

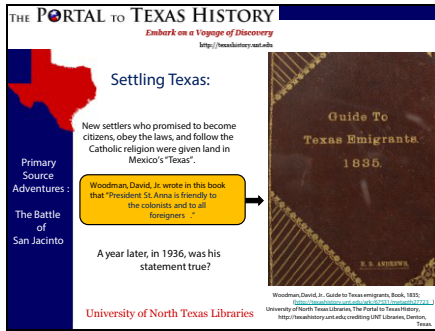
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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

REGULATOR
LAWS, ORDINANCES AND CONTRACTS
OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS,
FROM JANUARY 1824 TO THE 15TH OF FEBRUARY
OF 1837.
BY
COL. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN.
INTRODUCED AND REVISED BY
J. W. FULTON.
EXPLANATORY INTRODUCTION.

Why Revolt?

Immigrants felt the laws were unfair.


In the late 1820's, the Mexican government began restricting American immigration and changing the constitution.

Austin, Stephen F. (Stephen Fuller), 1793-1838. Translation: Laws, Orders and Contracts, or Constitution From January 1824 to 1828 in Virtue of Which Col. Stephen F. Austin Introduced and Carried Foreign Emigrants in Texas. With an Explanatory Introduction. Book, 1837. <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/61103/3t1k07-1>. The Portal to Texas History. <http://texashistory.unt.edu>, crediting UNT Libraries, Austin, Texas.

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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

Letter from Santa Anna to Lorenzo de Zavala
"My dear friend."
...ors he has said favorable things about centralism.
July 22, 1829.

Why Revolt?

Santa Anna was a dictator gaining power with a conservative manifesto.

By 1829, Santa Anna supported the government change to a centralized republic. During the process, Santa Anna kept his centralism secret.

Santa Anna, Antonio Lopez de. Letter from Santa Anna to Zavala, July 22, 1829. Letter, July 22, 1829. Digital image. Open Access. <https://www.unt.edu/ark:/61103/3t1k07-1>. University of North Texas Libraries. The Portal to Texas History. <http://texashistory.unt.edu>, crediting DigiN Distro Center for American History, Austin, Texas.

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The Battle of San Jacinto



Why Revolt?

Since January 1836, Texas settlers had been abandoning their homes, known as the Runaway Scrape, because the Mexican government initiated military reoccupation of the newly settled land.

Most people fled after they heard of the fall of the Alamo.

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A QUICK REVIEW:

A FEW DAYS BEFORE

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 The Battle of San Jacinto

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Santa Anna led 700 men to Harrisburg on his way to the coast, burning the town.

I do hereby certify that Lorenzo de Zavala is one of the seven Delegates duly elected to represent the State of Texas in the General Consultation or Convention of all Texas

Harrisburg, Tex. Nov 15 1835
 Gen. Richardson
 the Committee

A year earlier, Lorenzo de Zavala had been elected to represent this land. How do you think Zavala felt when Santa Anna burned the town?

Richardson, Gen. F., Harrisburg Election (October 8th, 1835), Letter, University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <https://www.history.net>
 University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, <http://www.history.net>
 Archives Commission, Austin, Texas.

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With his army in such ~~short~~ General Houston was in no particular mood to risk an engagement with the superior forces under Santa Anna. Houston realized that one disastrous defeat at the hands of the Mexican army would spell the end of Texas liberty—a liberty not yet won. He, therefore, deferred a decisive contact with the enemy until circumstances were more propitious, hoping meanwhile not only to catch the Mexican forces while they were divided, but also upon a field of battle more suited to the needs of a small army of the particular type that he commanded.

The army was not only small, but poorly equipped, and composed largely of volunteer recruits. Discipline, under the circumstances, was necessarily lax. The recruits came and went, individually, in bodies, according to the demands made upon them from their homes, farms or other affairs, and, sometimes, according to a mood of the moment.

His continued postponement of definite contact with the enemy, by constantly retreating, brought upon him the severe criticism of his compatriots; many of the recruits who left the colon made the oft-repeated comment that they had come to fight, not to retreat! There was even strong talk of selecting Houston as commander in chief of the army.

This was the state of affairs when the Texas army encamped near Gove's Crossing. Here word came that Santa Anna was marching toward Harrisburg with a force estimated at from 1,500 to 2,000 men; and that Comandante Filisola and Cos, who were operating in other parts of Texas, with their commands, planned to converge with Santa Anna's command in the coastal region after the three armies had devastated Texas and crushed the rebellion.

[1]

James A. H. Wilson, Texas and Texans, (1929), <http://www.history.net>, University of North Texas Libraries

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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto

Houston's men, on April 17th, come to a fork in the road.

One road led to Louisiana and the other road led to Harrisburg on the edge of the coast. They took the road to Harrisburg.

Yuleum, N. K. San Jacinto battle ground. Map, 1866. Digital image. <http://www.history.unt.edu/ark:/61131/prod10020>
 University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History
<http://www.history.unt.edu>, crediting UNT Libraries, Denton, Texas.

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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto

On the 18th, Houston learned that Santa Anna's nearby forces had just crossed the bridge over Vince's Bayou.

