

# Historical Background of the Street Names of Lakeview



**Lakeview Civic Improvement Association**

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## Introductory Note

The purpose of this report is two-fold:

- 1) To provide factual information for the residents of Lakeview and the citizens of New Orleans about the history behind the street names of Lakeview based on historical evidence, maps, newspaper articles, and other documentation; and
- 2) To provide a fact-based response to theories suggested in the City Council Street Renaming Commission's report concerning the origins of certain street names in Lakeview.

This report is not intended to offer any opinions on the possible renaming of any Lakeview streets.

This report is intended solely to provide accurate historical information that can help facilitate the ongoing discussion on the proposed renaming of certain streets and to allow residents and elected officials to make informed decisions that are based on facts and evidence, rather than just speculation or conjecture.

Based on the facts and background presented below, it is clear that the east-west streets in Lakeview were named after U.S. leaders and war heroes from the Mexican-American War.

## General Background on Lakeview Street Names

[The CCSRC Report recognized the pattern of common themes in the naming of streets in Lakeview.](#)

The City Council Street Renaming Commission (CCSRC) commissioned and circulated a report entitled "New Orleans Street Renaming Commission Research" (the "CCSRC Report") in August 2020. The CCSRC Report offers a number of accurate observations on the history and developments of Lakeview and its street names, including the following:

- Plans for the development of Lakeview were proposed even before drainage of the swamp in that area began. An 1867 plan from the Gardner’s City Directory shows a proposed layout of Lakeview, including proposed street names, to be completed following the dredging of almost the entire area.<sup>1</sup>
- Street names taken from U.S. Presidents are included among the proposed street names on the 1867 Gardner Map, including Harrison Avenue, Fillmore Avenue, Polk Street, Adams Avenue (later re-named Robert E. Lee Blvd.) and Jackson Avenue (which was ultimately not used).
  - Additionally, the 1867 Gardner Map indicates that each of the streets to be named after U.S. Presidents would be wider/main avenues, as opposed to the smaller neighborhood streets. This theme of U.S. Presidents also continued with the main avenues farther south, with Taylor Avenue (later renamed Florida Blvd.) and Monroe Avenue (present-day Navarre Ave. and Mound Ave.). All of these Presidents were in office during a 25 year period covering 1825–1850.
- Many of the streets in present-day Lakeview take their names from individuals or places connected to various wars in which the United States fought. For example, many of the north-south streets in Lakeview are named after individuals or places tied to World War I (Argonne, General Haig, General Diaz, and Marshal Foch).<sup>2</sup>
- The groupings of many streets in Lakeview **“speak to a larger theme of memorializing war heroes.”**

The above findings from the CCSRC Report confirm that the streets in Lakeview were not named at random, but rather are grouped together with a common thread or theme. This is supported by the report’s observations that (1) the main East-West avenues are named after U.S. Presidents from the 25-year period preceding the naming of the streets, and (2) many of the north-south streets to the east of Canal Boulevard

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<sup>1</sup> A copy of the Gardner’s City Directory map from 1867, which reflects proposed names and layout for streets in Lakeview, is attached. Also attached are maps from 1883, 1908, and 1929 showing the history and evolution of the street names in this area of Lakeview.

<sup>2</sup> The earlier maps of Lakeview show other proposed names for these north-south streets because World War I had not yet occurred.

are connected to World War I. While modern-day residents may be unaware of these presidents or generals, there is little doubt that they were household names and well known across the country around the time the streets were named.

[The CCSRC Report failed to identify the overarching theme of the names for the East-West streets in Lakeview.](#)

The CCSRC Report does not contain analysis or research reflecting any efforts to identify a common thread or theme for the other east-west streets in Lakeview. Instead, the report speculates that since other streets in Lakeview “take their names from individuals who fought in various wars....[i]t follows that, because much of the mapping out of streets in this area was done during a wave of Confederate memorialization that swept through the Southern states, Confederate generals are also included here.”

