

*Includes streets in Brazoria, Galveston, Montgomery,
Ft. Bend, Waller, Harris and Liberty Counties*

**INCLUDES
OVER 1000
NEW ENTRIES**

The Stories Behind the Names

A definitive tale about our community's people, politics and power, courage and sacrifice, heroes and scoundrels, humor and tragedy, myths and legends—all told on the streets you drive every day.

by Marks Hinton
2nd Edition



Includes streets in Brazoria, Galveston, Montgomery, Ft. Bend, Waller, Harris and Liberty Counties



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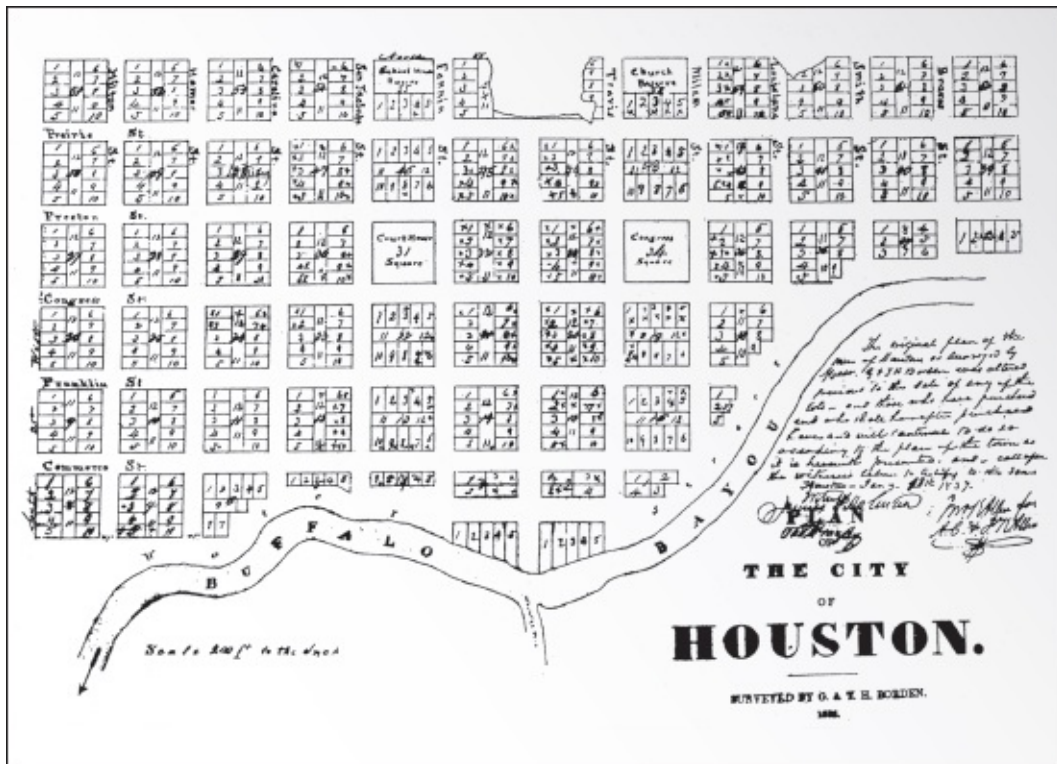
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BRIGHT SKY PRESS

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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to my wife Barbara, my best friend, strongest supporter, travel companion and the most wonderful woman I have ever known

and

to the memory of my parents, C. Marks Hinton Sr. and Mocco Dunn Hinton whose unyielding belief in education made me the man I am today

and

in memory of George W. Donehoo, Jr (1935 – 2009)

.....

I wrote *Historic Houston Streets: The Stories Behind the Names* for three reasons. First, no one in the 174 years since Houston was founded had produced such a book. I felt the information discovered during the nine years of research I conducted would be of interest to the citizens of Houston. I received a letter from Mayor Bill White following the first printing thanking me for my efforts. He said “we will put it to good use.” Second, while considerable historical information existed there was no central place that one could go to easily get an answer on “Who is this street named for?” This book answers many but not all of those questions about the highways and byways of our area. Today it is available in 38 Houston libraries and 8 Harris County libraries, as well as the Houston Metropolitan Research Center’s Texas Room at the main library downtown. Librarians tell me they are constantly taking calls from people who want to know who their street is named for. For the answer they turn to *Historic Houston Streets: The Stories Behind the Names*. Citizens must be interested in the subject judging by the number of invitations I receive to address historical societies, civic clubs, senior citizen groups, church gatherings and professional societies to mention a few. My talk at the Houston Heritage Society still holds the record for attendance at almost three times the average turnout for their monthly lecture series. And lastly, I wrote it for my own pleasure. Houston area streets have always been an unending source of fascination to me. I sincerely enjoyed looking through old books, maps, newspapers and anything else I thought might yield another answer. In addition I was able to interview a large number of Houstonians who were willing to share any information about streets with me. Despite publishing this second edition I will never stop gathering information about our area streets and will continue to publish new discoveries on my web site, archivaltexas.com.

I truly believe that after over nine years of researching this subject I have succeeded in amassing in one book a huge amount of information about not only Houston streets but hundreds in cities, towns and rural areas of Harris, Galveston, Brazoria, Montgomery, Waller, Liberty and Ft. Bend counties. My goal is to make sure this book remains the seminal source of information on our streets and roads for the next 174 years.

