The Mexican National Era

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS • What are the characteristics of a leader? • How do governments change? • Why do people make economic choices?

CHAPTER 8

Lesson 1
Anglo American Colonization

Lesson 2
The Colonies Grow

Lesson 3
The People of Colonial Texas

The Story Matters...

Jane Long was living in Mississippi when she was orphaned at the age of 15. Within a few years, she had met and married James Long, who dreamed of freeing Texas from Mexican control.

James was captured by Mexican authorities and died in custody. About this time, Jane suffered the deaths of two of their three children. Jane Long settled on land along the San Jacinto River and built a successful cotton plantation. Her ability to weather personal tragedy and the hard work of pioneer life exemplified the grit of early Texans and inspired generations that followed.

Jane Long was one of the first Anglo Americans to settle in Texas.
Stephen F. Austin founded the first colony of American settlers in Texas. Most of the early settlers came looking for farmland. Austin carefully explored the region and chose land he thought would best suit the needs of his new colony.

**Step Into the Place**

**MAP FOCUS** Soon after Austin's colony was founded, other colonies were formed nearby.

1. **LOCATION** Describe the relative location of Austin's colony in Texas.
2. **PLACE** What are some of the natural features of Austin's colony?
3. **CRITICAL THINKING** Analyzing Why do you think Austin chose the site shown on the map to establish his first colony?

The Colorado River provided water for the flat, fertile land of Stephen Austin's colony. Many settlers traveled along the river to reach their new homes, and some made their homes along the river's banks.

In 1828, the people of San Felipe de Austin unveiled this monument honoring Stephen F. Austin, "the Father of Texas." San Felipe was the capital of Austin's colony and the center of Anglo American Texas. This monument takes the form of an obelisk, a four-sided stone column, and was built using funds raised by the town's school children.

**Step Into the Time**

**TIME LINE** Soon after Austin founded his colony, settlers began to arrive in Texas. What date marks the beginning of this colonization? How many years passed until Mexico halted further American colonization in Texas? How do you know?

| 1820 | James Monroe reelected president |
| 1821 | Stephen F. Austin brings first colonists to Texas |
| 1822 | Liberia founded in West Africa |
| 1824 | Martín de León receives permission to form a colony in Texas |
| 1825 | First public railroad opens in Britain |
LESSON 1
Anglo American Colonization

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS: What are the characteristics of a leader?

It Matters Because
While facing a number of challenges, Stephen F. Austin began the successful Anglo colonization of Texas.

Moses Austin Plans a Settlement

GUIDING QUESTION Why did Moses Austin plan an Anglo American settlement in Texas?

Moses Austin was a determined man. All his life he worked hard to improve his businesses and increase his wealth. Late in life, when his fortunes diminished, he did not give in. Instead, Moses Austin took a bold risk. In 1821 he became the first man to gain permission from Spain to bring Anglo American settlers—white, non-Hispanic settlers from the United States—into Texas. Although he did not live to carry out his plan, his actions changed the course of Texas history.

Fortunes Won and Lost

Moses Austin was born in Connecticut in 1761. In 1785 he wed Mary Brown and moved to Virginia, where he eventually started a lead-mining operation. Lead is a soft metal that was widely used during the period, especially for bullets. In 1798 Austin moved to present-day Missouri, which was part of Spanish Louisiana. He set up the first Anglo American settlement west of the Mississippi River. While making his living by producing lead, he gained a familiarity with Spanish laws and regulations that would help him interact with the Spanish government later on.

Reading HELPDESK

TAKING NOTES: Categorizing Information
As you read the lesson, use a chart like the one shown here to list the advantages and disadvantages to settlers of joining Stephen F. Austin's colony.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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Content Vocabulary
- Anglo
- American
- depression
- survey
- empresario
- militia
Austin’s business success continued until the War of 1812. Events leading up to the war had led to a **depression**, or downturn in the nation’s economy. Demand for lead fell, hurting Austin’s business, and then a bank that Austin helped create failed. Austin, like many people at the time, suddenly found himself in debt. His determination and experience helped him to come up with a plan to regain his fortunes.

**The “Texas Venture”**

Moses Austin knew that other Americans were hurt by the poor economy and would be interested in buying cheap land. He also knew that the Spanish government was interested in populating Texas. By 1820 there were only three settlements in Spanish Texas. These were begun in the late 1600s and early 1700s to keep the French from moving into the region. By establishing missions and presidios, or forts, Spanish officials hoped to secure the territory as part of New Spain, but they were unable to recruit many settlers. The Spanish government believed that developing Texas would help in dealing with Native American groups that were raiding the existing settlements.