The CCSRC Report acknowledges the absence of any hard evidence reflecting the theory that the street names were specifically intended to commemorate the Confederacy. The CCSRC Report also recognizes that the names of adjacent east-west streets lack any apparent connection to the Confederacy, but it nevertheless concludes that “Just as Argonne, General Haig, and Marshal Foch streets all run parallel in succession, Bragg St, Lane St, Porteous (originally named Confederate General David Twiggs), Mouton, Walker, and Robert E. Lee all run parallel to each other in succession, briefly interrupted by Filmore and Conrad streets,....and the grouping of these streets together suggests that the theme of Confederate memorialization was intentional.”<sup>3</sup>

[The East-West streets in Lakeview were all named after leaders and heroes from the Mexican-American War \(1846-1848\).](#)

Nearly every east-west street in Lakeview from Florida Boulevard (formerly Taylor St.) north to Robert E. Lee Blvd. (formerly Adams Avenue) is named after an individual who

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<sup>3</sup> Importantly, Robert E. Lee Blvd. was originally named Adams Avenue, and it was not renamed for the well-known Confederate general until 1924. Each of the other street names (Bragg St, Lane St, Twiggs St., Mouton St., and Walker St.) were appearing on maps by at least 1867. Although the CCSRC Report acknowledges these facts later in its report, it mistakenly groups Robert E. Lee Blvd. together with these other streets, even though they were named over 55 years before “Robert E. Lee Blvd.” ever came into existence.

rose to prominence during the Mexican-American War. The Mexican-American War was fought from 1846-1848, which coincides with the same time period of the U.S. Presidents who are the namesakes of the major avenues/thoroughfares in Lakeview.

Most, if not all, of these individuals are not familiar to today's residents of Lakeview, but at the time these streets were named in the mid-1800's, each of these individuals were very well known. They include generals and soldiers who became famous for key roles they played in victories throughout the war, including at the Battles of Monterrey, Buena Vista, and Mexico City. These victories received tremendous coverage in the New Orleans Daily Picayune, the Times-Picayune, and the States-Item, with some papers even publishing a multi-page special "extra" edition with reports and military dispatches from the battlefield.<sup>4</sup> A number of these generals and war heroes went on to run for public office, with many even running for President. While they may not be well known today, they were household names when these Lakeview streets were first being named.

Given the relative proximity in time, a few of these individuals were still serving in the military when the Civil War began. Some went on to lead Confederate troops but did not find the same level of fame and success that they had earlier achieved in the Mexican-American War (e.g., Braxton Bragg). Others actually fought on the side of the Union, served as advisors to President Lincoln, and held staunch anti-slavery views (e.g., David Harney, William Brooks, Persifor Frazer Smith, and Winfield Scott<sup>5</sup>). One even briefly ran against President Lincoln in 1864, arguing that Lincoln had not done enough to stop slavery (John Fremont). Others had become old or ill and had little to no role in the Civil War (e.g., David Twiggs<sup>6</sup>). And many actually died in battle during the Mexican-American War or before the Civil War had even begun (e.g., Samuel Hamilton Walker, Samuel Ringgold, Randolph Ridgely,<sup>7</sup> and Zachary Taylor).

In short, while the namesakes for these east-west streets do not all have a connection to the Civil War, every one of them has a very close connection to the Mexican-American War. As the CCSRC Report correctly recognized, the street names share a "larger theme

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<sup>4</sup> Examples of the news stories published by the local newspapers are attached.

<sup>5</sup> Kenilworth Street was formerly named Scott Street after General Winfield Scott.

<sup>6</sup> Porteous Street was formerly named Twiggs Street after General David Twiggs.

<sup>7</sup> Chapelle Street was formerly named Ridgely Street after Captain Randolph Ridgely.

of memorializing war heroes,” but they are in fact named after heroes from the Mexican-American War.

## Lakeview’s East-West Street Names

A brief overview of the namesake for each of the east-west streets in Lakeview is presented below, along with information contradicting the theory that the selection of these street names was motivated by a desire to celebrate or commemorate the Confederacy.

For ease of reference, the streets are presented in the order of their location, moving from south to north through Lakeview:

### Florida Boulevard

Originally named Taylor Avenue after Zachary Taylor. “Zachary Taylor Drive” still exists to this day on the other side of the Orleans Avenue Canal in City Park near Popp’s Fountain.

