

portals of texas history

portals of texas history serve as gateways to the rich and diverse past of the Lone Star State. These digital and physical archives provide invaluable resources for researchers, educators, students, and history enthusiasts interested in exploring Texas's cultural, social, and political heritage. By accessing a variety of historical documents, photographs, maps, and records, users can gain profound insights into the state's development from indigenous cultures through colonization, independence, statehood, and modern times. This article delves into the most significant portals of Texas history, highlighting their features, collections, and the role they play in preserving and promoting understanding of Texas's historical narrative. The discussion includes an overview of key online databases, state-sponsored initiatives, and academic repositories dedicated to Texas history. Additionally, the article covers how these portals support genealogical research, education, and public history projects, making Texas's past accessible to a broad audience. The following sections will provide a detailed exploration of Texas history portals, their content, and their importance in historical scholarship and public engagement.

- Overview of Portals of Texas History
- Major Online Resources for Texas History
- State and Academic Initiatives
- Genealogical and Archival Resources
- Educational and Public History Applications

Overview of Portals of Texas History

Portals of Texas history encompass a wide range of digital platforms and physical archives dedicated to preserving and disseminating information about Texas's past. These portals aggregate historical materials including manuscripts, photographs, newspapers, oral histories, government documents, and maps. They often serve as collaborative projects among universities, libraries, museums, and state agencies. The primary aim is to facilitate easy access to primary and secondary sources that document Texas's unique heritage, from indigenous peoples and Spanish colonial periods to the Republic of Texas and beyond.

Purpose and Importance

Such portals are essential for fostering historical awareness and supporting academic research. They provide authoritative, curated content that helps users verify facts and understand the contextual significance of historical events. These resources also promote preservation of fragile and rare materials by digitizing them for long-term accessibility. By

making Texas history widely available, portals contribute to educational curricula, cultural preservation, and community engagement.

Types of Materials Available

Portals include diverse materials such as:

- Archival documents and government records
- Historic photographs and postcards
- Newspapers and periodicals
- Maps and atlases
- Oral histories and personal narratives
- Artifacts and museum collections

Major Online Resources for Texas History

Several prominent online portals serve as comprehensive resources for exploring Texas history. These digital collections are accessible worldwide and play a critical role in historical research and public education.

The Portal to Texas History

One of the most extensive digital repositories, the Portal to Texas History is hosted by the University of North Texas Libraries. It offers millions of images, documents, and multimedia items that chronicle Texas's history and culture. The portal includes collections from libraries, museums, archives, and historical societies across the state.

Texas Digital Archive

Managed by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, the Texas Digital Archive provides access to state government records, photographs, and historical documents. It supports transparency and public access to official historical materials.

Texas State Historical Association (TSHA) Online Resources

TSHA offers a wealth of scholarly articles, biographies, and historical essays through its

online Handbook of Texas. While not a traditional portal, it serves as an authoritative resource for Texas history topics and integrates with other digital collections.

State and Academic Initiatives

State agencies and academic institutions play a vital role in developing and maintaining portals of Texas history. Their initiatives ensure the preservation of historical materials and provide platforms for public access and scholarly work.

University Archives and Libraries

Various Texas universities, including the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University, maintain digital archives and special collections focused on regional history. These academic portals often include digitized theses, research papers, and rare historical documents.

Texas Historical Commission Projects

The Texas Historical Commission oversees preservation programs and provides digital access to historical markers, archaeological reports, and cultural resources. Their databases facilitate research into Texas's architectural and archaeological heritage.

Collaborative Digitization Efforts

Many portals result from partnerships among academic institutions, libraries, museums, and government entities. These collaborations enhance the scope and quality of available resources, ensuring comprehensive coverage of Texas history.

Genealogical and Archival Resources

Portals of Texas history also support genealogical research by providing access to vital records, census data, and family histories. These resources are invaluable for tracing lineage and understanding personal connections to the state's history.

Vital Records and Census Data

Many portals include digitized birth, marriage, death, and census records that are crucial for genealogists. These documents help construct family trees and reveal demographic changes over time.

Local Historical Societies and Archives

County and city historical societies often contribute to statewide portals by digitizing their archival collections. These localized resources offer unique insights into community histories and personal stories.

Oral Histories and Personal Narratives

Oral history collections preserve firsthand accounts from Texas residents, enriching the historical record with diverse perspectives. These narratives capture cultural traditions, immigration experiences, and social changes.

