programs and attempted to complete them myself. I read numerous references (documented in the Texas Award material), and re-edited the current support material for these programs. I accomplished a significant portion of the work supporting this thesis project by exploring southeast Texas and visiting numerous sites of the Texan War of Independence from Mexico.

On Sunday 27 March 2011 – the 175th Anniversary of the Goliad Massacre – my family and I traveled to San Felipe de Austin to visit the historical site dedicated to the founding of Austin's colony. Here we learned that the historical site hosts numerous Texas Badge days during the year for Packs to complete the requirements for the award. From there we visited



**Figure 1: Statue to Stephen F. Austin  
at San Felipe de Austin**



**Figure 2: Father and Son at San Felipe de Austin**

Independence to satisfy our yearly pilgrimage to see the bluebonnets and other vibrantly colored Texas wildflowers that paint the countryside in the spring. Washington-on-the-Brazos became our last stop for the day. A site rooted deeply in Texas independence, it also serves as a special escape place for our family. I proposed to my wife, Jessica, in Independence Hall. As at San Felipe de Austin, Washington-on-the-Brazos also hosts Texas Badge days for Cub Scouts.

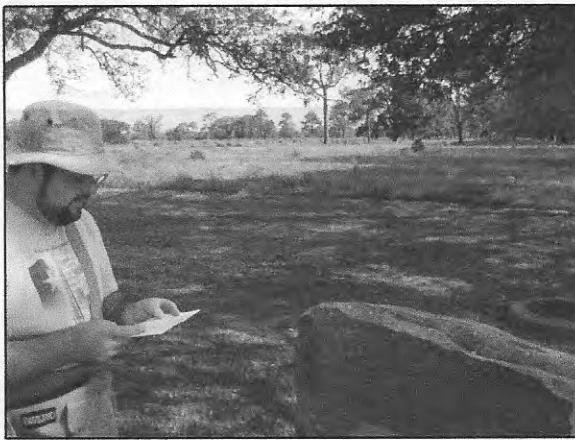


**Figure 3: A Young Texan Learning Outside Independence Hall, Washington-on-the-Brazos**



**Figure 4: Youngest Convention Member at Washington-on-the-Brazos**

On Saturday 09 April 2011, we traveled to the San Jacinto Battlefield Historical Site to complete the Sam Houston Trail Award. Following the material found for this program, we hiked the battlefield from start to finish and learned about the events leading up to the Battle of San Jacinto on 21 April 1836, the battle itself, and its aftermath. We also visited the museum and rode the elevator to the observation floor of the monument. With the information gained from the hike and from other resources, the newly developed program book for consideration addresses various errors and oversights found in the current version.



**Figure 5: At the Beginning of the Sam Houston Trail Hike**



**Figure 6: At the End of the Sam Houston Trail Hike**

Father's Day weekend 2011, we turned a four-day weekend into an adventure to cover numerous early Texas history sites not yet visited. We started this tour in Indianola and found a statue to the explorer René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, who briefly claimed part of Texas for France. We then continued onward to Refugio, San Patricio, Fort Lipantitlan, and Agua

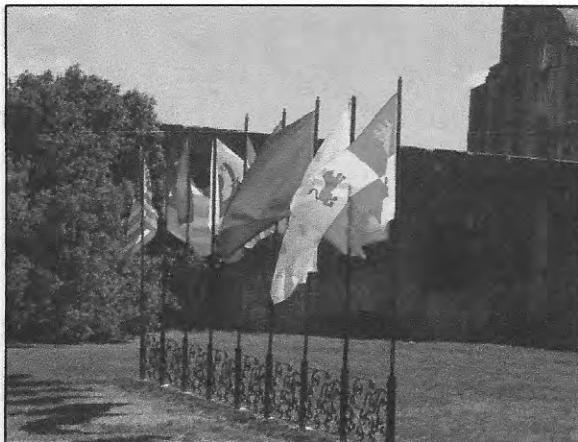


Figure 7: Nine Flags over Goliad

Dulce – little known battle sites in the Texan independence movement. The next day we visited Goliad, the Presidio La Bahía, and Gonzales. We also toured the historic Gonzales jailhouse.



Figure 9: Inside Gonzales Jailhouse

that the first Polish church, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, was founded on 24 December 1854 in Panna Maria. We visited this small village that still holds tight to its deep Polish roots. While we visited, a wedding took place for a granddaughter who returned “home” to get married.



Figure 8: Father and Son at Goliad

Being of Polish heritage, I was surprised to learn while reading *The First Polish Americans: Silesian Settlements in Texas* by T. Lindsay Baker

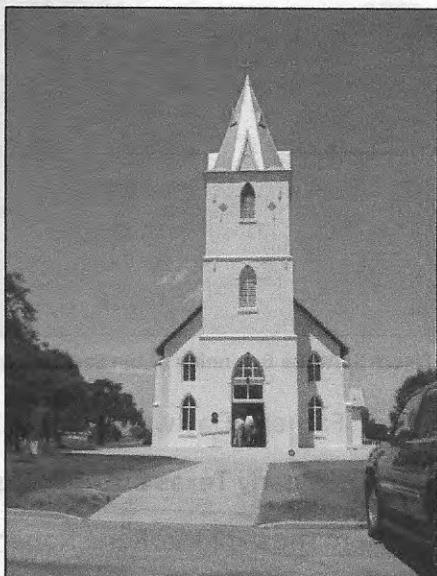


Figure 10: Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

The next day we spent at the Alamo and visiting the other missions of San Antonio – Mission Concepción, Mission San José, Mission San Juan Capistrano, and Mission La Espada.



Figure 11: Mission Concepción



Figure 12: Mission San José

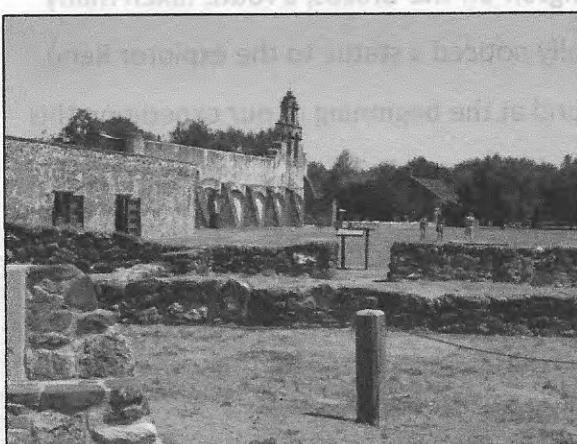


Figure 13: Mission San Juan Capistrano



Figure 14: Mission La Espada



Figure 15: The Alamo

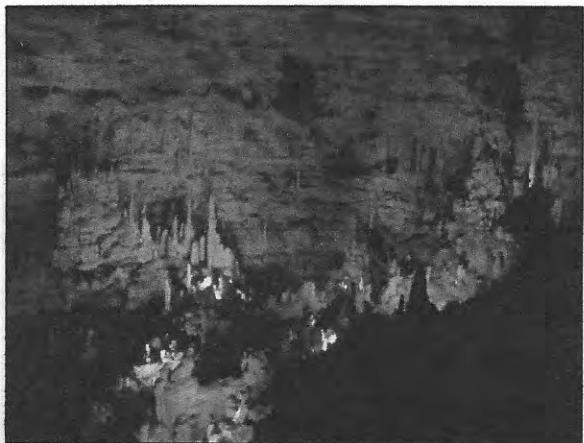


Figure 16: Inside the Natural Bridge Caverns

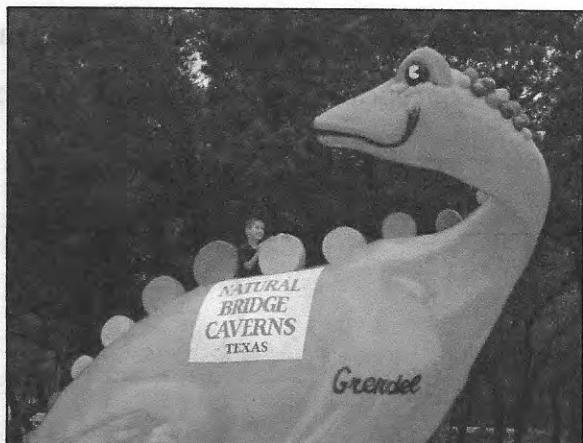


Figure 17: Riding Grendel at Natural Bridge Caverns

The final day we explored the wonders of Natural Bridge Caverns and visited Washington-on-the-Brazos before returning home to Katy.

While driving through Navasota from Washington-on-the-Brazos, a route taken many times even when we lived in College Station, we finally noticed a statue to the explorer René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle. Unlike the one found at the beginning of our expedition this weekend that told of his attempts to establish a French presence in Texas, this one related his assassination at the hands of his own men during his final trek to reach the Mississippi from Texas.

*\*\* Not until the review of these Boy Scout programs and the deeper study of Texas history they inspired would my family or I have realized the historically significant events and sites that occurred in our own backyard.*

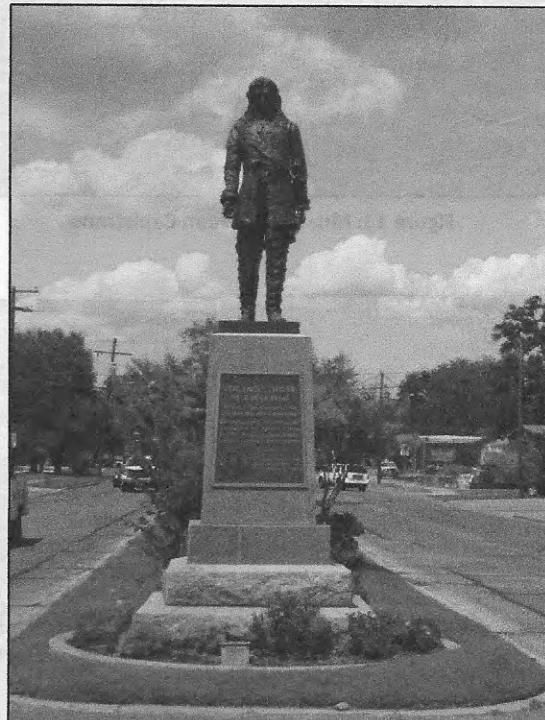


Figure 18: Statue to the Explorer René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, in Navasota

## Acknowledgements

This work represents more than a thesis project for a Doctorate degree in Commissioner Science. This had been a labor of love and dedication for a state and organization that have given me so much.

- To the Greater Niagara Frontier Council Boy Scouts of America, outmost gratitude for from the moment I entered the program in 1980 as a Cub Scout, the leadership and friendships established kept me active in many activities of the Boy Scout program far into my adult years.
- To the Arrowmoon District, thank you for taking a chance with a “Northerner” within your Commissioner ranks. I never knew I could handle a Cub Scout Roundtable until Mary Bryant simply asked me to help her with it.
- To the Sam Houston Area Council Boy Scouts of America, thank you for providing me a new Scouting home.
- To my son, Alexander, I hope to be able to assist you to complete these programs when your time comes.
- To my wife, Jessica, heartfelt thanks and love for support during this process. Thanks, also, for single-handedly taping together torn edited copies of the program materials (nearly 60 pages) following the crash of our computer days before project completion so that I did not have to start from the beginning again.

## ***Thesis Proposal:***

***Originally Presented: 04 December 2010; Updated: 25 February 2011***

Many singular characteristics define life here in the State of Texas as compared to other regions of the United States of America. Our history certainly embodies one of these most unique aspects. Texans, young and old, native-born and newly-transplanted, hold a special place in their hearts and souls for its foundation. Alamo, Goliad, Gonzalez, San Jacinto, Crockett, Bowie, Travis, Houston, Austin, Seguin – just some of the names of the places and the people etched into our memories as Texans. To us every single one of these places and people are more than historical, they are real and remain with us to this very day. The history of Texas is the history of every Texan – a history that began hundreds of years before Europeans arrived. A history, continuously written by our actions today, that will extend far into the future, as long as Texans remember and appreciate it.

One of the goals of the Boy Scouts of America centers on developing good citizens by learning and appreciating the history of the United States of America. Over numerous decades, volunteer Scouters and professional staff of the South (Central) Region and the Sam Houston Area Council collectively developed three programs centering on developing good citizens of Texas by promoting the study and understanding of Texas history. These three programs became the San Jacinto Battlefield Hike, the Texas Badge, and the Texas Award. These programs support an enhanced understanding and appreciation of Texas history that every Texan – young, old, native, and transplant – should experience and never forget.

While one may find references to youth attaining these recognitions, (i.e. Winter 2010/2011 “Katy Magazine”), it appears that these programs have not been actively championed and promoted for some time. Many Scouters, youth and adult, do not even know they exist. References to them on the Council website and among the wealth of Scouting information on the internet either fail to mention them, or if they do, the links are outdated or haphazard at best.

For the benefit of youth members and adult leaders throughout the Council, utilizing currently available resources, this proposed thesis project will collect, update, reformat, and repackage each of these three programs – San Jacinto Battlefield Hike, Texas Badge, and Texas

Award – for consideration by the Sam Houston Area Council for inclusion on the Council website. This project will include careful review of the material and requirements for all three programs, including visiting sites to verify references and the ability to satisfactorily complete the requirements of each program. Additionally, adult eligibility requirements will be reviewed / developed to create an incentive for adult Scouters to use these programs in their units to promote strong Texan citizenship.

The enhancement proposed for these programs would not only benefit the youth and adult Scouters in the Sam Houston Area Council. If aware of them by accessing the Sam Houston Area Council website, out-of-Council units could choose to explore these programs to enhance their visit to the Lone Star State and to the Sam Houston Area Council just as the Gettysburg programs promote visitation to the York-Adams Area Council in Pennsylvania.

#### **Proposed Timeline for Completion of Thesis Project:**

04 December 2010	Presentation of Thesis for approval at Commissioner College
15 February 2011	Finish collection of currently available information for thesis
09 July 2011	Half-Way Check: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Site Visitations planned / completed</li><li>• Progress on consolidation and rewriting for presentation</li><li>• Attain patches / medals for pictures / scanning</li></ul>
10 September 2011	Final Paperwork / Presentation begins
03 December 2011	Deliver Final Presentation at Commissioner College

## **Planner / Back-Dater**

03 December 2011	Commissioner College
21 to 25 November 2011	Thanksgiving Holiday
13 to 28 October 2011	Work Travel
25 September to 02 October 2011	Family Holiday
16 to 24 September 2011	Work Travel
10 to 15 September 2011	Work Travel
10 September 2011	Thesis Project Due
02 to 05 September 2011	Project Review and Finalization
15 to 19 August 2011	Work Training
08 to 09 August 2011	Work Training
25 to 29 July 2011	Work Training
18 to 22 July 2011	Work Training
04 July 2011	Project Review Point
30 June 2011	Work Training
26 to 29 June 2011	Work Travel
17 to 20 June 2011	Southeast Texas and Alamo Trip
14 to 15 June 2011	Work Training
06 to 10 June 2011	Work Training
14 to 26 May 2011	Work Travel
29 April to 06 May 2011	Work Travel
09 April 2011	Hike San Jacinto Battlefield
27 March 2011	San Felipe de Austin & Washington-on-the-Brazos Trip
25 February 2011	Revision A of Thesis Issued
15 February 2011	Finish collection of currently available information
12 February 2011	University of Scouting
04 December 2010	Presentation of Thesis at Commissioner College

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEXAS AWARD

# Texas Award

To earn the Texas Award, you must be a registered and active Scout member of a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout Program, or Exploring unit registered in Texas.

## Program



## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEXAS AWARD

### Qualifications:

1. To earn the Texas Award, you must be a registered and active youth member of a Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, or Exploring unit chartered in Texas.

### State Symbols:

- 2a. Describe the flag of Texas and explain the significance of its parts.
- 2b. Give the name of the state bird and show that you can identify it in the field by sight or call.
- 2c. Give the name of the state flower and show that you can identify it in the field.
- 2d. Sing or recite the words of "Texas, Our Texas".