Taylor became a national hero during the Mexican War. He was the one of the two commanding generals of the U.S. military during the Mexican-American War (the other being Winfield Scott) and fought in the Battle of Monterrey. Nearly every other east-west street in Lakeview is named after someone who served with or under Taylor during that war. Taylor later ran for and won the U.S. Presidency, and he succeeded James Polk as President in 1849.

Taylor died while still in office in 1850 and was therefore not involved in the Civil War.

Sources:

1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Volume 8

1908 Hammond Transportation Map

1867 Gardner City Directory Map

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Mexican-American-War>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican%E2%80%93American\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican%E2%80%93American_War)

<https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/mexicanwar/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zachary\\_Taylor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zachary_Taylor)

## [Kenilworth Street](#)

Originally named Scott Street after General Winfield Scott. Scott was the commanding general of the U.S. military during the Mexican-American War and fought in the Battle of Monterrey, among many others. Nearly every other east-west street in Lakeview is named after someone who served with or under him during that war. Scott formulated battle strategies for the Mexican-American War and led the successful invasion of Mexico City. He went on to run for president against Zachary Taylor and then again against Millard Fillmore, but was unsuccessful.

Scott was opposed to slavery, served on behalf of the Union in the Lincoln administration during the Civil War, and personally advised President Lincoln during the opening campaigns of the war. Interestingly, Lincoln took Scott's recommendation to offer command of the Union forces to Robert E. Lee, but Lee elected to side with the Confederacy.

Sources:

1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Volume 8

1908 Hammond Transportation Map

1867 Gardner City Directory Map

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Mexican-American-War>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican%E2%80%93American\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican%E2%80%93American_War)

<https://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/mexicanwar/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winfield\\_Scott](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winfield_Scott)

## [Brooks Street](#)

Named after William T. H. Brooks. Brooks participated in at least 8 major battles during the Mexican-American War and saw considerable action in the Battle of Monterrey, where received a brevet promotion to captain for "gallant and meritorious conduct." He later received a brevet promotion to major for his gallant and meritorious conduct in subsequent battles during the war, and then went on to serve on the staff of Gen. David E. Twiggs<sup>8</sup> for the rest of the war.

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<sup>8</sup> Twiggs Street (now Porteous St.) was named after General David Twiggs.

When the Civil War broke out, Brooks was appointed brigadier general in the Union Army and was wounded while leading a brigade of troops into battle.

Sources:

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_T.\\_H.\\_Brooks](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_T._H._Brooks)

<http://www.aztecclub.com/bios/brooks.htm>

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

## Harney Street

Named after Colonel William S. Harney. Harney fought in the Mexican-American war under the leadership of Gen. Zachary Taylor at the Battle of Buena Vista before joining Gen. Winfield Scott in the Invasion of Mexico City. He also fought under Gen. David Twiggs. He performed well during the war and received a brevet promotion to brigadier general following his fighting in the battle of Cerro Gordo.

When the Civil War broke out, Harney was in command of the Department of the West in St. Louis. When traveling to Washington to meet with newly-elected President Lincoln, he was intercepted by Confederates, who offered him a commission with the Confederate Army. He turned down the offer, and he later advised the citizens of border state Missouri against secession.

Sources:

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_S.\\_Harney](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_S._Harney)

<http://www.aztecclub.com/bios/harney.htm>

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.net/wsharney.htm>

<https://www.americanhistorycentral.com/entries/william-selby-harney/>

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

## Polk Avenue

Named after James K. Polk. Polk served as President of the United States from 1845 to 1849, including during the Mexican-American War. Polk was a strong-willed chief executive and left no doubt that he was in charge of the war against Mexico. Bypassing the War Department, Polk himself developed the broad outlines of an initial strategy that involved striking Mexico at three vital points: Santa Fe, New Mexico; Mexico's northern provinces below the Rio Grande; and California. Polk supervised every aspect

of the war effort, choosing and replacing officers and even taking a direct role in logistical matters.

Polk died in June 1849 and was therefore not involved in the Civil War.

