



Student Name:
Class Period:
Date:

Meet the Originals

Texas Originals is a radio series about people who made an impact on Texas. You can hear it online and on radio stations around the state. Read or listen to the episode on Buffalo Hump. Then, answer questions about it.

Buffalo Hump c. 1800–1870

Penateka Comanche war chief Po-cha-na-quar-hip—who was better known to history by the name Buffalo Hump—was born on the Edwards Plateau near the end of the eighteenth century. He gained notoriety among white settlers in 1840 after government troops massacred thirty-five Comanche men, women, and children during peace talks at the San Antonio Council House.

A formidable warrior, Buffalo Hump sought revenge for the killings, raiding white settlements in Victoria and Linnville. His raiding party was finally stopped by Texas Rangers at the Battle of Plum Creek near Lockhart, but Buffalo Hump and most of his men escaped.

Buffalo Hump was also a skilled negotiator. In 1844, he met with Sam Houston, then president of the Republic of Texas. The Comanches and their allies agreed to stop raiding settlements if the Texans would stay off the Edwards Plateau. But the Texas Senate refused to recognize the Comanches' boundary. After Texas joined the United States, Buffalo Hump signed a peace treaty with the federal government, thereafter confining most of his raiding to Mexico.

Eventually, facing an unending flood of white settlers, Buffalo Hump ceased raiding and led the Penateka in the difficult transition to reservation life. He lived until around 1870, spending his final years near Fort Cobb, Oklahoma, where he turned to farming in an effort to convince his people to live peacefully.

Check for Understanding: Answer the questions below based on evidence from the episode on Buffalo Hump. Refer to the text included above if needed.

1. What agreement did Buffalo Hump reach with Sam Houston?
2. What did Buffalo Hump do as the Penateka transitioned to reservation life?

Going Further: Write or discuss your answer to the question below, supporting your answer with evidence from the episode or additional information you have learned in class.

3. **Creating Connections.** Why do you think the Texas Senate refused to recognize the Comanches' boundary in their peace treaty negotiations?