

*CROSS HOUSTON STREET AT THE SIGNAL AND STAND BETWEEN THE CENOTAPH AND LONG BARRACK*

Stop 8: The Long Barrack

Originally built as the convento for the mission, the two story building was later turned into barracks for soldiers and a hospital—the first in Texas.

The windows you see here today were actually doorways at the time of the battle. Inside, the defenders had placed extra firearms, barricaded the doors and even dug trenches in the floor... it was here, *in this very building* where many of the Texan defenders made their final stand.

Outside, the Mexican soldiers turned the captured Texan cannon on the Long Barrack, sending solid shot smashing against its stone walls. Determined to clear the rebels out, the Mexican soldiers forced their way inside, killing anyone they found still alive.

By the time the sun came up, the battle was over. From start to finish, it lasted no more than 90 minutes. In the end, the men of the Alamo—who sacrificed their lives for the cause of Texas independence—proved to be no match for the larger Mexican force. Although the mission compound had been fortified, its garrison had been too small to hold it.