In 1820 Moses Austin traveled 800 miles (1,287 km) from Missouri to San Antonio with an enslaved African American named Richmond. He met with Governor Antonio Martínez and proposed bringing 300 Anglo American families to Texas. The governor rejected Austin’s plan. Then Austin happened to see the Baron de Bastrop, a man he had once met in New Orleans.

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**Academic Vocabulary**

- diminish: to become smaller

**Content Vocabulary**

- **Anglo American**: a white person living in the United States and who is not Hispanic

- **depression**: a period of low economic activity and high unemployment
Stephen F. Austin is often considered “the Father of Texas” for his work in establishing the first Anglo American colony and then helping to form the Republic. Austin grew up in Missouri and was studying law there when his father, Moses Austin, first thought about starting a colony in Texas. Although he did not strongly support the plan, Austin agreed to help. In 1821 his father died, and Austin took over the task of establishing the colony.

After Mexico won independence from Spain, Austin secured the new government’s approval of the land contract. When Mexican officials later began putting restrictions on colonization, he traveled to Mexico City in 1822, a journey of about 1,000 miles (1,609 km), and persuaded them to change the laws. In 1833, Austin again traveled to Mexico City, this time to deliver petitions seeking the freedoms for Texas settlers that were included in the Convention of 1833. On his way back to Texas in 1834, Austin was arrested on the suspicion of trying to incite a rebellion, and he was held in prison for a year. By the time he was able to return to Texas in 1835, the push for independence had begun. Austin joined the movement and fought in the Texas Revolution. Once independence was won, he served as secretary of state in the new government. He died in January of 1836 at the age of 43.

**Making Connections** Why is Stephen F. Austin called “the Father of Texas”?

Austin’s idea impressed Bastrop, who helped convince the governor to reconsider it. Martínez agreed to ask the Spanish government to grant Austin’s request.

On his way back to Missouri, Austin became ill. He managed to reach home, but he remained in poor health. Governor Martínez sent Erasmo Seguín (eh•RAHS•moh seh•GEEN), a leading San Antonio businessman, to tell Austin that his request had been approved by the government. Austin began preparations, but he was overcome by illness. On his deathbed he urged his wife, Mary, to write a letter to his son, his “dear Stephen.” He pleaded with Stephen “to carry out the ‘Texas Venture.’” Moses Austin died on June 10, 1821.

**Identifying Cause and Effect** What was the impact of the depression on Moses Austin’s fortune?

**Stephen F. Austin Takes Charge**

**GUIDING QUESTION** How did Stephen F. Austin carry out his father’s plan for a Texas colony?

Stephen Fuller Austin was in New Orleans at the time of his father’s death. Although he felt a reluctance to do so, Austin decided to carry out his father’s wishes.
Austin Explores Texas

Austin began by traveling to San Antonio in August 1821 to discuss the colony with Governor Martínez. The next month he began exploring Texas to find a good site for the colony. He chose the coastal plain between the Colorado River and the Brazos River. The region had rich soil, access to water, and a warm climate. He was impressed by the site, and rightly so. The Brazos River area proved to have excellent farmland. Once the land was cleared and plowed, it produced crops that would spur the development of Texas as an agricultural center in the West.

Having chosen his site, Austin returned to New Orleans. The original agreement gave the colony 200,000 acres (80,937 hectares). Austin asked Governor Martínez to grant additional land along the coast, which would make it easier to transport settlers and supplies to the colony.

A Call for Settlers

Austin surveyed, or measured, the land to determine the size and boundaries of his colony and the plots within it. Once properties were surveyed, settlers could apply for legal rights to their land.

According to Austin’s original plans, every free man in the colony would receive 640 acres (259 hectares) for himself, 320 acres (129 hectares) for his wife, 160 acres (65 hectares) for each child, and 80 acres (32 hectares) for each enslaved person. Colonists with special skills, such as merchants, doctors, mill operators, and ferry operators, could receive additional land.

Content Vocabulary

survey: to measure the boundaries of something, such as land

Stephen Austin made this map from his journey on the Mexican frontier. A sextant was a tool used to survey land.

► CRITICAL THINKING

Interpreting Maps How did Austin depict settlements on his map?
The journey to Texas was long and difficult, whether by ship or over unpaved roads. Settlers needed a spirit of adventure to consider joining the colony.

