

# STAMPS

*of Texas*



# EARLY TEXAS HISTORY

1940 3c Coronado Expedition 400th Anniversary  
(Scott 898)

Seeking the fabled Seven Golden Cities of Cibola, in 1540 Spanish Conquistador Francisco Vázquez de Coronado traveled with 339 soldiers and over 1,100 Indian allies embarked on an epic journey through arid deserts and rugged mountains. They found only poor Indian villages, but established Spain's claim to the territories that later included Texas. After wintering on the Rio Grande in what is now southern New Mexico in 1540-41, Coronado was tempted by rumors of Quivira, said to be a rich country in the northwest. Deciding to look for Quivira, he and his men traversed the Llano Estacado including what is now the Texas Panhandle.

1984 20c Hispanic Americans  
(Scott 2103)

As of 2006, 35.7% of Texans — 8.4 million people — identified themselves as Hispanic. Some *Tejanos* have ancestors with roots as far back as the 1700s, but many are recent arrivals. Hispanics dominate south, south-central, and west Texas, and comprise a significant proportion of residents in Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio, and Houston. Chiefly from southern Mexico and Central America, immigrants contribute heavily to growth in Texas. Of 3.5 million foreign-born residents, fully one-third (an estimated 1.2 million people) are illegal immigrants in a state that during 2000-06 had the fastest-growing rate of illegal immigration in the nation. Of the 40 Hispanic winners of the Medal of Honor — America's highest award for outstanding military valor (as pictured on this stamp) — eight were born in Texas.

1982 13c LaSalle Claims Louisiana, 1682 postal card  
(Scott UX95)

French explorer Robert de la Salle (1643-87) traveled down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, and claimed the Mississippi basin for France. In 1684, La Salle returned with four ships and 300 colonists to establish a French colony at the mouth of the Mississippi, but instead arrived at Matagorda Bay, where they set up Fort Saint near what is now Victoria, Texas. Seeking help for that beleaguered colony, La Salle was murdered by mutineers near Navasota on the Brazos River. The French Texas colony lasted only until 1688, when Indians massacred the 20 remaining adults.

1953 3c Louisiana Purchase 150th Anniversary  
(Scott 1020)

The first acquisition by the United States of the territory that is now Texas was the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, in which part of the 828,000 square miles purchased from France consisted of most of what is today northern Texas. The purchase led to a border dispute with Spain, resolved in 1819 with the signing of the Adams-Onís Treaty, which recognized the Sabine River as the eastern boundary of Texas.

## Credits

We would like to thank Jane K. Fohn for her invaluable assistance, critical input, and Texas good cheer and hospitality. In addition, the following sources were consulted in preparing this album:

*Texas on Stamps*, Jon L. Allen, Texas Christian University Press, 1996.

*Texas Philatelic Checklist*, James C. Taylor, 1995, available as a pdf file from the Texas Philatelic Association at: <http://www.texasphilatelic.org/resources/texaschecklist.pdf>

*The United States as Depicted on its Postage Stamps*, Steve Rajtar, MacFarland & Co., Inc., Jefferson, NC, 2007.

*The Heritage Statehood Collection of U.S. Commemorative Quarters and Stamps*, Mystic Stamp Co., 2000.

Willment, Frank, "Many Lone Star State Stamp Connections," *Linn's Stamp News*, November 30, 1992.

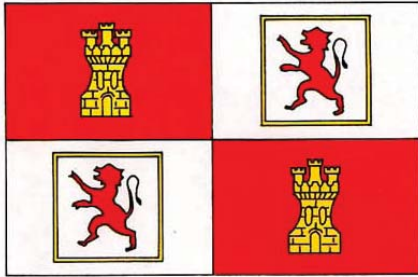
*The Handbook of Texas Online*: <http://www.tshaonline.org>

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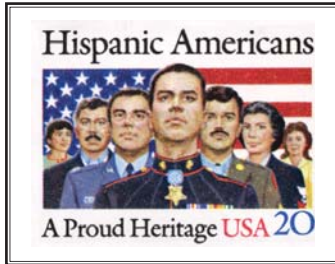
# EARLY TEXAS HISTORY



