

VARNER, MARTIN - One of the "Old Three Hundred" of Austin's Colonists. He was issued title to a league and labor of land in what are now Brazoria and Waller Counties, July 8, 1824. Upon arriving in Texas he settled first at Pecan Point. In 1822 he moved to Cole's settlement about two miles west of the present town of Independence, Washington County. He and Andrew J. Lyday put into cultivation the first land cultivated in Washington County on land belonging to Nestor Clay. Mr. Varner later moved to Columbia, now West Columbia, Brazoria County. In 1832 he participated in the battle of Velasco.

Mr. Varner was issued Bounty Certificate No. 3132 for 320 acres of land March 16, 1838 for having served in the army from April 19 to July 19, 1836. On May 24, 1838 he received Donation Certificate No. 43 for 640 acres of land for having been detailed to guard the baggage at the camp opposite Harrisburg, April 21, 1836. The land was surveyed in Nacogdoches Land District in what is now Wood County.

Mr. Varner was married to Elizabeth English. On September 26, 1848 Mrs. Varner was administrator of her husband's estate as is shown by the Court Records of Nacogdoches County.