A Guide to the Historical Markers of Bexar County
The information in these listings comes from the more detailed text on each Historical Marker in Bexar County. When you visit these sites you will be standing on the spot where some interesting piece of history actually took place.

This listing is as accurate and complete as possible as of 2013. As new markers are exhibited, we will keep this listing current. However, markers are occasionally relocated or removed for renovation, and unfortunately vandals take their toll. Should you discover any irregularity, please write to The Bexar County Historical Commission:

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1. Alamo Plaza

*Mission San Antonio de Valero - The Alamo (Alamo Plaza)*

In 1718, missionaries founded Mission San Antonio de Valero, named in honor of Saint Anthony and the Marquis de Valero of Spain. In 1724, the mission was relocated to its present site. The Alamo was the earliest of the San Antonio missions. In 1835, the Alamo was fortified by the Mexican Army as a *presidio* (fort). In December 1835, Texas patriots captured the Alamo, but in February 1836, the Texans were besieged by General Santa Anna. On March 6, 1836, Mexican troops retook the Alamo.

*The Alamo Low Barracks and Main Gateway (Alamo Plaza)*

In 1762, the Alamo Plaza was enclosed by thick walls with a large gate similar to the compound at Mission San José. In 1803, Spanish cavalry occupied the mission and built the low barracks. The low barracks, the walls and the main gateway were leveled in 1871, which joined Alamo Plaza with Valero Plaza on the south.

*Adina de Zavala*

*Near Cenotaph, facing the Long Barracks (Alamo Plaza)*

Adina de Zavala heard vivid accounts of Texas’ Revolutionary and Republican past from her grandfather Lorenzo de Zavala (1789-1836), first vice-president of the Republic of Texas. Adina became a guiding force in the preservation of many of Texas’ most revered historic structures and sites, including the Alamo, Mission San Francisco de Los Tejas in East Texas and San Antonio’s Spanish Governor’s Palace. The “De Zavala Daughters,” a women’s group formed by Miss Adina in 1889, erected Texas’ first historical markers and helped preserve San Antonio’s Spanish missions. In 1908, upon hearing that the 2-story long barracks were about to be razed, Miss Adina barricaded herself inside the buildings for three days and nights in an effort that ultimately prevented their destruction.

*Menger Hotel*

*204 Alamo Plaza*

Begun by German businessman William Menger in 1855. The existing hotel was started in 1881. It was San Antonio’s most prominent hotel in the 19th century and guests included U.S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, John Pershing, poet Sydney Lanier, and writer O. Henry (William Sydney Porter). Theodore Roosevelt recruited “Rough Riders” here in 1898.

*Barbed Wire Demonstration*

*204 Alamo Plaza on Menger Hotel wall*

Barbed wire was a French invention first patented in the U.S. in 1867. Joseph Glidden received a patent for his barbed wire in 1874, and it was wire of his manufacture that was first successfully demonstrated in Texas. In 1876, the first demonstration of “the Glidden winner” was held in Alamo Plaza, which led Texas ranchers to purchase large amounts of the new fencing. Barbed wire changed the landscape of the American West and the industries of ranching and agriculture. Within 25 years, nearly all the open range had become privately owned and was fenced with barbed wire.

*The Pan American Round Table*

*204 Alamo Plaza in the Menger Hotel courtyard*

Mrs. Florence Griswold, a native Texan, raised along the Mexican border, provided aid to refugees of Mexico’s 1910 Revolution. In 1916, she and 21 friends met at the Menger Hotel to found the Pan American Round Table which promotes mutual understanding among women in the Western Hemisphere and contributes to libraries and scholarships.
The Alamo Cenotaph
Alamo Plaza
Erected in 1936 in memory of the heroes of the Alamo.

National Council of Jewish Women
204 Alamo Plaza
The San Antonio section of the National Council of Jewish Women was organized in the Menger Hotel in 1907. The council became active in the development of social services in the city, establishing a school to provide English instruction to adult immigrants and addressing concerns of literacy and public health. In the 1930s, members established a neonatal and well baby clinic. They set up a day care center for working mothers in support of the 1940s war effort and developed the Lighthouse for the Blind. The council continues its work in the community.

Old Military Headquarters
Alamo Plaza
At this site stood a two-story stone building which housed the Administrative offices for the U.S. Army during the Mexican War 1846-1847. It was also here that General Twiggs surrendered more than a million dollars in Federal property to forces of Confederate Texas.

La Villita
Little Church of La Villita
508 Villita Street (La Villita)
In 1879, German Methodists built this Gothic Revival-style stone church. The Episcopal diocese of West Texas bought the church in 1895 and the City of San Antonio acquired the church in 1945.

St. Philip’s College (original site)
502 Villita Street (La Villita)
Opened in 1898, St. Philip’s was founded by the Right Reverend James Johnston, an Episcopal Bishop. In 1917 St. Philip’s moved 2 miles east of this site to Dakota Street.

Bowen’s Island
North side of the Tower Life Building at river level
St. Mary’s at La Villita
This tract of land was a natural peninsula in the San Antonio River, bounded by the river on three sides and on the fourth by the Concepción acequia. In 1845 John Bowen, who served San Antonio as postmaster and city treasurer, purchased the property and built a seven-room home on the island. He died in 1867 and was buried on the island. In the 1920s, when the river was diverted, Bowen's Island became part of the mainland.

HemisFair Park
The Halff House
HemisFair Park
Mayer Halff immigrated from France in 1850. He and his brother moved to San Antonio in 1864 and established M. Halff & Brother wholesale dry goods. The brothers’ ranching
interests grew to include over a million acres of land. Mayer Halff had this house built in 1893.

Acequia Madre de Valero
HemisFair Park
One of a network of irrigation ditches begun by the Spanish and their Native American charges, the limestone-lined ditches diverted water from the San Antonio River. The water irrigated fields belonging to Mission San Antonio de Valero - better known as the Alamo.

Statue of Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla
Playa Mexico in HemisFair Park
Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla is honored as the Father of Mexican Independence.

4. The King William Historic District
The United States Arsenal at San Antonio and the Arsenal Magazine
649 South Main (Private Property)
Construction began on the United States Arsenal in 1858. During the Civil War, the Confederate Army used it. After the Civil War, it continued to be a principal supply depot for troops in the Southwest. The Arsenal was deactivated in 1947, and in 1985, the H-E-B Grocery Company made the structures its corporate headquarters.

Schulze-Schilo House
221 Adams Street
German craftsman Carl Schulze was one of San Antonio’s leading home builders. He built this house in 1891 and lived here until 1896. Later owners included Fritz and Laura Schilo who opened Schilo’s Delicatessen in 1917.

The Guenther House and Pioneer Flour Mills
205 East Guenther
Carl Hilmer Guenther immigrated to Texas from Germany in 1851. He started the Pioneer Flour Mill on this site in 1859. The castle-like tower dates to 1923. Guenther family mem-
bers owned all four houses in the 200 block of East Guenther.

Guenther’s Upper Mill
Northwest corner of Washington and Arsenal
German millwright Carl Guenther started his first flour mill in San Antonio in 1859 (above). In 1868, he built a second mill upstream at this location which was torn down in 1926. You can still see the foundation of the mill.

The Wulff House
107 King William Street
Now the headquarters of the San Antonio Conservation Society. Anton Wulff came to Texas from Germany in 1848 and became a prosperous San Antonio merchant. He built this Italianate-style home in 1869-70 for his wife and 11 children. In 1902, the house was sold to Arthur Guenther, owner of the Liberty Flour Mill.

The Steves House
509 King William Street
In 1876, German immigrant Edward Steves, who was prominent in city financial and social circles, built this house. The limestone walls are 13” thick. This house had San Antonio’s first indoor swimming pool.

The Altgelt-Isbell House
226 King William Street
German native Ernst Altgelt came to Texas in 1850. He founded the Hill Country town of Comfort before moving to San Antonio in 1866. Altgelt surveyed the area himself, and named the main street ‘King William’ after Kaiser Wilhelm I of Prussia.

The Groos House
335 King William Street
In 1848, Carl August Wilhelm Groos came to Texas from Germany. He later became one of the founders of Groos Bank and had architect Alfred Giles design this house which was built in 1880.
The Norton-Polk-Mathis House
401 King William Street
In 1869, merchant Russell Norton purchased this site, part of the Vincente Amador Spanish Grant. In 1876, he began building his home. Later owners include rancher Edwin Polk, and renowned trail boss and cattlemen Ike Pryor. Business leader Walter Mathis restored the house in 1968.

The Sartor House
217 King William Street
Prominent San Antonio architect Alfred Giles designed this house which was built for German native Alexander Sartor in 1881. Sartor had a jewelry business in San Antonio.

The Chabot House
403 Madison Street
Originally from England, George Chabot was a commission merchant who dealt in cotton, wool, and hides. He and his wife had this two-story stone house built in 1876.

