

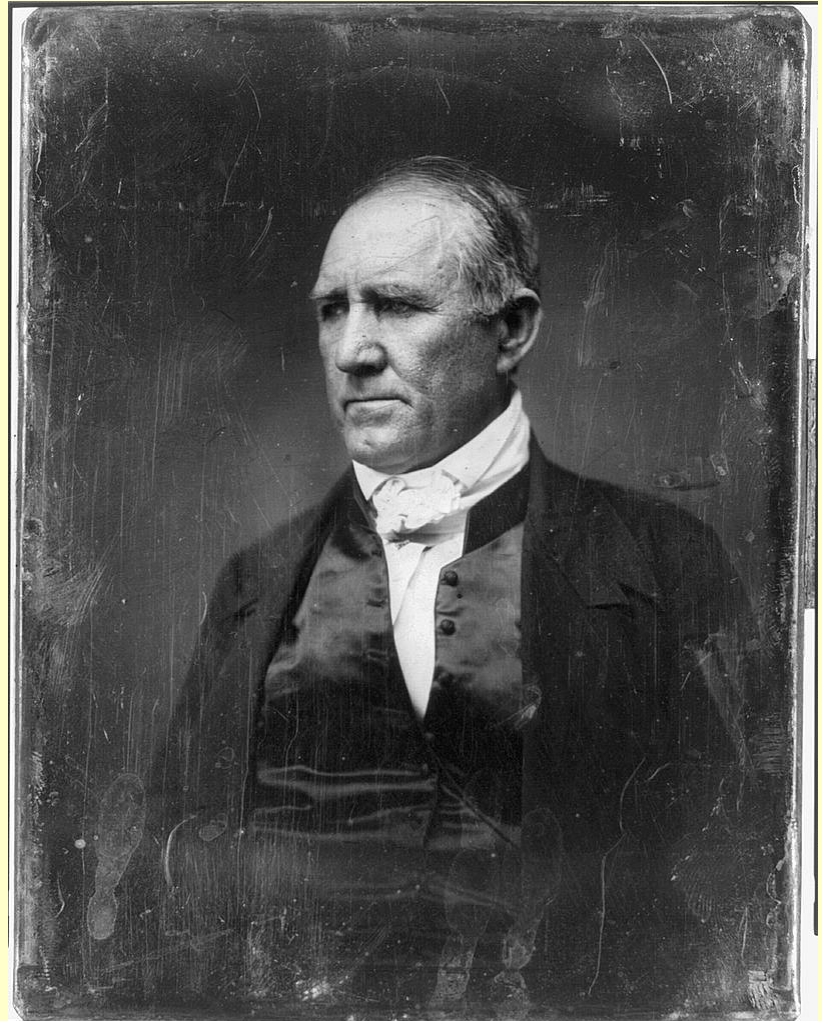
Issues Faced By the Republic of Texas

1836-1845

President Houston

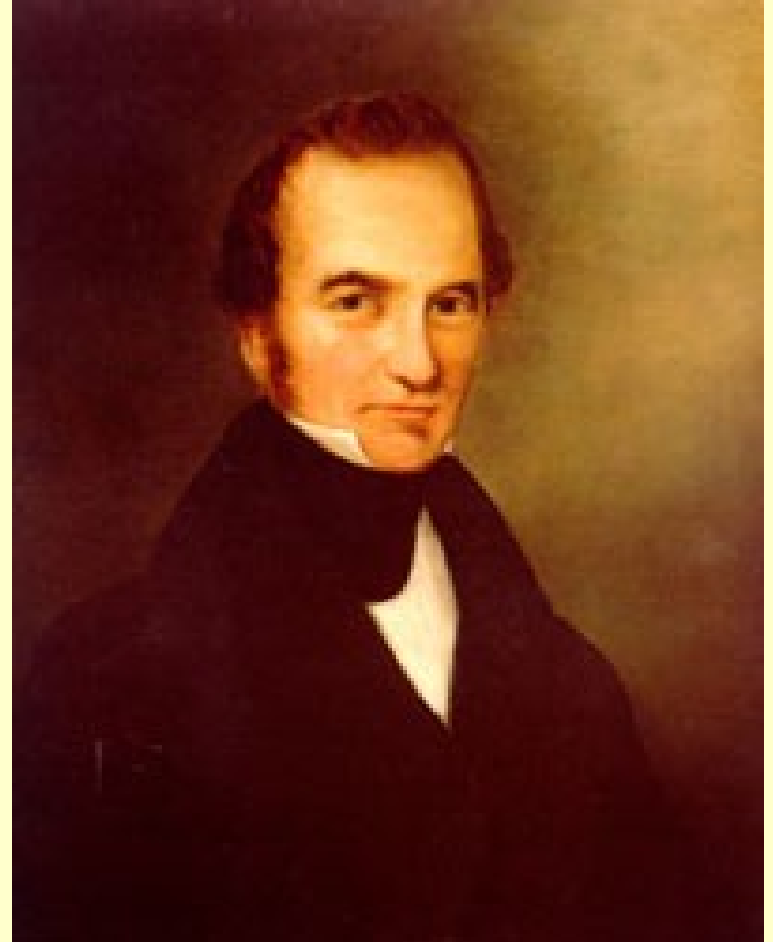
1836-1838, 1841-1844

- Frontier bold and popular
- First president of Texas
- Limited government spending
- Established peaceful relations with Mexico and American Indians
- Encouraged annexation



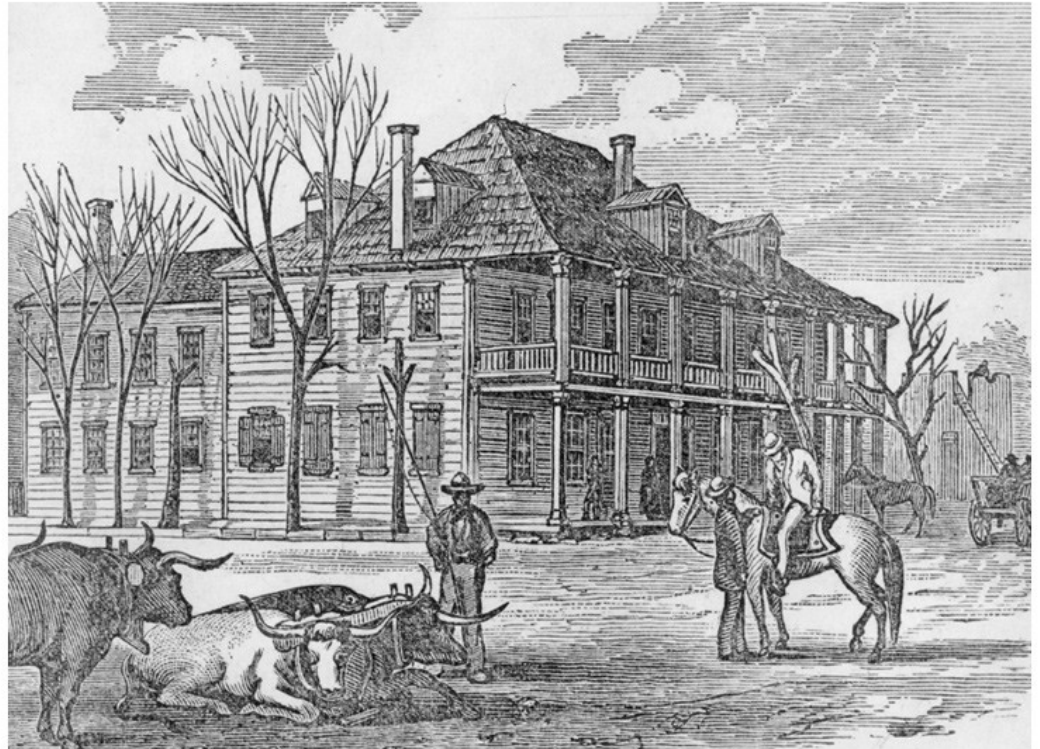
Stephen F. Austin Dies

- Appointed Secretary of State
- 43 years old
- Died of pneumonia
- *The Father of Texas is no more... The first pioneer of the wilderness has departed.* – Sam Houston
- Proclaims a 30-day period of mourning



The Location of the Capital

- Supports Houston as the capital
- Named in honor of Sam Houston by the founders, the Allen Brothers
- Designated as the capital for 3 years
- People complained of muddy streets, crudely built buildings, and swarms of mosquitoes

