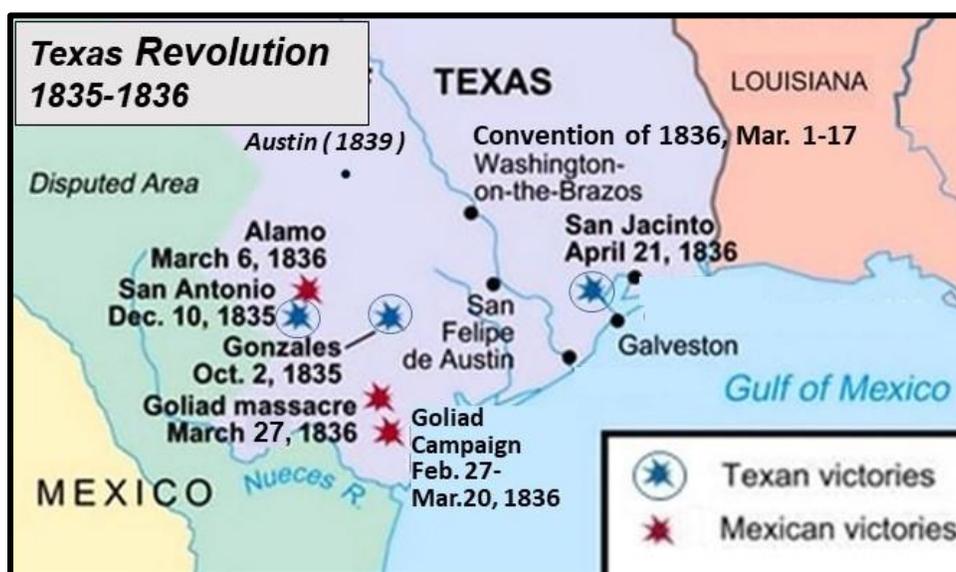

Texas Independence Tour - Overview

Oakwood Cemetery, Austin, Texas

The Texas Revolution 1835-1836

The Texas Revolution was a rebellion of the Anglo colonists settled in Texas (Texians) and Tejanos (Texas Mexicans) against the dictatorship of Mexican President Santa Anna. It ran from October 2, 1835 until April 21, 1836 and established the Republic of Texas. Fighters included not only Texas Anglos but also African Americans and Mexicans as well as soldiers who came from the United States to assist. The term "Texans" is used to represent all those fighting for Texas Independence.

Map of the Major Revolution Events



Oakwood Cemetery and Its Texas Revolution "Residents"

Oakwood Cemetery was originally established in 1839 as the "City Cemetery" at the far northeast corner of the original town. It originally consisted of 10 acres known as the Old Grounds but has grown to 40 acres divided into sections 1-4 with the first burial in 1839.

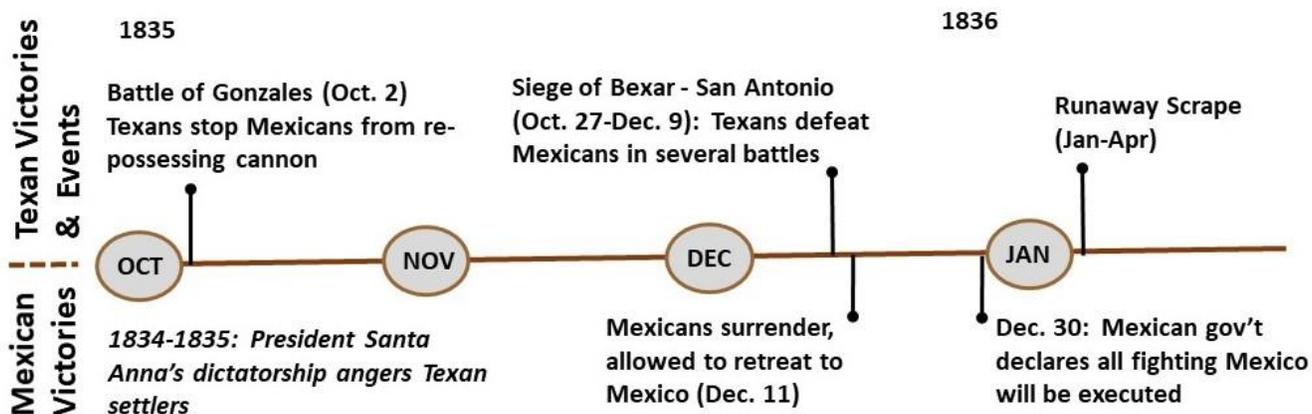
The cemetery has over 22,000 burials of people of many races and many historic designations: National Register of Historic Places, Texas Historic Landmark, Historic Texas Cemetery, and Austin Historic Landmark.



