

Anson Jones

1798–1858

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Official Texas
Historical Marker

Dedication

November 21, 2009

Glenwood Cemetery

2525 Washington

Houston, Texas

Sponsored by the Texas Heritage Society
and the Harris County Historical Commission



ANSON JONES

(JANUARY 20, 1798 - JANUARY 9, 1858)

ANSON JONES WAS BORN IN GREAT BARRINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS. HE EARNED HIS M.D. DEGREE IN PHILADELPHIA IN 1827; BY OCTOBER 1833, JONES HAD MOVED TO TEXAS, ESTABLISHING A SUCCESSFUL MEDICAL PRACTICE IN BRAZORIA. IN 1835, HE HELPED ORGANIZE HOLLAND LODGE NO. 36, THE FIRST MASONIC LODGE IN TEXAS. IN 1836, JONES JOINED IN TEXAS' WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE AND SERVED AS JUDGE ADVOCATE AND SURGEON OF THE SECOND REGIMENT. HE FOUGHT AS A PRIVATE IN THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO.

AFTER THE WAR, JONES RETURNED TO HIS MEDICAL PRACTICE AND IN 1837 WAS ELECTED TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. THAT YEAR, HE WAS ALSO ELECTED AS THE FIRST GRAND MASTER OF MASONS IN TEXAS AND WAS AMONG THE NOTED CHARTER MEMBERS WHO ORGANIZED THE PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF TEXAS. IN 1838, SAM HOUSTON APPOINTED JONES AS MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS. IN THIS POSITION, HE BEGAN TO STIMULATE AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR ANNEXATION BY STRENGTHENING TEXAS' TIES WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND FRANCE, PLAYING AT U.S. INSECURITIES.

JONES MARRIED MARY SMITH McCRORY IN 1840; SHE WAS LATER ELECTED THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS. IN 1841, PRESIDENT HOUSTON APPOINTED JONES AS SECRETARY OF STATE, WHERE HE FURTHER ENCOURAGED ANNEXATION. IN 1844, JONES WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS; HE BECAME THE COUNTRY'S LAST PRESIDENT WHEN THE U.S. ANNEXED TEXAS ON DECEMBER 29, 1845. AT A FORMAL CEREMONY IN AUSTIN ON FEBRUARY 19, 1846, JONES LOWERED THE LONE STAR FLAG AND DECLARED, "THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS IS NO MORE." HE RETIRED TO BARRINGTON, HIS PLANTATION NEAR WHAT IS NOW WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS, WHERE HE SPENT MUCH OF HIS TIME WRITING. TODAY, ANSON JONES IS REMEMBERED FOR HIS MULTITUDE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT EARNED HIM THE NICKNAME, "THE ARCHITECT OF ANNEXATION."

(2009)

MARKER IS PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

ANSON JONES, LAST PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

GLENWOOD CEMETERY
2525 WASHINGTON AVENUE, HOUSTON, TEXAS

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MARKER SPONSOR
NARRATIVE WRITER AND NARRATIVE RESEARCHER
KAMERON KENT SEARLE, J.D.

Marker sponsor, Kameron Searle, would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Bernice Mistrot for the many hours of help and advice that she has provided over the last two years with regard to the whole Anson Jones marker project.

Searle acknowledges that he would never have completed his work on this long-overdue tribute to Anson Jones without Bernice Mistrot's untiring assistance and encouragement. She is a true asset to the Harris County Historical Commission and all of those sincerely desiring to preserve the true history of Texas.

HARRIS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MARKER REVIEW COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
Bernice Mistrot

HARRIS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION MENTOR
Gina Bouchard

MARKER FINANCIAL SPONSOR
San Jacinto Descendants

With deepest appreciation to the San Jacinto Descendants for providing the funding and support for the marker to be created and placed in Glenwood Cemetery.

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PLANNING COMMITTEE

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CONTRIBUTORS

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Cover: Anson Jones. bef. 1859. steel-engraved front-piece portrait, artist unknown. Anson Jones, *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas, Its History and Annexation. Including a Brief Autobiography of the Author.* New York: D. Appleton and Company, 346 & 348 Broadway, 1859. provided by Kameron K. Searle, J.D.

ANSON JONES

(JANUARY 20, 1798 - JANUARY 9, 1858)

submitted by Kameron K. Searle, J.D.

