

The Alamo



The Alamo is San Antonio's most famous mission. More than 2.5 million people visit the Alamo every year. They come to see where a small band of men fought and died so that Texas might be free.

In 1836, Americans living in Texas declared their independence from Mexican rule. A Mexican general named Antonio López de Santa Anna led 2,000 troops to Texas to crush this rebellion. A **rebellion** is an armed fight against one's government.

A band of 188 Texas freedom fighters gathered at the Alamo. Their goal was to stop the Mexican army there. Instead, the Mexican forces captured the mission and killed every one of its defenders.

News of the killings at the Alamo outraged Americans. Hundreds picked up their guns and headed to Texas to join the rebellion. Their battle cry was "Remember the Alamo!"

Texas won its independence from Mexico in 1836. For nine years, Texas was a nation. Then, in 1845, Texas joined the United States as the 28th state.