Educational and Public History Applications

Beyond research, portals of Texas history serve as educational tools and public history platforms. They support teaching, community engagement, and cultural awareness initiatives throughout the state.

Curriculum Integration

Educators utilize digital portals to access primary sources and multimedia content that enhance history instruction. These resources help students connect with Texas history in interactive and meaningful ways.

Public Exhibitions and Events

Museums and cultural institutions use portals to develop exhibitions and public programs. Digital collections provide materials for displays, virtual tours, and educational outreach.

Community Engagement and Preservation

Portals encourage community participation in preserving local history through crowdsourcing projects and shared archival contributions. This collaborative approach fosters a collective stewardship of Texas heritage.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the main portals of Texas history available online?

The main portals of Texas history available online include the Portal to Texas History by

the University of North Texas, Texas State Library and Archives Commission digital collections, and the Texas Digital Archive. These portals provide access to a vast range of historical documents, photographs, maps, and other resources related to Texas history.

How can I access primary source documents about Texas history through online portals?

You can access primary source documents about Texas history through online portals such as the Portal to Texas History, which offers digitized newspapers, letters, diaries, government records, and photographs. These resources are searchable and freely available to the public for research and educational purposes.

What types of materials are typically found in Texas history portals?

Texas history portals typically include a variety of materials such as historical newspapers, photographs, manuscripts, maps, oral histories, government documents, and artifacts. These materials help provide a comprehensive view of Texas' cultural, social, and political history.

Are the portals of Texas history useful for educators and students?

Yes, portals of Texas history are highly useful for educators and students as they provide easy access to authentic historical resources. Many portals also offer lesson plans, curated collections, and educational tools designed to support teaching and learning about Texas history.

Can I contribute materials to the portals of Texas history?

Many Texas history portals accept contributions from individuals and institutions. For example, the Portal to Texas History encourages libraries, museums, and private collectors to submit digitized materials to help expand the collection. Contributors usually need to follow specific guidelines to ensure proper digitization and metadata standards.

Additional Resources

1. Gateway to Texas: Exploring Historical Portals

This book delves into the significant locations and landmarks that have served as gateways to Texas throughout history. It highlights the cultural and historical importance of these portals, from early Native American trails to Spanish missions and modern-day heritage sites. Readers gain insight into how these portals shaped the development and identity of Texas.

2. Texas Trails and Portals: A Journey Through Time

Focusing on the major trails and entry points into Texas, this volume traces the paths

taken by explorers, settlers, and traders. It combines detailed maps, photographs, and narratives to provide a comprehensive look at the historical routes that opened Texas to the wider world. The book also explores how these portals influenced migration and commerce.

3. *The Portals of Texas History: From Frontier to Statehood*

This book presents a chronological exploration of key portals that marked Texas's transformation from a wild frontier to a thriving state. It covers events such as the Texas Revolution, the Republic period, and early statehood, emphasizing the strategic importance of various entry points and border crossings. Rich historical context and archival images enrich the reader's understanding.

4. *Crossroads of Texas: Historical Portals and Their Stories*

Examining the intersections of culture, commerce, and conflict, this book explores the historical portals that served as crossroads in Texas history. It includes stories of Native American tribes, Spanish colonists, Mexican governance, and Anglo settlers, illustrating how these portals were stages for significant historical moments. The narrative is supported by personal accounts and historical documents.

5. *Portals of the Lone Star State: An Illustrated History*

Featuring vibrant illustrations and detailed descriptions, this book brings to life the various portals that have shaped Texas history. From natural passes and river crossings to man-made gateways, the book offers a visual and textual journey through Texas's past. It is an accessible resource for readers interested in the geographical and historical aspects of the state.

6. *Historic Entryways of Texas: Stories Behind the Portals*

This work uncovers the lesser-known stories behind Texas's historic portals, including forts, missions, and border towns. It reveals how these entryways functioned not only as physical gateways but also as cultural and political thresholds. The book provides a nuanced look at the impact of these portals on Texas's diverse communities.

7. *Portals to Texas Heritage: Preserving the Past*

Focusing on preservation efforts, this book discusses the importance of maintaining Texas's historical portals for future generations. It highlights various conservation projects and the challenges faced in protecting these sites. Through case studies and expert commentary, readers learn about the ongoing commitment to Texas heritage.