Houston, Texas (2008)

I. CONTEXT

Dr. Anson Jones fought bravely as a private in the Battle of San Jacinto when the Texans won their independence from Mexico.¹ Usually, that alone would have been enough for someone to qualify to be remembered with an official Texas State Historical Marker. But, Jones did so much more. As James M. Day, the great Texas historian and former Director of the Texas State Archives, put it, “The next decade of [Anson] Jones’ life belonged to the Republic he aided in birth and buried at its demise.”² During that decade, Anson Jones worked tirelessly to bring about the annexation of Texas by the United States, earning him the much-deserved title: “Architect of Annexation.”³

If this still were not enough, many of Jones’ contributions to the society and culture of Texas continue to reverberate through time right up to the present day. Often when new construction is begun and cement is poured for a new project, people will place their hands in the wet cement to make their mark. From the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas to the Texas Medical Association, the handprints of Anson Jones, the last president of Texas, can still be seen all over the great State of Texas.

II. OVERVIEW

Anson Jones, the son of Solomon and Sarah Jones, was born in Great Barrington, Berkshire County, Massachusetts on January 20, 1798.⁴ Jones studied medicine as an apprentice in Utica, New York and was licensed by the Oneida Medical Society in 1820.⁵ Later, he received his M.D. degree from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in March 1827.⁶

Jones did not meet with great success in his medical practice nor in his business interests in the United States.⁷ In October 1833 Anson Jones set sail from

New Orleans to Brazoria, Texas.⁸ When he arrived in Texas, Jones had \$17.00 in his pocket.⁹ In Brazoria, Jones’ medical practice met with great financial success. By 1834, he was earning \$5,000 a year.¹⁰

Anson Jones had become a Mason in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.¹¹ In March 1835, near Brazoria Texas, Jones was one of six Master Masons who met under the “Masonic Oak” to undertake the establishment of the first regularly-formed Masonic lodge in Texas.¹² Application was made to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for a dispensation to form and open a Masonic lodge.¹³ Under a special dispensation, Holland Lodge No. 36 was opened on December 27, 1835 in Brazoria, Texas with Anson Jones presiding as the Worshipful Master.¹⁴ The formal charter granted to Holland Lodge #36 by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was delivered to Anson Jones just before the Battle of San Jacinto and was carried in his saddlebags during the battle.¹⁵

Anson Jones joined the Texas Army in 1836 and served as Judge Advocate and Surgeon of the Second Regiment.¹⁶ Jones fought as a private in Sidney Sherman’s Second Regiment in the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836.¹⁷ Anson Jones’ Donation Land Grant provides the following information: “Republic of Texas. Know all men. To whom these presents shall come: That Anson Jones having fought bravely in the Battle of San Jacinto on the 20th and 21st of 1836 is entitled to six hundred and forty acres of Donation Land, in accordance with the Act of Congress, passed December 21, 1837.”¹⁸

Following the Battle of San Jacinto, Jones provided medical care to the wounded Texian soldiers in the home of Vice President Lorenzo de Zavala on the other side of Buffalo Bayou.¹⁹

Jones returned to his medical practice in Brazoria following the Texas Revolution.²⁰ Shortly thereafter, he was elected to the House of Representatives from

Brazoria to the Second Congress of the Republic of Texas in 1837.²¹

On December 20, 1837, Texas Masons convened in Houston to organize the Grand Lodge of Texas.²² President Sam Houston presided over this meeting held in the Senate Chamber of the Republic of Texas, which elected Anson Jones as the first Grand Master of Masons in Texas.²³ Following the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Texas, Holland Lodge #36 which had been relocated to Houston was re-chartered as Holland Lodge #1.²⁴ Holland Lodge #1 is still located in Houston and has been a working lodge ever since.²⁵ A statue of Anson Jones honoring his memory has been on view in the main lobby of Holland Lodge #1 for many decades.

