

The Handbook of Texas is free-to-use thanks to the support of readers like you. Support the Handbook today.

Font size: A / A reset

Home / Handbook of Texas / Entries / Brown, William S.

Brown, William S. (unknown-ca. 1838)

Biography Entry

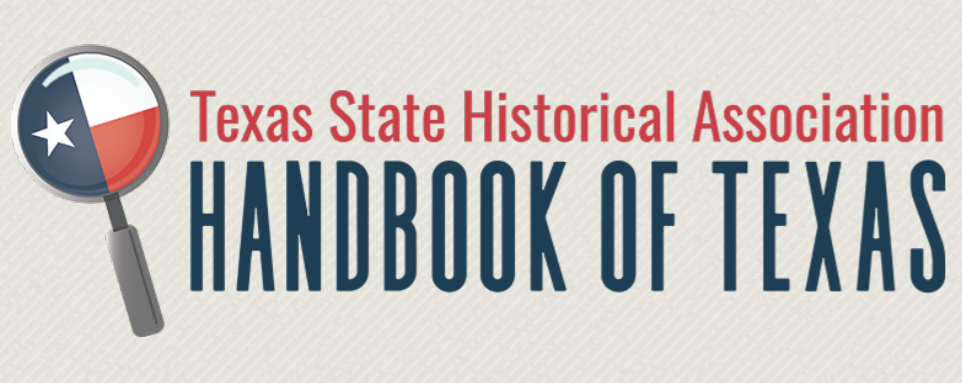
Like Sign Up to see what your friends like.

BROWN, WILLIAM S. (unknown-ca. 1838). William S. Brown, Texas Navy officer, a resident of Velasco, joined the revolutionary army in 1835 and took part in the siege of Bexar. After Martín Perfecto de Cos capitulated, Brown proceeded to Goliad, where he was said to have designed a revolutionary flag displaying a bloody arm, stripes of red and white, and the motto "Independence." The flag may have been hoisted at Velasco in January 1836 (see FLAGS OF THE TEXAS REVOLUTION). Brown was made captain of the schooner Liberty in January 1836; he was a brother of Jeremiah Brown, captain of the Invincible. On March 3, 1836, William Brown captured the Mexican trading vessel Pelicano near Sisal and got its cargo safely to Matagorda Bay. Because of a quarrel with Charles E. Hawkins, commodore of the Texas Navy, Brown was superseded in command of the Liberty on March 12, 1836. In July he was given another navy commission and was put in charge of the Comanche and the Fanny Butler, two captured Mexican vessels. Later he was commissioned captain of the privateer Benjamin R. Milam, but he died in New Orleans before the ship was ready for service. A eulogy appeared in the Telegraph and Texas Register for August 18, 1838.

