

Warm Up

November 30, 2015

- ▶ Please answer in complete sentences.
 - ▶ Who won the battle of the Alamo?
 - ▶ What was one of the main advantages of the winning side?
 - ▶ How was the winning side able to use that advantage?
- ▶ Pre AP-
 - ▶ What could/should the winning side have done differently to prevent such a large loss of life on their side of the line?



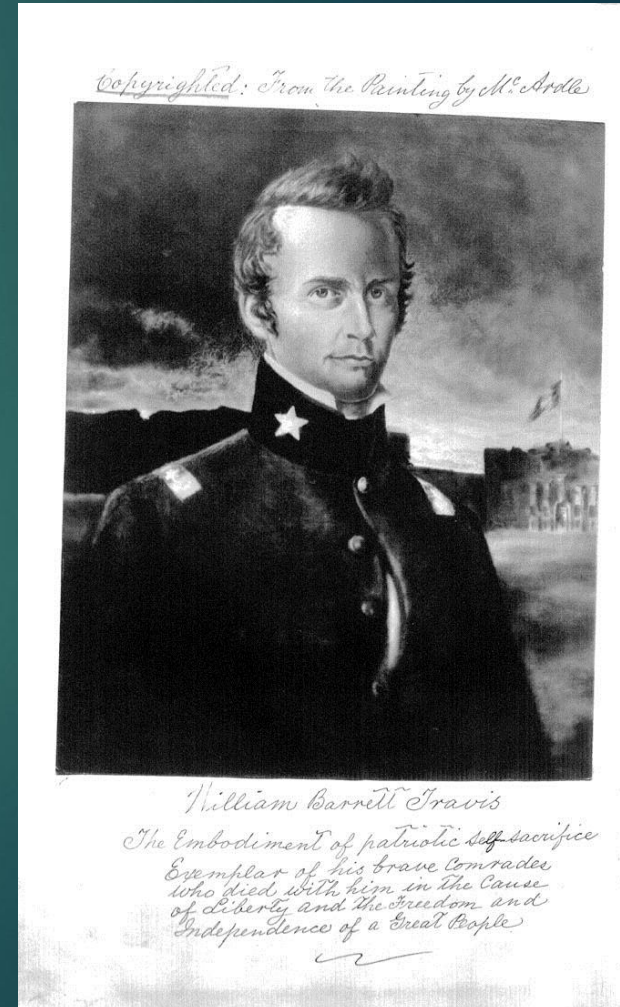
Texas Revolution

BATTLE OF THE ALAMO

Texas Commanders

▶ William B. Travis

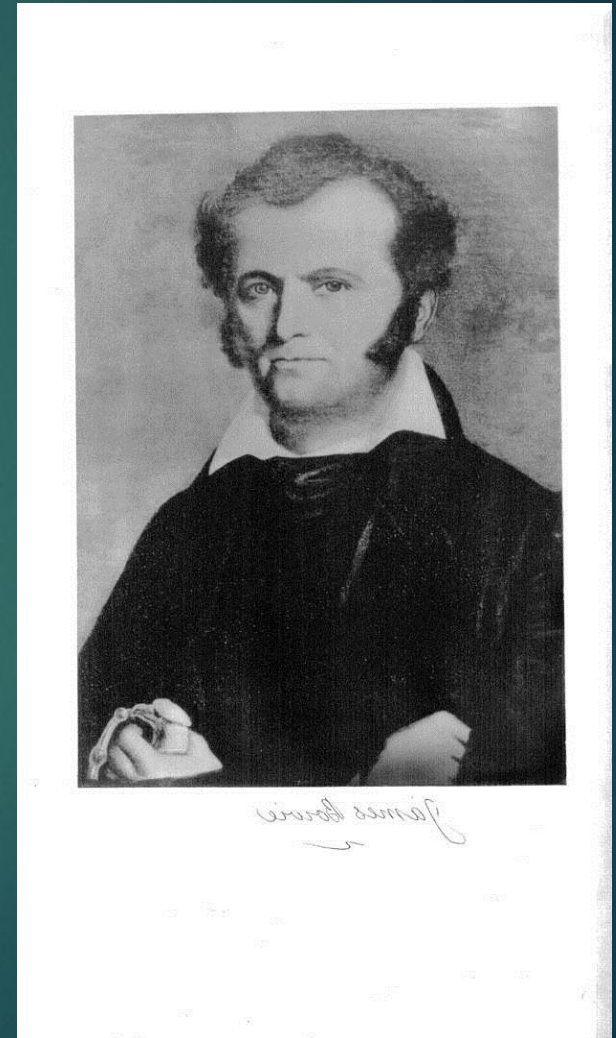
- ▶ He was from Alabama and moved to Texas in 1831.
- ▶ He was a lawyer, and he was arrested with Patrick Jack during the conflicts at Anahuac.
- ▶ Travis was a part of the War Party.
- ▶ On February 24, 1836 Travis wrote the famous "Victory or Death" at the Alamo.