On December 5, 1837, a group of gentlemen met in the Capitol in Houston, Texas to organize The Philosophical Society of Texas.²⁶ Anson Jones was one of the twenty-six charter members of The Philosophical Society of Texas.²⁷ These twenty-six constituted a large portion of the professional and political talent of Texas: Mirabeau B. Lamar, Ashbel Smith, Thos. J. Rusk, Wm. H. Wharton, Joseph Rowe, Angus McNeill, A. C. Allen, G. W. Bonnell, Joseph Baker, Patrick C. Jack, W. Fairfax Gray, Jno. A. Wharton, D. S. Kaufman, Jas. Collinsworth, Anson Jones, Littleton Fowler, A. C. Horton, J. W. Bunton, Edward T. Branch, Henry Smith, Hugh McLeod, T. Jefferson Chambers, Sam Houston, and R. A. Irion.²⁸ The original draft of its by-laws, signed by the charter members, is in the San Jacinto Museum of History.²⁹

In 1838, Sam Houston, during his first term as President, appointed Anson Jones to be the Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Texas to the United States of America.³⁰ Though Texans were almost unanimous for annexation, there were many opponents to the annexation of Texas in the United States. Jones went to Washington D.C. and began a brilliant diplomatic strategy for the annexation of Texas by the United States.

Surprisingly the first move in his strategy was to make it clear to the United States that Texas no longer considered annexation an option. On October 12, 1838, in a letter to Mr. Vail, the Acting Secretary of State of the United States, Jones wrote: "The undersigned, minister plenipotentiary of the republic of Texas, therefore, in accordance with his instructions, has the honor to announce to the Secretary of State of the United States

the formal and absolute withdrawal of the proposition of annexation of Texas to the United States."³¹

Anson Jones' second move in his strategy to gain annexation was immediately begun. Now that Jones had made it clear that annexation was completely off the table, Jones loudly publicized this fact to the Europeans. The strategy was now to gain recognition of the Republic of Texas from the Europeans, especially Great Britain and France. Over the next few years, Jones (as Minister Plenipotentiary, Secretary of State and President of the Republic) would use the French and particularly the English to make many in the United States government at first jealous and later paranoid.³²

Jones wrote, "A very favorable character was given to our diplomatic intercourse with both France and England. The latter ratified the Treaty with Texas and the ratifications were exchanged at London. In due time a British Consul, Consul General and Minister were appointed and sent to Texas."³³ As Jones later wrote, "A jealousy and rivalry began to exist between the U. States on the one hand, and Great Britain and France on the other, in relation to Texas, and it was not her policy to endeavor to abate or suppress it."³⁴ Having fought the British again so recently in the War of 1812, the United States was fearful of England's growing relationship with Texas on the United States' southwestern border.

In 1839, upon his return from his activities in Washington D.C., Jones found that he had been elected Senator from Brazoria. He would serve as senator in the Fourth and Fifth Congresses of the Republic of Texas.³⁵

On May 17, 1840, Anson Jones married Mary Smith McCrory in Austin, Texas.³⁶ It is interesting to note that Mrs. Anson Jones was later elected the first president of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.³⁷

In 1841, during Sam Houston's second term as President, Houston appointed Anson Jones Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas.³⁸ Jones served as Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas from 1841 to 1844. After 1842, there were no more "predatory incursions" into Texas by Mexico.³⁹ The United States' position on annexation began to change rapidly at this point.

As Jones wrote, "In the summer of 1843 a truce was obtained of Mexico and existed for some time. Texas and Mexico appointed commissioners for the purpose of fixing the conditions of a permanent armistice to last while negotiations for peace could

be carried on. This cessation of hostilities appeared to have been procured by the influence of the French and British ministers at Mexico, and when known to the U. States accompanied by the “Alarming facts” and “Astounding Development and Disclosures” of the press, worked miracles of conversion to the cause of annexation in that country. This aroused all the dormant jealousies and fears of that government, the apathy of seven years sleep over the question was shaken off ...”⁴⁰

Jones further wrote, “But the excitement in the United States on the subject of “British intrigues” in Texas, which never had an important fact to stand upon, and the jealousy of European powers had been carried so high, that the [United States] Presidential election coming on, it became a rallying point for party, “Texas and Oregon” became as potent words in 1844 as “Log cabins and hard cider” were in 1840.”⁴¹ James K. Polk favored annexation of Texas and his opponent Henry Clay was against it. In November of 1844, Polk was elected.

