

# TEXAS

— IN THE —

# CIVIL WAR

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**STORIES OF SACRIFICE,  
VALOR AND HOPE**

# Texas in the Civil War

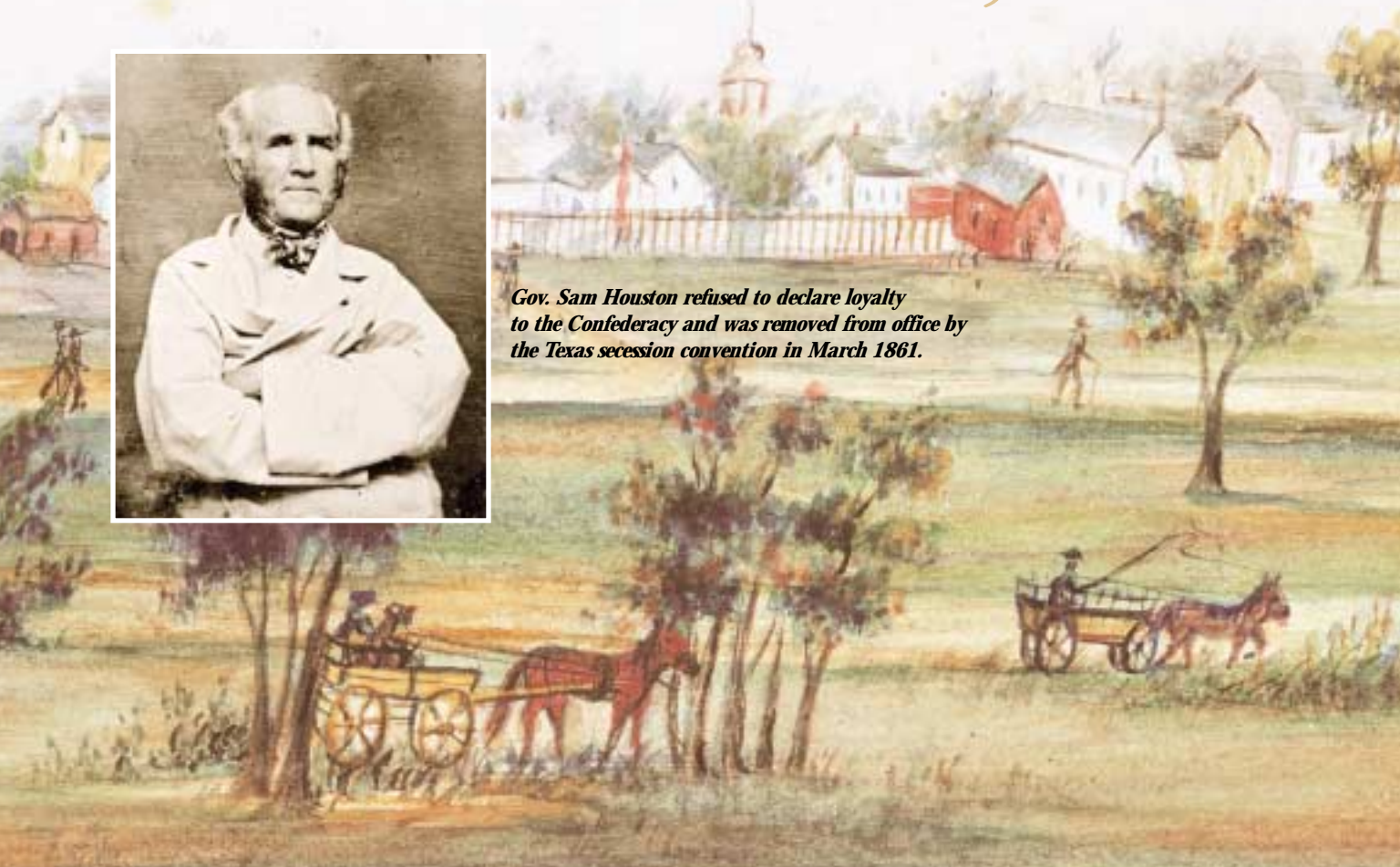
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The United States was rife with conflict and controversy in the years leading to the Civil War. Perhaps nowhere was the struggle more complex than in Texas. Some Texans supported the Union, but were concerned about political attacks on Southern institutions. Texas had been part of the United States just 15 years when secessionists prevailed in a statewide election. Texas formally seceded on March 2, 1861 to become the seventh state in the new Confederacy. Gov. Sam Houston was against secession, and struggled with loyalties to both his nation and his adopted state. His firm belief in the Union cost him his office when he refused to take an oath of allegiance to the new government.

March 2, 1861



*Gov. Sam Houston refused to declare loyalty to the Confederacy and was removed from office by the Texas secession convention in March 1861.*





Tensions were high when the Civil War began, and Texans responded in impressive numbers. By the end of 1861, more than 25,000 had joined the Confederate army. During the course of the war, nearly 90,000 Texans served in the military. They distinguished themselves in every major campaign of the war from New Mexico to Pennsylvania. Texas forces figured prominently at celebrated battle sites such as Gettysburg, Antietam, Second Manassas, The Wilderness, Vicksburg, Shiloh, Chickamauga, Glorieta Pass, Pea Ridge, Franklin and Mansfield. Leaders of the Texas forces included legendary figures John Bell Hood, Albert Sidney Johnston, John Bankhead Magruder, Patrick Cleburne and Ben McCulloch.

In Texas, Confederate and state forces repulsed Union invaders at Sabine Pass, Galveston, Corpus Christi and Laredo, and sustained naval bombardments in several coastal areas. They fought frontier and border raiders, evaded federal blockades, protected internal trade routes and operated prisoner of war camps.

The Civil War came to an end in Texas. Soldiers fought the last land battle at Palmito Ranch near Brownsville more than a month after Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. The surrender of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederacy at Galveston on June 2, 1865 was, as Capt. Benjamin Franklin Sands of the United States Navy noted, “the closing act of the Great Rebellion.” Just a few weeks later on June 19, Gen. Gordon Granger, commander of U.S. troops in Texas, arrived in Galveston and ended slavery in Texas by issuing an order that the Emancipation Proclamation was in effect in Texas.

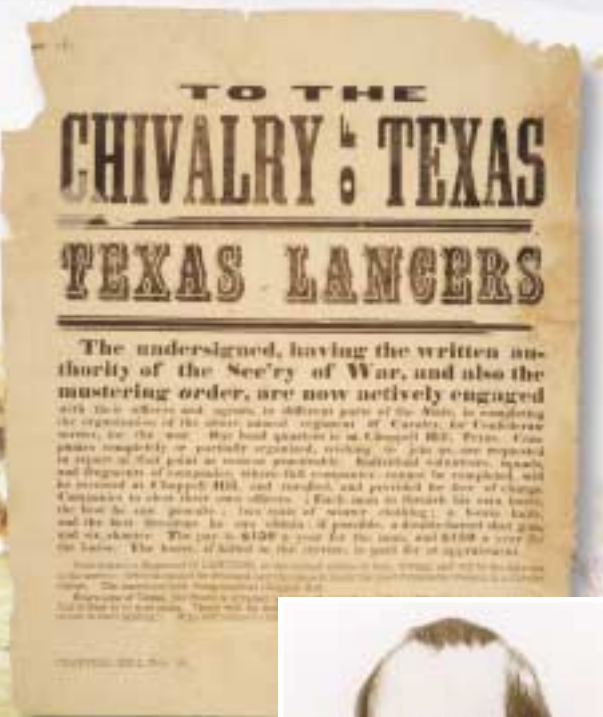


*On February 16, 1861, U. S. Gen. David Twiggs surrendered all United States military posts in Texas, including his San Antonio headquarters, to the Texas Committee of Public Safety.*

The Civil War was a major turning point in American history. Our growing nation was deeply divided, and the resulting battles are legendary. The end of slavery and the beginning of Reconstruction marked a new era for the nation.