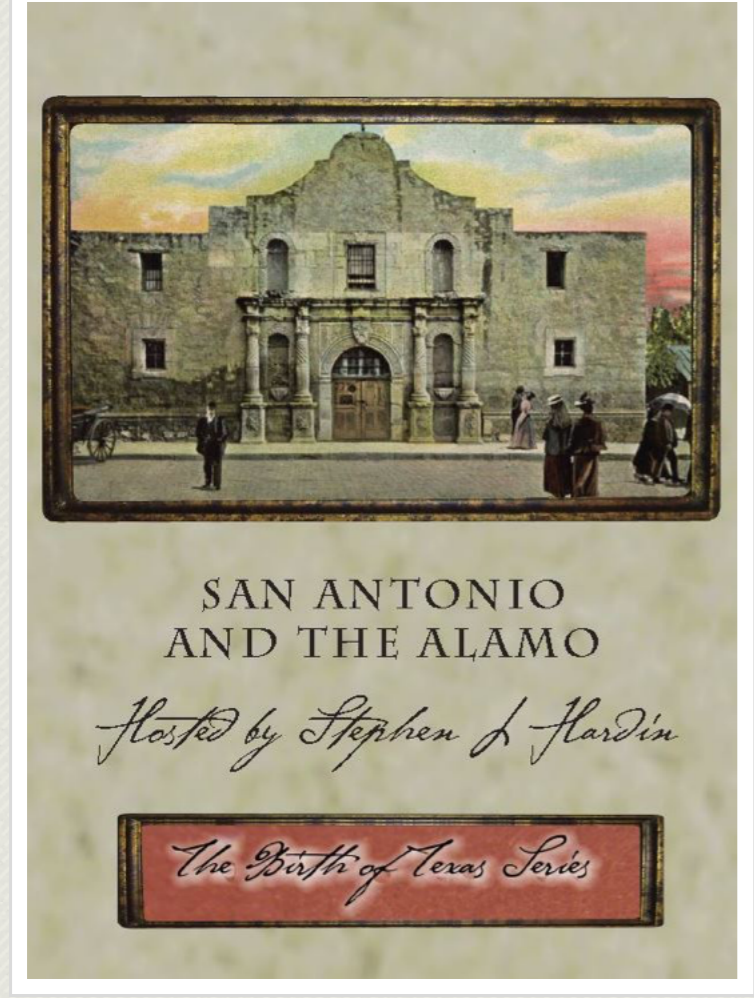
Bibliography Categories Citation

William Campbell Binkley, ed., Official Correspondence of the Texan Revolution, 1835-1836 (2 vols., New York: Appleton-Century, 1936). Alex Dienst, "The Navy of the Republic of Texas," Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association 12-13 (January-October 1909; rpt., Fort Collins, Colorado: Old Army Press, 1987). Southwestern Historical Quarterly, Texas Collection, April 1947. Dudley Goodall Wooten, ed., A Comprehensive History of Texas (2 vols., Dallas: Scarff, 1898; rpt., Austin: Texas State Historical Association, 1986).

Save to MyTSHA Load a Random Entry Report an Error Request a Revision

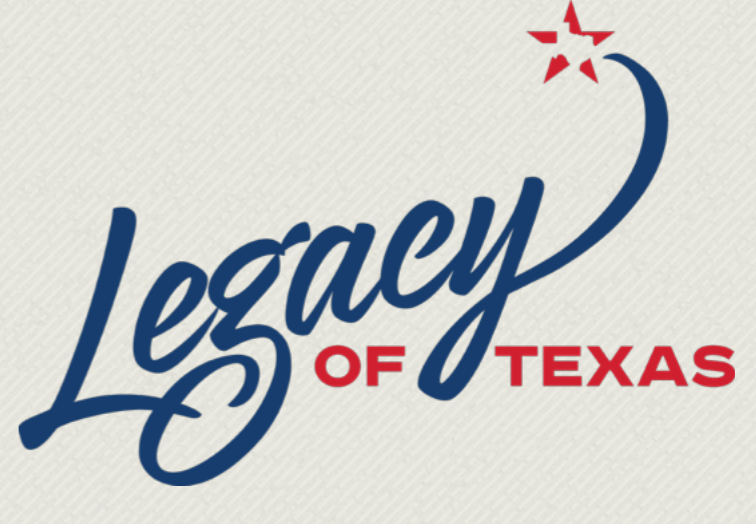


Become a Member of the Texas State Historical Association JOIN TODAY & Get Your FREE Almanac!



San Antonio and the Alamo

San Antonio de Bexar, the largest and most important city in Mexican Texas, became the object of a siege by emboldened Texian forces in late 1835. The Mexican garrison under General Cos was defeated in house to house combat through the streets of the town, making Ben Milam the first major martyr of the Texas [...]



Visit our store, Legacy of Texas, to find this product and more.



About

- Contact People Positions Press/Media

Join Today

- New Members Renewal Make a Donation

Recently Viewed

- Load a Random Entry Brown, William S. Brown, Jeremiah Hurd, William A. Hurd, Norman Hawkins, Charles Edward

Settings

Font size: A / A reset

Signup for our free newsletter, Especially Texan

Enter your email address

We will never share your email!

Permission (please read below)

Sign me up!

Yes, I would like to begin receiving history-rich content, news, and updates from TSHA.

Mailing Address:

Texas State Historical Association PO Box 5428 Austin, TX 78763

Physical Address:

3001 Lake Austin Blvd. Austin, TX 78703

Registration for our 2021 Annual Meeting is now open!

TSHA 125th Annual Meeting 1897-2021 125th Annual Meeting ONLINE ONLY - FEBRUARY 17 - MARCH 6 REGISTER NOW

Our 125th Annual Meeting will be held online this year, and it will include informative sessions featuring the research of Texas history scholars, a presentation of awards and fellowships, a silent auction, and special events.