The Brooks House
155 Crofton Avenue
In 1890, architect M.T. Eckles designed this stately Victorian house. Judge Sidney Brooks bought the house in 1909. In 1917, his son, Sidney, Jr. was killed training for WWI. Brooks Air Force Base (Now called Brooks City Base) was named for him.

The Eagar House
434 South Alamo
In 1842, Sarah Eagar was the first Anglo girl born in San Antonio. Built at the end of the Civil War, this six-room stone house was a wedding present from Sarah’s father.

The Ogé House
209 Washington Street
The basement and first floor of this house were built as early as 1857 by attorney Newton Mitchell. Louis Ogé bought the house in 1881, after serving as a Texas Ranger under “Bigfoot” Wallace and making a fortune as a rancher. He had architect Alfred Giles enlarge the house to its present appearance.

J.M. and Birdie Nix House
434 King William
Alabama natives Joseph Madison and Birdie Nix moved to San Antonio in the early 1890s. J.M. was a businessman who built hotels and other structures. In 1899, the couple built twin houses at 434 and 432 King William. The Free Classic design of this house, the work of Atlee B. Ayres, features a dominant front gabled roof, Palladian attic vent, paired box columns and New England-style shingle patterning. The Nixes sold the property in 1912 and later built landmarks throughout San Antonio and South Texas, including the local Nix Professional Building and the Medical Arts Building.

Elias and Lucy Edmonds House
419 King William
Former Confederate officer and Virginia state legislator Elias Edmonds married Lucy Noyes Hall in 1871, and they moved to San Antonio that year. In 1877, they built one of the first houses in the King William neighborhood. Elias was a successful lawyer, and Lucy began and operated a “High School for Young Ladies” on the grounds of their home. Subsequent owners were physician Amos Graves and his wife Katherine and Dr. Otto and Virginia Potthast.
5. The Sheraton Gunter Hotel
205 East Houston at St. Mary’s

Old Military Headquarters
Sheraton Gunter Hotel lobby
Military use of this site began under the Spanish. During the Mexican War (1846-1847), the U.S. Army had administrative offices here. And, at the start of the Civil War, General Twiggs surrendered $1,600,000 in Federal property to the Confederates.

Robert E. Lee Headquarters
Sheraton Gunter Hotel facade
Site of the headquarters of General Robert E. Lee, then Brevet Colonel, who assumed command of the post of San Antonio in 1857.

6. Main Plaza - La Plaza de las Islas
The Bexar County Courthouse is on the south edge of Main Plaza.

Bexar County Courthouse
Main Plaza was originally called La Plaza de las Islas by the Canary Islanders in 1731. Main Plaza was then, and is now, the administrative and judicial heart of Bexar County. Architect James Gordon designed the courthouse which was completed in 1896.

T.C. Frost and the Frost Bank
114 West Commerce - the Main Plaza Building
Thomas C. Frost (1833-1903) came to Texas from Alabama in 1855. He served as a Texas Ranger before setting up a law practice. He was an officer in the Confederate Army, and later ran a freight business. In 1868, he started a mercantile company, to which he added a warehousing business. Frost turned a part-time interest in banking into the Frost National Bank. In 1922, Frost had the building constructed on the site of his original store.
Bexar County Under Nine Governments
Main Plaza at the entrance to the Bexar County Courthouse

The government of Bexar County is the oldest in Texas and has operated under nine governments.

The Canary Islanders
Main Plaza in front of the Bexar County Courthouse

Following a sea and land voyage of over a year, 56 Canary Islanders arrived in San Antonio in 1731. They had emigrated to Texas from the Spanish Canary Islands near Africa by order of King Philip V. They were among the earliest civilian colonists in San Antonio.

The Casas Reales
114 Main Plaza at Market and Soledad Streets

The Casas Reales was a “government house” and was constructed here in 1742. At Casas Reales officials read proclamations to the roll of drums. Moses Austin initiated the Anglo-American colonization of Texas by filing his petition with the governor and cabildo (council) at Casas Reales. The bloody “Council House Fight” between Texian leaders and Comanche chiefs occurred here in 1840. Casas Reales served as a municipal headquarters under Spanish, Mexican, Republic of Texas and American regimes.

San Fernando Cathedral
Main Plaza

Founded in 1731, the San Fernando Cathedral is the oldest cathedral sanctuary in the United States. The remains of the Alamo defenders are reportedly interred in the cathedral.

The Storming of Bexar
The Northeast corner of Main Plaza

The first of four major engagements of the war for Texas Independence. In 1835, 300 Texian volunteers defeated 1300 Mexican troops under General Cos which ended a six-week siege. The combatants signed a truce at the Cos House in La Villita.

7. Military Plaza - Plaza de Armas
Bordered by Flores, Dolorosa, Commerce and Camaron.

Spaniards moved the Presidio (Fort) of Bexar to Military Plaza in 1722 and for many years Military Plaza was enclosed on three sides by adobe fortifications. From 1836 to 1845, Military Plaza was a busy market area. After the 1850s a stone courthouse (nicknamed The Bat Cave) dominated Military Plaza. In the 1880s chili queens sold food at open-air stands. The present city hall was constructed in 1892.

Old Spanish Trail - Zero milestone
City Hall grounds,
South Flores at West Commerce.

The plaque on this boulder traces the path of the Old Spanish Trail; St. Augustine, Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans, Houston, San Antonio, El Paso, Tucson, Yuma, San Diego.

The Spanish Governor’s Palace
West side of Military Plaza, South Flores at West Commerce.

In 1716 King Philip V of Spain sent soldiers to San Antonio to keep France from seizing the area. The troops arrived in 1718 and constructed a mission and a fort. After 1822, the Spanish Governor’s Palace served as a tailor’s shop, a bar room, a restaurant and a schoolhouse. In 1931, the City of San Antonio purchased and restored the Palace.

Moses Austin statue
Military Plaza – Across from the Spanish Governors Palace

Born in Connecticut, Austin came to San Antonio in 1820 where he petitioned Spanish authorities for the right to bring 300 families to
Texas. The 59-year-old Austin died a few days after the Spanish granted his petition. His dying request was that his son Stephen F. Austin should carry out his vision.

Jose Francisco Ruiz (homesite)
420 Dolorosa Street on the South side of Military Plaza

Ruiz was born in San Antonio and educated in Spain. He served in the Mexican Revolutionary Army, opposing Spanish rule (1811-1815). He later joined Texans in opposing Santa Anna’s dictatorship. Ruiz was one of two native Texans and one of three men of Spanish blood who signed the Texas Declaration of Independence. In 1943, the Ruiz house was moved to the grounds of the Witte Museum, 3801 Broadway.

8. Milam Park
Milam Park - bordered by West Commerce, Santa Rosa Street, San Saba and West Houston.

Ben Milam statue

Born in Kentucky, Milam was a soldier in the War of 1812. He traded with the Texas Comanches in 1818, and colonized Texas from 1826 to 1835. First navigator of the upper Red River in 1831. Assisted in the capture of Goliad in 1835 and died in San Antonio in 1840 at the age of 28.

Colonel Henry Wax Karnes

Born in Tennessee, Karnes moved to Texas and joined the Texas forces as Captain of a company of infantry who fought at San Jacinto. He was promoted to Colonel in 1837 and died in San Antonio in 1840 at the age of 28.

Camposanto Burials

In 1731, with the arrival of 56 Canary Islanders, the Villa de San Fernando - now San Antonio - was established by King Phillip of Spain. The Camposanto Cemetery was located in this area and was used between 1808 and 1860.

9. Piazza Italia
Italian American Community in San Antonio
201-205 Piazza Italia

Italian immigrants began arriving in San Antonio in the 1870s. In 1890, Italian Americans established the Christopher Columbus Italian Society.

San Francesco di Paola Catholic Church
205 Piazza Italia

This Romanesque church with stained glass windows and spire was dedicated in 1927.

Christopher Columbus Italian Society Hall
201 Piazza Italia

Constructed in 1927, this hall is the cultural and social center of San Antonio’s Italian-American Community.
10. **The Staacke/Stevens Buildings**  
309-315 East Commerce

**The Staacke Brothers Building**  
Designed by prominent Texas architect James Gordon, this structure was built in 1894 to house the carriage business of German immigrant August Staacke.

**The Stevens Building**  
Also designed by architect James Gordon, this structure was built in 1891. Over the years, the first floor has housed dry goods and furniture stores. The second story served for a time as the headquarters of the city’s scientific society.

11. **Dr. Ferdinand Ludwig Von Herff** *(homesite)*  
414 Navarro on the south/river side of the building.

Ferdinand Ludwig Von Herff (1820-1912) earned his medical degree in Germany in 1843 and served as a surgeon in the Hessian army. In 1847 Von Herff came to Texas, but returned to Germany, where he was pressed into military service. He married and returned to Texas in 1849. The couple became American citizens and settled in San Antonio in 1850. Active in city, cultural and medical affairs, Herff was a city alderman from 1850-51. In 1855 he built a home on this site. Herff was a Confederate Army surgeon during the Civil War. He continued his general medical practice until 1908, performing his last surgery at age 87.

