

# Lake Creek Settlement



**MONTGOMERY**  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Texas Historical Commission

After an almost two year application process, the official Texas Historical Commission marker that the Texas Heritage Society co-sponsored with the Montgomery Historical Society has arrived at the City of Montgomery City Hall. Our own President, Kameron Searle, did the historical research regarding the Lake Creek Settlement for more than a decade before initiating the application process. Kameron worked closely with Montgomery County Historical Commission and the Montgomery Historical Society throughout the application process for the Texas Historical Commission marker. The Lake Creek Settlement was a settlement in Stephen F. Austin's Second Colony that had been forgotten to Texas historians by the 1920's. Important early trade routes ran through the Lake Creek Settlement: the Coushatta Trace, the Contraband Trace and the Grimes Road. The earliest colonists received land grants for 4,428 acres of land between the west fork of the San Jacinto River and the stream known as Lake Creek from Empresario Stephen F. Austin in 1831. By 1833, the area had become known throughout Mexican colonial Texas as the Lake Creek Settlement or Lake Creek.

In 1835, W. W. Shepperd established a trading post or store near these early trade routes, and it quickly became the community center of the Lake Creek Settlement where people not only traded and purchased goods, but also received and posted their mail, and executed land deeds and contracts in front of witnesses gathered there. A number of early colonists and settlers from the Lake Creek Settlement fought in the Texas Revolution and were victorious in the Battle of Concepcion, the Grass Fight, the Siege of Bexar and the Battle of San Jacinto. Following the Texas Revolution, W. W. Shepperd founded the town of Montgomery, Texas at the site of his store in July of 1837. In December of 1837, the Congress of the Republic of Texas created Montgomery County. The county took its name from the town of Montgomery, and the town of Montgomery was the first county seat of Montgomery County for several decades. An important community in the early history of Texas that was once forgotten will now be remembered with this important marker. Following the Texas Historical Commission's approval of this marker in early 2016, the Montgomery Independent School District Board of Trustees named the new Montgomery Independent School District High School **Lake Creek High School** in memory of the historic Lake Creek Settlement.

Soon the various groups who contributed to the application process and the costs of casting the marker will set a date for the dedication ceremony. We hope all the members of the Texas Heritage Society can attend this historic dedication ceremony. The dedication will probably be sometime in early 2017. Check back here for more details in the coming weeks. The marker is scheduled to be erected in front of the Nat Hart Davis Museum in Montgomery, Texas. Please bring your family and all your friends who are interested in Texas history to see the dedication of this marker that the Texas Heritage Society played such a major role in!