8. *Texas Portals: Passageways Through History and Culture*

This book explores the symbolic and literal portals of Texas, linking physical locations with the cultural transitions they represent. It considers how these portals have been depicted in literature, art, and folklore, enriching the understanding of Texas identity. The work blends historical analysis with cultural studies.

9. *From Borderlands to Heartlands: Portals of Texas History*

Tracing the evolution of Texas's borders and internal gateways, this book examines how portals influenced political boundaries and social dynamics. It offers detailed accounts of border disputes, trade routes, and migration patterns that shaped the state's history. The narrative is supported by maps, documents, and firsthand testimonies.

Portals Of Texas History

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portals of texas history: The Old Chisholm Trail Wayne Ludwig, 2018-09-04 The Old Chisholm Trail charts the evolution of the major Texas cattle trails, explores the rise of the Chisholm Trail in legend and lore, and analyzes the role of cattle trail tourism long after the end of the trail driving era itself. The result of years of original and innovative research—often using documents and sources unavailable to previous generations of historians—Wayne Ludwig’s groundbreaking study offers a new and nuanced look at an important but short-lived era in the history of the American West. Controversy over the name and route of the Chisholm Trail has persisted since before the dust had even settled on the old cattle trails. But the popularity of late nineteenth-century Wild West shows, dime novels, and twentieth-century radio, movie, and television western drama propelled the already bygone era of the cattle trail into myth—and a lucrative one at that. Ludwig correlates the rise of automobile tourism with an explosion of interest in the Chisholm Trail. Community leaders were keenly aware of the potential economic impact if tourists were induced to visit their town rather than another, and the Chisholm Trail was often just the hook needed. Numerous “historical” markers were erected on little more than hearsay or boosterish memory, and as a result, the true history of the Chisholm Trail has been overshadowed. The Old Chisholm Trail is the first comprehensive examination of the Chisholm Trail since Wayne Gard’s 1954 classic study, *The Chisholm Trail*, and makes an important—and modern—contribution to the history of the American West. Winner, 2018 Elmer Kelton Book of the Year, sponsored by the Academy of Western Artists

portals of texas history: The Texas Landscape Project David A. Todd, Jonathan Ogren, 2016-06-14 The Texas Landscape Project explores conservation and ecology in Texas by presenting a highly visual and deeply researched view of the widespread changes that have affected the state as its population and economy have boomed and as Texans have worked ever harder to safeguard its bountiful but limited natural resources. Covering the entire state, from Pineywoods bottomlands and Panhandle playas to Hill Country springs and Big Bend canyons, the project examines a host of familiar and not so familiar environmental issues. A companion volume to *The Texas Legacy Project*, this book tracks specific environmental changes that have occurred in Texas using more than 300 color maps, expertly crafted by cartographer Jonathan Ogren, and over 100 photographs that coalesce to fashion a broad portrait of the modern Texas landscape. The rich data, compiled by author David Todd, are presented in clearly written yet marvelously detailed text that gives historical context and contemporary statistics for environmental trends connected to the land, water, air, energy, and built world of the second-largest and second-most populated state in the nation. An engaging read for any environmentalist or conscientious citizen, *The Texas Landscape Project* provides a true sense of the grand scope of the Lone Star State and the high stakes of protecting it. To learn more about The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment, sponsors of this book's series, please click [here](#).

portals of texas history: We Were Illegal Jessica Goudeau, 2024-06-18 An award-winning author's deep exploration of pivotal moments in Texas history through multiple generations of her own family, and a ruthless reexamination of our national and personal myths New York Times Editor's Choice Seven generations of Jessica Goudeau's family have lived in Texas, and her family's legacy—a word she heard often growing up—was rooted in faith, right-living, and the hard work that built their great state. It wasn't until her aunt mentioned a stowaway ancestor and she began to dig more deeply into the story of the land she lives on today in suburban Austin, that Goudeau

discovered her family's far more complicated role in Texas history: from a swindling land grant agent in the earliest days of Anglo settlement that brought slavery to Mexican land, up through her Texas Ranger great-uncle, who helped a sociopathic sheriff cover up mass murder. Tracking her ancestors' involvement in pivotal moments from before the Texas Revolution through today, *We Were Illegal* is at once an intimate and character-driven narrative and an insider's look at a state that prides itself on its history. It is an act of reckoning and recovery on a personal scale, as well as a reflection of the work we all must do to dismantle the whitewashed narratives that are passed down through families, communities, and textbooks. And it is a story filled with hope—by facing these hypocrisies and long-buried histories, Goudeau explores with us how to move past this fractured time, take accountability for our legacy, and learn to be better, more honest ancestors.