12. **The Caile House**  
526 Nueva Street at S. Alamo

Robert Caile built this caliche block home around 1857. Caile, who came to Texas from England, enlarged the house after the Civil War.

13. **The Casino Club** *(site) (temporarily removed)*  
Market St. East of the Briscoe Western Art Museum

In 1853, cultured German settlers organized the Casino Association, and five years later built a club house and opera theater that they called the Casino Club. It was the setting for Civil War military balls, concerts and minstrel shows. The best artists of the day worked at the Casino Club and guests included Robert E. Lee, U.S. Grant, and Buffalo Bill.

14. **Central Catholic High School**  
1403 North St. Mary’s Street

Central Catholic High School opened in 1852 in two rooms over a livery stable near San Fernando Cathedral. After several changes of name and facilities, the current Central Catholic High School was built in 1932. It is the oldest and largest private boy’s school in Texas. Opened in 1898, St. Philip's was founded by the Right Reverend James Johnston, an Episcopal Bishop. In 1917 St. Philip's moved 2 miles east of this site to Dakota Street.

15. **Madison Square Presbyterian Church**  
319 Camden Street at Lexington

A Gothic Revival stone church built in 1883.

16. **Majestic Theater**  
212 East Houston Street

Designed by John Eberson for the Interstate Theater Chain, the Majestic was constructed in 1928 at a cost of $3 million dollars. Jimmie Rodgers performed at the opening. It is one of the few remaining atmospheric theaters designed in the 1920s.

17. **Samuel Maverick** *(homesite)*  
105 North Alamo at East Houston Street

Samuel Maverick came to San Antonio in 1835. He was a guide for Ben Milam, and a signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. He was twice Mayor of San Antonio, and lived in a home at this location from 1850 to 1870.

18. **Menger Soap Works**  
500 North Santa Rosa at Martin

German immigrant Johann Menger came to San Antonio in 1847 and started a soap factory in 1850. Menger built this early limestone industrial
building in 1873 by San Pedro Creek. It operated until the early part of the 20th century.

19. The Navarro House
228 South Laredo at Nueva Street
Adobe home owned in the 1850s by José Antonio Navarro, Texas patriot, and signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence. Navarro served as a Texas legislator under the governments of Mexico, the Republic of Texas and the United States. Navarro was a prominent San Antonio rancher and merchant and was the first Mexican American to write about the history of Texas.

20. The O. Henry House
Northeast corner of Laredo at Dolorosa
Typical of the early German homes, John Kush built this two-room dwelling around 1855. It originally stood on South Presa Street. From 1895 to 1896 author William Sidney Porter who gained national renown as short story writer “O. Henry” lived in the house. Here he issued a humorous newspaper “The Rolling Stone.”

21. Old Adobe (site)
309-315 East Commerce
This is the site of the first Presbyterian Church in San Antonio. In 1846, Reverend John McCullough built the church which was used by all Protestant faiths until 1868.

22. The Pajalache Acequia (site)
Corner of Presa and Market by the Presa street bridge.
Early in the 18th century, the Pajalaches constructed this as part of an irrigation system which began in La Villita and extended as far as Mission Concepción.

23. Perote Prisoners
Soledad at West Commerce
In 1842, 1800 Mexicans under General Adrian Woll launched a surprise attack and captured Samuel Maverick and 52 other Texans. The Mexicans marched the prisoners to Perote in Southern Mexico. In 1843, Santa Anna released Maverick and the remaining prisoners the following year.

24. El Quartel
401 South Alamo in parking circle at Marriott Plaza San Antonio Hotel.
El Quartel de San Antonio de Bexar was built in 1810. In January, 1811, Captain Juan Bautista de las Casas recruited forces here for the overthrow of Spanish Rule in Texas. In March 1811, Juan Zambrano recruited a counter-revolutionary force to restore Spanish Rule. El Quartel - a building where troops are quartered - was apparently destroyed during the Texas Revolution.

25. The Rincon/Douglass School (site)
Corner Of Convent and N. St. Mary's
The first free public school for African-Americans in San Antonio was built on this site in the late 1860s. Originally called the Rincon School because of its location on Rincon Street (now St. Mary’s), the school was named in honor of Frederick Douglass in 1904.

26. St. John’s Lutheran Church
502 East Nueva
The 64 charter members of St. John’s included families who migrated to Texas from Germany in the 1840s. Organized in 1857, this was the first Lutheran congregation in the San Antonio area. In 1860, the congregation started the original church which was razed in 1927. In 1932, the current church opened its doors.

27. St. Joseph’s Church
623 East Commerce Street
Erected by the German-speaking Catholics of San Antonio. Reverend C.M. Dubuis dedicated the church with its cornerstone dated 1868.
28. St. Mark’s Episcopal Church  
315 East Pecan Street  
Construction of this Gothic Revival-style church was begun in 1859, designed by noted New York architect Richard Upjohn. Colonel Robert E. Lee, stationed in San Antonio at that time, was a leader in parish activities.

29. (Old) St. Mary’s Church  
115 St. Mary’s at College Street  
In 1855, Bishop Odin authorized a building project, supervised by the Reverend J.M. Dubuis who became the first pastor of St. Mary’s parish. In 1857, the stately Gothic church building was opened for worship, serving English and German-speaking congregations. The Flood of 1921 did irreparable damage to the building. This Neo-Romanesque structure was dedicated in 1924.

30. (Old) St. Mary’s College  
112 College Street - Omni La Mansion Hotel. Marker inside hotel by the pool.  
In 1852, 4 members of the Society of Mary began construction of this building. The school opened for classes in 1853 to students of all creeds. St. Mary’s College educated many prominent South Texans, including 8 San Antonio mayors. From 1934 to 1966 the buildings housed St. Mary’s University School of Law. In 1966, the River Hotel Company acquired the building.

31. San Antonio - Founding  
South Alamo at Commerce Street  
First explored and named by Spaniards in 1691. Spanish Colonial settlement began in 1718 with the founding of the Franciscan Mission San Antonio de Valero, later known as The Alamo. In the vicinity of the mission was the Presidio San Antonio de Bexar, named for the Duc de Bexar, a hero of Spain.

32. The San Antonio Casino Club  
102 West Crockett at South Presa  
In 1854, San Antonio Germans organized the exclusive Casino Club. In 1881, The San Antonio Club was established for literary purposes. The two groups merged in 1925 to form the San Antonio Casino Club. This building, completed in 1927 became a downtown landmark. In 1942, oilman Thomas Gilcrease bought the building and it became known as the Gilcrease Building.

33. The San Antonio High School  
637 North Main - Now Fox Academic and Tech High School  
The first public secondary school in the city, San Antonio High School opened in 1879 with one teacher. After several moves, officials constructed a school building at this site in 1882. In 1917, the name was changed to Main Avenue High School. In 1961, the name was changed to Fox Tech to honor former principal, Louis Fox, a pioneer in vocational education. Reflecting its new direction, the school district recently renamed the school.

34. The San Antonio Mutual Aid Association  
120 Dwyer Street  
Organized in 1862, the Mutual Aid Association kept prices down on necessities and gave help to the needy and families of Confederate soldiers away at war.

35. (Old) San Antonio National Bank Building  
239 East Commerce Street at Navarro  
Currently the law offices of Pat Maloney. Designed by New York architect Cyrus Eidlitz, this building was constructed to house the San Antonio National Bank that George W. Brackenridge and others organized in 1866. The bank occupied this building until 1970.

36. San Antonio River Walk - Paseo del Rio  
Losoya Street South of Commerce Street bridge  
During the Flood of 1921, loss of life and property was high. A city engineering report recommended filling in the river bend. Protests convinced municipal leaders to view the river as an asset. San Antonio architect Robert Hugman
developed beautification plans for the river area including walks, foot bridges, landscaping and retail shops. In 1938, the Works Progress Administration funded the project and by 1941 the original River Walk was completed.

37. Scottish Rite Cathedral  
308 Avenue E at 4th Street  
Finished in 1924, at a cost of $1.5 million the Scottish Rite Cathedral was the center of Masonic activities for South Texas. Noted artist Pompeo Coppini sculpted the elaborate bronze doors.

38. T.C. Frost Wool Warehouse (site)  
117 North Main  
Former Texas Ranger and Confederate soldier Thomas Claiborne Frost purchased wool from producers throughout the state and stored it in his warehouses until prices increased. Frost began to act as a banker for his customers and eventually gave up his other interests to start the Frost National Bank.

39. The Thiele Cottage  
411 Sixth Street at Avenue E - Marker on porch  
Noted architect James Gordon designed this Victorian cottage which was built in 1890 for business and civic leader August Thiele, Jr. Note the distinctive wagon-bow arch on the porch. This house is next door to the Engleman-Muench House.

