

*Thank you to Kelsey Roberson from Cy-Fair High School for her article about the Cypress Alamo at Cy-Hope.*

Let's all think back to seventh grade; ah, the drama, tears, and cringe. Unless you've moved to Cypress in the last few years, you probably took Texas History. It was in this class that we learned about our state's past as a republic, its annexation, and, most importantly, the Alamo.

For those who don't remember the Alamo (haha), it was a fort in San Antonio and the site of a fundamental battle in the Republic of Texas' Revolutionary War against Mexico. From February 23 to March 6 of 1836, Texian (which was what Texans were called then) soldiers bravely fought to hold down the fort and keep it out of Mexican hands. Unfortunately, they lost the battle and all of the soldiers inside were killed, but that was not the end of the war. This loss sparked even more rebellion in the hearts of Texans; during the Battle of San Jacinto, they cried, "Remember the Alamo," as they fought. And we won the war and gained our independence!

So now you know that, but what you still are unaware of is that there is no need to make that 2 hour and 56 minute drive to go see the historic site. Just type in "Cypress Alamo" to your search engine and you'll get directions to arrive within 10 minutes, if that!

The Cypress Alamo was built in the 1980's by a business called Kwik Kopy, which was founded in 1967 by our modern-day Davy Crockett, Bud Hadfield. Years ago, Hadfield heard repeated complaints that there was no time to visit the Alamo while they were in Texas. He saw that as his window of opportunity and replied that he'd just make one here!

Hadfield wanted to make his replica as similar as possible to the original fort. It couldn't be exact because the Alamo kind of already existed, so he adapted. The swirls on the columns go in the opposite direction of those of the original and the Cypress Alamo is a little thinner and shorter. The similarities, however, are astounding; the stone used to build the replica is from the same quarry the original stone was gathered from.

In 2016 the Cypress Alamo was sold to Cy-Hope after years of being owned by Kwik Kopy. Cy-Hope was established in 2011 by concerned citizens of Cypress, Texas. It is a non-profit for the community; I'm sure many of us have heard about their scholarship opportunities!

While at one point the replica was a conference center that had hotel rooms for up to 200 guests, it is now an event hall that can host 180 people. It occasionally hosts Cy-Hope missionaries when they come into town. They also throw weddings, graduation parties, and Quinceañeras.

So next time your band director or coach is asking where they should hold this year's banquet, tell them about the Cypress Alamo!

