

# TEXAS

## 1824-1874

We are delighted to be able to send you the map of Texas, created by Artist, Bill Rider of Austin/Dripping Springs, Texas and Texas historian, Marshall E. Kuykendall, of Driftwood, Texas. What started out as a historical map of the forts on the North-West Texas Frontier that were built as protection against the marauding Comanche and their allies, the Kiowa, morphed into a more expanded historical Texas map.

Bill and I looked at least 100 maps of Texas before making the decision to keep this map simple and not cluttered, which was not an easy task. The first map of Texas we looked at had all the major rivers and streams on it and we thought that would really look good, until we printed it out. It was a mess. There were so many lines that we didn't have room for anything historical.

It is interesting that our frontier forts were named after fallen soldiers who were in one war, or another. There are two politicians. It became immediately important to tell their story, hence the one line biography detail on the bottom left about each one.



Each man was researched and a brief biography developed. An example: Ft. Lancaster near Sheffield, Texas is named for young Lieutenant Rob R. H. Lancaster. He was killed in the 2nd Seminole War of 1841 while standing on the gunwale of his boat. While holding his musket in readiness, as he floated down a river in central Florida, he was struck by lightning and killed, instantly. His West Point room-mate was on patrol many years later from San Antonio to Ft. Davis. He and his men camped at a spring very close to the Pecos River at the Military Crossing and while there, decided to name the spot for his room-mate of years past.

The forts created before the Civil War are named mostly for soldiers killed in the Mexican War of 1846. The battles were near Brownsville, Texas. The forts named after the Civil War were for Union Officers killed in the Civil War.

Texas was under the control of the US Army after the war for nine years during the reconstruction period, hence the reason for the names of Union Soldiers.

Buffalo Soldiers of the 6th US Cavalry are from Ft. Clark at Brackettville, Texas.



Lt. Geo. T. Mason



Gen. I. B. Richardson

The Comanche-Indians are depicted by the Comanche on his horse in the top left part of the map. Just below him are the Comancheros, native New Mexicans, who traded with them for over 100 years from the Las Vegas and San Miguel, NM areas. The Comanche controlled the vast region from the Arkansas River in southern Colorado, through the High Plains of Texas, the Edwards Plateau and the lower Pecos River and on into Mexico. Their main raiding trail is shown.

The forts on the NW frontier of Texas were located on major spring waters and streams that had been used by the Comanche for over 100 years, as they raided back and forth to Mexico. It was the thinking, at the time, that by denying them access to those waters, their constant raids into Texas might be blunted. It was somewhat successful.

The Kiowa are depicted by the Indian on horseback in the top center of the map, with a Kiowa War Trail drawn into north Texas showing their main raiding routes. They were denied any further trade or hunting access into Texas, by a Treaty with the Comanche Nation around 1775. Most of their raiding and plundering was limited to north Texas, mainly after the Civil War.



The Butterfield Stage route was created in 1858, and was in operation about three years. It ran from St. Louis through Indian Territory, crossing into Texas north of present day Dallas at Colbert's Ferry on the Red River, and then continued on the military road that connected the forts, crossing the Pecos River at the famed Horse Head Crossing, and then to El Paso and California beyond.

Once the western side of the map was created, it became important to balance it with some details on the east and southeast sides of the map. The Comino Real was drawn from the mission San Bernardo located on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande River at Guerrero, Coahuila, northeast through Texas, passing through Nacogdoches and ending at Gaines Ferry on the Sabine River.



After the Comino Real was placed, a few early villages were noted like Mina on the Colorado River, Beason's Crossing on the Brazos River, San Felipe on the Brazos River, W. Columbia on the Brazos, Perry Landing on the Brazos. The grave of Stephen F. Austin (SFA) shown with a white cross.

Galveston and Indianola were added because they were the great early sea-ports of Texas. The sailing ship is shown coming into Indianola, Texas from New Orleans.

Three Kuykendalls are on the map: Austin's Old 300 group received their Spanish Land Grants for being the first Anglo settlers in Mexican/Texas in the summer of 1824. In 1852 a group of southeast Texas ranchers discovered the last known group of Karankawa Indians camped near Haynes Bay along the Texas gulf coast, and in the subsequent battle, drove them from Texas, never to return.

There are four ranches noted on the map which will be left unnamed. They will be discovered at some point by those interested. There is one Texas Ranger camp noted from 1874.



Pierce

And, not to be left out, A. H. Shanghai Pierce's great statue of himself, is depicted in white down along the Texas gulf coast in Matagorda County, near present day Blessing, Texas. It is located in the Historic Hawley Cemetery. Shanghai was one of Texas's great Cattle Barons.

