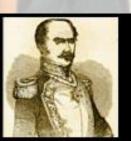


## Texas War for Independence and Mexican-American War







## Spanish Texas

- The Spanish had been in the Americas since
   Columbus in 1492
- Spain owned a large part of North
   America, including
   Texas



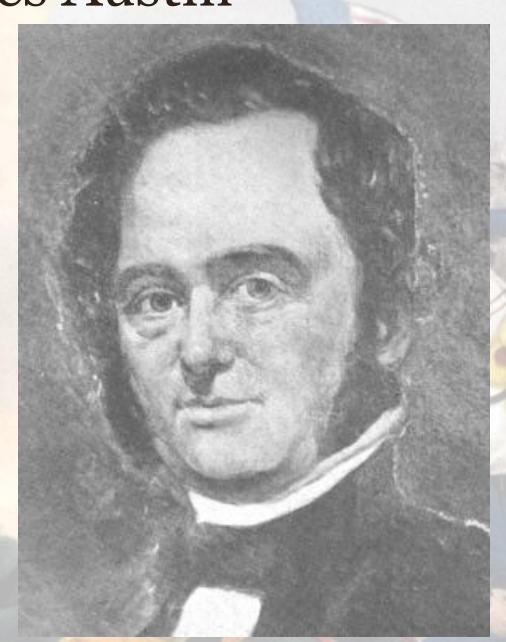
## **Tejanos**

- In 1821, only about 4,000 "Tejanos" lived in TX
  - People of Spanish
     heritage who
     considered TX their
     home
- The Spanish govt tried to attract Spanish setters to TX, but very few came

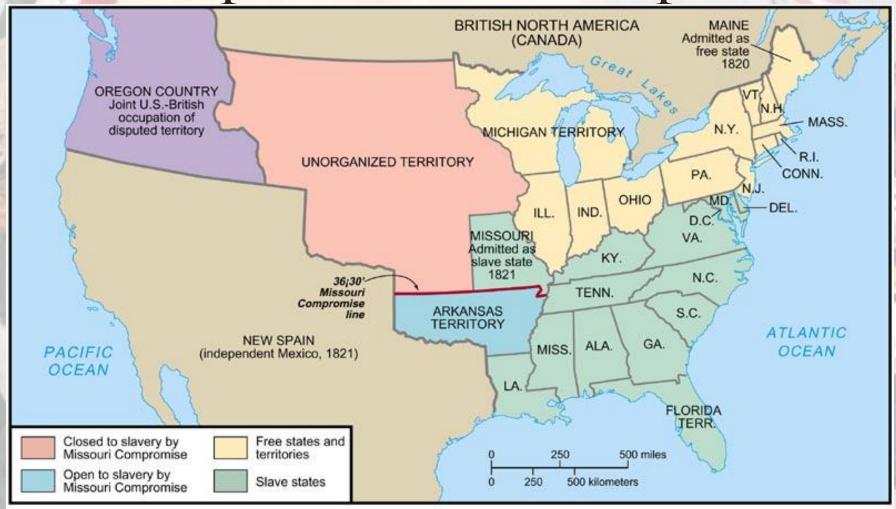


#### **Moses** Austin

- An American,
   Moses Austin was
   given permission
   by the Spanish govt
   to start a colony in
   TX
  - Provided Americans follow Spanish laws
- Moses died in 1821, so his son Stephen Austin actually started the colony



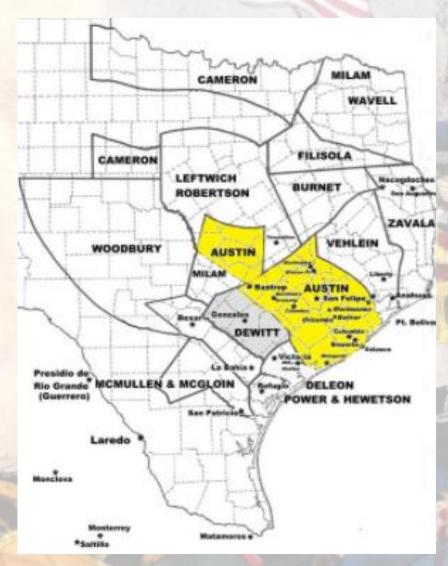
# In 1821, Mexico won independence from Spain



THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE, 1820-1821

## Mexican Independence Changes Texas

- Between 1821 1827, Austin attracted 297 families to his settlement
- The Mexican govt told them they would have to become Mexican citizens, convert to Catholicism, and learn Spanish



- The success of Austin's colony attracted more land speculators and settlers to TX from the U.S.
- Some were looking for a new life, some were escaping from the law, and others were looking for a chance to own land and gain wealth
- By 1830, the population had swelled to about 30,000, with Americans outnumbering the Tejanos 6:1

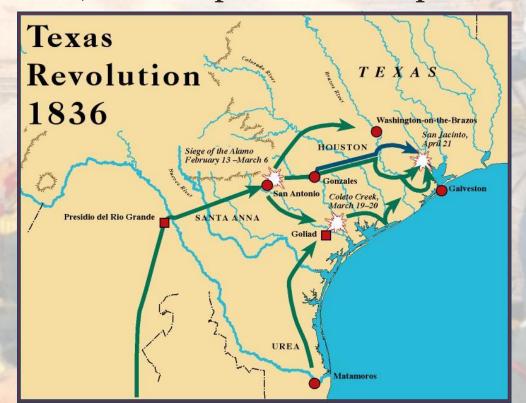


### Rising Tension in Texas

- In 1829, the Mexican govt outlawed slavery
- Settlers wanted to keep their slaves for cotton production
  - Also didn't want to learn Spanish or follow Mexican laws
  - Very few settlers had converted to Catholicism



- In 1829, the Mexican govt closed the state to further U.S. immigration
- Texans had to start paying taxes for the first time
- Mexican President General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna sent more Mexican troops to Texas
- Texans began talk of breaking away from Mexico
- When Stephen Austin was jailed, Texans staged a revolt
- Santa Anna led 6,000 troops to Texas to put it down



### The Alamo

The first battle
 between the Texans
 and Mexicans took
 place at on old
 mission that was
 used as a fort

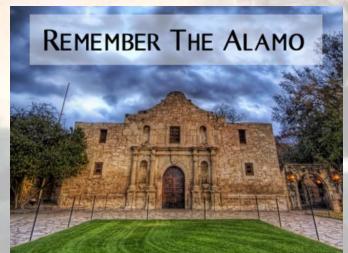


## The Fight for the Alamo

- Only 183 Texans guarding the Alamo
- Mexican army: 1,800 men
- The Texans held the Alamo for 12 days
- On the 13<sup>th</sup> day, Santa Anna ordered his men to storm the fortress
- When it was over, all but 5 Texans were dead
- The men not killed in the battle were executed by Santa Anna

Texans were shocked by the slaughter at the Alamo and vowed

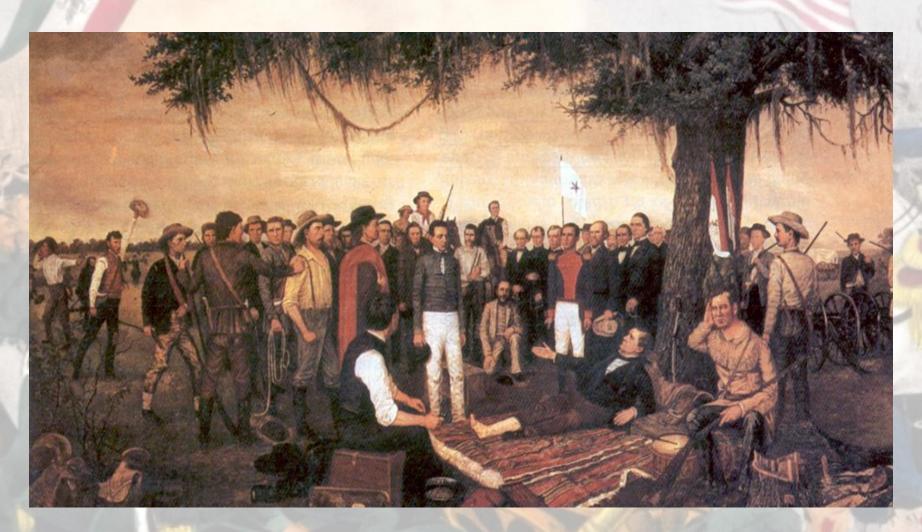
to fight for their freedom



### Battle at San Jacinto

- Santa Anna had over 300 more Texans executed at Golidad
- Texan general, Sam Houston gathered more troops, 800 in all
- Included Tejanos, American settlers, volunteers from the U.S., and many free and enslaved blacks
- They met Santa Anna at San Jacinto
- Their battle cry was, "Remember the Alamo!"
- It was over in 18 minutes More than half the Mexican army was killed
- Santa Anna was forced to sign a treaty giving Texas its freedom.
  - Texas was now an independent country