Texas played an important role in the war, and many historic sites, museums, monuments and cemeteries tell the stories. The Texas Historical Commission created this brochure to encourage travelers to explore sites related to Texas' Civil War history. ★

*The Civil War  
was a major turning point  
in American history.*



*A typical recruitment poster of the time, this 1861 broadside called on "brave sons of Texas" to defend the South from an invasion "by more than half a million fanatical mercenaries."*



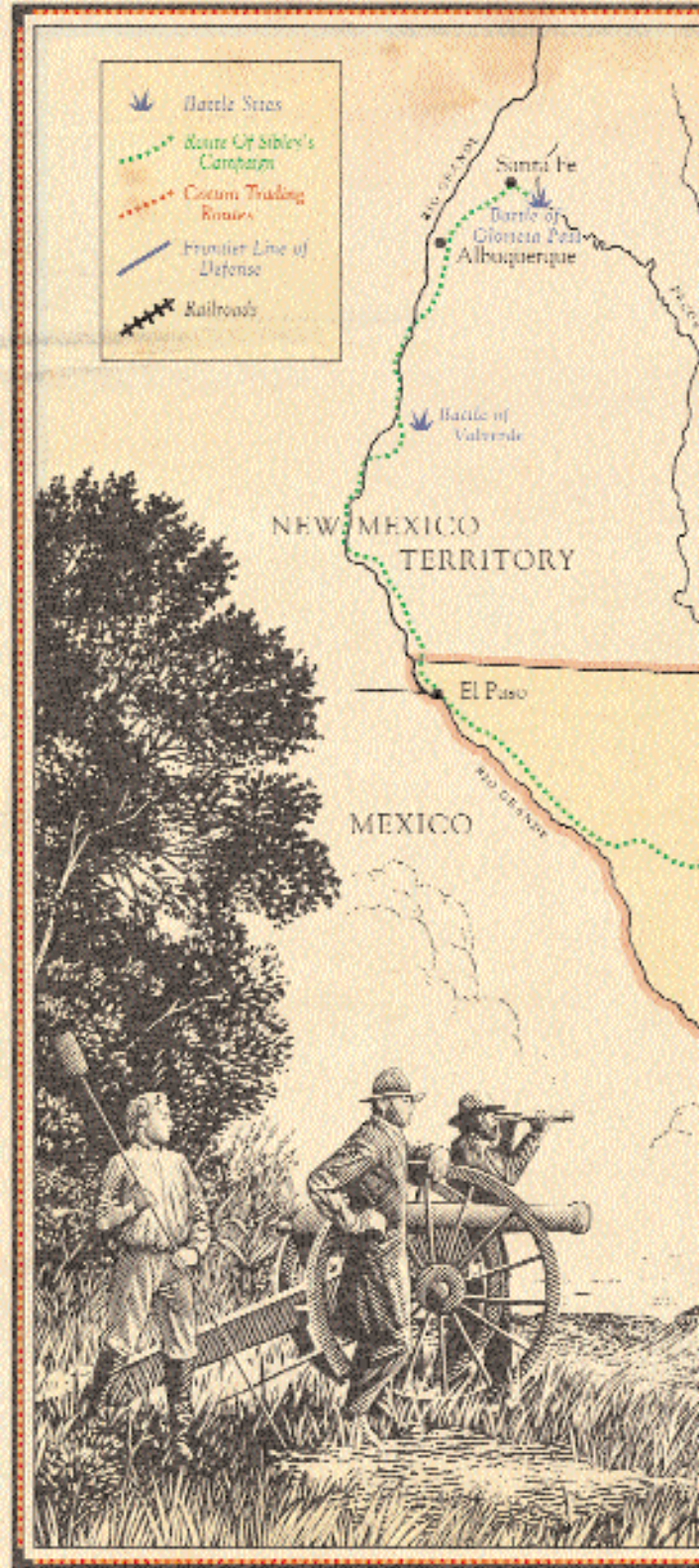
*Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston of Texas was considered one of the South's most promising young officers at the time of his death in 1862 on the battlefield at Shiloh, Tennessee.*



Let me tell you what is coming. You may alter the sacrifice of countless millions of treasures and hundreds of thousands of precious lives, win Southern independence, but I doubt it. The North is determined to preserve this Union. They are not a fiery impulsive people as you are, for they live in colder climates. But when they begin to move in a given direction, they move with the steady momentum and perseverance of a mighty avalanche.



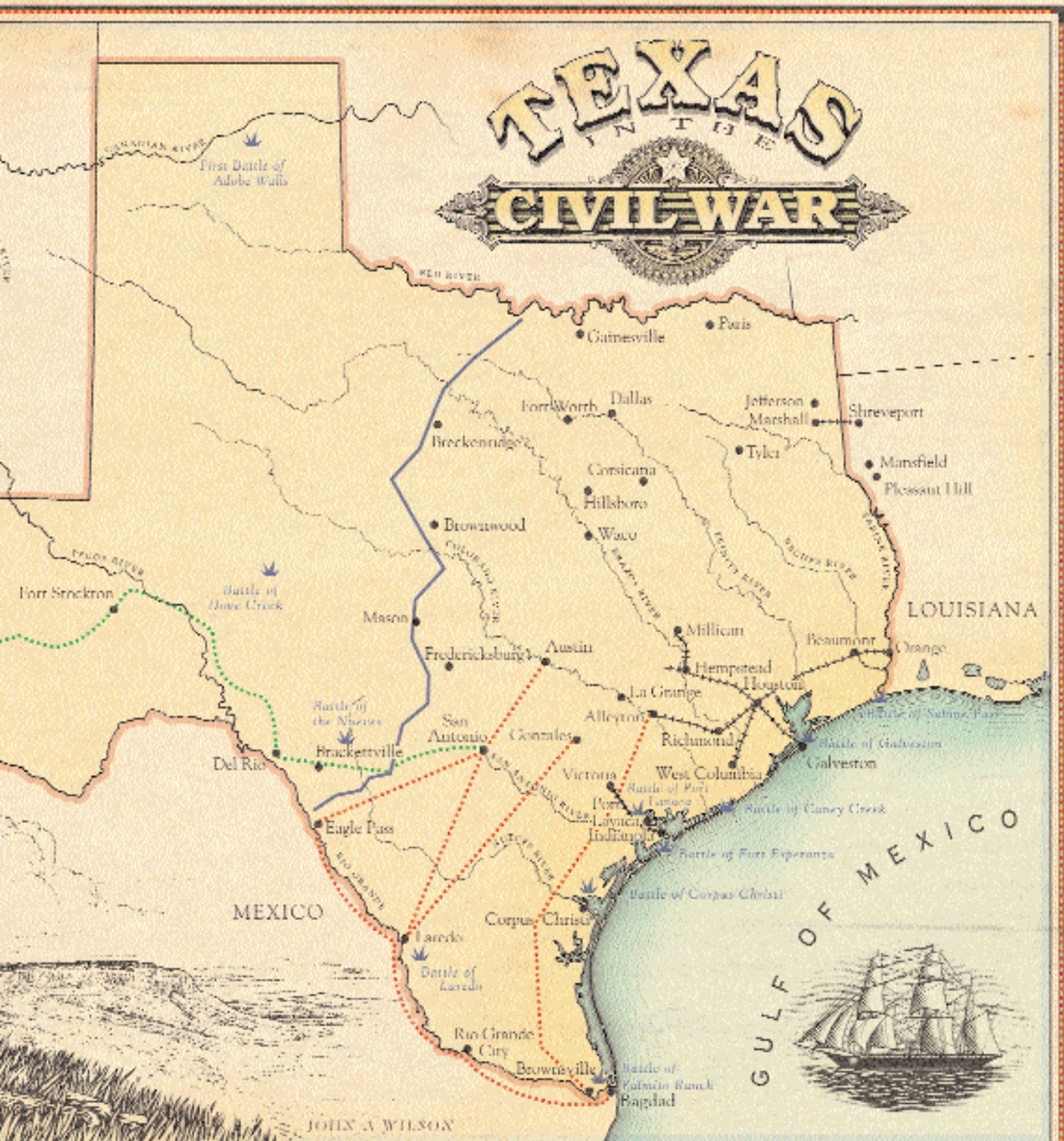
*From an 1861 speech by Gov. Sam Houston at Galveston, a few days prior to passage of the Ordinance of Secession.*





# TEXAS

## CIVIL WAR



JOHN A. WILSON



After the removal of United States troops from Texas military installations, the state and the Confederacy assumed responsibility for the protection of the frontier. The First Regiment, Texas Mounted Riflemen, were mustered into Confederate service early in 1861 to patrol the frontier along a line of forts from the Red River to the Rio Grande. Though the unit was effective in controlling Indian raids in the region, their enlistment expired in April 1862.