Sources:

[https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/item?bio\\_id=14&nation=US&topic\\_id=46&format\\_id=10&ofst=1&ni=7](https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/item?bio_id=14&nation=US&topic_id=46&format_id=10&ofst=1&ni=7)

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/james-k-polk/>

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Mexican-American-War>

## Germain Street

Germain Street did not appear on the original maps of Lakeview in 1867 and 1883, which instead showed it as “Gaines Street.” It is unclear what prompted the switch to Germain Street, or if “Germain” was simply the result of an error in spelling from the original Gaines Street.

Gaines Street was named after General Edmund P. Gaines. Gaines was a career United States Army officer who served for nearly fifty years, and attained the rank of brevet major general. He was one of the Army's senior commanders during its formative years in the early to mid-1800s, and he was a veteran of the War of 1812, Seminole Wars, Black Hawk War, and Mexican-American War. At the start of the Mexican–American War, Gaines was stationed in Louisiana and issued a public call throughout the southern and southwestern states for volunteers to join Zachary Taylor's army. During the Mexican-American War, Gaines commanded the Eastern Division of the United States Army and was concurrently commander of Military Department Number Three and Military Department Number Four, which was effectively the entire eastern United States. Gaines died of cholera in New Orleans in 1849. Gainesville, Florida is named for him.

Gaines died in 1849 and was therefore not involved in the Civil War.

Sources:

1883 Atlas of New Orleans, Louisiana, Louisiana Notarial Archives

1867 Gardner City Directory Map

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edmund\\_P.\\_Gaines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edmund_P._Gaines)

Thomas W. Cutrer, “Gaines, Edmund Pendleton,” *Handbook of Texas Online*,

<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/gaines-edmund-pendleton>

## Ringold Street

Currently spelled with only one “g,” but earlier maps spelled the street as “Ringgold”. Named after Major Samuel B. Ringgold. Ringgold was an artillery officer in the U.S. Army who was noted for several military innovations which caused him to be called the "Father of Modern Artillery." He fought under Zachary Taylor in the Mexican-American War and was the first U.S. officer to be killed in that war. Ringgold still continued to fight for three days after being mortally wounded by cannon fire during the Battle of Palo Alto. His bravery was a boost to morale throughout the military and the country, posthumously turning him into an American hero. Songs, poetry, and plays were written about him, and a song entitled "The Death of Ringgold" commemorating his death, was a popular patriotic song in the U.S. during the war. The town of Ringgold, Louisiana is named after him.

Ringgold died in battle in 1846 and was therefore not involved in the Civil War.

Sources:

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel\\_Ringgold\\_\(United\\_States\\_Army\\_officer\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Ringgold_(United_States_Army_officer))

<https://www.nps.gov/people/samuel-ringgold.htm>

<https://npg.si.edu/exh/brush/ring.htm>

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

## French Street

Named after either Major William Henry French or Lieutenant Samuel Gibbs French. Both men fought in the Mexican-American War. William French was aide-de-camp to Gen. Franklin Pierce. He also fought in the siege of Vera Cruz, and received two brevet promotions (first to captain, then to major) for his bravery and gallant and meritorious conduct at the Battle for Cerro Gordo and then at the Battles of Contreras and Churubusco. He also fought in the Battle of Mexico City.

Samuel French fought at the Battle of Monterrey and was later wounded at the Battle of Buena Vista.

Both men went on to fight in the Civil War. William French fought for the Union, leading men at the Battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Chancellorsville, and was promoted to major general. Although he was from New Jersey, Samuel French sided with the

Confederacy and led troops until he was relieved from duty due to an eye infection that rendered him temporarily blind.

Sources:

<http://www.aztecclub.com/bios/french.htm>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_H.\\_French](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_H._French)

<http://www.aztecclub.com/bios/frenchsg.htm>

<https://mississippiencyclopedia.org/entries/samuel-gibbs-french/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel\\_Gibbs\\_French](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Gibbs_French)

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

## Harrison Avenue

Named after William Henry Harrison. Harrison served as President in 1841 and became the first President to die while in office. He had been in office for less than a month when he caught a cold that developed into pneumonia, leading to his death.

