

## **TCU and May 24, 1841 (1-16-2020)**

TCU is trying hard to develop healthy relationships with Native American peoples and communities. Part of that is dealing with history. While TCU was not directly involved in the killing of Native Americans and the taking of their lands, it benefits from these actions, which is why we ask, “What responsibilities do these benefits bring upon TCU? What does it mean for TCU to reside respectfully on Native American lands?” Answering these questions is not easy, but it begins with understanding the events and attitudes that made this residence possible.

On May 24, 1841, a group of 69 Texas militia led by General Edward H. Tarrant surprised and attacked three Native American settlements on Village Creek, a tributary of the West Fork of the Trinity River (located where the Fort Worth and Arlington city limits meet, but now mostly submerged in Lake Arlington). Cherokees, Muscogees/Creeks, Seminoles, Kickapoos, Shawnees, various Caddo groups (Caddos, Anadarkos, and Ionies/Hainais), various Wichita groups (Wacos and Kichais/Keechies), and perhaps others lived in these settlements.

The Texans plundered and destroyed the villages and took prisoners, who indicated that there were close to 1,000 warriors living there, although half of them were gone hunting buffalo. The Texans counted 225 occupied lodges, but could also see glimpses of the main village’s lodges, which they did not attack. They also noticed

