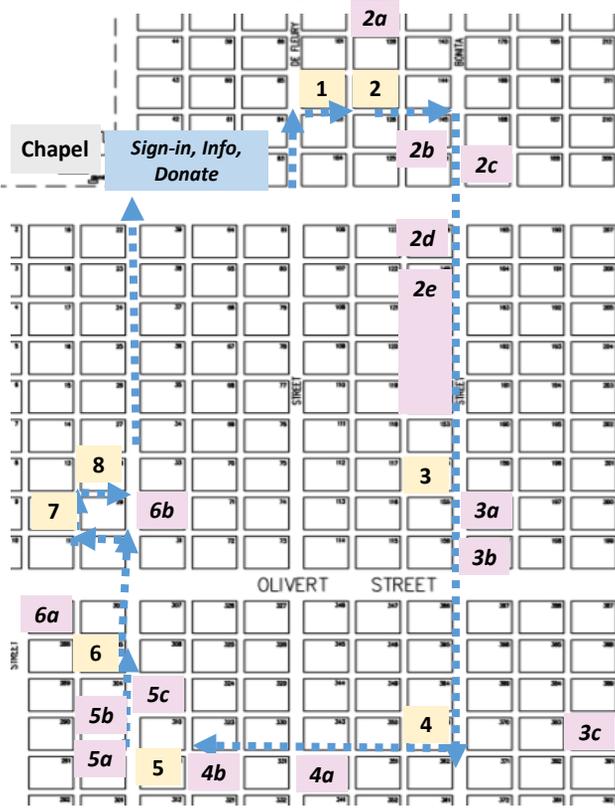


Texas Tour 4/27/19 - Route w/Talking Points (cont'd on next page)



Introduce yourself with brief summary of your involvement with Save Austin's Cemeteries, the tour sponsor. Welcome to Oakwood Cemetery founded in 1839, the same year Austin was founded with a population less than 550. Oakwood is 40 acres with about 22,000 graves but only around 12,000 with remaining markers.

Renovation of Chapel, built in 1914, managed by Parks & Rec. Dept (PARC), initiated by SAC in 2007; completed July 2018.

Terrain is uneven so please watch your step and stay on paths. Don't stand on cemetery plots and watch out for fire ants. Don't touch gravestones as they are fragile.

If visitors have questions, answer while walking. If you don't know the answer, tell them people at sign-in area may be able to answer. Cut narration between stops if necessary and signal actors if they are going too long (over 4 minutes)

Refer to the map of battles and timeline in the handout as the tour progresses if visitors want to keep track. Consider summarizing what heard and timing as walk along.

Tour subject summary & notes after the Revolution (if actor doesn't cover)

Note: *Italics info included below (#a/#b, etc.) = Tour Guide Talking Point*

1. Elisha Marshall Pease (1812-1883) – Fought in first battle at Gonzales (10/2/35); assistant secretary at Conv. of 1836 (3/1-3/17/36). Republic's first comptroller; As governor 1853-1857, he paid off state debt and established basis used to finance schools and colleges. Later practiced law. Governor's Mansion and his home, Woodlawn, were built by Abner Cook who will we visit shortly. Donated 23 acres along Shoal Creek that became Pease Park. Enfield Road named by Pease for his birth city.

2. Captain James Gibson Swisher (1794-1862), Grass Fight & Siege of Bexar (10/12-12/11/35); delegate to Conv. of 1836, Signed Decl of Ind. & Const (3/1-3/17/36). In Austin, ran Swisher hotel, a tavern, and a ferry from 1852-1875 at Congress Ave. Swisher donated land for So. Congress Ave. through his farm on Colorado River. Swisher County & 3 streets in Austin named for him: Swisher, James, Gibson. Notice Veteran & Defender of the Republic markers from Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

*** 2a. Thomas McKinney (1801-1873)** - trader and stock raiser from Kentucky, came to Texas in 1824. Helped finance the Revolution and was regarded as the father of the Texas Navy. In 1850 he moved to Travis County, where he built a stone house, a gristmill, and quarter horse track. His estate south of Austin became McKinney Falls State Park.

