



TASTE OF TEXASTM

★ Restaurant ★

ARTIFACTS GUIDE

Welcome to the Taste of Texas!

We hope you will enjoy your visit. In addition to our great menu, we have an incredible collection of museum quality artifacts from our great Texas heritage. Please use this guide as a tool to learn more about Texas and her rich history. (Begin by facing the front doors. Look for the corresponding numbers to guide you on your tour. You'll start by looking to the right of the front doors, then travel to the left.)



ARTIFACTS 1-5

1. **Sam Houston Calling Card**



Very rare “I Am Houston” signature of Sam Houston. In his later years, Houston signed his first name with an “I” instead of an “S” so that his name read “I am Houston”.

2. **Harper’s Weekly Newspaper Photo of Sam Houston and Signature on Envelope**



One of the most colorful and controversial men in Texas history, Sam Houston was born in Virginia on March 2, 1793. His many offices spanned two nations and a quarter century (U.S. Congress, Governor of Tennessee, First President of the Republic of Texas, Texas Congress, U.S. Senator from Texas and Governor of the state of Texas). Houston is best known for leading the retreat of the Texas army to the Battle of San Jacinto where he defeated Santa Anna’s vastly superior army thus securing Texas’ independence from Mexico. Sam Houston died in Huntsville, Texas, July 1863.

3. **Signature of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna**



Santa Anna was elected President of Mexico in 1833 then declared the Mexican people “too ignorant” to govern themselves and thereby pronounced himself dictator. Of Spanish decent, he fell from power 11 times and massacred more than 30,000 people in Mexico. He also invented chewing gum and was a known opium addict.

4. **Original Newspaper Photo of General Antonio Lopez De Santa Anna,**



in military attire.

5. **Republic of Texas Currency**



These are Texas Redbacks, Republic of Texas currency. In the early days of Texas, a variety of currencies served as cash: Spanish Mexican money, bank notes from various U.S. states, and currency issued by private companies (called shinplasters). The Republic of Texas first issued paper money in one currency – called “star money” for the small star on the face of the bill. The money worth about 37 cents to the U.S. Dollar was not face value currency, but rather interest-bearing notes (similar to savings bonds) that circulated by being endorsed over to the next payee. In 1838, Texas issued change notes with elaborate designs on the front and blank backs. The so-called Texas Redbacks were issued in 1839. The government printed over one million dollars in Redbacks initially.

ARTIFACTS 6-18

6. 

Original Oil Painting

“Last Letter of the Alamo” by Texas artist Lee Jamison

7. 

Portrait of Stephen F. Austin

Stephen F. Austin, known as the “Father of Texas”, was born in Virginia in 1793. After countless delays, he continued with his father's intention to colonize Texas and introduced 300 families. Revered by all, he achieved unparalleled influence over the often unruly settlers of Anglo Texas. Austin died on December 27, 1836, at age 43 and is remembered best for speaking profound words of hope and encouragement during the darkest days of the Texas revolution.

8. 

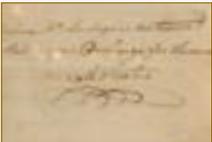
Texian Loan

Signed by Stephen F. Austin, Branch T. Archer and William Wharton, who were chosen as commissioners to the U. S. to secure money, supplies and recruits to support the Texas Revolution.

9. 

Signature of William B. Travis 1834

At this time Travis had moved his legal practice to San Felipe after the clash at Anahuac. He was elected Secretary to the ayuntamiento (council of government) there. He died a hero at the Alamo in 1836.

10. 

Signature of Moses Austin

When Moses Austin came to Texas he was a broke Lead Miner from Missouri. He obtained a petition from the Viceroy of Mexico to settle 300 families in Texas, but never realized his dream. Moses Austin set to return home to Missouri, ran out of food, was robbed, caught pneumonia and died shortly after his petition was granted. He begged his son Stephen F. Austin to carry on. Very little of Moses Austin's effects remain, making this signature extremely rare.

