March 2, 1836

The day dawned frigid and gray; cutting winds blew through glassless windows of the small, unfinished building.Texians—as they called themselves—gave birth to a dream. At the town of Washington, fifty-nine representatives voted into existence a sovereign nation: the REPUBLIC OF TEXAS!

Washington-on-the-Brazos preserves the site of the Birthplace of Texas.

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE HISTORY!

Additional Information

To make your trip the best it can be, please visit our website at

www.starmuseum.org

Our website offers additional information such as . . .

- Pre and Post Visit Activities for your class
- Sample lesson plans related to Republic of Texas history
- Tour site definitions and related TEKS
- Directions to the Park

WELCOME TO WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS!

We are pleased that you have included a visit to Washington-on-the-Brazos in your activities for a successful school year. This brochure provides important information you should know before your visit to the Park and/or Museum.

Education Department
Star of the Republic Museum
P.O. Box 317
Washington, TX 77880
936-878-2461 ext. 245
fax: 936-878-2462
e-mail: donna.barker@blinn.edu
www.starmuseum.org
Dear Educator,

We look forward to your upcoming visit to Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site and the Star of the Republic Museum.

The programs at this state park and museum provide unique experiences. They will create an interest, understanding, and appreciation for Texas history. With professionally created exhibits and interactive tours, students are able to experience the unparalleled history of the Republic of Texas. Whether learning about the Declaration of Independence at Independence Hall, experiencing 1850s farm life at Barrington Living History Farm, or steering the Yellowstone steamboat down the Brazos River at the Star of the Republic Museum, students connect with the past during their visit to the Birthplace of Texas.

In addition, our programs are aligned with the TEKS, and will provide useful information for future classroom activities.

Thank you and enjoy your visit!

Have a fun-filled and educational day at Washington-on-the-Brazos!

If your school would like to experience the best Washington-on-the-Brazos and Star of the Republic Museum have to offer, we have a few suggestions to make your field trip a great success.

➢ Please adhere to the assigned schedule. If a change needs to be made to your schedule, please notify the Museum as soon as possible.

➢ When arriving at the Park, please have the coordinator check in at the first site on your schedule.

➢ Please arrive 10-15 minutes early in order to experience your full time at each site.

Additional SCHOOL GROUP EXPECTATIONS…

➢ Teachers and all adults must accompany classes and remain with the group at all times participating as chaperones.

➢ All children in the group must be of school age and part of the tour group.

➢ Use museum/library voices when inside buildings and during programs. Please keep cellular phone use outside and phones on silent during the tour.

➢ No running or roughhousing is allowed.

Please remember,

➢ We depend on teachers and adult chaperones to maintain order.

➢ Bring your schedule and map!

➢ You are responsible for making and distributing copies of your schedule and map to every adult and bus driver with your school. It is important that all adults know where their group is to be and at what times.

➢ You are also responsible for making certain that students get from one area of the Park to the next in a timely manner. There are parking lots at each of the sites, which can be used for bus transportation.

Note: Any group or individual engaging in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave. Thank you for your cooperation.
Dear Parents,

We are so thrilled that your child will be coming to Washington-on-the-Brazos for an educational experience!

The park is home to three unique sites with exciting things to see and do; hopefully these tips and guidelines will be helpful to you and your child.

- Wear comfortable walking shoes and if rain is in the forecast, rain gear is needed. The field trip will take place outdoors rain or shine (except in the event of thunderstorms).

- If your child is eating lunch, we recommend using re-useable containers as we encourage conservation and a trash-free lunch.

- Please leave cell phones off or on vibrate during tours as a courtesy to both the students and the tour guides.

- All other adults and siblings are responsible for their own tickets, unless purchased by the school. Please purchase a ticket at the Visitor’s Center, Barrington Farm or Star of the Republic Museum to receive your **required wristband**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Single Site</th>
<th>Brazos Pass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student (age 6 +)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under age 6</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family (2 adults/5 kids)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
<td>$27.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are looking forward to having your child visit and learn at Washington-on-the-Brazos!

Thank You,

The Education Department
INDEPENDENCE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY...

What more important concepts can we teach our children?