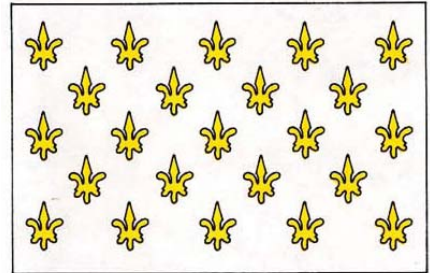
*Flag of Spain*



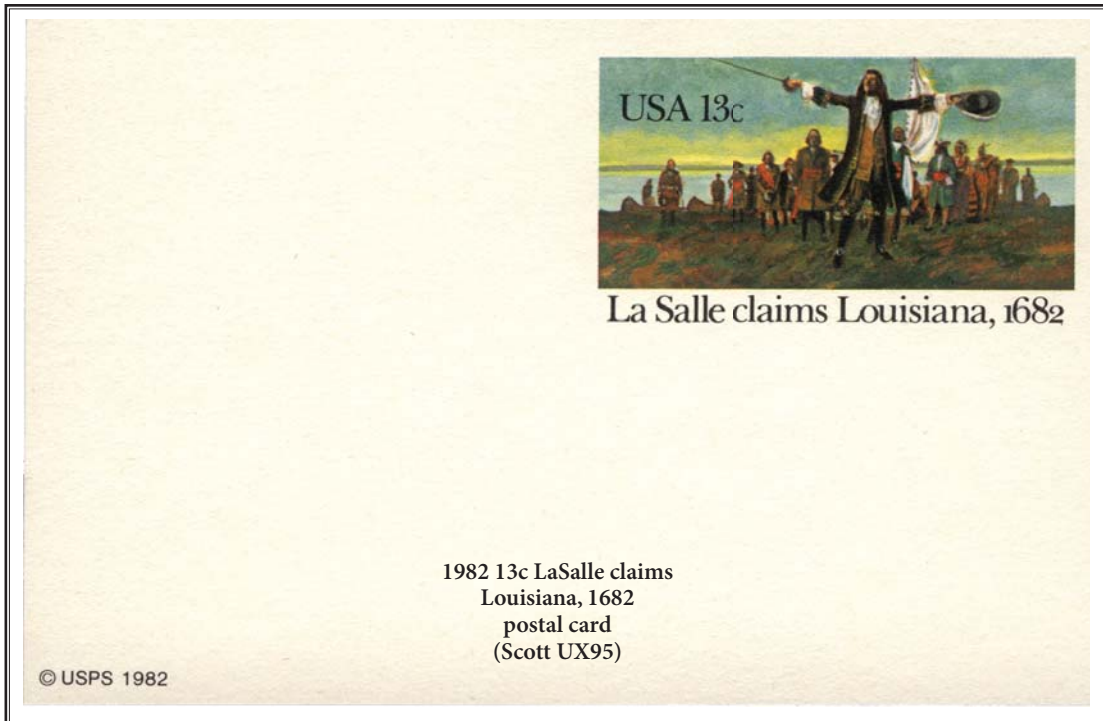
1940 3c  
Coronado Expedition  
(Scott 898)



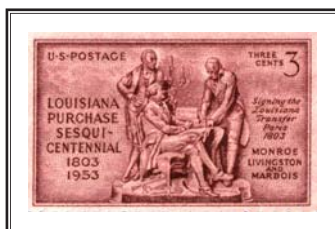
1984 20c  
Hispanic Americans  
(Scott 2103)



*Flag of France*



1982 13c LaSalle claims  
Louisiana, 1682  
postal card  
(Scott UX95)



1953 3c  
Louisiana Purchase  
(Scott 1020)



# TEXAS AND THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE

1956 9c The Alamo  
(Scott 1043)

Founded as the Mission San Antonio de Valero in San Antonio in the 1700s, the Alamo was renamed early in the 1800s after it became a Mexican Army fortress. Surrendered to the Texian Army in December 1835, it was ordered destroyed by General Sam Houston. Colonel James Bowie instead worked with Colonel James C. Neill to fortify it. In February 1836, Mexican General Santa Anna laid siege, which ended after 12 days with an attack on March 6. All the defenders, estimated at between 182 to 257 men, were killed. When the Mexicans later retreated, they tore down many of the Alamo's walls and burned some of its buildings. Today, the Alamo is a shrine to Texas independence, welcoming more than four million visitors each year.

1936 3c Republic of Texas  
(Scott 776)

Portraits of Sam Houston and Stephen F. Austin flank the Alamo on this stamp for the centennial of Texas independence. The "Father of Texas," Austin led the successful colonization of the region by U.S. settlers in the early 1820s, as Mexico gained its independence from Spain. After Mexican President and General Santa Anna abolished the Constitution in 1835, Texians (as Americans in Texas were then called) rose in rebellion. The Republic of Texas, created by a new constitution on March 2, 1836, won its independence with the dramatic victory of the Texians under General Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, crowned by the capture of Santa Anna the next day.

1986 22c Republic of Texas  
(Scott 2204)

The Battle of San Jacinto, on April 21, 1836, in what is now Harris County, Texas, was the decisive battle of the Texas Revolution. Led by General Sam Houston, the Texas Army surprised and resoundingly crushed General Santa Anna's Mexican forces in a brief yet bloody engagement that saw 1,368 Mexican soldiers killed, wounded, or captured at a cost of only nine Texan casualties. The spur superimposed on a Texas state flag on this stamp marking the 150th anniversary of the Republic of Texas is one of a pair owned by Santa Anna and taken by Sam Houston after the victory.

1964 5c Sam Houston  
(Scott 1242)

Sam Houston (1793-1863) was a famous soldier, statesman, and the first president of the Republic of Texas. Texas independence was clinched with the dramatic victory of the Texians under General Sam Houston at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, and the capture of General Santa Anna, who was compelled to surrender Texas to the Texians. Houston was twice elected president of the Republic of Texas, serving from 1836 to 1838, and again from 1841 to 1844, and governor from 1859 until he was evicted from office in 1861 for refusing to take a loyalty oath to the Confederacy.

1967 5c Davy Crockett  
(Scott 1330)

Colonel David Crockett (1786-1836), a celebrated folk hero, frontiersman, hunter, politician, and soldier, served in the Texas Revolution, and died at the Battle of the Alamo. Defeated in a bid for re-election as a Tennessee Congressman in 1835, he memorably saluted his former constituents with, "you may all go to hell, and I will go to Texas," and set out to seek his fortune there. Within four months, he was serving among the handful of men of the gallant but doomed garrison at the Alamo. Although popular culture (including this stamp) calls him "Davy," Crockett referred to himself exclusively as "David."

## *Surrender of Santa Anna*

William Henry Huddle — 1890 oil painting on canvas  
*Collection of The State Preservation Board, Austin, Texas*

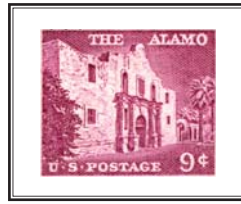
Based on handwritten accounts of the encounter and using photographs of many of the historical participants, Huddle painted the scene of the morning of April 22, 1836, the day after the Battle of San Jacinto. Mexican General Antonio López de Santa Anna, in the uniform of a private soldier, was brought before Texas General Sam Houston as a prisoner of war. Houston, wounded in the battle, rested on a pallet under the oak tree while arranging an armistice with General Santa Anna. The captured Mexican battle flags lean nearby against the tree. In all, 34 additional known historical figures present at the time of the battle are depicted in this painting, which has been prominently displayed in the first floor's south wing in the Texas Capitol since February 1891.