Texas Commanders

- ▶ Jim Bowie

- ▶ He was from Kentucky. He later moved to Louisiana where he was a slave trader and land speculator,
- ▶ He moved to Texas in 1828 with letters of introduction for Stephen F. Austin.
- ▶ Bowie was sent with orders to destroy the Alamo from Sam Houston.



Texas Commanders

▶ David Crockett

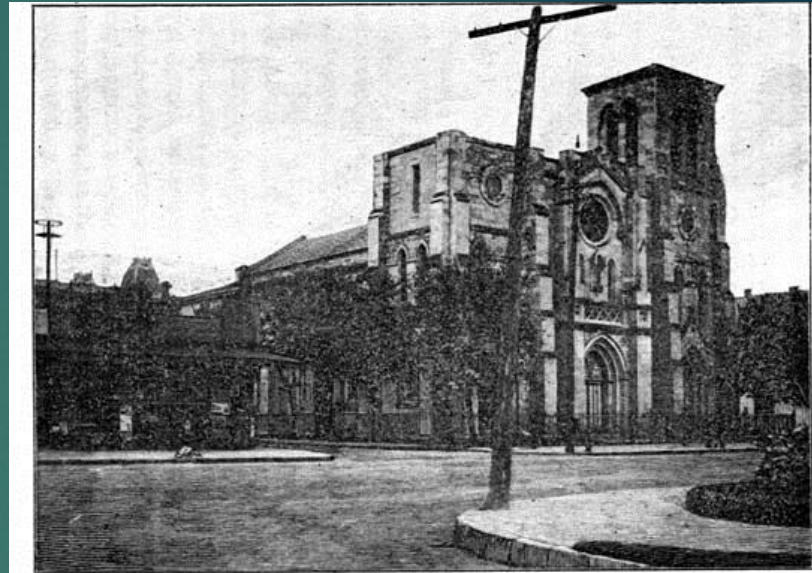
- ▶ He was from Tennessee , and moved to Texas in 1835.
- ▶ He was a congressman in Tennessee.
- ▶ When he arrived in Texas he signed an oath of allegiance to the Texas government.
- ▶ He arrived at the Alamo in February and believed that Travis was correct in defending the position.



"Since you have chosen to elect a man with a timber toe to succeed me, you may all go to hell and I will go to Texas." - David Crockett

The Battle of the Alamo

- ▶ The Siege started on February 23, 1836.
- ▶ The ratio of Mexican soldiers to Texas Soldiers was 9 to 1.
- ▶ On March 3 Santa Anna, wanted to attack. He wanted to move quickly to the colonies and destroy them.
- ▶ Santa Anna's generals recommend they wait for larger cannons and continue bombarding the Texans.



CATHEDRAL SAN FERNANDO (Warning of the approach of the Mexicans was given from the tower of this building)

A 1901 photo of the San Fernando Cathedral, where a Texan scout rung the bells to warn of Santa Anna's approach.