Sources:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/william-henry-harrison/>

## Fremont Street

Named after Major John C. Fremont. Fremont was an American explorer, military officer, and politician. During the 1840s, he led five expeditions into the Western United States and became known as "The Pathfinder." Fremont served as a major in the Mexican-American War, and he led the California Battalion to capture the cities of Santa Barbara, Presidio, and part of Los Angeles. He also signed the Treaty of Cahuenga, which ended the war in most of California.

Fremont went on to serve as a U.S. Senator for California, and in 1856 he was the first Republican nominee for President of the United States. He was a staunch opponent of slavery. When the Civil War broke out, Lincoln appointed him as a general in the Union Army and gave him command of the Department of the West, where he worked to recruit Missouri to join the Union. Fremont's anti-slavery views were so strong that he mounted a brief presidential campaign against President Lincoln in 1864 with the support of hardline abolitionists (called the "Radical Republicans") who did not believe Lincoln was harsh enough against slavery. Fremont withdrew his candidacy after Lincoln

agreed to fire a member of his cabinet who was believed to be sympathetic toward the Confederate cause.

Sources:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_C.\\_Fr%C3%A9mont](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_C._Fr%C3%A9mont)

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/john-c-fr%C3%A9mont>

## Bragg Street

Named after Captain Braxton Bragg. Bragg served under Gen. Zachary Taylor in the Mexican-American War. Bragg received multiple battlefield promotions and honors during the war for his distinguished service and bravery and service, and he played key roles in U.S. victories at the Battle of Monterrey and Battle of Buena Vista, where his timely placement of artillery into a gap in the line helped repulse a numerically superior Mexican attack. His service in these battles "earned him nationwide fame," and he became a popular hero in the United States. After the war, Bragg traveled to and was honored in New York, Washington, Mobile, and New Orleans. Fort Bragg in California was named after him in 1857.

While Bragg was opposed to the concept of seceding from the Union, he still sided with the Confederacy when Louisiana seceded and served as a general in the Confederate Army. Bragg did not meet with the same level of success during the Civil War as he had in the Mexican-American War, and he was blamed by some for "losing the West" for the Confederacy.

Sources:

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/braxton-bragg>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braxton\\_Bragg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Braxton_Bragg)

## Lane Street

Named after General Joseph Lane. When the Mexican-American War broke out in 1846, Lane resigned his seat in the Indiana State Senate and enlisted in a company of volunteers. Lane was soon thereafter appointed brigadier general of the 2nd Indiana Volunteer Regiment. Lane and his troops were then deployed to Mexico where he fought with distinction, suffering two minor gunshot wounds, and was brevetted to major general in 1847. He commanded the Indiana Brigade at the Battle of Buena Vista,

where he served under Gen. Zachary Taylor. Lane also led the relief force which lifted the Siege of Puebla and defeated Santa Anna at the Battle of Huamantla with the help of the Texas Rangers cavalry led by Samuel Hamilton Walker (for whom Walker St. is named). Lane excelled at anti-guerrilla operations, and he continued to engage Mexican insurgents in the final days of the war. During that time, he liberated 23 American prisoners and seized two cannons and also defeated the Mexican guerrilla leader Padre Jarauta at Sequalteplán in what would prove to be the last significant clash of the war in central Mexico.

Immediately following the Mexican-American War, President Polk appointed Lane as the first Governor of Oregon Territory. Lane later served as one of Oregon's first two senators and then ran for vice-president in 1860. His loss in that election and the outbreak of the Civil War effectively ended his political career. Lane returned to Oregon, did not fight in the Civil War, and did not have ties to the Confederacy.

Sources:

[https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/item?bio\\_id=43](https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/item?bio_id=43)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Action\\_of\\_Sequalteplan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Action_of_Sequalteplan)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph\\_Lane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Lane)

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

## Smith Street

Predictably, a number of individuals named Smith were involved in the Mexican-American War, but it seems most likely that this street is named General Persifor Frazer Smith. Gen. P.F. Smith served in the Mexican American War under Zachary Taylor and fought in the Battle of Monterrey, where he was breveted the rank of brigadier general for his gallant conduct. His name appears throughout the local newspaper reports on the battle. At the Battle of Contreras, he assumed command of three American brigades trapped between the superior forces of Mexican generals Santa Anna and Valencia, and he conceived and executed a surprise attack which resulted in the destruction of Valencia's army. Gen. Smith further distinguished himself at the Battles of Churubusco and Chapultepec and during the capture of the Belen Gate in Mexico City, for which he was breveted Major-General for gallant and meritorious conduct. He served as a member of the armistice commission that arranged for suspension of hostilities, and he later served as military governor of Mexico City. Before the war, P.F.