*** 2b. Veterans with US Flags** - We placed flags at WWI vets graves on Veterans Day 11/11/18 for WWI 100 year anniversary; Flags on this road only to show many different veterans of all wars at Oakwood.

2c. Blind Asylum Lot - One of 9 types of group lots (Fire, Odd Fellows, Typographical Union, Travis County, etc.); many of the burials are people who died in their 20s from tuberculosis; good lot for future gravestone repair; cleaned recently

2d. Kreisle - One of 5 mausoleums at Oakwood; family may restore this. Kreisle Building on Congress & 5th in Austin.

2e + . Notes on 4 lots on right side on route, variety of Europeans. Palm (Gustav – Swedish clock maker, son John banker, related to Svante Palm who brought many Swedes to Texas); Daniel Trabue (French, 1850s Texas merchant); Von Rosenberg (Wilhelm – German surveyor, chronicler of first critical account of German immigration, worked at Texas General Land Office); John Hillebrand, German merchant, member of the fire department. Hook and Ladder truck served as hearse.)

3. Mary Rabb (1805-1882), Runaway Scrape; John & Mary Rabb came to Texas in 1823 as part of "Austin's Old 300," (see flat marker). The Rabbs moved to Travis County by 1860 and lived at Barton Springs. In 1889, Mary's son built a footbridge at the shallow end of Barton pool and rented swimsuits to men only! Family lived in Rabb home on Robert E. Lee Rd. until 1955 after which it was donated to Austin. Rabb Rd their previous lands. Much of the land was sold to Oakwood "resident" Andrew Zilker who later donated the land for Zilker Park. The Rabb family papers, including Mary's diary about early Texas incl. Runaway Scrape, were donated to UT's Briscoe Center. Notice gravestones all similar style, likely replaced by family.

*** 3a. Abner Cook (1814-1884) lot** - Well-known architect, designed John Swisher home 1853, Governor's mansion & a home later bought by Gov. Pease (Woodlawn) 1854, Neill-Cochran House - homes all still standing; one of oldest Oakwood burials marked here for George Logan, 1841, first husband of Cook's wife, but he is buried in unmarked grave in the Old Grounds

3b. Bertram, Rudolph - merchant; Rosewood Park home & store (now Clay Pit Restaurant) still here; Bertram named after him

*** 3c. James Patterson (1800-1872)** - You will be able to see his marker. A native of Kentucky who came from Louisiana and served for three months, wounded at the Battle of San Jacinto by a sword thrust above the knee.

4. Susanna Wilkinson Dickinson Hannig (~1814-1883) Survivor of the Alamo. Delivered a warning letter to Sam Houston from Santa Anna; then in Runaway Scrape. In 1857, married her 5th husband Joseph Hannig and moved to Austin, where Hannig owned cabinet shop, furniture store and undertaking parlor. He and granddaughter Susie Sterling are buried here too. William B. Travis placed his cat's eye ring around the neck of Susanna's daughter Angelina (the babe of the Alamo) during the siege of the Alamo. After being passed between several families through the years, the ring was donated to the Alamo / DRT in 1955 and is on display at the Alamo. Joseph & Susanna Dickinson Hannig Museum (in former Susanna home) on E. 5th St. in Austin.

*** 4a. George Hancock (1809-1879)** - George helped destroy Vince's Bridge to delay movement of the Mexicans before he fought in the Battle of San Jacinto. In Austin, he was a merchant, establishing a Trading Post at the corner of Congress and Pecan Street (6th) in 1845, worked to promote commerce via the Colorado River and a railroad to Houston, and a member of the 11th Texas Legislature 1866-1870. Hancock neighborhood, Hancock Center, Hancock Drive named for members of family.

4b. Robertson Family - Dr. Joseph Robertson (Austin mayor 1843-1844) bought the French Legation (built 1841, oldest building in Austin at San Marcos St & 8th St) in 1848; family occupied it until 1939 at the death of daughter Lillie. It was acquired by the state of Texas in 1948 and is now a museum. Area east of I-35 from 7th-12th is called Robertson Hill.