Marks Hinton
The Street Whisperer
Houston, Texas

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Paul Teten – Texas historian

Texas General Land Office and Texas Veterans Land Board

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A. J. FOYT: A Houston native, Foyt was the first racecar driver to win four Indianapolis 500s (1964, 1967, 1977). He also won the Daytona 500 and the 24-hours of Le Mans. ¹

A. P. GEORGE RANCH: Albert P. George (1873-1955) and his wife Mamie (1877-1971) owned a large ranch in Fort Bend that they inherited from her family. In addition to raising cattle, oil and gas was discovered in 1923 and again in 1931 dramatically increasing their net worth. In 1945 the Georges established the George Foundation for "...religious, charitable and/or education purposes... for the use and benefit of the people of Fort Bend County." Over the years these philanthropists gave grants to establish the Polly Ryan Memorial Hospital, George Memorial Library, George Observatory, George Ranch Historical Park and many other projects in the Richmond/Rosenberg area. ²

ABBOTT: Newton C. – Born in New York in the 1850s, Abbott came to Houston in 1900 and opened his law practice. He gave some of his westside land to the city for the construction of a school. Consequently the street and the school were named for him. The school no longer exists but the building had a short reincarnation as a hamburger stand in the early 1980s. ³

ABERCROMBIE: The Abercrombies were significant landowners in Houston. However, they made their fortune in the oilfield equipment business. James "Jim" Smithers Abercrombie invented the blowout preventer to keep an oil well under control when large pockets of high-pressure gas were hit while drilling. He partnered with Harry Cameron to found Cameron Iron Works, a company that became a world leader in the manufacture of oil well equipment. ⁴

ACADEMY: Developers of West University Place chose to name many of the streets in their addition for famous colleges and universities in keeping with the neighborhood's proximity to Rice University (nee Institute). Since academy is defined as "a secondary or college preparatory school, especially a private one," it only makes sense that it is located in this community with its focus on higher learning. ⁵

ACADIA: See sidebar *Laissez les bon temps roulez* (Let the good times roll), [page 188](#).

ADAGIO: See sidebar *It's Music to My Ears*, [page 218](#).

ADAMS: John – Based on the historical evidence of accomplishments during his term as President of the United States, it would seem this street is named for John and not his son John Quincy. A revolutionary hero, signatory of the Declaration of Independence and George Washington's Vice President, John Adams became the 2nd President of the United States (1789-1801). He was the first President to live in the White House. ⁶

ADDICKS LEVEE: Addicks Reservoir is on South Mayde Creek in western Harris County. The rolled earthen levee is 61,166 feet long, 121 feet high and covers 129 square miles. It was built by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1948 to provide flood control for Buffalo Bayou and the San Jacinto

River. (See **Addicks** and **Mayde creek**.) ⁷

ADDICKS-HOWELL: T. E. Howell was a principal landowner of a village on the Harris/ Fort Bend County lines named Howellville. It was a stop on the Texas & New Orleans Railroad. Except for the street named for Mr. Howell, Howellville has passed into history. ⁸

ADDICKS-SATSUMA: (See **Dairy Ashford**.)

ADDICKS: Henry J. – “Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stayed this courier from the swift completion of his appointed rounds” and as a result Mr. Addicks was honored by several roads west Houston bearing his name including **Addicks-clodine**, **Addicks-Fairbanks** and **Addicks-Howell**. He was the first postman in Addicks, Texas, a village named for him in 1884. Prior to that date, the town was known as Bear Creek (named for the nearby waterway), Bear Hill and Letitia. ⁹

ADDISON: Joseph – Often in an attempt to make a neighborhood appear more intellectual than the area around it, a real estate developer will name the streets for well-known authors, poets and playwrights. This practice caught on in our fair city many years ago. Addison was an Englishman who wrote poems, prose and essays. These works were often published in *The Tatler*, a magazine he founded. ¹⁰

ADKINS: Elbert E., Sr. – He came to Houston in the early 1900s from Ripley, Ohio. His wife, Grace Noble, was the granddaughter of Houston Mayor I. C. Lord (1875-6). Adkins established a very successful real estate development and insurance business. (See **Noble**.) ¹¹

AFFIRMED: Winner of the 1978 Kentucky Derby and the last Triple Crown (Derby, Preakness and Belmont) winner. His battles with rival Alydar were the stuff of racing legend. While Affirmed defeated Alydar for the Crown, each race was closer than the previous one. ¹²

AFTON: See sidebar **All things English**, [page 175](#).

AFTONSHIRE: See sidebar **All things English**, [page 175](#).