These crucial concepts were the motivation behind the convention held at Washington-on-the-Brazos, the Birthplace of Texas, in early March 1836. Texas was in turmoil, as fifty-nine elected delegates met to sign the Texas Declaration of Independence from Mexico. Discover what motivated them to take this bold and unprecedented step for democracy at:

www.txindependence.org

Students are immersed in the story of Texas Independence. Fun, educational activities, designed to complement both the 4th and 7th grade TEKS, include:

The Story of Texas—an animated, action-packed overview
In Washington Town—a 3D game which lets students interact with the citizens in 1836 Convention Comicmaker—a fun activity which allows students to create their own story Timeline of Independence—events that led to the formation of the Republic of Texas Behind the Grievances—an interactive look at the Declaration of Independence Delegate Connection—a searchable database with key information about the delegates Primary Sources—a searchable collection of primary artifacts and documents Teacher Resources—lesson plans, TEKS correlation, activities and resources
Enrich the Experience!
Go beyond the books with educational programs at Washington-on-the-Brazos!

Visit Star of the Republic Museum’s website to find out how to get the most out of a trip to Washington-on-the-Brazos. Click on “Plan a Visit” for program descriptions, sample lesson plans, TEKS alignment, ideas for classroom activities, and other teacher resources.

www.starmuseum.org
Attention Teachers

★ Field trip scheduled, but no time to visit the gift shop?
★ Students still interested in an inexpensive souvenir?
★ How about a pressed penny with the outline of the Star of the Republic Museum, a Buffalo, or Independence Hall on it? You place the order and we will press the pennies for you, and have them ready at the Star of the Republic Museum on the day of your visit.
★ Just 50 cents per student, simply fill out the order form, give us a week notice, and fax the form to us at 936-878-2462.
★ Please keep penny press money separate from admission.

Teacher Name: ____________________________________
School: __________________________________________
Phone Number: ____________________________________
Tour Date: _______________________________________
Number of Pennies: ________________________________

Choose a Design

☐ [Image of the Star of the Republic Museum]
☐ [Image of a Buffalo]
☐ [Image of Independence Hall]

WASHINGTON
BIRTHPLACE
OF
TEXAS
ATTENTION TEACHERS

★ Field trip scheduled but no time to visit the gift shop?
★ Are your students interested in an inexpensive souvenir?
★ A package is available from the Gift Shop featuring a pressed penny, a pencil, two postcards, a package of wildflower seeds, and a bookmark.
★ $5.00 per student.
★ Fill out the order form at least a week in advance and fax the form to us at 936-878-2503.
★ Pick up souvenir packages at the Visitor’s Center on the day of your visit.
★ Please keep this money separate from admission fees.

Teacher Name: ____________________________________________

School: __________________________________________________

Phone Number: ___________________ Tour Date: ______________

Number of Packages: __________

Penny Choices: Barrington Farm _____ Fanthorp Inn _____ La Bahia Pecan _____
WASHINGTON ON THE BRAZOS
STATE HISTORIC SITE

WHERE TEXAS BECAME TEXAS

LOCATED MIDWAY BETWEEN HOUSTON AND AUSTIN on 293 acres of lush park land on the Brazos River, the picturesque Washington on the Brazos State Historic Site gives visitors unique insights into the lives and times of the 59 delegates who met on that very spot to make a formal declaration of independence from Mexico in 1836, creating the Republic of Texas.

This is truly the very spot "where Texas became Texas." There is never a fee to enter this Texas State Park; parking is free, as well.

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE MOBILE APP
Download our "Texas 1836" app to your Smartphone or tablet to take a virtual tour of Washington in 1836. For the mobile app, educational games and curriculum materials focused exclusively on the Texas Independence era of 1836, visit www.wheretexascameletexas.org.

ANNUAL CELEBRATIONS

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION | WEEKEND CLOSEST TO MARCH 2
Celebrate Texas Independence Day on the exact spot where Texas became Texas! The 1830s Republic of Texas period comes to life with costumed interpreters, period demonstrations, military encampments, toe-tappin' music, and weapons and artillery firing.

During the two-day celebration, all tour fees are waived.

HER PRESENTS FIREWORKS ON THE BRAZOS | JULY 4
Celebrate our nation’s independence! Enjoy the historic, cultural and entertainment sites within the park during the day.

Evening festivities include a live concert, 1800s children’s games, and free treats, ending with a fireworks extravaganza!

CHRISTMAS ON THE BRAZOS | SATURDAY IN DECEMBER
The historic Christmas traditions of Texas in the 1850s will transport visitors to a much simpler time at the day-long Christmas on the Brazos celebration from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Free or low-cost holiday activities for all ages include period music, craft making, readings, food samplings and sale of artisan gifts.