As the colony’s leader, Austin had many expenses and responsibilities. It took money and effort to advertise for new settlers, apply for land titles (legal documents showing ownership) and records, register new grants, and travel to meet with government officials. To meet these costs, he had settlers pay him 12.5 cents an acre. This was only one-tenth of what land cost in the United States at the time. Most of this money was used by Austin to hire surveyors to map the land.

Settlers had to meet certain conditions, too. Governor Martínez told Austin that the settlers must display good conduct, and they had to be Catholics. Settlers also had to agree to become citizens of their new country—first Spain, and later Mexico. Austin tried to choose hardworking people for his colony who would take their responsibilities seriously.

Austin began advertising in Southern newspapers for settlers. He wanted farmers from the southern United States because they would be familiar with the climate and growing conditions found on the Texas coast. People responded quickly to Austin’s advertisements. Due to the depression in the United States, many people were attracted to the prospect of starting over in Texas.

Austin arranged for a ship, the Lively, to transport colonists and supplies to Texas. On its first voyage to the colony late in 1821, the ship blew off course, landing at the mouth of the Brazos River instead of the Colorado River. Not realizing where they were, the colonists tried to settle along the Brazos, while the Lively returned to New Orleans. Most of the passengers never met up with Austin or their fellow colonists and returned to the United States. At the time, Austin and others assumed the ship had wrecked. Eventually they heard the true story from passengers who later returned to Texas.

In the spring of 1822, the Lively again set out for Texas with colonists and a load of supplies. This time the ship wrecked on Galveston Island. The passengers were rescued by another ship, which brought them to land near the Colorado River. In the meantime, colonists had begun to arrive over land routes, as well.

**READING PROGRESS CHECK**

**Identifying** What qualities did Austin look for in a settler?

## A Difficult Beginning

**GUIDING QUESTION** What difficulties did Austin face in the early stages of forming a colony?

Mexico won independence from Spain in August 1821. Like the Spanish government, the new Mexican government saw the
settlement of Texas as a means of protecting the northern frontier from raids by Native Americans. In early 1822, however, Governor Martínez told Austin that the new Mexican government would not respect the colony’s land agreements that had been approved by the Spanish. Alarmed, Austin made the 1,000-mile (1,609-km) trip to Mexico City to discuss the matter with the new government.

After reaching Mexico City, Austin found the government in a period of change and confusion. Although he planned to stay in the city only for a short time, Austin was forced to wait while leaders were chosen who could bring order to the government.

**Austin’s Time in Mexico**

Austin stayed in Mexico City one year, using his time there wisely. He learned the Spanish language, making it easier for him to speak directly with government officials. He met important leaders and gained a better understanding of Mexican culture. His determination and interactions with the government finally paid off. By 1823, a new law was passed that finally granted Austin a contract for his colony.

The 1823 Mexican law increased the amount of land granted to each settler. Farmers and livestock ranchers could get 4,605 acres (1,864 hectares) per family. As an **empresario**—a land agent who brings new settlers to an area—Austin received some 100,000 acres (40,469 hectares) of land for himself.
The terms of the 1823 law were supposed to apply to other empresarios, but in the end only Austin and his colony benefited from the law. Later colonies were founded under different laws.

**Trouble in the Colony**

Austin finally returned from Mexico in 1823 to find that the colony had faced difficulties in the year he was gone. A drought caused some colonists to leave the Texas settlement. Lands still needed to be surveyed. Settlers had disputes, or disagreements, over land ownership. As land commissioner, Baron de Bastrop helped Austin to settle claims and record deeds to the land.

Settlers in Austin’s colony had other worries, too. Although some Native Americans who lived on the land were interested in trading with the settlers, others were unhappy about settlers invading their territory.

The Karankawa along the coast and the Tonkawa in Central Texas raided settlements, stealing horses and cattle. Although Austin attempted to make peace with these groups, he felt it necessary to use force to protect the colony. Austin commanded a militia against the Karankawa in 1824.

The military expedition succeeded in driving the Karankawa off, and they gathered at the La Bahía mission in what is now Victoria County. A Catholic priest there brought the two sides together to reach a peace agreement in which the Karankawa promised not to raid the colony anymore. However, fighting between the colonists and the Karankawa or other Native American groups continued from time to time.

**READING PROGRESS CHECK**

**Summarizing** What did Austin do to try to solve the two problems he found when he returned to his colony in 1823?

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**LESSON 1 REVIEW**

**Reviewing Vocabulary**

1. Write a definition for the word survey. Use survey in a sentence about the beginnings of Austin’s colony.

**Answering the Guiding Questions**

2. *Explaining* Why did Moses Austin want to establish a settlement in Texas?