The Frontier Regiment filled the void left by the First Regiment by establishing 16 camps just west of the line of settlements. The original outposts were approximately 25 miles apart and staffed with at least 25 men. Though patrols were established between posts, the Indians rapidly became comfortable with the system and increased the frequency of their raids.



**FRANCIS R. LUBBOCK**

South Carolina native Francis R. Lubbock, who became governor of Texas in 1861, was a strong supporter of the Confederacy. During his two-year term of office, he advocated conscription to marshal Texas Confederate forces, mobilized troops to defend the frontier and expanded industrial and financial resources for the war effort. Lubbock joined the Confederate Army, eventually serving as aide-de-camp to Confederate President Jefferson Davis, with whom he was captured by federal authorities at the conclusion of the war. He returned to Texas, where he served as state treasurer, and died in Austin in 1905.

Although the state wished to turn the regiment over to the Confederacy for financial reasons, they were afraid the unit would depart and leave the frontier settlements in jeopardy. The Frontier Regiment transferred in March 1864, when local companies of men formed the Frontier Organization to provide support. At this point, the Frontier Organization assumed primary responsibility for protection of the Texas frontier.



The organization deterred, but could not prevent, Indian attacks. A particularly vicious raid by Kiowas and Comanches in 1864 left a dozen Texans dead and seven captured. The raid occurred along Elm Creek in Young County during the fall of 1864. Despite the Indian threat, frontier troops spent more time enforcing Confederate conscription laws, arresting deserters, controlling Unionist activity and chasing renegades and outlaws. ★

*The First Regiment patrolled the frontier along a line of forts from the Red River to the Rio Grande.*



FRONTIER REGIMENT



*During the war, a reduced military presence on the Texas frontier left area settlements vulnerable to raids by Native Americans. Among those who led attacks against isolated farms and ranches was the noted Kiowa chief, Satanta, shown left.*

1861-64



*This engraving, published in the June 15, 1861, edition of Harper's Weekly, provided a rare glimpse of the military presence along the Texas frontier. The scene depicts Confederate troops with stolen wagons at Las Moras Creek, Fort Clark (present Brackettville).*



1860

1861

1862

1863

1864

1865

TEXAS

Texas votes with 10 other slave states for Southern Democrat John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky in the presidential election.

**February 18** U.S. Gen. David E. Twiggs surrenders all U.S. military posts in Texas.

**March 2** Texas formally secedes from the United States.

**March 5** Texas secession convention passes the ordinance uniting Texas with the Confederate States of America.

**March 16** Gov. Sam Houston removed from office by action of the convention.

**July 2** Galveston blockade initiated by *USS South Carolina*.

**August 10** Battle of the Nueces, Kinney County, between Confederates and Hill Country Unionists.

**October 1-20** Confederates capture and hang suspected Union sympathizers in Cooke County and surrounding area. Forty die in the event known as the Great Hanging at Gainesville.

**October 8** Federal forces capture Galveston.

**January 1** Battle of Galveston. Confederates regain control of the city.

**September 8** Battle of Sabine Pass. A small unit led by Lt. Dick Dowling repulses small Union force under Gen. William B. Franklin.

**November 2-6** Federal army and navy occupy Brazos Island and Brownsville.

**March – May** Texas troops amass in Northeast Texas around Marshall and Tyler to join Confederate action in the Red River campaign in Western Louisiana. Intense fighting at Mansfield, Pleasant Hill and other sites help repulse federal invasion of Gen. Nathaniel Banks.

**March 19** Federal attack on Laredo.

**July 30** Confederate forces re-occupy Brownsville.

**May 13** Battle of Palmito Ranch (near Brownsville), the last land battle of the Civil War.

**June 2** Gen. E. Kirby Smith, Confederate States of America, surrenders the Trans-Mississippi Department at Galveston.

**June 19** U.S. Gen. Gordon Granger, commander of U.S. troops in Texas, arrives in Galveston and orders the enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation, thereby ending slavery in Texas. The event is later celebrated as Juneteenth.

UNITED STATES

**November 6** Abraham Lincoln elected 16th president of the United States.

**April 12** Southern forces fire on Fort Sumter in Charleston harbor, South Carolina.

**July 21** First Battle of Bull Run (Manassas), Virginia.

**February 21** Gen. Sibley's Brigade defeats federal forces at Valverde, New Mexico.

**March 28** Battle of Glorieta Pass, New Mexico. Both sides claim victory, but the Confederates are forced to return to Texas following the destruction of supply reserves.

**April 6-7** Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee. Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston of Texas killed on the first day.

**August 29-30** Second Battle of Bull Run (Manassas), Virginia.

**September 17** Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg), Maryland.

**May 10** Death of Stonewall Jackson eight days after being wounded in the Battle of Chancellorsville, Virginia.

**July 1-3** Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

**July 4** The fall of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

**September 29-30** Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia.

**September 1** The fall of Atlanta, Georgia.

**April 9** Gen. Robert E. Lee surrenders to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

**April 14** President Abraham Lincoln shot at Ford's Theatre, Washington, D.C.



A button from a Confederate uniform.



South Carolina First Lady Lucy Holcombe Pickens, whose likeness graced the Confederate \$100 bill, shown below, grew up at Wyalucing Plantation in Marshall, Texas.



# THE SIBLEY CAMPAIGN

Early in the war, the New Mexico Territory was an appealing area for Confederate acquisition. The territory, dotted with Union-occupied military posts, posed an uncomfortable threat to El Paso, Fort Bliss and far West Texas. Furthermore, its vast mineral and military resources would boost the Southern cause.

Lt. Col. John R. Baylor and 300 soldiers of the Second Texas Rifles attempted to flush the federals from New Mexico. Though Baylor removed the small number of Union troops from the southern area, additional soldiers were needed to control the territory. As a result, Jefferson Davis authorized Gen. Henry H. Sibley to organize three regiments in San Antonio to march west.



*Sibley's Expedition stopped at Fort Lancaster, depicted in this 1861 Harper's Weekly engraving, en route to engagements against federal forces in New Mexico in 1862.*

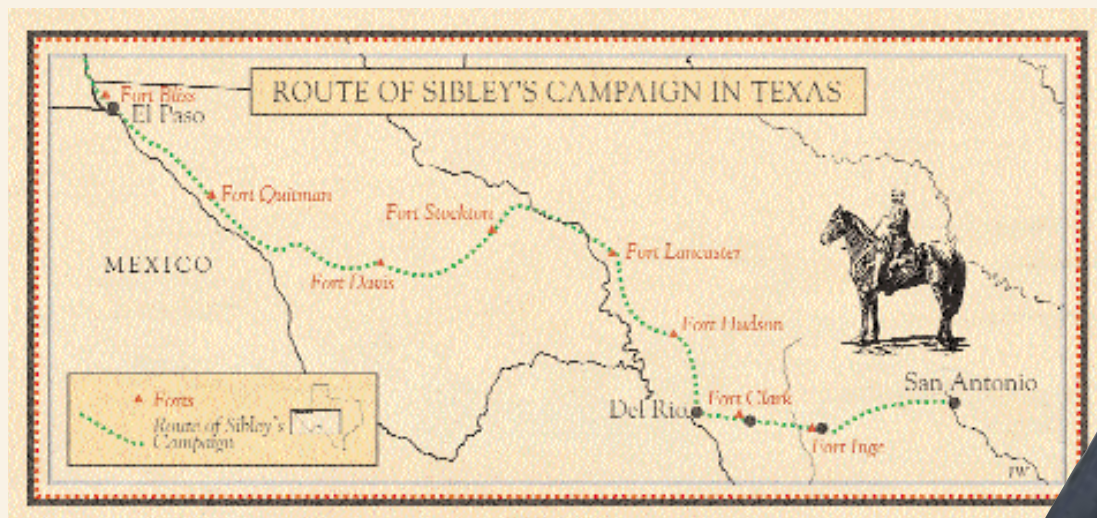
Sibley's battle plan was to triumph over the Southwest, from New Mexico to California. In the fall of 1861, he led the 4th, 5th and 7th Texas Mounted Volunteers to Fort Bliss near El Paso via forts Inge, Clark, Hudson, Lancaster, Stockton, Davis and Quitman. In El Paso, Lt. Col. Baylor's command was incorporated into the brigade.