AGASSI ACE: Andre Agassi was an American tennis professional. An early phenom, he gained a reputation of not being able to win the big matches. He eventually proved his critics wrong by capturing major titles at Wimbledon (1992), the U.S. Open (1994 and 1999), the Australian Open (1995 and 2001) and the French Open (1999). He is one of only a few tennis players to have won each Grand Slam tournament. ¹³

AIRFIELD: This short street leads to Williams Airfield, a private airstrip in southern Montgomery County. ¹⁴

AIRHART: This Baytown street is named for a family of early settlers. ¹⁵

AIRLINE: On a 1930 Houston city map North Main appears to dead end at Airline, a street that goes north on the map straight as an arrow. Near the outskirts of town Airline became U.S. Highway 75, the main route to Dallas before the construction of Interstate 45. The story is that the street was named because this was the route an airline would fly to go directly to Dallas. ¹⁶

AIRLINE: This unique neighborhood, Polly Ranch Estates, southeast of Friendswood, has its own airstrip. In 1953 Raymond Kliesing developed this area prior to earning his pilot's license. He also created a park with an island he called Monkey Island. It received its name when his brother, Donald, was given a monkey as a pet. Donald thought his pet needed female companionship so he acquired another monkey from a local pet shop. It was not long before the island was teeming with the offspring. Unfortunately the monkeys were wiped out in a huge flood in the 1970s. ¹⁷

AIRPORT: This boulevard is the main thoroughfare fronting William P. Hobby Airport from which it derives its name. One of Houston's longer streets it runs from the Gulf Freeway on the east into Fort Bend County on the west. (See photograph on [page 12.](#)) ¹⁸

ALADDIN: He was the boy hero of *Arabian Nights* who possessed a magic lamp that contained two genies. When he rubbed the lamp they would appear and do his bidding.

ALAMO: This street is named for the most recognizable site in the state of Texas. It was originally named San Antonio de Padua Mission and then changed to San Antonio de Valero Mission in 1718. The cornerstone of the building we see today in San Antonio was laid in 1744. The mission's purpose was to Christianize and educate the local Indians. It was abandoned in 1793. Ten years later it was occupied by a troop of Mexican soldiers. It was at this time that it became known as the Alamo, most likely resulting from its location near a grove of cottonwood (*alamo* in Spanish) trees. Of course, it is remembered for the famous 13 day siege that occurred here during the Texas Revolution. (See **Travis**, **Crockett** and **James Bowie**.)



» **AIRPORT:** Houston architect **Joseph Finger** designed this terminal in 1940

ALBANS: See sidebar **Southampton's English Streets**, [page 255.](#)

ALDEN BRIDGE: This street is named for the Louisiana hometown of Woodlands Operating Company president, Roger Galatas. ¹⁹

ALDERNEY: See sidebar **All Things English**, [page 175.](#)

ALDERON WOODS: Susan Vreeland-Wendt, marketing director of the Woodlands Operating Company, names the streets in that neighborhood. Although this one is misspelled (it should be

Alderaan) it recalls the home planet of Princess Leia from the movie *Star Wars*. Obi-Wan Kenobi and Luke Skywalker hire Han Solo in the famous scene in the Mos Eisley Cantina to fly them to Alderaan. She named **Millennium Forest** for the Millennium Falcon, a modified Corellian freighter, flown by Han Solo and his first mate, Chewbacca. ²⁰

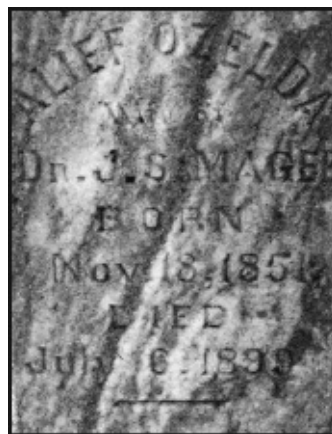
ALDINE: This small village on Houston's north side was a station on the International-Great Northern Railroad beginning in the 1890s. The place and the streets were named after a family who owned a farm in the area. Today Aldine is usually connected with another name such as **Aldine-Mary**, **Aldine-Bender**, **Aldine-Westfield**, etc. ²¹

ALEXANDER: C. Q. "Kid" – He was the mayor of Goose Creek before it was annexed by Baytown. ²²

ALEXANDER: Robert – This early Baytown citizen was a well-known Methodist missionary in the 1840s. He founded what is today known as the Cedar Bayou United Methodist Church. This sanctuary was originally called Alexander Chapel. ²³

ALGOA: This is a small village in northern Galveston County. It was founded in 1880 along the Gulf Colorado & Santa Fe railroad line. Up until 1957 Algoa was mainly an agricultural community raising figs, pears, oranges and strawberries. Then oil was discovered nearby and Milwhite Mud Company, manufacturer of drilling fluids became a major employer. ²⁴

ALIEF-CLODINE: The earliest settlers of the town of Dairy were John S. and Alief Ozelda Magee. Mrs. Magee's first application for a post office was rejected because of possible confusion with another Texas town so the citizens decided to honor her by changing the name to Alief. In the early days she operated the post office out of the front room of her home. **clodine**, in Fort Bend County, was a station on the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railroad. It was named for a railroad employee named Clodine King. ^{25, 26}



» **ALIEF O. MAGEE: Tombstone**

ALLEGRO: See sidebar **It's Music to My Ears**, [page 218](#).