3. *Explaining* Why did Stephen F. Austin end up founding the first Anglo American colony in Texas?

4. *Identifying* Where in Texas did Stephen F. Austin start his colony? Why was the site chosen?

5. *Making Connections* How did Mexican independence from Spain affect Austin’s colony?

6. *Expository Writing* Suppose that you are Stephen F. Austin and have just returned from a year in Mexico City. Write a journal entry to record the state of your colony upon your return.
LESSON 2
The Colonies Grow

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS How do governments change?

It Matters Because
Mexico passed laws that affected who could colonize Texas and how much land they could buy.

Mexican Rule and Colonization

Guiding Question How did colonization laws change under the independent government of Mexico?

Mexico’s independence in 1821 marks the beginning of a period in Texas history known as the Mexican National era. During this period, Texas was part of Mexico, and the Mexican government attempted to control the settlement of Texas.

Mexico’s Government and Constitution

Following independence, disputes arose over who should lead and how Mexico should be governed. On May 19, 1822, Agustín de Iturbide declared himself emperor of Mexico. Iturbide’s reign lasted only 10 months before he was overthrown on March 19, 1823. A new government was formed by a party known as the Federalists, who believed in a weaker central government that shares power with the states. The Centralists opposed the new government. They believed that the central government should be stronger than the states. These two groups struggled for control of Mexico’s government for several years.

The Federalists created a new constitution that would directly affect Texas. According to the Mexican federal Constitution of 1824, Mexico would be divided into 19 states and 4 territories.

continued on page 197
Two former Spanish provinces, Coahuila (kəh·ah·WEE·lah) and Texas, were united as the Mexican state of Coahuila y Tejas (ee TAY·hah). If Texas increased its population enough, it could become a separate state. The constitution allowed Texas one representative in a 12-member state legislature. Baron de Bastrop would represent Texas.

**New Colonization Laws**

Stephen F. Austin had been in Mexico in 1823 when Emperor Agustín de Iturbide was overthrown. At that time, Austin negotiated a colonization contract with the Mexican government. The next year the Congress of Mexico passed a new colonization law that would affect empresarios other than Austin. The new government believed in sharing powers between the national government and the states. Therefore, the 1824 colonization law allowed states to make decisions about issuing land grants. However, the federal government imposed some restrictions for colonization:

- Land grants could not exceed 48,708 acres (19,711 hectares) per person.
- Colonies could not be established within 10 leagues (about 30 miles or 48 kilometers) of the coast or within 20 leagues (about 60 miles or 97 kilometers) of an international boundary without the government’s permission.
- Settlers must be willing to become permanent residents of Texas to receive land.

Before the law was passed, people seeking contracts to establish colonies in Texas had to travel to Mexico City. Under the new colonization law, people only had to make their way to Saltillo, the capital of the state of Coahuila y Tejas, to receive contracts. Decisions made at the capital would play an important role in the development of Texas.
The cathedral that stands off the central plaza of Saltillo, Mexico, was there when the city was the capital of Coahuila y Tejas.

**CRITICAL THINKING**

**Drawing Inferences** What does the location of the cathedral tell you about the role of the Roman Catholic Church in Mexican society?

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**The State Colonization Law of 1825**

The state legislature in Saltillo passed its own colonization law the following year, in 1825. In the hope of increasing the state's population, the legislature made rules designed to attract settlers. Foreigners, such as settlers from the United States, were invited to immigrate, or move, to Texas. Settlers in Texas could gain title to land by themselves or through empresarios.

According to the law, a family could obtain up to 4,428 acres (1,792 hectares) of land for just $30. Colonists would not have to pay general taxes for a set amount of time. Most single men would receive 1,107 acres (448 hectares) of land. Another 3,321 acres (1,345 hectares) would be given to them when they married. A man who married a Mexican woman would receive a bonus of an additional 1,107 acres (448 hectares). As with the Spanish colonization laws, the new Mexican law required colonists to have good moral character. They also had to be Christian, and that was understood to mean Catholic.

Most settlers chose to settle in Texas through the services of empresarios. Many settlers did not speak Spanish, which made dealing with contracts difficult. The empresarios either knew the language or had translators, and they knew how to go about receiving claims to the land. Most importantly, empresarios held the best lands.