11. 

“The Ranger's Code” (over the fireplace)

Print by artist, Bruce Green, commissioned by the Texas Ranger Association Foundation in 2006. The original hangs at the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum in Waco, Texas. Our friend, John Pickul, is one of the men depicted in the painting, holding the gun.

(Fireplace Mantle)

12. **Early Spinning Wheel**

This unique early spinning wheel was valued for its compact size.

13.



Walker Colt & Rare “Sharps” cartridges

This weapon was made just for the Texas Rangers. Based on the Patterson colt but greatly improved, this gun was named the “Hand Cannon” and gave rise to the phrase “One riot, One Ranger” as each Ranger carried 6 Walker Colts; two in the holsters, two in the boots, and two on the saddle. The cartridges are in mint condition with original box.

14.



Black Forest Gun Rack

This rare example of heavily carved, black stained furniture from the Victorian Era contains stylistic elements of carved bark and leaf reminiscent of the 16th-17th century.

Six Flags Over Texas

(left of fireplace, above copper roof - starting from the left Chronological order)

Spain (1519-1685/1690-1821), France (1685-1690), Mexico (1821-1836, Republic of Texas (1836-1845), United States of America (1845-1861/1865-Present), Flag of the War Between the States (1861-1865)

15.



“Rangers of Texas”

Book signed by current Texas Rangers. By 1823 there were almost 700 colonists in Texas from various areas of the country who settled near the Gulf of Mexico. Without any military protection, Austin organized a group to provide the needed protection. These brave colonists became known as the “Rangers” as their duties required them to range over the entire territory thus giving rise to the Texas Rangers we know.

16. Chaps, Lariat and Braided Whip

Chaps were leggings worn for protection against brush and weather. These Early Fringe Chaps – circa 1860 - also called chinkaderos were regional to Texan and Southwestern cowboys. The Lariat, a long rope of braided rawhide, was also known as a latch rope. The Braided Whip was used to encourage a stubborn horse.

17.



Texas Ranger Report (copy)

The Texas Ranger Report recorded the disposition of the prisoner. This one by Nat B. “Kiowa” Jones boded ill for the cattle thief: “Damn bad. Had to kill him in a gunfight.”

18.



Diamond Back Rattlesnake “Rattlers”

Have got to be good for something. Here are 200 in the shape of the “Lone Star of Texas” by Nina Hendee.

ARTIFACTS 19-25

19. “Wisdom is Riding Down the Wrong Trail-Again”

A famous Texas quote written in nail heads.

20.



Texas Ranger Photo

Here is Texas Ranger, Erwin T. Zwernemann, busting an illegal “still” in Lee County in the late 1920’s during Prohibition.

21.



Colt 45

Ranger Zwernemann’s 1911 custom Colt 45 Automatic Pistol. In March 2006, the gun was stolen off our wall! Our security cameras and police officer on duty got the license number of the vehicle. A police report was filed and just to be safe, we called the Texas Rangers to inform them also. The gun was recovered in RECORD time in Michigan! The gun was back on the wall within a couple of weeks.

22.



Hand Tooled Texas Saddle

Don Zwernemann’s (Ranger Zwernemann’s grandson) beautiful saddle was made at the Billy Cook Saddlery in Greenville, Texas.

23.



Texas Rangers, Company A

24.



Ranger “Cases”

25. Texas Flag Replicas (bar wall)



First Flag of the Republic

Fannin's request was: "Give us a flag to fight under, as unlike theirs as possible...in time to hoist it in defiance of Santa Anna."



Third Flag of the Republic

Under this banner, Texas was recognized as independent by France in 1840 and England in 1842. Texas became the 28th state on February 19, 1846, and this became our state flag.



The Gonzales Flag

Texians flew this flag before the battle of Gonzales in 1835. It marked the beginning of the Texian rebellion against the Mexican government.