portals of texas history: *Civil Rights in Black and Brown* Max Krochmal, Todd Moya, 2021-11-09 2022 Best Book Award, Oral History Association Hundreds of stories of activists at the front lines of the intersecting African American and Mexican American liberation struggle Not one but two civil rights movements flourished in mid-twentieth-century Texas, and they did so in intimate conversation with one another. Far from the gaze of the national media, African American and Mexican American activists combated the twin caste systems of Jim Crow and Juan Crow. These insurgents worked chiefly within their own racial groups, yet they also looked to each other for guidance and, at times, came together in solidarity. The movements sought more than integration and access: they demanded power and justice. *Civil Rights in Black and Brown* draws on more than 500 oral history interviews newly collected across Texas, from the Panhandle to the Piney Woods and everywhere in between. The testimonies speak in detail to the structure of racism in small towns and huge metropolises—both the everyday grind of segregation and the haunting acts of racial violence that upheld Texas's state-sanctioned systems of white supremacy. Through their memories of resistance and revolution, the activists reveal previously undocumented struggles for equity, as well as the links Black and Chicana organizers forged in their efforts to achieve self-determination.

portals of texas history: *A Field Guide to the Vernacular Buildings of the San Antonio Area* Brent Fortenberry, 2021-08-16 The rich, multicultural heritage of San Antonio and the Texas Hill Country provide the backdrop for this first comprehensive guide to the culturally significant vernacular buildings of this diverse and historic region: structures designed and constructed by the people who used them rather than by professional architects or builders. A valuable, easy-to-use resource for heritage travelers, historic preservationists, and local historians, *A Field Guide to the Vernacular Buildings of the San Antonio Area* pairs incisive interpretive essays with detailed building descriptions, photographs, and architectural renderings. Featuring contributions from noted architectural historians and preservationists including Ken Hafertepe, Lewis Fisher, Maria Pfeiffer, and Sarah Z. Gould, this handy, generously illustrated guide will not only provide context and insight for understanding the importance of these buildings but will also engage readers with the challenges of preserving our cultural heritage as represented in the built environment. Professional and avocational preservationists, along with interested travelers and general readers, will appreciate the thorough discussion and analysis of such well-known sites as the San Antonio Riverwalk, the San Antonio missions, and the public buildings of the historic Westside district. Reaching beyond the immediate vicinity of San Antonio, the book also offers expert commentary on the German settlements in Central Texas and east of San Antonio, providing an inclusive and inviting survey of how settlers of various origins placed their unique imprints on Texas.

portals of texas history: *Library Science and Administration: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications* Management Association, Information Resources, 2017-11-30 Effective administration of libraries is a crucial part of delivering library services to the public. To develop and implement best practices, librarians must be aware and informed of the recent advances in library administration. *Library Science and Administration: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications* is a comprehensive reference source for the latest scholarly material on trends, techniques, and management of libraries and examines the benefits and challenges of library administration. Highlighting a range of pertinent topics such as digital libraries, information

sciences, and academic libraries, this multi-volume book is ideally designed for academicians, researchers, practitioners, and librarians seeking current research on library science and administration.

portals of texas history: *WARLOCK'S PORTAL* JAMIE LITTLEFOOT, 2012-07 Warlock's Portal is the sequel to Time Portal and continues the adventures of three friends who travel back in time for another adventure with pirates and warlock's. Jeff Davis and his two friends Rusty and the lovely Carole Anne are approached by a messenger bearing a letter addressed to him from nearly 300 years in the past. The three friends and the messenger are confronted by a strange time traveler before they all are sucked back into the portal and transported to Ireland in the sixteenth century. This time they meet a kindly, but ferocious 16th century female pirate and her warlock assistant who help them get back to their own time after fulfilling a debt of honor before they are transported home again. Warlock's Portal is an historical Science Fiction that will definitely appeal to a reader interested in stories of time travel, early American and World History, Witches and Warlocks and pirate adventures.