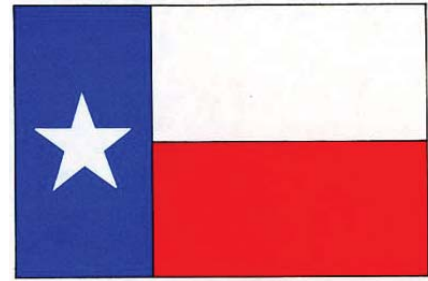
# TEXAS AND THE STRUGGLE FOR INDEPENDENCE



*Flag of Mexico*



1956 9c  
The Alamo  
(Scott 1043)



*Flag of Republic of Texas*



1936 3c  
Republic of Texas Centennial  
(Scott 776)



1986 22c  
Republic of Texas  
Sesquicentennial  
(Scott 2204)



1964 5c  
Sam Houston  
(Scott 1242)



1967 5c  
Davy Crockett  
(Scott 1330)



*Surrender of Santa Anna*



# TEXAS FROM STATEHOOD TO CIVIL WAR

## 1945 3c Texas Statehood (Scott 938)

Texas became the 28th of the United States on December 29, 1845. Boundary disputes contributed to the Mexican War of 1846-48, at the end of which Mexico renounced its claims to Texas in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. "The Lone Star State" nickname comes from the symbolism of the star on the 1836 flag of the republic, or "National Standard of Texas," the design of which was carried over to the state flag. The single star signified Texas as an independent republic and is a reminder of the state's struggle for independence from Mexico.

## 1951 3c Confederate Veterans (Scott 998)

Texas joined the Confederacy in 1861. More than 70,000 Texans served in the Confederate Army and fought in every major battle of the Civil War. The state furnished 45 regiments of cavalry, 23 regiments of infantry, 12 battalions of cavalry, four battalions of infantry, five regiments of heavy artillery and 30 batteries of light artillery. Confederate Heroes Day (January 19, Robert E. Lee's birthday) is a Texas state holiday, and April is recognized by the Texas Senate as Confederate History Month. Some 2,000 Texans served in the Union Army.

## 1958 4c Overland Mail Centennial (Scott 1120)

From 1857 to 1861, the Butterfield Overland Mail stagecoach route carried U.S. mail from the end of the railroads in St. Louis, Missouri, to California. Initially, mail was required by contract to go through El Paso, Texas, and Yuma, Arizona — a 22-day trek that had the advantage of being snow-free. The Texas part of the route, which ran from Franklin to Fort Chadbourne to Colbert's Ferry, came to an end when Texas seceded early in 1861.

## 1957 30c Robert E. Lee (Scott 1049)

Robert E. Lee, spent several years early in his military career serving in Texas as a frontier cavalry commander at Camp Cooper on a Comanche reservation. During the Civil War, Hood's Texas Brigade were among General Lee's most reliable shock troops. Of them Lee said, "I rely on Texas regiments in all tight places, and fear I have to call upon them too often. They have fought grandly, nobly."

## 1963 5c Emancipation Proclamation (Scott 1233)

Though it became U.S. law in 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation affected few slaves, especially in Texas under Confederate rule. Juneteenth — a Texas state holiday since 1980 — commemorates June 19, 1865, when Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 federal troops arrived in Galveston, to take control of the state and formally free its slaves. On that date, Granger publicly announced emancipation, and former slaves rejoiced in the streets. Today, Juneteenth is celebrated throughout Texas.

## 1995 32c Texas Statehood (Scott 2968)

Released to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Texas statehood in 1995, this commemorative design shows a cowboy on a rearing horse carrying a huge Lone Star flag that stands out on a vibrant background. Those who know where to look can use a strong magnifier to find the word "TEXAS" in tiny letters of microprinting hidden in two places in the design: in the blue along the left edge of the Texas flag; and in the right hoof of the horse.

## 1963 5c Battle of Gettysburg Scott 1180

Jerome Bonaparte Robertson, a doctor, Indian fighter, and Texas politician, led a Brigade composed of the First, Fourth and Fifth Texas Regiments in some of the fiercest fighting on the second day of the battle of Gettysburg. The Texans made several determined but ultimately unsuccessful attacks on Union defences on Little Round Top in a bid to turn the Union left flank, (which some argue could have changed the outcome of the battle in favor of the Confederates), and succeeding in capturing the so-called "Devil's Den," despite being outnumbered.



# TEXAS FROM STATEHOOD TO CIVIL WAR



28-Star U.S. Flag of 1846  
(the year Texas became a state)



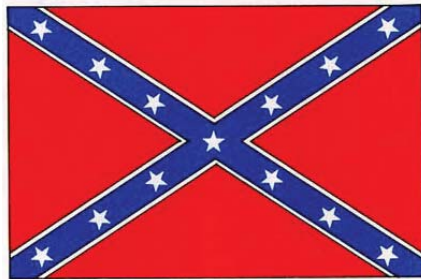
1945 3c  
Texas Statehood Centennial  
(Scott 938)



1995 32c  
Texas Statehood Sesquicentennial  
(Scott 2968)



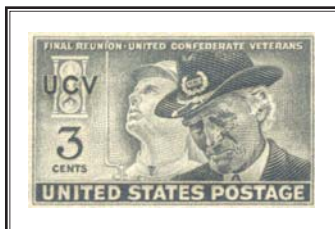
1958 4c  
Overland Mail Centennial  
(Scott 1120)



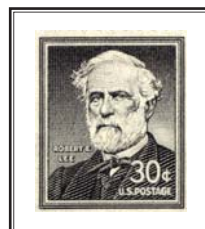
Flag of the  
Confederate States of America