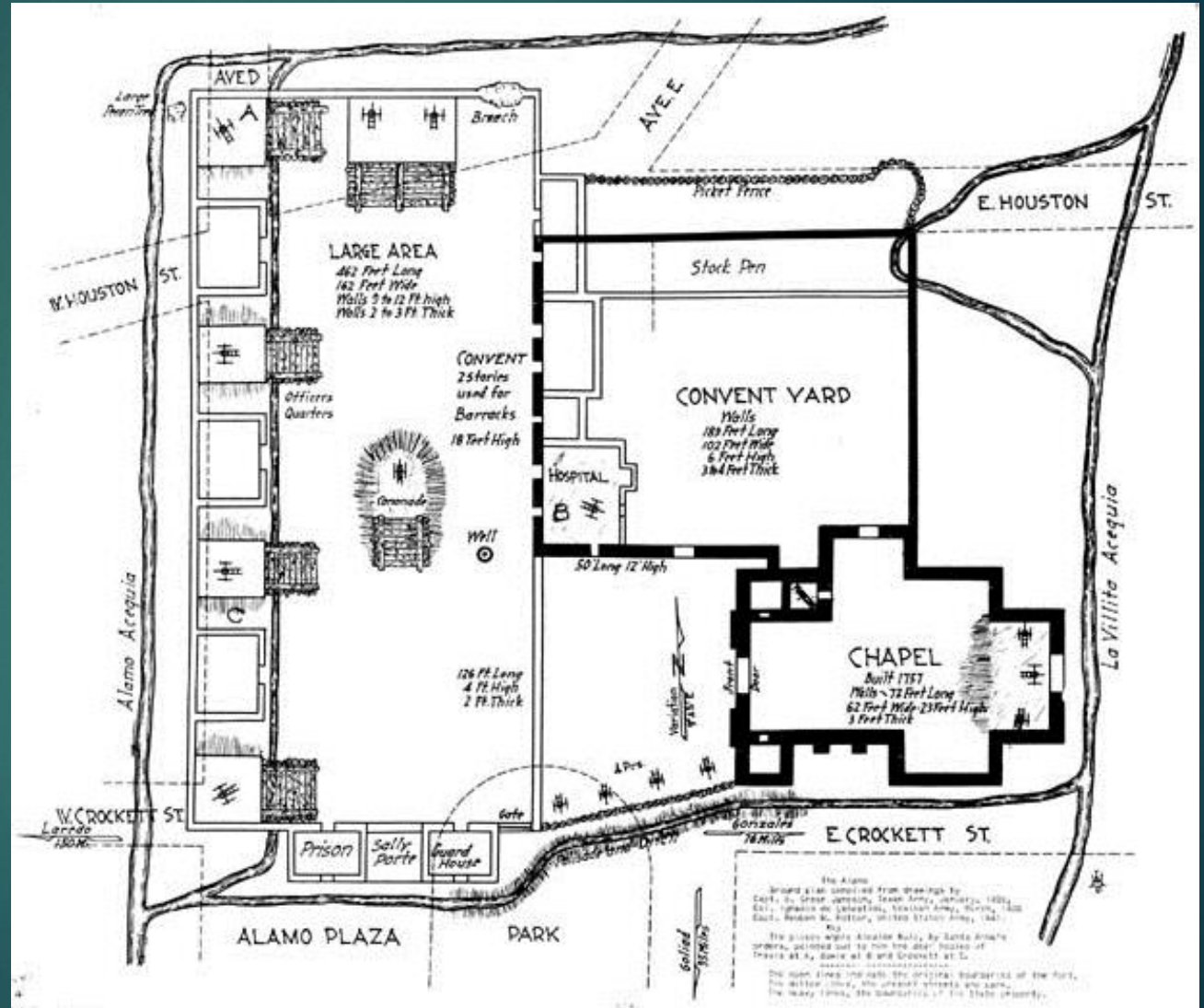
The Battle of the Alamo

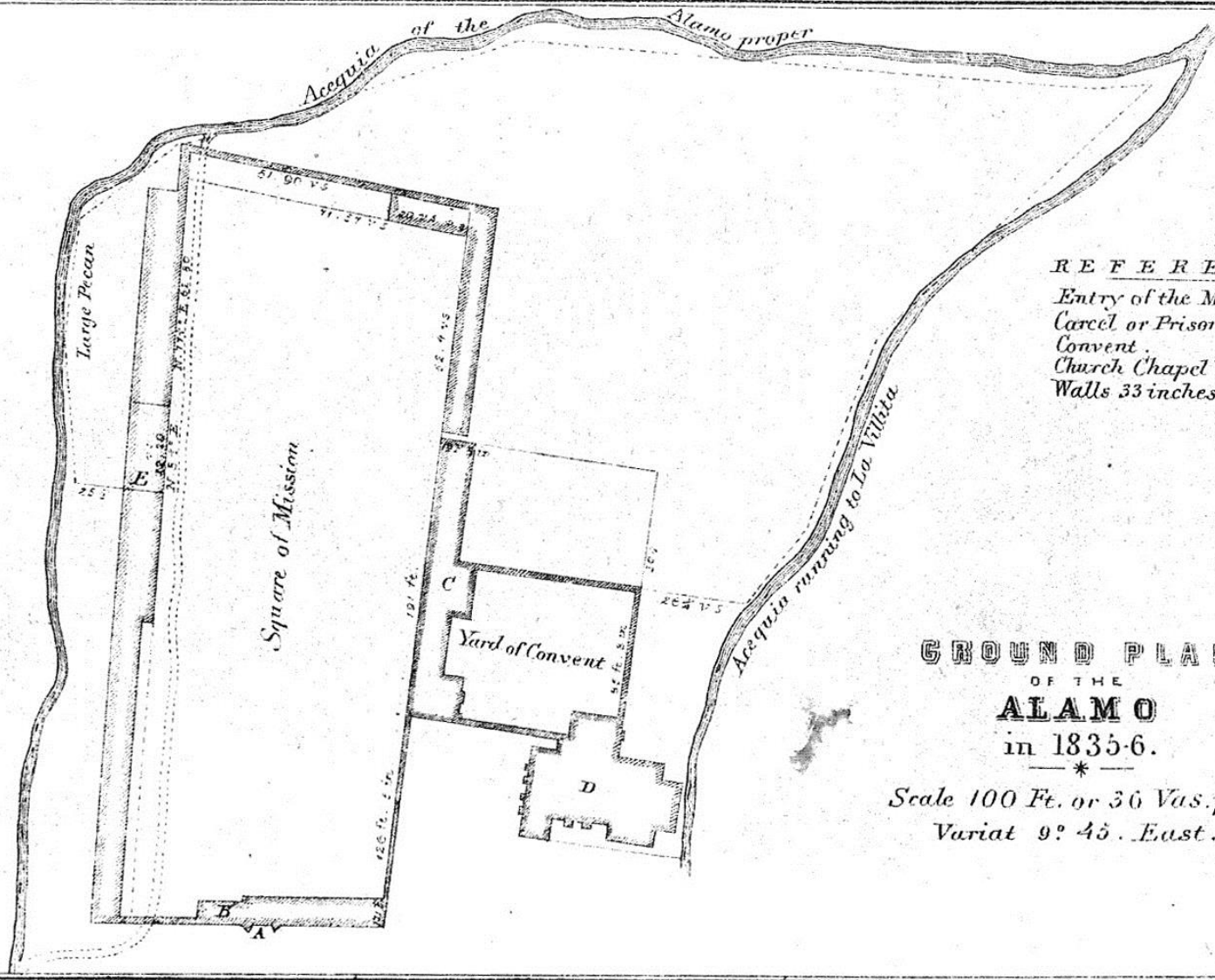
- ▶ Sunday morning March 6, 1836 the Mexican Army attacks the Alamo.
- ▶ They attacked on all sides, and it took three charges for the Mexican Army to breach the wall.
- ▶ Approximately 400-600 Mexican soldiers were killed.
- ▶ All of the Texas defenders were killed approximately 183.
- ▶ The battle lasted 90 minutes.