Smith was a successful New Orleans lawyer who was also active in the local militia. P.F. Smith died in 1858 and therefore was not involved in the Civil War.

Alternatively, the street could also be named for Colonel Charles Ferguson Smith, who also served under Zachary Taylor and Winfield Scott in the Mexican-American War and fought with distinction at the Battles of Monterrey, Churubusco, and Contreras. C.F. Smith later went on to serve under Ulysses Grant in the Union Army during the Civil War. He was largely responsible for the surrender of Fort Donelson in the Civil War, an exploit which earned Gen. Ulysses S. Grant the nickname of "Unconditional Surrender," and Grant credited Smith for his success.

Sources:

[https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/item?bio\\_id=30&nation=US&topic\\_id=11&format\\_id=10&ofst=7&ni=11](https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/item?bio_id=30&nation=US&topic_id=11&format_id=10&ofst=7&ni=11)

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

<http://www.aztecclub.com/bios/smithp.htm>

## Porteous Street

Currently named after William A. Porteous, a local attorney who served on the Board of the New Orleans Land Company and was one of the very first people to live in Lakeview when built a home here in 1908. The street was re-named for Porteous in 1937.

Porteous Street was originally named Twiggs Street after General David E. Twiggs. Twiggs served as a general in the Mexican-American War. He led a brigade of troops at the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and he commanded a division of troops at the Battle of Monterrey alongside Gen. Zachary Taylor. Twiggs's division then joined with Gen. Winfield Scott's expedition and led them into all of the battles from Veracruz through Mexico City. Twiggs led the main attack at the Battle of Cerro Gordo, and he led an assault at the Belen Gate and during the capture of the City of Mexico. After the fall of Mexico City, he was appointed military governor of Veracruz. Twiggs was awarded a ceremonial sword by the Congress in 1849.

Twiggs was in charge of the Department of Texas when the secession crisis began. Anticipating the likelihood of a civil war, he resolved "never to fire upon American citizens" and requested that he be relieved of his command in January 1861 before the Civil War had begun. Before his replacement arrived, Texas state troops arrived and demanded he vacate San Antonio and turn over any military posts and public property

under his control. Desiring to avoid a bloody confrontation, Twiggs agreed to their terms, and the U.S. troops under his command, which included 160 troops in San Antonio, departed Texas. While Twiggs viewed his decision as an attempt to avoid bloodshed, most Unionists believed he was part of a Southern conspiracy for which Twiggs was reported to have been “mercilessly vilified.” He was subsequently dismissed from federal service by President James Buchanan on March 1, 1861. He later received a commission to serve as a “senior major general” in the Confederate Army, but he was already over 70 and in poor health, causing him to resign his commission before he ever assumed any form of active duty for the Confederacy. He instead retired to Georgia where he died in 1862.

Sources:

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

<http://www.aztecclub.com/bios/twiggs.htm>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David\\_E.\\_Twiggs#Mexican%E2%80%93American\\_War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_E._Twiggs#Mexican%E2%80%93American_War)

<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/twiggs-david-emanuel>

*Lakeview Lore*, by Leonard V. Huber

1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Volume 8

1908 Hammond Transportation Map

1883 Atlas of New Orleans, Louisiana, Louisiana Notarial Archives

1867 Gardner City Directory Map

## Filmore Avenue

Named for President Millard Fillmore, although a misspelled version (“Filmore”) of the street name ultimately became prevalent. Fillmore served as Vice-President under President Zachary Taylor (who rose to prominence in the Mexican-American War) and went on to become the 13th President of the United States (1850-1853) after Taylor died in office.