*“Texans — the troops of other states have their reputations to gain; the sons of the defenders the Alamo have theirs to maintain. I am assured that you will be faithful to the trust!”*

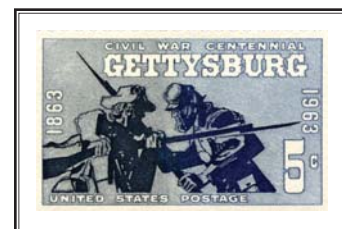
*– Jefferson Davis, President  
Confederate States of America*



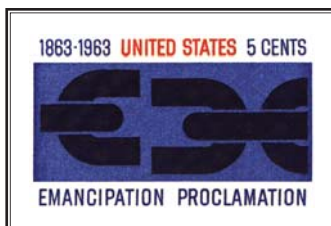
1951 3c  
Confederate Veterans  
(Scott 998)



1957 30c  
Robert E. Lee  
(Scott 1049)



1963 5c  
Battle of Gettysburg Centennial  
(Scott 1180)



1963 5c  
Emancipation Proclamation Centennial  
(Scott 1233)



# TEXAS AND THE WILD WEST

1994 29c Kit Carson  
(Scott 2869n)

Part of the legend of frontiersman Christopher “Kit” Carson (1809-68) was built in the Lone Star State. A dauntless Indian fighter, in November 1864, Carson was sent by General Carleton to western Texas. Carson and his 396 soldiers and scouts met a combined force variously estimated at 1,500 to 5,000 Kiowa, Comanche, and Cheyenne braves at the ruins of Adobe Walls, a trading post and tavern in the Panhandle that had been blown up and abandoned after repeated Indian attacks. Despite the odds, Carson’s troops aided by two light cannon inflicted heavy losses repelling the attacking warriors.

1994 29c Charles  
Goodnight (Scott 2869l)

“Father of the Panhandle,” Charles Goodnight (1836–1929) was the best known rancher in Texas. He was 10 when he moved to Texas in 1846 with his mother and stepfather. Ten years later, he became a cowboy and fought Comanche with the local militia, then joined the Texas Rangers. After serving in the Civil War, he returned to Texas and joined in a round-up of cattle that had roamed free during four years of war, then herded feral Texas Longhorns north from West Texas to the railroads along what came to be called the Goodnight-Loving Trail. On that first drive, he also invented the chuckwagon.

1994 29c Bat Masterson  
(Scott 2869h)

One of the most colorful figures of the Old West, William Barclay “Bat” Masterson (1853–1921) was a buffalo hunter, Army scout, gambler, frontier lawman, and a sports columnist for the *New York Morning Telegraph*. Masterson got his start in Texas. Having left his farm in Kansas to hunt buffalo, he took part in the Second Battle of Adobe Walls in Texas in 1874, successfully fighting against an overwhelming number of Comanche, then served as a U.S. Army scout in a campaign against the Kiowa and Comanche. He was wounded in a gunfight over a saloon girl in Sweetwater, Texas, in 1876.

1994 29c Bill Pickett  
(Scott 2869g)

Willie M. “Bill” Pickett (1870-1932) was a cowboy and rodeo performer who often had to claim he was Comanche to find work in segregated rodeos of his day. He invented bulldogging, grabbing a cow by the horns and wrestling it to the ground by biting it on the lip and falling backwards. In 1994, Pickett was one of 20 “Legends of the West” on new U.S. stamps, but the image of his brother Ben was used on the stamp. The U.S. Postal Service recalled the series to correct the error, but then sold 150,000 panes to collectors because a rare few had already gotten into collector hands. These are scarce and valuable today.

1961 4c Range Conservation  
(Scott 1176)

In the mid-1890s, West Texas rangeland was severely depleted. Thousands of abused acres were all but worthless. Veteran ranchers appealed to Washington for help. Jared Smith of the USDA made a study in 1897, and wrote “Grazing Problems in the Southwest and How to Meet Them.” The following year, the first range conservation experimental station in the U.S. was located on a 640-acre tract south of Abilene, Texas, from 1898 to 1901. When experiments to conserve and replenish the range began, the carrying capacity of the pasture was 40 head of mixed cattle to the section. When experiments ended in April 1901, carrying capacity had increased to 100 head per section.

1994 29c Buffalo Soldiers  
(Scott 2818)

Buffalo Soldiers was the nickname given members of the black U.S. 10th Cavalry by the Native American tribes they fought from Texas to the Dakotas. In 1875, the 10th Cavalry moved its headquarters to Fort Concho in west Texas. First Sergeant Emanuel Stance of the 9th Cavalry, stationed at Fort McKavett, Texas, became the first African-American to win the Medal of Honor, the nation’s highest award for valor, for action against the Apaches in 1870.

1985 22c Quarter Horse  
(Scott 2155)

Named for their speed in the quarter mile, these agile, intelligent horses were prized in Texas and elsewhere throughout the American west during the open range and trail-driving era of the 19th century. Founded in Fort Worth in 1940 and today headquartered in Amarillo, Texas, the American Quarter Horse Association has 345,000 members and has registered more than 5 million horses worldwide.

1973 8c Angus & Longhorn Cattle  
(Scott 1504)

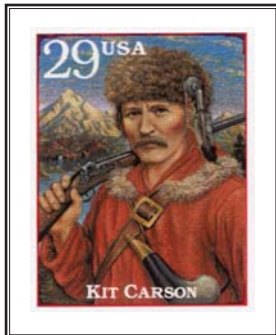
This Rural America stamp depicts breeds of cattle strongly identified with Texas — a state synonymous with the cowboy, and one that still leads the nation in livestock production. Once nearly extinct, the Longhorn evolved over five centuries in Texas are today a proud state symbol, uniquely adapted to harsh Texas climate. George Grant, who imported the first Angus bulls from Scotland in 1873, crossed them with native Texas longhorns, producing hornless black calves that survived well on the winter range and weighed more the next spring. Cattle remain the state’s most valuable agricultural product, but Texas is also the national leader in sheep and goat products.