During the first months of 1862, Sibley began his invasion by moving north along the Rio Grande. Against superior odds, he secured a tenuous victory at Valverde and pressed north through Albuquerque en route to Fort Union.

Unfortunately, the Texans were not so successful in the Battle of Glorieta Pass. Sibley's men, under the command of Lt. Col. William R. Scurry, pushed back the United States' troops southwest of Fort Union, but not before the Confederate supply train was destroyed. After determining the land could not provide enough forage for an invading army, Scurry retreated. The surviving troops returned to Texas sick and defeated, leaving El Paso and much of West Texas to the Union army. Sibley's New Mexico campaign would represent the "high-water mark" of the Confederacy in the West. ★



*Gen. Henry H. Sibley, shown in his Confederate uniform, led Texas forces in an ill-fated expedition to bring New Mexico under Southern control.*





From the onset of the Civil War, the Confederacy recognized that Texas' expanse of coastline was vulnerable to invasion. Before a defense plan could be implemented, President Abraham Lincoln ordered a naval blockade of the Southern coast. In July 1861, the federal warship *USS South Carolina* appeared off Galveston harbor. Although the number of Union blockaders grew modestly during 1861, they never aggressively attacked. The delay allowed Confederate troops and artillery to fortify the Texas coast.

Meanwhile, blockade runners skillfully slipped past United States warships to exchange Southern cotton for essential goods in foreign ports. Blockading forces chased and detained ships, confiscated cargo and bombarded seaports. Blockade runners eluded capture by taking advantage of barrier islands, dense fog, dark nights and foreign registrations. When the blockade finally tightened, overland freighters increased traffic to the Mexican border.

As the war progressed, skirmishes occurred up and down the Texas shoreline. U.S. forces attempted to take Aransas Pass, Matagorda Island and Corpus Christi before capturing Galveston in October 1862.



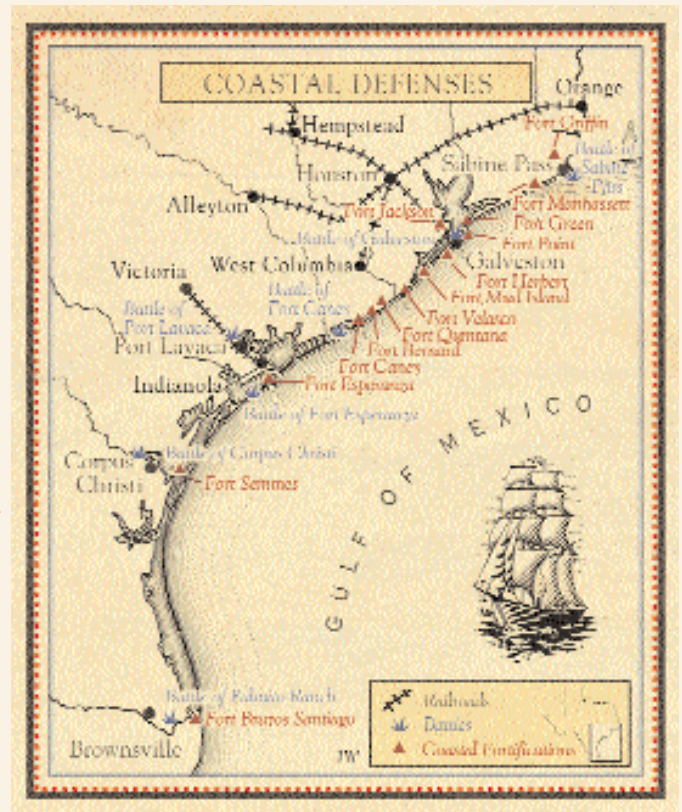
This January 31, 1863 engraving from Harper's Weekly depicts the Battle of Galveston earlier that month.

Three months later, the small Union force was unable to defend the island against Confederate assaults by land and water.

Southern victory in the Battle of Galveston did not stop determined federals from bombarding other coastal defenses. Brownsville, Fort Esperanza and Indianola fell under Union control briefly. However, the southern half of the Texas coast was virtually abandoned when military focus shifted to the Red River campaign in Louisiana. Harassment of commerce along the Texas coast continued until war's end, but Union forces never regained a convincing hold on Texas soil. Galveston was the only remaining port in Southern hands at the time of surrender. ★



Confederate Gen. John Bankhead Magruder led the Confederate assault at Galveston on January 1, 1863.



Blockade runners eluded capture by taking advantage of barrier islands, dense fog, dark nights and foreign registrations.



# BLOCKADE



*The historic engraving shown above depicts a dramatic moment during the Battle of Galveston, when Union efforts to scuttle the USS Westfield resulted in a premature explosion, killing several crew members.*

*Lt. Dick Dowling, shown left, and a small artillery detachment captured two ships and hundreds of Union troops during the Battle of Sabine Pass, September 8, 1863, successfully averting a federal invasion of Texas.*

*I* ★ ★ ★  
*am making a Southern Confederacy Flag. It has a blue centre with 7 stars of white in a circle and two red and one white stripes. Tomorrow the Legislature of Texas convenes, and it is to be raised tomorrow, as soon as we can get it done. The Lone Star Flag has been flying ever since Lincoln's election was confirmed. We will soon need to add more stars...*

— E.A. COLEMAN, 1861

*In an 1861 letter to her sister, E.A. Coleman of Texas described the Confederate First National flag, shown below.*



# THE COTTON ECONOMY

During the Civil War, the Texas economy was primarily agrarian, with cotton the main crop. The state represented the western edge of the Southern cotton culture and the supporting slave labor force. About 30 percent of Texans were enslaved African Americans in 1860.

When the federal blockade disrupted coastal trade, Texans shipped cotton and other goods overland by wagons to Brownsville and across the Rio Grande to Matamoros, Mexico. As an international waterway, the river remained open to foreign traffic. It allowed ships carrying thousands of bales of Confederate cotton to sail to distant ports. In late 1863, federal occupation of Brownsville diverted Texas cotton hundreds of miles north to Laredo or Eagle Pass.

A few industries existed in the state by 1861, but new ones soon opened to support the war effort. Texas companies manufactured guns, ammunition, cloth, uniforms, iron, salt, medicines and other vital goods. Cotton provided the currency to purchase these items.

Texas avoided major invasions by Union troops. This relative isolation protected new industrial growth and agricultural production from much of the devastation suffered by other Confederate states. ★



*Brownsville, shown above, was a major port for the shipment of Southern cotton during the Civil War.*



*Recognized as the highest ranking Mexican American to serve the Confederacy, Col. Santos Benavides, shown left, led the defense of Laredo in 1864 and arranged for the safe passage of Texas cotton during the Union occupation of Brownsville.*



*Toward the end of the war, federal forces occupied the strategic river port of Brownsville, thereby controlling the lower Rio Grande.*





WILLIAM AND MALINDA SMITH ACQUIRED 400 ACRES OF FARMLAND IN GRIMES COUNTY IN 1854. AT THE ONSET OF WAR, WILLIAM JOINED THE CONFEDERATE ARMY, AND WHEN HE DIED OF INFLUENZA IN 1864, MALINDA ASSUMED SOLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FARM AND FAMILY. WITH THE AID OF HER CHILDREN AND FORMER SLAVES, THE FARM SURVIVED WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION TO BE PASSED ON TO LATER GENERATIONS.



The Civil War touched the lives of all Texans — civilian and military alike. Those who remained on the home front often dealt with food shortages, low currency values, refugee migration, frontier Indian raids and rumors of Northern invasion. Despite hardships, they supported the war effort with taxes and increased production of industry and agriculture. Many served in local militia units and home guards to ensure security and promote unity.

With tens of thousands of men in the service, new responsibilities fell to Texas women. Many homemakers and mothers also ran plantations and family farms, worked in plants, made uniforms, crafted clothing of homespun cotton, and promoted patriotism. Some women aided the military effort as spies, gunrunners and nurses. A few, disguised as men, even served as soldiers.