40. Travis Park United Methodist Church  
230 East Travis at Navarro  
Missionary Reverend John Wesley DeVilbiss founded this church. In 1844, he preached the first Protestant sermon ever heard in San Antonio. In 1852, the church erected a chapel on Soledad Street. In 1882, work was begun on the existing church. It has been modified many times.

41. John Twohig (homesite)  
308 Avenue E at 4th Street  
John Twohig was a San Antonio pioneer, Texas patriot, and prosperous merchant. In 1841, Twohig built a house on this site which had been part of the garden of the Veramendi Palace on the San Antonio River at St. Mary’s Street. In 1941, the Twohig house was moved to the grounds of the Witte Museum, 3801 Broadway.

42. (Old) Ursuline Academy  
300 Augusta Street at Giraud - Marker is inside fence  
The main building is the largest known Texas structure constructed in the French “pise de terre” (rammed earth) method. Upon their arrival in 1851, the Ursuline nuns repaired the abandoned building and opened a girl’s school.

43. The Vance House (site)  
Southeast corner of Main at Nueva  
This building stands on the site of the home of James Vance. From 1853 to 1860, Robert E. Lee was a frequent guest.

44. The Veramendi Home (site)  
130 Soledad Street at E. Houston - marker is inside  
This is the site of the old Veramendi House where Ben Milam was killed in 1835 and where Jim Bowie won his bride.

45. The Wolfson House  
415 Broadway at McCullough - Marker on porch  
Built in 1889 for leading San Antonio merchant Saul Wolfson, this house is a fine example of Victorian architecture.

46. Anna Barbara and Johann Engelbert Heidgen House  
121 Starr  
Prussian immigrants Anna Barbara and Johann Engelbert Heidgen came to San Antonio in 1852. They bought property at this site and built their first house - a one-story caliche structure. Later additions accommodated their growing family of thirteen children. (San Antonio was still part of the Wild West. A daughter was abducted from the
home as a toddler by raiding Native Americans. A group from the nearby Powderhouse Hill neighborhood formed a posse and brought her back.) Anna Barbara worked as a midwife. Johann, a stonemason, worked on a number of buildings for St. Joseph’s Catholic Church. He probably built his homes on this site, beginning work on this larger house between 1882 and 1884. The Heidgen family lived here until 1907.

47. Oscar and Rachel Berman House
338 Madison
Russian-Jewish immigrant Oscar Berman was in Texas by the 1880s. He wed Rachel Finklestein circa 1890 and became a businessman in Luling, with partner Getzel Zadek. In 1906, work began on the Berman House, designed by noted architect Harvey L. Page. The Neoclassical design with Prairie influences features Corinthian and Doric columns, deep eaves, corbelled chimneys, and a full-height entry with unique inward-curving first-floor porch. Berman and Zadek later opened a wholesale liquor business in San Antonio, but when Prohibition started in 1918, they branched into other businesses, including loans. The home has been restored to its original design.

48. Silvestre Revueltas
317 Wickes off South Alamo past Stieren
Mexico native Silvestre Revueltas (1899-1940) spent a short, but prolific life as a violinist and composer. He came to San Antonio in 1926 and became concertmaster at the Aztec Theatre. While living at this address, he composed his septet Batik and sent it to colleague and friend Carlos Chávez, whose recommendation brought inclusion for Revueltas in the American Association of Composers. In 1928, Chávez invited Revueltas to be associate director and featured soloist with the Orquesta Sinfónica de México in Mexico City. His works continue to garner acclaim from musicians and audiences throughout the Americas and beyond.

49. Gustav Blersch House
213 Washington St.
Blersch, a German immigrant, importer and retail dealer, built this two-story limestone home in 1860. He sold the property to James Thornton in 1871 and the Thorntons enlarged the house, adding a two-story rear wing and bay window. From 1883 to 1905, the home was sold to numerous families. The house was owned by William Clarkson 1905-1948 and it is now the home of the Watson Family.

50. Maverick-Carter House
119 Taylor
The three-story limestone Maverick-Carter house was constructed on the north side of San Antonio’s central business district in 1893 for real estate developer William Harvey Maverick, son of Texas Declaration of Independence signer Samuel Augustus Maverick. Maverick resided here until 1910, when he sold the house to his son, Robert. Attorney H.C. Carter purchased the house in 1914. Carter’s second wife Aline, converted the first floor library into a chapel and constructed an observatory on the roof of the home around 1925. The 23-room home was designed by prominent San Antonio architect Alfred Giles (1853-1920).

51. Venustiano Carranza in San Antonio
1108 N. Flores
Venustiano Carranza (1859-1920). In 1898, during the presidency of Porfirio Diaz, Carranza represented the state of Coahuila as a federal senator. He became disillusioned with Diaz’ oppressive rule, and in 1910 endorsed Francisco Madero. That same year, Madero fled to San Antonio, following the outbreak of the Mexican Revolution. During this time, Venustiano Carranza occasionally stayed in San Antonio with his niece, Celia Carranza Cepeda de Treviño, where Carranza met with partisans to discuss the course of the revolution and their plans for the future. During Madero’s presidency (1911-1913), Carranza served as governor of Coahuila. In 1917 Carranza was elected president of Mexico and introduced consti-
52. W.B. Teagarden Home  
408 Dwyer  
This residence was built in 1903 for the William Joske family. The most prominent subsequent owner was William Baker Teagarden (1854-1933). He was an attorney, judge and representative of the Southern Pacific Railroad for many years. The two-story Queen Anne style house features a brick over frame exterior, pyramidal roof with gables and dormers, and an L-shaped floor plan with a projecting front entrance bay and wraparound porches on both stories.

53. Francisco Madero in Texas  
On the south side of E. Nueva Street at the junction of Jack White Way  
Francisco Madero (1873-1913) was a Mexican revolutionary and president. He was born to an affluent family with many Texas connections. He ran against Mexican ruler Porfirio Diaz in the 1910 presidential election and Diaz ordered his arrest in San Luis Potosi. Upon his release on bail, Madero escaped, crossing the U.S. border into Laredo. He moved to San Antonio, selecting this site as headquarters. Here, he wrote the Plan of San Luis Potosi, an influential document prompting political change in Mexico. He later moved to New Orleans and then Dallas before returning to Mexico, where a full rebellion had begun in November. San Antonio remained a vital center of operations. Madero became president in 1911, but a coup forced him from office in 1913, followed by his assassination.

54. The King House  
819 Augusta between McCullough and Brooklyn  
Dr. Claudius E.R. King was a Confederate Army Surgeon from 1861 to 1865. King had this house designed by noted architect Alfred Giles in 1880. It is now part of the Junior League’s Bright Shawl.

55. The German-English School  
421 South Alamo Street  
Erected in 1858 as a school for children of German settlers, these buildings have served numerous educational and cultural purposes over the years and it is still in use as the Conference Center of the Plaza San Antonio Hotel.

56. William and Mary Ann Richter House  
419 South Presa  
German immigrants William and Mary Ann Richter built their home here in 1868-69, reportedly for access to leeches in the acequia (irrigation ditch). William Richter was a barber, licensed also as surgeon and dentist. He used the leeches in his medical practice. His heirs sold the home in 1947. Retaining its historic design, the stuccoed limestone building serves as a reminder of the early German population of the city.

Northwest Bexar County

1. Coker Cemetery  
231 E. North Loop Road - between West Avenue and 281.  
Jack Coker came to Texas in 1834 and fought in the Battle of San Jacinto. In gratitude for his service, Coker received 1,920 acres along Salado Creek. John’s brothers Joseph and James came to help him to settle his land. In 1857, James’ six-year-old son died from a rattlesnake bite and the boy was buried on a hill near Salado Creek which started the Coker Family Cemetery. When Jack Coker died in 1861, he was also buried at the site. A Methodist congregation was established in 1885 and the church remains adjacent to the cemetery.

Jefferson Davis Smith (gravesite)  
Born in Kendall County, Texas, Smith was kidnapped in 1871 at age 9 by Native Americans. Mexican bandits returned him seven years later.

John “Jack” Coker (gravesite)  
A South Carolinian who came to Texas in 1834. He fought at the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836 and was one of a party with “Deaf”
Smith who destroyed Vince’s Bridge which assured Santa Anna’s defeat.

2. Helotes

*14464 Old Bandera Road*

Human occupation of the Helotes area dates back 7000 years. Early Texas pioneer John Ross acquired title to the land in 1836. Several owners later, in 1858, Dr. Frederick Mamoch purchased the land which later became the township of Helotes. Helotes was a popular stop for cowboys driving cattle to San Antonio.

**The Menchaca House**

*La Quinta De Las Piedras*

*19801 Scenic Loop Road, Helotes - On private property*

Stone villa built in 1850s was home to Miguel Menchaca, descendant of prominent Canary Islanders who came to Texas in 1731.