Under the new law, each empresario would receive some 23,000 acres (9,308 hectares) of land for every 100 colonists he settled in Texas. Each empresario had to settle at least 100 colonists within six years. Failure to do so would result in the cancellation of the empresario's contract. Over time, more federal and state colonization laws were passed. The state granted 25 new contracts to empresarios to set up colonies in Texas.

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**TEKS** Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills

9A: locate the Mountains and Basins, Great Plains, North Central Plains, and Coastal Plains regions and places of importance in Texas during the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries such as major cities, rivers, natural and historic landmarks, political and cultural regions, and local points of interest

9C: analyze the effects of physical and human factors such as climate, weather, landforms, irrigation, transportation, and communication on major events in Texas

11A: analyze why immigrant groups came to Texas and where they settled

11B: analyze how immigration and migration to Texas in the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries have influenced Texas

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**READING PROGRESS CHECK**

**Explaining** What was Coahuila y Tejas?
Green DeWitt

In April 1825, Green DeWitt and his partner James Kerr were granted permission to settle 400 families on property next to Austin's original colony. DeWitt's wife, Sara Seely DeWitt, sold property she owned in Missouri to help fund their business venture. The following April, the DeWitts moved their family to join others already settled in their Texas colony in Gonzales. Raids on the town by Native Americans forced some of the colonists to move to the coast for a period of time before returning to Gonzales.

Although he was enthusiastic about the venture, DeWitt was unable to convince enough families to settle in his colony. By the 1830s, the Mexican government became concerned that Mexican culture was becoming overwhelmed by the influence of so many outsiders from the United States. Late into DeWitt's six-year contract, Mexico passed the Law of April 6, 1830, which limited immigrants entering Texas. The law increased DeWitt's difficulties and kept his colony from growing. Records show that in early 1831, the population of the DeWitt colony was 531. Even so, that population did not meet the contract's requirement of 400 families.
When the six-year term of DeWitt’s contract expired in April 1831, it was not renewed. DeWitt and his family did not gain financially from the colony. DeWitt’s colonists also suffered from the colony’s failure to prosper. Gonzales was the colony’s only town, and it never became a commercial center. Although his contract required it, DeWitt never managed to build a church. A school was not established in the colony until 1831.

The DeWitt family’s struggles became bad enough that Sara DeWitt petitioned the government to grant her land in her own name to protect the family from poverty. The government granted that request in April 1831, one of the few grants from the DeWitt colony made to a woman. Green DeWitt died in 1835, probably of cholera, a severe disease that causes dehydration, or loss of fluids. In spite of all its difficulties, the DeWitt colony is considered one of the most successful Anglo American colonies in Texas.

**Martín De León**

In 1824 Mexican native Martín De León received a grant to establish a colony of 41 Mexican families on the lower Guadalupe River near the Texas coast. De León’s status as a native Mexican gave his colony preference in border disputes with neighboring colonies, including the DeWitt colony. De León’s colony was the only Texas colony settled mainly by Mexican families. De León came from a wealthy family. His wife, Patricia de la Garza De León, contributed her dowry to the family’s fortune. In 1824 they founded the town of Victoria and built both a school and a church. Martín De León later received permission to bring more families to his colony.

Green DeWitt was empessario of DeWitt’s colony, where he and his partner were granted permission to settle 400 families. DeWitt’s wife, Sara Seely DeWitt, sold property she owned in Missouri to help fund their business venture.

**CRITICAL THINKING**

**Identifying Central Ideas** What change in Mexican law affected the ability of DeWitt’s colony to grow?

**Content Vocabulary**

**dowry** the money, property, and goods a bride’s family gives her groom upon marriage
The Earliest Settlers

Because they were the first to reach the colony, the Old Three Hundred were able to choose prime farmland along the Brazos, Colorado, and San Jacinto rivers. Some settled along smaller streams, including Oyster Creek and Buffalo Bayou.

The family of Andrew and Nancy Robinson were possibly the first of Austin's settlers to cross the Brazos River. They owned land that became part of present-day Brazoria, Washington, and Waller Counties. Their contributions to the settlement of Texas included opening a ferry station, a hotel, and a saloon. Andrew Robinson was a farmer, livestock rancher, and a member of the colonial militia.

Some members of the Old Three Hundred had lived in Texas before Austin established his colony, but they moved to Austin's land after his arrival. Some of these settlers had come to Texas as part of early military expeditions to the area and later bought land in the colony. Among them was Jane Long. Her husband James had led a military expedition, but was captured by the Spanish and killed in Mexico City in 1821. Jane later bought some land in Austin's colony and operated a boarding house in the town of Brazoria.

