

**10/1/1800**

### **Third Treaty of San Ildefonso**

Spain cedes the Louisiana Territory to France in an agreement signed in 1800.

**1803**

### **Álamo de Parras**

The former Mission San Antonio de Valero becomes a military outpost for the first time. *La Segunda Compañía Volante de San Carlos de Parras*, or, the flying Alamo Company, is sent to San Antonio to protect the community from indigenous raids. They move into the former mission, and, for the first time, people refer to the compound as the Alamo.

**1803**

### **Louisiana Purchase**

Under President Thomas Jefferson, the United States acquires over 828,000 square miles, the entire Louisiana Territory, from France for the price of \$15 million.

**September 16, 1810**

### ***El Grito de Dolores* (The Cry of Dolores)**

Catholic priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla issues a call to action, triggering the Mexican War for Independence. His call to arms began by ringing a church bell in the Mexican town Dolores Hidalgo in Guanajuato. From the church's pulpit, he armed the town's population and encouraged them to rebel. The *grito* marks the beginning of a more than ten-years-long conflict that ultimately resulted in Mexico's independence from Spain.

**1811**  
**The Casas Revolt**

The Casas Revolt is the first of several challenges to Spanish authority in Texas after the Cry of Dolores. Captain Juan Bautista de las Casas leads an insurgent militia in San Antonio to arrest Spanish Governor Manuel Salcedo, but he fails to rally the necessary support and is arrested by a Spanish Royalists. De las Casas is sent to prison in Monclova and beheaded, and his head returned to San Antonio and placed on public display as a warning to would-be insurrectionists.

**1812–1813**  
**Gutiérrez-Magee (Magee- Gutiérrez) Expedition**

Two revolutionaries, Mexican nationalist José Bernardo Gutiérrez de Lara and U.S. Army Lieutenant Augustus Magee, joined forces on an unsuccessful filibustering expedition against Spain. They formed the Revolutionary Army of the North—an armed force of nearly 1,500 soldiers of diverse backgrounds.

**August 13, 1813**  
**Battle of Medina**

An important battle in the fight for Mexican Independence, the Battle of Medina was the deadliest battle to ever take place in Texas. The Revolutionary Army of the North (formed during the Gutiérrez-Magee Expedition) clashed with Royalist Spanish forces. The revolutionaries suffered tragic losses in a running battle just south of San Antonio. Those that survived the battle were imprisoned at the Alamo.

**1810–1821**  
**The Mexican War of Independence in Texas**

The Mexican War of Independence takes an enormous toll on San Antonio. The city loses about a third of its population. Texas is the first Mexican region to formally declare independence from Spain and the first to write its own constitution. The frontier town sees three deadly battles in 1813 alone - the Battle of Rosillo, the Battle of Alazan, and the Battle of Medina are all fought in or near San Antonio. The latter remains the deadliest battle ever fought on Texas soil.

**1819**  
**Panic of 1819**

The United States faces an enormous financial crisis in 1819. The government responds by making it more difficult and expensive to buy prime cotton land. Many Americans look westward for cheap, arable land, making the empresario grants more appealing than ever.

**February 22, 1819**  
**Adams Onis Treaty**

As outlined in the terms of the Adams Onis Treaty, Spain cedes Florida to the United States, solidifying the border between the United States and New Spain.

**November 1820**  
**Moses Austin arrives in San Antonio**

Seeking permission from the Spanish government to colonize east Texas, American merchant Moses Austin arrives in San Antonio in 1820. His arrival catalyzes the Anglo colonization of Texas and the frontier's transformation. The government eventually granted his request, but he died before seeing his dream realized.

**February 24, 1821**  
**The Plan de Iguala**

A revolutionary proclamation, The Plan de Iguala (also referred to as the Plan of the Three Guarantees) is drafted in the months before Mexico achieves independence from Spain. The plan declared Mexico a constitutional monarchy with Catholicism as the official state religion.

**August 24, 1821**  
**Mexico achieves independence**

Spain's control of Mexico comes to an end when representatives from both sides, including future Mexican emperor Agustín de Iturbide, sign the Treaty of Córdoba. For the first time, Spain recognizes Mexico's independence.