**John T. Floore Country Store**

*14492 Old Bandera Rd. in Helotes*

John T. Floore was manager of San Antonio’s Majestic Theatre in 1945. He purchased land in Helotes and built a store and dance hall at this site ca.1946. Floore featured country music acts including Bob Wills, Patsy Cline, Hank Williams, Kitty Wells and Elvis Presley. Residents came from nearby communities for the regular shows. Floore also helped establish the Helotes volunteer fire department and Lions Club. In addition, he edited the *Helotes Echo* newspaper. In spite of Floore’s death in 1975, the dancehall at Floore’s Country Store continues.

**Gugger Homestead**

*14464 Old Bandera Rd. in Helotes*

Arnold Gugger, son of Swiss-born Helotes Pioneers Anton and Marie Gugger, built this house and store circa 1881. Its site on the east bank of Helotes Creek was ideal for Gugger’s blacksmith shop, general store and saloon. Arnold and wife Amalia raised their six children on the second floor. The Guggers sold the property to Wilbert Hileman in 1908, and it has subsequently changed hands several times. The home has served as the Helotes Post Office twice, under postmasters Arnold Gugger (1888-1904) and Blanche Maltsberger (1944-1953). The two-story limestone building features 18-inch thick walls.

**Marnoch Homestead**

*15350 Scenic Loop Rd. in Helotes*

Scottish surgeon Dr. George Marnoch (1802-1870) purchased more than 1500 acres at this site in 1858. The next year Marnoch commissioned San Antonio architect John Fries to design and build this house. (Fries had designed the Menger Hotel.) Upon his death, the Marnoch property passed to his children. George Marnoch’s eldest son, Gabriel Marnoch (1838-1920), also practiced medicine, and was a noted naturalist. Gabriel served as postmaster of Helotes from 1904 until 1919. The homestead remained in the Marnoch family until 1947.

3. San Pedro Park

**San Pedro Park at San Pedro Branch Library**

San Pedro Park is the second oldest municipal park in the United States. In 1729, King Philip V of Spain declared this site public land. During the Civil War, Confederate forces used the park as a prisoner of war camp for federal troops. Later, Confederate soldiers used the park as a campsite.

**The Civil War Committee on Public Safety**

*1315 San Pedro in front of the San Pedro Library in San Pedro Park*

In 1861, this Committee was organized to prevent public disorder and to enforce secession mandates, in the face of open hostility from Governor Sam Houston. The Committee on Public Safety did much to prepare Texas for the Civil War.
Northwest

San Pedro Creek
San Pedro Park - Corner of Dewey Place and San Pedro

In 1709, Franciscan missionaries came upon a Native American camp at the headwaters of this creek and named it San Pedro. In 1718, the missionaries founded Mission San Antonio de Valero which gave San Antonio its name.

4. Evers Family Cemetery
7000 block of Forest Pine Street

Claus and Johanna Evers and their children came to Texas from Germany in 1855. They moved to San Antonio in 1874 and this cemetery began on their farm in 1877. It stands as a reminder of the area’s pioneer heritage.

5. Christ Episcopal Church
301 West Russell at Belknap

Christ Episcopal Church was formed in 1911. In 1913, ground was broken for this Gothic Revival sanctuary, designed by architect Atlee B. Ayres.

6. First Officers Training Camp
IH-10 at Boerne Stage Road in the Park-and-Ride parking lot

The United States got involved in World War I in 1917. The U.S. Army established eight camps in the U.S. to train officers for combat leadership. The first was at Leon Springs, Texas. Graduates of the first officers training camp served with distinction and almost 300 returned to active duty for WWII.

7. The Halff House
601 Howard at West Laurel

Built in 1904, this was the home of merchant, banker, rancher and civic leader Alexander Hart Halff and Alma (Oppenheimer) Halff. Both were members of prominent local families. C.A. Coughlin and Atlee B. Ayres designed this imposing residence where the family lived until 1963.

8. The Koehler House
310 West Ashby at Belknap

This house was designed by local architect Carl Von Seutter and built in 1901 for German immigrant Otto Koehler. Koehler was president of the Pearl Brewing Company.

9. Lockhill School
5050 De Zavala Road

One of Texas’ oldest schools operated continuously since 1868. The present structure was built in 1923.

10. The Moos Homestead
18 miles Northwest of San Antonio on Old Fredericksburg Road - On private property

Built by German immigrant John Moos in 1850, this house is a design typical of pioneer Texas Germans. It served as a relay station for stagecoaches going from San Antonio to El Paso.

11. The Peacock House
2811 West Ashby Place

Erected in 1890, this became the original Peacock School for Boys in 1894. Wesley Peacock added military training in 1900 and Peacock’s sons took it over in 1926. The Peacocks deeded the property to the Salvation Army in 1973.

12. Protestant Home for Destitute Children
802 Kentucky Avenue

Noted Texas architect James Gordon designed this building. The Protestant Home for Destitute Children moved into the building in 1890 and the orphanage continued at this location until 1926. It was later used as a Catholic mission and residential apartments.

13. The Rechel-Stumpf House
311 Howard Street, just north of W. Maple

A rock house built around 1880 by Ernst Rechel, pioneer music teacher. Mrs. Franz Stumpf restored the house and it now houses a private business.
14. Texas’ First All-Spanish Radio Program  
*Academic Library at St. Mary’s University*

In 1928, radio station KGCI (now KMAC) initiated “The International Goodwill Program” a two-hour nightly program entirely in Spanish. The studios were located at St. Mary’s University.

15. Thomas Jefferson High School  
*723 Donaldson - Marker mounted inside school*

In 1930, San Antonio had two high schools which were very crowded. The San Antonio architectural firm of Adams and Adams designed a new high school. Despite public protest at the expense involved, Jefferson High School was completed in 1932. The building received international recognition.

16. The Woodward House and The Woman’s Club  
*1717 San Pedro at West French*

In 1904, businessman David Woodward hired renowned architect Atlee Ayres to design this Classical Revival-style house. After Woodward’s death in 1926, Mrs. May Woodward sold the house to the Woman’s Club of San Antonio. In 1898, the Club had formed as a charitable organization to advance voting and education for women.

17. Huebner-Onion Homestead and Stagecoach Stop  
*6613 Bandera Road in Leon Valley*

This site was home to the Huebner and Onion families. It also served as a stagecoach stop in the 1800s. Joseph Huebner (1824-1882) and his family, immigrated from Austria in 1853. In 1858 he bought this land and soon built three limestone buildings. He operated a stagecoach stop at the family’s homestead ranch on the San Antonio to Bandera stage line route. When Joseph Huebner died in 1882 his family continued to operate the ranch, watering hole and livery service. In 1930, Judge John F. Onion (1862-1955) and his wife Harriet, a schoolteacher, purchased the Huebner homestead. Today it is an educational site under the auspices of the Historical Society of Leon Valley.

18. Scenic Loop Playground  
*18502 Scenic Loop Road in Grey Forest*

Businessman E.N. Requa developed Scenic Loop Playground as a rural recreational resort with lakes for swimming, boating and fishing. Requa also set aside acreage for use as bridle trails, athletic fields, tennis courts and pocket parks. Scenic Loop Road divided the development into two sections, Unit No. 1, opened for sale to the public in 1929 and one year later, Unit No. 2 opened, offering opportunities for the boarding of horses and other livestock. The Depression slowed Scenic Loop Playground’s rate of development. In 1934, Requa signed over common property in the development to the Scenic Loop Playground Club to manage for the benefit of residents. Lodges and lots continued to be sold into the 1940s. In 1962, Scenic Loop Playground was incorporated as the City of Grey Forest.

19. Sunshine Ranch  
*Southwest corner of Babcock Rd. and St. Cloud*

Samuel Maverick (1803-1870) signed the Texas Declaration of Independence. He settled in San Antonio and established himself in the business of real estate, ranching and politics, serving as mayor of San Antonio. He and his wife Mary Adams had ten children. Their fourth son, William “Willie” Maverick (1847-1923), was particularly active in the management of the family land. Willie Maverick gave 173 acres of land at this site to his nephew Albert Maverick. Albert’s wife named the property Sunshine Ranch. James Maverick, the eighth of Albert and Jane’s eleven children, raised a small herd of dairy cows and in 1917, he opened the Sunshine Dairy which operated until 1955, when the city of San Antonio annexed the property. Maverick auctioned off the herd and sold the property, which was redeveloped as a subdivision.

20. St. Mary’s University  
*In front of the Administration Bldg. (St. Louis Hall), Nearest intersection: Camino Santa Maria at Cincinnati*

In 1851, the Society of Mary, a Catholic reli-
The religious order in France, sent teachers to San Antonio. They opened St. Mary’s Institute in 1852. “The French School,” as residents called it, first operated out of a structure overlooking Military Plaza. St. Mary’s Institute soon moved into a larger facility (on the site of what is now the Omni Hotel La Mansion del Rio on College Street.) By 1877, a four-story building was constructed. In 1882, the school changed its name to St. Mary’s College and in 1894, the Brothers opened a new campus, in the present location. By 1926, it had become a four-year institution and changed its name to St. Mary’s University.