portals of texas history: *The Road to San Jacinto* Dave Dyer, 2025-09-17 2025 Winner of the Conservation Society of San Antonio Publication Award This book follows the route of Sam Houston's army from Gonzales to San Jacinto during the Texas Revolution. The author visited every campsite or important location to see what is there now and to look for the footprints of the Texian army. What is left over from his time? What is there now? Using both primary and secondary sources, Dyer stitches together a historically accurate story of each site and illustrated it with his modern photos. Directions to each site are provided to encourage readers to visit. Many of these sites have no historical markers and have been forgotten or ignored. The goal of this work is to encourage people to explore some forgotten local history by visiting these sites as a great way to gain an appreciation for Texas History. An accompanying podcast will be made available to make it easy to listen to each description while visiting the sites.

portals of texas history: *Space and Organizational Considerations in Academic Library Partnerships and Collaborations* Doherty, Brian, 2016-04-25 A vital component of any academic institution, libraries are held to and expected to maintain certain standards. In order to meet these standards and better accommodate the student and faculty body they serve, many libraries are recognizing the benefit of forging relationships with other professional and academic entities. Space and Organizational Considerations in Academic Library Partnerships and Collaborations is a pivotal reference source for the latest scholarly research on and methods for utilizing existing spaces within libraries to facilitate collection development in addition to discussions on how on-campus and off-campus partnerships can assist in this endeavor. Focusing on issues related to faculty and researcher collaborations, collection management, and professional development, this book is ideally designed for administrators, librarians, academicians, MLIS students, and information professionals.

portals of texas history: *Making the Unknown Known* Victoria H. Cummins, Light Townsend Cummins, 2024-09-02 In Making the Unknown Known, leading scholars throughout Texas explore the significant role women artists played in developing early Texas art from the nineteenth century through the latter part of the twentieth century. The biographies presented here allow readers to compare these women's experiences across time as they negotiated the gendered expectations about artists in society at large and the Texas art community itself. Surveying the contributions women made to the visual arts in the Lone Star state, Making the Unknown Known analyzes women's artistic work with respect to geographic and historical connections. Including surveys of the work of artists such as Louise Wüste, Emma Richardson Cherry, Eleanor Onderdonk, Grace Spaulding John, and others, it offers a groundbreaking assessment of the role women artists have played in interpreting the meaning, history, heritage, and unique character of Texas. It places women artists within the larger social and cultural contexts in which they lived. In that regard, it contains an analysis of their varied styles of art, the media they employed, and the subject matter contained in their art. It thus evaluates the contributions made by women artists to defining the nature of the wider Texas experience as an American region. Beautifully illustrated throughout with rich, full-color

reproductions of the works created by the artists, this volume provides an enriched understanding of the important but underappreciated role women artists have played in the development of the fine arts in Texas. At last, the unknown story can be known.

portals of texas history: Software Design and Development: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications Management Association, Information Resources, 2013-07-31 Innovative tools and techniques for the development and design of software systems are essential to the problem solving and planning of software solutions. Software Design and Development: Concepts, Methodologies, Tools, and Applications brings together the best practices of theory and implementation in the development of software systems. This reference source is essential for researchers, engineers, practitioners, and scholars seeking the latest knowledge on the techniques, applications, and methodologies for the design and development of software systems.

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portals of texas history: Globalizing the Lower Rio Grande Kyle B. Carpenter, 2024-10-15 Often obscured in the history of the nineteenth-century US-Mexico borderlands, European-born entrepreneurs played a definitive role in pushing the Rio Grande borderlands into Atlantic markets. These borderlands entrepreneurs tried to transform the Lower Rio Grande and its surroundings from a regional crossroads of trade to a hub of the Atlantic economy. Though they were often stymied by mismanagement, notions of ethnic and cultural superiority, and eruptions of violence, these entrepreneurs persistently attempted to remake the region into a modern commercial utopia. Their actions challenged United States imperial expansion into the Rio Grande borderlands as they tried to modernize the region according to European cultural precepts through constructing colonies populated with Europeans, building strong networks of local and global significance, and striving to dominate trade in the region. Globalizing the Lower Rio Grande reframes the narrative of the borderlands through the perspectives of Europeans who actively shaped the historical trajectory of the region. It highlights the actions of folks like English-born John C. Beales, who convinced a party of Europeans to trek overseas and overland to the isolated Las Moras Creek to build a colony from scratch; Alexander Bourgeois d'Orvanne, former mayor of Clichy-la-Garenne in France, who manipulated powerful French and German leaders to support a settlement scheme on the Rio Grande; Spanish-born José San Román and the way he constructed massive transatlantic networks of credit and exchange; and Joseph Kleiber from Strasbourg, who facilitated the construction of a European-owned railroad line along the Rio Grande. Though ultimately undermined and outmaneuvered by their American rivals, European-born borderlands entrepreneurs like these collectively globalized the Lower Rio Grande.