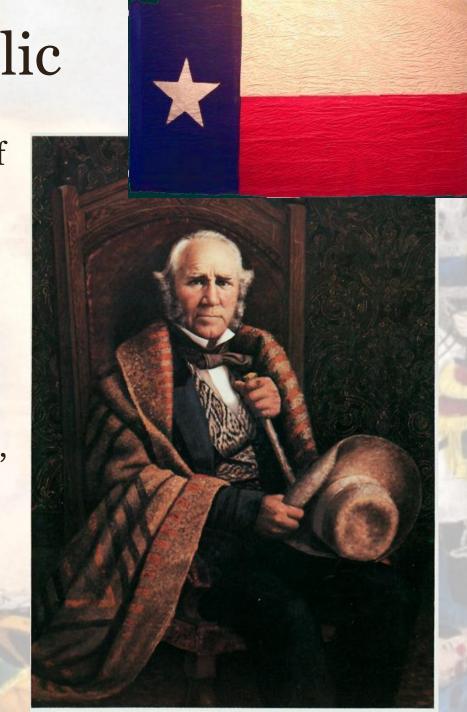
## General Santa Anna surrenders to General Houston



Lone Star Republic

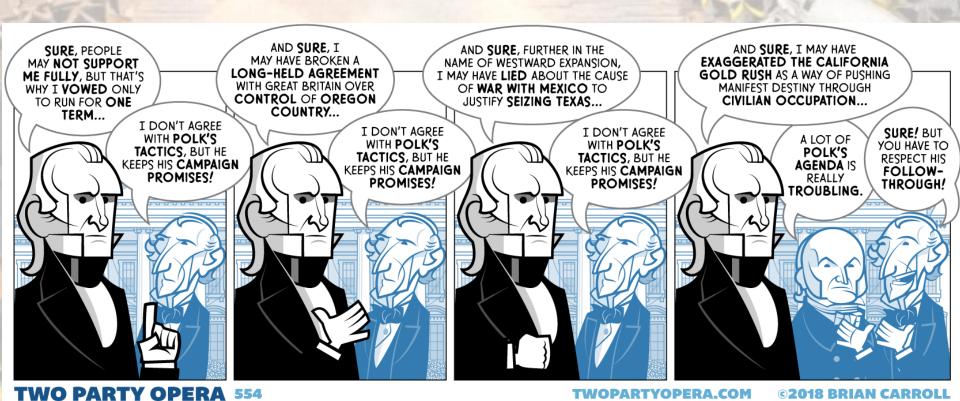
In 1836, Texas declared itself
 The Lone Star Republic

- Sam Houston elected president
- Some Americans wanted
   Texas to be part of the U.S.
- Some people were afraid of Texas becoming a slave state, others of war with Mexico
- Both would eventually happen



#### James K. Polk - "Manifest Destiny President"

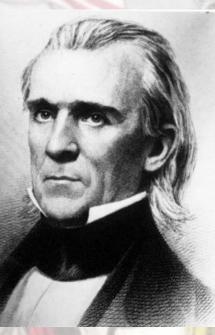
- -Election of 1844
- -Campaign promises:
- 1. Reduce tariffs
- 2. "54 40 or Fight" for the Oregon Border
- 3. Acquire CA and NM from Mexico
- 4. Restore an independent treasury (Jacksonian belief; a banking system opposite of the BUS; farmer-friendly)





## Annexation of Texas

- Many Texans want to join the U.S. after it became independent
- Mexico warned the U.S. to not annex
   Texas into the Union
- President Polk offered to buy California:
  - Mexicans were convinced the U.S. intended to take the entire continent
  - They refused to sell CA
  - The problem was that there were no slaves in CA, and white laborers did not want slaves to undercut their wages with free labor



President Polk



## The War Begins



- 25 April 1846 Mexican and American forces clashed in disputed territory
  - Texas boundary dispute
    - Mexico argued the Nueces River vs. U.S. argued the Rio Grande
  - 11 American soldiers killed
- -U.S. declared war two days later; Lincoln (Whig Party) demands that the "Spot" where "American blood was shed on American soil" be specifically proven (named the **Spot Resolution**)
- -American armies moved into California, New Mexico, and Texas to defend territories
  - California and New Mexico surrendered



