

*Houston Founders,
San Jacinto Battle Veterans
& Other Principals of the
Texas Revolution and Republic
Selections At*

Founders Memorial Park Cemetery

Houston, Texas, 4th Ward
1217 W. Dallas St. @ Valentine St.

A self-guided walking tour of Texas Historical
Markers and grave stone inscriptions.
Compiled by Will Howard, Historical Tourism Chair
Harris County Historical Commission,
2014

★ Star denotes Battle of San Jacinto Veterans
fought April 21, 1836

Within the red brick and black iron, gated
entrance

Founders' Plaza

John Kirby Allen (1810 - 1838)

THC Marker: Gravesite of Co-Founder of Houston.

Houston in 1836 was a humid swamp
overgrown with sweet gum trees and coffee bean
weeds. In this spot, however, two brothers from New
York recognized the future "commercial emporium of
Texas." John Kirby Allen was born and lived in New
York until moving to Texas in 1832 with his older
brother Augustus Chapman Allen, a professor of
mathematics.

A natural leader with a magnetic personality, J.
K. Allen was an astute businessman as well. He and his
brother soon saw that the area around Buffalo Bayou
could readily become a major seaport. Immediately
after the Battle of San Jacinto (April 21, 1836), J. K.
Allen carefully chose the site of future Houston.

On August 24 and 26, the brothers paid \$9,428
for 6,642 acres of land originally granted by Mexico to

John Austin, a pioneer colonist. Fittingly, they named
the town for Sam Houston, leader of the Texas Army.
In glowing words, the brothers advertised their infant
town all over the United States; and J. K. Allen, who
was soon elected representative to the Texas Congress,
worked unceasingly to make Houston the capital of
Texas, as it became-- 1837 to 1839. At 28, J. K. Allen
died of congestive fever, but the town he founded has
since become Texas' largest city.

Augustus Chapman Allen

THC Marker Text: Augustus Chapman Allen
was born to Roland and Sarah (Chapman) Allen in
Canaseraga, New York on July 4, 1806. He graduated
from the Polytechnic Institute at Chittenango, New
York, where he taught mathematics until 1827. That
year, he became a bookkeeper for the H. and H.
Canfield Company, in which he and his brother John
Kirby Allen bought an interest. A. C. Allen married
Charlotte M. Baldwin (1805-1895) on May 3, 1831.
The next year, the brothers left the firm and moved to
San Augustine, relocating to Nacogdoches the
following year. From there, they worked with others in
land speculation and provided, at their own expense, a
ship called the Brutus for transporting troops and
supplies during the Texas Revolution.

After Texas won its independence in 1836, the
Allen brothers purchased land along Buffalo Bayou not
far from Harrisburg, which had been substantially
damaged during the war. The Allens planned a new
town named for Sam Houston, offering it to the
fledgling Texas government as a capital. The Texas
Congress accepted the proposal and held the first
session in Houston in May 1837. That year, the Allens
were joined by their parents, four brothers and a sister.
On August 15, 1838, J. K. Allen died from a fever.
In the 1840s, A. C. Allen moved to Mexico. There, he
served as U.S. Consul for the ports of Tehuantepec and
Minotitlán, and was engaged in various business
enterprises.

In 1863, Allen traveled to Washington, D.C.,
where he contracted pneumonia. He died there at the
Willard Hotel on January 11, 1864. Unable to have his
body returned to Houston, his widow Charlotte had him
buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, New
York. He is remembered today as a co-founder of the
city of Houston.

Turn Left: Along Valentine Street

★ **Amos B. Edson:** Arrived in Texas January 28,
1836, having been recruited in New Orleans for the
Army of Texas by Captain Amasa Turner in whose
company he served at San Jacinto. Died in Houston,
1837.

★ **Major Isaac N. Moreland:** Born in Georgia.
Came to Texas in 1834. Storming of Bexar, 1835.
Commanded the artillery at San Jacinto. Made major,
July 20, 1836. Law partner of David G. Burnet, 1837.
Died June 7, 1840 while Chief Justice of Harris County.
Buried under the auspices of the Masons and the
Independent Military Companies of Houston.

Mary Smith McCrory Jones: cenotaph shaft, text
on north side: Sacred to the memory of Mary Smith
McCrory Jones, wife of Hugh McCrory and late widow
of Anson Jones, the last president of the Republic of
Texas. Born in Arkansas 1819, died in Houston, Texas
Dec 31, 1907. Interred in Glenwood.

Hugh McCrory: on Jones cenotaph shaft, text on
west side: Died Sep 13, 1838. Aged 22 years. A native
of Kentucky. Came to Texas as a volunteer soldier in
General Felix Huston command in the spring of 1836.

★ **William Gammell:** Born in Scotland. Fought at
San Jacinto in Captain A. H. Wyly's company. Died in
Houston, April 10, 1869 and was buried here. His
widow Jane McDaniel Gammell died November 11,
1908 and was buried in the Glenwood Cemetery.
Supplemental plaque: Later research shows William
Gammell (Oct. 18, 1812 - Apr. 10, 1869) was buried in
the Masonic Cemetery (now Sam Houston Park) on
Apr. 11, 1869 and reinterred in the German Society
Cemetery (now Washington Cemetery) on Jan. 22,
1900. His wife, Jane McDaniel Gammell (Mar. 28,
1825-Nov. 12, 1908) was interred in the German
Society Cemetery on Nov. 13, 1908.