### State History:

- 3a. Describe the six flags of Texas. Relate some of the major events that occurred in Texas while under each flag.
- 3b. Pick any year before 1980. Describe the important events that happened in Texas that year and discuss how they influenced the future of Texas.
- 3c. Choose a famous Texan. Tell why you chose that person. Read one or more biographies of this person and explain the person's importance to Texas.
- 3d-I. Identify a site or trail in Texas of historical significance. Relate its important to Texas history.
- 3d-II. With one or more companions, hike for at least two miles near your chosen site OR camp overnight at or near your chosen site.
- 3e. Assist a volunteer organization that preserves or perpetuates Texas history or culture by performing a service project (approved by your counselor) for at least 3 hours.

## Introduction

### State Culture:

- 4a. Identify an Indian tribe that, at any time, lived, camped or hunted near your community. Report on its culture.
- 4b-I. Choose any ethnic group (other than the Indians in Requirement 4a) of which you are not a member. Give a brief history of the group and tell of any special customs and observances it has.
- 4b-II. Participate in and describe at least one special observance, feast, or holiday your chosen group celebrates, and explain its origin.
- 4b-III. Prepare one traditional food of your chosen group to serve four people.
- 4c. Read at least one book (fiction or non-fiction) by a Texas author on a Texas subject (in addition to the biography for Requirement 3c) OR Read at least three short stories by one or more Texas authors on Texas subjects OR Read at least three poems by one or more Texas poets on Texas subjects.
- 4d. Describe the work of five volunteer groups that in some way support the cultural activities in Texas.

**NOTE: If you have already completed any of these requirements for another Scout-related**

**recognition or advancement, you must do something different for the Texas Award.**

**Remember, a Scout is Honest.**

Our state's world-famous people and culture are all around you; learning just a few can help you be prepared to recognize and enjoy them. Good luck!

Robert R. Beale

## Introduction

When I was a Scout, I had the fun of growing up in the beautiful old city of San Antonio.

Founded by the Spaniards in the 1700's and the capital of Spanish and Mexican Texas, the city always held a special fascination for me, with its rich history and the stories of the people who made it.

I tried to place myself within that history, and have had a lifetime of fun doing so. I was born four blocks from the Alamo. My grandfather had once kept store near the old Spanish Governor's Palace and my father had a store on the banks of the San Antonio River – a river where countless Indians, pioneers, soldiers and cowboys had quenched their thirst, watered their horses or camped. I grew up and went to school on land that once was part of the fabled Maverick Ranch. One of the friends' troops often camped at Fort Sam Houston, where the Indian chief Geronimo was imprisoned and where Teddy Roosevelt recruited and trained the "Rough Riders" in the Spanish-American War.

As I grew up, I saw that history spring up before me wherever I went in Texas. At college in Austin I discovered a hill where the famous scout of the Texas War for Independence, Erastus "Deaf" Smith, had fought an Indian. The State Cemetery, final resting place of hundreds of Texas heroes, was within walking distance of my classes. The building where I work in downtown Houston is only a few blocks from the site of the former capitol of the Republic of Texas, and every year my troop camps in the old town of San Felipe and hikes to the bend in Bullinger Creek where Stephen F. Austin built the only home he ever owned in Texas.

Our state's world-famous history and culture are all around you; earning this award can help you be prepared to recognize and enjoy them. Good luck!

*Nelson R. Block*

**2a. Describe the flag of Texas and explain the significance of its parts.**

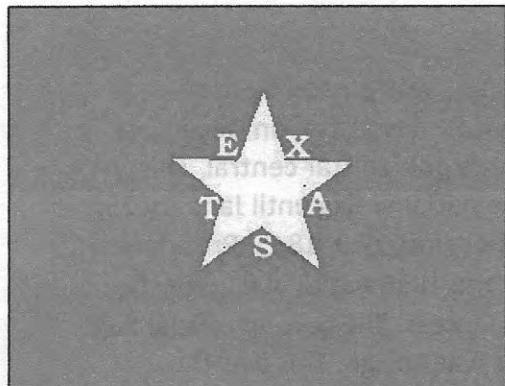
Taken from "Flags of Texas", *Handbook of Texas Online*, by Charles A. Spain, Jr. and published by the Texas:

The first official flag, the "National Standard of Texas," was passed by the Congress of the republic and approved by President Sam Houston on December 10, 1836. It consisted of an azure ground with a large golden star central. This flag, known as David G. Burnet's flag, served as the national flag until January 25, 1839, and the war flag from January 25, 1839, to December 29, 1845. President Burnet proposed the national standard, as well as the 1836 national flag for the naval service, in a letter of October 11, 1836, to Congress. The second official flag was the 1836 national flag for the naval service, or war ensign. This was the same flag Burnet adopted for the navy at Harrisburg on April 9, 1836. It was similar to the United States flag and showed thirteen stripes and a blue canton with a single white star. It was passed by Congress and approved by Houston on December 10, 1836, and remained in use until January 25, 1839.

The Lone Star Flag was adopted by the Texas Congress in 1839: "[T]he national flag of Texas shall consist of a blue perpendicular stripe of the width of one third of the whole length of the flag, with a white star of five points in the centre thereof, and two horizontal stripes of equal breadth, the upper stripe white, the lower red, of the length of two thirds of the whole length of the flag." Senator William H. Wharton introduced a bill on December 28, 1838, containing the flag's design, and the bill was referred to a committee consisting of Senator Oliver Jones and two unnamed senators. This committee reported a substitute bill embodying the flag design introduced by Wharton, and the substitute bill was passed by the Congress on January 21, 1839 and approved by President Mirabeau B. Lamar on January 25, 1839. Official art for the Lone Star Flag was drawn by Peter Krag and approved by President Lamar. The actual designer of the Lone Star Flag is unknown, but it could have been Wharton. The Lone Star Flag was the legal national and state flag from January 25, 1839, to September 1, 1879, and the de facto state flag from September 1, 1879, to August 31, 1933. The Lone Star Flag was also the legal national ensign from January 25, 1839, to December 29, 1845.

The three colors of the Texas flag, blue, white, and red, each stand, respectfully, for the characteristics of loyalty, purity, and bravery. The single star stands for the unity of all Texans and Texans of the "Lone Star State". The single star's roots began with the desire of a separate

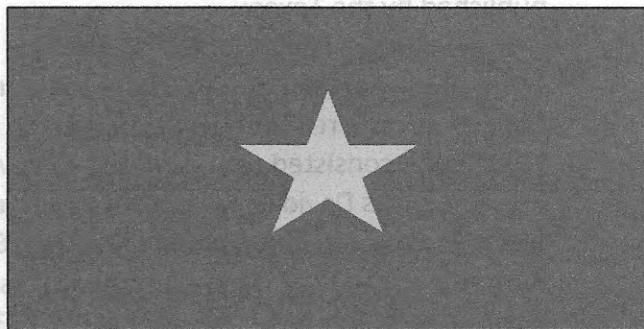
Mexican state of Texas (the flag of the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas possessed two stars), leading thereafter to represent complete independence from Mexico.



**The Zavala Flag (variant)**

**1st Texas Republic Flag**

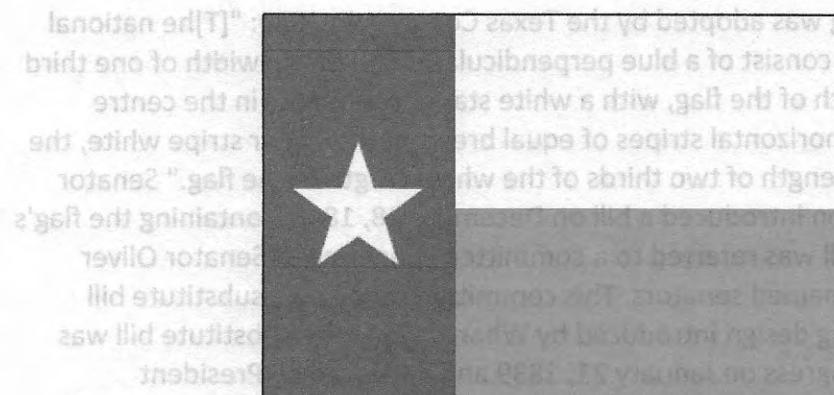
[www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu)



**Burnet's Flag**

**2nd Texas Republic Flag**

[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)



[www.texasflag.us3rd](http://www.texasflag.us3rd)

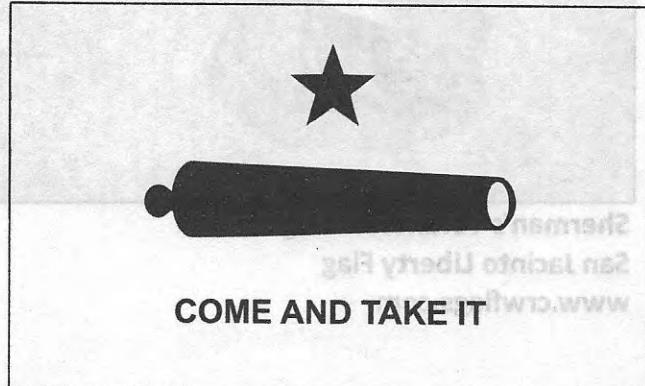
**Texas Republic Flag**

The first Texas flag was designed by Peter Kries and adopted by the Congress of the Republic of Texas on December 29, 1836. It consisted of three horizontal stripes of equal width: blue on top, red in the middle, and white on the bottom. The single star in the center was based on the flag of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

December 29, 1836

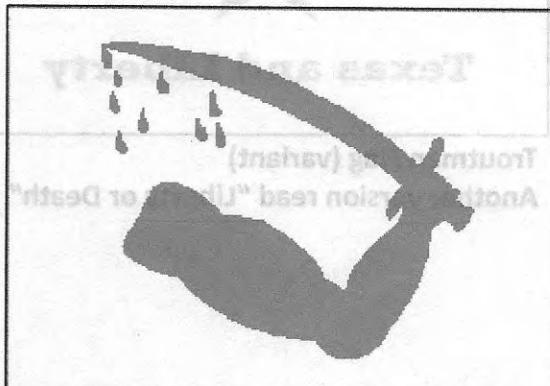
The three colors of the Texas flag, blue, white, and red, each stand for something. The blue stands for the independence of the state, purity and pravity. The white stands for the unity of all Texans and the state of the Lone Star State. The single star stands based upon the desire of a separate

The groups of volunteers who fought for Texas in the War of Independence from Mexico and earlier conflicts against Spain, carried many flags, often made by the ladies of the soldiers' home towns. Some of these appear below:



Gonzales Flag

[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)



Captain Phillip Dimmitt's "First Flag of Texas Independence" - The Goliad Flag

[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

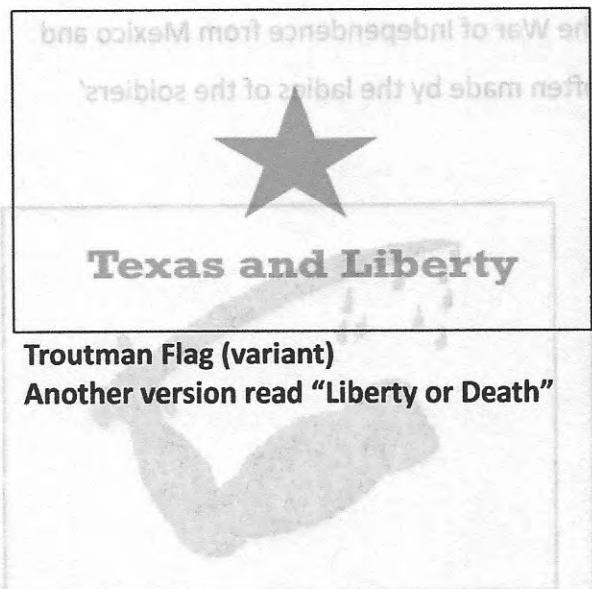


Brown's Flag of Independence



New Orleans Greys Flag

[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)



**Troutman Flag (variant)**

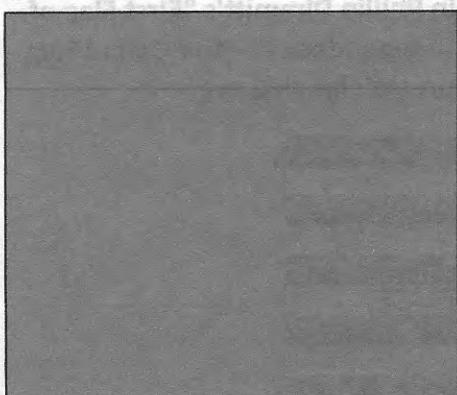
Another version read "Liberty or Death"



**Sherman's Volunteers Flag**

**San Jacinto Liberty Flag**

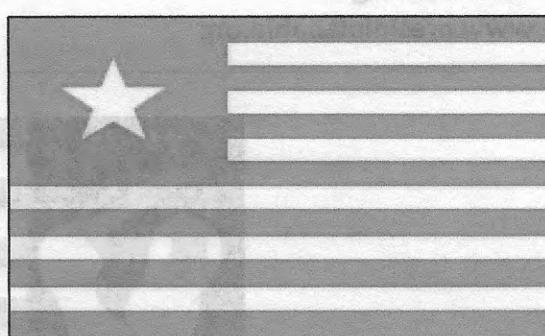
[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)



**Green Flag of the First Texas**

Republic Army

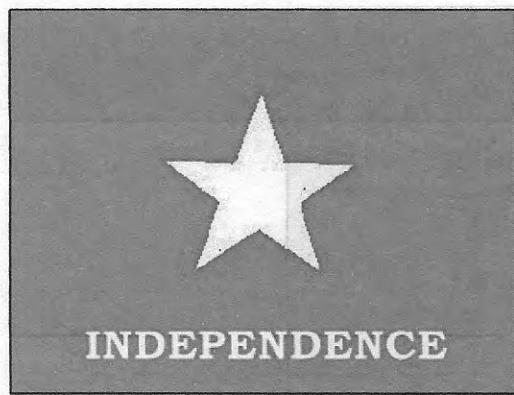
[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)



**Colonel James Long's Flag**

"Second Republic of Texas"

[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)



**Scott's Flag of the Liberal Faction**

[www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu)



**Mexican Flag Variant Showing Support for the  
Constitution of 1824, Opposing Santa Ana**

[www.texasflag.us](http://www.texasflag.us)

**2b. Give the name of the state bird and show that you can identify it in the field by sight or call.**



[www.bowman.50statesproject.com](http://www.bowman.50statesproject.com)

The mockingbird is the state bird of Texas and found in all parts of the state throughout the year. It is about the size of a robin (9 to 11 inches long), mostly colored gray, with distinctive patches of white on its wings which best appear during flight. The mockingbird gets its name from its ability to imitate the calls of other birds. While doing these "bird calls", the mockingbird will repeat the "mock call" several times. On your next campout, identify the "mocker" by sight or call for your unit leader.

Have your leader write a note to your Texas Award counselor that you have passed this requirement.

**2c. Give the name of the state flower and show that you can identify it in the field.**



[www.chinatownconnection.com](http://www.chinatownconnection.com)

Anyone travelling a Texas country road in spring will see seas of beautiful brightly colored bluebonnets, the state flower. State law protects them by making it illegal to pick those growing on the public highways. You can grow them at home and use them for decorations.

## **2d. Sing or recite the words of “Texas, Our Texas”**

Our state song, written by William Marsh and Gladys Yoakum Wright, is “Texas, Our Texas”. The words appear below ([texasourtexas.info](http://texasourtexas.info)):

Texas, Our Texas! All hail the mighty State!

Texas, Our Texas! So wonderful so great!

Boldest and grandest, withstanding ev'ry test

O Empire wide and glorious, you stand supremely blest.

