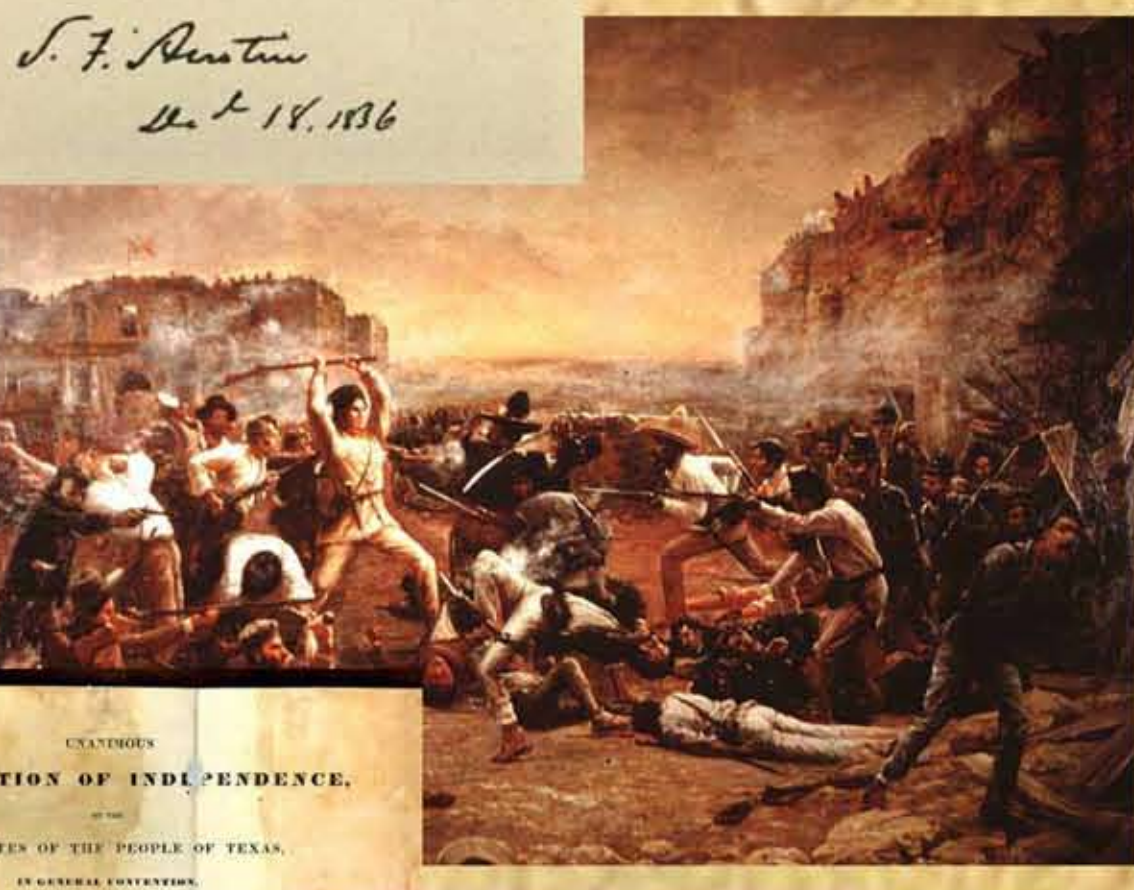


BAYLOR PRESIDENTS PAST AND PRESENT



- 1793 Sam Houston is born near Lexington, Virginia, on March 2.
 - Robert Emmett Bledsoe Baylor is born in Lincoln County, Kentucky, May 10.
 - President George Washington is sworn in for his second term.
 - Construction begins on the United States capitol in Washington.
- 1800 The Library of Congress is founded by Thomas Jefferson.
- 1802 The Massachusetts Baptist Missionary Society, the first state convention in America, is organized.
- 1803 The Massachusetts Baptist Missionary Society votes to publish a missionary magazine, now named *The American Baptist*, the oldest surviving religious periodical in the United States.
 - The U.S. purchases the Louisiana Territory for \$15 million.