Once the Civil War began (after Fillmore had already left office), Fillmore supported Lincoln in his efforts to preserve the Union. Fillmore commanded the “Union Continentals,” a corps of home guards of males over the age of 45 from Upstate New York who trained to defend the Buffalo area in the event of a Confederate attack. The Union Continentals also guarded Lincoln's funeral train in Buffalo. They continued operations after the war, and Fillmore remained active with them almost until his death.

Sources:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Millard\\_Fillmore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Millard_Fillmore)

## Chapelle Street

Currently named in memory of Archbishop Placide Louis Chapelle.

Originally named Ridgely Street after Captain Randolph Ridgely. Ridgely served under Gen. Zachary Taylor in the Mexican-American War. He commanded key artillery batteries alongside Capt. Braxton Bragg in the Battle of Monterrey, where he took over for the wounded Maj. Samuel Ringgold (for whom Ringgold Street is named) but later died in battle's aftermath.

Ridgely died in battle in 1846 and was therefore not involved in the Civil War.

Sources:

Notes of the Mexican War, 1846–1848, by J. Jacob Oswandel

([https://books.google.com/books?id=TgFG6Vdgl\\_gC&lpq=PP1&pg=PP1#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=TgFG6Vdgl_gC&lpq=PP1&pg=PP1#v=onepage&q&f=false))

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

<https://history.army.mil/books/amh/AMH-08.htm>

[https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/record?content\\_id=1522](https://library.uta.edu/usmexicowar/record?content_id=1522)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Resaca\\_de\\_la\\_Palma](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Resaca_de_la_Palma)

<https://www.nps.gov/paal/learn/historyculture/resacadelapalma.htm>

<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=moa&cc=moa&view=text&rgn=main&idno=AAT1348>

<https://www.mdhistory.org/to-die-is-gain-memory-and-the-u-s-mexican-war-in-maryland/>

1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Volume 8

1908 Hammond Transportation Map

1883 Atlas of New Orleans, Louisiana, Louisiana Notarial Archives

1867 Gardner City Directory Map

Attached newspaper stories reporting the Battle of Monterrey

## Mouton Street

Research to date has not uncovered any information about any prominent individual named Mouton directly involved in the Mexican-American War, although newspaper articles from the time do mention a “Mouton” who served as a medic at the Battle of Monterrey. The street could be named after Alexandre Mouton, who was Governor of Louisiana just a few months before the start of the Mexican-American War, although it is unclear how much of a connection Alexandre had to the war itself. Alexandre’s grandson, Alfred Mouton (who would later become a Confederate General), was only 17 years old and in school at West Point during the Mexican-American War, so it can be presumed that the street was not intended to be named after him.

Sources:

Attached newspaper stories

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandre\\_Mouton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandre_Mouton)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred\\_Mouton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfred_Mouton)

## Walker Street

Named after Captain Samuel Hamilton Walker. Walker was a famous Texas Ranger who served as a captain and then a colonel in the Mexican-American War under Gen. Zachary Taylor and Gen. Winfield Scott.

Even before the start of the war, Walker fought for the Republic of Texas, during which time he participated in raiding expeditions against the Mexican general Santa Anna and survived the famous "Black Bean Episode." In 1844, Walker joined the Texas Rangers. When Gen. Zachary Taylor requested volunteers to act as scouts and spies for his regular army, Walker enlisted and later formed his own company to fight under Gen. Taylor. Walker performed exemplary duty as a scout and courier on numerous occasions.

Walker played a key role in the Battle of Monterrey, and his name appears throughout the local newspaper stories reporting on that victory. Walker and his company also fought at the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. At the Battle of Huamantla, Walker fought under Gen. Joseph Lane (for whom Lane St. is named), and Walker's mounted cavalry led the attack. During the battle that followed, Walker was either shot in the back or killed by a man on foot carrying a lance. The moment was subsequently commemorated in paintings depicting the battle and his tragic death.

Samuel Walker was well known throughout the country and especially in New Orleans. The people of New Orleans were so impressed with Walker that they raised money to present Walker with a horse (named "Tornado"), and when Walker visited New Orleans in 1846, his arrival reportedly "created a sensation throughout the city." He had also gained fame for working with gunsmith Samuel Colt to invent a new revolver that would later be referred to as the "Walker Colt" revolver. He is a member of the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame, which describes Walker as follows: "In the 180-year history of the Texas Rangers, there have been many shining stars, but none glowed any brighter than Samuel Hamilton Walker." His biography is attached to this report

Walker died in battle in 1847, and therefore he did not serve in the Civil War.