Another pioneer, Aylett C. Buckner, may have been the first settler to build a house on the Colorado River. He joined Austin's colony and later served as a commander of the militia.

Settler R. M. Williamson, another of the Old Three Hundred, was born in Georgia. Williamson lost the use of one leg during a
childhood illness, but he was able to move about with the use of a wooden leg that he made himself. Williamson read a great deal during his illness and became a lawyer at age 19. He migrated to Texas and settled in Austin’s colony in the late 1820s. Williamson married and had a family. During his career he edited newspapers, helped lead the Texas independence movement, and became a judge.

Mary Crownover Rabb and her husband John Rabb were among the Old Three Hundred, as well. They moved about frequently during their early years as colonists, first settling near the Colorado River, and later near the Brazos. For a time, they lived in temporary winter homes and camped under quilts and sheets during the warmer months. They had to spend one winter in an open-sided shed despite the cold. At times they lived in fear of raids by Native Americans, and Nancy feared that the alligators of the Brazos River might harm their children. The Rabb family finally settled near Barton Springs and raised cattle. The family later helped to found Rutersville College, the first college in Texas.

Austin himself settled in the capital of San Felipe de Austin near a creek about one-half mile from the Brazos River. He lived in a type of cabin called a dogtrot, featuring a covered passage between two parts of the home. He used his cabin to meet with settlers and statesmen who came to the capital.

**READING PROGRESS CHECK**

**Defining** What does the phrase “the Old Three Hundred” mean?

At the time of Anglo colonization, alligators were common across the eastern part of what is now Texas, where the colonies formed.

**CRITICAL THINKING**

**Contrasting** In what other ways was the Texas at the time of the colonists different from the Texas of today?
The People Who Settled Texas

GUIDING QUESTION  Why did people come to settle in Texas during the Mexican National era?

The population of Texas continued to increase. The land policies of the Mexican government brought thousands of farmers and other settlers from the United States and other parts of the world. The Mexican government organized Texas into three departments, or large administrative units. These departments were Béxar, Brazos, and Nacogdoches. Austin’s and DeWitt’s colonies were in Brazos.

Why They Came
The early settlers had a number of reasons for coming to Texas. Most were farmers who would benefit, or gain, from the cheap land offered by the government of Mexico. Although a number of settlers had wealth and property, some people came to Texas to escape debt. Mexico and the United States did not share an agreement that allowed businesses to collect money owed to them, nor to return immigrants who owed money. The prospect of leaving financial troubles behind was very attractive to some people. Many early settlers were curious about what Texas had to offer. Coming to a new land appealed to their sense of adventure.

A Mix of People
In 1834 Juan de Almonte was sent by the Mexican government to count the population of the Texas departments. By the time of his count, most Texans were Anglo Americans, and most of them had come from the southern United States. A large number of immigrants were African Americans, most of whom were enslaved and did not come voluntarily. The great majority of the people who lived in the Department of Béxar were of Mexican ancestry. That department included the older towns of San Antonio and Goliad, as well as Martín De León’s colony.

Before the arrival of Austin’s colonists, relatively few enslaved people lived in Spanish and Mexican Texas. Southern farmers, however, brought many enslaved African Americans into Texas, using their labor to produce cotton crops and to perform other tasks. In 1825 about one-fourth of the Austin colony’s population was made up of enslaved African Americans. The Imperial Colonization Law outlawed the buying and selling of people, but it did not prevent colonists from holding enslaved persons.
In 1829 Mexico passed a law ending slavery, and the country became a refuge for African Americans who had run away from slaveholders in Texas and the United States. However, the law was not enforced in Mexican Texas. Although the government did not prevent slavery in Texas, its disapproval of the institution may have slowed the growth of slavery there during the Mexican National era. By 1836, some 5,000 enslaved African Americans lived in Texas, about one-seventh of the population at that time.

Some free African Americans did live and work in colonial Texas. Among them were Greenbury Logan, Samuel H. Hardin, Lewis B. Jones, William Goyens, and Hendrick Arnold. About 150 free African Americans lived in Texas by the time of the Texas Declaration of Independence in 1836.

**Reading Progress Check**

*Making Connections* How did Mexico's ban on slavery in 1829 affect Texas?