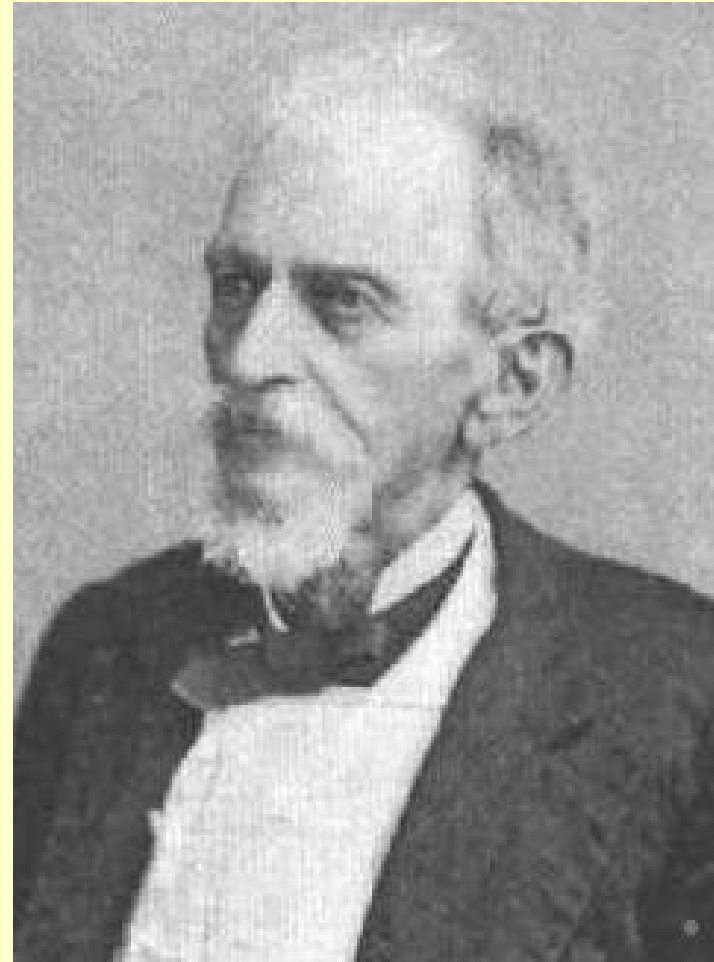


Houston, TX – Main Street and Texas Avenue, April 19, 1837 – 1839

First Capitol Building, 1837

Recognition As A Nation State

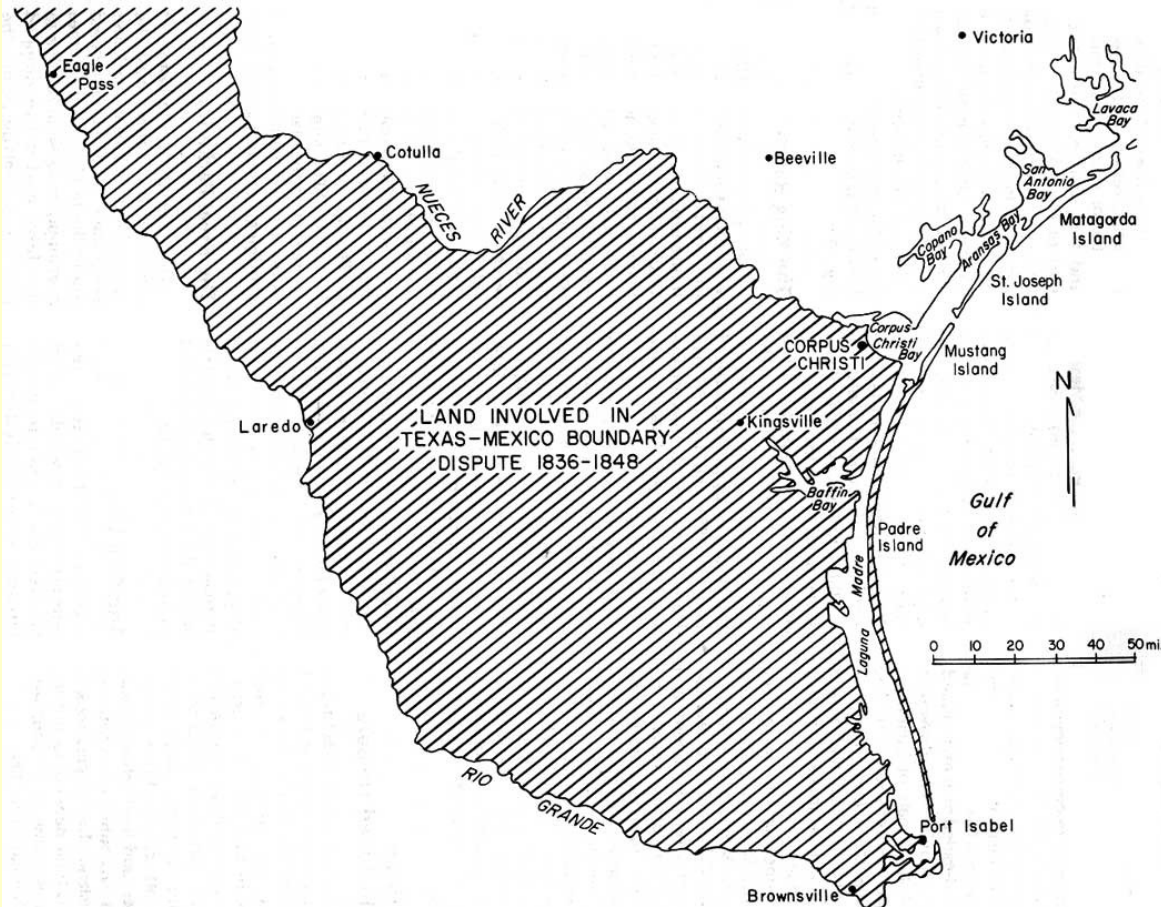
- *The Republic was...*
 - NOT RECOGNIZED by Mexico
 - NOT RECOGNIZED by the United States until March 1837
 - RECOGNIZED by France, Great Britain, and the Netherlands starting in 1839
- Houston thought if European countries recognized Texas, the United States would be interested in annexing.