Jones continued to play his role in this great drama well. During the 1844 Republic of Texas presidential race, newspapers in the United States regularly reported that Anson Jones was campaigning for president “opposed to Annexation” and as the “Anti-Annexation candidate.”⁴² In September 1844, Anson Jones was elected the last president of the Republic of Texas.⁴³ In just over a year following Jones’ election, the Congress of United States of America approved the annexation of Texas by a joint resolution on December 29, 1845 the date of Texas’s legal entry into the Union.⁴⁴ On February 19, 1846, at a formal ceremony in Austin, President Anson Jones lowered the Lone Star Flag of Texas and proclaimed, “The final act in this great drama is now performed: the Republic of Texas is no more.”⁴⁵

On March 5, 1845, Anson Jones retired from politics to his plantation, “Barrington,” named after his native town in Massachusetts.⁴⁶ Barrington was located near Washington (later known as Washington-on the-Brazos). Today, Anson Jones’ Barrington home is preserved in Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historical Park.⁴⁷

In 1853, the Medical Association of Texas (now the Texas Medical Association) was founded.⁴⁸ The Anson Jones, M.D. Awards are presented annually by the Texas Medical Association to honor members of the Texas news media for excellence in communicating

health information to the public. The rules page of the Anson Jones, M.D. awards provides the following information and history: “Anson Jones, MD, a pioneer Texas physician, served the Republic of Texas with distinction as a member of Congress, secretary of state, and its last president from 1844 to 1846. He was responsible for establishing the first regulations concerning the practice of medicine in Texas. He also urged formation of an “Association of Physicians of the Republic of Texas for the promotion and general diffusion of medical knowledge.” Throughout his life, Dr. Jones was a prolific writer. His book, *Republic of Texas*, shows his keen intellect, literary style, and devotion to an ideal. It is for these reasons this award for excellence in journalism is named in his honor. TMA presented the first Anson Jones, M.D. award in Dallas in 1957.”⁴⁹

Anson Jones died in Houston, Texas on January 9, 1858.⁵⁰ He was buried with Masonic honors on January 12, 1858 by the Lodge that he had organized at Brazoria in 1835, and constituted at Houston, in 1837.⁵¹ Anson Jones is buried in Glenwood Cemetery located at 2525 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas.⁵²

Jones County, Texas and its county seat, Anson, both were named in honor of Anson Jones.⁵³

III. SIGNIFICANCE

Anson Jones was born in Great Barrington, Massachusetts on January 20, 1798. Jones studied medicine and received his M.D. degree in 1827. Jones came to Brazoria, Texas in 1833 and practiced medicine with much success.

In March 1835, Anson Jones was one of six Master Masons who met near Brazoria to establish the first regularly formed Masonic lodge in Texas. Under a special dispensation from Grand Lodge of Louisiana, Holland Lodge #36 was opened on December 27, 1835 in Brazoria with Jones presiding as Worshipful Master.

Anson Jones joined the Texas Army in 1836 and fought as a private in Sherman’s Second Regiment in the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836. The formal charter granted to Holland Lodge by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was delivered to Jones just before the Battle of San Jacinto and was carried in his saddlebags during the battle.

Jones was elected to the House of Representative from Brazoria to the Second Congress in 1837. On December 20, 1837, Texas Masons convened in

Houston to organize the Grand Lodge of Texas. Jones was elected the first Grand Master of Masons in Texas. Jones co-founded The Philosophical Society of Texas on December 5, 1837.

In 1838, Sam Houston appointed Anson Jones the Republic's Minister to the United States. Jones went to Washington D.C. and began his strategy for the annexation of Texas. In 1839, Jones was elected senator and served in the Fourth and Fifth Congresses. On May 17, 1840, he married Mary Smith McCrory. Later, Mrs. Anson Jones would be the first president of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

In 1841, Sam Houston appointed Jones Secretary of State. In September 1844, Anson Jones was elected the last president of the Republic of Texas. The Congress of United States concluded the annexation of Texas on December 29, 1845. On February 19, 1846, at a formal ceremony in Austin, President Jones, the "Architect of Annexation," lowered the Lone Star Flag of Texas and proclaimed, "The Republic of Texas is no more."

Anson Jones retired from politics to his Barrington plantation. He died in Houston, Texas on January 9, 1858. Anson Jones is the only President of a sovereign nation buried in Houston, Texas or Harris County, Texas.