On the 19th, Houston crossed Buffalo Bayou just outside of Harrisburg and captured one of Santa Anna's supply boats.

On the 20th, the Texas army was the first to move onto the battle field.

Texas Historical Foundation, Heritage, Volume 03, Number 04, Spring 1989, p. 27. Digital image. <http://www.history.unt.edu/ark:/61131/prod10020>
 University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History
<http://www.history.unt.edu>, crediting Texas Historical Foundation, Austin, Texas.

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<http://www.history.unt.edu>

Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto

What geographical features helped the Texans win the Battle of San Jacinto?

Field, Around the San Jacinto Monument. University of North Texas Libraries, 00-019-0005.
 Presented by <http://www.history.unt.edu/ark:/61131/prod10020>
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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

Anyone going to the ferry had to pass close to the woods.

The Texans took control of Lynch's Ferry and settled into a dense grove of oak trees between the Harrisburg-Lynchburg road and Buffalo Bayou.

Texas Historical Foundation, Heritage, Volume 25, Number 04, Spring 1985, p. 20. Bryan, editor, bryan@texas-historical.org, March 11, 1985 digital images. <http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/61100/2/txsh250411>
University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History
<http://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Texas Historical Foundation, Austin, Texas
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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

The Mexican army arrived on the same day around noon along the New Washington-Lynchburg road.

As they approached the Texas army hidden in the trees they started firing at the Texas camp with a cannon.

"Map of the Battlefield of San Jacinto" Map <http://www.texas-historical.org/ark:/61100/2/txsh250411>
University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History
<http://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting State of the Republic Museum, Washington, Texas
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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

Santa Anna, after the Texian attempt to take the field gun, against the advice of his officers, abandoned the high ground and moved the army about 200 yards east, with marsh and water to his back and right.


Sidney Sherman, commander of the Second Regiment, attempted to capture the gun.

"Map of the Battlefield of San Jacinto" Map <http://www.texas-historical.org/ark:/61100/2/txsh250411>
University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History
<http://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting State of the Republic Museum, Washington, Texas
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Do you see the marsh?



Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

Reprints on the Grounds of the San Jacinto Monument Site (University of North Texas Libraries, 00-00-0000)
<http://www.history.unt.edu/primary-source-adventures>


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THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO:

APRIL 21, 1836



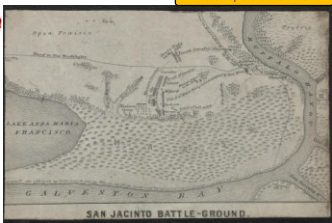
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The Battle of San Jacinto

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An 1856 map of the battlefield



Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

SAN JACINTO BATTLE-GROUND.

Visitors, H. K. San Jacinto Battle - General - Items 1 (2/1) Booklet, 4/1/01
Permalink: <http://www.history.unt.edu/primary-source-adventures>

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9 a.m.

Number of Soldiers Before Battle

On the morning of April 21st, General Houston held a council of war. He was advised to wait until Santa Anna made a move but decided to attack first.

James A. Whitt-Turner and Tracy (2009)
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<http://www.txhistory.net>

4:30 PM

Mexican Colonel Pedro Delgado, in his account of the battle, noted: "No important incident took place until 4:30 p.m. At this fatal moment, the bugles on our right signaled the advance of the enemy upon [the Texans]."

Delgado also noted that the Texan army was in a state of confusion and that the battle started when they arrived at the Mexican entrenchment.



Littleton, E. G., Texas History Stories, Number 4: The Alamo Reminiscences of an Exile, Book 1901
 Alamo Reminiscences of an Exile, Book 1901
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A Texan account of the battle

AS REPORTED from the Texas side, Colonel Sherman commenced the attack from the Texas left, but the entire Texan line at the center and right advanced in double-quick time upon the Mexican breastworks, shouting the war-cry, "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliath!" They received the scattering fire of the enemy and rushed up to within point-blank range before releasing their fire. The hand-to-hand conflict in the breastworks lasted only 18 minutes. Not having bayonets, the Texas officers chucked their muskets and many of them were broken off at the hilt. The rout was complete, as Colonel Delgado has stated, and the pursuit, the Texan cavalry leading, continued until twilight.

A Texas guard was left in charge of the Mexican encampment, while the remainder of the army returned to their own camp, bringing in the killed and wounded. As miraculous as it appears, the Texans lost only two killed and twenty-three wounded, some half dozen of them fatally. Contrast that with the Mexican loss of 636 killed, 208 wounded, and 730 prisoners!

The amount of plunder taken from the Mexicans was immense. It included several hundred horses and mules, six hundred muskets, three hundred sabres, two hundred pistols and nearly \$12,000 in specie. Among the staff loss by the Mexican Army there were: Killed, 1 General, 4 Colonels, 2 Lieutenant Colonels, 5 Captains, and 12 Lieutenants; wounded, 3 Colonels, 3 Lieutenant Colonels, two 2nd Lieutenant Colonels, 7 Captains and 1 Cadet; prisoners, President-General Santa Anna, General Cos, 4 Colonels, aides to Santa Anna, and the Colonel of the Cisneros Battalion. General Cos was not captured until April 26th. . . .