Sources:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel\\_Hamilton\\_Walker](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Hamilton_Walker)

<https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/walker-samuel-hamilton>

<https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a480587.pdf>

<https://www.texasranger.org/texas-ranger-museum/hall-of-fame/samuel-h-walker/>

<https://www.texasranger.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/BIO-Samuel-Walker.pdf>

<https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/tslac/40033/tsl-40033.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mier\\_expedition#Black\\_Bean\\_Episode](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mier_expedition#Black_Bean_Episode)

Notes of the Mexican War, 1846–1848, by J. Jacob Oswaldel

([https://books.google.com/books?id=TgFG6Vdgl\\_gC&lpg=PP1&pg=PP1#v=onepage&q&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=TgFG6Vdgl_gC&lpg=PP1&pg=PP1#v=onepage&q&f=false))

## Conrad Street

Research to date has not uncovered any information confirming for whom this street was named. It is possible the name refers to Charles Magill Conrad, who was a Louisiana politician at the time of the Mexican-American War and who served as the Secretary of War under President Millard Fillmore.

Sources:

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles\\_Magill\\_Conrad](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Magill_Conrad)

## Robert E. Lee Boulevard

Originally named Adams Avenue, likely after President John Quincy Adams, who served as the sixth President of the United States from 1825 to 1829. Later re-named for Confederate General Robert E. Lee in 1924.

Sources:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/presidents/john-quincy-adams/>

1929 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Volume 8

1908 Hammond Transportation Map

1883 Atlas of New Orleans, Louisiana, Louisiana Notarial Archives

1867 Gardner City Directory Map

## Other East-West Street Names from Early Maps of Lakeview

The fact that the east-west streets of Lakeview were named after leaders and heroes from the Mexican-American War is made even more undeniable when looking at other proposed street names that appeared on early maps of Lakeview.

One of the earliest maps of Lakeview—the 1867 Gardner City Directory Map—proposes naming two of the streets between “Butler St.” and “Worth St.” These proposed street names are listed alongside nearly all of the other street names that still exist in Lakeview today and are discussed above, including Walker, Lane, Mouton, and Bragg. Like all of the other individuals listed in this report, Generals William Orlando Butler and William J. Worth served as U.S. generals in the Mexican-American War, and both played prominent roles in the Battles of Monterrey and Mexico City. During the invasion of Mexico City, Worth was noted to have personally climbed to the roof of the Mexican National Palace to take down their flag and replace it with the American flag, and he became a national hero after the war (the city of Fort Worth is named after him). As for Butler, he was second-in-command to Zachary Taylor during the war and later served as the commanding general of the U.S. Army during the occupation of Mexico City. Worth died of cholera in 1849 more than a decade before the Civil War began. Butler was no longer in the military when the Civil War broke out, but he stood firmly for the preservation of the Union and was present at the Peace Conference of 1861 which attempted to avert the impending Civil War.<sup>9</sup>

Other original street names south of modern-day Florida Boulevard also reflect ties to the Mexican-American War. For example, Hidalgo Street partially shares a name with the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, which is the treaty that ended the Mexican–American War.

Pontalba Street was originally named Corwin Street, possibly after Senator Thomas Corwin. Corwin was a prominent opponent of the Mexican War and is well known for making a memorable speech denouncing the war as unjust and predicting a civil war in

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<sup>9</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Orlando\\_Butler](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Orlando_Butler)

the United States as one of its effects. During the Civil War, Corwin served as U.S. minister to Mexico and was instrumental in preventing Southern/Confederate agents from gaining support from the Mexican government.<sup>10</sup> The 1867 Gardner City Directory Map lists a number of other proposed street names in the vicinity of Corwin Street, including Webster, Clay, Calhoun, and Crittenden—all of whom were senators who were prominent senators and vocal critics of the Mexican-American War.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Thomas-Corwin>