**Northeast Bexar County**

**1. The Alamo Masonic Cemetery**  
*1801 East Commerce Street*  
The Masons purchased this property in 1853. One of the earliest Masonic grounds in Texas, Alamo Masonic Cemetery contains the graves of many immigrants who settled in San Antonio during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

- **Clara Driscoll**  
  Clara Driscoll was a wealthy rancher’s daughter who in 1903 bought the Long Barrack - part of the Alamo - and helped the Daughters of the Republic of Texas preserve the Alamo and grounds.

- **James Nathaniel Fisk**  
  Born in Vermont, Fisk served in the Army of Texas from 1836 to 1837.

- **Mrs. Simona Smith Fisk**  
  Born in San Antonio, Simona was the daughter of Erastus “Deaf” Smith, and the wife of James Nathaniel Smith.

- **John Lang Sinclair**  
  John Lang Sinclair (1879-1947) enrolled at the University of Texas in 1899. The first UT band was formed in 1900 and Sinclair joined the band and the Glee Club. The student head of the Glee Club urged Sinclair to write a school song in 1903. His song, set to the tune of “I’ve Been Working on The Railroad,” was “The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You.” The song was an instant success and was so popular that many confused it with the official state song of Texas. The chimes atop the UT tower played “The Eyes of Texas” during Sinclair’s San Antonio funeral in 1947. The popularity of the tune continues.

**2. City Cemetery #1**  
*East Commerce from New Braunfels west.*

- **Charles Frederick King**  
  King served in the Texas Army in 1836 and was Mayor of San Antonio from 1847 to 1849 and again from 1852 to 1853.

- **Samuel S. Smith**  
  Born in Massachusetts, Smith was a member of the 1842 Woll and Somervell Expeditions.

**3. The Confederate Cemetery**  
*Bounded by E. Commerce, Paso Hondo, and New Braunfels.*

- **John Salmon “Rip” Ford**  
  Political leader, newspaper editor and Texas Ranger.

- **Colonel George Wythe Baylor**  
  Political and military leader

- **Hamilton P. Bee**  
  Speaker of the House of Representatives from 1854 to 1856. Served in the Mexican War 1846. General in the Confederate Army.
4. Fort Sam Houston

The Quadrangle

From 1876 to 1878, the Quartermaster depot was based at the Alamo. In 1879 the depot moved from the Alamo into its new home at the Quadrangle at Fort Sam Houston. Apache leader Geronimo was held at Fort Sam Houston in 1886.

The Bullis House

2 Staff Post Road

John Lapham Bullis occupied these quarters as a Major in 1904. Bullis and his Seminole “Negro Indian” scouts played a major role for eight years in repelling marauding Native Americans throughout West Texas. Camp Bullis, north of San Antonio, is named for him.

The Foulois House

8 Staff Post Road

Lieutenant Benjamin Foulois occupied these quarters 1910-11. On March 2, 1910, Foulois made the first flight in the first government-owned airplane by the first military trained pilot. (There is a marker commemorating the flight on Arthur McArthur Field by the main flagpole.) In WWI Foulois commanded the Army Air Service as a Brigadier General.

The Eisenhower House

179 Artillery Post Road

Colonel Dwight David Eisenhower occupied these quarters in 1941. Ike’s work as Chief of Staff to General Walter Kreuger was so impressive that he was promoted to Brigadier General and sent to Washington. Eisenhower was the principal architect of the successful Allied invasion of Europe during WWII. By 1945, Eisenhower was a five-star General and served as President from 1953 to 1961.

5. The Witte Museum

3801 Broadway in Brackenridge Park

The Twohig House

On the grounds of the Witte Museum

John Twohig was a San Antonio pioneer, Texas patriot, and prosperous merchant. In 1841 he built this house on a site that had been part of the garden of the Veramendi Palace on the San Antonio River at St. Mary’s Street. The house was moved to the Witte Museum grounds in 1941.

The Ruiz House

On the grounds of the Witte Museum

This house was built around 1745 and originally stood at what is now 420 Dolorosa St., facing north on Military Plaza. Juan Manuel Ruiz, a tailor, moved in about 1760. He had come to San Antonio from Spain. Juan’s fifth child, José
Northeast

Francisco Ruiz was educated in Spain. Upon returning home, he was appointed school teacher by order of the cabildo (city government.) He served in the Mexican Revolutionary Army opposing Spanish rule (1811-1815). He later joined Texans in opposing Santa Anna’s dictatorship and became a staunch Texas patriot. He was one of two native Texans and one of three men of Spanish blood to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence. The house was moved to the Witte Museum grounds in 1943.

The Navarro House
On the grounds of the Witte Museum

In 1835, José Antonio Navarro, Texas patriot, and signer of the Texas Declaration of Independence, built this house for his son Celso on the banks of San Pedro Creek. The city later designated it as 512 Camaron Street. The house fell into disrepair, and in 1948 it was moved to the Witte grounds.

6. Alamo Portland and Roman Cement Company (site)
Now the Japanese Sunken Gardens in Brackenridge Park

In 1879, Englishman William Lloyd discovered a natural cement rock that produced Portland cement. The Alamo Portland and Roman Cement Company - the first Portland cement plant west of the Mississippi - began operation in 1880 and relocated to a site near Alamo Heights in 1908.

7. The Argyle
934 Patterson Avenue in Alamo Heights

Built in 1859 by Charles Anderson as headquarters for a 1400-acre ranch. Just prior to the Civil War, Anderson sold the house to poet Hiram McLane who lived there for thirty years. In 1890, when Alamo Heights was created, a subdivider named the house Argyle after his native Argyllshire in Scotland.

8. The Battle of the Salado
Holbrook Road between Rittiman and Eisenhauer Roads.

In this important and decisive 1842 battle, Texas volunteers under Colonel Mathew Caldwell, opposed the Mexican Army under General Adrian Woll, preventing the capture of Austin, capital of the Republic of Texas.

9. The Bullis House
621 Pierce Street

San Antonio architect Harvey Page designed this house for General John Bullis. Construction was completed in 1909. A native of New York, Bullis spent much of his career on the Southwest frontier. Bullis lived here until his death in 1911. [See the Bullis House listed in Fort Sam Houston]

10. El Camino Real
410 at Nacogdoches - Parking lot of Guaranty Federal Bank

El Camino Real or the King’s Highway followed ancient Native American and buffalo trails. It stretched 1000 miles from Mexico to Louisiana. Over the centuries, priests, soldiers, traders, and settlers used the Camino Real. San Antonio was a major stop on this frontier highway. Today, many modern highways follow the path of the Camino Real.

11. Confederate Tannery
Koehler Park near the Zoo

A leather tannery was established here in 1863 to supply shoes, harness and saddle needs of the Confederacy. A cotton and woolen mill was also built on this location and run by San Antonio River power.

12. The Dawson Massacre
Austin Highway at Corrine Street

The Dawson Massacre happened in this vicinity in 1842. Captain Nicholas Dawson and 53 men from La Grange were on their way to join Captain Mathew Caldwell and his company of Texas
Volunteers during the Battle of Salado. Mexican Forces surrounded them and 36 of Dawson’s men were killed, 15 were taken prisoner and 3 escaped.

13. Edens Cemetery
1/8 mile northeast of the intersection of FM 218 and Kitty Hawk in Universal City
The John Edens family moved to Bexar County in 1855. He acquired 350 acres near Selma on Cibolo Creek and built a farmhouse. This family cemetery was close by the family home.

14. The Elmendorf House
509 Burleson Street at N. Hackberry
Businessman and civic leader Emil Elmendorf had this residence constructed in 1884 while he was part owner of Elmendorf and Company, a large San Antonio hardware firm. Designed by noted architect Alfred Giles, it is one of the city’s few remaining examples of the raised cottage plan, which features a basement above ground with the main floor on the second level.

15. (Old) Houston Road
Lincoln Park on East Commerce
The Old Houston Road, near this site, was a link from old Spanish Texas to the Austin Colony and ports of Houston and Galveston. It was vital to freight and passenger travel.

16. Incarnate Word College
4301 Broadway
The Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word received a teaching charter in 1881 and opened the Incarnate Word Academy in 1893. Incarnate Word has operated on this site since 1897 and added a collegiate program in 1909. Now University of Incarnate Word.

17. Monte Vista Historical District
117 East French Place at the San Antonio Academy
Monte Vista is a San Antonio suburb created between 1890 and 1930. Many noted San Antonians, including San Antonio Mayor Maury Maverick, built their homes in the area.

18. National Cemetery
Between Paso Hondo and Center Street
Captain Lee Hall (gravesite)
Born in North Carolina, Hall came to Texas in 1869. He gained national fame as the Grayson County Marshal and Deputy Sheriff in the 1870s. He served with the Texas Rangers (1876-1880), hunting such outlaws as Sam Bass and John Wesley Hardin. He also served in the Spanish-American War (1898).

19. (Old) Powder Mill
In front of Alamo Masonic Cemetery on East Commerce
Early Spanish settlers made gunpowder here. During the Civil War, the powder mill supplied gunpowder to state and frontier troops.