» ALLEN PARKWAY: Looking east on Allen Parkway when it was still known as Buffalo Drive



» ALLEN PARKWAY: Portrait of Houston co-founder, John Kirby Allen

THE BELLAIRE TREE STREET NAMES

William W. Baldwin, the developer of Bellaire and Westmoreland Farms, was a man with a plan. It was no small plan either. His goal was to turn a treeless prairie southwest of Houston into “the future garden spot of the South.” He actively marketed his landscape plans and was soon talking with editors of magazines interested in gardening. He enlisted three important partners to help pull off this grandiose scheme. Frank L. Dormant was a civil engineer who worked for the City of Houston from 1902 to 1905. Edward Teas was the owner of Teas Nursery Company. He was hired to handle the planting of the greenery. Sid J. Hare was a landscape architect with the Kansas City firm of Hare & Hare. In order to convey the

impression that Bellaire was a garden city, Hare decided to name many of the streets after trees. According to *Perspective*, for some unknown reason, Hare's street names were not used but other tree names were substituted. For example, Hare's Olive became Chestnut and Evergreen became Beech. Never-the-less Bellaire still has a number of streets named for trees and shrubs. They are as follows: **Pin Oak, Elm, Palmetto, Beech, Locust, Spruce, Cedar, Live Oak, Acacia, Laurel, Magnolia, Willow, Oleander, Birch, Pine, Holly, Mimosa, Maple, Aspen, Jessamine, Palm, Azalea, Huisache, Wisteria, Fern, Linden and Mulberry.** And finally **Holt**, an archaic Middle English word meaning a wood or grove. ¹

ALLEN PARKWAY: Our city's *laissez faire* attitude has been part of our warp and woof from the beginning. In 1836 two New York real estate speculators, John Kirby Allen and his brother Augustus Chapman Allen, bought half a league of land on Buffalo Bayou, just north of the town of Harrisburg. As the Bayou was deep enough for navigation, they laid out a town and named it after General Sam Houston. The rest is history and an interesting story it is. John died of disease just two years after the city's founding. Augustus lived until 1864 when he passed away from pneumonia. This beautiful parkway was called Buffalo Drive until its name was changed in 1961 to honor Houston's Founding Fathers. (See photographs on [page 13.](#)) ²⁷

ALLEN STREET: There are two possible sources for this street. The most likely is Henry R. Allen, the brother of city founders John and Augustus Allen. He was an early landowner in the Sixth Ward where parts of this street are located. Allen was also a city alderman, helped organize the first Chamber of Commerce in 1840 and strongly backed the creation of a deep-water port in Houston. Next is Augustus C. Allen, a co-founder of Houston and the owner of a large tract of land north of where this street is located. The street first appeared on a city map in 1839. ²⁸

ALLEN: N. A. – Most likely this street is named for a well respected and long time black educator from Needville. In 1960 the elementary school was also given this person's name. ²⁹

ALLISON: One of the two firms that developed Pearland was the Allison-Richey Suburban Garden Company. Why Allison got a street named for him in what was called "an agricultural Eden" and Richey did not remains a mystery. ³⁰

ALLSTON: Early investors in Houston Heights lived in this Boston suburb. It was named for Washington Allston, an artist from Cambridge, Massachusetts. One of his paintings, "Fields West of Boston" is of Allston. Originally a livestock and railroad town, today it is home for Harvard, M.I.T., Boston College and Boston University. Notable citizens include New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and members of the rock band Aerosmith. ³¹

ALMEDA SCHOOL: This road leads to Almeda Elementary School. (See **Almeda-Genoa.**) ³²

ALMEDA-GENOA: This road runs between the southwestern Harris County towns of Almeda and Genoa, named by Dr. Willis King for his daughter, to the town of Genoa (named for the Italian city by its founder J. H. Burnett). It ran along the Galveston, Houston & Henderson Railroad line. ^{33, 34}

ALTAIR: See sidebar **Starry Night**, [page 111](#).

ALTIC: Russell – See sidebar **Houston Streets Named for Men Killed During World War I**, [page 22](#).³⁵

ALUMNI: Located on the campus of Rice University this street near the football stadium recalls the graduates of this outstanding institution of higher learning.³⁶

ALVIN-SUGAR LAND: In 1876 Alvin Morgan founded the town of Alvin as a station on the Houston Tap & Brazoria Railroad. Sugar Land is named for the sugar cane fields and sugar mill located there. Up until the mid-1940s the Imperial Sugar Company operated the world's largest sugar refinery here.^{37, 38}

ALYDAR: This thoroughbred may be the best racehorse to ever place second. In 1977 as a two-year-old colt Alydar began what was to become a legendary rivalry with Affirmed. These two horses captivated the racing public with their head to head duels for two years. For the fading Calumet Farms, the once mythic Kentucky thoroughbred stable, Alydar was a final burst of glory. Despite losing each Triple Crown race in 1978 to Affirmed, Alydar's "never quit" resoluteness earned him a place in racing lore. (See **Affirmed**.)³⁹

ALYSHEBA: This 1987 Kentucky Derby winner turned in one of the greatest racing performances of all time. Coming down the stretch Alysheba caught the rear hooves of race leader Bet Twice. He stumbled and it looked as if horse and jockey, Chris McCarron, were about to go head over heels. But somehow Alysheba regained his balance, took up the chase again and nipped Bet Twice at the wire to win by 3/4 of a length. Those who saw the race called McCarron's ride the greatest of the 20th century.⁴⁰

AMC: This short street leads to the AMC 20 Cineplex at Katy Mills.⁴¹

AMERICAN PETROLEUM: This early Texas oil company is credited with finding the massive Goose Creek Oilfield near Baytown. On August 23, 1916 drilling contractor Charles Mitchell hit pay dirt at 2,017 feet. That well came in at 10,000 barrels per day. Over its productive lifetime this field produced 140,644,377 barrels of crude oil. (See **Galliard** and **Goose Creek**.)⁴²