Ashbel Smith, Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Texas to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and France

Denied Annexation to the U.S.

- Supported by Sam Houston
- Supported by most Texans
- Not originally supported by the United States even though it could lead to western expansion
- U.S. was worried about damaging relationship with Mexico and tipping the balance of power of the U.S. slave states



Debt

- 1836 – \$1.25 million
- Placed a tax on..
 - Imported goods (tariff)
 - Property
 - Businesses
 - Land Title Fees
- Reduces army and eliminates the navy
- Houston worked hard at reducing the size of the government and collecting taxes, but by the end of the Republic, Texas was in debt \$10 million



Republic of Texas Military

- Army
 - 1836 Sent all but 600 soldiers home on leave
 - 1841 Reduces the army and uses Texas Rangers to patrol the frontier
 - Captain Jack Coffee Hays was one of the most famous Texas Rangers
- Navy
 - A drain on the nation's finances
 - Houston sells ships
- Mexican blockades and constant threat of an invasion by Mexico



Relations with Mexico

- Threats and blockades
- 1842 - Mexico invades taking control of San Antonio but retreats
 - Archives War – Results in conflict over removal of archives in Austin
- Texas Rangers protect the border
- Mier Expedition – Texans invade Mexico without the authority of Houston
- Houston works hard at maintaining peace with Mexico