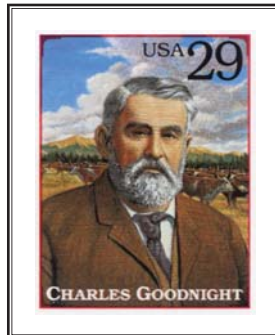
# TEXAS AND THE WILD WEST



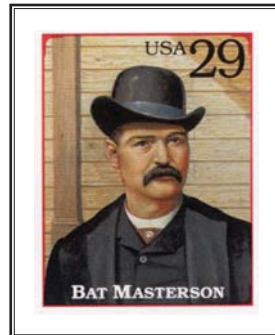
1994 29c  
"Home on the Range"  
(Scott 2869a)



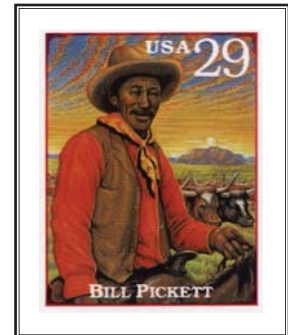
1994 29c  
Kit Carson  
(Scott 2869n)



1994 29c  
Charles Goodnight  
(Scott 2869l)



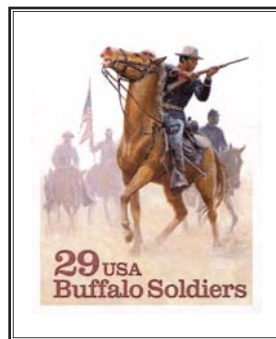
1994 29c  
Bat Masterson  
(Scott 2869h)



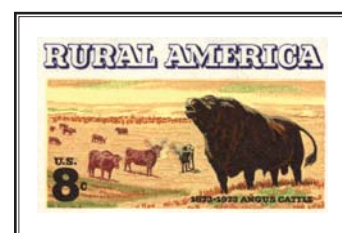
1994 29c  
Bill Pickett  
(Scott 2869g)



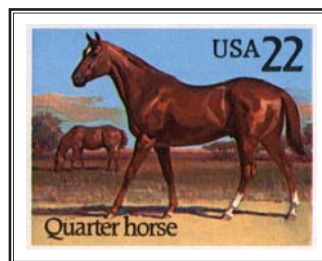
1961 4c  
Range Conservation  
(Scott 1176)



1994 29c  
Buffalo Soldiers  
(Scott 2818)



1973 8c  
Angus & Longhorn Cattle  
(Scott 1504)



1985 22c  
Quarter Horse  
(Scott 2155)



# TEXAS LEADERS IN WAR AND PEACE

1938 10c John Tyler  
(Scott 815)

President John Tyler (1790-1862) supported the annexation of Texas. Acting quickly because he feared British designs on Texas, when the Whigs were defeated in 1844 and the pro-annexation James K. Polk was president-elect, Tyler pushed Congress to annex Texas through an adopted joint resolution with the Senate. The measure passed.

1969 6c Dwight D. Eisenhower  
(Scott 1383)

Born in Denison, Texas, Eisenhower (1890-1969) was a five-star general and two-term President. In World War II, he oversaw the invasion of Europe and defeat of Germany in 1944-45. As U.S. President from 1953 to 1961, he brought the Korean War to a cease-fire, pressured the Soviet Union during the Cold War, enforced school integration, enlarged Social Security, and began the Interstate Highway System.

1981 18c Babe Zaharias  
(Scott 1932)

Mildred "Babe" Didrikson Zaharias (1911-1956) was arguably the most versatile female athlete ever, achieving outstanding success in golf, basketball, and track and field. Born in Port Arthur, Texas, the future Olympian grew up in Beaumont and got her nickname (after Babe Ruth) when she hit five home runs in a single game.

1985 50c Chester W. Nimitz  
(Scott 1869)

Nimitz (1885-1966), America's last five-star Admiral, was Commander in Chief for Pacific Ocean Areas for U.S. and Allied air, land, and sea forces in WWII. Born in Fredericksburg, Texas, Nimitz oversaw the successful battles of Coral Sea, Midway, the Philippine Sea and Leyte Gulf, and the successful invasions from Saipan to Okinawa. On September 2, 1945, he signed for the United States when Japan formally surrendered.

1938 11c James K. Polk  
(Scott 816)

Texas joining the Union in 1845 under James K. Polk (1795-1849) lit the fuse in a chain of events that gave him an excuse to urge Congress to declare war on Mexico in 1846. Now deplored as a case of a large nation bullying a weak one, the war gave the U.S. 1.2 million square miles of Mexican territory, including all or part of seven Western states.

1962 4c Sam Rayburn  
(Scott 1202)

Sam Rayburn (1882-1961), the Texas congressman who served as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives for 17 years, is regarded by many as the most effective legislator ever to fill that position. A graduate of what is now Texas A&M, Rayburn serving in Congress for 48 years. A formidable organizer, he was regarded as a champion of the poor and was a powerful mentor of Lyndon Johnson.

1945 3c Iwo Jima  
(Scott 929)

One of the six men who raised the flag on Iwo Jima was Marine Corporal Harlon Bloch, 21, born in Yorktown, Texas, from a Seventh Day Adventist farm family. A natural athlete who led his high school football team to a championship, Bloch and 12 teammates enlisted in the Marines in 1943. Killed by a mortar blast six days later, Bloch was one of three flag-raisers who did not survive the battle.

