JANE HERBERT WILKINSON LONG
1798-1880
Helen D. Mooty
(Originally published in 2009 in a copyrighted monograph of the same name.)

I. CONTEXT

Often called the Mother of Texas, Jane Herbert Wilkinson Long was one of the earliest Anglo women to settle in the wild lands that were to become Texas. Prior to the Texas revolution in 1836, the American movement westward was almost entirely male—they were adventurers and risk-takers, hungry for land and power.¹ Women of that time were rarely motivated by the same concerns. Yet, sixteen years before the revolution began, Jane Long came to Texas with her husband and resolved to settle her family at Bolivar Peninsula on the Gulf of Mexico.² The area west of Louisiana was a disputed territory whose sovereignty was uncertain. Texas was alternately claimed by France, Spain, Mexico, the United States, and then others who wanted an independent republic.³ With no real authority in charge, it took enormous courage to choose a home life on a frontier where the population consisted mainly of lawless fortune-hunters, Karankawa Indians, and buccaneers. In spite of these conditions, in 1821, Jane Long moved to a mud fort on Bolivar Peninsula and set up her household which included her daughter Ann and her young slave Kian. She stayed through Indian attacks, desertion of the fort, famine, fever, and the coldest winter that Americans had ever seen in Texas.⁴ Although she was finally persuaded to leave the desolate beach area, she remained rooted in Texas and became one of the founding “Old Three Hundred” families.

Her brave determination, tested on the Bolivar Peninsula, was applied to the cause of all Texans in the years approaching 1836 as unhappy Anglos contemplated revolution and independence. Jane Long was an important and trusted member of the inner circle of early Texas heroes.⁵ As such, she was among the first women of political power in Texas. Her boarding house in Brazoria provided a base of undercover operations for the revolutionaries of the incipient republic.⁶ She held custody of important papers and many of the effects of men who were away in battle. These were kept safe with her as she fled to her old home on Bolivar Peninsula during the Runaway Scrape, ahead of the Mexican army.⁷ The Mexicans were defeated at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, and Jane Long returned to Brazoria. Later she would run a successful plantation, buying and selling land, raising cattle, and growing cotton.⁸ Widowed at twenty-four, she supported herself and her family, and never remarried. During her

² Ibid., 75.
⁶ Ibid., 95.
long life she continued to nurture the state as she would her children. Beginning with her settlement on Bolivar Peninsula in 1821, she helped give birth to the whole Texas revolution; she is rightly called the Mother of Texas.

II. OVERVIEW

In the early 1800’s Texas was an almost mythical place - far off, romantic, and lacking definitive borders. Many Americans believed that the vast lands west of the Sabine River were part of the Louisiana Territory, sold to the United States by Napoleon Bonaparte of France in 1803. Spain believed that Texas was a part of their New World possessions that included Mexico. Some Mexicans believed that their country, including Texas, should be independent of Spain. Neither Spain nor France was particularly interested in colonizing the eastern portion of Texas near the Sabine River. Some Mexicans had settled there, but not many. Americans, however, were anxious to move westward, especially after a financial panic in 1819. That same year, a U.S. treaty was brokered with Spain that gave up rights to Texas in exchange for acquisition of Florida. Many people in the U.S. felt betrayed at the loss of opportunity. At that time adventurers who engaged in private military invasions of foreign countries for personal gain were known as filibusters. The treaty closing off Texas was all but ignored by the bands of filibusters poised to invade virgin territory.

One of those was Jane Long’s husband, James, who walked away from an easy life as a Mississippi planter and merchant to lead what is known as the Long Expedition to take over Texas for the Americans. Although married to Jane Herbert Wilkinson in 1815, and fathering a daughter Ann Herbert in 1816, James Long was primarily a soldier of fortune who was loath to settle down. The restless, angry men, congregating at river ports in Mississippi and Louisiana, gave him his chance for glory and appointed James Long as their General. He commanded an attempt to occupy the old town of Nacogdoches, which was considered Spanish territory, about sixty miles west of the Sabine River. He left Natchez, Mississippi, in June 1819 with a force of about seventy-five men. Upon arrival, the Anglos scattered the few Spanish inhabitants and moved into the small fort at Nacogdoches. General Long was elected President of the Supreme Council, an organization made up of twenty-one men who were in his militia. His young wife, Jane Long, joined him at the old stone fort in early September, 1819. It was the first time she set foot in Texas; she was twenty-one years old. She left home to follow her husband in his adventure only a few days after giving birth to their second child. When Jane Long crossed through Louisiana, her two daughters were given over to the care of her sister Barbara Wilkinson Calvit in Alexandria. She had been Jane’s surrogate mother since their own mother died when Jane was about fourteen.
General Long’s 1819 effort at occupation was unsuccessful, and the Long Expedition was quickly driven out of Texas by the Spanish army in the fall of that year. Most of the Americans escaped across the Sabine River. By the time Jane Long returned to Alexandria in early November, her second-born child, Rebecca, had died. The family had little time to mourn.