Mier Expedition descending the Rio Grande

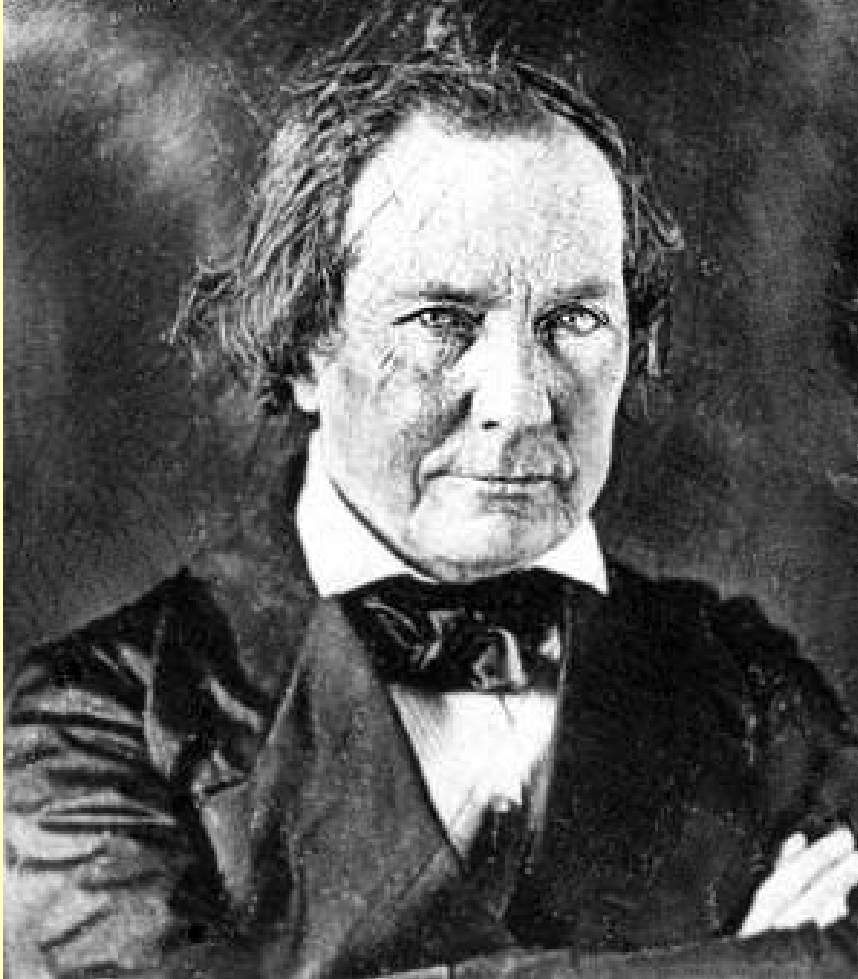
Relations with American Indians

- Mostly peaceful
- Houston was sympathetic to the American Indians because of his past relationship with them. Most Texans were not.
- Houston tried to negotiate a peace treaty with Cherokees, but it was not approved by Congress
- Built frontier forts
- Used Texas Rangers to control attacks by Natives



President Mirabeau Lamar

1838-1841



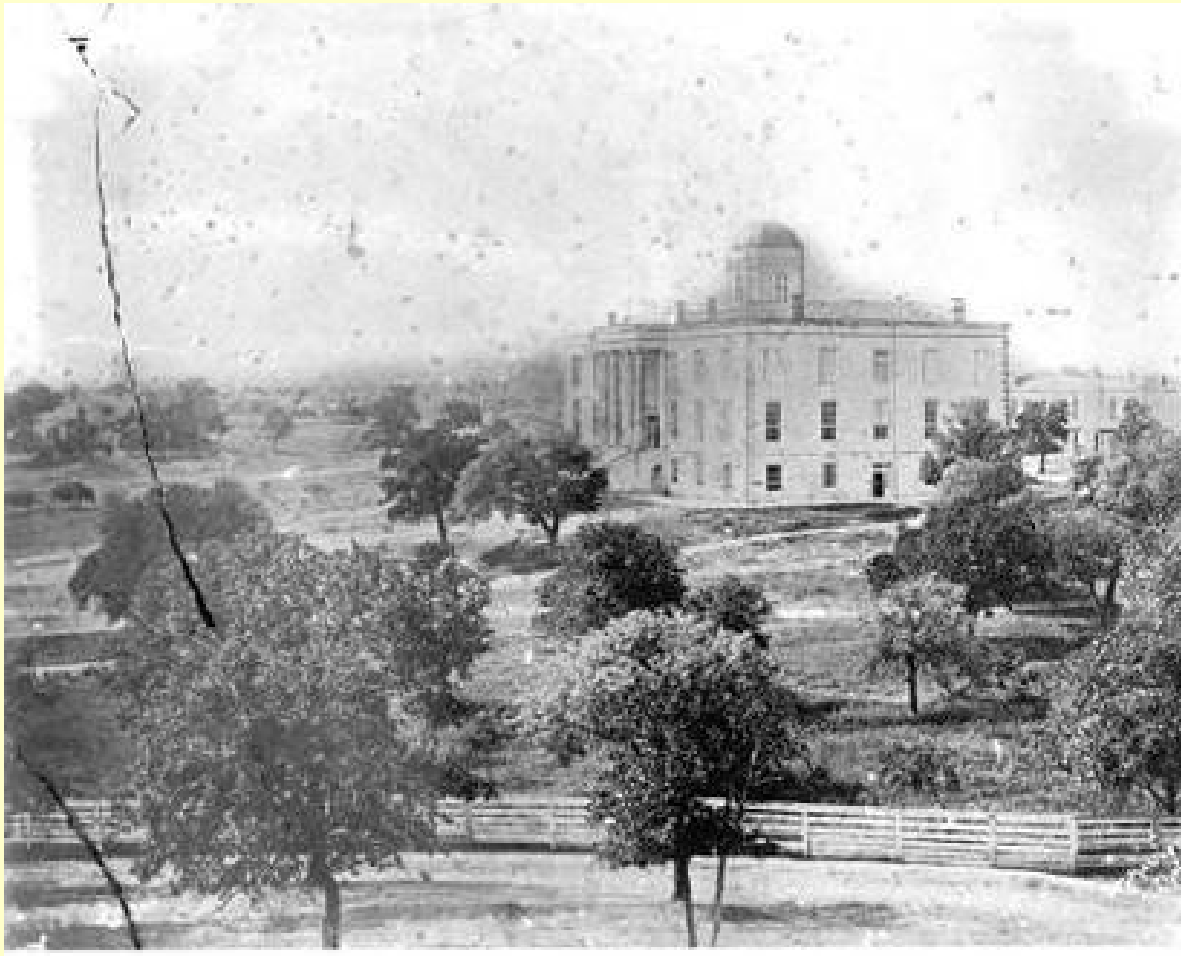
- Well-educated and refined
- Used military force against Mexico and American Indians
- Supported the Republic of Texas
- Opposed annexation
- Promoted education
- Increased debt
- Relocated capital to Austin