(Chorus)

Texas, Our Texas! Your freeborn single star,

Sends out its radiance to the nations near and far,

Emblem of Freedom! It sets our hearts aglow,

With thoughts of San Jacinto and glorious Alamo!

(Chorus)

Texas, dear Texas! From tyrant grip now free,

Shines forth in splendor, your star of destiny!

Mother of heroes, we come your children true,

Proclaiming our allegiance, our faith, our love for you.

(Chorus)

Chorus:

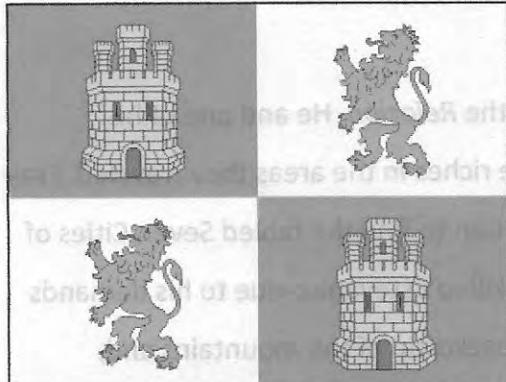
God bless you, Texas! And keep you brave and strong,

That you may grow in power and worth, throughout the ages long.

### **3a. Describe the six flags of Texas. Relate some of the major events that occurred in Texas while under each flag.**

The six flags of Texas tell the story of the settlement of Texas by those who crossed the state to find their fortunes, bringing with them the culture of their homelands and using it as a base for creating a new culture in Texas.

#### **SPANISH EMPIRE & NEW SPAIN**



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

With the great excitement aroused by Columbus' voyage of 1492, the Spanish king and nobles sought to find land and riches in the New World. The first journeys explored Cuba and the other Caribbean islands discovered by Columbus. Then they visited the lands now known as Mexico and Central America, where the Aztec and Mayan Indian civilizations built great cities and amassed large fortunes of gold, silver,

and jewels, which the adventurers desired. To the north of Mexico lay Texas. The Indians here neither built large cities, nor amassed wealth. As a result, the area of Texas initially did not attract much interest from the Spanish conquistadors.

In 1519, a band of Spaniards led by Alonso Alvarez de Pineda charted the coast of Texas as their expedition continued to Veracruz, Mexico. Some historians argue that Pineda returned later that year and sailed up the Río Grande River. In 1528, the explorer Panfilo de Narváez led an expedition into the western coast of Florida and soon lost contact with his ships. In northwestern Florida they met hostile Indians and experienced food shortages. The men built five new ships with the meager materials they found. They sailed along the cost of the Gulf of Mexico, headed for Tampico, Mexico. Four of the boats barely survived the crossing,

landing/wrecking in various locations on the Texas Coast. One wrecked at the mouth of the San Bernard River. Another boat drifted out to sea after landing, taking Narváez with it.

The expedition's treasurer, a nobleman named Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca survived. He kept an account of the terrible suffering of the Spanish who landed near Galveston Island almost starved. The Karankawa Indians offered aid. Cabeza de Vaca gained a reputation for healing the sick. He and the few remaining Spaniards lived with the Karankawa Indians for nearly four more years. They then lived two more with the Coahuiltecan Indians, as the natives would not let him go. In 1534, he and three companions escaped and wandered over a great expanse of Texas and northern Mexico. In two years, they crossed over to the Gulf of California, where they reached Culiacán, a northern outpost of Spanish Mexico and civilization.

Cabeza de Vaca kept an account of his travels known as the *Relación*. He and one of his companions, Estevanico, also told fantastic stories of the riches in the areas they traveled. Fray Marcos de Niza, took Estevanico as a guide on an expedition to find the fabled Seven Cities of Cíbola – cities believed filled with gold. The Zuñi Indians killed Estevanico due to his demands on them. Fray de Niza saw the Zuñi pueblos against the backdrop of the mountains and, believing that he found the Seven Cities of Cíbola, returned to Mexico City reporting that a conquest of these pueblos would represent the largest Spanish conquest to date.

Fray de Niza's stories caused great excitement in Mexico City. This desire to find the Indian cities of gold led to the first official Spanish exploration of Texas in 1540. Francisco Vásquez de Coronado set out with 370 Spaniard and 1,000 Indians to find the Seven Cities of Cíbola, guided by Fray de Niza. Finding the site indicated by Fray de Niza, Coronado only found shabby pueblos occupied by hostile Indians. He continued his search westward toward the Grand Canyon and then returned. With the assistance of an Indian guide named "the Turk", the Spaniards crossed eastern New Mexico and traveled across the Texas plains as far as present day Kansas in search of Quivira, another legendary land of great riches. They never found the fabulous wealth of which they dreamed.

A brief sojourn by the Kingdom of France into Texas coaxed the Spanish to colonize the area. As Spain developed its American empire, it came to regard Texas as a northern outpost, requiring

settlement and protection. The Roman Catholic Church sent churchmen to convert the Indians to Christianity as well as to help the soldiers and government officials turn the Texas frontier into a Spanish province. Unsuccessful attempts occurred in eastern Texas for several years. In 1718, Franciscans and Spanish representatives established a fort and a mission in modern-day San Antonio. Soon the mission system grew throughout Texas. Within 13 years, four more missions appeared on the banks of the San Antonio River. Consolidation of the mission system around San Antonio increased the town's population and importance. In 1731, 55 colonists from the Spanish Canary Islands travelled to San Antonio to establish a community.

## EMPIRE OF FRANCE



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

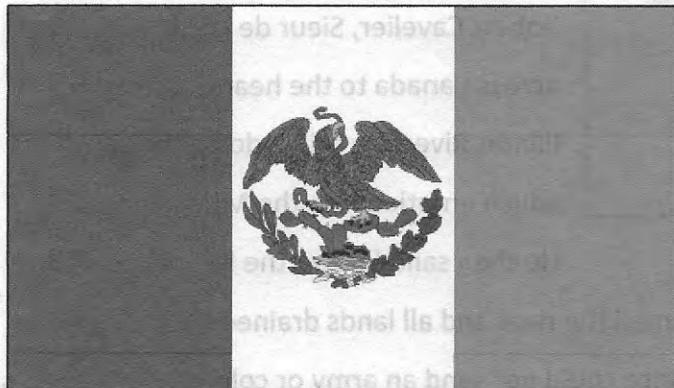
France, already firmly entrenched in Canada in early 1600's, looked to expand their holdings. In 1682, the explorer René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle traveled across Canada to the headwaters of the Illinois River. He sailed down the river, which emptied into the Mississippi River. He then sailed down the Mississippi River

and reached the Gulf of Mexico. La Salle claimed the river and all lands drained by it for the King of France. This was a bold claim, for France could not send an army or colonists to take this vast area of land. La Salle, determined to turn the claim into fact, petitioned and received permission from the king to found a settlement at the mouth of the Mississippi River. In traveling through the Gulf of Mexico, he missed the mouth of the Mississippi and sailed instead into Matagorda Bay in 1685. One of the ships wrecked on a mud bar in the channel. The colonists salvaged it and built Fort Saint Louis. The other ship returned to France. The approximately 200 colonist at Fort Saint Louis suffered from disease, low food stores, and hostile Indians.

La Salle, who since establishing Fort Saint Louis failed to find the Mississippi in several attempts, decided to try once again. He took a small party and set off. Near Navasota, the men quarreled. La Salle and several others died. A few of the men eventually reached French towns in Louisiana. Almost all left at Fort Saint Louis all died from disease, lack of food, and hostile Indians.

The Spanish eventually heard of the fort and sent expeditions to find it. In 1689, after years of unsuccessful trips, one of these expeditions found Indians with items from the fort. The Indians led the Spanish to the remnants of the outpost. The Spanish buried the French remains. While this closed the chapter on French attempts to colonize Texas, it opened the capture for increased colonization by the Spanish via exploration and the establishment of missions.

## MEXICO: EMPIRE & REPUBLIC



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

Spanish rule of Mexico was largely one-sided, with Spain taking from Mexico all it could of the land's great wealth. The Spanish lords and churchmen who ruled Mexico typically came from the Old World, rather than the New. Mexicans wanted to rule themselves. An eleven-year rebellion began when Father

Manuel Hidalgo y Costilla raised an army in 1810 and began fighting the Spanish rulers. Although executed in 1811, Hidalgo's successors continued the fight, even into Texas.

Bernardo Gutiérrez de Lara led the Republican Army of the North to victories against the Spanish from Nacogdoches to La Bahía (Goliad) and eventually into San Antonio where, on April 6, 1813, Gutiérrez declared Texas independence from Spain. This brief period of independence ended with the Battle of the Medina when royalist troops under the command of Joaquín de Arredondo completed defeated the Republican Army of the North. To set an example,

Arredondo executed approximately 320 soldiers that surrendered during the Battle of the Medina, 40 suspected rebels in San Antonio, and 70 more accused rebels on his way to Nacogdoches – an act of retribution certainly not lost on a young officer named Antonio López de Santa Anna. Additional skirmishes continued over the following years in Texas and in Mexico with little result.

Catalyzed by Spain's distractions during the Napoleonic Wars, revolutionary sentiment continued throughout New Spain. Eventually, the King of Spain relented at the insistence of the Spanish army and accepted governmental reforms. When these reforms (especially those centering on the establishment of a constitutional monarchy) reached Mexico, the powerful Mexican merchants, army officers, churchmen, and other leaders joined forces to split with Spain.

Augustín de Iturbide, an army colonel, established peace with rebel forces and proclaimed the famous *Plan de Iguala* for governing Mexico in 1821. The Mexicans, accustomed to royal rulers, tried to get a member of the Spanish royal family to assume the role of Emperor of Mexico. None accepted, and the provisional congress named Iturbide, Emperor Augustín I. A weak ruler, he abdicated in 1823. Mexican government converted to a republic in name only as the military held a strong influence on politics. Officials and generals often effectively seized power by controlling the army. Eventually, General Antonio López de Santa Anna rose to power by 1833.

In the midst of this political chaos, many colonists arrived in Texas from the United States of America. They came in large numbers, attracted by offers of cheap land made by the *empresarios* or land contractors. The Mexican government authorized the *empresarios* to offer land for sale at a profit to a restricted number of colonists and to govern them under Mexican law. The government required colonists of good character, who farmed or practiced a trade, and followed the precepts of the Roman Catholic Church. The most famous of the *empresarios*, Stephen F. Austin, arrived in Mexico City to discuss the establishment of a new colony with

government officials just as Iturbide was rising to power. Austin established his colony in 1823 on the banks of the Brazos River. By late 1824, Austin successfully completed his contract by settling the “Old Three Hundred” families in his colony. Through 1836, San Felipe de Austin served as the social, economic, and political center of the Anglo settlements in Texas. The town also hosted the first provisional government of Texas.

Acceptance of Mexican rule by the American settlers decreased over time. Most Americans could not understand or communicate with the government officials who spoke in Spanish, the official language. Many American settlers only pretended to be Roman Catholic to gain entrance to Texas and missed the religious freedom of the United States. Additionally, the American settlers appreciated a more orderly and democratic government. Even among the *Tejanos*, lead by José Erasmo Seguín, father of Juan Seguín, support for Mexican central authority waned. Haden Edwards led an ill-fated revolution around Nacogdoches in 1826, declaring the Republic of Fredonia. Not supported by the majority of Anglo settlers, it failed. When Santa Anna rose up against the Bustamante government in 1832, many Anglos supported Santa Anna and fought in his name. However, these actions made them even more independent minded.

The Mexican government remained suspicious of the American settlers, fearful that they constituted a plot to join Texas with the United States of America. The Mexican government passed the Law of April 6, 1830, which prohibited all immigration from the United States of America in an attempt to strengthen Mexico’s hold on Texas. This created bitter resentment among the Anglo colonists. The settlers had two conventions, in 1832 and in 1833, to air their grievances and discuss possible solutions, such as separating Texas from the Mexican state of *Coahuila y Tejas*. Austin traveled to Mexico City to discuss statehood for Texas immediately following the 1833 convention. On his return trip from Mexico City, Mexican authorities arrested him in Saltillo for having written what they considered a treasonous letter. Austin spent nearly a year in prison and another eight months before he could return home to Texas. In September 1835, the Mexican government sent an army, under the command of General

Martín Perfecto de Cos, to Texas to put down all the quarrelsome rebels and to keep the peace. The Texans answered by forming an army.

Empresario Green DeWitt established Gonzales, the first Anglo-American settlement west of the Colorado River, as the capital of his colony in August 1825. He named it in honor of Rafael Gonzales, the governor of the Mexican state of *Coahuila y Tejas*. For defense against Indian attack, the Mexican government gave the American colonists a small cannon. On October 2, 1835, fighting began when six Mexican soldiers under the command of Colonel Domingo de Ugartechea attempted to retake the cannon. The colonists responded by unveiling a flag with a depiction of the cannon and the words "Come and Take It" on it. The resulting skirmish opened the Texas War of Independence. In November 1835, the Texans laid siege to Béxar. In December 1835, the Texans stormed and took the town. The Mexican army, under the command of General Martín Perfecto de Cos, brother-in-law of Santa Anna, retreated south of the Río Grande River.

In early March 1836, representatives met at Washington-on-the-Brazos to form a new government. On March 2, 1836, Texas declared its independence from Mexico. After a 12-day siege, 189 or more defenders fought approximately 1,500 Mexican soldiers in the pre-dawn hours of March 6, 1836. With the rising of the sun, all male defenders lay dead and their bodies then burned. General Antonio López de Santa Anna allowed the women and children to leave and to spread the word of the fight. As word spread eastward, the "Runaway Scrape" began.

On March 13, the main body of the Texan army, under the command of General Sam Houston, left and burned Gonzales so as not to leave it standing for the advancing Mexican army. Houston headed east toward modern-day Houston, attempting to gain time and train his troops. On March 20, Colonel James W. Fannin surrendered the Goliad garrison to General José Cosme de Urrea after the Battle of Coleto Creek. They returned to the *presido* at Goliad. One week later, on Palm Sunday, March 27, 1836, the Mexican Army under direct orders of General Santa Anna marched approximately 300 men outside the walls and shot them in cold blood.

The Mexican army simply shot those too ill to march outside the walls. Knowing his fate, Colonel Fannin requested that he not be shot in the face, that his family receive his belongings, and that he receive a Christian burial. The Mexican Army accommodated none of his requests.

By mid-April, both the remaining Texan force and a formidable Mexican force under the direct command of General Santa Anna reached the Gulf Coast. On April 21, 1836, while the Mexican army rested in the late afternoon at San Jacinto, the Texan army launched a surprise attack. The Texans routed the Mexicans in less than 20 minutes. The next day, Texans captured General Antonio López de Santa Anna, the self-proclaimed "Napoleon of the West", and the head of the Mexican government and army. This victory ended the Texas war for independence, but not the disputes over borders. Fighting between The Republic of Texas and Mexico would continue until the Mexican-American War of 1846 – 1848.

## REPUBLIC OF TEXAS



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

For almost ten years, Texas lived as an independent nation. A constitution and legal system based upon that of the United States of America provided the underlying basis of the government. Its Congress consisted of a Senate and House of Representatives. A President headed the executive branch and chose his cabinet members. A judicial branch consisted of

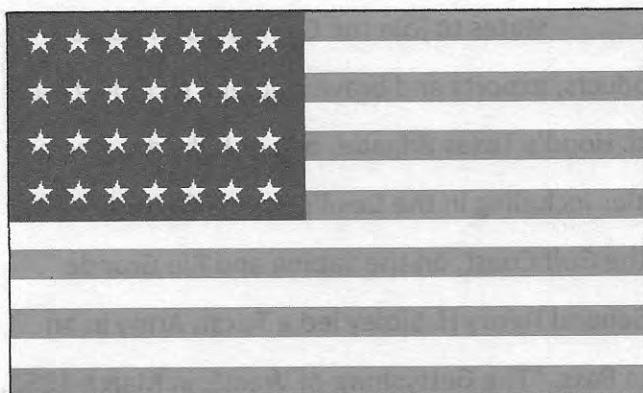
a three-member Supreme Court with lower courts operating under it. Just like citizenry of the United States of America following its Revolution, Texans chose their chief war hero, General Sam Houston, as the first president. Stephen F. Austin, the greatest of the *empresarios* and the "Father of Texas", died in 1836.