#### Northern Mexico Campaign of the U.S. - Mexico War

1846 - 1847



Compiled by Ellyson Wong and Lila Rakoczy, 2023. Based on information and maps from Jim Tiller's A Boundary Atlas of Texas, 1821-1845; Peter Guardino's The Dead March; Stephen A. Carney's U.S. Army Campaigns of the Mexican War series; and Stanley Adamiak's Great Britain, Blockades, and Neutral Rights: Royal Navy Operations during the Mexican-American War, 1846-1848. Basemap countesy of Esri. The Texas General Land Office makes no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy or completeness of the information depicted on this map or the data from which it was produced. This map IS NOT suitable for navigational purposes and does not purport to depict or establish boundaries between private and public land.



**Invading Mexico** 



Zachary Taylor at his encampment during the Mexican War

- Zachary Taylor led 6,000 U.S. troops into Mexico
- Santa Ana led an army of 20,000
- Both met near Monterey in 1847
  - -Santa Ana retreated

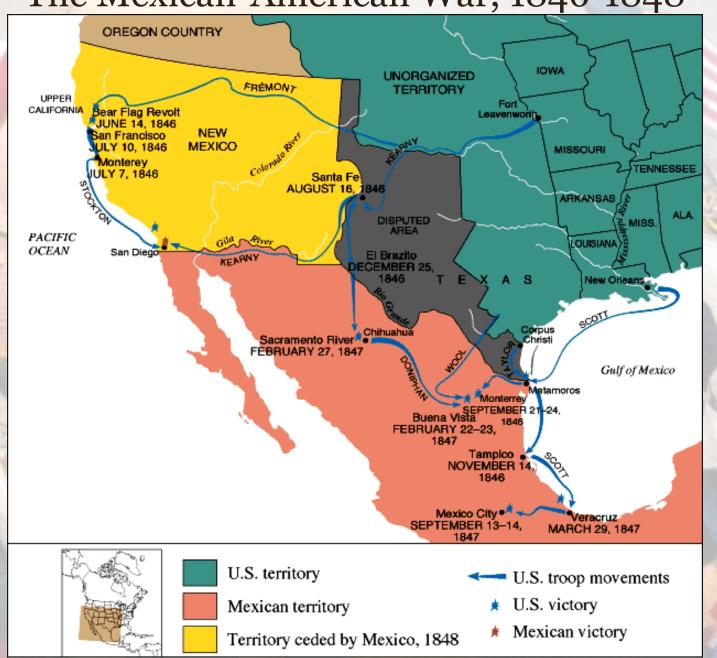
#### **Battles**

- Winfield Scott replaces "Ol' Rough and Ready"
- Navy to Vera Cruz and captured it on 27 March with 10,000 troops
- Mexican army made a last stand at Chapultapec Castle, 13 September 1847
  - Los Niño's Heroes
- Mexico surrendered 2
   Feb. 1848