AMHERST: This street is named for a liberal arts college founded in 1821 in the small Massachusetts town of the same name.⁴³

ANACORTES: It is possible that this street is named for Anacortes, Washington where both Texaco and Shell Oil (both firms with close ties to Houston) constructed refineries in the 1950s.⁴⁴

ANCHOR: Now a virtual ghost town, Anchor, was a thriving community from the 1850s until the 1920s when three rail lines passed it. First known as Fruitland, Jacob Whistler changed the name in 1895 to recall his hometown of Anchor, Illinois. It was a trading center for the many Brazoria County farmers who raised corn and cotton in the area. One of the more unusual businesses here was a large plant for processing frog legs.⁴⁵

ANCLA: See sidebar **Learn a Foreign Language on Your Morning Walk**, [page 125](#).

ANDANTE: See sidebar **It's Music to My Ears**, [page 218](#).

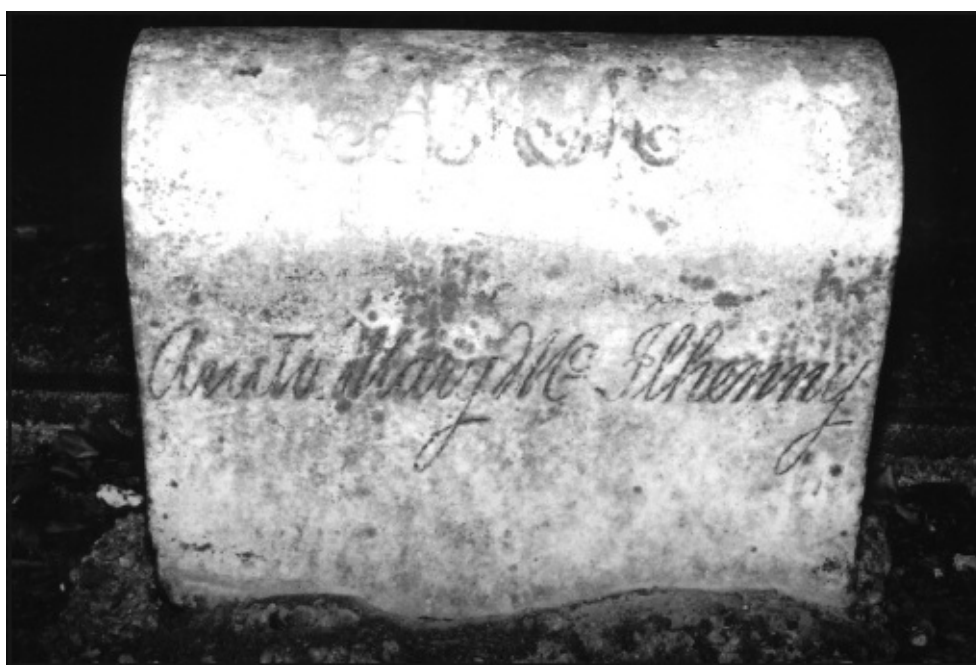
ANDRAU: Evert Willem Karel – This World War II veteran served in the U.S. Army Air Corps where he developed his affinity for flying. Born of Dutch parents in Sumatra, Indonesia, his family immigrated to California prior to the Japanese capture of Indonesia in the early 1940s. He joined Shell Oil Company as a geologist and moved to Houston following the close of the War. Andrau was nicknamed the “Flying Dutchman” as he used a private plane to visit many remote oil well locations. Andrau Airport was built on a rice farm he owned out Westheimer Road in 1946. He was killed in a plane crash in 1951 but his airfield continued to operate for another 47 years. It was sold to real estate developers in 1998 and is now a planned community. ⁴⁶

ANDREWS: John – Andrews came from Virginia in the late 1830s and settled in Houston. He was president of the Buffalo Bayou Company, a maritime services firm. He bought 10 acres of land in Freedman's Town where this street is today. Active in local politics Andrews served as mayor in 1841-42. In return for granting the city the right of way to put a street through his property, the street was named for him in about 1890. ⁴⁷

ANDRUS: This is an old Fort Bend County family. William Andrus was among the first of Stephen F. Austin's colonists. His son, Walter Andrus, was born here in 1830. They were farmers and cattlemen. ⁴⁸

ANGLETON: This Brazoria County community was founded in 1890 by Lewis R. Bryan Sr. and Faustino Kiber. It was named for the wife of the general manager of the Velasco Terminal Railroad that passed through Angleton. Confederate general Albert Sidney Johnson's plantation, China Grove, was very near here. One odd and little known fact about this community is the last legal hanging in Texas took place here on August 31, 1923. (See **China Grove**.) ⁴⁹

ANITA: She was one of the daughters of Samuel K. McIlhenny, a wealthy merchant in early Houston. Anita, her sister **Rosalie** and their mother Eva made the fatal mistake of going to the family's beach house in Galveston on the weekend of September 8, 1900. That was when the most devastating hurricane in history ripped into Galveston Island killing more than 7,000 persons, the three women among them. Their bodies were miraculously recovered and returned to Houston for burial in the family plot in Glenwood Cemetery. The streets Anita and Rosalie, just south of McIlhenny Street, first appear on the 1900 Houston map. They were cut between Tuam and Elgin that year. These streets were named in honor of these sisters, victims of the Great Storm of 1900. (See **McIlhenny**.) ⁵⁰