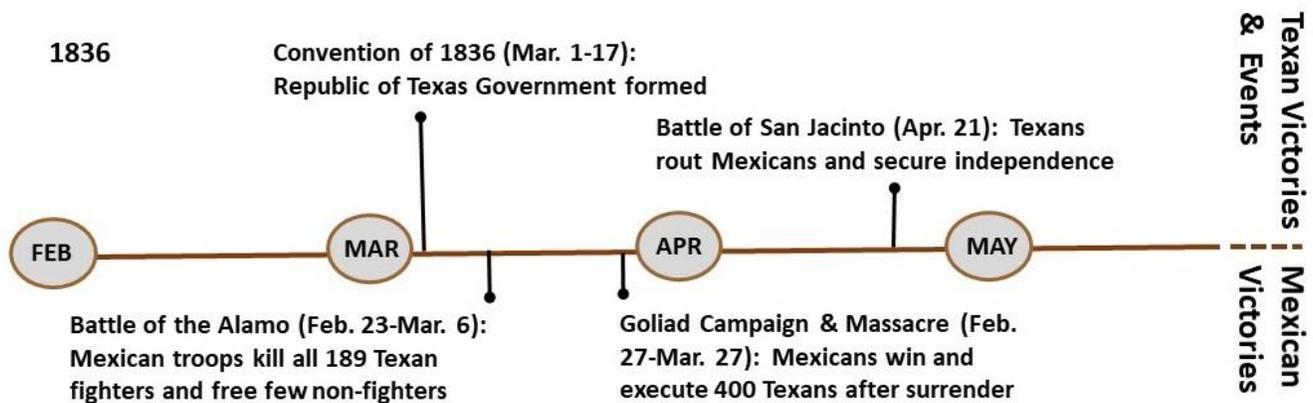
Oakwood is home to many founders of not only the city of Austin but also the Texas Republic. It is the final resting place of:

- 16 soldiers of the battles of the Texas Revolution (see next pages)
- Financier of the Revolution (Thomas McKinney)
- Publisher of the Telegraph & Texas Register founded at the start of the Revolution (Joseph Baker)
- Survivor of the Alamo (Susanna Dickinson)
- Two of the few who survived the Goliad massacre (escaped: John C. Duval, spared or escaped: Francis Dieterich)
- Signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence (James Swisher)
- Authors who wrote about their Revolution experiences (John C. Duval, Mary Rabb, John Swisher)
- The artist who painted the Battle of San Jacinto "Surrender of Santa Anna" (William Huddle)

Texas Revolution Events with Oakwood Cemetery “Residents”

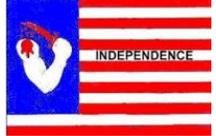
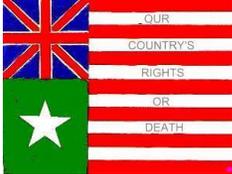


Battle of Gonzales (Oct. 2, 1835)	Siege of Bexar (Oct. 27 - Dec. 9, 1835)	Santa Anna Takes Over (Jan. 1836)	Runaway Scrape (Jan. 14, 1836 - Jul 1836)
<p>The Texas Revolution started when fighting broke out at Gonzales when the Mexicans tried to take back a cannon they had given to the settlement as a defense against Native Americans. About 100 Mexicans clashed with 50 local Texans in a brief struggle for the “Come and Take It” cannon that ended with the retreat of the Mexicans to Bexar and marked a clear break between the Texans and Mexico.</p> 	<p>The battle in San Antonio de Bexar was the first major campaign and the longest battle. It began with minor battles outside of town won by the Texans, such as the battle of Concepción on Oct. 28 and the Grass Fight on Nov. 26. Starting Dec. 5, over 300 Texans fought hand-to-hand and house-to-house within town where General Cos had forces of over 750 men in the town plaza and at the Alamo. There were 150 Mexican casualties and about 35 Texans lost. Forced to surrender on Dec. 9, Cos and his troops had to forfeit their weapons but were all freed and forced to return to Mexico with the promise not to fight Texans again.</p> <p>Many Texans thought that the fight with Mexico was over after the victory and returned home while around 150 took over the Alamo.</p>	<p>Mexican President General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna was furious with his brother-in-law Cos' surrender at the Siege of Bexar and did not honor the terms. Instead on Dec. 30, 1835, Mexico passed a decree that foreigners fighting against Mexican troops in Texas would be considered pirates and executed.</p> <p>In early Jan. 1836, Santa Anna took over as commanding Mexican general in the war and led a large force back to San Antonio.</p>	<p>When Santa Anna let it be known he would conquer Texas no matter the cost, Texans were forced to flee their homes and belongings and head northeast to Louisiana across the US border. The first people to flee were from south central Texas around San Patricio and Refugio.</p> <p>Upon hearing the Alamo news on March 12 from Alamo survivor Susanna Dickinson and Travis' slave Ben, Sam Houston ordered Gonzalez citizens to leave and had his troops retreat to the Colorado River. Many people died due to lack of food, transportation, and disease intensified by cold and rain. The Runaway continued until news came of the victory in the battle of San Jacinto. The refugees gradually returned to their homes over the next few months, but in many cases their homes no longer existed.</p>
Oakwood Residents			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elisha Marshall Pease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> George Glasscock William Oldham James Pace Captain James Swisher 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> John & Mary Rabb Family James & Elizabeth Swisher Family