Captain Scott's Flag

While most Texans expected to remain a part of Mexico as long as their rights were preserved, some groups wanted to fight for complete and immediate independence. This group of 30 from Lynchburg, reported at San Felipe, and joined Colonel Fannin.



The Dodson Flag

This unique design was the first "Lone Star" flag and flew at Washington on the Brazos when Texas' first Constitutional Convention met March 1, 1836.



The Troutman Flag

A group of individuals seeking fortune in Texas and aware of her fight for freedom, brought this flag as inspiration during the dark days between the Alamo and the victory at San Jacinto.



The Alamo Flag

For 13 days, less than 200 Texans held off an army of more than 5,000 of Santa Anna's best troops. Texans were fighting to retain the rights of the Mexican Constitution of 1824.



Flag of the New Orleans Grays

One group of volunteers who came to the aid of Texas was from New Orleans. At least 19 of these men died defending the Alamo.



Flag of the Texas Navy

Texas sailors won significant naval victories and sent captured cargoes to aid the young Republic.

ARTIFACTS 26-38

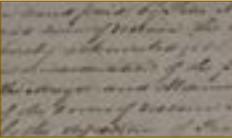
26.



Republic of Texas Bonds

Signed by Mirabeau B. Lamar.

27.



Victoria, Texas Charter

Rare document granting the town charter Victoria, Texas in 1841.

(back to hostess stand, to the right of the front door)

28.



Come & Take It Cannon

Replica of the Cannon used by early Texas settlers to protect themselves from Comanche Indian raids. Later it was used against the Mexican government at Gonzales that started the Texas Revolution.

29. Borden Milk Memorabilia

Gail Borden's inventions resulted in his greatest failures and ultimately his greatest achievement, condensed milk. His failures and the magnitude of his ultimate success would inspire any Texan.

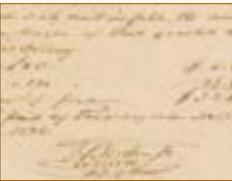
30.



"Come and Take It" Flag (replica)

The Mexican authorities sent a force of about 100 men to repossess a small cannon that had provided the residents of Gonzales defense against the Indians. On October 2, 1835, the Texans loaded the cannon with scrap metal and fired the shot that started the revolution.

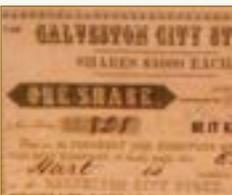
31.



Original Land Grant in Austin's Colony Signed by Gail Borden, Jr.

Born in 1801, Borden came to Texas in 1829 and became the official surveyor in Austin's colony. Along with his partners, he launched the Telegraph and Texas Register, a newspaper that would serve as the voice of the government of the Republic of Texas after the revolution. He went on to develop land in Galveston, invent a bath house for women to bathe in the Gulf of Mexico, and was the first Anglo-American to be baptized west of the Mississippi.

32.



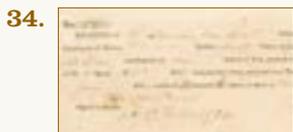
Galveston City Stock Certificates

Stock certificates issued to E.G. Hart signed by Gail Borden Jr. in 1854 and one to the Allen Brothers in 1863.



Sam Houston & Gail Borden Signatures

Rare document signed by both Sam Houston and Gail Borden and Texas Declaration of Independence signers Jesse Grimes and William Fisher dated 1835.



Receipt Paid by Gail Borden

Founder of Borden Milk Company

(behind hostess stand)



Old Stone Capital Painting

Constructed of local white lime stone, the old stone capital of Austin (1853-1881) witnessed important parts of Texas history. This is one of the earliest reported examples of free hand painting. The Old Stone Capital in Texas from the Gluck-Kadernoschka home in Cat Spring, Texas.