As the United States grew, its interest in expanding westward increased. It had certain grievances against Mexico and sought the support of Texas as a buffer against Mexico and as a

vital link in expansion westward to California. Former U.S. citizens, the majority of the recent settlers in Texas promoted the idea of joining the Union. The Republic of Texas entered into a treaty with the United States of America that provided for the annexation of Texas and entrance into the Union as the 28th state in 1845. The final ceremony took place in Austin on February 19, 1846.

The terms of the treaty favored Texas. Texas retained ownership of its public lands, which provide a vast source of income for the good of the state. The Texas Legislature retains the right, which still survives today, to divide Texas into as many as five separate states.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)

Texas entered the Union during a turbulent period as the 28th state. As soon as annexation was complete, the United States of America engaged in a war with Mexico, still led by General Antonio López de Santa Anna. This war ended in 1848 with Mexico finally releasing its claims to

Texas (which it considered disputed territory, even though the Texans had won their freedom years before) and to a large expanse in the West from Texas to the Pacific Ocean.

Disputes between the industrialized, non-slaveholding Northern States and the agricultural, slaveholding Southern States, which included Texas, continued to plague the Union. The Compromise of 1850 only slightly eased tensions and set the current borders of the state. As time continued, Texans faced the decision of whether to join the other Southern States in seceding from the Union. The issue, difficult for Texans, left many friends divided. Sam Houston, who now served Texas as governor when war broke out, stood against secession. The

"spirit of the South" carried the day, and Texas joined the Confederate States of America on March 2, 1861.

## CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA

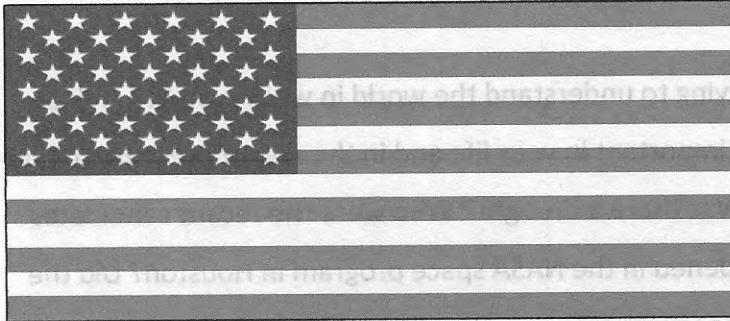


From 1861 to 1865, Texas fought the Union as one of the eleven Confederate States of America. The flag shown represents the 1st National Flag of the Confederate States of America, otherwise known as the "Stars and Bars" with each star representing one of the original seven states to join the Confederacy. Texas

[www.presidiolabahia.org](http://www.presidiolabahia.org)  
supplied the Confederacy with agricultural products, exports and brave soldiers, including men like Albert Sidney Johnston and John Bell Hood. Hood's Texas Brigade, one of Robert E. Lee's most prized fighting units, fought in many battles including in the Devil's Den at Gettysburg in 1863. Many battles took place in Texas along the Gulf Coast, on the Sabine and Río Grande Rivers, around King Ranch, and in Galveston. General Henry H. Sibley led a Texan Army in an invasion of New Mexico that ended at Glorieta Pass, "The Gettysburg of West", in March 1862. Another part of Sibley's force captured Tucson, Arizona, for a time. Texas hosted the last battle of the Civil War on May 13, 1865, at Palmito Ranch near Brownsville.

As with the rest of the South, five unsuccessful years of war proved ruinous, with its best men away from their farms, business, trades, and homes. Texas suffered great economic hardships especially during the Congressional / Military Reconstruction years of 1867 to 1870.

## INTO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY



[www.crwflags.com](http://www.crwflags.com)

The waning years of the 1800's saw the beginning of many new industries that would lead Texas into the forefront of economic life in the modern world. The cattle industry, interrupted by the Civil War, flourished. Railroads made

transportation across the great state and into neighboring states easier. At one time 18 separate railroads "met the sea" in Houston / Galveston. Soon superhighways would allow transportation across roads of concrete instead of steel rails. The famous state university system opened in 1876. The oil and gas industry developed following the Spindletop gusher in 1901.

Texas and Texans contribute valiant sons and daughters to every war and conflict fought by the United States of America. Local and national government benefit from Texan influence of our elected officials. Texas business leaders contribute locally and influence the nation. Texas history continues its path forward.

"Like most passionate nations, Texas has its own private history based on... winning places." — John Steinbeck

**3b. Pick any year before 1980. Describe the important events that happened in Texas that year and discuss how they influenced the future of Texas.**

Imagine a boy living in the year 2080 trying to understand the world in which you live. Which things would you tell him are the most important in your life and in the rest of the state today? Were there tornadoes or hurricanes? Was there a drought? Who were the recent candidates for governor and president? What happened in the NASA space program in Houston? Did the local sports teams have winning seasons?

In picking the year, you want to explore, think about some of the periods discussed in the historical sketch under Requirement 3a. Consider whether the time is one of peace or war, good or bad agricultural conditions, industrial boom or downturn. Who were the heroes and villains of the time?

To uncover the complete story of the year you have chosen, try to talk to people who lived then, if possible. See if your local library has newspapers or magazines from that time. Find books published that year or the year after (which may have been written in "your" year). These sources will provide lots of information about your chosen year. Discuss some the most important events, but do not limit yourself to the earth shattering ones. Include things important to everyday life, such as music, novels, sports, and popular notions about health and raising children. How have these things influenced the future of Texas?

*"Like most passionate nations, Texas has its own private history based on, but not limited by, facts." – John Steinbeck*

**3c. Choose a famous Texans. Tell why you chose that person. Read one or more biographies of this person and explain the person's importance to Texas.**

Texas produces scores of admirable men and women in all kinds of professions and endeavors.

A mere fraction of these famous people appear below:

<b>Pioneers and Cowmen</b>	<b>Military Men</b>	<b>Statesmen / Stateswomen</b>
Moses Austin	James B. Bonham	George H. W. Bush
Stephen F. Austin	Jim Bowie	George W. Bush
Baron de Bastrop	David Crockett	Miriam A. Ferguson
Jesse Chisholm	James W. Fannin	John N. Garner
Charles Goodnight	John S. "Rip" Ford	John Hemphill
Jane Long	John Bell Hood	James S. Hogg
Samuel A. Maverick	Sam Houston	Edward M. House
Benjamin R. Milam	Albert Sidney Johnston	Kay Bailey Hutchinson
Lorenzo de Zavala	Ben McCulloch	Lyndon B. Johnson
<b>Business</b>	Audie L. Murphy	Anson Jones
George W. Brackenridge	Chester W. Nimitz	Mirabeau B. Lamar
George R. Brown	Erastus "Deaf" Smith	Rick Perry
Amon G. Carter	Juan N. Seguín	Sam Rayburn
James A. Elkins, Sr.	William B. Travis	John H. Reagan
Howard R. Hughes, Jr.	<b>Authors / Artists</b>	Ann Richards
Jesse H. Jones	Elisabet Ney	Thomas J. Rusk
Harry Landa	Julian Onderdonk	Ashbell Smith
Thomas F. McKinney	Pompeo Coppini	<b>Native Americans</b>
Ross H. Perot	Gene Roddenberry	Iron Jacket
T. Boone Pickens	Katherine Ann Porter	Quanah Parker
Richard King	Walter Prescott Webb	Satanta

**3d-I. Identify a site or trail in Texas of historical significance. Relate its importance to Texas history.**

**3d-II. With one or more companions, hike for at least two miles near your chosen site OR camp overnight at or near your chosen site.**

Though time marches on, we can often identify the spot where historical events took place.

Throughout the world locations exist where we can place specific events as having occurred hundreds even thousands of years ago. In Texas, we can go back several thousand years to the resting places of ancient men; however, these discoveries relate to pre-historic man. Our knowledge of places with historical facts concerning a specific location only reach about 300 to 350 years ago to the early missions near Goliad, Nacogdoches, and San Antonio.

Historical sites offer great opportunities for service projects in repairing or improving the site or staging a historical pageant. Imagine the scene related to the raising of the first church in the country or the signing of a peace treaty with the Indians or the last campfire along a stretch of a long-deserted cattle trail. With your unit, you may recreate the scene in a pageant at the historical site as part of your camp or hike there.

John Hembree	John S. "Rip" Ford	Charles Goodnight
Witteman G. Lunsford	Charles W. Nichols	George W. Bridgman
Rick Fenn	Casper "Deaf" Smith	George R. Brown
Sam Rayburn	Jesse H. Sadin	Amon G. Carter
John H. Reagan	William B. Travis	James A. Eads
Ann Richards	Abipore A. Acharya	Howard R. Hughes Jr.
Thomas J. Rusk	Ezra C. Neel	Jesse H. Jones
Abeell Smith	Tulio Ondrejow	Hutie Landis
Mstive Amerson	Powless Cobain	James F. McKinney
	Gene Roddenberry	Ross H. Perot
	Katherine Ann Porter	T. Boone Pickens
	Oncor P. Parker	Richard King
	Walter Prescott Webb	Sargent

**3e. Assist a volunteer organization that preserves or perpetuates Texas history or culture by performing a service project (approved by your counselor) for at least 3 hours.**

Volunteer organizations largely undertake the work of preserving the heritage of Texas history and culture.

The state's oldest historical group, the Texas State Historical Association, sponsors many scholarly activities, including meetings and a quarterly journal, as well as the Junior Historians of Texas – an organization of junior high school, middle school, and high school students interested in Texas history.

Descendants of the Texan pioneers comprise The Daughters of The Republic of Texas, best known for their work in preserving certain historical sites, including the Alamo, and The Sons of The Republic of Texas.

The Texas Army seek to perpetuate Texas military history by appearing in buckskin, homespun, and 1840's style uniforms during their colorful and interesting shows.

County and city historical associations often maintain libraries, parks, historical sites, museums and exhibits as well as sponsor put on events highlighting local history.

*"Texas is a state of mind. Texas is an obsession. Above all, Texas is a nation in every sense of the word." – John Steinbeck*

**4a. Identify an Indian tribe that, at any time, lived, camped or hunted near your community. Report on its culture.**

Long before Europeans came to Texas, Indians lived throughout the state. These Indians pursued a wide variety of lifestyles. The early Coahuiltecans scratched out a bare nomadic existence farming and hunting buffalo, deer, and smaller game. The fierce Karankawa lived along the Gulf Coast, moved along the coast by canoe, and enjoyed the bounty of the sea and the shore. Those encountering the Karankawa described them as large (over 6 feet tall) and terrible to see when decorated for battle with their faces painted half red, half black. The Tonkawa of the central part of the state and the Comanche, Kiowa, and Kiowa Apache of the plains were nomadic buffalo hunters whose lots changed with the introduction of the horse into Texas. The Tonkawa, caught between two aggressive forces in Texas development, the ever expanding settlement brought by Mexican and Anglo settlers and the fierce marauding of the Comanches, eventually disappeared somewhere between these groups. The other plains tribes often waged war with the settlers until the conclusion of the Texas Indian wars in the 1860's.

As early as the Texas Republic (1836-1845), Texas Indians (whether by peaceful or forceful means) experienced relocation within Texas and to outside reservations. Forced relocation of Indians from the East to Texas resulted in Seminoles, Alabama, Coushatta, Delaware, Cherokee, and other tribes transplanted to Texas for a time. Some continue to live here today.

The Indians of Texas represent a large, diverse group. One should not simply lump them all together and imagine that each tribe looked and lived just like the others. For example, many Texan tribes did not appear as the "Indian" which most of the public imagines in feathers, leggings, warshirt and paint, riding a spotted pony chasing buffalo. A number of the tribes wore very little clothing – only enough for protection, rather than for ornament or status. Overall, most tribes often welcomed as friends the settlers and the missionaries who helped the tribes improve their farming techniques.

Studying the traditions and habits of the Indians who lived in your neighborhood may give you valuable insights into how the land on which you live sustained those who came before you.

Learning about your local Indians could teach you survival and camping techniques on how to prepare shelters, clothing and food from native materials.

**4b-II. Participate in and describe at least one special observance, feast, or holiday your chosen group celebrates, and explain its origin.**

**4b-III. Prepare one traditional food of your chosen group to serve four people.**

The American melting pot of civilizations from all over the world greatly impacts Texas culture. Texans come from a wide variety of races, religions, cultures, and nationalities. Each of these groups possesses its own customs and observances. You may participate in some of these festivals such as the Mexican "Fiesta" in San Antonio in the spring or the German "Wurstfest" in New Braunfels in the fall. Think of all the special days that these cultural groups celebrate, including, but not limited to: the Jewish and Chinese New Year, Saint Patrick's Day, Saint George's Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Martin Luther King's Birthday. How lucky to able to join in someone else's fun!

**4c. Read at least one book (fiction or non-fiction) by a Texas author on a Texas subject (in addition to the biography or Requirement 3c OR Read at least three short stories by one or more Texas authors on Texas subjects OR Read at least three poems by one or more Texas poets on Texas subjects.**

Many famous authors, some of whom appearing in Requirement 3c, made Texas their home. A number of these authors found our state the most interesting topic about which they could choose to write. Many books, short stories, and poems about Texas to read and enjoy exist.

**4d. Describe the work of five volunteer groups that in some way support the cultural activities in Texas.**

Local groups of citizens interested in the arts and letters often band together in groups to support their common interest. Each city in Texas and many towns and counties have organizations dedicated to learning through libraries, symphonies, operas, historical studies, literary publications, art museums, nature and history museums, and more. What groups in your community support these activities? Have you participated in any of these activities or visited any of these locations? How do these organizations raise money, and where does the money go? Would you like to join one of these groups?

people.

The American melting pot of civilizations from all over the world greatly impacts Texas culture. Texas comes from a wide variety of race, religion, culture, and nationality. Each of these groups possesses its own customs and observance. You may participate in some of these festivals such as the Mexican "Fiestas" in San Antonio or the annual "Mustfest" in New Braunfels in the fall. Think of all the special days that these cultural groups celebrate, including, but not limited to: the Jewish and Chinese New Year, Saint Patrick's Day, Saint George's Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Muslim Luther King's Birthday. How nicely to able to join in some of these fun

4c. Read at least one book (fiction or non-fiction) by a Texas author on a Texas subject (in addition to the biography of Reddiment).  
3c OR Read at least three short stories by one or more Texas authors on Texas subjects OR Read at least three poems by one or more Texas poets on Texas subjects.

Much famous authors come to whom belongs the Reddiment 3c, makes Texas great power. A number of these subjects found our state the most interesting topic about which they could choose to write. Many people, short stories, and poems about Texas to read and enjoy exercise.

## Acknowledgements

The Texas Award has been developed through the efforts of a number of dedicated Texans and Scouters whose contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

**C. Travis Traylor, Jr.**, president of the (former) South Central Region, B.S.A., has encouraged the founding of the Award and guided its beginning.

**Jerry Harben**, long-time Scout and Scouter, amateur Texas historian and professional editor, reviewed the pamphlet manuscript and made valuable suggestions.

**Dr. Randolph B. Campbell**, author and professor of Texas history at North Texas State University, checked the text of the pamphlet at several stages for historical accuracy (though the final responsibility for content lies with the editor).

**William Hillcourt**, the popular "Green Bar Bill" of Boy's Life and Scouting's most outstanding leader, have his thoughtful and experienced counsel to the development of the Award requirements.

**The Professional Staff of the (former) South Central Region** provided assistance in distributing the program throughout the region.