5. John Crittenden Duval (1816-1897) - Goliad Campaign, Battle of Coleto Creek, surrendered, escaped Goliad Massacre 3/27, 1836; Writings published in 1867 and in 1892 as the book "Early Times in Texas" about his escape from the Goliad Massacre and other adventures; republished and available for purchase. Wrote other books and was the oldest survivor from the massacre when he died in 1897. In 1936 at the 100 year anniversary of Texas' Independence, the state of Texas installed this type historic marker gravestone for many of our heroes. Duval County named for brother Burr Duval, killed at Goliad Massacre.

*** 5a. Joseph Baker (1804-1846)** - Sign here showing Baker's gravestone (like Duval's); Texas flag at marker to west at fence. Baker, a San Felipe de Austin resident since 1831, established the "Telegraph, and Texas Register" with Borden brothers & published first edition 10/10/1835 to communicate vital news during the Revolution. On 4/5/1836, Baker withdrew to fight in Battle of San Jacinto. The Mexicans forced the publishers to move to Harrisburg (Houston), but the Mexicans captured the press into Buffalo Bayou in April. The paper was restarted and ran until 1877. Available online on "Portal to Texas History."

5b. Torbett Metal Monument - one of five mail-order metal monuments at Oakwood; booze stored in it during Prohibition

*** 5c. Edgar Bowie Moore (1850-1887)** - Grandson of brother of Jim Bowie; Edgar, first Travis Co. deputy killed at work, type story in our Murder, Mayhem & Misadventure tour (10/20/18); grandfather invented Bowie knife; note Texas Ranger marker

6. Washington Anderson (1817-1894) - Served in Battle of San Jacinto where he was shot in the ankle. Called "true hero of San Jacinto" for his push of other soldiers saying "come on." Anderson and three other Oakwood "residents" (Tom Green, James Hill, John Swisher) are pictured in both McArdle's and Huddle's San Jacinto paintings.; successful businessman who signed the petition to form Williamson County and built the county's first sawmill and gristmill. Gravestone to be repaired.

6a. Frank Brown (1833-1913) - compiled comprehensive, 36 volume history of Austin (-up to 1875). "Annals" online at the "Portal to Texas History" and libraries such as Austin History Center. Sister Mary Ann was the 2nd wife to Francis Dieterich.

*** 6b. William Carleton (1812-1865)** * - Arrived in Texas in 1835 from England, joined Texas army as first lieutenant March 1836, performing valiant service on attack on Mexican Fort Lipantitlán near Goliad, but he got sick from rheumatism and had to return home, avoiding the Goliad massacre. His weekly paper, The Rambler, ran from 1858-1860.

7. Francis Dieterich (1815-1860) - born in Germany and settled in Refugio in 1834. Joined Texas Army Feb 1836, defended the Refugio mission. Taken prisoner but his life was spared. Again taken prisoner at Goliad but escaped or was spared from the massacre. In 1839 Dieterich moved to Austin and opened a meat market., partnered with George Hancock. Dieterich's monument has a lot of ornamentation and symbolism: cannons and cannonballs, the wreath representing "victory in death," handclasp of male and female for the couple to be re-united in death as they were in life, and the drapery for mourning.

8. John Milton Swisher (1819-1891), son of James Swisher, the 2nd tour stop, one of youngest soldiers at Battle of San Jacinto. Held many appointed offices with Republic and State of Texas 1836-1856. Moved to Austin in 1839 where he was also a businessman, banker, developer of Austin Street Railway. Developed Swisher Addition, the first platted neighborhood south of the Colorado River in 1877, naming the streets after family members (such as Milton St.), and donated additional land for South Congress Ave. His remembrances of early Texas and the Battle of San Jacinto were published as "The Swisher Memoirs," full text available online for free and at local libraries such as Austin History Center. Notice DRT markers.

Proceed north on the road towards chapel and thank visitors. Encourage them to join SAC, volunteer, and/or or donate at the end of the tour or online! Remind them about MMM 10/26/19. Developed by Terri Mirka 3/18, v1.1 (2/7/19 update)