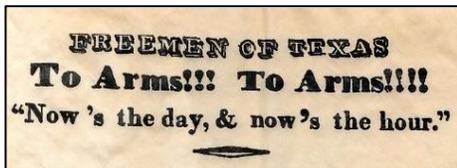


Battle of the Alamo (Feb. 23-Mar. 6, 1836)	Goliad Campaign 1836 & Massacre (Feb. 27-Mar. 27, 1836)	Convention of 1836 (Mar. 1-17, 1836)	Battle of San Jacinto (April 21, 1836)
For 13 days, around 190 brave Texans defended the Alamo and killed at least 600 Mexicans, but Santa Anna's final assault with his large force of 1,800 resulted in the brutal killing of the Texas fighters. Among the killed were James Bowie, William B. Travis and Davy Crockett. Susanna Dickinson and other Texan non-fighters – women, children and African-Americans - were spared. Santa Anna's cruelty and the bravery of the Texans inspired many more soldiers to join the Texas army and seek revenge.	Mexican General Urrea took up to 1,500 Mexican troops up the Texas coast toward Goliad. In the Battles of San Patricio, Aqua Dulce Creek, and Refugio, Urrea defeated small forces of around 150 Texans who were either captured or killed, with a few escaping. On Mar. 19, around 300 Texans were defeated at the Battle of Coleto Creek as they were trying to retreat. Urea wanted to spare the lives of the prisoners, but Santa Anna insisted they be killed. Around 400 men were executed in Goliad on Mar. 27 th after believing they had surrendered on good terms. A few men escaped and around 20 were saved by a Mexican woman, the "Angel of Goliad." The cruelty of the massacre helped bring more volunteer fighters.	An independent Republic of Texas was declared March 2 when elected delegates approved the Texas Declaration of Independence in Washington. The group finished the Constitution of the Republic of Texas on March 17 and appointed an interim government. Because delegates risked being charged with treason by the Mexicans, they quickly fled along with the citizens of Washington on March 17 after hearing news of Santa Anna's approach to their area in pursuit of the new government.	After over a month of retreating and training his troops, Houston attacked the Mexican army camped at San Jacinto. The Texans routed the Mexican troops within 18 minutes but vengeful Texans chased and executed many Mexicans for hours yelling "Remember the Alamo!" and "Remember Goliad!" Santa Anna was captured the next day. In exchange for his life, he agreed that the Mexican army would retreat south of the Rio Grande River, ending the Texas Revolution. 630 Mexicans were killed and 730 taken prisoner, while only nine of the 910 Texans were killed or mortally wounded and thirty were wounded less seriously.
Oakwood Residents			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Susanna Dickinson - life spared 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> William Carleton, Lipantitlan - went home sick Francis Dieterich, Refugio & Goliad - life spared twice John Duval, Coleto Creek - escaped massacre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elisha Marshall Pease, Assistant Secretary James Swisher, Elected Delegate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washington Anderson Joseph Baker Thomas Green George Hancock James Hill James Pace James Patterson John Swisher Ozwin Wilcox

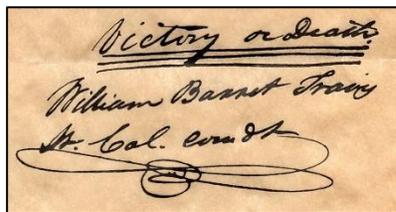
Flags of the Revolution

 <p>Gonzales Flag October 1835</p>	 <p>Scott's Independence Flag likely flown at the Grass Fight and the Siege of Bexar</p>	 <p>Troutman Lone Star flag for Georgia volunteers. Flown in Velasco and Goliad</p>
 <p>Likely flown at Alamo by Texans for 1824 Mexican Constitution, not Santa Anna's</p>	 <p>Two star tri-color flag flown at Alamo</p>	 <p>For New Orleans volunteers, in thanks for being first US groups to join Texans</p>
 <p>Lone Star and Stripes, used at the Alamo, Goliad and San Jacinto</p>	 <p>Dimmit's Flag, Dec. '35 Goliad citizens signed a Decl. of Ind.</p>	 <p>Brown's Flag of Independence, likely used at the Siege of Bexar</p>
 <p>Baker's flag presented to militia at San Felipe Feb. 29, 1836. May have flown at San Jacinto</p>	 <p>Dodson flag flown at the Convention of 1836 in Washington</p>	 <p>San Jacinto flag, Lady Liberty with a banner that says "Liberty or Death"</p>

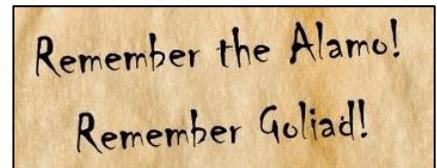
A Few Sayings from the Revolution



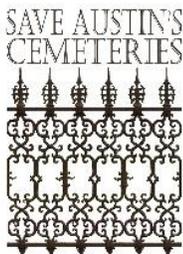
William H. Wharton's letter seeking volunteers on October 2, 1835



William B. Travis letter from the Alamo, February 24, 1836



Battle cry at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836



Written by Terri Hoover Mirka, 4/2018. Version 1.1 updated 2/7/2019.

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