portals of texas history: Louisiana Tech's Joe Aillet Christopher A. Kennedy, 2022-08 Trace a legend's route from an orphan train to the College Football Hall of Fame .

portals of texas history: History Lover's Guide to Dallas, A Georgette Driscoll , 2019 Don't let the drawl fool you--Dallas boasts a dynamic history full of explosive growth. The cityscape itself seems eager to measure up to the outsized personalities that forged the town's identity. A sixty-seven-and-a-half-foot-tall giraffe statue greets visitors to the Dallas Zoo, while guests exiting the Joule Hotel encounter the gaze of a thirty-foot eyeball. A colossal Pegasus glows above it all from its perch on top of the Magnolia Petroleum building. Subtler storylines also thread their way through the forest of glass and steel, from the jazz of Deep Ellum alleyways to the peaceful paths of the Katy Trail. Author Georgette Driscoll looks beyond the inscriptions for the events that shaped Dallas into the city it is today.

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portals of texas history: Duval County Tejanos Alfredo E. Cardenas, 2024-10-15 In Texas, to hear the words “Duval County” evokes Archie and George Parr, politics, and corruption. But this does not represent the full truth about this South Texas county and its Tejano citizens. Duval County Tejanos accentuates the significance and meaning of place, showcasing Tejanos as historical actors, not bit players. This cultural region comprises *la familia*, *las costumbres*, *la fe católica*, y *las comidas*. And we must not leave out *la política*. Tejanos were engaged in community life: they organized politically, cultivated land, and promoted agriculture, livestock raising, the local economy, churches, schools, patriotic celebrations, and social activities. Americano newcomers sought to start and develop a trade economy, but Mexicanos wanted to make sure they held on to their land. The Civil War stunted economic and governmental development but did not prevent the population growing in numbers and diversity, including the arrival of Americanos in more significant numbers. Still, old-time pioneers and newcomers joined hands to build a faith community, develop schools,

improve transportation, and bring commerce to serve their needs. In 1876 Duval County citizens formally petitioned Nueces County for the opportunity to organize themselves. When the railroad rolled into the county seat, San Diego, in 1879, their world changed forever. During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the Duval County economy exhibited vitality and adaptability—sheep and cattle raising and cotton farming anchored and sustained the local economy. Moreover, Texas land programs opened opportunities to previously landless Tejano farmers. Duval County Tejanos continued to be alarmed as Americanos were cementing their political influence out of proportion to their numbers. In the 1870s Tejanos pursued organized politics to attain fairness and acquire political power corresponding to their population. In the twentieth century the political atmosphere intensified as Tejanos pushed forward their agenda of assuming their proper role, consistent with their numbers. Ultimately, the Americano actors were replaced by new faces more willing to share in the power structure, both politically and economically, and Tejanos achieved political strength commensurate with their numbers.

portals of texas history: All the Houses Were Painted White , 2019-10-03 Many of the historic houses in and around the town of Victoria, Texas, were built between 1875 and 1910 by immigrant owners. From 1973 to 1975, with the support of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Rick Gardner traveled throughout the region, taking photographs of these historic homes. Gardner relied on his own instincts and guidance from knowledgeable locals as to where he should aim his lens. This book is an appreciative glimpse at what these vernacular houses looked like a century after their construction. Gardner has teamed up with Victoria historian and preservationist Gary Dunnam to present these rich images along with brief historical sketches of the houses and, where possible, the persons who occupied them when they were newly constructed. The result is an understated and elegant suggestion of what life may have been like for the merchants, bankers, agriculturalists, and others who built and lived in these homes during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Designed to appeal to those with a love for old houses and especially for the preservation of historic structures, All the Houses Were Painted White offers its readers a stately appreciation of these homes and their place in the South Texas landscape. It is also a tribute to the architects, owners, and anonymous craftspeople who built the houses—to their vision, skill, ingenuity, imagination, creativity, and endurance.

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