As the fighting intensified in the Southeast and along the Mississippi Valley, large numbers of civilian refugees poured into Texas, some passing through on their way to Mexico or the territories of the Southwest. Fear of invasion occasionally forced Texans to abandon their homes as well. The evacuation of Galveston placed a particular burden on resources in the Houston area. The influx of hundreds of displaced Southerners throughout East Texas strained food supplies and created housing and commodity shortages. ★



*Elizabeth "Lizzie" Scott Neblett, shown above, was 30 years old and pregnant with her fifth child when her husband, William, enlisted in the Confederate Army. Their surviving wartime letters reveal Lizzie's struggle to manage their East Texas plantation.*

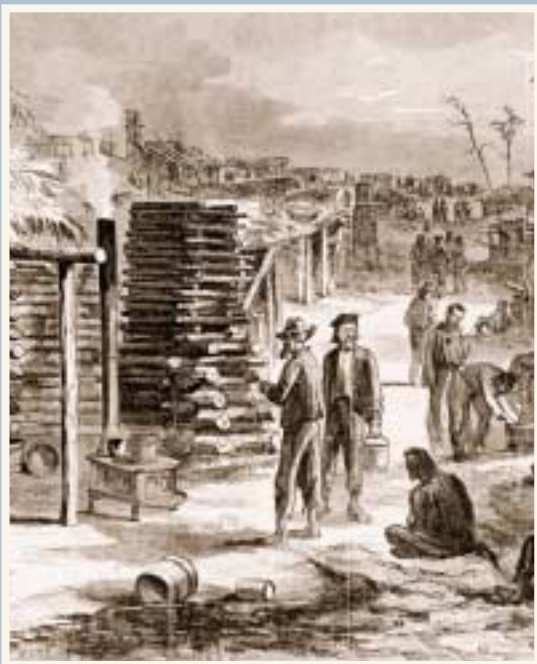
*Opened in 1908, the Confederate Woman's Home in Austin, shown in this 1926 photo, housed widows and wives of Confederate soldiers, as well as women who aided the Confederacy.*



# CAMP FORD

Camp Ford, named for John S. “Rip” Ford, was the Confederacy’s largest prisoner of war camp west of the Mississippi River during the Civil War and one of several prisons established in Texas. The first inmates began arriving at the former conscription camp near Tyler in 1863. Initially, the site offered little more than a shed for protection from the elements. Over time, cabins were constructed, but housing became insufficient when the prison population exceeded 5,000 early in 1864. As a result, inmates carved caves and dugouts into the hillside for shelter.

Overcrowding led to prisoner parole and relocation until the remaining 1,800 men were released on May 19, 1865. Camp Ford was reportedly one of the more humane of Civil War prisons with an overall death rate of less than 7 percent.



*The March 4, 1865 edition of Harper’s Weekly featured an illustration of Camp Ford.*

Throughout the spring of 1865, the plight of the Confederacy looked grim. The South’s worst fears were realized after the news of Robert E. Lee’s surrender at Appomatox. When Texas units of the Army of Northern Virginia put down their weapons, folks at home knew Texas’ capitulation could not be far behind.

Despite events in the eastern theater, Gen. E. Kirby Smith, Trans-Mississippi Department commander, and Gen. John Bankhead Magruder, in charge of the Texas district, ordered in-state troops to remain at their posts. Gov. Pendleton Murrah implored the people of Texas not to waiver in their support of the cause, but their determination to continue was short-lived.

In early May, soldiers in the eastern part of the state left their units, turned homeward and sadly recognized defeat. However, Confederates under the command of the spirited Col. John S. “Rip” Ford engaged a small gathering of federals near Brownsville, which included members of the 62nd United States Colored Troops. The Battle of Palmito Ranch along the Rio Grande was the last land battle of the Civil War. This two-day running skirmish resulted in a Confederate victory, but it was too late to turn the tide.

*Texas’ success in creating a viable post-war economy is a lasting testament to the independence and tenacity of Texans.*



*Gen. E. Kirby Smith was Commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederacy.*

*The state legislature established the Texas Confederate Home in Austin, shown right, in 1884 to provide care for disabled and indigent veterans of the war. Residents are shown on the front lawn in this 1895 photo.*



Gen. E. Kirby Smith surrendered the Trans-Mississippi on June 2, 1865, with no army left to command. Federal occupation forces soon arrived and on June 19th, Union Gen. Gordon Granger officially freed the slaves of Texas. The Texan emancipation date is celebrated across the country as Juneteenth.

The Civil War changed the lives of all Texans in dramatic ways. Though Texas was spared much of the devastation suffered by other Confederate states, the agricultural economy based on slave labor was gone.

Death or injury to husbands, fathers and sons during the conflict only worsened the situation. The reconstruction of the state politically, economically and socially was arduous. Texas' success in creating a viable post-war economy is a lasting testament to the independence and tenacity of Texans. ★



*Edmund J. Davis, right, served as a general in the U.S. Army during the war and later became governor of Texas during Reconstruction.*

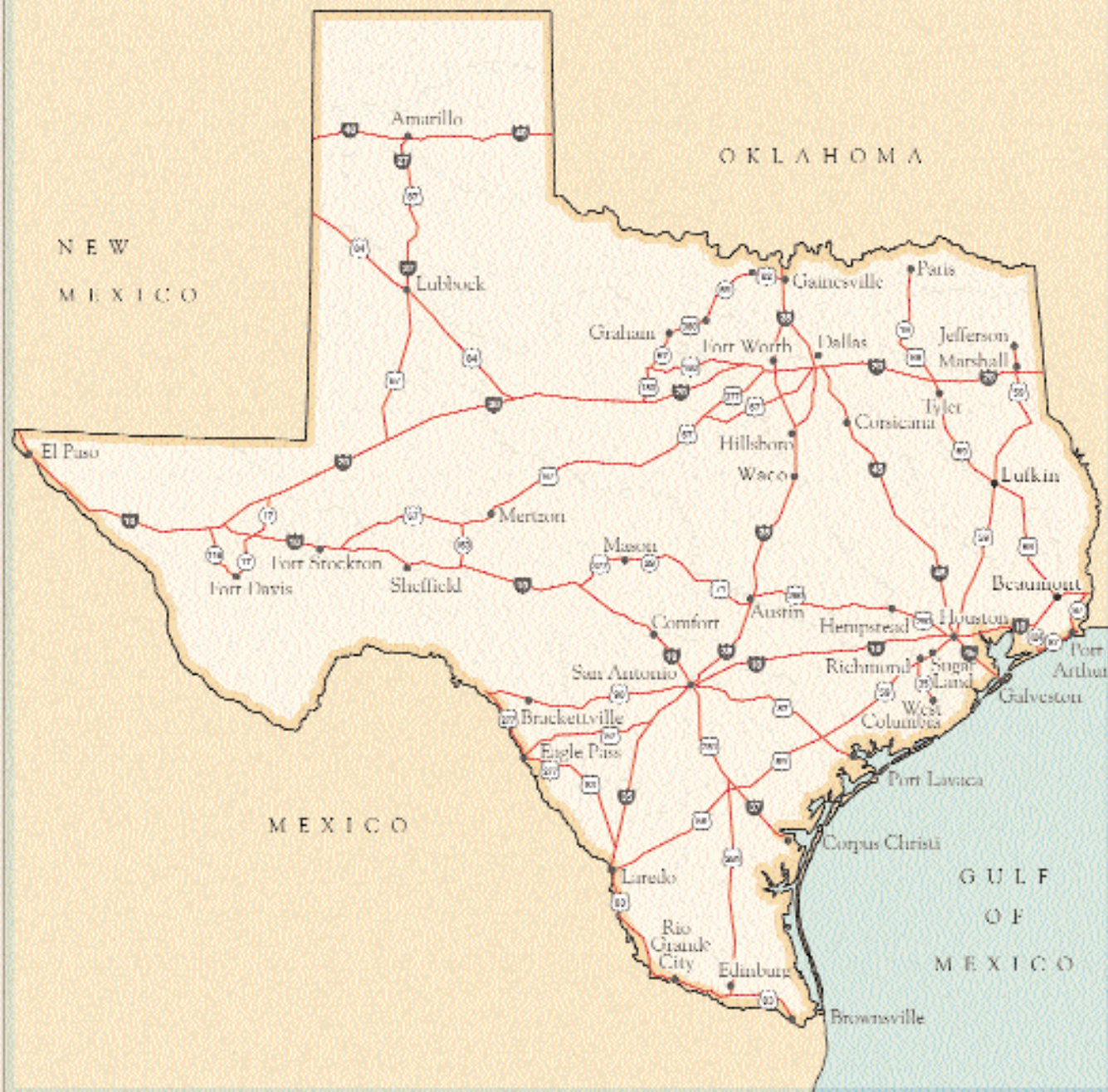
# RECONSTRUCTION

ARMSTEAD RODERICK BARKER CAME TO TEXAS AS A SLAVE OF THE LARKIN FAMILY IN 1859. BARKER WAS ONE OF SEVERAL ENSLAVED AFRICANS WHO CONSTRUCTED THE LARKINS' FARM AND HOMESTEAD. FREED IN 1865, HE MARRIED AND BECAME A SHARECROPPER FOR HIS FORMER MASTER. BY 1870, HARD WORK ENABLED HIM TO PURCHASE 160 ACRES OF LAND. IN TIME, HE ADDED ACREAGE AND EXPANDED HIS OPERATIONS TO INCLUDE AN ORCHARD AND SYRUP MILL. BARKER WAS A FOUNDER OF A LOCAL CHURCH AND PROVIDED LAND FOR A CEMETERY IN THE COMMUNITY IN HENDERSON COUNTY WHICH STILL BEARS HIS NAME.