[*]

James A. Whitt-Turner and Tracy (2009)
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The Battle of San Jacinto

Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto



The Battle Flag captured from Santa Anna

Battle Flag said to have been captured from Santa Anna at San Jacinto. It is now a USA Open War of the Republic Museum.
From <http://www.history.unt.edu/jacinto/links/battle-flag.html>

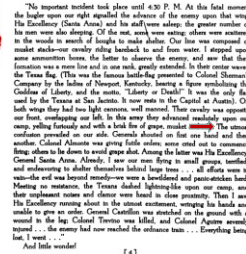
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The Battle of San Jacinto

Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto



A Mexican account of the battle

"No important incident took place until 4:30 P. M. At this fatal moment the bugle upon our right signaled the advance of the enemy upon that wing..."

From A. Wilson: *Texas from 1820 to 1845*.
<http://www.history.unt.edu/jacinto/links/a-wilson.html>


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The Battle of San Jacinto

Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto




Santa Anna was captured and brought into the Texian camp.

Rembrandt of Santa Anna, Arnhem, April 22, 1846; digital image. <http://www.history.unt.edu/jacinto/links/rembrandt.html>


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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto




Reluctantly, Santa Anna agreed to the terms of a treaty. It meant that all Mexican soldiers had to leave Texas.

Image from Wikimedia, Image: U.S. Signal Corps. <http://www.history.unt.edu>
The Battle of San Jacinto. An illustration of Santa Anna on horseback, courtesy of the Republic Museum, Waco, Texas. <http://www.history.unt.edu>

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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto

"Santa Anna ... announced his formal surrender in Spanish..."

Major Bryan, then a youth of 19 and a soldier in the Texas Army, acted as interpreter."

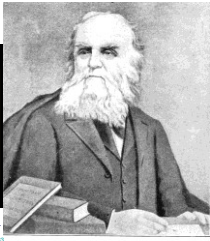



Illustration of Major Bryan, by Samuel G. (Samuel Green), 1849-1927. The Battle of San Jacinto. An illustration of Major Bryan, Texas. The Portal to Texas History. <http://www.history.unt.edu>

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Major Bryan

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Primary Source Adventures:
The Battle of San Jacinto



Santa Anna's order to the Mexican forces to retreat.

The translation is on the next slide.

Santa Anna, Antonio Lopez de. Letter from Santa Anna ordering retreat of Mexican Army, ca. April 1848. (The Center for American History). <http://www.history.unt.edu>

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ARMY OF OPERATIONS

E. S. Art I have notified Your Excellency in the official communique of today, withdraw the troops through Bejar and Victoria. I ask Y. E. that you order the Division commanders that in said retreat, no harm be done to the property of the inhabitants of this Country, hoping that this disposition will be followed precisely.

God and Liberty Field of San Jacinto, April 22, 1836.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

Translation of Santa Anna's Letter 22 April, 1836



<http://www.history.unt.edu/primary-source-adventures/the-battle-of-san-jacinto>
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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto

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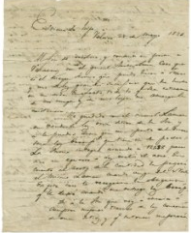
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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto

Lorenzo de Zavala's letter to his son reporting that he will escort Santa Anna to Veracruz as a service to Texas.

May 28, 1836

"I think it is the best service I can do for Texas and one of the biggest sacrifices of my life."
 Lorenzo de Zavala



Zavala, Lorenzo de. Letter from Lorenzo de Zavala to his son, May 28, 1836. Letter, May 28, 1836. <http://www.history.unt.edu/primary-source-adventures/the-battle-of-san-jacinto>. University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, crediting Cooper Briscoe Center for American History, Austin, Texas.

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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto

The result?
 The Republic of Texas!
 And...

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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto

Effects of the Battle

For Texas.
 their victory led to annexation into the United States and the United States' war with Mexico.


For Mexico.
 the defeat meant the loss of nearly a million square miles in territory! Did you know that Texas, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, California, Utah and parts of Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming used to be a part of Mexico?

As a result of the Battle of San Jacinto, almost a third of what is now the United States of America changed ownership.

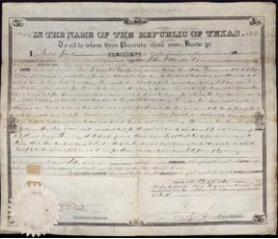
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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto




Land Grants
 were rewarded to those who fought at San Jacinto.

Gift of Land to John Adkins, 25 Nov x 30 Nov (Star of the Republic Museum)
 Permission: <http://www.history.unt.edu/central/unt-ark-1000/>


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Primary Source Adventures:
 The Battle of San Jacinto



Veterans of San Jacinto
 in their elder years.

Do you have a family member with stories to tell?

Photo of Battle of San Jacinto Survivors (George W. Perry, G.C. Chisum, Moses A. Brown), Star of the Republic Museum, 1879.
<http://www.history.unt.edu/central/unt-ark-1000/>

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