20. St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
1018 East Grayson
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church was formed in 1883 to serve the Fort Sam Houston community. This Gothic-style church, built of native stone, was consecrated in 1885.

Building 100 on Washington Circle
After Randolph Field’s dedication in 1930, construction began on an administration building, designated Building 100. Because of the structure’s exotic appearance, student flyers nicknamed it “The Taj Mahal” soon after its completion in 1931. San Antonio architect Atlee B. Ayers designed the structure. Its unusual 170-foot tower conceals a 500,000-gallon water tank.

22. The Zambrano House
104 Anastacia Place - now a private residence
An 18th century rammed-earth-style home built by Macario Zambrano. Zambrano’s son Juan Manuel put down the Casas Rebellion of 1811 and fought in the Battle of Medina River. Son José Maria was the “Alcalde” of Bexar. Son Juan José was alcalde and judge, and son José Dario was parish priest at San Fernando Cathedral.
remains open to family descendants.

26. Confederate Cemetery
Located between Jeff Davis and John B. Hood Way in City Cemetery #4 off of E. Commerce, Paso Hondo & New Braunfels Streets.

This cemetery is part of a 40-acre land grant given to the city of San Antonio by the King of Spain. The property was later subdivided into 29 separate cemeteries and this area was designated as City Cemetery #4. After its purchase in 1885, this section became known as the Confederate Cemetery. The earliest documented burial in this plot is that of Charles Hutcheson, 1855. Prominent Confederate veterans interred here include John “Rip” Ford, the pioneer Texas political leader and newspaper editor famous for his service as a Texas Ranger; George Baylor, a political and military leader; and Hamilton Bee, Confederate General and Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives. There are over 900 marked burials in the Confederate Cemetery.

27. Davenport Cemetery
16589 Nacogdoches Rd. in Selma

William Davenport (1820-1901) was born in Virginia and moved to Texas in 1843. William married and built a home in 1851. When his wife died in 1852, William buried her near their home, establishing a community burial ground. Davenport was a leader in the community of Selma. He helped establish the first Selma school in 1859 and also helped build a two-story limestone combination schoolhouse, church and Masonic hall in Selma in 1872. William was captain of a local militia and an enterprising rancher. Captain William Davenport died in 1901 and is buried here along with other respected pioneers.

28. St. Paul United Methodist Church
508 N. Center St. on the corner of Mesquite

Organized in 1866, St. Paul United Methodist Church was the first established for African-Americans in San Antonio. In 1866, the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church and the Lincoln
School for African-American students were founded. Members built a frame building in 1872 and a stone structure replaced it in 1884. The area surrounding church property became known as St. Paul Square. The current sanctuary was completed in 1922. In 1967, the name of the congregation became St. Paul United Methodist Church.

29. St. Anthony Catholic School
205 West Huisache
In 1907, the Sisters of the Divine Providence purchased land and commissioned a schoolhouse from prominent local architect Frederick Gaenslen. The building was completed in 1909. Local patrons and the St. Anthony Seminary supported the school in its early years, and the curriculum and facilities expanded as enrollment grew. Though it was solely an elementary school for much of its history, St. Anthony also included a high school and boarding school in later years. Enrollment declined in the 1970s, and there were fears that the school would close in 1985, but parents and alumni made arrangements to purchase the property and continue the school.

30. Ludwig Mahncke
3400 block of Broadway at Parland in Mahncke Park
Ludwig Mahncke (1846-1906) was born in Germany in 1846. He married Katarina (Kemp) in 1871 and the couple had two daughters. The family left Europe for the United States in 1882, settling in San Antonio. Mahncke became a well known hotelier and restauranteur, and he was a popular figure in San Antonio business and social circles. He was appointed Parks Commissioner in 1901. Mahncke was friends with philanthropist George Brackenridge and in 1899 he encouraged Brackenridge to donate 199 acres along the San Antonio River, to be used as a park. As Parks Commissioner, Mahncke developed a plan to create a “driving park,” and seven miles of roads were designed and constructed. Brackenridge Park is Mahncke’s best-known accomplishment.

Southwest Bexar County

1. Port San Antonio
(Former Kelly AFB)
Duncan Dr. 100 yds southwest of Billy Mitchell Blvd
During World War I, Maj. Benjamin Foulois selected this location for a new army aviation training site. The 700 acres were acquired and cleared and aviation operations began here in 1917. The new training site was named Kelly Field and it was used to train aviators, mechanics and support personnel for war duty. Additional land was acquired and the field was divided into Kelly Number 1 (later renamed Duncan Field) and Kelly Number 2, The Air Service Advanced Flying School, which trained pilots including Charles Lindbergh. During World War II, Kelly saw a tremendous increase in its workforce. After the Air Force became an independent military service in 1947, the field became known as Kelly Air Force Base. Kelly was realigned in 2001 in response to peacetime defense spending cuts and in 2006 the base was reorganized as Port San Antonio.

2. Port San Antonio
(Former Kelly AFB #2 Flight Line)
Bldg. 1600, 205 South Luke Drive
In 1916, Major Benjamin Foulois selected this spot to serve as a flying field for the Army Air Corps. In 1917, the site was named Camp Kelly in honor of Lt. George Kelly who, in 1911 was the first American aviator to lose his life piloting a military aircraft. Activities at the camp included flight training and aircraft maintenance.

3. San Fernando Cemetery #1
South Colorado Street at Vera Cruz Street
Captain José Antonio Menchaca (gravesite)
Born in San Antonio, Menchaca was a veteran of San Jacinto.
José Antonio Navarro (gravesite)
Born in San Antonio, Navarro signed the Texas Declaration of Independence.
4. Don Juan Ximenes (gravesite)
   A veteran of the Texas War for Independence 1835-1836, and one of the storming party at Bexar in 1835. An honored citizen, soldier and Ranger of Texas.

5. Colonel José Francisco Ruiz (gravesite)
   An officer in the Mexican Army in 1831, Ruiz was a signor of the Texas Declaration of Independence in 1836. Ruiz was a Senator at the first Congress of the Republic (1836-37).

6. Don José de Jesus Rodriguez (gravesite)
   Veteran of the Texas War for Independence. An honored citizen, soldier and Ranger of Texas.

7. Placido Olivarri (gravesite)
   Born in San Antonio, Olivarri was a guide for the Texas Army in 1835.

8. Alejo de la Encarnacion Perez (gravesite)
   As an infant with his mother Maria Perez, Alejo was the youngest survivor of the 1836 Battle of the Alamo. He served in the Confederate Army 1861-1864. When he died in 1918, he had been the last Alamo survivor.

4. The Grass Fight
   1514 West Durango at Lanier High School
   Near this site in 1835, one of the most unusual battles of the Texas War for Independence took place. Texas scout “Deaf” Smith learned that silver for the Mexican garrison would be arriving by pack train. Col. Jim Bowie led 100 volunteers to capture the pack train. They were surprised to discover not silver, but hay that the Mexicans had foraged for their livestock.

5. Idlewild Community (site)
   Macdona-Lacoste Road at Gross Lane
   This farming community was a growing settlement in 1867, but wasn’t formerly organized until 1879. Then Thomas Dunkin, a lawyer from New York, arrived and set up the first school with Dunkin himself as the first teacher. He tried to attract the railroad in 1881 without success. In 1887 Dunkin applied for a postal permit which required a name for the farming community. Dunkin finally decided on Idlewild after Idlewild, New York.

6. Jones Farmstead
   6887 Von Ormy Road
   In 1837, Enoch Jones purchased the land at this site, part of an 1808 Spanish colonial land grant. An Ohio native, Jones was already a nationally known engineer. He opened a general merchandise store in San Antonio. Construction began on the farmstead buildings in 1856. In 1895 the farm was sold to Count Norbert Von Ormay of Prussia. Although Von Ormay sold the property within two years, the community adopted his name.

7. Moses Lapham
   Highway 90 Access Road at Leon Creek
   Near this site in 1838, four men, including San Jacinto veteran Moses Lapham, were killed by Native Americans. The following day, seven members of a rescue party were also killed.

8. Oak Island Methodist Church and Cemetery
   3030 DeVilbiss Lane
   Cemetery with the grave of the Reverend John Wesley DeVilbiss.

9. Our Lady of the Lake University
   411 Southwest 24th Street
   Our Lady of the Lake, a Catholic girl’s academy, opened in 1896, offering classes from kindergarten to high school. College courses were first offered in 1911.

10. The Ruiz-Herrera Cemetery
    I-35 south to Somerset Road proceed to the Fisher-Howard intersection. Turn left on Quesenberry and
proceed until 300 yards before dead end.

Established in the 1840s, founding families still use the Ruiz-Herrera Cemetery. Graves include those of Texas patriots Francisco Antonio Ruiz (acting mayor of San Antonio 1836) whose father and cousin signed the Texas Declaration of Independence and Blas Herrera who alerted the Alamo defenders to Santa Anna’s approach.