Debt



- Issued more paper money called “Redbacks” worth 15 cents on the U.S. dollar
- Cost of Indian Wars – \$2.5 million
- Financed the failed Santa Fe Expedition
- Kept Texas Navy active and bought several ships.
- \$7 million in debt by the end of his term

New Capital



First Statehouse

- Lamar disliked the present capital being named in honor of Sam Houston
- Many thought the capital needed to be more centrally located
- 1839 - Congress authorized Waterloo as the new capital
- Waterloo renamed Austin in honor of Stephen F. Austin

Relations With Mexico



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Santa Fe Expedition

Cordova Rebellion

- Defeated Mexicans and American Indians still loyal to Mexico living in Nacogdoches
- Edwin Moore, Commodore of the Texas Navy, aided Mexican rebels. Dishonorably discharged by Houston

1841 Santa Fe Expedition

- Sent troops without Congressional approval to Santa Fe (Mexico) to claim it as Texas territory
- Texans surrendered, taken prisoner, and increased tensions with Mexico

Relations with Texas Indian tribes



The Plaza and the Council House in San Antonio

- Wanted to eliminate or force them out of Texas
- Forced the Cherokee tribe to Oklahoma and had Chief John Bowles killed
- Large number of raids and kidnappings
- Council House Fight – A miscommunication between the Comanche tribe and Texans to discuss peace led to the death of Texans and Comanche leaders