The celebration culminates in the evening with the park’s popular Candlelight Christmas event featuring vignettes of Texian frontier festivities, music, musket firing, dancing and a candlelit tour of Barrington Living History Farm.

Visit www.wheretexascameletexas.org or contact (936) 678-2214 for more information.

23400 Park Road 12, Washington, TX 77880 on FM 1155, off Hwy 105 between Brenham (19 miles east) and Navasota (8 miles west).

Park grounds and trails open daily 8 am to dusk. Latitude: 30.323581 Longitude: -96.164854

Support for this brochure and other park programs provided by Washington on the Brazos State Park Association, the non-profit organization dedicated to facilitating preservation projects, celebrations and educational programming at Washington on the Brazos.

Membership levels are available for individuals, families and businesses, and include free admission to the Site’s attractions for a year, including—for some levels—private parties before the Texas Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks on the Brazos (on Fourth of July). Join the association at www.wheretexascameletexas.org.

The Washington on the Brazos complex is administered by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD).
HERE A NATION WAS BORN

INDEPENDENCE HALL

STAND ON THE VERY SPOT where Texas became Texas. This is where 59 Texans braved the approaching armies of Mexican General Santa Anna to create and sign a formal declaration of independence from Mexico.

This declaration of freedom ultimately resulted in the acquisition by the United States of the states of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California and Utah, as well as parts of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, and Oklahoma. Almost one-third of the present area of the American nation, nearly a million square miles of territory, changed sovereignty.

Tours of Independence Hall are offered daily so you can discover the unique history of Texas.

Open Daily 10am-5pm | 936-878-2214

STAR OF THE REPUBLIC MUSEUM

EXPLORE THE RICH HISTORY of the Republic of Texas, a sovereign nation from 1836 to 1846 for an unparalleled look at the people, places and events that shaped the character of the Texas we know today.

Star of the Republic Museum is administered by Blinn College.

Open Daily 10am-5pm | 936-878-2214
Call for holiday schedule.

BARRINGTON LIVING HISTORY FARM

Visitors step back to the 1850s, participating in seasonal chores, daily activities and games. Barrington Farm is a representation of the home and cotton farm of Dr. Anson Jones—Texas' last Republic president.

Costumed staff and volunteers represent the lifestyles of the President, his family and the enslaved, working the cotton fields, planting corn, gardening, cooking over an open hearth and caring for the breeds of livestock.

Open Daily 10am-4:30pm | 936-878-2214

FANTHORP INN STATE HISTORIC SITE

LOCATED 17 MILES EAST of the Washington on the Brazos site, Fanthorn Inn was built in 1834 as a small dogtrot home and eventually developed into a beautiful stagecoach inn, sitting at a crossroads in Texas history.

Today, the wonderfully restored hostel is open for guided tours and special events.

Open Saturdays and Sundays from 9am-11:30am and 1pm-3:30pm. | 936-878-2214
Special event, school and group programs available by appointment.

VISITOR CENTER

The Visitor Center features a gallery complete with interactive exhibits on the Texas Revolution and Republic era, highlighting the historic attractions located within the park. Open Daily 10am-5pm | 936-878-2214

CONFERENCE CENTER AND FACILITIES

With picturesque views of the Brazos River, the Conference Center with kitchen and patio is perfect for meetings, weddings and reunions. The Education Center is located adjacent to the main auditorium and consists of two classroom style spaces perfect for smaller groups. An amphitheater and two pavilions are also available for rent. 512-369-8900
1. Independence Hall and the Washington Townsite
   • The story of independence and the beginning of the Texas nation.
   • New trails and exhibits.
   • Unique history programs.

2. Visitor Services Complex
   • Visitor Center, with new interactive exhibits, park headquarters and the Washington Emporium Gift Shop.
   • Conference Center, featuring a group meeting facility.
   • Education Center, with classroom and meeting space.

3. Star of the Republic Museum
   • Forty-six exhibits covering over 10,000 square feet on two floors.
   • Twenty minute video, “Once A Nation” gives an overview of the period, 1836-1846.
   • Showers-Brown Discovery Center offers interactive activities for children of all ages.

4. Barrington Living History Farm
   • The home of Anson Jones, the last president of the Republic of Texas.
   • A working farm of the 1850s with costumed staff and period livestock.