» **ANITA:** Anita Mary McIlhenny's tombstone in Glenwood Cemetery

ANNAPOLIS: Founded in 1845 the United States Naval Academy is located in Annapolis MD. The nickname of this military college is "Annapolis." ⁵¹

ANNUNCIATION: Under law there is a separation of church and state; but, Planning & Development may not disallow a street name unless it is repetitious, so developers are free to use religious references on their plats. This street is named for the Angel Gabriel's announcement to the Virgin Mary that Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary and he is the Son of God. In a possible fit to religious fervor the developer named the street just to the south **Guadalupe**, as in the Virgin of. ⁵²

ANTHA: Elbert Adkins, Sr. – He was the developer of Tidwell Timbers Addition and named this street after his daughter. The next street to the north of Antha is **Rietta**, his second daughter. ⁵³

ANTIETAM: On September 17, 1862 the bloodiest battle of the War Between the States occurred. On that morning General Robert E. Lee and 35,000 Confederate soldiers squared off against General George B. McClellan and his 95,000 Union troops. By sundown 4,808 men were dead, the most people ever to die in a battle on American soil. This place will always be remembered as "Bloody Antietam." ⁵⁴

ANZIO: In January 1944 Allied troops landed at this Italian beach town to divert German forces away from Cassino. Because of the success of the attack here troops were able to capture Rome in June of that year. Anzio also happens to be the birthplace of Roman emperors Nero and Caligula. ⁵⁵

APOLLO: See sidebar **Space City U.S.A. or "Houston the Eagle Has Landed"**, [page 106](#).

APPALOOSA: The developer of Saratoga Ranch Addition chose an equine theme for the street. Appaloosa is a North American saddle horse noted for its spotted rump. **Palomino** is an Arabian horse with a golden or tan coat and a white or cream colored mane and tail. **Bay** is a reddish-brown horse with a black tail and mane. **Sorrel** horses have a brownish orange to light brown coat. **Pinto**, also called a Paint horse, has patchy markings of white with other darker colors. ⁵⁶

APPIAN WAY: This is the most famous of the Roman roads. Begun in 312 B.C. it extended more than 350 miles and was the main highway to Greece. It had connecting roads to Naples and Rome seaport. ⁵⁷

APPOMATTOX: This is a small town in south central Virginia where Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant at the courthouse on April 9, 1865, thus ending the Civil War. ⁵⁸

ARCHER: This street recalls a ghost town that was located east of Old River. The settlement existed in the 1830s but was eventually absorbed by the community of Old River-Winfree, Texas. ⁵⁹

ARCHIBALD BLAIR: Williamsburg Colony Addition has many streets related to that historic Virginia community. Born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1665 he immigrated to Williamsburg in 1699 following graduation from medical school. He was one of the first doctors in the colony. He died in 1733. ⁶⁰

OUR CITY'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Before we had our first map or our first street name we had to be declared a city. That happened on December 22, 1836.



Laws of the Republic of Texas

AN ACT

Locating the Seat of Justice for County of Harrisburg, and other purposes.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted, by the senate and house of representatives of the republic of Texas, in congress assembled, That the seat of justice for the county of Harrisburg be, and the same is hereby established at the town of Houston. Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the Island of Galveston, shall for the future be included within the limits of the county of Harrisburg, and be, and compose a part of said county.

IRA INGRAM

Speaker of the House of Representatives

RICHARD ELLIS

President pro tem. of the Senate

Approved, Dec. 22, 1836

SAM HOUSTON

ARDENNES: Also known as the "Battle of the Bulge," this audacious German attack on the Western front caught Allied forces by surprise in mid-December of 1944. It was the Nazis last offensive through the Ardennes and was the greatest pitched battle ever fought by American soldiers before or since. More than one million soldiers were involved in the battle.

million military personnel were involved in this gargantuan conflict. In this Allied victory the German Air Force was destroyed with the loss of more than 300 pilots. ⁶¹

ARLINGTON: Houston Heights developer O. M. Carter named this street for Arlington Mills, a large cotton mill in Lawrence, Massachusetts. (See **Lawrence**.) ⁶²

ARMOUR: One of the earliest industrial ventures on the newly opened Houston Ship Channel in 1917 was the Armour Fertilizer Works. Due to the confluence of railroads, shipping lines and chemical plants, phosphate was readily available to be used in the production of fertilizer. This company is also remembered for the publication of *Armour's Farmers Almanac* in the 1920s and 1930s. ⁶³

THE BELLAIRE STREETS NAMED FOR WOMEN

Mary Catherine Farrington Miller verified this story for me. When developer Jim West went to file his plat for this section of Bellaire he did not have all of the street names filled in, a requirement for a plat to be accepted by the city. Not wanting to waste any more time he whipped out his pen and began furiously filling in the blank spaces on his map. He first named a street after himself. Then began to list the names of the wives of his partners and all of the women who worked in his office. This solved the problem and today we have streets in Bellaire remembering **Jim West, Dorothy, Darsey, Mildred, Cynthia, Jane, Effie, Valerie, Betty, Lula, Edith, Bess** and **Vivian**. However, prior to developing the property, West sold it to William Farrington, who would also create Tanglewood. He asked West the provenance of the female street names and was told the story. Farrington found the story amusing and left well enough alone even though he could have re-plated the neighborhood and given the streets new names. ²