Education

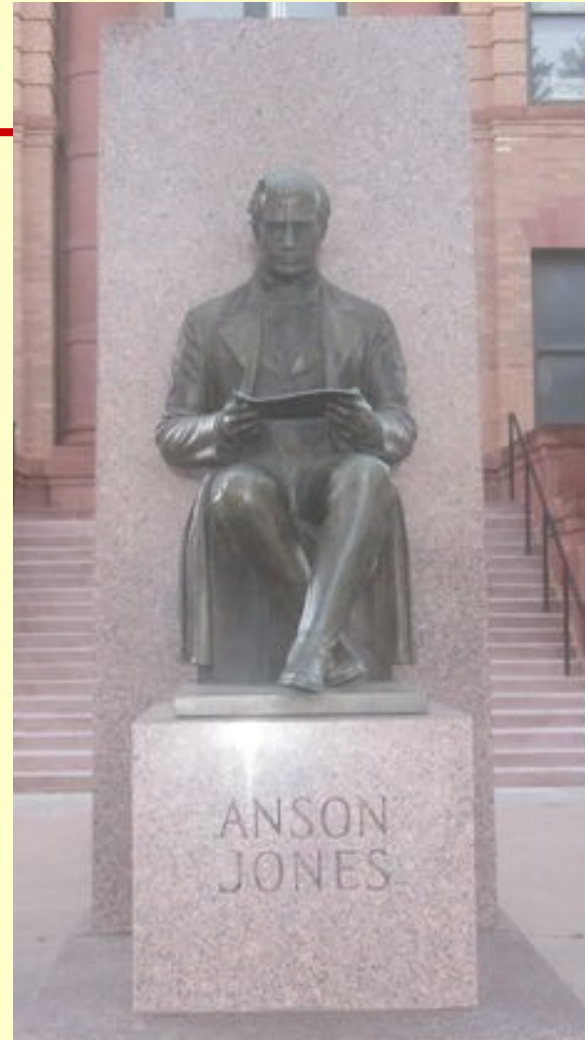


- Texans listed “failure to establish public” schools as a grievance in the Declaration of Independence.
- Improving education was Lamar’s goal
- Set aside 18,000 acres of land in each county for public schools
- Set aside 220,000 acres for two public universities
- Known as the “Father of Education in Texas”

President Anson Jones

1844-1845

- Involved in the development of the Republic of Texas
- 1841 – Served under Sam Houston as Secretary of State
- Supported annexation



Relations With Mexico

- Mexican government offered to recognize Texas independence if they rejected annexation.
- Mexico will consider war with the United States over annexation.

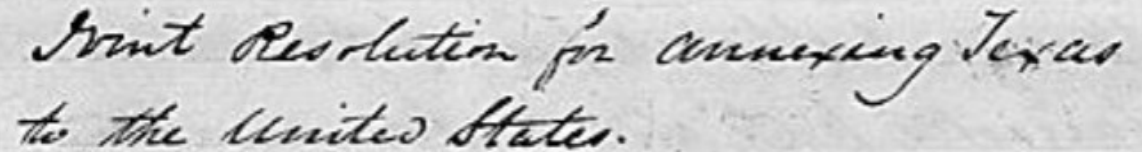


Annexation to the U.S.

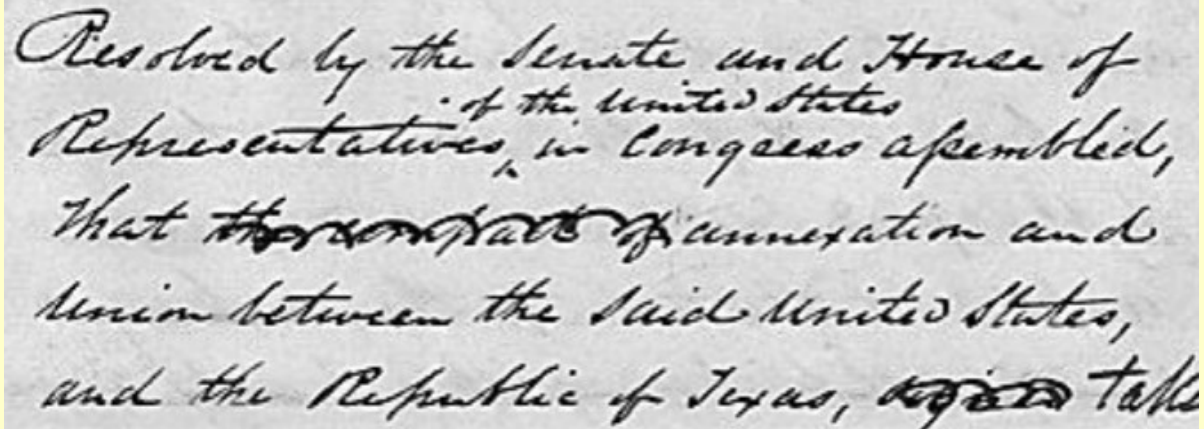
- Ratified by the U.S. Congress December 29, 1845
- Annexation ceremonies on the step of the capitol February 19, 1846
- State government turned over to Governor James Pinckney Henderson
- Becomes the 28th state

“The final act in this great drama is now performed: the Republic of Texas is no more.”

Farewell Address
President Anson Jones



Joint Resolution for annexing Texas to the United States.



Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, ^{of the United States} in Congress assembled, that the compact of annexation and union between the said United States, and the Republic of Texas, be and take

Republic of Texas

1836 - 1845