Bowie Knife (replica)

Known for his famous "Bowie knife" and a sometimes reckless adventurer, Jim Bowie is now immortalized as one of the true folk heroes in early Texas. Born in Kentucky in 1796, Bowie spent most of his youth in Louisiana. In 1828 he moved to Texas. He was in command of a volunteer force in San Antonio when William Travis arrived with regular army troops. The two men shared authority during much of the Siege of the Alamo, but tuberculosis disabled Bowie, and he was confined to his cot at the time of his death on March 6, 1836 at the Battle of the Alamo.



Signature of Colonel David Crockett, Portrait, Coonskin Cap, and Niles' Weekly Register Newspaper

When he was not reelected to Congress in August 1835, Col. Crockett declared, "You may all go to hell, I will go to Texas." The Niles' Weekly register from Baltimore, Maryland is dated December of 1835 and says "Colonel Crockett has proceeded to Texas to end his days there. A supper was given to him at Little Rock Arkansas." Colonel David Crockett died defending the Alamo on March 6, 1836.



Old Betsy (replica)

As a Tennessee Congressman, Davy Crockett carried his 5 foot tall "Tennessee Long Rifle" into Congress and said, "You never know when you are going to need your gun in Congress!" He called "Old Betsy" his "Best Friend".

ARTIFACTS 39-42

39. Signature of Almaron Dickinson

A soldier and defender during the Battle of the Alamo (1800-1836), and is best known as having been the artillery officer of the small garrison. He was the husband of one of the only three non-Mexican survivors to live through the battle, Susannah Dickinson. This document from one of the last Alamo defenders to be killed in action is a rare manuscript signed "Almaron Dickinson Capt" dated December 10, 1835. Dickinson signs off for a lost horse for an individual serving during the attack on St. Antonio on Dec. 5, 1835.

40. Signature of Jane H. Long & T.J. Calvitt

This document is dated February 15, 1833, and is a promissory note committing to pay twenty-two dollars and seventy five cents to a deceased attorney for his services in Brazoria. Jane Long is known as the Mother of Texas as she was the first known woman to settle Texas and was one of Stephen F. Austin's Old Three Hundred Colonists. She made her home in Brazoria where she ran an inn, and is buried in Richmond TX. This is a rare treasure of two Texians.

41. Signature of Green DeWitt

Green DeWitt was an Empresario in Texas (1787-1835). He founded DeWitt County, one of the most successful counties in the State at that time. The article signed "G. DeWitt" is his resignation as tax collector for Ralls County dated November 12, 1823. DeWitt County includes the town of Cuero.

42. Mexican Decree from the Secretary of State

In Spanish, dated November 21, 1833 repealing Article 11 of the immigration law of April 6, 1830. The repeal allowed American immigrants to again flow into Texas however this concession proved to be too little, too late. Enforcement of the law was a major cause of unrest among colonists and grievances triggered the Revolution. The five-article decree was signed "Garcia."



*"The heart of Texas is
the dinner table"*

(dining room off the foyer)

Bev Doolittle Prints

Known for her camouflage transparent watercolors, Bev Doolittle is recognized as a “best seller” artist nationwide. Her “images within an image” technique teases the observer with the promise that there is more than initially meets the eye. She says “I try to look beyond the obvious and create unique, meaningful paintings depicting our Western wilderness and its inhabitants.” See if you can find the images in her camouflage prints!

(right to left on north wall)



Let My Spirit Soar



Eagle Heart



The Sentinel



Sacred Ground



The Forest has Eyes



Prayer for the Wild Things

(south wall)



The Spirit Takes Flight



The Sacred Circle



Calling the Buffalo



Who!!

G. Harvey of Fredicksburg Texas

Texas is famous for his prolific paintings and sculptors of Western frontier life. He also creates nostalgic and detailed turn-of-the-century street scenes of the world’s great cities. Harvey grew up in a small Texas town and taught in public schools where he supervised a center for the arts. Our G. Harvey prints include “Grand Opening”, “A Genteel Nation” and “When Cowhands Don’t Change.”



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