2000 33c Audie L. Murphy  
(Scott 3396)

A son of poor Texas sharecroppers, Audie Murphy (1926-1971) was the most decorated U.S. soldier in WWII, earning him celebrity that helped him become a movie actor. In combat across Italy, France, and Belgium, he earned the Medal of Honor and 32 more U.S. medals, plus six from France and Belgium. Playing himself in his 1955 movie memoir, *To Hell and Back*, paved the way for him to star in 33 Westerns.

1938 12c Zachary Taylor  
(Scott 817)

General Zachary Taylor (1784-1850) led troops at Corpus Christi when Mexican cavalry cross the Rio Grande to attack U.S. dragoons in 1846 — the event Polk used to justify the Mexican-American War. Taylor won a series of battles, culminating in victory at Buena Vista in 1847, which helped him become President.

1973 8c Lyndon B. Johnson  
(Scott 1503)

Born near Stonewall, Texas, Johnson (1908-1973) was sworn in as president in 1963 after President Kennedy was assassinated on a visit to Dallas. Kennedy's running mate in the 1960 election. Johnson worked to enact Kennedy's social welfare and civil rights legislation after his re-election in 1964, but the bloody stalemate in Vietnam drove LBJ's decision not to run again for a second complete term in 1968.

1995 32c Bessie Coleman  
(Scott 2956)

Born to a family of sharecroppers in Atlanta, Texas, Elizabeth "Bessie" Coleman (1892-1926) was the first African American to become a pilot. When, in her 20s, she found no one willing to teach her to fly in Chicago, she learned French and went to Paris to learn to fly. She soon returned to fly Curtiss Jennys in the U.S. to great popular acclaim.

1990 40c Claire Chennault  
(Scott 2187)

Born in Commerce, Texas, Claire Lee Chennault (1893-1958) led the American Volunteer Group or "Flying Tigers" in WWII. A distant relative of Sam Houston, Chennault learned to fly during WWI, left U.S. service in 1937, then went to China. His three squadrons of shark-mouthed Curtiss P-40s wreaked havoc on the Japanese, downing almost 300 enemy aircraft while losing only 14 pilots.



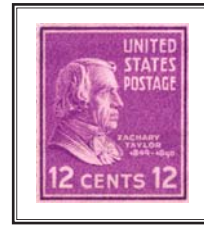
# TEXAS LEADERS IN WAR AND PEACE



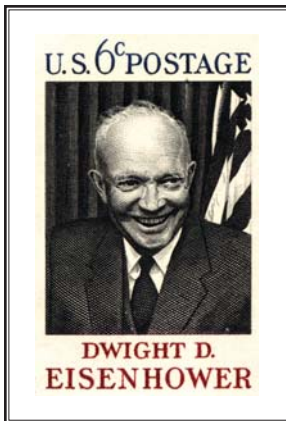
1938 10c  
John Tyler  
(Scott 815)



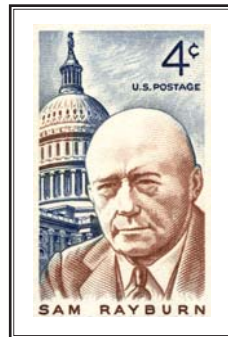
1938 11c  
James K. Polk  
(Scott 816)



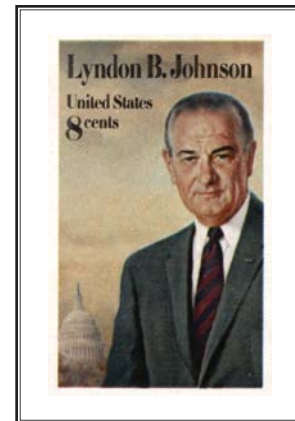
1938 12c  
Zachary Taylor  
(Scott 817)



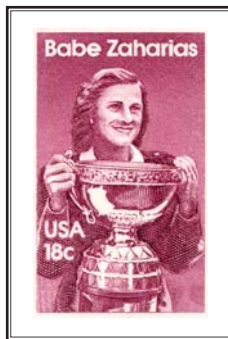
1969 6c  
Dwight D. Eisenhower  
(Scott 1383)



1962 4c  
Sam Rayburn  
(Scott 1202)



1973 8c  
Lyndon B. Johnson  
(Scott 1503)



1981 18c  
Babe Zaharias  
(Scott 1932)



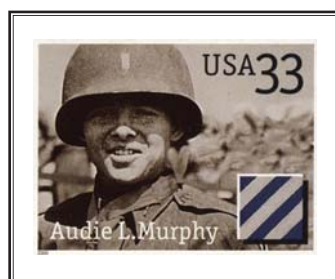
1945 3c Iwo Jima  
(Scott 929)



1995 32c  
Bessie Coleman  
(Scott 2956)



1985 50c  
Chester W. Nimitz  
(Scott 1869)



2000 33c Audie L. Murphy  
(Scott 3396)



1990 40c  
Claire Chennault  
(Scott 2187)



# TEXAS PORTRAITS & PERSONALITIES

1996 32c Pecos Bill  
(Scott 3086)

Pecos Bill was an infant traveling in a covered wagon when he fell out near the Rio Grande tributary for which he is named, where he was taken in by a female coyote and raised with her other pups. The remarkable feats in his tall tales included riding a tornado like a bronco, and using a rattlesnake for a whip. Sometimes he rode his rambunctious steed Widowmaker, and other times a mountain lion.

1998 32c Leadbelly  
(Scott 3212)

Born in Harrison County and raised in Leigh, Texas, Huddie Ledbetter (1888–1949) was an African-American folk and blues musician renowned for his clear, powerful voice and acoustic guitar playing. Best known as Leadbelly or Lead Belly (he preferred the latter), he favored 12-string guitar but could also play many other instruments. His music covered the spectrum from gospel songs to prison and work ballads, including many great blues songs.