**The Sam Houston Area Council Professional Staff**, under the leadership of Scout Executive Roger Ohmstede, cheerfully contributed its administrative and printing facilities.

**Nelson R. Block**, who has hiked, camped and explored all over Texas with Scout friends for a generation, organized the development of the Award and wrote, edited, and illustrated the original pamphlet.

**Nicholas F. Urbanski**, amateur Texas historian, undertook the revitalization of the Award as part his Doctorate of Commissioner Science thesis/project between 2010 and 2011. He did not desire to rewrite or replace the work already accomplished, but rather to enhance and to re-energize the Award in hopes that more Scouts would achieve it and learn to appreciate and honor their home, his home, our home, Texas Our Texas!

C. Davis Taylor Jr., President of the (former) Scout Central Region, BSA, has encouraged the

founders of the Award and guided its beginning.

Jerry Herper, long-time Scout and Scouter, Master Texas Historian and historical editor, delivered the keynote manuscript and made valuable suggestions.

Dr. Randolph G. Campbell, author and professor of Texas history at North Texas State University, checked the text of the manuscript of several states for historical accuracy (through the final responsibility for content lies with the editor).

William Hiltzout, the popular "Green Bill" of Boy's Life and Scouting's most outstanding leader, gave his guidance and assistance to the development of the Award (and its leadership).

The Professional Staff of the (former) Scout Central Region provided assistance in disciplines the broadest throughout the region.

The Sam Houston Area Council Professional Staff, under the leadership of Scout Executive Roger O'Prestre, cheerfully cooperated its administrative and building facilities.

Heiron R. Block, who has liked, camped and explored all over Texas with Scouts, helped for a foundation, discussed the development of the Award and wrote, edited, and illustrated the original blueprint.

## Resources and References

When working on this Award, try your school librarian and history teachers as resources. They will be glad to assist you in finding the kinds of materials you need to complete the Award requirements.

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Famous Texans: [famoustexans.com](http://famoustexans.com)

Fannin Battleground State Historic Site: [fanninbattleground.com/index.aspx?page=6](http://fanninbattleground.com/index.aspx?page=6)

Goliad State Park: [tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goliad\\_and\\_mission\\_espiritu\\_santo](http://tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goliad_and_mission_espiritu_santo)

Gonzales: [gonzalestexas.com](http://gonzalestexas.com)

Presidio La Bahía: [presidiolabahia.org](http://presidiolabahia.org)

San Antonio Missions National Historic Park: [nps.gov/saan](http://nps.gov/saan)

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site: [sanfelipedaustin.com/index.aspx?page=17](http://sanfelipedaustin.com/index.aspx?page=17)

San Jacinto Monument: [sanjacinto-museum.org](http://sanjacinto-museum.org)

Texas Independence Trail: [texasindependencetrail.com](http://texasindependencetrail.com)

Texas, Our Texas: [texasourtexas.info](http://texasourtexas.info)

Texas State Historical Association: [tshaonline.org](http://tshaonline.org)

The Handbook of Texas Online: [tshaonline.org/handbook](http://tshaonline.org/handbook)

Washington-on-the-Brazos: [birthplaceoftexas.com](http://birthplaceoftexas.com)

## Appendix

### Comparing the U.S. and Texan Declarations of Independence:

There are two common elements between the documents:

1. Individual rights are inherent in men.
2. Government derives from the governed.

There are five common grievances between the documents:

1. Deprivation of trial by jury.
2. Suppression of civil power to military power.
3. Suppression of legislatures.
4. Military invasion and armed action.
5. Repeated petitions have been ignored.

Six grievances within the Texas Declaration of Independence were unique to Texan-Mexican conflict:

1. Central military despotism.
2. Lack of separate state government.
3. Lack of system of public education.
4. Unlawful and piratical confiscation of property.
5. Lack of freedom of religion.
6. Confiscation of arms.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the State Flag:

Honor the Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.

## State Symbols:

Air Force:	Commemorative Air Force (Confederate Air Force pre-2002)
Amphibian:	Texas Toad
Bird:	Mockingbird
Bread:	Pan de Campo (Cowboy Bread)
Cooking Implement:	Cast Iron Dutch Oven
Dinosaur:	Brachiosaur Sauropod
Dish:	Chili
Dog Breed:	Blue Lacy
Fiber / Fabric:	Cotton
Fish:	Guadalupe Bass
Flower:	Bluebonnet
Flying Mammal:	Mexican Free-Tailed Bat
Folk Dance:	Square Dance
Footwear:	Cowboy Boot
Fruit:	Texas Red Grapefruit
Gemstone:	Texas Blue Topaz
Gemstone Cut:	Texas Cut
Grass:	Sideoats Grama
Insect:	Monarch Butterfly
Large Mammal:	Longhorn
Musical Instrument:	Guitar
Native Pepper:	Chiltepin
Native Shrub:	Texas Purple Sage
Nut:	Pecan
Pepper:	Jalapeño
Plant:	Prickly Pear Cactus
Precious Metal:	Silver
Railroad:	Texas State Railroad

Reptile:	Horned Lizard	Sample Contract for Settlement of Austin's Colony (as provided by the City of Austin State Historical Site)
Shell:	Lightning Whelk	City Council Resolution of the Colony of Austin by Stephen R. Austin
Ship:	U.S.S. Texas	Province of Texas:
Shrub:	Crape Myrtle	Permittee is hereby granted to
Small Mammal:	Nine-Banded Armadillo	to engage and settle in the Colony known as the Province of Texas
Snack:	Tortilla Chips and Salsa	of the Province of New Spain at the point where
Sport:	Rodeo	said
Stone:	Petrified Palmwood	leading to cowboy with the general regulations hereto annexed:
Tall Ship:	<i>Elissa</i>	General Regulations relative to the Colony
Tartan:	Texas Bluebonnet	No person will be admitted as a settler who does not produce evidence
Tie:	Bolo	of having supported the character of a moral, sober, and industrious citizen.
Tree:	Pecan	Each settler must be granted a tract of land
Vegetable:	Sweet Onion	and receive from the Government the services of a surveyor to
Vehicle:	Chuckwagon	one size and spot (A-28 acres) of land will be granted to each family.

3. Each settler must apply to the Governor of said Province, take the oath of allegiance to the Government exercising the sovereignty of the country.

4. One size and spot (A-28 acres) of land will be granted to the head of each family. Land will be held by the head of the household, one or more than in an opinion, the other to be located so as not to interfere with the head; one of said tracts must be suitably inscribed and delivered by the person and family who has been granted it, within one year from the first of January 1855. -- Towns census and seat of state, must be paid the first day of January, one half to receipt of title, the other half in one year after; which will be in full for surveying fees and all other charges -- each settler will choose his own tract of land within the limits described by said Austin.

A. Mechanics and men of capital will receive additional privileges in proportion to their capacity to be useful.

5. Each settler is required to report himself to me, or the officer who has charge of the Colony, immediately on his arrival, and to furnish a list of the number of his family giving the names of his children and their ages, describing those under twelve years of age, those over twelve and under twenty-one, those over twenty-one, and whether male or female; and if any of the family are mechanics to state what kind.

## **Sample Contract for Settlement of Austin's Colony:**

*(as provided by San Felipe de Austin State Historical Site)*

**By Stephen F. Austin,**

Civil Commandant of the Colony forming the Colorado and Brassos Rivers, in the Province of Texas:

Permission is hereby granted to

to emigrate and settle in the Colony forming by me, under the authority and protection of the government of New Spain, at the points stated.

Said

required to comply with the general regulations hereunto annexed:

### *General Regulations relative to the Colony:*

1. No person will be admitted as a settler, who does not produce satisfactory evidence of having supported the character of a moral, sober, and industrious citizen.
2. Each settler must, when call on by the Governor of said Province, take the oath of allegiance to the government exercising the sovereignty of the country.
3. One sitio and labor (4,428 acres) of land will be granted to the head of each family. Land will be laid off in two equal attracts, one on the river in an oblong, the other is to be located so as not to interfere with the river lands; one of said tracts must be actually inhabited and cultivated by the person and family who has permission to settle it, within one year from the first of January 1822. --- Twelve cents and half per acre, must be paid me for said land, one half on receipt of title, the other half in one year after; which will be in full for surveying fees and all other charges – each settler will choose his own tracts of land within the limits designated by said Austin.
4. Mechanics and men of capital will receive additional privileges in proportion to their capacity to be useful.
5. Each settler is required to report himself to me, or the officer who has charge of the Colony, immediately on his arrival, and to furnish a list of the number of his family, giving the names of his children and their ages, designating those under twelve years of age, those over twelve and under twenty-one, those over twenty-one, and whether male or female; and if any of the family are mechanics to state what kind.

## Texas Independence Quiz:

(from Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historical Site)

1. Mexico gained its independence from Spain in the year \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ was elected President of Mexico in 1833. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Andrew Robinson operated a ferry crossing on the \_\_\_\_\_ River in Washington, Texas. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The 1836 Convention was held in Washington, Texas, because:
  - a. It was centrally located
  - b. It was far from the Mexican raids
  - c. It would be easier to escape across the river
  - d. Independence Hall was "rent free"
  - e. All of the above\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is credited with writing the Texas Declaration of Independence. \_\_\_\_\_
6. How many delegates came to the Convention? \_\_\_\_\_. How many were women? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Two of the delegates were native Texans. Who were they? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Who was chosen by the Convention as the temporary President of the new Republic of Texas?:
  - a. Sam Houston
  - b. Stephen F. Austin
  - c. David Burnet
  - d. George Childress\_\_\_\_\_
9. After the fall of the Alamo, most the residents of Washington left the town because they were afraid Santa Ana and his army were coming this way. This became known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Texas was a republic for almost 10 years and had 4 elected Presidents. Who was NOT one of them?:
  - a. Anson Jones
  - b. M. Lamar
  - c. Stephen F. Austin
  - d. Sam Houston\_\_\_\_\_
11. The President of the United States was the first to honor the old town of Washington by erecting a monument in 1899. TRUE or FALSE. \_\_\_\_\_
12. What does "GTT" stand for? \_\_\_\_\_
13. It was said that in order to become a Texas Ranger a man had to "ride like a \_\_\_\_\_, track like a \_\_\_\_\_, shoot like a \_\_\_\_\_, and fight like the \_\_\_\_\_."

1821, Santa Ana, Brazos, E, George Campbell Childress, 59, O, Francisco Ruiz, Antonio Navarro, C, Runaway Scrape, C, False, Gone to Texas, Mexican, Comanche, Kentuckian, Devil

## TEXAS AWARD APPLICATION and ORDER FORM

This certifies that :  (Enter Scout's Name)

has qualified for the Texas Award and has been approved by the Unit Leader.

Unit Type:  Unit Number:

District:

Council:

Unit Leader's Name:

Unit Leader's Signature:

Unit Leader's Address:

City , State:

ZIP + 4:

Telephone #:

Telephone #:

Date:  /  /   /  /  D D / M M / Y Y Y Y

This certifies that the aforementioned Scout completed the requirements for the Texas Award.

Counselor's Name:

Counselor's Signature:

Date:  /  /   /  /  D D / M M / Y Y Y Y

Send completed Application for the Texas Award to:

TEXAS AWARD COMMITTEE

Sam Houston Area Council

Boy Scouts of America

P.O. Box 924528

Houston Texas, 77292-4528

Send \$10.00 for each medal (includes shipping and handling).

Make checks payable to Sam Houston Area Council, B.S.A. Account# 1-6301-011-90

## TEXAS AWARD COUNSELOR APPLICATION

Applicant's Name :

(Enter Name)

Unit Type:  Unit Number:

District:

Council:

Applicant's Address:

City , State:

ZIP + 4:

Telephone #:

Telephone #:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

-

-

-

On a separate sheet, please list your qualifications for serving as a Counselor for the Texas Award which could include, but not limited to, education, professional training in Texas history or culture, pursuit as a hobby, special events in which you have participated , or other relevant experience.

I hereby apply to be a Counselor for the Texas Award. I am over 21 years of age and registered with the Boy Scouts of America. If accepted as a Counselor, I will abide by the rules and general conduct as prescribed by the Boy Scouts of America and its Youth Protection and Guide to Safe Scouting guidelines.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:  /  /  D D / M M / Y Y Y Y

Send completed Application for the Texas Award Counselor to:

TEXAS AWARD COMMITTEE

Sam Houston Area Council

Boy Scouts of America

P.O. Box 924528

Houston Texas, 77292-4528

# TEXAS AWARD COUNSELOR APPLICATION

Application's Name :  
  
(Enter Name)

Unit Number :  Unit Type :

Dept/Office :  
  
 County :

Application's Address :  
  
C/O :  City / State :  
ZIP + 4 :

Telephone # :  
  
 Telephone # :  
  
Experiences :  
  
On a separate sheet, please list your qualifications for serving as a Counselor for the Texas Award which could include, but not limited to, education, professional training in Texas history or culture, pursuit as a hobby, special events in which you have participated, or other relevant information.

I hereby apply to be a Counselor for the Texas Award. I am over 21 years of age and responsible with the Board of Regents of America. If accepted as a Counselor, I will abide by the rules and regulations contained in the Board of Regents of America Protection and Guidance for Selection of Committees of the Board of Regents of America.

Applicant's Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

Date :  V  M  Y  Y  A  A

Send completed Application for the Texas Award Counselor to:

TEXAS AWARD COMMITTEE

San Antonio Area Council

Box 2000 of America

P.O. Box 92528

Houston Texas, 77025-9258

# Texas Badge

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEXAS BADGE

To earn this badge, you must be a registered and active Boy Scout member or  
adult leader of a chartered Cub Scout unit.

## Program



D A M M \ Y Y Y

□ □ □ \ □ □

Date:

NOTE: If you pass Silver Award requirements for these achievements for another Scout, you must do something different for this Texas Badge.  
Recognition of advancement is given for this Texas Badge.  
Remember, a Scout is Honest.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEXAS BADGE

### Qualifications:

1. To earn the Texas Badge, you must be a registered and active youth member or adult leader of a chartered Cub Scout unit.

### State Symbols:

- 2a. Name the state bird, flower, and motto.  
 2b. Sing or recite the words of "Texas, Our Texas".

### State History:

- 3a. Draw the six flags of Texas. Relate some of the major events that occurred in Texas while under each flag.  
 3b. Name a famous Texan. Tell why this person is famous and what you like or dislike about this person.  
 3c. Visit an historical place in Texas. Tell about the important events that happened there.

### State Culture:

- 4a. Read a story about any Texas subject (fiction or non-fiction). Tell what you learned from the story.  
 4b. Find out about the Indians who lived near your community at any time. Tell about some of their history and customs.

Akela to initial each requirement as completed by the applicant.

Den Leader's Name:

Den Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:  /  /   D D / M M / Y Y Y Y

**NOTE: If you have already completed any of these requirements for another Scout-related recognition or advancement, you must do something different for the Texas Badge.  
Remember, a Scout is Honest.**

## TEXAS BADGE APPLICATION and ORDER FORM

This certifies that :  (Enter Scout's Name)

has qualified for the Texas Badge and has been approved by the Unit Leader.

Unit Type:  Unit Number:

District:

Council:

Unit Leader's Name:

Unit Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Leader's Address:

City , State:

ZIP + 4:

Telephone #:

Telephone #:

Date:  /  /  D D / M M / Y Y Y Y

Send completed Applications for the Texas Badge to:  
TEXAS BADGE  
Sam Houston Area Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
P.O. Box 924528  
Houston Texas, 77292-4528

Send \$3.00 for each patch (includes shipping and handling).