General Long rallied his supporters and, again accompanied by his wife and militia, returned in February 1820 to build a crude fort on Bolivar Peninsula at the eastern entrance to Galveston Bay. The new Bolivar settlement was intended to guard the port of entry for the nascent republic and was the main base of operations for Long’s army who massed there after leaving Nacogdoches. Within sight, was the barrier island which pirate Jean Lafitte used as his base camp while he preyed upon Spanish ships. There Jane Long got her first taste of espionage as she dined with the notorious Lafitte aboard his flagship, trying to gain insight into his intentions in the contest for Texas.

Jane Long had followed her husband to the disputed territory in Texas in 1819, withdrew to Louisiana, came back to Texas, went to New Orleans for reinforcements, and finally rejoined him, intending to establish a permanent home on the Bolivar Peninsula in the fall of 1820. The arrival of Mrs. Long and two other officers’ wives lent an air of civility to the Bolivar settlement. The presence of genteel ladies softened the military harshness as flowers were planted and social niceties prevailed. Ann and Kian had also immigrated with Jane Long to begin their new life in Texas. Here the Long family spent what was to be their greatest span of time together; it was less than a year.

The General was constantly traveling to raise funds for his pursuit of Americanizing Texas. Perhaps because General Long and most of his troops lacked formal military training, his delegation of duties to subordinate officers seemed always to result in disaster, whether their function was away or at the fort. Frustrated, Long felt like he needed to be everywhere at once. He was rarely in charge, in person, at the settlement for more than a few weeks. After his family had been situated on Bolivar Peninsula for about ten months, General Long left once more to drum up support for his quest. He had heard that the settlement of La Bahia, near Copano Bay, had broken from Spanish control and would be sympathetic to his cause. His mission took seventy-five men from the fort, leaving a garrison of fifty soldiers and a few families. He sailed for Copano Bay on September 19, 1821, promising his wife Jane to return in three weeks.

Three weeks stretched into a month. The militia was without effective leadership and the men began to drift away. Supplies were scarce and made more so when deserters took munitions, tools, and food as they retreated. Heavy items such as the fort’s cannon were left. Other families from the fort pleaded with the

commanding officer’s wife to leave with them.33 After three months, most of the camp had abandoned the site, but Jane Long continued her vigil for her husband’s return. Finally, the only people left on Bolivar Peninsula were Jane Long and her small family. She was the sole adult, alone with her five-year-old daughter Ann, and the twelve-year-old slave, Kian, who had been her companion from childhood.

The young mother was several months pregnant with her third child as the fall passed into winter. December of 1821 was an abnormally cold one for the Texas coast.34 Galveston Bay froze solid in some parts. The forsaken woman and girls soon ran out of supplies. They shot birds until they ran out of ammunition, then they subsisted on fish until their fishing line was lost. After that, oysters were their only source of food.35

Meanwhile, Jean Lafitte had abandoned his hold on Galveston in 1820, which left only Karankawa Indians on the barrier island. These Native Americans had not been subdued by European encroachment, and were considered extremely dangerous. Kian and Ann were taught to continually be on the lookout for war canoes approaching their camp.36 At least twice, the Karankawas approached as if to attack their home on the peninsula. Jane Long and her girls manned a small cannon left by the militia. They fired it until the attackers retreated.37

Left to literally “hold down the fort” after the men had deserted, they used classic military stratagems of deception and subterfuge to maintain the Americans’ position at Bolivar. Kian dressed in old soldiers’ uniforms to fool the Indians into thinking the fort was still manned by militia. To further the ruse, Jane Long fashioned a flag from her red flannel petticoat to fly above the abandoned fort.38 It was a far cry from the first flag she had sewn to be raised in Texas. That one was white silk with a red star, and flew over the ill-fated occupation at Nacogdoches.39 This one was just some tattered red cloth.

