

FORT BEND COUNTY TIMELINE

November 25, 1821 January 1822	The schooner "Lively" left New Orleans bound for Texas. The "Lively" put ashore at the mouth of the Brazos River, letting off 15 passengers, including William Little and the Lovelaces.
March 1822	Little and the Lovelaces reached the present-day site of Richmond and built a 25' square log house during the next 10 days.
March 1822	William Morton arrived in the area; he cleared the canebrake across the river and planted a crop of corn.
April 1823	Stephen F. Austin and Philip Neri, Baron de Bastrop, met the first gathering of the colonists in Texas to bring greetings from the Mexican government.
Spring of 1834	The first lawsuit as well as the first religious service were held.
June 1834	A school opened near present-day Sugar Land for the children of C. C. Dyer, 3 Rose children, 2 Roark boys, and 2 Staffords.
April 1836	The "Yellowstone" came down the river with a load of cotton and the Mexican soldiers, who had never seen a steamboat before, tried to lasso the smokestacks.
May 1837	The town of Richmond was incorporated and a petition to create the county of Fort Bend was circulated.
December 29, 1837 January 13, 1838	Fort Bend County was officially recognized. The first election was held in the county and 170 votes were cast.
September 3, 1838	Mirabeau B. Lamar, who kept his campaign headquarters in Richmond, was elected 2 nd President of the Republic.
January 22, 1839 April 27, 1839	The first Methodist Church in Richmond was begun. The first newspaper printed in Richmond – <i>The Richmond Telescope and Literary Register</i> – was printed, but only lasted for a month.
September 1842	William Ryon led a group of volunteers, many from Fort Bend County, on the Somerville Expedition to Mexico, which included the Black Bean Episode at Perote Prison.
Spring 1843	Samuel May Williams installed a commercial raw sugar grinding mill at the site of his sugar plantation. By 1855, there were 40 such mills in the county.
January 1, 1853	W. J. Kyle and B. F. Terry bought Oakland Plantation from Nathaniel Williams.
August 1853	The Buffalo Bayou, Brazos & Colorado Railroad opened its first 25 miles of track from Harrisburg to Stafford's Point.
January 1, 1856	The BBB&C Railroad reaches Richmond.