### Women, Children, and Everyday Life in Texas

**Guiding Question** *What contributions did women make to the settlement of Texas?*

The women of colonial Texas played important roles in the settling of the area. Women often led lives of hardship and adventure with their families and communities.
Anglo American settlers in Texas had kitchens that were full of wooden furniture and utensils with a few pottery pieces for storing food or liquids.

**CRITICAL THINKING**

**Analyzing Visuals** Can you identify any of the objects other than the furniture and state what they were used for?

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**Women's Duties and Limited Rights**

Life could be difficult for the settlers of colonial Texas. Fieldwork, homebuilding, and maintaining livestock were all physically demanding. When men were away, women often had to do these tasks on their own. Women had the additional responsibilities of bearing children and caring for them. Their other tasks typically included cooking, cleaning, sewing, spinning yarn, and growing food for the family—all without running water and sometimes without suitable shelter.

Women of colonial Texas had limited rights under the law. They could not vote, hold public office, or serve on a jury. Enslaved women, like all enslaved African Americans, were denied both their rights and their freedom. They worked long days with no pay. Slave trading, though illegal in Mexican Texas, did occur. Husbands, wives, and other relatives who were sold might never see their loved ones again.

**Notable Women**

Mary Austin Holley, cousin of Stephen F. Austin, owned lands on Galveston Bay. Although she spent much of her adult life in Louisiana and Kentucky, her books and letters about Texas are a valuable record of the colonial period. Her writings helped educate readers in the United States about life in Texas at the time.

María Calvillo came from a ranching family, and she grew up to become the owner of her father's ranch, *Rancho de las Cabras*, or “The Goat Ranch.” She married at age 17 and had two sons.
After both sons died, she adopted three infants. Calvillo eventually separated from her husband. She used her skills to protect her land under the changing governments of Texas. She helped her neighbors to build a granary, a sugar mill, and irrigation canals to improve their properties.

Tamar Morgan arrived in Texas in 1832 as an enslaved worker. Two years later she bought her freedom and married Samuel H. Hardin, a free African American barber. She owned four lots of land in the town of Brazoria, an additional 100 acres (40 hectares) of land, and four enslaved persons. While surprising, the holding of enslaved persons by free African Americans was not unusual. The reasons behind the practice are complex. Some freed African Americans bought family members who were enslaved. Doing so protected those family members from having to labor for a white slaveholder. Some free African Americans, however, held enslaved persons for economic reasons just as white farmers did.

**Educating Children**

The state government of Coahuila y Tejas did not fund public education in the Texas colonies. Wealthy colonists sent their children to schools in the United States or hired private teachers. Colonies often created their own schools to educate children. In 1829 the first settlement school for boys was opened in San Felipe de Austin by Thomas J. Pilgrim. Frances Trask opened a boarding school for girls in the mid-1830s in present-day Independence. Her school, the Trask Seminary, was an 18-square-foot (1.7 square meter) log cabin.

**Reading Progress Check**

**Identifying** What rights were the women of colonial Texas denied?
**Directions:** Write your answers on a separate piece of paper. Use standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation.

1. **Use your Foldables to explore the Essential Questions.**
   **EXPOSITORY WRITING** Write a short essay that compares the personality, leadership traits, and background of two figures you read about in the chapter. 228, 220

2. **Social Studies Skills**
   **FINDING THE MAIN IDEA** Choose one of the empresarios mentioned in the chapter. Use the Internet to research and create a digital presentation about that person. Your presentation should include at least three slides and at least five new facts you learned about your chosen subject. Include a portrait or drawing of the person, if possible. 228, 22C, 22D

3. **Thinking Like a Historian**
   **SUMMARIZING** Create and fill in a concept web like the one shown here to help you summarize details about the Old Three Hundred. 8A, 21B, 22B

4. **GEOGRAPHY ACTIVITY**

   ![Map of Texas and Mexico](image)

   **Analyzing Maps**
   In 1834, the Department of Texas was divided into three smaller departments. Use the map to answer the questions below. 8A, 9A, 21C, 22B
   a. Residents of which department of Coahuila y Tejas were in the best location to carry out trade by land with Americans?
   b. Why do you think the Department of Brazos had the most settlements at this time?
   c. What geographic feature made the three departments of Texas more attractive as a place to settle than Coahuila? Why?
CHECKING FOR UNDERSTANDING

1. Explain the significance of each of the following to the efforts to settle Texas. 2E, 228
   A. Moses Austin
   B. empresarios
   C. Baron de Bastrop
   D. Green DeWitt
   E. Martin De Leon
   F. The Old Three Hundred
   G. Erasmo Seguin

