

McGEHEE, THOMAS GILMER -- The compiler of the biographical sketches in this volume is responsible for the name Thomas Gilmer McGehee being placed on the bronze plaque in the San Jacinto monument as a participant in the Battle of San Jacinto. He has since found an affidavit signed December 22, 1855 by Captain Jesse Billingsley in which he states that Thomas G. McGehee and Noel Mixon of Billingsley's Company were absent on furlough to attend to their families and did not reach the battlefield until the day after the battle. (See page 228 of the Army rolls in the General Land Office, Austin).

On page 17 of the official San Jacinto rolls printed in New Orleans in 1836 under the direction of General Sam Houston, the name is listed as Thomas M' Gay, of Captain William H. Patton's Company.

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McGEHEE, THOMAS GILMER - The compiler of the biographical sketches in this volume submitted to the Texas State Board of Control the names of those who, in the opinion he had formed after ten years of research work on the subject, had participated in the battle of San Jacinto. Such names, on a bronze tablet, were placed in the memorial building erected on the San Jacinto battlefield, 1936-38. The name of Thomas Gilmer McGehee was among those submitted. This, the compiler is now convinced, is an error. The name Thomas McGay is shown on the San Jacinto rolls printed in 1836 as a member of Captain William H. Patton's company. The compiler being unable to get any information whatever concerning Thomas McGay concluded that the soldier was Thomas G. McGehee of Captain Jesse Billingsley company who had been transferred to Captain Patton's company. He has since found on page 228 of the army rolls in the General Land Office an affidavit, signed December 22, 1855 by Captain Billingsley in which he stated that Thomas S. McGehee and Noel Mixon of his (Billingsley's) company were absent on furlough (to attend to their families and did not reach the battlefield until the day after the battle. As a matter of fact the records of the Texas Veterans Association, of which he was a member, do not list Mr. McGehee as a San Jacinto veteran. He is listed in the 1874 Year Book of the Association as follows: "Age 64; nativity, Georgia; emigrated in 1834; campaign of 1836; Residence, San Marcos, Hays county. (See page 605 Baker's Texas Scrap Book.)

In Comptroller's Military Service Record No. 4740 it is certified that Mr. McGehee entered the services of Texas in the First Regiment

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of Texas Militia in the company of the Mina Volunteers February 28  
and was discharged June 1, 1836. For this service he was issued  
Bounty Certificate No. 3227 for 320 acres of land, May 8, 1838. Col-  
onel Edward Burleson certified that he detached Mr. McGehee and four  
others to act as spies between Bastrop and the Guadalupe, commencing  
February 29 and continuing until March 20th. They then left to join  
the main army at Beason's crossing of the Colorado.

McGAY, THOMAS - The compiler is responsible for the name Thomas McGay not being on the bronze plaque in the memorial tower at the San Jacinto battlefield bearing the names of those of the Texas army who participated in the battle of San Jacinto. The name of Thomas Gilmer McGehee was erroneously submitted to the State Board of Control instead of Thomas Mc Gay.

While the compiler does not believe that anyone by the name of Thomas McGay participated in the battle of San Jacinto he cannot prove that he did not. The name ThomasVMcGay appears on the official San Jacinto rolls printed in a booklet in 1836, as a member of Captain William H. Patton's Columbia Company.

Colonel Jesse Benton, Jr. was made commander of Captain Patton's Company on July 20, 1836 and continued as such until the company was disbanded. On June 21, 1856 Colonel Benton at his home at San Augustine prepared a list of all the men who had served in Captain Patton's Company, making an affidavit that it was correct to the best of his knowledge. This roll was sent to Governor E. M. Pease who in turn sent it to the General Land Office. It is found on pages 232 and 233 of the Land Office army rolls. The name Thomas McGay is not on it.

The Land Office records do not show that anyone by the name of Thomas McGay received either bounty, donation or headright lands.

McGAY, THOMAS -- The compiler is responsible for the name of Thomas Gilmer McGehee being placed on the bronze plaque in the San Jacinto Monument as a participant in the Battle of San Jacinto. He has since found proof that Mr. McGee did not reach the battlefield until April 22, 1836.

The name Thomas M'Gay appears on page 17 of the official San Jacinto rolls printed in New Orleans in 1836 under the direction of General San Houston, as a member of Captain William H. Patton's Company. It appears as Thomas M. Gary on page 37 of the San Jacinto rolls in the General Land office, Austin. No other information regarding Thomas M'Gay, or Thomas M. Gary has been found. Neither received headright, bounty or donation lands. Very probably no one of either name participated in the battle. The name was intended, very likely, for Thomas Gilmer McGehee, a member of Captain Jesse Billingsley's Company who was on the battlefield on April 22 while the army rolls were being prepared.

On page 228 of the army rolls in the General Land Office there is an affidavit signed by Captain Billingsley on December 22, 1855 in which he stated that Thomas G. McGehee and Noel Mixon of his company were absent on furlough to attend to their families and did not reach the battlefield until the day after the battle.

Until it is proven that no man by the name of Thomas McGay was in the Battle, such name will have to remain on the San Jacinto rolls.