Defense of the Alamo





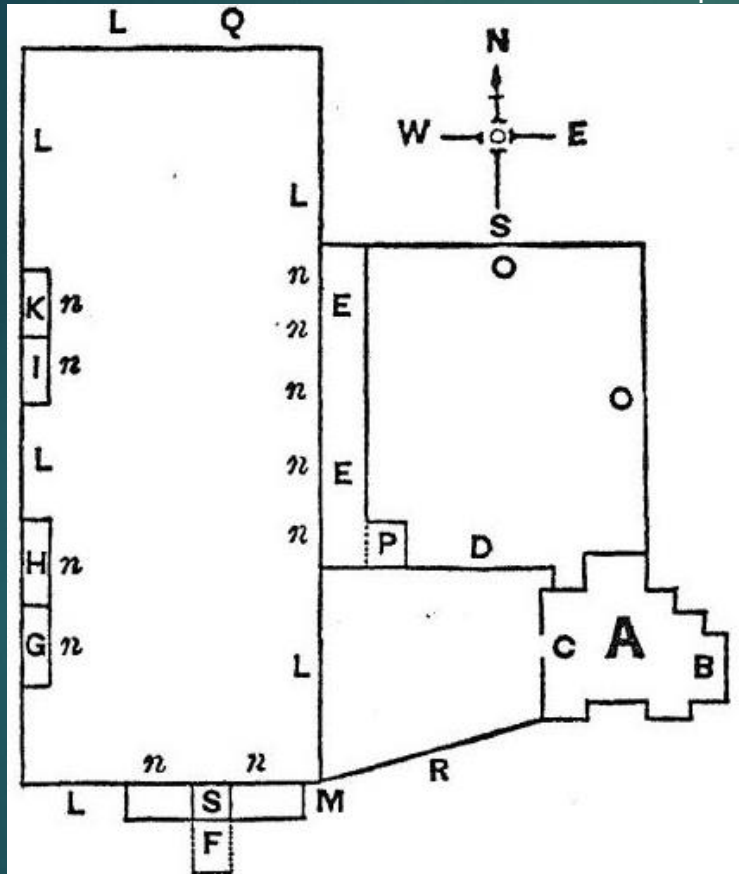
REFERENCE.
 Entry of the Mission.
 Carcell or Prison.
 Convent.
 Church Chapel Vestry.
 Walls 33 inches thick.

GROUND PLAN
 OF THE
ALAMO
 in 1835-6.

Scale 100 Ft. or 30 Vas. p. In.
 Variat 9° 45'. East..

The plan of the Alamo.

Note the size of the area which Travis and his men were responsible for defending.



GROUND PLAN OF THE ALAMO.

- A. Chapel of the Fortress.
- B. Upper window.
- C. Front door of the Church.
- D. A wall 50 feet long, connecting Church with the long Barrack, E E.
- F. A low stone barrack, 114 feet long, and 17 wide.
- G, H, I and K. Rooms built against the west barrier, and demolished with it.
- L. Barrier wall from 6 to 8 feet high and $2\frac{3}{4}$ thick.
- M. Gate of the area.
- n n. Doors of houses opening upon area.
- O O. A wall from 5 to 6 feet high, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ thick, which inclosed a smaller area east of the long barrack and north of the church.
- P. An upper room in the south-east angle of said barrack.
- Q. A breach in the north barrier.
- R. An intrenchment running from the south-west angle of the chapel to the gate.
- S. Represents a *porte cochere*, or wide passage through the centre of the house F, with but one room on each side. The dotted lines represent a projecting stockade which covered a four-gun battery in front of the outer door.

The interior well that the defenders of the Alamo used throughout the siege, preventing Santa Anna from denying the Texans water.



Colonel William B. Travis's
original letter from the
Alamo on February 24,
1836, the second
day of the siege.

(Page one of two. See next slide
for transcription.)

Commandery of the Alamo -
February 24th 1836 -
To the People of Texas &
all Americans in the world -
Fellow Citizens & Countrymen -
I am besieged, by a thousand
or more of the Mexicans under
Santa Anna - I have sustained
a continual Bombardment &
Cannonade for 24 hours & have
not lost a man - The enemy
has demanded a surrender at
discretion, otherwise, the Garrison
are in his power to the sword, if
the fort is taken - I have answered
the demand with a cannon
shot, & our flag still waves
proudly from the wall - I
shall never surrender or retreat
Therefore, I call on you in the
name of Liberty, of patriotism &
every thing dear to the American
Character, to come to our aid

Colonel William B. Travis's
original letter from the Alamo
on February 24, 1836, the
second
day of the siege.

(Page two of two. See next slide for
transcription.)