IV. DOCUMENTATION

Endnotes

1. Texas General Land Office, *County: Atascosa, Abstract Number: 507, Class: Bexar Donation, File Number: 66, Original Grantee: Anson Jones, Patent Date: December 5, 1844, Patent No: 78, Patent Vol. 1, Certificate: 4, Acres: 640*. See Anson Jones Donation Land Grant at: <https://scandocs.glo.state.tx.us/webfiles/landgrants/pdfs/1/4/9/149850.pdf>
2. Anson Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas, Its History and Annexation*, intro. James M. Day, 2nd ed. (New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1859; Chicago: Rio Grande Press, 1966), p. v-vi. Note: Mrs. Anson Jones originally published *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas* at her own expense in 1859 shortly after the death of Anson Jones. In addition to his memoranda and private letters, this work contains a 26-page autobiography of Anson Jones and his history of the annexation of Texas. Much of the information in this narrative was taken directly from Anson Jones' autobiography entitled "Private Memoirs." (Hereafter cited as Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*).
3. Ibid, p. v. Also see Texas State Library and Archives: <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/treasures/earlystate/nomore-1.html>
4. Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*, p.1.
5. Ibid, p. 5.
6. Ibid, p. 7.
7. Ibid, pp. 5-8.
8. Ibid, p. 8.

9. Ibid, p. 9.
10. Ibid, p. 11.
11. J. C. Kidd, *History of Holland Lodge No.1 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons*, Houston, Holland Lodge No. 1, 1920, p. 4.
12. Kidd, *History of Holland Lodge No.1 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons*, p.11. Also see Anson Jones, "Free Masonry in Texas: A Reminiscence of its Early History," reprinted in *The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas*, Vol. I, ed. A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary (Galveston: Richardson & Co., 1857), pp. 6-7. Also see James D. Carter, *Masonry in Texas: Background, History and Influence to 1846* (Waco, Texas: Committee on Masonic Education & Service, Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M., 1955), pp. 257-259. For more information on the Masonic Oak see Grand Lodge of Texas web page: <http://www.grandlodgeoftexas.org/masonicoak.php>
13. Kidd, *History of Holland Lodge No.1 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons*, p.11. Also see Anson Jones, "Free Masonry in Texas: A Reminiscence of its Early History," reprinted in *The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas*, Vol. I, pp. 6-7.
14. J. C. Kidd, "Freemasonry in Texas: A Reminiscence of its Early History, by Past Grand Master Anson Jones," *History of Holland Lodge No. 1, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons*, p. 11. Also see Anson Jones, "Free Masonry in Texas: A Reminiscence of its Early History," reprinted in *The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas*, p. 7.
15. James D. Carter, *Masonry in Texas: Background, History and Influence to 1846* (Waco, Texas: Committee on Masonic Education & Service, Grand Lodge of Texas, A. F. & A. M., 1955), pp. 262-264. Also see J. C. Kidd, "Freemasonry in Texas: A Reminiscence of Its Early History, by Past Grand Master Anson Jones," *History of Holland Lodge No. 1, Free and Accepted Masons*, p. 12.
16. Herbert Gambrell, *Anson Jones: The Last President of Texas* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1964), pp. 62 and 64. Also see Anson Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas* (Chicago: Rio Grande Press, 1966), pp. 15-16.
17. Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*, p. 15-17.
18. Texas General Land Office, *County: Atascosa, Abstract Number: 507, Class: Bexar Donation, File Number: 66, Original Grantee: Anson Jones, Patent Date: December 5, 1844, Patent No: 78, Patent Vol. 1, Certificate: 4, Acres: 640*. See Anson Jones Donation Land Grant: <https://scandocs.glo.state.tx.us/webfiles/landgrants/pdfs/1/4/9/149850.pdf>
19. Gambrell, *Anson Jones: The Last President of Texas*, p. 69. Also see Anson Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas*, p. 17.
20. Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*, p.17.
21. Ibid, p.18.
22. *The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas*, Vol. I, ed. A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary (Galveston: Richardson & Co., 1857), p. 9.
23. Ibid, pp. 9-10.
24. Anson Jones, "Free Masonry in Texas: A Reminiscence of its Early History," reprinted in *The Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas*, Vol. I, ed. A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary (Galveston: Richardson & Co., 1857), p. 8.
25. Holland Lodge No. 1, <http://www.hollandlodge.org/holland.htm>
26. Gambrell, *Anson Jones: The Last President of Texas*, pp. 112-113.
27. <http://www.pstx.org/history.html>. Also see Gambrell, *Anson Jones: The Last President of Texas*, pp. 112-113.
28. Gambrell, *Anson Jones: The Last President of Texas* p. 113. See also "The Philosophical Society of Texas," <http://www.pstx.org/history.html>.
29. "The Philosophical Society of Texas," <http://www.pstx.org/history.html>
30. Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*, p. 20-21.
31. Message from the President of the United States to the two houses of Congress, at the commencement of the third session of the Twenty-fifth Congress, December 4, 1838, Read and committed to a Committee of the Whole House on the on the State of the Union, 12/04/1838, U.S. House, *Serial Set Vol. No.344*,