## CIVIL WAR SITES IN TEXAS





The stories of the Civil War are told at museums and historic sites across the state. While it is impossible to list all the towns affected by the Civil War, the following offer tourist attractions where visitors can experience and explore this important time in Texas history. Please contact the local information center for hours of operation and directions.

■ **AUSTIN**

The Texas capital since 1839, Austin was the site of the secession convention in 1861. Throughout the conflict, war-related activities dominated life in the capital city. Evidence of the city's involvement is particularly visible downtown. Monuments on the grounds of the 1888 State Capitol Building pay tribute to Hood's Texas Brigade, Terry's Texas Rangers and the Confederacy. The nearby Texas State Library and Archives house the state Confederate pension applications and other war records available to researchers. The 1856 Governor's Mansion also has Civil War ties. Sam Houston, Texas governor from 1859 to 1861, resided in the mansion during secession. According to legend, Abraham Lincoln offered Houston military support to keep Texas in the Union, but Houston burned the president's letter in a mansion fireplace to prevent bloodshed in the state. The State Cemetery, established in 1851, includes burials of many war veterans such as Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, whose memorial features a recumbent statue by renowned sculptor Elisabet Ney.



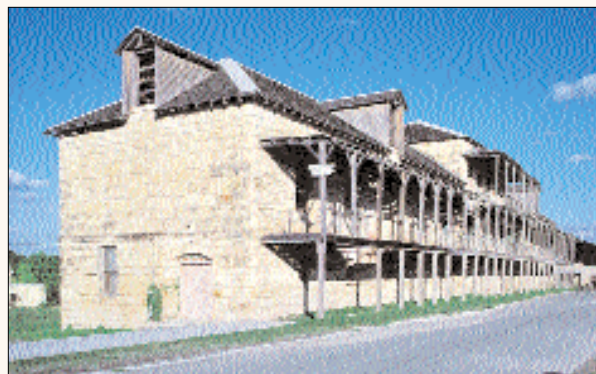
*Terry's Texas Rangers monument, Austin*



*Governor's Mansion, Austin*

■ **BRACKETTVILLE**

Today, on the south edge of town, Fort Clark stands as a reminder of the Confederate troops that seized this federal fort in 1861. Texans occupied the grounds briefly until withdrawing in 1862. The fort's military history is on display at the Old Fort Clark Guardhouse Museum.



*Fort Clark, Brackettville*

■ **BROWNSVILLE**

This Southern port played a vital role in the Texas cotton trade and is home to Fort Brown, built in 1846 to protect the boundary of Texas. During the Civil War, Fort Brown alternated between Union and Confederate possession. Today, the fort is part of the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. Visitors to this South Texas city can view Civil War displays and artifacts at the Historic Brownsville Museum. East of town, a historical marker identifies the Palmito Ranch Battlefield, the site of the last land battle of the Civil War on May 12–13, 1865.

■ **COMFORT**

In 1862, Confederate troops attacked a group of Hill Country Unionists en route to Mexico and the Battle of the Nueces ensued. The Treue der Union Monument marks the burial site of pro-Union loyalists killed in the battle that took place north of Brackettville. The memorial, built in 1866, is the oldest Civil War monument in Texas.

■ **CORPUS CHRISTI**

A primary target for federal blockaders and a haven for blockade runners, this city survived enemy attacks to remain in Confederate control throughout the war. The popular Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History houses Civil War memorabilia and an extensive collection of artifacts from Fort Polk and Fort Brazos Santiago.

■ **CORSICANA**

A wonderful resource for students of the Civil War, the Pearce Civil War Documents Collection is in the Navarro College Library. The collection features impressive archives of Civil War documents, manuscripts, diaries and artifacts.

■ **EAGLE PASS**

This town developed after the establishment of Fort Duncan in 1849, originally named Rio Grande Station. During the war, the fort protected Southern trade with Mexico. Today, the Fort Duncan Museum offers visitors the opportunity to experience and understand the fort's role by viewing buildings and artifacts from the Civil War era.

■ **EDINBURG**

This South Texas community is home to the Hidalgo County Historical Museum, which highlights the area's rich heritage. The museum houses collections on regional military and economic history, including an exhibit detailing the Civil War cotton trade.

*Hidalgo County  
Historical Museum,  
Edinburg*



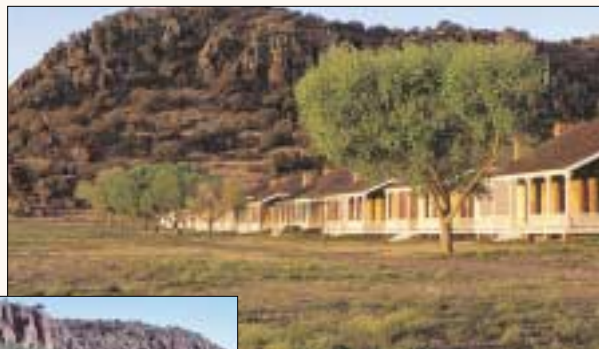
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■ **EL PASO**

During the war, this frontier trading center was a staging area for Gen. Henry H. Sibley's invasion of the New Mexico Territory and home to Fort Bliss, the Confederacy's southwestern regional headquarters. Today, visitors can tour the U.S. Army Museum of the Noncommissioned Officer or explore the reconstructed fort at the Fort Bliss Museum. This distinctive city also boasts the El Paso Museum of History, which highlights the region's rich history, including unique U.S. cavalry mementos.

■ **FORT DAVIS**

Fort Davis grew up around the nearby military post established in the 1850s by the order of U.S. Secretary of War Jefferson Davis. Southern troops occupied the fort in 1861 when Davis became president of the Confederacy. Today, visitors to Fort Davis can explore more than 20 restored structures, including the post hospital and lieutenants' quarters, as well as a visitor center and museum.



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*Above and left: Officers' Row,  
Fort Davis*

■ **FORT STOCKTON**

Fort Stockton sits at a major intersection of historic roads routed through the area to take advantage of Comanche Springs, once the third largest source of spring water in Texas. Camp Stockton was built in 1859 to defend settlers and travelers from Indian raids. The post was abandoned at the outbreak of the war in 1861, and was briefly occupied by Confederates. It was reestablished in 1867, and troops operated in the area until it closed in 1886. The original guardhouse, officers' quarters and reconstructed barracks are open to the public.



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*Guardhouse, Fort Stockton*

The post was abandoned at the outbreak of the war in 1861, and was briefly occupied by Confederates. It was reestablished in 1867, and troops operated in the area until it closed in 1886. The original guardhouse, officers' quarters and reconstructed barracks are open to the public.

■ **GAINESVILLE**

Like many North Texas communities, Gainesville residents were deeply divided during the Civil War. Intense anti-Union sentiment turned deadly in October 1862, and 40 people suspected of disloyalties against the Confederacy were executed. This incident, known as the Great Hanging at Gainesville, is interpreted with a historical marker and featured in exhibits at the Morton Museum of Cooke County.



## ■ GALVESTON

This port city was the backdrop for a number of Texas Civil War dramas. The historic Battle of Galveston on New Year's Day, 1863, ended Union occupation of the port. It is documented with a historical marker at the Texas Seaport Museum. After the surrender of the Trans-Mississippi Department, the Emancipation Proclamation was announced here on June 19, 1865, officially ending slavery in the state. A monument commemorating both historic events can be found at the Old Custom House, a landmark of the Civil War era. Visitors can learn about these events and others at the Rosenberg Library, which features Civil War exhibits, as well as an extensive collection of newspapers, maps, correspondence, photographs and diaries. A historic bank building is now the Galveston County Historical Museum, which houses an extensive local history collection.