Make checks payable to Sam Houston Area Council, B.S.A. Account# 1-6301-011-90

# TEXAS BADGE APPLICATION AND ORDER FORM

												This certifies that:
(Enter Scout's Name)												
This application for the Texas Badge and this pass is issued by the Unit Leader.												
						Unit Type:						
						Unit Number:						
District:												
Council:												
												Unit Leader's Name:
												Unit Leader's Signature:
												Unit Leader's Address:
												City, State: St + A:
												Telephone #:
												Date:      /      /           /      /      /      /

Send completed Application for the Texas Badge to:  
**TEXAS BADGE**  
Sam Houston Area Council  
Boy Scouts of America  
P.O. Box 324528  
Houston, Texas, 77232-4528

Send \$3.00 for each badge (includes shipping and handling).

Make checks payable to Sam Houston Area Council, B.S.A., Account # 1-6301-011-00

Conventions by reading this brochure on the "Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New

Republic". We believe that our collective effort personnel like Sam Houston will continue to

Scouts of America, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, San Jacinto Battleground

State Historical Park will continue to preserve and interpret.

This brochure includes a map of the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, five sets of

illustrations to lead to specific historical events. To qualify for the patch each participant must

follow the trail as indicated on the map and complete activities (reading or research) in each of



(d) The Battle of San Jacinto. This is a free site for everyone. For more information go to [www.sanjacintobattleground.org](http://www.sanjacintobattleground.org).

(e) The San Jacinto Monument. This is a free site for everyone. An elevator ride to the

peak. Viewing the permanent historical collection is free. An elevator ride to the

Observation Deck of the monument (not the San Jacinto Monument) is \$5.00. For more information go to [www.sanjacintomonument.org](http://www.sanjacintomonument.org).

## The Battle of San Jacinto

April 21, 1836

**Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic**

Congratulations! By requesting this package on the "Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic" program you and your Scouts have declared an interest in the heritage of the State of Texas. We believe that this cooperative effort between the Sam Houston Area Council Boy Scouts of America, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and the San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park will not only prove enjoyable, but also highly interesting and instructive.

This package includes a map of the San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Site, five sets of narratives to read to your group at specific points during your hike, and a request for patches form to complete when you finish this program. To qualify for the patch each participant must follow the trail as indicated on the map and actively participate (reading or listening) in each of the five narratives at the proper points.

As you plan your day at the San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park, be aware that there are many more activities to do beside the historical hike:

- a) **Picnic Areas:** Arrive in the morning, take your lunch, and picnic before during, or after your hike.
- b) **The Battleship Texas:** A grand tour, on your own, is available. It is a fee area for everyone. For more information, please call 281.479.2431.
- c) **The San Jacinto Monument Museum:** There is a tremendous amount of memorabilia here. Viewing the permanent historical collection is free. An elevator ride to the Observation Floor of the monument (taller than the Washington Monument) is available for a fee. The presentation *Texas Forever!* is also shown here for a nominal fee. For more information, please call 281.479.2421 or visit [sanjacinto-museum.org](http://sanjacinto-museum.org).

## The Steps:

- 1) To earn the Sam Houston Trail Award, you must be a registered and active youth member or adult leader of a chartered Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturing, or Exploring unit. Gather your group on any day of the year that the park, monument, and museum are open. Your group may consist of any member of the Boy Scouts of America (in uniform or at least Scouting apparel), parents, siblings, and friends.
- 2) The San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Park is located 22 miles east of downtown Houston, Texas, off Texas Highway 225 East. Turn north on Independence Parkway (Battleground Road). Turn right onto Texas Park Road 1836. Park in the areas provided around the monument.
- 3) Disembark your crew and orient your map. The map indicates **Reading Stops** with circles lettered A through E. Please note that these Reading Stops are not physical markers. Their locations are relative to the referenced monuments. Numbered squares indicate monuments. Walk to **Reading Stop A** (Monument 11) and share the **Reading Stop A Narrative** with the group. When you have finished, lead your group down the road (Texas Park Road 1836) toward the location of **Reading Stop B**. Please have your group constantly aware that the road does have motorized traffic. Hike on the left side of the road, facing traffic, in the grass. Notice the marked monuments as you pass them. By the completion of this program, you will be able to relate the events of the battle to these monuments.
- 4) Your hike will take you past Monuments 12, 9 and 10, across Texas Highway 134, and to **Reading Stop B** (Monument 4). Share the **Reading Stop B Narrative** with the group. After completion of your reading, continue past Monuments 3, 20, 2, 1, 5, around the concession building to Monument 8. A number of grave markers appear in this area. Eight of the nine Texans who died in the battle rest here. Please have your group show proper reverence to their memory as well as for the others interred.

- 5) You now hike across Texas Highway 134 to **Reading Stop C** (Monuments 9 and 10).

Share the **Reading Stop C Narrative** with the group. After completing your reading, hike around the reflecting pool to Monument 7, continue past Monument 6, proceed along the side of the San Jacinto Monument, and hike to **Reading Stop D** (Monument 15).

Share the **Reading Stop D Narrative** with the group.

- 6) Hike past Monuments 14, 19, 13, and on to **Reading Stop E** (Monument 16). Share the

**Reading Stop E Narrative** with the group.

- 7) Hike along the road to Monument 17 where the largest portion of the carnage occurred as mentioned in the **Reading Stop E Narrative**. Be aware of both motor vehicle traffic and alligators along this stretch of the hike.

- 8) Return to your vehicles by hiking along the roads back to the San Jacinto Monument parking area.

- 9) Congratulations! You have completed your historical hike of the San Jacinto Battlefield.

We hope that you had fun and learned something during it. Please complete the request for patches form and send it with your payment to the Sam Houston Area Council office as indicated on the form.

**NOTE: If you have already completed any of these requirements for another Scout-related recognition or advancement, you must do something different for the Texas Award.**

**Remember, a Scout is Honest.**

## **Resources and References**

Campbell, Randolph B. *Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State*. New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.

Pohl, James W. *The Battle of San Jacinto*. Austin, Texas: Texas State Historical Association, 1989.

San Jacinto Museum. *San Jacinto Battleground: State Historical Park*. San Jacinto, Texas: San Jacinto Museum, 2010.

## Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic

### Reading Stop A Narrative

Welcome to Reading Stop A, the first of five stops scattered at key locations across the battlefield. Here we will describe the events leading up to April 21, 1836, including the events of the previous day, April 20.

In 1836, this was the north pasture of the Widow Peggy McCormick's ranch. She continued to operate the ranch though her husband, Arthur, drowned in the Buffalo Bayou in 1825. The terrain is much different today than it was in 1836. The land has sunk 10 to 12 feet through subsidence, caused by the removal of underground water in the area. The marshes along the San Jacinto River to the east, where much of the battle took place, are now under several feet of water. There is far less vegetation and trees here today as well. The contours of the battlefield remain much the same except around the monument and the reflecting pool, where construction altered the landscape during their construction in late 1930's.

The reason the two armies met in this pasture was due to its proximity to Nathaniel Lynch's ferry across the San Jacinto River, about a mile to the north, where it met the Buffalo Bayou. It represented the only practical crossing in the area to proceed from the southwest region eastward to the Trinity and Sabine Rivers.

The Mexican dictator, His Excellency Antonio López de Santa Anna pursued interim president David G. Burnet and other members of the new Texan government to New Washington, at Morgan's Point on Galveston Bay, in present-day La Porte. He almost captured the party there on April 19. The president, his wife, and the cabinet rowed from shore as the Mexican Colonel Juan N. Almonte arrived. The colonel refused to fire upon the craft because a woman was onboard.

General Sam Houston arrived in Harrisburg on the Buffalo Bayou about 11 miles to the west from here, just southeast of present-day downtown Houston on April 18. Santa Anna had already been there and burned the town. That night Houston learned of Santa Anna's

movements from documents carried by a Mexican courier captured by Erastus "Deaf" Smith and Henry Karnes. Santa Anna planned to come to Lynch's Ferry. Houston knew he must get there first to place himself between the Mexican forces and the fleeing Texans in the Runaway Scrape beyond the San Jacinto River. On April 19, Houston left the army's baggage and sick soldiers under guard, crossed his army to the south side of the Buffalo Bayou, and headed in this direction. They marched almost all night, stopping only twice, briefly, to rest.

Houston dispatched two cavalry detachments before sunrise on April 20, one here to the ferry and another toward New Washington, to reconnoiter Santa Anna's movements. The first detachment arrived at Lynch's Ferry not long after sunrise and captured a flatboat of provisions, which Santa Anna sent up the river in advance of his arrival. About mid-morning, Houston arrived with the main force of his army and ordered camp set up along the bayou. The second detachment arrived shortly thereafter. They observed Santa Anna's forces preparing to leave New Washington and skirmished briefly with a small cavalry unit north of that town.

Santa Anna burned New Washington and headed north, and arrived here around noon (Monument 11). He immediately sought to draw the Texans into battle. At the same time, the Texans were otherwise busy butchering some of the Widow McCormick's beesves. Santa Anna positioned the "Golden Standard", a 12-pound cannon (his only artillery piece) along the east slope of the swale between here and the reflecting pool, about 400 yards from the Texan camp, and began firing. Houston responded with the "Twin Sisters" (matching 6-pound cannons, gifts from the citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio) positioned on the high ground near where the road next to us meets Texas Highway 134.

Santa Anna then dispatched sharpshooters from his veteran Toluca Company to within rifle range of the Texan camp, positioning them in a grove of trees near the lower end of the reflecting pool. After a brief exchange of rifle fire, a shower of grape shot and broken horseshoes from the "Twin Sisters" sent the Mexican sharpshooters into retreat.

Sporadic artillery exchanges continued into the afternoon as Santa Anna established his camp on the high ground overlooking the marshes along the San Jacinto River, about 3/4 mile from

the Texan camp. Two men received injuries during the cannonade, one from each side. The Texan was Colonel James Clinton Neill, commander of the artillery – the same Colonel J.C. Neill who commanded the Alamo before leaving for personal matters and handed command to Lieutenant Colonel William Barret Travis on February 11, 1836.

Santa Anna ordered the “Golden Standard” withdrawn from the field in late afternoon. Colonel Sidney Sherman petitioned Houston to let him attack in hopes of capturing the piece. Houston initially declined, but shortly before sundown, Houston relented and allowed Sherman to lead a cavalry unit to reconnoiter the Mexican camp. They encountered a Mexican cavalry unit protecting the withdrawal of the cannon. A heated skirmish ensued (Monument 12) and the Texans fell back in confusion and disarray, narrowly escaping disaster. Only one Texan received mortal wounds. The most notable aspect of this otherwise foolish engagement was the heroism of Private Mirabeau B. Lamar. He rescued several comrades, including Secretary of War Thomas J. Rusk, and 19-year-old Walter P. Lane, who 25 years later would become a general in the army of the Confederate States of America. Lamar, promoted to colonel, led the cavalry on the field the next day. When the opposing cavalry units returned to their respective camps, both armies rested for the night.

(Buried by Colonel Mirabeau Lamar (Monument 4))

The overall significance of the Texan camp was not what one might expect of an army camp. This only faint mention in the historical records was that of Sam Houston, although there were probably a few more. The men slept on the cold, damp ground rolled in saddle pictures around 50 to 80 cavalrymen. The absence of fire was the norm in winter months, as it was considered dangerous by scattered militia standards. A lecture who survived with eight others on the morning of April 21 stated that “a worse savage looking band could scarcely pass peerless and worse.” They were “unwashed and uncleanly, their hair, persons and muskets untrimmed

## Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic

### Reading Stop B Narrative

Welcome to Reading Stop B and the Texan encampment.

The spring of 1836 was uncommonly cold and wet. The rivers and creeks were in flood, making traveling even short distances on foot extremely difficult. The morning of April 20 was cold and grey. The bulk of the Texan army arrived here in the woods along the Buffalo Bayou in the mid-morning of April 20 after a long, arduous all-night march from Harrisburg, almost 11 miles to west from here, just this side of present-day Houston. Houston ordered camp established along the bayou. Along the road toward the Battleship Texas, the 2nd Regiment of Volunteers, commanded by Colonel Sidney Sherman set up their camp (Monument 5). To his right, was Colonel Edward Burleson's 1st Regiment of Volunteers (Monument 2). Next in line was Lieutenant Colonel Henry Millard's Regiment of Regulars (Monument 3). Regulars were recruited members of the army, who wore some semblance of a uniform, carried weapons issued by the Republic, and were supposed to be paid more than the volunteers. Finally, where we are standing, the 61-man Cavalry Regiment first commanded by Colonel Sidney Sherman, then later by Colonel Mirabeau Lamar (Monument 4).

The overall appearance of the Texan camp was not what one might expect of an army camp. The only tent mentioned in the historical records was that of Sam Houston, although there were probably a few more. The men slept on the cold, damp ground rolled in soiled blankets around 20 to 30 campfires. The appearance of the men themselves would have been considered deplorable by accepted military standards. A recruit who arrived with eight others on the morning of April 21 stated that, "a more savage looking band could scarcely have been assembled." They were "unwashed and unshaven, their hair, beards and mustaches untrimmed and matted, and their clothes were in tatters and plastered with mud."

Houston's army on the field of San Jacinto numbered between 740 and 900 men who came from all parts of the United States of America and Europe. The majority were recent arrivals in Texas. Less than 200 owned land in the newly declared Republic. Land was a major attraction for the newcomers as they were to be paid in land for their services. Some came for the adventure and others came to fight for the principles of freedom and liberty. Among those fighting for those ideals of democracy was a company of fifteen to twenty *Tejanos*, Texas Mexicans who were as tired of Santa Anna's rule as the Anglos and, therefore, fought for the Texan cause. Their commander was Captain Juan Seguín. When the Army was at Harrisburg, Houston initially desired to leave the *Tejano* company to aid guarding the sick for fear that they might be mistaken for the enemy in a fight. The *Tejanos* would not be left behind. Through José Antonio Menchaca and Captain Seguín, they made it clear that they had as much right as the Anglos to die defending their land, if not more. Houston agreed and placed them with Sherman's unit for the battle.

The Texan's food was poor, scarce, and seldom consisted of more than boiled beef. A number of Widow McCormick's beesves were being butchered when Santa Anna arrived at the battle site. The men welcomed that Mexican provisions captured at the ferry the morning of April 20. The men ate bread and drank coffee with their boiled beef for the first time in several days.

Texan armament consisted of a broad variety of weapons. The regular infantry were the only men whose weapons were consistent, having been issued Model 1816 Harper's Ferry smoothbore flintlock muskets with bayonets. None of the volunteer infantrymen had bayonets, although most probably were armed with knives of varying description including the Bowie knife. The rifles of the volunteers were described as being of "every shape and size." Some of the cavalrymen must have carried flintlock pistols and sabers as well.

The Texan artillery, which consisted of two matched 6-pound cannons called the "Twin Sisters", commanded by Colonel James Clinton Neill, was positioned at the top of the rise near the entrance to this side of the park in a little neck of timber. The cannon were sent to the Texan army by the citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio. Sam Houston received the pieces less than two weeks

before the battle. The army was so short of powder that neither cannon was fired before they were brought to this battleground. In fact, what artillery pieces the Texan army did have before receiving the "Twin Sisters" were lost during their movements across rain-soaked ground and flooded rivers. The cannons located near the sundial are not replicas of the "Twin Sisters", but serve to represent the originals. The originals were lost during the Civil War. It is said that they were called the "Twin Sisters" in honor of two young women on the Mississippi River steamboat by which the cannons were shipped to New Orleans as "hollow ware".

Sam Houston organized a contingency plan of retreat. He gathered and moored along the banks adjacent to the camp several barges, rafts, and flatboats, found floating in the Buffalo Bayou. If retreat became necessary in the face of a full Mexican assault, at least some of his men could escape with their lives, avoiding certain death if captured. (Note: The bayou was not nearly as wide then, probably no more than 200 to 300 yards.)