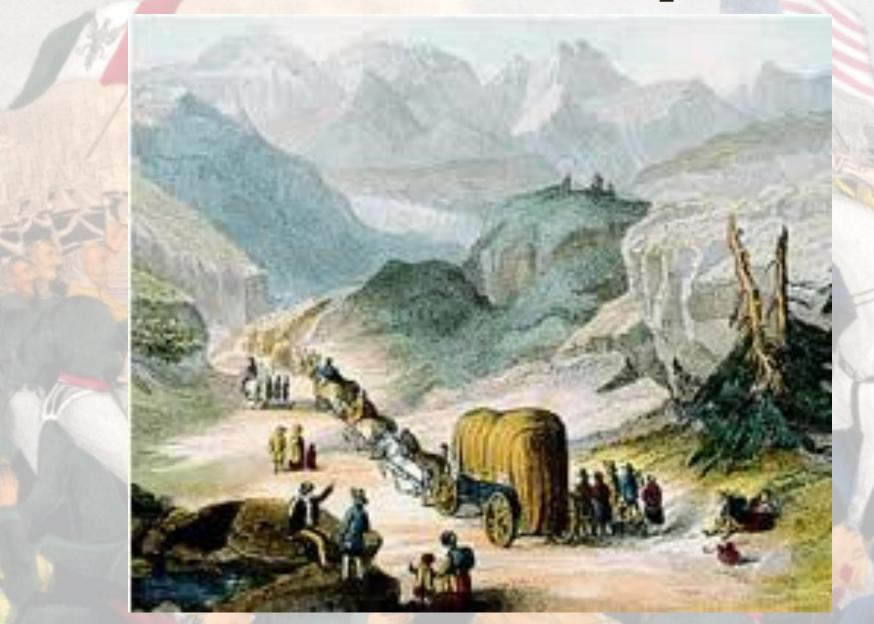


Battle of Vera Cruz fought in March of 1847

The Mexican-American War, 1846-1848



### American Territorial Acquisitions



### Wilmot Proviso (1846)

- Would have banned slavery in any territory to be acquired from Mexico in the Mexican War; or, in the future, including the area later known as the "Mexican Cession"
- Congressman David Wilmot first introduced the Proviso in the House but failed in the Senate
- One of the major events leading to the Civil War
- Killed on the Senate floor and led to Republican Party formation

### Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

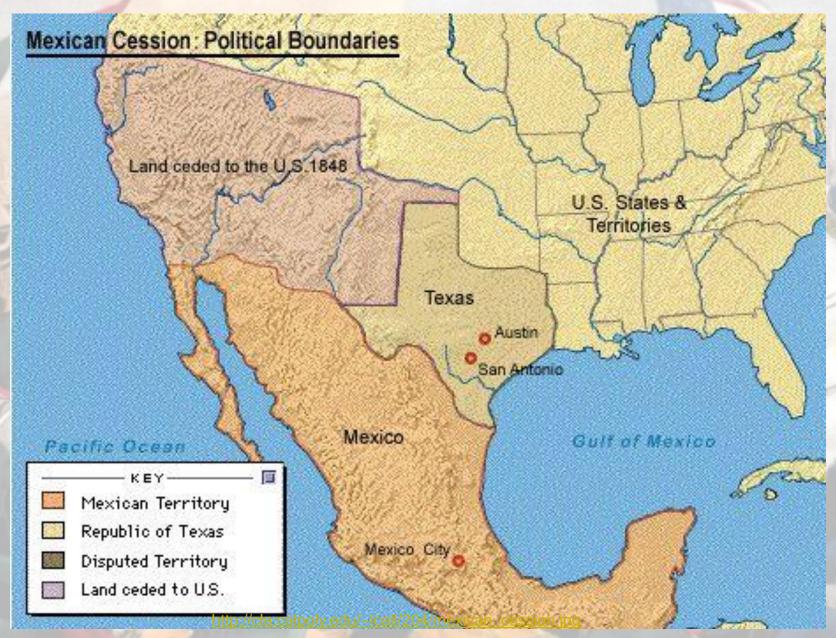
- Officially ended the Mexican-American War in 1848
- "Mexican Cession" included present-day California, Nevada, and Utah, & parts of Arizona, New Mexico, & Wyoming
- Mexico was paid \$15 million
  - Another \$3 million in debt was forgiven
- Increased size of the U.S. by almost 25%



### Settlement

- Mexicans in the cession areas were "protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty and property, and secured in the free exercise of their religion"
- Americans began to flood into the Southwest
- Discrimination forced many Mexicans out of the territory
  - High taxes & discrimination

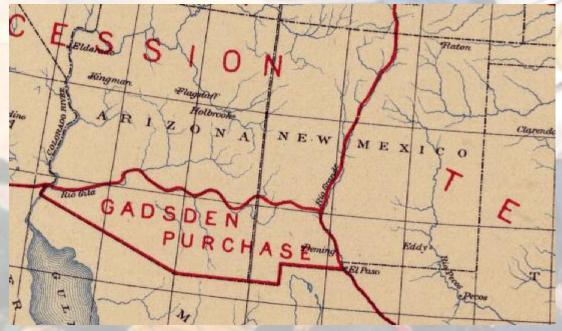
#### **Mexican Cession**



## Gadsden Purchase of 1853

- U.S. paid Mexico \$10 million for southern parts of present-day Arizona and New Mexico
- This land was needed for the expansion of

the RRs



#### Manifest Destiny "Fulfilled" (for now)

The belief that the U.S., having the superior govt (democracy), superior intellect and culture in the world, had the right and duty to control all lands from the Atlantic to the Pacific

It was also based on racism, that Americans were superior to NAs, and Mexicans (which meant they had the right to these lands)