*Juneteenth parade, Galveston*

## ■ GRAHAM

Nearby Fort Belknap, established as a northern anchor on the Texas frontier line of defense, was abandoned by federal troops in 1861. State troops of the Frontier Regiment under Col. James M. Norris occupied the fort at various times throughout the war. Federal troops reoccupied it in 1867 before it was finally abandoned the same year. Today, the fort's buildings are restored or rebuilt and used for cultural and recreational activities.

## ■ HEMPSTEAD

This town was active as a Confederate supply and manufacturing center. The magnificent Liendo Plantation, which served as a wartime recruitment center and prisoner of war camp, opens its door to visitors on the first Saturday of every month.



*Liendo Plantation near Hempstead*

## ■ HILLSBORO

Civil War enthusiasts can visit the Harold B. Simpson History Complex, located on the grounds of Hill College. The complex houses the Texas Heritage Museum, which is dedicated to the state's military history, and a research center that features an extensive collection of rare artifacts, photographs, maps, unit histories and correspondence.



*Texas Heritage Museum, Hillsboro*

## ■ JEFFERSON

Evidence of the cotton plantation culture of the Old South is apparent in many historic structures and homes found in this unique town. Visitors to Jefferson can stroll through the quaint shops or tour one of the many historic plantations for a look at this bygone era. To discover Jefferson's role during the Civil War, visit the Jefferson Historical Society Museum, where Civil War weapons and uniforms are among the many collections.



*Jefferson Historical Museum, Jefferson*

## ■ LAREDO

As the coastal blockade strengthened, this city offered an alternate route for trade. Union forces attempted to destroy stores of cotton bales in 1864, but were held off by Confederates fighting under Col. Santos Benavides in the Battle of Laredo. In this area, the Confederacy also gained control of Fort McIntosh after it was abandoned by the Union in 1861. Laredo Community College currently occupies the remaining fort structures, but visitors are welcome to roam the grounds to experience its heritage.

## ■ MARSHALL

This East Texas city served many purposes during the war. A major center of politics, military operations and munitions supply, Marshall was the temporary capital of the Missouri Confederate government in exile. Today, a monument marks the site that once held a frame house used by Missouri Gov. Thomas C. Reynolds as his state's Confederate "capitol." Tourists can learn more of the county's wartime role at the Harrison County Historical Museum, temporarily located in the historic Ginocchio Hotel.

## ■ MASON

This small community grew up around Fort Mason, which was established in 1851. The fort was Robert E. Lee's last command post in the U.S. Army. Albert Sidney Johnston, John Bell Hood and Edmund Kirby Smith also served here prior to their service in the Civil War. During the war, the Confederacy controlled the fort, but it remained virtually unmanned. Families often sought shelter and protection within its walls during frequent Indian raids. Today, visitors can explore the reproduction officers' quarters at the Fort Mason Museum.



TXDOT

*Fort Mason, Mason*

## ■ MERTZON

A monument on the Irion County Courthouse grounds pays tribute to the Battle of Dove Creek, a skirmish on January 8, 1865 involving Confederate troops, state militia and a migrating group of Kickapoo Indians. A fierce battle resulted in the Indians defeating the military forces.

## ■ PARIS

Lamar County was one of the few Texas counties to vote against secession during the Civil War, but many inhabitants fought for the South. Confederate Gen. Sam Bell Maxey, who later became a U.S.

senator, chose Paris as his home. Visitors to Paris, the county seat, can explore the 1860s Greek Revival home at the Samuel Bell Maxey State Historic Site.



TXDOT

*Samuel Bell Maxey State Historic Site, Paris*

## ■ PORT ARTHUR

Just south of Port Arthur, a small group of Confederate artillerymen under the leadership of Lt. Richard W. (Dick) Dowling successfully defended Sabine Pass from Union invasion on September 8, 1863. A monument at Sabine Pass Battleground State Historic Site pays tribute to Dowling and his determined group of men. In Port Arthur, view relics from the historic battle and experience local history at the impressive Museum of the Gulf Coast.

## ■ PORT LAVACA

Known as Lavaca in the 1860s, this port was a hub of military activity and suffered several bombardments in 1862. The city withstood the attacks and the Union eventually withdrew, but troops returned in December 1863, when they briefly took control of the area. Visitors can learn more about the city's history and its wartime role at the Calhoun County Museum. Exhibits include authentic Civil War cannonballs and uniforms.

## ■ RICHMOND

A number of men from Richmond and the surrounding area joined Confederate forces during the war. The Fort Bend County Historical Museum portrays the county's involvement through Civil War and plantation-era exhibits.

## ■ RIO GRANDE CITY

The establishment of Fort Ringgold in 1848 assured the growth and permanence of Rio Grande City. Robert E. Lee served at this historic fort, which stood guard over the Rio Grande and Rio Grande City for nearly a century. The fort is now owned and used by the local school district, but its original purpose is still apparent to visitors.



## ■ SAN ANTONIO

In 1861, as Texas prepared to secede from the Union, local militia forced the surrender of the federal arsenal at San Antonio. Subsequently, San Antonio served as a Confederate depot and several units, such as John S. Ford's Cavalry of the West, formed there. Visitors to this historic city can tour the Institute of Texan Cultures for a look at Civil War artifacts and archives. The museum's exhibits represent the diverse ethnic and cultural groups in Texas' history.



TXDOT

*Institute of Texan Cultures, San Antonio*

## ■ SHEFFIELD

Fort Lancaster, originally Camp Lancaster, was established east of Sheffield in 1855. Texas forces occupied the fort throughout the Civil War. Today, visitors to Fort Lancaster State Historic Site can explore building remains or stop at the visitor center for a look at artifacts uncovered during the fort's excavation.



TXDOT

*Fort Lancaster near Sheffield*

## ■ SUGAR LAND

True to its name, this community was founded on sugar production and is still dependent on the industry. Civil War collections, including weapons, photographs and other artifacts, are on display at the Museum of Southern History.

## ■ TYLER

During the war, this city was an important arms manufacturing center for the Confederacy. Camp Ford, the largest prisoner of war

camp west of the Mississippi River, was also here. The grounds of Camp Ford are being developed to interpret the importance of the site. Features include a walking tour, signs and replicated structures. Local history exhibits are on display at the Carnegie History Center.

## ■ WACO

Dependent on their flourishing plantation economy, many Waco residents risked their lives to fight for the South. Waco produced six Confederate generals including Thomas Harrison whose home, known as the Earle-Harrison House, stands today as a reminder of the community's wartime contribution. Visitors to the property can tour the historic home or roam the adjacent gardens developed to showcase the area's natural beauty.



COURTESY EARLE-HARRISON HOUSE

*Earle-Harrison House, Waco*

## ■ WEST COLUMBIA

The beautiful grounds of the Varner-Hogg Plantation State Historic Site attract tourists. Built as the center of an extensive sugar-producing enterprise in the 1830s, the Varner-Hogg home reflects the Texas plantation era. Visitors can experience life during this fascinating period by touring the antebellum home, foundation ruins of a sugar mill, several slave cabins and other historic buildings.