On the night of December 21, 1821, as wind and sleet ripped through their canvas roof, Jane Long delivered another daughter, named Mary James. There was no one to help her. Kian was ill and delirious with fever. Daughter Ann was only five. But Jane got up the next morning and gathered firewood for her family and continued waiting for her husband to return.40 The reports of this most natural act of motherhood, born in such desperate circumstances, spread throughout Texas and first led to Jane Long’s designation as the Mother of Texas.

In the meantime, Moses Austin and his son Stephen were carefully planning a legal way for Anglos to settle in Texas in 1821. The first of Austin’s colonists began immigrating in early 1822, many of them arriving by sea at Bolivar Peninsula.41 This structured plan to introduce American settlement was far more successful at permanent

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33 Ibid.
36 Ibid., 226, 227.
37 Ibid., 226.
39 Ibid., 59.
41 Schoultz, Beneath the United States, 16, 18.
colonization than the use of occupying forces such as James Long attempted in the period of 1819 through 1822.\textsuperscript{42} The filibustering expeditions never had enough money or troops to overcome the Spanish or Mexicans.

Within a few days after the birth of Mary James Long, an adventurer named Rafael Gonzales arrived at Bolivar with a letter from Jane’s husband.\textsuperscript{43} General Long wrote to her from Monterrey, where he had been held a prisoner for two months. He was captured by the Spanish army outside La Bahia and taken to Mexico. Although the message bearer offered her passage to Monterrey, she determined to remained at the camp and await the General’s return. More and more colonists arrived in Texas, and many stopped at the Longs’ camp on Bolivar Peninsula. Although they did not stay, they were kind enough to share their provisions and to hunt game to keep the Long family fed.\textsuperscript{44}

Finally in March of 1822, Jane Long agreed to accompany a settler named James Smith to his homestead at the mouth of the San Jacinto River in upper Galveston Bay.\textsuperscript{45} She was at that location when she received a letter from Abil Terrill informing her of General Long’s death. The Spanish authorities had moved James Long to the capitol at Mexico City where, on April 8, he was killed by a sentry. Sources differ on whether his death was an accident or an assassination. It took until July of 1822 for Terrill to get the report to Mrs. Long.\textsuperscript{46}

Jane’s confident hopes for her husband’s return would not be fulfilled. She was a widow at twenty-four. Her family remained with various settlements up and down the San Jacinto River, earning their keep by sewing, cooking, and washing for the numerous bachelor frontiersmen.\textsuperscript{47} She was considering a return to Louisiana to live with her sister when she got word from a former cohort in the Long Expedition. The political situation in Texas was shifting fast. Colonel Don Jose Felix Trespalacios, once a commander at the fort on Bolivar, had become Governor of Texas in August 1822 after Mexico gained independence from Spain. He promised the widow a pension to compensate for her husband’s death.\textsuperscript{48}

Jane Long gathered her daughters and two slaves to travel to San Antonio de Bexar to collect the money. Though often difficult and dangerous, the journey was made easier by stopping at the Anglo settlements that were now prospering in Texas.\textsuperscript{49} Jane Long’s party reached the Alamo on the east side of the San Antonio River on October 17, 1822. Juan Seguin, a wealthy and influential early Texan, prepared rooms at his home for her.\textsuperscript{50} She was feted by San Antonio society and became something of a celebrity. But the jurisdiction of Texas was still in turmoil, and Governor Trespalacios was deposed in April 1823 before he could follow through on his promise of financial aid.\textsuperscript{51}

\textsuperscript{42} Gulick, et al. \textit{The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar}. Volume II, No. 703, 92.
\textsuperscript{43} Ibid., 124.
\textsuperscript{44} Ibid., 125.
\textsuperscript{45} Ibid., 126.
\textsuperscript{46} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{47} Ibid., 127.
\textsuperscript{48} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{49} Ibid., 127-129.
\textsuperscript{50} Ibid., 129.
\textsuperscript{51} Ibid.
After the disheartening journey to San Antonio, Jane Long finally returned to her extended family in Louisiana and Mississippi in September 1823. She spent the first six months with Barbara Calvit in Alexandria, moving on to stay another six months with her other sister, Anne Wilkinson Chesley Miller, in Rodney, Mississippi. On June 25, 1824, she lost her youngest child, Mary James, who had been born that cold winter in Texas.