Session Vol. No1, 25th Congress, 3rd Session, H. Doc. 2, pp. 33 and 34.

32. Anson Jones, "The History of Annexation," *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas, Its History and Annexation* (Chicago: Rio Grande Press, 1966), pp. 3-30. (Hereafter cited as Jones, "The History of Annexation," *Memoranda*).

33. Ibid, 11.

34. Ibid.

35. Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*, p. 21-23.

36. Gambrell, *Anson Jones: The Last President of Texas*, pp. 194-195. See also Anson Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda and Official Correspondence Relating to the Republic of Texas, Its History and Annexation*, p. 22.

37. Daughters of the Republic of Texas, *90 Years of the Daughters: History of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas* (Waco, Texas: Texian Press, 1981), p. 2, 5-6; *Constitution and By-Laws of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas* (Houston: Gray's Printing Office, 1892), pp. 11-12.

38. Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*, p. 23.

39. Jones, "The History of Annexation," *Memoranda*, p. 12.

40. Ibid.

41. Ibid, p. 14.

42. "... opposed to Annexation ..." *Jamestown Journal*, New York, September 13, 1844. "Anti-Annexation candidate," *Macon Weekly Telegraph*, Georgia, October 22, 1844

43. Jones, "The History of Annexation," *Memoranda* p.15.

44. *Statutes at Large and Treaties of the United States of America from Dec. 1, 1845 to March 3, 1851*, V. IX, ed. Geo. Minot, p. 108. Also see: <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/annexation/dec1845.html>

45. Gambrell, *Anson Jones: The Last President of Texas*. Austin, p. 418-419. Also see Texas State Library and Archives Commission, *Anson Jones' Valedictory*

Speech, February 19, 1846 at:

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/treasures/earlystate/nomore-1.html>

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/treasures/earlystate/nomore-2.html>

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/treasures/earlystate/nomore-3.html>

46. Jones, "Private Memoirs," *Memoranda*, p. 26.

47. Texas Parks and Wildlife, "Barrington Living History Farm," http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/barrington_farm

48. Handbook of Texas Online, "Anson Jones,"

http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/JJ/fjo42_print.html

49. See Texas Medical Association:

<http://www.texmed.org/Template.aspx?id=119>

and <http://www.texmed.org/Template.aspx?id=119#Rules>

50. J. C. Kidd, *History of Holland Lodge No. 1, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons*, p. 4.

51. Ibid.

52. See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glenwood_Cemetery_\(Houston,_Texas\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glenwood_Cemetery_(Houston,_Texas))

and <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=3753>

53. Jones County, Texas, <http://www.co.jones.tx.us/ips/cms>

• For further reading about Anson Jones, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission has a tremendous amount of information about Anson Jones on their web site. Please visit these web pages for more information as well as scans of many Republic of Texas documents concerning Anson Jones and annexation.

• See: *Triumph and Tragedy: Presidents of the Republic of Texas* at:

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/presidents/jones/intro.html>

• See: *Anson Jones and the Annexation of Texas* at:

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/presidents/jones/intro.html>

• Also see: *Anson Jones Valedictory Speech, February 19, 1846* at:

<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/treasures/earlystate/nomore-1.html>

Harris County Historical Commission —



The Harris County Historical Commission (HCHC) is composed of 50 local historians who are appointed by the County Judge and Harris County Commissioners Court for two-year terms. All are volunteers, dedicated to preserving and documenting Harris County history.