TXDOT

*Varner-Hogg Plantation, West Columbia*

## TEXAS CIVIL WAR MONUMENTS

In the 1960s, the Texas Civil War Centennial Commission initiated a program to place special commemorative monuments across the nation to honor the contributions of the state's military units during the war. The monuments of native pink granite, cut from historic quarries in the heart of Texas, serve as important visible reminders of the valor, strength, hope and sacrifice of all Texans during the conflict. The Texas Historical Commission oversees this important program, which includes monuments at the following sites:

- Pea Ridge, Arkansas
- Chickamauga, Georgia
- Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia
- Mansfield, Louisiana
- Antietam, Maryland
- Raymond, Mississippi
- Vicksburg, Mississippi
- Bentonville, North Carolina
- Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
- Shiloh, Tennessee
- Fort Donelson, Tennessee
- Anthony, Texas
- Galveston, Texas
- The Wilderness, Virginia



*Texas Monument at Antietam National Battlefield, Maryland*



*Texas Monument at Vicksburg National Military Park, Mississippi*

## HERITAGE TRAVEL RESOURCES

**For more information on specific sites and communities, contact the visitor information centers listed below. Because some sites are closed on weekends, please call in advance.**

■ **BROWNSVILLE**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
650 FM 802  
800/626-2639  
www.brownsville.org

■ **COMFORT**  
Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 777  
830/995-3131  
www.comfort-texas.com

■ **AUSTIN**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
201 E. Second Street  
800/926-2282  
www.austin360.com/acvb

■ **CORPUS CHRISTI**  
Downtown Visitor Information Center  
1823 N. Chaparral  
800/766-2322  
www.corpuschristicvb.com

■ **BRACKETTVILLE**  
Kinney County Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 386  
830/563-2466  
www.brackettville.com

■ **CORSICANA**  
Chamber of Commerce  
120 N. 12th Street  
877/376-7477  
www.corsicana.org

### *Credits:*

*Front cover: Sixth Texas Cavalry Battalion flag (background) - c/o Dan Hatzenbuehler, flag owned by Texas State Library and Archives Commission; Solidiers - Houston Metropolitan Research Center*

*Page 1, 2 - 3: "Seguin on the Guadalupe" (background) - by Sarah Ann Lillie Hardinge, c/o Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas (ACM)*

*Page 1: Sam Houston - Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC)*

*Page 2: Twiggs Surrender - TSLAC*

*Page 3: Chivalry of Texas broadside CT 0487 - Center for American History, UT-Austin (CAH); Gen. A.S. Johnston - TSLAC*

*Page 4: Sam Houston - TSLAC*

*Page 6: Francis R. Lubbock - TSLAC*

*Page 7: Satanta NWDNS-75-BAE-1380A - National Archives (NA); Las Moras Creek 73-1313 - The U.T. Institute of Texan Cultures (ITC)*

*Page 9: Fort Lancaster 72-323 - ITC; Gen. H.H. Sibley - The Library of Congress*

*Page 10: Battle of Galveston 73-1355 - ITC; Gen. J.B. Magruder - TSLAC*

*Page 11: Battle of Galveston 72-155 - ITC; Lt. Dick Dowling 82-262 - ITC; Seven Star First National flag - c/o Dan Hatzenbuehler, flag owned by United Daughters of the Confederacy; Coleman (E.A.) Papers - Pearce Civil War Collection, Navarro College, Corsicana*

*Page 12: Port of Brownsville 75-384 - ITC; Brownsville occupation - TSLAC; Col. Santos Benavides - Laredo Public Library*

*Page 13: William and Malinda Smith (sidebar) - Texas Department of Agriculture Family Land Heritage (TDA); Lizzie Neblett D100311 - CAH; Confederate Woman's Home - TSLAC*

*Page 14: Camp Ford - TSLAC; Gen. E.K. Smith CT0488 - CAH*

*Page 15: Armstead Roderick Barker (sidebar) - TDA; Gen. E.I. Davis - TSLAC; Texas Confederate Home - TSLAC*

*Page 17-21: Texas Department of Transportation*

*Page 21: Earle-Harrison House -c/o Earle-Harrison House*

*Page 22-23: "Wanderer's Retreat" (background) - by Sarah Ann Lillie Hardinge, c/o ACM; "Polly's Plantation" (inset page 23) - c/o ACM*



■ **EAGLE PASS**  
Chamber of Commerce  
400 Garrison Street  
888/355-3224  
[www.eaglepasstexas.com](http://www.eaglepasstexas.com)

■ **EDINBURG**  
Chamber of Commerce  
600 W. University  
800/800-7214  
[www.edinburg.com/chamber.html](http://www.edinburg.com/chamber.html)

■ **EL PASO**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
1 Civic Center Plaza  
800/351-6024  
[www.visitelaso.com](http://www.visitelaso.com)

■ **FORT DAVIS**  
Chamber of Commerce  
#4 Memorial Square  
800/524-3015  
[www.fortdavis.com](http://www.fortdavis.com)

■ **FORT STOCKTON**  
Tourism Division  
#1000 Railroad  
800/334-8525  
[www.ci.fort-stockton.tx.us/tourism.html](http://www.ci.fort-stockton.tx.us/tourism.html)

■ **GAINESVILLE**  
Chamber of Commerce  
101 S. Colverson  
888/585-4468  
[www.gainesvilletexas.org](http://www.gainesvilletexas.org)

■ **GALVESTON**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
2428 Seawall Boulevard  
2215 Strand  
888/425-4753  
[www.galveston.com](http://www.galveston.com)

■ **GRAHAM**  
Chamber of Commerce  
608 Elm Street  
800/256-4844  
[www.visitgraham.com](http://www.visitgraham.com)

■ **HEMPSTEAD**  
Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 517  
979/826-8217  
[www.rtis.com/reg/hempstead/hempstead\\_chamber\\_of\\_commerce\\_mainpage.htm](http://www.rtis.com/reg/hempstead/hempstead_chamber_of_commerce_mainpage.htm)

■ **HILLSBORO**  
Chamber of Commerce  
115 N. Covington Street  
800/445-5726  
[www.hillsborochamber.org](http://www.hillsborochamber.org)

■ **JEFFERSON**  
Marion County Chamber of Commerce  
118 N. Vale  
800/GO-RELAX  
[www.jefferson-texas.com](http://www.jefferson-texas.com)



*"Polly's Plantation," a painting by Sarah Ann Lillie Hardinge*

■ **LAREDO**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
501 San Agustin  
800/361-3360  
[www.visitlaredo.com](http://www.visitlaredo.com)

■ **MARSHALL**  
Chamber of Commerce  
213 W. Austin  
800/953-7868  
[www.marshall-chamber.com](http://www.marshall-chamber.com)

■ **MASON**  
Mason County Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 156  
915/347-5758  
[www.masontxcoc.com](http://www.masontxcoc.com)

■ **MERTZON**  
Irion County Tax Assessor-Collector  
209 Parkview  
915/835-7771

■ **PARIS**  
Visitors & Convention Council  
1651 Clarksville Street  
903/784-2501  
[www.cityofparistx.com](http://www.cityofparistx.com)

■ **PORT ARTHUR**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
3401 Cultural Center Drive  
800/235-7822  
[www.portarthurtexas.com](http://www.portarthurtexas.com)

■ **PORT LAVACA**  
Port Lavaca-Calhoun County  
Chamber of Commerce and  
Agriculture  
2300 N. Hwy 35 Bypass  
800/556-7678  
[www.calhountx.org](http://www.calhountx.org)

■ **RICHMOND**  
Rosenberg-Richmond Area  
Chamber of Commerce  
4120 Avenue H  
281/342-5464  
[www.roserichchamber.com](http://www.roserichchamber.com)

■ **RIO GRANDE CITY**  
Chamber of Commerce  
601 E. Main Street  
956/968-3141  
[www.riograndecity.net](http://www.riograndecity.net)

■ **SAN ANTONIO**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
317 Alamo Plaza  
800/447-3372  
[www.sanantoniovisit.com](http://www.sanantoniovisit.com)

■ **SHEFFIELD**  
Iraan-Sheffield Chamber  
of Commerce  
501 W. 6th Street  
915/639-2232  
[www.iraantx.net](http://www.iraantx.net)

■ **SUGAR LAND**  
Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce  
445 Commerce Green Boulevard  
218/491-0587  
[www.fortbendchamber.com](http://www.fortbendchamber.com)

■ **TYLER**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
315 N. Broadway  
800/235-5712  
[www.tylertexas.com/cvb](http://www.tylertexas.com/cvb)

■ **WACO**  
Convention & Visitors Bureau  
P.O. Box 2570  
800/321-9226  
[www.wacocvb.com](http://www.wacocvb.com)

■ **WEST COLUMBIA**  
Chamber of Commerce  
247 E. Brazos Avenue  
979/345-3921  
[www.westcolumbia.org](http://www.westcolumbia.org) ★

Although the Civil War ended nearly 140 years ago, today's Texas travelers can experience its legacy. Explore historic stone forts, gaze in awe at plantation-era manors or discover museums filled with weapons of war, objects from the home front and African American artifacts. These places and things remind us of the valor, hope and sacrifice of all Texans during the conflict.

The Texas Historical Commission offers free travel brochures on the people and places that shaped Texas history. To request copies, visit [www.thc.state.tx.us](http://www.thc.state.tx.us).



TEXAS  
HISTORICAL  
COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation