



James Bowie

Do not call him Jim Bowie, for his name is James Bowie. Do not give him an order, for he is a man who makes decisions and gives commands.

Bowie came to Texas after spending most of his life in Louisiana where he was involved in many business interests...some of them legal. After arriving in Texas, he ended up marrying into the prominent Veramendi family and he got involved in new business ventures. He also became well known by the prominent men in Texas.

When the Texas Revolution started, Sam Houston, the Commander of the newly formed Texas Army, sent Bowie to San Antonio de Bexar, Bowie's home, to destroy The Alamo. Houston didn't want Mexican General Santa Anna to use it as a fort. Houston did tell Bowie that he could choose to defend The Alamo instead of destroying it, and that is the choice that Bowie made.

Bowie was voted in as commander of the volunteer forces at The Alamo and shared command with William Barret Travis until old wounds caught up with Bowie and he turned over command of his volunteers to Travis.

Bowie was a recognized leader of men who won more battles during the Texas Revolution than any other. The man and his knife became famous because of a fight on a sand bar. The man died at The Alamothe knife lives on.

A TEKS supportive Curriculum Guide for pre-and post-performance studies and activities is provided to teachers for visits from James Bowie.

Portrayed by Jack Edmondson