REVIEW THE GUIDING QUESTIONS

2. Explaining What was Governor Martinez's first response when Moses Austin asked to bring 300 Anglo American settlers to Texas? Did the governor change his mind? Explain. 2E, 228

3. Describing In 1821 what area did Stephen F. Austin choose for the colony he planned to establish? Why? 9C, 228

4. Identifying The Mexican federal Constitution of 1824 called for two former Spanish provinces to unite as a Mexican state. Identify the two former Spanish provinces, and name the Mexican state they formed. 2D, 228

5. Specifying What influence did the state legislature in Saltillo hope the State Colonization Law of 1825 would have on the population of the state? 2D, 228

6. Defining Who or what were the Old Three Hundred? 2E, 218, 228

7. Discussing Did the Imperial Colonization law stop the practice of slavery in the colonies? Explain. 2D, 218, 228

CRITICAL THINKING

8. Drawing Inferences How did control of the Mexican government by Federalist party help the colonization effort in Texas? 21B, 228

9. Assessing Although he did not live to see his colony founded, how important do you think Moses Austin is to the settlement of Texas? Explain? 2E, 228

10. Identifying Cause and Effect What alarming news from Governor Martinez did Stephen F. Austin receive in early 1822? What was the effect of this news? 2E, 218, 228

11. Contrasting Contrast the Federalist and Centralist points of view about governing. Why were the differences important in Mexico during the early 1820s? 21B, 210, 228

12. Summarizing What were two main contributing factors to population growth in Texas during the Mexican National era? 21B, 228

13. Evaluating Why did Stephen F. Austin generally choose people of greater education and wealth as settlers in his colony? Do you believe this was a good policy? Explain. 21B, 228

14. Contrasting Explain how women's lives in Texas today differ from women's lives during the colonial period. Include at least two specific examples in your explanation. 21B, 228

15. Contrasting How did the purposes and methods of Spanish, Mexican, and Anglo settlement of Texas differ? 2F, 21B, 228

16. Identifying What were Stephen F. Austin's contributions to the settlement of Texas? 2E, 228

Need Extra Help?

If You've Missed Question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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</table>

Review Lesson

www.connected.mcgraw-hill.com 211
CHAPTER 8  Assessment (continued)  TEKS

DBQ SHORT RESPONSE

Read the excerpts from the Mexican federal Constitution, and answer the questions that follow.

"3. The Religion of the Mexican Nation, is, and will be perpetually, the Roman Catholic Apostolic. The Nation will protect it by wise and just laws, and prohibit the exercise of any other whatever. . . ."

20. Those not born in the territory of the Mexican Nation, to be Representatives, must have, besides eight years' residence in it, 8000 dollars of real estate in any part of the Republic, or an occupation that produces them 1000 per year. . . ."

17 Analyzing Primary Sources What does this constitution specify as the religion of the Mexican nation? Based on the history of the region up to this point is this surprising? Explain. 20, 21a, 228

18 Specifying Based on the excerpt, what must a person have to be able to serve as a representative in the Mexican government? 20, 228

EXTENDED RESPONSE

19 Persuasive Writing Suppose that you are a government official who supports the restrictions placed on colonization by Mexico's 1824 colonization law. Write a speech to persuade others that at least three of the restrictions are needed. Use details from the chapter to support your argument. 228, 220

STANDARDIZED TEST PRACTICE

DBQ ANALYZING DOCUMENTS

Read the chart, and answer the questions that follow.

20 Interpreting Charts Which two cities were in the department with the greatest population in 1834? B2, 21c
A. Saint Augustine and Goliad
B. Anahuac and Liberty
C. Matagorda and San Felipe
D. Victoria and Columbia

21 Identifying What was the combined population of the departments that included the cities of Mina and San Antonio de Béxar? B2, 21c, 21h
F. 12,000
G. 13,000
H. 17,000
I. 21,000

Population of Texas Departments, 1834

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Chief Cities and Towns (in order of size)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Béxar</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>San Antonio de Béxar, Goliad, San Patricio, Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazos</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>San Felipe, Columbia, Matagorda, Gonzales, Mina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nacogdoches</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Johnsburg, Liberty, Bevil, Tenaha, Anahuac, Teran</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Juan Almonte's Report on Texas Spring/Summer 1834

Need Extra Help?

If You've Missed Question 17 18 19 20 21
Review Lesson 2 2 1, 2, 3 3 3

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