- 1806 Noah Webster publishes *Compendious Dictionary* of the English Language.
- 1809 George Washington Baines is born near Raleigh, North Carolina, on December 29.
- 1812 The United States declares war on Britain on June 18.
 - R.E.B. Baylor serves in the War of 1812.
- 1813 Henry Lee Graves is born in Yanceyville, North Carolina, on February 22.
- 1816 William Carey Crane is born in Richmond, Virginia, on March 17.
- 1823 Rufus Columbus Burleson is born on August 7, near Decatur, Alabama.
 - Stephen F. Austin receives a grant from the Mexican government and begins colonization in the region of the Brazos River.
- 1829 R.E.B. Baylor is elected to the U.S. Congress from Alabama.
- 1834 Henry L. Graves becomes math department chair at Wake Forest.
 - George W. Baines is baptized at Salem Baptist Church.
- 1835 Texas War of Independence begins with the Battle of Gonzales.
- 1836 George W. Baines is ordained by Grant's Creek Baptist Church.
 - Cole's Settlement, founded in the 1820's, is renamed Independence.
 - Lt. Col. R.E.B. Baylor fights against the Creek Indians in Alabama.
 - Battle of the Alamo wages from February 23 to March 6.
 - Texas declares independence from Mexico on March 2 by signing the Declaration of Independence at Washington-on-the-Brazos.
 - Texans under General Sam Houston defeat Santa Ana's troops at the Battle of San Jacinto ending the Texas Revolution on April 21.
 - Republic of Texas elects Sam Houston president on September 5.
- 1837 In Arkansas, George W. Baines organizes three churches and baptizes 150 as a missionary of the Baptist Home Mission Society.
 - Henry L. Graves is ordained to the Baptist ministry.
 - Z. N. Morrell establishes a Baptist church at Washington-on-the-Brazos and requests American Baptists to send missionaries.
 - The Texas Congress incorporates the town of Independence.
 - Fort Fisher is established on the west bank of the Brazos River.
- 1839 Rufus Burleson attends a revival meeting, professes his faith, and answers the call to the ministry.
 - R.E.B. Baylor, age 46, is converted by his cousin Rev. Thomas Chilton, is ordained a Baptist minister, and moves to Texas.
 - William C. Crane, age 22, is ordained in Baltimore, Maryland.
 - Independence Academy opens in facilities later used by Baylor.
 - The Texas Congress meets in Austin.
- 1840 American Baptist Home Mission Society appoints William Tryon.
 - R.E.B. Baylor assists with organizing Union Baptist Association.
 - James Huckins arrives at Galveston, establishes a Baptist church, and baptizes Gail Borden.
- 1841 William Tryon arrives in Texas. He, R.E.B. Baylor and James Huckins organize an Education Society in Union Association with the goal of establishing a Baptist university in Texas.
 - R.E.B. Baylor is elected judge of the Third Judicial District and becomes Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Republic.
- 1842 Mexico invades Texas, captures San Antonio, and takes prisoners.
- 1843 The Black Bean Episode results in the execution by Mexico of 17 Texans captured during the Mier Expedition.
- 1844 The Texas Baptist Education Society petitions Congress for a charter.
- 1845 Anson Jones, president of the Republic, signs Baylor University's charter on February 1.
 - Baylor trustees select Independence as the location for the University.
 - Henry L. Graves represents Georgia at the organizational meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Augusta.
 - R.E.B. Baylor serves in the state Constitutional Convention.
 - The U.S. annexes Texas as the 28th state on December 29.
- 1846 Trustees select Henry Lee Graves as Baylor's 1st president.
 - Henry Gillette teaches the first class on May 18 with 24 students.
 - James H. Stribling becomes the first ministerial student at Baylor.
 - The U.S. declares war on Mexico over Texas boundaries.
- 1847 Henry L. Graves arrives in Independence on February 4 and starts teaching classes to 70 students.
 - Henry L. Graves pastors the Independence Church until 1850.
 - William Tryon dies of yellow fever while ministering to other members of his congregation who had contracted the illness.