**1821**  
**Stephen F. Austin arrives in Texas**

Stephen F. Austin, U.S. empresario, receives a land grant to settle 300 Anglo families between the Colorado and Brazos Rivers. Spain, and later Mexico, both struggled to populate the *provincias internas*, the lesser colonized parts of New Spain. In 1821, Tejanos make up an overwhelming majority of the Mexican population in Texas. By 1830, Anglos in Texas outnumbered their Tejano counterparts 10:1.

**1824**  
**Mexican Federalist Constitution is ratified**

The 1824 Mexican Constitution lays the foundation for an independent Mexico. It is ratified after the overthrow of Mexican emperor Agustín de Iturbide and establishes 19 states (including Coahuila y Tejas), four territories, and the federal district of Mexico City. The ideals set forth, namely representative government, play a significant role in future conflicts throughout Mexico, including the Texas Revolution.

**December 1826–January 1827**  
**The Fredonian Rebellion**

The Fredonian Rebellion was the first attempt by Anglo colonists in Texas to secede from Mexico. A group of colonists led by empresario Haden Edwards briefly declares independence from Mexico and create the short-lived Republic of Fredonia. When confronted by Mexican troops, Edwards flees to the United States. The Rebellion results in an increased Mexican military presence in Texas.

**1828**  
**Mier y Terán Report**

Mexican General Manuel de Mier y Terán tours Texas in 1828. In his report, he recommends preventing the United States from acquiring Texas. This led to the passage of the Law of April 6, 1830, which closes Mexico's borders to further American migration and calls for the prohibition of slavery.

**September 15, 1829**  
**The Guerrero Decree**

The first census of Stephen F. Austin's colony showed that around one quarter of residents there were enslaved people. As Anglo immigrants continued crossing the border into Mexican Texas in greater numbers, Mexican President Vicente Guerrero issued an executive decree abolishing slavery in Mexico. The decree was never enforced in Texas.

**April 6, 1830**  
**The Law of April 6, 1830, is passed**

Following the publication of the report by Mexican General Miguel Mier y Terán, Mexico bans further migration from the United States and prohibits the importation of enslaved people.

**1832 and 1835**  
**Anahuac Disturbances**

Following the Mier y Terán Report and the Law of April 6, 1830, Anglo colonists grow angry over Mexico's effort to collect taxes and enforce their laws. East Texas sees Anglo-led revolts against Mexican authority in both 1832 and 1835, future Alamo defender William B. Travis being one participant. Mexican authorities briefly dissolved their *ayuntamiento* (city council) in Liberty, Texas. The Anahuac disturbances were part of the escalation in tension between Texas and Mexico.

**1833**

**Santa Anna elected President of Mexico**

Santa Anna rides a political wave of liberalism to power and is elected President of Mexico in 1833. Even though he is elected as a federalist, ever the chameleon, he switches sides politically, and claims Mexico is not ready for representative government. Under his leadership, he nullifies the Constitution of 1824 and consolidates power in the form of a centralist government.

**April 1835**

**Battle of Zacatecas**

A rebel force of 3,000 in Zacatecas, Mexico, was defeated by the Mexican army under Santa Anna. The failed rebellion was one of several civil conflicts that arose after Mexico's congress nullified the Constitution of 1824; the Texas Revolution being another.

**October 2, 1835**

**Battle of Gonzales**

The Battle of Gonzales was the first armed conflict of the Texas Revolution. Mexican officials traveled to Gonzales when they received word that Texan colonists refused to surrender a Mexican army cannon. On the banks of the Guadalupe River, Texans attacked forces led by Mexican commander Francisco de Castañeda, who are eventually unsuccessful in retrieving the cannon. The Texans urged Castañeda to join their fight to uphold the Constitution of 1824, and they keep the cannon.

**10/1835 – 12/1835**

**The Siege of Bexar**

The Siege of Bexar marks the first major armed conflict of the Texas Revolution. Mexican General Martín Perfecto de Cos and 600 soldiers fortify San Antonio and the Alamo – a former mission turned fort on the east side of town. Forces fighting against the Centralists, including Juan Seguin and James Bowie, fight block by block, and, for the first time, successfully capture San Antonio and the Alamo from the Mexican Army.

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