11. Battle of Adams Hill
Montgomery Road, 0.3 miles north of Hvy 90, 2.3 miles west of Loop 410 (temporarily removed)

When the Civil War started, Confederate officer Ben McCulloch participated in the takeover of Federal garrisons in San Antonio. Union General David Twiggs surrendered the San Antonio Arsenal and 20 other installations to Confederate forces. The Confederates permitted Union soldiers to march to the coast and leave Texas. Six companies of the 8th U.S. Infantry - a total of 347 men - were still armed and not in Confederate custody. They began marching towards San Antonio from far west Texas. The Confederate commander stationed 1300 men to meet them. After a six-week march, the Union forces were down to 270 men but they took up a defensive position on Adams Hill. On May 9, the Confederates sent a demand for their surrender, but they refused twice. The Confederates then requested that the Union officers come over, see the Confederate strength and surrender peaceably. The move brought an end to the encounter without the firing of a shot.

Southeast Bexar County
1. Pecan Valley Golf Course
The Goliad Road
Pecan Valley Golf Course - 13th hole at Burnt Oak (temporarily removed)

Established about 1720 by Spain as El Camino Real a la Bahia del Espiritu Santo (King’s Highway to Goliad). It was a major emigrant, military and trade road used by Native Americans, Spanish soldiers, the Republic of Texas, and the Confederacy.

Southeast

The Salado Valley
Clubhouse at Pecan Valley Golf Course (temporarily removed)

In 1709, Spanish explorers discovered and named Salado Creek. In 1731, with the arrival of the Canary Islanders, Salado Creek became a town boundary. In 1836, leaving San Antonio for San Jacinto, Mexican General Santa Anna passed through the Salado Valley. In 1842, the “Second Battle of the Salado” and “Dawson’s Massacre” were fought in the valley. In 1876, the valley became the site of Fort Sam Houston.

2. Mission San Francisco Xavier de Najera (site) Marker located on Mission Drive at Riverside Golf Course
Mission San Francisco Xavier de Najera was established in 1722. In 1726 the mission was abandoned and the few Native American neophytes passed into the care of Mission San Antonio de Valero - The Alamo.

3. Mission Concepción
800 Mission Road
The mission of Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción de Acuña looks much like it did in the mid-1700s and it is the best preserved of the San Antonio mission churches. Religious services are still held there and is an active Roman Catholic parish. In addition to the church, the mission has elements of a fort, a school, a village, a farm and a ranch in its past.

4. Mission San José - “The Queen of the Missions”
Roosevelt at San José Drive
Mission San José y San Miguel de Aguayo was founded in 1720 by Franciscans to convert the indigenous peoples into Spanish Catholics. Local Native Americans constructed dams and dug over fifty miles of irrigation ditches which carried water diverted from the San Antonio River to the mission farmland. San José is still an active Roman Catholic parish.
5. Mission San Juan Capistrano  
*Mission Road at Espada Road, just south of Loop 13*

Named for St. John of Capistrano, this mission was founded in 1731 by Franciscan missionaries on the east bank of the San Antonio River. San Juan worked for the cultural and religious conversion of the Native Americans of South Texas. Orchards and gardens outside the walls provided peaches, melons, pumpkins, grapes, and peppers. The mission residents grew corn, beans, sweet potatoes, squash and sugar cane in irrigated fields. The church is still a Roman Catholic parish.

6. Mission San Francisco de la Espada  
*Mission Road at Espada Road*

Established in 1731, this mission was reportedly named for St. Francis of the Sword. Beginning about 1740, Franciscan missionaries built a 270-foot dam, an aqueduct and irrigation ditches to aid agriculture. The Espada aqueduct is the only extant Spanish aqueduct in the United States. Descendants of Native American converts and Spaniards still live near Espada.

7. St. Mary’s Cemetery  
*Palmetto Street between Dakota and Wyoming*

**Colonel Edward Miles (gravesite)**

Miles came to Texas in 1829. He fought in Texas’ War for Independence and in the Indian, Mexican and Civil Wars.

8. St. Philip’s College  
*Walters Street at Maryland Street*

St. Philip’s Industrial School was founded in 1898. The St. Philip’s church congregation organized a sewing class that evolved into a vocational day school for African-American children. The program soon moved to a brick schoolhouse behind the church. In 1918, the school moved to a new four-acre campus. St. Philip’s became a junior college in 1927. The college continues to uphold the highest standards.

9. Second Baptist Church  
*3310 East Commerce Street - 2.6 miles east of St. Paul Square*

In 1879, the Reverend Charles Augustis and 11 other former slaves organized the Macedonia Baptist Church. In 1890, the name was changed to the Second Baptist Church. The current church was built in 1968.

10. The Yturri-Edmunds Home and Mill  
*Take Roosevelt south to Yellowstone then to 128 Mission Road*

Begun on a Spanish land grant in 1817 by Don Manuel Yturri, the mill was built on the Pajalache acequia. It was a resting place for travelers and the mill provided food for early settlers.

11. Stinson Airport  
*8535 Mission Road*

Alabama native Katherine Stinson (1891-1977) took flying lessons in 1912. She became the fourth licensed woman pilot in the U.S. and began touring as a stunt pilot. She and her family established the Stinson Aviation Company in Hot Springs, Arkansas. In 1913, the Stinsons moved to San Antonio. Soon, the Stinsons were offering instruction to U.S. and Canadian military pilots. The family leased 500 acres at this site from the city in 1916 and established Stinson Field which became San Antonio’s first civil airport in 1918. In the thirties, commercial airlines began using the airport. During World War II, Stinson once again became an Army Air Corps training facility. Today, Stinson Field is a popular general aviation airport.

12. Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Cemetery  
*14011 FM 1346 in St. Hedwig*

In 1854, Polish settlers began arriving in Bexar County. An early community of fewer than 20 families was called Martinez, Texas. In 1857, residents built a mission log church. Adjacent to the church, the local settlers established a cemetery. The first known burial was that of the Rev. Julian Przysiecki in 1863. In 1868, the community built
a new church dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In 1872, church members chartered a new cemetery at this site, reinterring burials from the original site. Residents changed the settlement’s name to St. Hedwig in honor of the Polish patron saint. Today, gravestones indicate the ethnic heritage of the community, which includes Polish, German, Hispanic, Irish, Alsatian and other surnames.

13. Salem Cemetery
Take 87 east to Loop 106 near China Grove. You can see the cemetery on your left at 9827 Loop 106. Salem Cemetery was established 1880.

14. The Battle of Medina
At the intersection of Martinez-Losoya Road and U.S. 281 - 20 miles South of San Antonio
In 1813, an unsuccessful battle was fought to free Texas and Mexico from Spanish rule. Spanish Royalists defeated the Republican Army of the North composed of Anglo-Americans, Mexicans and Native Americans.

15. The Battle of Rosillo (site)
WW White at Hildebrandt
In 1813, the “Republican Army of the North” composed of Anglo-Americans, Mexicans, and Native Americans defeated Spanish Royalist troops at the Battle of Rosillo.

16. Boldtville Schoolhouse
New Sulphur Springs Road at South Foster Road
Albert Boldt donated land for this schoolhouse to Bexar County in 1919. The same year Fritz Gembler built a two-room schoolhouse. From 1919 until 1960 it served the children of nearby rural families.

17. Brooks City-Base (Former Brooks AFB)
The Edward H. White II Memorial Hangar 9 Building 671 on 9th Street
Hangar 9 was one of 30 of its type at Kelly and Brooks used to house the Curtiss JN-4 “Jenny” during WWI. Charles Lindbergh learned to fly at Brooks while Hangar 9 was still in use, as did Astronaut Edward White’s father, Major General Edward White and many others.

18. Camp of Stephen F. Austin
Rigsby Street in front of Comanche Park
Site of the 1835 camp of Stephen F. Austin while assembling troops preparatory to the attack on the Mexican garrison at San Antonio known as the “Storming of Bexar”. In December of 1835 the Texans under Colonels Ben Milam and Frank Johnson stormed and captured San Antonio from General Cos.

19. El Carmen Cemetery - Cementerio del Carmen
South Flores at Losoya
Burial site of those killed in the 1813 Battle of Medina. The church of Nuestra Senora del Carmen traces its origin to a chapel built over the soldier’s burial crypt. Others buried at El Carmen include Enrique Esparza who survived the Battle of the Alamo.

20. Matamoros Road
Ashley Road at Roosevelt Avenue
The road from San Antonio to Matamoros was 330 miles long and took 6-8 weeks to travel under good conditions. The Matamoros Road was used by many travelers including Native Americans, Spaniards and the Confederate Army.
Marker locations are approximate.
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In Bexar County Texas’ first and most historic county we have historical treasures just waiting for you! Historical markers identify hallowed battlegrounds, historic homes, grave sites of the famous and amazing events in the history of Bexar County and Texas. We have listed the markers to help you explore our fascinating history!

Bexar County Historical Commission

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