Let us shift our attention to the events in this camp on April 22, the day after the battle. The Texans buried their eight fallen comrades here in their camp. Their graves are marked on the obelisk. Houston dispatched several parties at dawn to look for Mexicans who had escaped the previous afternoon, especially Santa Anna. A small party of Texans, led by James Austin Sylvester, captured a soldier they thought was a private near Vince's Bridge on the road to Harrisburg. As they brought him into camp, they passed a group of captives. Some of them called out, "*El Presidente! El Presidente!*" They captured Santa Anna, the President of Mexico and self-declared Napoleon of the West.

Sylvester's party brought Santa Anna to Sam Houston, who lay wounded beneath a large oak tree, which stood on the edge of the bayou (Monument 20). The vain and pompous defeated dictator addressed Houston through a translator, "That man may consider himself born to no common destiny who has captured the Napoleon of the West; And now it remains for him to be generous to the vanquished." Houston replied, "You should have remembered that at the Alamo." Despite calls for his immediate murder, Houston traded Santa Anna's life for an independent Texas. Santa Anna agreed to cease hostilities and wrote orders to his other

commanders to withdraw from Texas. The war was over and independence won. Had Santa Anna successfully escaped and returned to this 4,000+-man army west of the Brazos River at Old Fort (Fort Bend), the war would have continued and most likely have ended differently. The Texan army probably would not have been so fortunate in a second battle with Santa Anna. The Battle of San Jacinto would be a footnote in a Mexican history book about the failed Texan Revolution.

Houston stopped twice in his long retreat eastward to train the men. Rain, mud, and the lack of food hampered his training efforts severely. Consequently wet and hungry men did not take to running exercises. The lack of discipline displayed in the next days was causally summed up by afternoon of April 20: "Poor fellows will die daily. This war, strong-willed individualists, scared to fight, that they would fight, he could not help. However, his ill-trained army would fight no longer, superior in discipline, number, and equipment. Houston knew that once unengaged in battle, his army would be beyond his control."

The night of April 20, after posting sentries, Sam Houston ordered his men to set fire to their wagons and supplies to keep the Mexicans from getting to them. Sam built a sheltered drift boundary in a dilemma for the men were in an ugly mood, filled with frustration and despair. Many of them jumped in the water because this community kept releasing leavings of straw and to fight the day's sun and heat. Some tested paths and all slipped to Houston's orders to advance the enemy. They hurried with vengeance for Santa Anna's capture at the Alamo and orders at Goliad. Some of the men's friends and relatives fell at the hands of the dictator. Houston knew he could not hold them in check much longer.

Houston had Santa Anna where he wanted him – isolated from his main army with a force nearly equal to his own. He could neither let Santa Anna get away nor wait much longer. Mexican reinforcements might arrive at any time. At 00:00 A.M. on the morning of April 21, Santa Anna's plotter-in-law, General Martín Perfecto de Cos, arrived with approximately 200 troops, raising the number of men in the Mexican Army to around 1,200. The situation suddenly became critical. Houston sent a small party under the command of First Dr. "Dezi" Smith to destroy Vince's bridge on the main road to Harrisburg, over which General Cos and

## Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic

### Reading Stop C Narrative

Welcome to Reading Stop C. This is an ideal vantage point from which to survey the movements of the Texas army as it prepared to attack on the afternoon of April 21, 1836. Let us first consider some of the events leading up to the attack.

Houston stopped twice in his long retreat eastward to train the men. Rain, mud, and the lack of food hampered his training efforts severely. Constantly wet and hungry men did not take to training exercises. The lack of discipline displayed in the near disastrous cavalry skirmish the afternoon of April 20 bothered him deeply. His men, strong-willed individualists, ached to fight. That they would fight, he could no doubt. However, his ill-trained army would fight an enemy superior in discipline, number, and equipment. Houston knew that once unleashed in battle, his army would be beyond his control.

The night of April 20, after posting sentries, Sam Houston ordered his men to eat and to rest, for they had little sleep the previous night. Sam spent a sleepless night pondering his dilemma. His men were in an ugly mood, filled with frustrations and disgust. Many of them grumbled for days and weeks because their commander kept retreating, refusing to stand and to fight the advancing Mexicans. On April 20, some tasted battle and all strained at Houston's refusal to engage the enemy. They brimmed with vengeance for Santa Anna's actions at the Alamo and orders at Goliad. Some of the men's friends and relatives fell at the hands of the dictator. Houston knew he could not hold them in check much longer.

Houston had Santa Anna where he wanted him – isolated from his main army with a force nearly equal to his own. He could neither let Santa Anna get away, nor wait much longer. Mexican reinforcements might arrive at any time. At 9:00 A.M. on the morning of April 21, Santa Anna's brother-in-law, General Martín Perfecto de Cos, arrived with approximately 500 troops, raising the number of men in the Mexican Army to around 1,500. The situation suddenly became critical. Houston sent a small party under the command of Erastus "Deaf" Smith to destroy Vince's Bridge on the main road to Harrisburg, over which General Cos and

Houston himself crossed to reach the battle site. Supposedly, Houston told Smith to hurry back or he would miss the fighting.

Smith led his party of six mounted men rapidly to the bridge, located about eight miles distant. It spanned Vince's Bayou, located about a mile south of the Buffalo Bayou and three miles east of Harrisburg. They used axes to cut the main supports and burned the remainder. This action would make further reinforcement of Santa Anna difficult and would cut off the retreat of either army. (Remember that Sergeant James Sylvester captured Santa Anna near Vince's bridge the day after the coming battle.) After ensuring that the bridge would be destroyed, Smith headed back to camp. Smith and his entire company did eventually make it back for the battle.

Meanwhile, at noon Houston called his first and only council of war with his officers. He listened to their pleas for attack and to their counsel about when to attack. The men left the meeting disappointed for nothing had been decided. Houston kept his thoughts and plans to himself. Finally, at 3:00 P.M. Houston ordered the army to parade and inspected the men. He polled his officers about their readiness to fight. At 4:00 P.M. (some say 3:30 P.M.) he formed the battle lines. Colonel Sherman's volunteer infantry formed on the Texan left. Colonel Lamar's cavalry formed on the Texan right. Houston, the main force of Colonel Burleson's volunteer infantry, Lieutenant Colonel Millard's regular infantry, and the "Twin Sisters" under the command of Lieutenant Colonel George W. Hockley (for the injured Colonel James Clinton Neill) formed in the center.

The Mexican camp lay about 3/4 mile east from this location, approximately 400 yards beyond the San Jacinto Monument. The day warmed, and with the sun at the Texan's backs, they slowly started their march toward the Mexican lines. Sherman's infantry proceeded along the edge of the marshes (Monument 6). (Note: The levee along the far side of the reflecting pool was not there at the time of the battle.) He kept his regiment low to the ground to the left of the monument until almost upon the Mexican camp. Burleson advanced to the right of Sherman (Monument 7). Lamar's cavalry circled around to the south and attacked Santa Anna's cavalry

camp from that side (Monument 13). Houston, Millard (Monument 9), Hockley (Monument 10), and Rusk (Monument 8) advanced from the Texan center. They dragged the "Twin Sisters" through the mud moving forward passing through the swale, keeping low to the ground, and to the near side of the reflecting pool. They emerged on the near side of the San Jacinto Monument (opposite Sherman's unit). They continued for another 100 yards before being detected – 200 to 300 yards short of the Mexican line.

Smith made his way through the mud and water to the left of the line of battle. He found the "Twin Sisters" (Monument 8) and the Texan cavalry. After examining their horses, he took the lead of the Texan cavalry and rode back to the Texan camp. Smith and his entire company did eventually make it back to the camp.

Meanwhile, at noon Houston called his first and only council of war with his officers. He listened to their ideas for attack and to their counsel about when to strike. The men felt the meeting disapproved for attacking just now decided. Houston left his thoughts and plans to himself. Finally, at 3:00 P.M. Houston ordered the army to march and inspect the men. He told each of his officers about their readiness to fight. At 4:00 P.M. (some say 3:30 P.M.) he formed the battle lines. Colonel Johnson, a volunteer infantry, lowered on the Texas left. Colonel Samuels' cavalry formed on the Texas right. Hockley, the main force of Colonel Johnson, a volunteer infantry, Lieutenant Colonel George W. Hockley (for the future Colonel James Clinton Hockley) formed in the center.

The Mexican camp lay south  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile east from this location, approximately 400 yards beyond the San Jacinto Monument. The day was overcast, and with the sun at the Texas' back, they saw only the whites (Monument 6). (Note: The leaves along the far side of the reflecting pool was not visible at the time of the battle.) He kept his regiment to the front of the monument until about noon to the right of Sherman's cavalry (Monument 7). Lusk's cavalry circled around to the south and attacked Santa Anna's cavalry.

## **Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic**

### **Reading Stop D Narrative**

Welcome to Reading Stop D and the Mexican encampment.

With a force of about 900 men, Santa Anna established his camp across this rise during the afternoon of April 20, 1836, while his single artillery piece, the "Golden Standard", fired on the Texan encampment located across present-day Texas Highway 134. Once Santa Anna realized that he faced a force nearly equal to his own and that his enemy somehow obtained two artillery pieces, he ordered breastworks erected in front of the camp (Monument 15). These were located along the current road / tree line and consisted of packsaddles, trunks, and other baggage carried by the army. The camp sprawled across this high ground and toward the marshes for 200 to 300 yards. There were many tents, and the camp formation was surely orderly and in keeping with strict military procedures. When the "Golden Standard" was withdrawn from the field in the late afternoon, the army positioned it in the center of the makeshift barricades (Monument 14).

Santa Anna's men represented a mixture of professional companies of veterans from Guadalajara, Toluca, Aldama, Guerrero, and Matamoros, as well as peasant conscripts from those areas of Mexico through which the army passed. They were reasonably well equipped, well disciplined, and orderly. Their dress uniforms were of the classic Napoleonic style – blue and red with white leather accoutrements and white and gold trim. They also wore a white cotton fatigue uniform in which they are so often, though improperly, portrayed. Santa Anna's troops were consistently better fed than the Texans were. The Mexican Army confiscated provisions from every little town it marched through before putting it to the torch. It is believed that Santa Anna himself lived sumptuously in the field.

The Mexican *soldados* weaponry consisted of the standard 0.75 caliber English flintlock musket equipped with a bayonet, commonly called a "Brown Bess". The English produced models of this weapon and sold them to nations worldwide since the 1760's. Both sides of the American Revolution employed these muskets as their primary weapon. With reasonable accuracy, their

range was probably no more than 50 yards – shorter than most of the weapons carried by the Texans on this field. The infantrymen also carried sabers, but only the cavalrymen possessed pistols.

When his army settled down for the night on April 20, Santa Anna, like Houston, faced a dilemma. He surely realized the predicament into which he found himself. Through his relentless pursuit of the “land thieves” and “pirates”, as he called the Texans, he isolated himself from his main forces. He lost his normal overwhelming numerical superiority, as the enemy army he faced was nearly equal to his own. He sent for reinforcements, but questioned if they would arrive before the wild-eyed Texan mob attacked. Santa Anna obviously anticipated that Houston would attack at first light, as he posted an extensive watch and had his troops rest in battle formation with their weapons in hand all night.

Santa Anna’s men knew their predicament as well. They penetrated deeply into an alien territory. They marched and battled for months and lost many comrades to the elements during the winter. The weather proved horrible. The rains of the cold spring wore down their stamina and spirits. Santa Anna’s army was 1,000 miles from home, demoralized, near total exhaustion, and now faced an enemy bent on avenging the deeds of their commander-in-chief. When the order came for them to sleep with their weapons in battle formation, something not done on this campaign, surely fear and uncertainty seeped into the ranks. It is doubtful that few, if any, slept more than fitfully that night.

When the dawn passed without an attack, Santa Anna undoubtedly relaxed a little, rejoicing in the fact that Houston again refused to engage him in open battle. This gave reinforcements more time to arrive. At 9:00 A.M. on the morning of April 21, Santa Anna’s prayers were answered. His brother-in-law, General Martín Perfecto de Cos, arrived with approximately 500 troops, raising the number of men in the Mexican Army to around 1,500. While not the “crack” veterans he had requested, with this increase in numbers, Santa Anna apparently felt more confident that Houston would not attack, leaving the field for his taking.

The arrival of General Cos' reinforcements broke the tension in the Mexican camp. The new troops established their camp on unoccupied ground (Monument 16) and immediately retired for much needed sleep. The remainder of the army stacked their arms and relaxed. Neither Santa Anna, nor any of his subordinate officers, some of them excellent military tacticians, saw fit to keep sentries posted – a fatal oversight.

Seemingly comfortable and confident in their nearly two-to-one numerical advantage, the overall atmosphere in the Mexican camp late that afternoon remained relaxed. Most of the new troops in General Cos' camp continued to sleep. Those that did not rest busied themselves with cooking and eating. Throughout the remainder of the camp soldiers rested and played a card game called *monte*.

This brings us to the most famous or notorious controversy about the events of April 21, 1836. That Santa Anna was in his tent is an uncontested fact. Just what he was doing is the core of the controversy. He later claimed to be asleep. At the time, a story soon spread that he was having a rendezvous with a woman. This woman, Emily Morgan (or Emily West), was a slave on the plantation of James Morgan at Morgan's Point, near New Washington, which the Mexican army burned to the ground two days before. Emily Morgan, whether real or fictitious, became known as "The Yellow Rose of Texas". No record or mention of the presence of a woman on the battlefield exists. Santa Anna's own officers, who later castigated him for his actions, never mentioned this allegation. The only evidence, and very weak at that, is a cryptic statement written by one of the Texans present: "Our victory was aided by Santa Anna's voluptuousness." One can read what he or she wants into such a statement with its very strange choice of a word – at least with respect to its modern meaning. Whether the "Yellow Rose of Texas" was real will never be settled. Regardless of what kept Santa Anna in his tent that afternoon, when someone called out that the Texans were attacking, it was already too late.

## Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic

### Reading Stop E Narrative

Welcome to the Battle of San Jacinto. We are standing in the location of Santa Anna's camp (Monument 16). Before us (toward the San Jacinto Monument) stretches the Mexican breastworks of packsaddles, trunks, and other baggage. Along this line, the Texans made their final assault at 4:30 P.M. on April 21, 1836.

Before we proceed, let us review the differences in battle tactics employed by the two armies. The Mexicans trained in the traditional European fashion – ranks of riflemen kneeling and firing, then stepping back to reload in orderly fashion. The Texans, on the other hand, formed a guerilla-type force, charging and firing at will, pausing to reload, and charging again.

Comparisons between this battle and the Battle of New Orleans in 1814 and with several other pitched battles during the American Revolution exist. On this battlefield, the Mexican army never stood a chance to form its defensive ranks.

As we learned from Reading Stop D, the Mexican army remained thoroughly unprepared for battle that afternoon. Not posting sentries resulted in the ensuing Texan attack to be a complete surprise. The Texan main force, under the command of Houston, came up over the edge of the rise just to the left of the San Jacinto Monument having advanced within 200 to 300 yards of this point before being detected. Once detected, they charged forward in double-quick time. The loaded "Twin Sisters" fired. According to tradition, the little Texan band of a fife and a drummer struck up the tune "Will You Come to the Bower I Have Shaded for You?" – a popular song of the day. Somewhere along the charging line (some sources credit Sherman's advance on the Texan left), someone cried out, "Remember the Alamo! Remember La Bahia! Remember Goliad!" The *Tejanos*, under the command of Captain Seguin cried out, "*¡Recuerden el Alamo!*"

The rallying yell spread along the entire Texan line. Later Mexican accounts of this battle mentioned how the screaming of the Texans terrified the troops.

The Texans held their fire until within about 60 yards of the Mexican line. Some Mexican troops rallied quickly to the line. The "Golden Standard" fired the first round of the two it would

contribute during the battle. The fighting soon turned hand-to-hand and along the entire length of the breastworks. Houston, in front of the advancing Texans, directed the fighting from his horse. He had two horses shot from beneath him. The second time Houston himself received a wound from a rifle ball in his right ankle. (Note: Monument 19 commemorates Houston's injury, but probably does not accurately indicate his location when injured because it is beyond the effective range of the Mexican muskets.) Houston mounted again to direct the battle. The Texans captured the "Golden Standard". With the breastworks breached, Burleson's and Millard's regulars entered the Mexican camp.