In March of the next year, Jane Long returned to Texas, along with the Calvit family, to become colonists in Austin's land grant. She was given her own headright of land, usually accorded only to a male head of household. She settled this time at Stephen F. Austin's headquarters on the Brazos River in San Felipe de Austin.

Eventually Texas did become a free country, independent of Spain and Mexico. An uprising of people - including Jane Long - from legitimate colonies and the earlier filibuster expeditions incited a revolutionary spirit that culminated in the Republic of Texas. Jane Long's strength, courage, and intelligence nurtured the state of Texas from its infancy in 1819 until her death on December 30, 1880.

III. SIGNIFICANCE

In the tradition of American Revolutionary War patriots Molly Pitcher and Betsy Ross, Jane Long contributed to the birth of her country in ways that went beyond the traditional roles of women. She was young when she first came to Texas, and perhaps as impetuous as her husband. As one of the first Anglo women to settle permanently in Texas, she exhibited the tenaciousness to survive against overwhelming odds. As a young widow with small children, she managed to provide a home and sustenance for them on the frontier. As her fortunes improved she brought wit and a mischievous spirit to the rough salons of Texas. She lived in Austin's first capitol at San Felipe, where men such as William Travis, Mirabeau Lamar, Ben Milam, and Sam Houston plotted the war with Mexico. Jane Long joined them as a revolutionary in the cause for Texas independence. When she opened a boarding house near the mouth of the Brazos River, her home was used for rallies and secret meetings. She entertained Mexican officers, slyly gathering information as she had once done with Jean Lafitte. Stephen F. Austin gave his call for revolution at a rally there after being released from prison in Mexico. Arms and munitions were hidden on her grounds; soldiers' worldly goods were left in her safekeeping when they went to fight. In fact, much of what we know about the history of Texas prior to 1836 is due to her diligence. Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar, one of Texas' earliest and most prolific historians, entrusted his papers to Jane Long. Her boarding house was the unofficial safehouse of Texas patriots, and she took personal responsibility for what had been left in her care. Hearing that the Alamo had fallen, Jane gathered up as much as she travel with, including Lamar's personal effects, and fled east with the civilian population just ahead of the Mexican army. They traveled as a horde towards the border with

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52 Ibid., 132.
53 Ibid.
56 Ramsay, Texas Sinners and Revolutionaries, 50-51.
59 Ibid., 236.
60 Ibid.
61 Ibid.
62 Ibid.
Louisiana in what was known as the Runaway Scrape. Jane went to a place she knew well. Her flight ended on the Bolivar Peninsula when news arrived that Sam Houston defeated General Santa Anna in the Battle of San Jacinto.  

Jane Herbert Wilkinson Long started her life in Texas on the Bolivar Peninsula and, sixteen years later, saw the birth of an independent Texas Republic from the same stretch of beach on the Gulf of Mexico. She became a respected and powerful figure in a land where women had little influence. In regard for her service during the Texas Revolution, she was made an honorary member of the Texas Veterans Association for the Republic of Texas. She never remarried, remaining devoted to her husband, but she took up his cause - that of the American settlement of Texas. Jane Long was a true Texas patriot.

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64 Ibid., 397.
DOCUMENTATION


### APPENDIX A - ADDITIONAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full name and any nicknames:</th>
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<tr>
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<td>(nickname) The Mother of Texas</td>
<td>Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” <em>SHQ</em>, 211</td>
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<tr>
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<th>Birth and death dates:</th>
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<th>Location of birth, death, and burial:</th>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Truman Place Plantation, Patuxent River, Charles County, Maryland</td>
<td>Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” <em>SHQ</em>, 211</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Morton Cemetery, Richmond, Texas</td>
<td>Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” <em>SHQ</em>, 238</td>
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<td>Truman Place Plantation, Maryland</td>
<td>Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” <em>SHQ</em>, 211</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Washington, Mississippi</td>
<td>Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” <em>SHQ</em>, 212</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Propinquity Plantation, near Natchez, Mississippi</td>
<td>Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” <em>SHQ</em>, 212</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Source:</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Felipe de Austin, Texas</td>
<td>Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 133-134</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazoria, Texas</td>
<td>Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 236</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Richmond, Texas</td>
<td>Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 237</td>
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5. **Family information, such as parents, spouse(s), children, and associated biological information (dates for birth, death, marriage, etc.):**