ARNOLD: Because of its location between Browning and Marlowe, both famous English authors, it is most likely that this street is named for Matthew Arnold, an English poet and literary critic. He is remembered for two volumes of his poetry, *Narrative and Elegiac Poems* (1869) and *Dramatic and Lyric Poems* (1869). There is an outside chance, however, since he is the least well-known of any writer for whom a West University Place street is named that the street might recall A. V. Arnold, vice president of Preston R. Plumb's Realty Servicing Corporation. It was not unusual for developers in that neighborhood to name streets for themselves. (See **Plumb** and **Jarrard**.) ⁶⁴

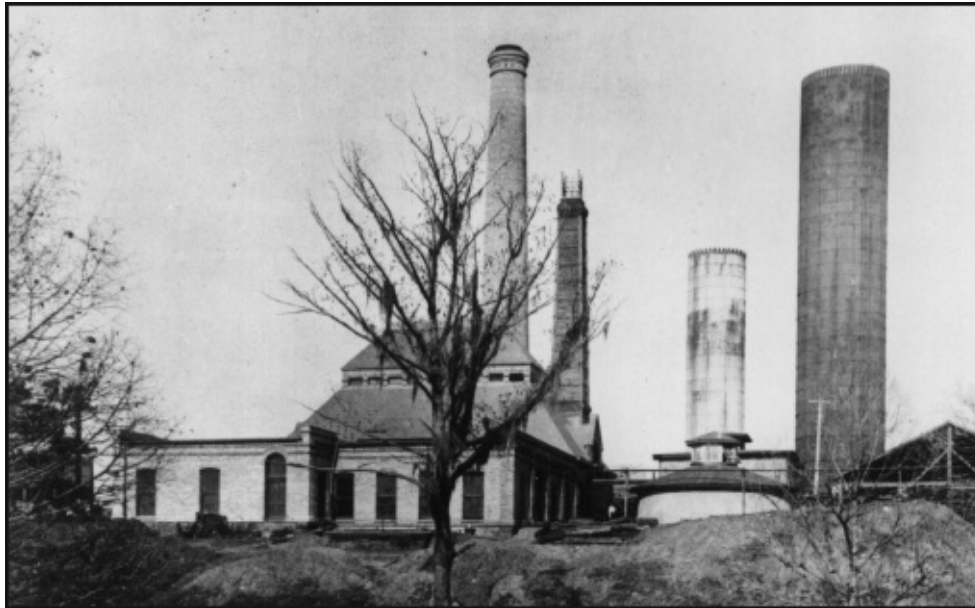
ARNOT: See sidebar **Texas Heroes' Names for Houston Streets Urged in 72 Proposed Changes** [page 96](#).

ARROYO: See sidebar **Learn a Foreign Language on Your Morning Walk**, [page 125](#).

ARTESIAN: In the late 1880s Houston's water supply was questionable. The city could not afford to build a water system so a private company dammed Buffalo Bayou and was selling water from the reservoir. Unfortunately it was not potable. However, in the early 1890s, it was discovered that Houston was sitting on a huge supply of pure artesian water. This street is named for the early well

drilled by Houston Water Works on the banks of the bayou. Old maps produced by the Sanfor Insurance Company clearly show the location of the well, suction pipes, water pumps and water pipe (See photograph on [page 21.](#)) ⁶⁵

ARTHUR: William – Arthur came to Texas in 1850 from Kentucky. He was a farmer and fought for the Confederacy in the War Between the States. In 1894 his son, Hugh, acquired a small Baytown cemetery where his father is buried. What makes this story interesting is the Arthur-Hale Cemetery now inside the boundaries of the Exxon Mobil Refinery, the largest refinery in the United States and to my knowledge the only refinery in America with a cemetery. Six Texas pioneers are interred here on this 28'x28' plot. Exxon Mobil and its predecessor, Humble Oil & Refining Company, have maintained the graveyard since 1919. ⁶⁶



» **ARTESIAN:** The original Waterworks, now the site of the Downtown Aquarium



» **ASHBEL:** Old Red at University of Texas Medical Branch Galveston

ASHBEL: Born in Connecticut in 1805, Ashbel Smith is one of Texas' renaissance men. He arrived in Texas just after the Revolution in 1837. Smith held a medical degree from Yale and was appointed Surgeon General of the Texas Army. Also a great statesman, he served as Secretary of State of the Republic of Texas and was *charge d'affaires* to Great Britain, France, Belgium and Spain. Following Texas' admission into the Union, Smith was elected to several terms in the State Legislature. He was a veteran of the Mexican War and the War Between the States. Smith was elected the first president of

the Board of Regents of the University of Texas. It was due to his diligent efforts that the University medical branch was built in Galveston. Architect Nicholas Clayton's beautiful building on the campus is named in his honor. Most people now know it by its nickname "Old Red."⁶⁷