2004 37c Alvin Ailey & Dancers  
(Scott 3841)

Born in Rogers, Texas, Alvin Ailey, Jr. (1931–1989) was an American modern dancer and choreographer who founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York City. Ailey drew upon his “blood memories” of Texas — the blues, spirituals, and gospel — as inspiration, which resulted in the creation of his most popular and critically acclaimed work “Revelations.” He died of AIDS at the age of 58, but the dance company that bears his name lives on.

1979 25c Wiley Post air mail  
(Scott C95-96)

Born in Grand Saline, Texas, Wiley Post (1898–1935) in 1931 became the first pilot to fly solo around the world. Post helped develop one of the first pressure suits for high-altitude flying, and attempted high altitude non-stop transcontinental flights. On August 15, 1935, Post and Western humorist Will Rogers were killed when Post’s plane crashed on takeoff near Point Barrow, Alaska.

1993 29c Bob Wills  
(Scott 2774)

“King of Western Swing” James Robert (Bob) Wills (1905–1975) was an influential musician, songwriter, and bandleader in the 1930s and ’40s. Born in Kosse, Texas, Wills picked cotton by day and learned fiddle and mandolin from his father and grandfather at night. He finally found lasting success at the head of the Country Playboys in 1934, and was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1968.

1991 [29c] Madonna  
(Scott 2578)

This traditional Christmas stamp was based on a detail from the 15th-century Italian Antoniazio Romano’s Madonna and Child with Donor from the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, and issued in that Texas city in 1991. Though not shown, the stamp’s face value is 29 cents.

1996 32c Cal Farley  
(Scott 2934)

“America’s Greatest Foster Father,” Cal Farley (1895–1967) founded the residential child care facility known as Boys Ranch north of Amarillo in 1939. Farley was a fine athlete from childhood on, undefeated in 225 straight wrestling matches in the 1920s. Settling in Amarillo in 1923, he became a successful businessman, but his concern for troubled youngsters resulted in Farley’s Maverick Club, then Kids Inc., and finally Boys Town.

1983 20c Scott Joplin  
(Scott 2044)

Scott Joplin (1867–1917), born near Linden, Texas, was ragtime’s greatest performer and composer. Growing up in Texarkana, where he received classical piano instruction, Joplin played in dance halls, and later toured with his Texas Medley Quartette. Between 1895 and 1905, he wrote, performed and published sheet music for his most memorable works, including “Maple Leaf Rag” and “The Entertainer.”

1993 29c Buddy Holly  
(Scott 2729)

Singer, songwriter and rock and roll pioneer Charles Hardin “Buddy” Holley (1936–1959) was born in Lubbock, Texas, to a musical family in which he learned to sing and play piano, guitar, and violin. His interest turned to rock after seeing Elvis Presley perform in Lubbock early in 1955. A few months later, he appeared on the same bill with Presley, and soon opened for Bill Haley & His Comets. His career lasted just 18 months before his tragic death in an airplane crash.

2006 39c Katherine Anne Porter  
(Scott 4030)

Born in Indian Creek, Texas, Katherine Anne Porter (1890–1980) was a Pulitzer Prize-winning American journalist and author. After a disastrous marriage at age 16 ended in 1915, Porter contracted tuberculosis and spent two years in asylums, where she determined to become a writer. She wrote many short stories and essays, but achieved financial independence only with the publication of her only novel, the best-seller *Ship of Fools*, in 1962.



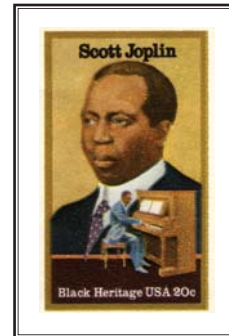
# TEXAS PORTRAITS & PERSONALITIES



1996 32c Pecos Bill  
(Scott 3086)



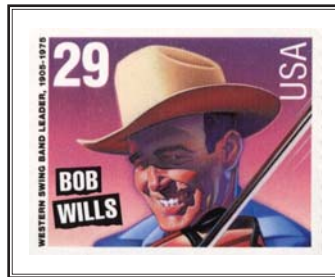
1979 25c Wiley Post  
air mail pair  
(Scott C95-96)



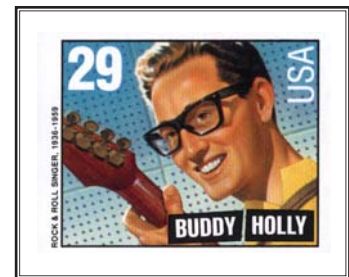
1983 20c Scott Joplin  
(Scott 2044)



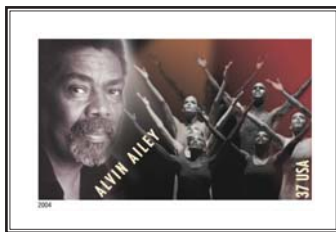
1998 32c Leadbelly  
(Scott 3212)



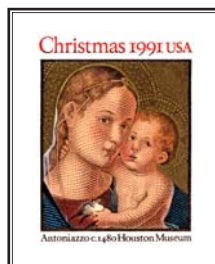
1993 29c Bob Wills  
(Scott 2774)



1993 29c Buddy Holly  
(Scott 2729)



2004 37c Alvin Ailey & Dancers  
(Scott 3841)



1991 [29c] Madonna  
(Scott 2578)



2006 39c Katherine Anne Porter  
(Scott 4030)



1996 32c Cal Farley  
(Scott 2934)



# TEXAS SIGNS & SYMBOLS

1969 6c *Apollo 8*  
(Scott 1371)

In 1963, NASA began the Manned Space Center that occupies 1,600 acres in Houston. Renamed the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in honor of the president in 1973, it is the headquarters for every U.S. manned space mission since *Gemini IV*, monitoring missions including the Apollo project, which landed the first men on the Moon. It is also where the first astronauts returning from the moon were quarantined.