The county historical commission (CHC) is a vital link in Texas' preservation network. CHCs conduct programs suggested by the County Commissioners Court and the Texas Historical Commission (THC). Over the years, CHC has worked in a dynamic and positive partnership with the THC to preserve Texas' heritage for the use, education, enjoyment, and economic benefit of present and future generations. They have been responsible for the preservation of countless historic buildings, artifacts, documents and other pieces of Texas history.

HCHC reviews all Harris County applications for state historical markers and Historic Texas Cemetery designation before they are submitted to THC and assists applicants throughout the application process. At this time, there are nearly 400 Official Texas Historical Markers and dozens of designated Historic Texas Cemeteries in Harris County.

Sources: Texas Historical Commission — <http://www.thc.state.tx.us>

Harris County Historical Commission — <http://harrischc.org>

From present appearances Dr. Anson Jones will succeed to the Vice-Presidency by a large majority over any one who may come in competition with him for the office. All his old companions in arms are warm in his support, and his good sense, known integrity and capacity for public business have enlisted all classes of men in his behalf.

Col. Burleson has, it seems, at length consented to allow his name to be placed among those of the candidates for the Vice-Presidency. He is a good and brave man, and Texas owes him much; but we believe the duties and labors of the camp, hard as they are, are more congenial to his tastes and habits than those of the cabinet. We prefer Dr. Jones as a politician, but should Col. B. be elected we shall not complain.—*Civilian*.

Austin City Gazette, June 16, 1841

DRT chapter to hear talk

The Mary Ann Lawhon Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas will meet at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Gold Room of Wyatt's Cafeteria, 6310 E. Mockingbird.

Dr. Clayton Scott Jr., great-grandson of Anson Jones and NTSU professor, will speak on *Intimate Glimpses of Anson Jones*. The business session will be conducted by the club's president, Mrs. E. L. Harlee.

Dallas Morning News,
March 21, 1975

Thousands Gather At Scene of Birth Of Texas Republic

Home of Anson Jones Is Dedicated at Washing- ton-on-Brazos Rites

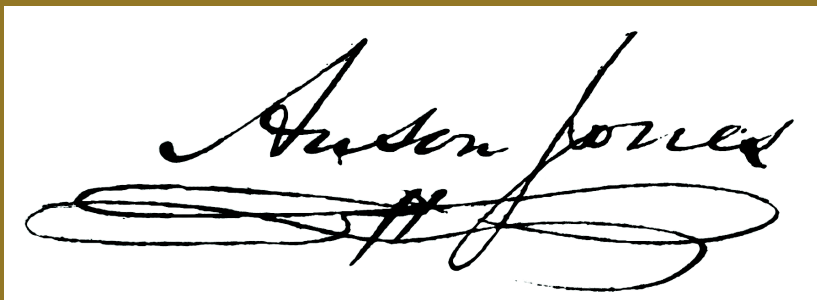
BY ROBERT M. HAYES.

East Texas Bureau of The News.
BRENHAM, Texas, March 2.—Descendants of the fifty-eight signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence were honor guests at a mammoth patriotic celebration staged at Old Washington-on-the-Brazos Tuesday. Nearly 8,000 Texans from every section of the State flocked to Washington State Park for the event which commemorated the 101st anniversary of the birth of the Texas Republic. A special feature of the program was the dedication of the old Anson B. Jones home, recently moved to the park from its original site four miles away.

Allred Is Speaker.

Gov. James V. Allred said that every patriotic Texan should feel a pleasant obligation to make an annual pilgrimage to the hallowed spot where a nation was born. Others on the program included Judge Charles Ashe of Houston, grandson of Anson B. Jones, and L. A. Woods, State Superintendent of Public Instruction. M. B. Holleman of Brenham was master of ceremonies. The celebration was sponsored by Buddy Wright Post No. 48 of the American Legion. Hundreds of school children from

Dallas Morning News,
March 3, 1937



COMMUNICATED

CENTERVILLE, Leon County.

Mr. Editor:—I find occasionally in your columns, the names of proper men for the United States Senate, alluded to, by letter writers, in connection with the next vacancy for that position, from this State. I would not detract from the claims or merits of any one spoken of, but desire to add another distinguished name to the list, one, in my humble judgment, whose claims upon the State, have been *too long* overlooked and shamefully neglected.