HOUSTON STREETS NAMED FOR MEN KILLED DURING WORLD WAR I

With the exception of the Civil War, the First World War was probably the most horrific event in American history up to that time. Hundreds of thousands of young American servicemen and women marched off to fight the "War to End All Wars" and many came home in a pine box. We were a much smaller city in 1920. People knew their neighbors and felt the grief at the lost son or daughter in the conflict of 1914-18. The combination of great angst and a desire to honor those that gave their lives in defense of their country prompted City Council to name a number of streets for those fallen heroes. Today many of those names are engraved on a brass plaque mounted on a large stone memorial behind the Heritage Society Museum at 1100 Bagby. Those persons with street names in their honor include: Russell **Altic** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Max **Autry** (U. S. Army – lost aboard ship), John L. **Banks** (U. S. Army – killed in action) or William W. **Banks** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Earl **Barkdull** (U.S. Army – killed in action), S. L. **Barnes** (U.S. Army – killed in action), H. B. **Bartlett** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Cecil G. **Bethea** (U.S. Army – killed in action), George H. **Bissonnet** (U. S. Army Air Corps – died in an aviation accident), Thomas R. **Brailsford** (U. S. Navy – unknown cause of death), Felix H. **Briley** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Captain John R. **Burkett** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Frank P. **Burkhart** (U. S. Marines – died of disease), Hugo O. **Byrne** (U.S. Army – died of wounds), Sergeant Henry R. **Canfield** (U. S. Army – died by accident), Joseph B. **Caylor** (U. S. Marines – killed in action), W. E. **Chandler** (U. S. Army – died of disease), William B. **Cowart** (Aviator – missing in action), Samuel L. **D'Amico** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Thomas **Dismuke** (U. S. Navy – killed in action), Justin **Dorbandt** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Herbert D. **Dunlavy** (U.S. Marines – killed in action), Lieutenant Karl L. **Elliott** (U. S. Army – died of disease), M. D. **Everton** (U. S. Army – killed in a Houston riot), August J. **Fashion** (U. S. Army – died of wounds), Lewis **Floyd** (U. S. Marines – died of disease), Captain R. M. **Gibson** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Lee G. **Glogler** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Alphonse **Gonzales** (U. S. Army – missing in action), Sergeant Thomas **Green** (U. S. Army – died of wounds), Lawrence **Halpern** (U. S. Navy – lost at sea), John P. **Hawkins** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Earl **Hicks** (U. S. Army – died of disease) or Thomas B. **Hicks** (U. S. Army – died of wounds), Fred **Hopkins** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Lawrence

C. **Jensen** (U. S. Marines – killed in action), Ralph A. **Johnson** (U. S. Army – died on shipboard), William J. **Jones** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Colin M. **Lemke** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Andrew **McCall** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Allen J. **McDonald** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Lieutenant John McK. **Mcintosh** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Dr. H. Lee **McNeil** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Chester A. **Meek** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Charles E. **Miller** (U.S. Army – killed in action) or James E. **Miller** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Ollie **Mills** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Lieutenant Frank M. **Moore** (Aviator – killed in action) or Thomas W. **Moore** (U. S. Army – died by accident), Roscoe W. **Morris** (U. S. Navy – died by accident), Dominick **Naplava** (U. S. Army – killed in action), Robert E. **Nettleton** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Claud **Nicholson** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Sam L. **Norvic** (Aviator – died by accident), W. M. **O'Reilly** (U.S. Marines – killed in action), Charles H. **Patterson** (U. S. Marines – died of wounds), Sergeant R. C. **Pecore** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Nathan L. **Pizner** (U. S. Marines – killed in action), Sergeant T. H. **Quinn** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Sergeant Charles E. **Russell** (U. S. Army – died of disease), William L. **Sanders** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Herman **Sauer** (information not available), Marion **Schuler** (U. S. Army – died of wounds), Claud C. **Simmons** (U. S. Army – died of disease) or William L. **Simmons** (U.S. Army – killed in action), Sergeant Drue **Singleton** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Oscar **Snover** (U. S. Army – died of disease), James M. **Stedman** (U. S. Army – died of disease), James L. **Styers** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Harry **Taggart** (U. S. Navy – lost at sea), Ray **Teetshorn** (Aviator – died of disease), William **Truett** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Robert E. **Tuck** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Charles **Vick** (U. S. Army – killed in action), Leland J. **Wagner** (U. S. Army – killed in action), Terrell T. **Waugh** (U. S. Marines – killed in action) Sergeant Joseph C. **Weber** (U. S. Marines – died of disease), Charles H. **Westcott** (U. S. Army – died of disease), Milton J. **Winkler** (U. S. Army – killed in action), Charles H. **Wood** (U. S. Army – killed in action) or Thomas W. **Wood** (U. S. Army – killed in action).³

These streets are also named for service men that died but there are no additional details about them: **Blossom**, **Butler**, **Collier**, **Kaiser** and **Lane**. This last information came from *1930 City Guide & Map* (Texas Map & Blue Print Co., 1930.)

ASHLAND: As Houston Heights co-founders Oscar M. Carter and Daniel D. Cooley were office (president and cashier, respectively) of the First National Bank of Ashland, Nebraska before moving to the Houston area, it is likely this street is to remember that town. In addition D. D. Cooley was married in Ashland. ⁶⁸

ASHTEX: See sidebar **Howdy Tex**, [page 263](#).

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