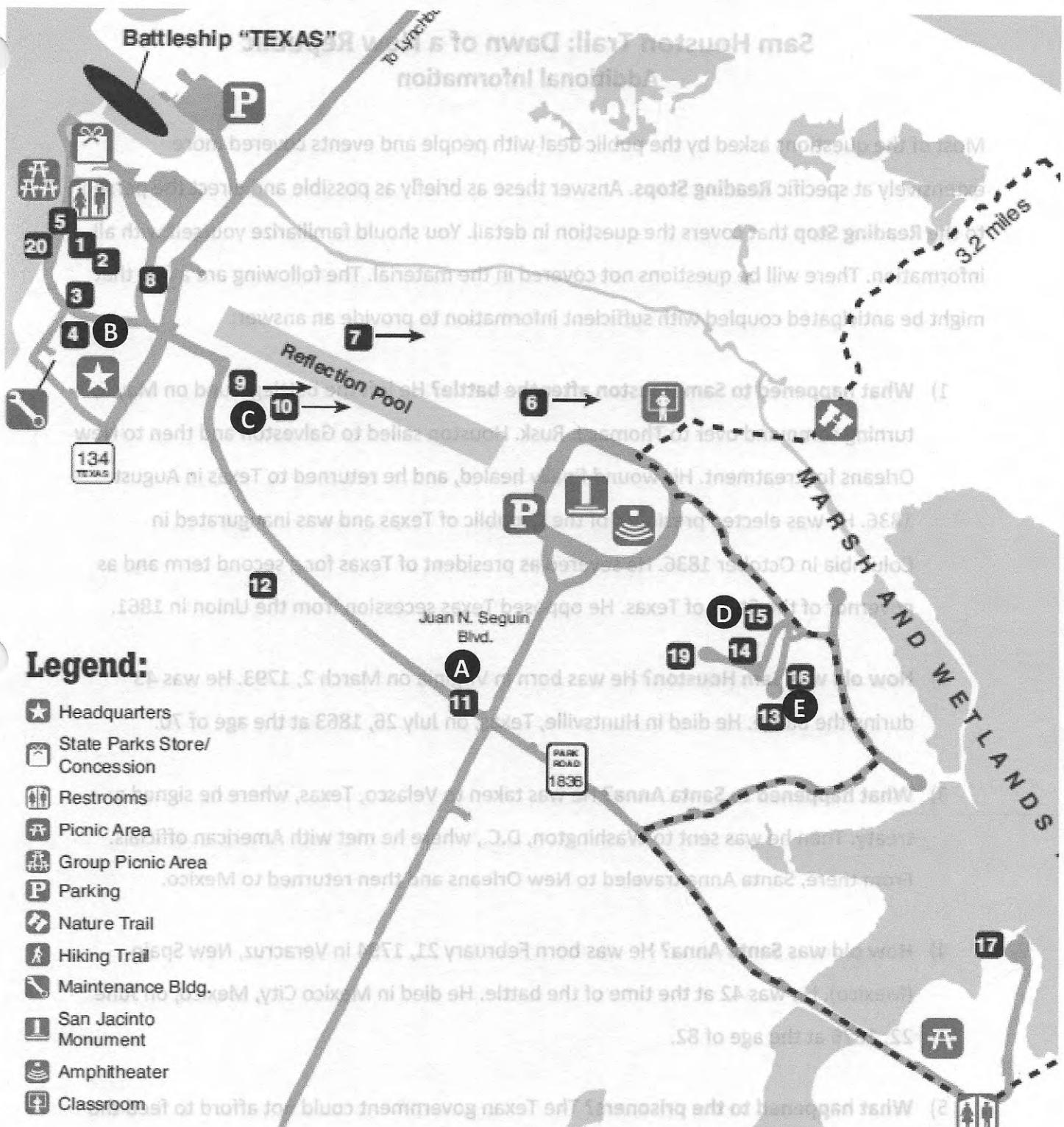
Sometime early in the battle, Santa Anna emerged from his tent, and, according to the later accounts of his subordinates, stood wringing his hands, unable to give orders or establish enough authority to mount a defense or counterattack. When he realized that all was lost, he mounted a nearby horse and fled toward the prairie and to the road to the Brazos River and the remainder of his army. Had the Texan army not captured him the following day, this battle may have been for naught.

Concurrently with the action in the center of the battle, on the Mexican right, Colonel Sherman's volunteer infantry swarmed up out of the marshes and struck hard and quick at the camp of General Cos' recently arrived reinforcements – most of them asleep as the attack began. Most of their rifles remained stacked. Meeting little resistance, the Texans poured through this part of the camp. On the Mexican left (Monument 13), Colonel Lamar's cavalry surprised that of Santa Anna's, routed them, and scattered unmounted horses through the camp, adding to the general confusion.

Organized resistance in the Mexican ranks lasted 18 minutes. As soon as it was apparent that the Texans would overwhelm the camp, the dispirited Mexican soldiers fled in all directions, the few with weapons, dropping them as they ran. In the marshes behind the Mexican camp, Colonel Almonte, Santa Anna's aide, valiantly managed to rally a sizable group of fleeing soldiers and organized them to hold their ground and fight. These efforts were short-lived as the Texans overwhelmed their position.

The Mexican soldiers fled into the marshes, into the mire of Boggy Bayou, and into the open prairie leading to the New Washington and Harrisburg Roads. Many of the Texans, filled with vengeance for the execution of so many of their number at the Alamo and at Goliad, pursued the fleeing Mexicans and continued killing. Using their rifles as clubs until they broke, then picking up Mexican rifles with bayonets, they continued the slaughter. Some Mexican soldiers, stumbling through the quagmire of the marshes in an attempt to get to the river and swim to safety were shot and stabbed. Some fell and begged for mercy crying, "¡Me no Alamo! ¡Me no Goliad!" These pleas went unheeded. The shallow water along the San Jacinto River soon ran crimson. Houston, numerous other officers, and men tried to stop the senseless slaughter.

Houston wanted to regroup his forces. He feared that more reinforcements would arrive at any time. Although they won this battle, he feared another as General Urrea's army camped just west of the Brazos River. Finally, an hour and a half later, just before sundown, the killing stopped. The Texans grouped and put under guard the captured Mexican soldiers. The few Texans with medical training treated the wounded – first the Texans, then the Mexicans. At Lorenzo de Zavala's plantation just across the Buffalo Bayou, a makeshift hospital took shape. Throughout the night, the screams of the wounded and moans of the dying pierced the air. The final casualty count: 630 Mexicans killed, about 200 wounded, and about 700 captured; 8 Texan soldiers killed, thirty wounded. The Battle of San Jacinto was finally over.



## Legend:

- Headquarters
- State Parks Store/  
Concession
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area
- Group Picnic Area
- Parking
- Nature Trail
- Hiking Trail
- Maintenance Bldg.
- San Jacinto  
Monument
- Amphitheater
- Classroom

From Texas Parks and Wildlife: San Jacinto Battleground State Historical Site Map  
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## Sam Houston Trail: Dawn of a New Republic

### Additional Information

Most of the questions asked by the public deal with people and events covered more extensively at specific **Reading Stops**. Answer these as briefly as possible and direct the person to the **Reading Stop** that covers the question in detail. You should familiarize yourself with all information. There will be questions not covered in the material. The following are a few that might be anticipated coupled with sufficient information to provide an answer:

- 1) **What happened to Sam Houston after the battle?** He left the battleground on May 5, turning command over to Thomas J. Rusk. Houston sailed to Galveston and then to New Orleans for treatment. His wound finally healed, and he returned to Texas in August 1836. He was elected president of the Republic of Texas and was inaugurated in Columbia in October 1836. He served as president of Texas for a second term and as governor of the State of Texas. He opposed Texas secession from the Union in 1861.
- 2) **How old was Sam Houston?** He was born in Virginia on March 2, 1793. He was 43 during the battle. He died in Huntsville, Texas, on July 26, 1863 at the age of 70.
- 3) **What happened to Santa Anna?** He was taken to Velasco, Texas, where he signed a treaty. Then he was sent to Washington, D.C., where he met with American officials. From there, Santa Anna traveled to New Orleans and then returned to Mexico.
- 4) **How old was Santa Anna?** He was born February 21, 1794 in Veracruz, New Spain (Mexico). He was 42 at the time of the battle. He died in Mexico City, Mexico, on June 22, 1876 at the age of 82.
- 5) **What happened to the prisoners?** The Texan government could not afford to feed the prisoners, so the Texan Army sent them to farmers and ranchers in the area as laborers. Most eventually returned to Mexico. Some did remain and become Texas citizens.

6) **When was the monument built?** The monument and reflection pool were completed in 1939.

7) **What happened to the bodies of the Mexican soldiers?** The bodies remained on the battlefield for the rest of the spring and most of the summer. The Widow McCormick and others complained to the Texas government, but the government did not act officially. Finally, those in the neighborhood gathered the remains and buried them in a common grave at an unknown location.

8) **Where is Monument 18?** This corresponds to the site of Vince's Bridge located in Pasadena, Texas, on North Richey Street.

#### THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE

The sun was sinking in the horizon as the battle concluded, but at the close of the conflict the sun of liberty and independence rose in Texas, never to be obscured by the clouds of despotism. We have had a day of chivalry and remorse with solder the sunless hour all, inscribed on with emigrene like those left on this occasion. There was a general cry which berated the rebels Remmepur LADAHIA These words selected all. Our side was the city. The prevailing sin and iniquity of the Texan army could not be superseded by such a conqueror T. L. RUSK

There are also various inspiring inscriptions on the monuments. See if your group can find these:

#### TWO DAYS BEFORE THE BATTLE

This morning we are in preparation to meet SANTA ANNA. It is the only chance of saving Texas. From time to time I have looked for reinforcements in vain: We will only have about seven hundred men to march with besides the camp guard. We go to conquer. It is wisdom growing out of necessity to meet the enemy now every consideration enforced it. No previous occasion would justify it. The troops are in fine spirits and now is the time for action. We shall use our best efforts to fight the enemy to such advantage as will insure victory though the odds are greatly against us. I leave the result in the hands of a wise God, and rely upon his providence. My country will do justice to those who serve her. The rights for which we fight will be secured, and TEXAS free. SAM HOUSTON

#### THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE

The sun was sinking in the horizon as the battle commenced, but, at the close of the conflict, the sun of liberty and independence rose in Texas, never it is to be hoped, to be obscured by the clouds of despotism. We have read of deeds of chivalry, and perused with ardor the annals of war; we have contemplated, with the highest emotions of sublimity, the loud roaring thunder, the desolating tornado, and the withering simoom of the desert; but neither of these, nor all, inspired us with emotions like those felt on this occasion! There was a general cry which pervaded the ranks Remember the ALAMO Remember LABAHIA These words electrified all. Onward was the cry. The unerring aim and irresistible energy of the Texan army could not be withstood, It was freemen fighting against the minions of tyranny, and the result proved the inequality of such a contest. T.J. RUSK

**Around the San Jacinto Monument, note the passages that provide a short history of the Texas Revolution:**

The early policies of Mexico toward her Texas colonists had been extremely liberal. Large grants of land were made to them, and no taxes or duties imposed. The relationship between the Anglo-Americans and Mexicans was cordial. But, following a series of revolutions begun in 1829, unscrupulous rulers successively seized power in Mexico. Their unjust acts and despotic decrees led to the revolution in Texas.

In June, 1832, the colonists forced the Mexican authorities at Anahuac to release Wm. B. Travis and others from unjust imprisonment. The Battle of Velasco, June 26, and the Battle of Nacogdoches, August 2, followed; in both the Texans were victorious. Stephen Fuller Austin, "Father of Texas," was arrested January 3, 1834, and held in Mexico without trial until July, 1835. The Texans formed an army, and on November 12, 1835, established a provisional government.

The first shot of the revolution of 1835-36 was fired by the Texans at Gonzales, October 2, 1835, in resistance to a demand by Mexican soldiers for a small cannon held by the colonists. The Mexican garrison at Goliad fell October 9; The Battle of Concepción was won by the Texans October 28. San Antonio was captured December 10, 1835 after five days of fighting in which the indomitable Benjamin R. Milam died a hero, and the Mexican army evacuated Texas.

Texas declared her independence at Washington-on-the-Brazos March 2. For nearly two months her armies met disaster and defeat: Dr. James Grant's men were killed on the Agua Dulce March 2; William Barret Travis and his men sacrificed their lives at the Alamo, March 6; William Ward was defeated at Refugio, March 14; Amon B. King's men were executed near Refugio, March 16; and James Walker Fannin and his army were put to death near Goliad, March 27, 1836.

On this field on April 21, 1836 the army of Texas commanded by General Sam Houston, and accompanied by the Secretary of War, Thomas J. Rusk, attacked the larger invading army of Mexicans under General Santa Anna. The battle line from left to right was formed by Sidney Sherman's regiment, Edward Burleson's regiment, the artillery commanded by George W. Hockley, Henry Millard's infantry and the cavalry under Mirabeau B. Lamar. Sam Houston led the infantry charge.

With the battle cry, "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" the Texans charged. The enemy, taken by surprise, rallied for a few minutes then fled in disorder. The Texans had asked no quarter and gave none. The slaughter was appalling, victory complete, and Texas free! On the following day General Antonio López de Santa Anna, self-styled "Napoleon of the West," received from a generous foe the mercy he had denied Travis at the Alamo and Fannin at Goliad.

Citizens of Texas and immigrant soldiers in the army of Texas at San Jacinto were natives of Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Austria, Canada, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Poland, Portugal and Scotland.

Measured by its results, San Jacinto was one of the decisive battles of the world. The freedom of Texas from Mexico won here led to annexation and to the Mexican War, resulting in the acquisition by the United States of the states of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and parts of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma almost one-third of the present area of the American nation, nearly a million square miles of territory, changed sovereignty.

## SAM HOUSTON TRAIL AWARD APPLICATION and ORDER FORM

This certifies that :   
(Enter Name)

has qualified for the Sam Houston Trail Patch and has been approved by the Unit Leader.

Unit Type:  Unit Number:

District:

Council:

Unit Leader's Name:

Unit Leader's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Leader's Address:

City , State:

ZIP + 4:

Telephone #:

Telephone #:

Date:  /  /  DD / MM / YY YY

Send completed Applications for the Sam Houston Trail Award to:

SAM HOUSTON TRAIL AWARD

Sam Houston Area Council

Boy Scouts of America

P.O. Box 924528

Houston Texas, 77292-4528

Send \$2.25 for each patch (includes shipping and handling).

Please add \$1.00 for shipping and handling for every order exceeding 10 patches.

Make checks payable to Sam Houston Area Council, B.S.A. Account# 1-6301-011-90

## SAM HOUSTON TRAIL AWARD APPLICATION and ORDER FORM

(Center Name)												This certifies that:
												has designated for the Sam Houston Trail Patch and has been submitted by the Unit Leader
				Unit Name				Unit Number				Unit Type:
												District:
												County:
												Unit Leader's Name:
												Unit Leader's Signature:
												Unit Leader's Address:
												City, State:
												ZIP + 4:
												Telephone #:
												Date:
DD/MM/YY												

Send completed Applications for the Sam Houston Trail Award to:

### SAM HOUSTON TRAIL AWARD

Sam Houston Area Council

Boy Scouts of America

P.O. Box 324258

Houston Texas 77053-2528

Send \$2.50 for each batch (includes shipping and handling).

Please add \$1.00 for shipping and handling for every order exceeding 50 patches.

Make checks payable to Sam Houston Area Council, BSA. Account# F-301-011-30