If I am correctly informed Dr. Anson Jones is the first man that mooted the question of Texas independence, and who from that early period, devoted all his energy and ability to its attainment; how much and what he did, let the history of the country attest.

It was my good fortune twelve years ago to make the acquaintance of Dr. Jones, and through him learned much of the history of early events, and the progress, and course of annexation which was being conducted

Texas State Gazette, August 22, 1858

The "Texas Ranger" in concluding a long article, detailing the claims of the Hon. Anson Jones to the position of U. S. Senator; says:

It is due to Anson Jones to send him to the Senate—due to his talents, to his faithfulness—to his services. There is no one in Texas more capable, honest and faithful than him, and if his claims are ignored by our Legislature, however worthy the man selected may be,—one thing is certain—the stain of ingratitude will be fixed, deep and indelible upon the fair escutcheon of our gallant and proud young State, which "all great Ocean's water" can never wash out!

Ledger and Texan, September 5, 1858

images courtesy of Loy Anderson, Glenwood Cemetery



photos courtesy of Barrington Living History Farm

BARRINGTON LIVING HISTORY FARM

With Jones' Daybook as their guide, the interpreters of Barrington Living History Farm conduct themselves much as did the early residents of the original farmstead. The Jones home is original; the outbuildings are replicas constructed by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department using Jones' own journal and drawings.

Step into the lives of Barrington Farm's earliest residents. Experience the sights, smells, and sounds of the 19th century. The farm is complete with heritage breeds of livestock, interpreters, dressed in period-style clothing, to help visitors better understand what life was like 150 years ago.

We are encouraged to participate in the work of the farm and become a part of the exhibit. Learn how to drive oxen, help plant and harvest crops, and try your hand at spinning or making soap. Explore the farm and experience the daily lives of those who came before. — *Barrington Living History Farm*

The Texas Heritage Society, Inc.

The Texas Heritage Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of Texas' rich and unique history. It is based in The Woodlands, Texas.

Membership — \$25/Individual/\$35/Family/\$15/Student/\$500/Patron

You are invited to become a member of the Texas Heritage Society. Benefits include historic-site tours, publications, invitations to numerous events, films, lectures and seminars.

Mail membership dues to:

The Texas Heritage Society, 71 East Kentwick Place, The Woodlands, Texas 77384-5109

Meetings

General meetings are held quarterly in March, June, September, and December. Historic Site Tours are held quarterly in February, May, July, and November.

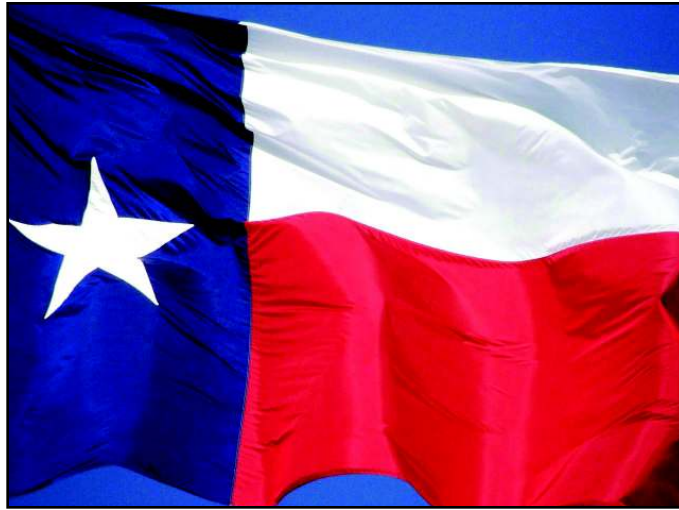
Publications and Web site

One of the main goals of the Texas Heritage Society is to provide historians with a forum to present their research over a broad range of Texas historical subjects. THS publishes scholarly articles in the *Journal of Texas Heritage*, selected articles on its Web site, and other books and pamphlets.

East Montgomery County Museum

The Texas Heritage Society also welcomes those interested in the heritage of Southeast Texas to join in supporting the East Montgomery County Museum located in New Caney, Texas. Information about the museum is available by calling: (832) 689-2772. For more information: (281) 398-8871 or (832) 326-0835 or <http://www.texasheritagesociety.org>.





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Texas Pledge of Allegiance

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Honor the Texas Flag,
I pledge allegiance to thee,
Texas,
One State under God,
One and Indivisible.