- 1848 Reddin Andrews, Jr., is born in La Grange, Texas, on January 18.
 - Henry L. Graves serves as president of the Texas Baptist State Convention.
 - Southern Baptist Domestic Mission Board appoints Rufus Burleson, and he pastors First Baptist Church in Houston until 1851.
 - Union Baptist Association meets at Independence Baptist Church.
 - Trinity River Baptist Association is organized.
 - U.S. and Mexico sign Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, establishing the Rio Grande as Texas' southern border.
- 1849 R.E.B. Baylor and Abner S. Libscomb of the Texas Supreme Court teach classes in the "science of law" making Baylor the 1st in Texas and the 2nd university west of the Mississippi to teach law.
 - Waco Village is established.
- 1850 George W. Baines moves to Huntsville and becomes Sam Houston's lifelong friend.
 - Graves Hall is completed on the Baylor campus.
 - Shapley P. Ross builds Waco's first house; McLennan County is established.
 - Texas relinquishes about one-third of its territory in the Compromise of 1850 in exchange for \$10 million from the U.S.
- 1851 Henry L. Graves resigns as president of Baylor on June 13.
 - Baylor elects Rufus Columbus Burleson, age 27, as president. Burleson expands the curriculum, increases library holdings, organizes literary societies, and erects several new buildings.
 - William C. Crane serves as secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention until 1863 and later as vice president four times.
 - Horace Clark becomes principal of Baylor's female department.
 - R.E.B. Baylor convenes the first district court in McLennan County.
 - George W. Baines serves on Baylor's Board of Trustees.
- 1852 Oscar Henry Cooper is born in Panola County, Texas, on November 22.
 - Rufus Burleson segregates Baylor's male and female students.
- 1853 Baylor raises \$10,000 endowment for the Baylor presidency.
 - President Rufus Burleson marries Georgia Jenkins, Judson graduate and daughter of Judge P. C. Jenkins, on January 3.
- 1854 Stephen Decatur Rowe graduates with Baylor's first degree.
 - Rufus Burleson baptizes Sam Houston on November 19.
- 1855 Female building is started on Academy Hill in Independence.
 - Mary Kavanaugh Gentry is the first female graduate of Baylor.
 - George W. Baines becomes editor of the *Texas Baptist*, the first Baptist newspaper in Texas.
 - Trinity River Association starts Trinity River Male High School which becomes Waco Classical School.
 - Waco Indians are moved to a reservation at Fort Graham.
- 1857 R.E.B. Baylor is elected District Judge for his final six-year term.
 - Baylor establishes the School of Law and appoints Texas Supreme Court Justice Royall T. Wheeler to head the school.
 - Waco Female Academy is founded.
- 1858 Thirteen students become Baylor's first law school graduates.
- 1859 The Burleson Domicile to house male students is completed.
 - Sam Houston is inaugurated as Texas' 7th governor, having previously served as governor of Tennessee and Texas senator.
- 1860 Houston Hall is completed and construction on Tryon Hall begins in Independence.
 - South Carolina secedes from the Union.
 - Waco Baptist Association organizes and takes control of Trinity River Male High School which becomes Waco Classical School.
- 1861 Texas secedes with 171 to 6 vote on February 1; Sam Houston is replaced as governor when he refuses to take the Confederate oath.
 - Abraham Lincoln is sworn in as 16th President of U.S. March 5.
 - Rufus Burleson resigns the Baylor presidency June 27 and moves with the male faculty to Waco where he becomes president of Waco Classical School. Upon their request, Baylor's seven male graduates receive degrees in Waco from Burleson.
 - Baylor becomes George Washington Baines as its president. He keeps the school afloat despite health problems and the Civil War.
 - Waco Classical School changes its name to Waco University.
 - The Civil War begins with the firing on Fort Sumter April 12-13.
- 1862 Confederate troops bivouac on Baylor's campus.
 - Baylor law professor W. P. Rogers is killed at the Battle of Corinth.
 - Abraham Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation on September 22.