1969 6c Football Centennial  
(Scott 1382)

Texans are passionate about football. Many intensely follow high school and college games, and teams such as the University of Texas Longhorns, Texas A&M Aggies, Baylor Bears, and Texas Tech Red Raiders enjoy nationwide followings, with an impressive array of championships and bowl appearances. Texas is home to two NFL teams, the Houston Texans and the Dallas Cowboys. The Cowboys have 5 Super Bowls, tying them with two other NFL teams for the most Super Bowl wins.

1982 20c Texas State Bird & Flower  
(Scott 1995)

Found throughout the state, the mockingbird was adopted as the state bird of Texas in 1927 at the urging of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, which described it as "a singer of distinctive type, a fighter for the protection of his home, falling if need be, in its defense, like any true Texan." Although the open cotton boll and the flower of the prickly pear cactus also were considered, Texas in 1901 chose as state flower the bluebonnet, also known as buffalo clover, wolf flower and *el conejo* (Spanish for "the rabbit").

1959 4c Petroleum Industry  
(Scott 1134)

Since 1901, most U.S. oil production — peaking a 3 million barrels per day in 1972 — has come from Texas, whose fields have yielded just under half of their estimated 9 billion barrels. The remaining 5 billion barrels (mostly in west Texas) is about one-quarter of known U.S. reserves, and Texas also holds one-quarter of U.S. natural gas. Texas refineries can process 4.6 million barrels of oil a day.

1976 13c Texas State Flag  
(Scott 1660)

As with the flag of the United States, the blue stands for loyalty, the white represents purity, and the red is for bravery. Why the "lone star?" When Texas was part of Mexico it was part of the state Coahuila y Tejas, which had a flag with two stars. When Texas gained its independence in 1836, it retained a single star, representing its freedom from Mexico.

1999 40c Rio Grande air mail  
(Scott C134)

The third-longest U.S. river systems, the Rio Grande is 1,885 miles long. Its final 1,254 miles are a natural border between Texas and Mexico, often crossing rugged terrain as it descends to the Gulf of Mexico near Brownsville, Texas.

1948 3c Fort Bliss Centennial  
(Scott 976)

Marking the centennial of this fort at El Paso, the stamp shows a mountain scene and an old mission in its upper corners, with a parade of tiny historical animals, men, and machines in the unusual triangular frame surrounding the vignette of a rocket launch. Fort Bliss was where German rocket scientists were sequestered by the U.S. Army following World War II, and saw some rocket tests, although launches of captured German V-2 rockets like the one on this stamp actually took place at the White Sands Missile Range 70 miles north in New Mexico.

1968 6c HemisFair '68  
(Scott 1340)

Held in San Antonio on its 250th anniversary, HemisFair '68 was the first international exposition in the U.S. southwest. From April 6 to October 6, it celebrated the "Confluence of Civilization in the Americas," highlighting Texas as a gateway between the United States and Latin America. More than 30 nations took part, many with pavilions on the 92.6-acre site, and over 6.3 million visitors came.

2002 34c Greetings From Texas  
(Scott 3603)

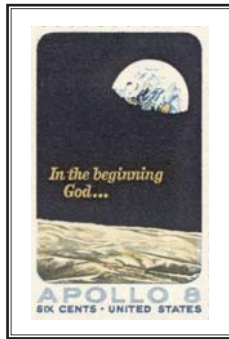
The Greetings from Texas stamp depicts three striking images with strong Lone Star State associations: the battered but familiar façade of the historic Alamo in San Antonio; a Texas longhorn steer; and a yellow rose, alluding not to any flower but to the woman made famous in the ballad, *The Yellow Rose of Texas*. A river also is prominent cutting through the center of the design, perhaps intended to represent the Rio Grande.

1987 22c Armadillo  
(Scott 2296)

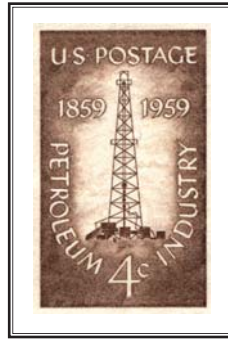
A genuine Texas symbol, the armadillo — Spanish for "little armored one" — is a small placental mammal with a leathery shell. In the U.S., the sole resident species is the Nine-banded Armadillo (*Dasypus novemcinctus*), which is common in the central southernmost states, particularly in Texas. Early German settlers in Texas called it the *Panzerschwein* ("armored pig"), and during the Great Depression, the armadillo was called the "Hoover Hog" by disillusioned, down-on-their-luck Americans who had to eat them instead of the "chicken in every pot" promised by presidential candidate Herbert Hoover.



# TEXAS SIGNS & SYMBOLS



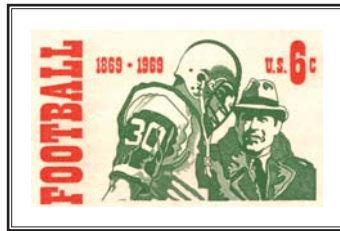
1969 6c Apollo 8  
(Scott 1371)



1959 4c Petroleum Industry  
(Scott 1134)



1968 6c Hemisfair '68  
(Scott 1340)



1969 6c Football Centennial  
(Scott 1382)



1976 13c Texas State Flag  
(Scott 1660)



2002 34c Greetings From Texas  
(Scott 3603)



1999 40c Rio Grande air mail  
(Scott C134)



1982 20c Texas State Bird & Flower  
(Scott 1995)



1987 22c Armadillo  
(Scott 2296)



1948 3c Fort Bliss Centennial  
(Scott 976)



*covered wagon riders stagecoach camel cactus cannon & caisson tank towed artillery*  
Dedicated to "the military of Fort Bliss and the civilians of El Paso and the Southwest"



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# TEXAS