**Father:** Captain William Mackall Wilkinson (b.1752, d. March 12, 1799, m. Anne H. Dent, February, 1774)

Source: Turner, The Life and Times of Jane Long, 1

**Mother:** Anne Herbert Dent Wilkinson (b. unknown, d. 1812, m. William M. Wilkinson, February, 1774)

Source: Turner, The Life and Times of Jane Long, 1; Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 212
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<th>Family Member</th>
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<td>Sister: Barbara Wilkinson Calvit</td>
<td>b. 1784/6, d. 1858</td>
<td>Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 212</td>
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<td>Sister: Anne Herbert Wilkinson Chesley Miller</td>
<td>before 1798, d. after 1831</td>
<td>Morgan, Jane Long, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Four other sisters, three brothers</td>
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<td>Turner, The Life and Times of Jane Long, 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Birth/Death Dates</td>
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6. **Education information:**

- Home-schooled by her mother  
  *Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” *SHQ*, 211*
- Attended academy/finishing school at Natchez  

7. **Occupation/career information:**

- Wife and mother  
- Cook/seamstress/laundress  
- Innkeeper  
  *Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” *SHQ*, 236*
- Plantation manager  
  *Source: Brindley, “Jane Long,” *SHQ*, 237*

8. **Military service:**

- Wife of General James Long  
- Conspirator and revolutionary in Texas war for independence  
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<th><strong>9. Religious affiliation and activities:</strong></th>
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<td>Honorary member of the Texas Veterans Association (Republic of Texas)</td>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Turner, <em>The Life and Times of Jane Long</em>, 160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baptized in Episcopal Church, Maryland</td>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Turner, <em>The Life and Times of Jane Long</em>, 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youngest daughter, Mary James, christened in Catholic Church in San Antonio</td>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Gulick, et al. <em>The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar</em>. Volume II, No.703., 133</td>
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<th><strong>10. Significant achievements/honors/awards:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Early Texas patriot</td>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Ramsay, <em>Texas Sinners and Revolutionaries</em>, 95</td>
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<tr>
<td>One of &quot;Old Three Hundred&quot; families in Austin's original grant</td>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Turner, <em>The Life and Times of Jane Long</em>, 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Called the Mother of Texas</td>
<td><strong>Source:</strong> Brindley, &quot;Jane Long,&quot; <em>SHQ</em>, 211</td>
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IV. APPENDIX B - TIMELINE OF CONTRIBUTING EVENTS


1798, July 23 – Jane Herbert Wilkinson born in Truman Place plantation, Maryland, migrated to Mississippi as a child. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 211-212.)

1799 – Jane Wilkinson’s father dies, Maryland. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 211-212.)

1803, April 30 – Louisiana Purchase. (Schoultz, Beneath the United States, 9.)

1808 (approximate) - Birth of Jane Long’s slave and companion, Kian. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 123.)

1810-1820 – Privateering activities of Lafitte brothers along the Texas coast. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume V, xv.)


1812 – Jane Wilkinson’s mother dies; she goes to live with sister, Barbara Calvit. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 212.)


1816, November 26 – Jane Long’s only surviving daughter Ann Herbert Long is born. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 134.)

1819 – Financial Panic in U.S. stimulates land speculation. (Schoultz, Beneath the United States, 16.)

1819, February 22 – Adams-Oniz Treaty ratified in U.S., ceding Florida to the U.S. from Spain, and setting the boundary of American Louisiana and Spanish Texas as the Sabine River. (Schoultz, Beneath the United States, 16.)


1819, June 28 – Jane Long begins trek to follow her husband to Texas. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 61.)

1819, early September – Jane Long arrives in Nacogdoches to join her husband. It is her first time in Texas. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 62.)


1819, October – Anglo colony at Nacogdoches flees toward Louisiana at news of imminent Spanish attack. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 64.)

1819, October 28 – Spanish army under command of Colonel Ignacio Perez arrives in Nacogdoches to find it deserted. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 66.)

1819, early November – Jane Long arrives in Natchitoches to find Rebecca has died; James Long leaves to meet his troops at Bolivar. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 69.)


1820, April – Jane Long, James Long, and Hall return to Alexandria to retrieve daughter Ann, then proceed to New Orleans to secure more funding. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 77.)


1820, November – General Don Jose Felix Trespalacios arrives to take command of Bolivar. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 96-97.)