★ **Jacob Maybee:** Came to Texas in 1835. A
member of Captain William L. Fisher's company. Died
in Houston Feb. 8, 1838

★ **Harvey Holman:** : Came to Texas in January,
1836. Fought at San Jacinto in Captain Richard
Roman's company. Born in Kentucky 1806; died in
Houston July 1846.

Along Sauliner Street

★ **Eli Noland:** In Captain William S. Fisher's company at San Jacinto. Born in Ohio in 1804; died in Houston, December 17, 1841.

★ **William S. Stilwell:** A private in Captain Isaac N. Moreland's company of Artillery at San Jacinto. Appointed captain, December 26, 1836. Born in New York 1809; died in Houston September 12, 1837 "Died in this city, on the 12th inst., suddenly, Captain William S. Stilwell, late of the Texian army. The New Orleans and New York papers are requested to notice this." - *Texas Telegraph*

★ **Fielding G. Secrest:** Served in Captain Henry W. Karnes' company of cavalry at San Jacinto. Died in Houston June 1, 1840. His wife Eliza Sneed Secrest died in 1839.

★ **Moses W. Brigham:** A member of Captain Amasa Turner's company at Battle of San Jacinto. Died in Houston 1854. [Compiler's note: Actually Turner recruited him in New Orleans, but Brigham at San Jacinto was in Fisher's command. He died in Houston January 20, 1838.]

★ **William Daniel Durham:** Born in England in 1814. Participated in the capture of Bexar, December 5th to 10th, 1835. Served in Captain William J. E. Heard's company at San Jacinto and was second lieutenant in the Milam Guards when he died at Houston, August 26, 1838.

★ **John Cheevers:** Came to Texas in 1829. Died in Houston in 1846. Participated in the Battle of San Jacinto as a member of Captain Thomas H. McIntire's company.

★ **John Richardson:** Came to Texas, 1834. In Captain James Gillaspie's company at San Jacinto. Died in Houston, May 25, 1840.

Henry Livingston Thompson: Gravesite of Henry Livingston Thompson a Commodore of the Texian Navy during the Republic of Texas.

Along Edge of Beth Israel Cemetery

★ **William C. Swearingen:** Born in Kentucky. Arrived at Velasco, January 28, 1836 on the schooner Pennsylvania to fight for the freedom of Texas. A member of Captain Amasa Turner's company at San Jacinto. Died in Houston, December 24, 1839. "Kiss William for me and tell him Pappy will be there in the fall and stay with him and that he must be a good boy." From a letter Mr. Swearingen wrote to his parents in Kentucky.

★ **Robert W. Montgomery:** A member of Captain Henry Teal's company of Regulars at San Jacinto. Died in Houston, June, 1837.

★ **David Grieves:** A member of Captain Henry Teal's company at San Jacinto. Born in Scotland; died in Houston June 15, 1837.

★ **Jethro Russell Bancroft:** Came to Texas in 1830. Served in Captain Thomas H. McIntire's company at San Jacinto. Died January 7, 1848.

★ **Robert Barr:** San Jacinto veteran. Postmaster general of the Republic under Houston and Lamar. Born in Urbana, Ohio in 1802. Died in Houston, Texas at 9 a.m. October 11, 1839, of yellow fever. Buried under the auspices of the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges and the Milam Guards.

★ **John Viven:** A member of Captain William Wood's company at San Jacinto. Died in Houston, October 26, 1856.

★ **Joseph Ehlinger:** Born in Alsace, France 1792; died in Houston, Texas 1845. Served in Captain William J. E. Heard's company at San Jacinto.

John W. Moore: Opposed Bradburn at Anahuac 1832. Member of Consultation at San Felipe 1835. A signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence 1836. First Sheriff of Harris County 1837-1840. City Alderman in Houston 1840. Married to Eliza Belnap February 2, 1839. Died in Houston 1846.

Along West Dallas Street

John R. Reid: Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, 1839. A member of the Congress of the Republic, 1840-1841. Died in Houston, December 25, 1841, and was buried under the auspices of Holland (Masonic) Lodge No. 1.

★ **John Austin Wharton:** Born in Nashville, Tennessee in 1806. Died in Houston, Texas December 17, 1838. Member of the General Council of the Provisional Government in 1835. Adjutant General of the Texas Army at San Jacinto. Member of the House of Representatives of the First and Third Congresses of the Republic. "The keenest blade on the field of San Jacinto."

★ **James Collinworth:** Born in Tennessee, 1806. Drowned in Galveston, July 11, 1838, and his remains brought by boat up Buffalo Bayou to Houston. His remains interred in this cemetery under the auspices of Temple Lodge No. 4. First Masonic funeral ever held in Texas. Delegate to the Consultation held at San Felipe, 1835. Signer, from Brazoria municipality, of the Texas Declaration of Independence. "Bore himself as a chief" at San Jacinto. Secretary of State, 1836. Senator in the Congress of Texas, 1836. First Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas. A county in Texas was named in his honor.

★ **Archibald S. Lewis:** A member of Captain Benjamin F. Bryant's company at San Jacinto. Died in Houston, December 3, 1839

David Porter Richardson: Private Secretary of President Sam Houston. Died at Houston, August 12, 1837

★ **A.M. Clopper:** Small gravestone text: A Texan Pioneer of 1822 & Soldier of 1836. Born Pa. 1791. Died Sep 16, 1853.

Mrs. Rebecca Lamar: Marker text: Widow of John Lamar, mother of Mirabeau B. Lamar the second elected President of the Republic of Texas. Died at "Oak Grove," Houston, July 26, 1839.