With all despatch - The enemy is
sending reinforcements daily &
with no doubt increase to three or
four thousand in four or five days.
If this call is neglected, I am deter-
mined to sustain myself as long as
possible & die like a soldier
who never forgets what is due to
his own honor & that of his
country -

Victory or Death
William Barrett Travis
St. Cal. comdr

Col. The Lord is our Lord
When the enemy appeared in sight
we had not three barrels of corn -
we have since found in deserted
houses 80 or 90 bushels & put into
the river 20 or 30 head of Boves -

Travis

The text version
of Colonel
William B. Travis's
letter.
(Page one of two.)

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The text version of
Colonel William B.
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(Page two of two.)

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William Barret Travis
Lt. Col. comdt

P.S. The Lord is on our side --
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we had not three bushels of corn --
We have since found in deserted
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Travis

Primary
Source
Adventures:
Remember
The Alamo

A drawing of General Lopez
de Santa Anna



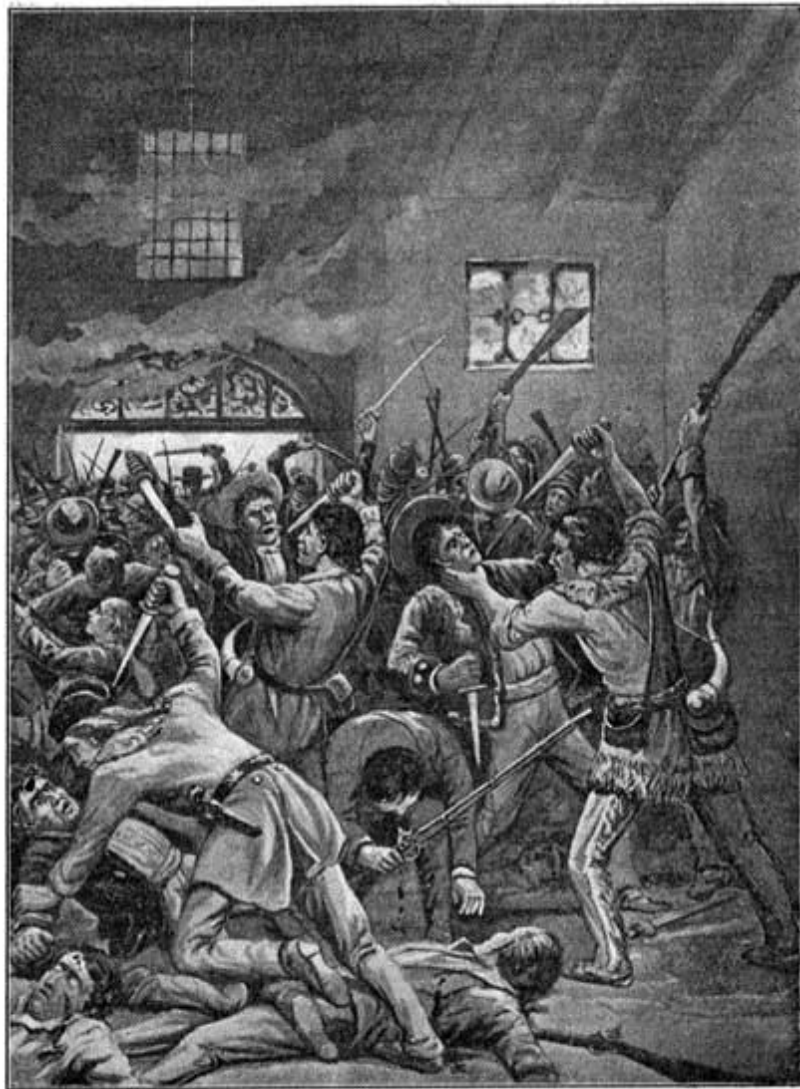
Homer S. Thrall. *A Pictorial History of Texas: From the Earliest Visits of European Adventurers to A.D. 1879* (St. Louis, MO: N.D. Thompson, 1879)

University of North Texas Libraries

A romanticized representation of the final battle for the Alamo.



STORMING OF THE ALAMO.



(15)

THE LAST STAND IN THE ALAMO

“Victory or Death”

- ▶ What are some of the details in the letter?
- ▶ What emotions do you feel when reading the letter?
- ▶ Why did Travis write the letter?
- ▶ What did liberty mean to Travis?
- ▶ What did patriotism mean to Travis?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddrSvO735L8>