1820, December – Jane Long returns to Bolivar Peninsula with Ann and Kian. There are two other wives arriving at the same time: Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Edwards. At least one other woman is at the camp. She is Mary Crow and appears to be an unmarried woman who was romantically involved with Colonel Modello, Trespalacios’ nephew. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 223; Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 99-103.)

1821 – Anglo colonization effort by Moses Austin and Stephen F. Austin. (Schoultz, Beneath the United States, 16.)

1821, February – Adams-Oniz Treaty ratified in Spain. (Schoultz, Beneath the United States, 16.)

1821, May 5 – Colonel Modello killed by General Long’s officers in dispute over Mary Crow. Incident may have contributed to James Long’s death, reputed to be assassination by Trespalacios. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 102-103.)


1821, September 19 – James Long leaves Bolivar sailing for Copano Bay, the last time Jane Long will see him. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 113-115.)

1821, December 21 – Jane Long’s third daughter, Mary James, is born on Bolivar Peninsula. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 123-124.)
1821, late December – Rafael Gonzales brings word to Jane Long that General Long is in Monterrey. He provides fresh game for food. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 124.)

1822, January – Stephen F. Austin establishes first legal Anglo settlement in Texas. (Schoultz, Beneath the United States, 16.)

1822, January/February – First of Austin’s colonists visit Bolivar and share food and game with Jane. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 124-125.)

1822, January/February – James Smith and family from Calcasieu, Louisiana, stop by Bolivar on their way to the San Jacinto River. They leave a teen-aged daughter named Peggy to help Jane. Smith promises to send supplies after reaching the settlement. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 125.)

1822, February 8 – James Long petitions to be taken to Mexico City, after being a prisoner for four months in Monterrey. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 119.)


1822, April – They reach the Smith home at mouth of San Jacinto River on upper Galveston Bay near Cedar Bayou. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 126.)

1822, April 8 – James Long killed in Mexico City. (Turner, The Life and Times of Jane Long, 81.)

1822, July 8 – Date of letter from Abil Terrill, written in Refugio, notifying Jane of her husband’s death. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 120-121.)

1822, summer – Jane Long writes to sister Barbara Calvit asking what to do. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 229.)


1822, September 9 – Jane and party set out for San Antonio. Randal Jones and brother James, along with Tom and their slaves go with them. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 127.)

1822, fall – Party stops at Goliad, ball given in their honor; although in mourning, Jane Long reluctantly dances with priest. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 232.)

1822, October – Jane meets with Baron de Bastrop, Governor Trespalacios. Stays at the home of Juan Seguin. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 129.)


1824, June 25 – Mary James Long dies while Jane is staying with her sister Anne Chesney Miller. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 235.)

1825, August 24 – Jane receives title to a league of land in Fort Bend County and a labor of land in Waller County (4605 acres total) from empresario Stephen F. Austin. She lives in San Felipe. (Turner, The Life and Times of Jane Long, 96.)

1827, April 27 – Stephen F. Austin confirms Jane Long’s claim to a headright of land, in spite of the fact that headrights were only granted to men. (Ramsay, Texas Sinners and Revolutionaries, 50-51.)

1830, April – Jane Long leaves Texas to take Ann to school in Mississippi. They stay with sister Anne Chesney Miller at Rodney, Mississippi. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume II, No.703., 134.)


1834 – Mexican Colonel Juan N. Almonte entertained at Jane Long’s boarding house. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 236.)

1835, September 8 – Jane Long hosts dinner and a ball at boarding house to welcome Stephen F. Austin back from his imprisonment in Mexico; Austin delivers his call to arms. (Turner, The Life and Times of Jane Long, 119-120.)
1835, October – Battle of Gonzales. (Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. “Texas Revolution,”
http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/TT/qdt1.html.)


1836, April 10 – Mirabeau B. Lamar entrusts his personal effects and historical papers to Jane Long as she closes her boarding house and flees to Bolivar Peninsula. (Gulick, et al. The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar. Volume I, No. 351, 351.)

1836, April 21 – Battle of San Jacinto, where Mexican President Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna is defeated by General Sam Houston. (Handbook of Texas Online, s.v. “Texas Revolution,” http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/TT/qdt1.html.)

1837 – Jane Long moves to Richmond and opens another boarding house, also begins development of plantation two miles south of Richmond. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 237.)


1880, December 30 – Jane Long dies at her home in Richmond, Texas, and is buried at Morton Cemetery. (Brindley, “Jane Long,” SHQ, 238; Turner, The Life and Times of Jane Long, 166.)