portals to texas history

portals to texas history serve as essential gateways for exploring the rich and diverse past of Texas. These digital collections and archives provide access to historical documents, photographs, maps, newspapers, and other valuable resources that depict the cultural, social, and political evolution of the Lone Star State. As Texas has a unique and complex history, portals dedicated to its heritage offer researchers, educators, students, and history enthusiasts comprehensive tools to delve into various time periods and themes. This article explores prominent portals to Texas history, their collections, and how they contribute to preserving and disseminating the state's historical legacy. Additionally, it outlines the types of materials available and highlights the benefits of utilizing these digital archives for academic and personal research. The following sections provide an in-depth look at major digital repositories, their offerings, and guidance on navigating these portals effectively.

- Major Digital Portals to Texas History
- Types of Historical Materials Available
- Accessing and Utilizing Portals Effectively
- Significance of Digital Archives in Preserving Texas Heritage

Major Digital Portals to Texas History

Several prominent digital portals serve as primary sources for accessing historical information about Texas. These platforms compile extensive collections of digitized materials, often contributed by libraries, museums, universities, and government agencies. Each portal offers unique features and focuses on different aspects of Texas history, making them invaluable tools for researchers and history enthusiasts alike.

The Portal to Texas History by the University of North Texas

The Portal to Texas History, hosted by the University of North Texas Libraries, is one of the largest and most comprehensive digital repositories dedicated to Texas history. It contains millions of digitized items, including photographs, newspapers, maps, oral histories, and manuscripts. The portal emphasizes accessibility and preservation, allowing users to explore diverse topics such as Texas' frontier heritage, civil rights movements, and cultural traditions.

Texas Digital Archive

The Texas Digital Archive is a state-run initiative that collects and preserves official government records and historical documents. It provides public access to records from various Texas state agencies, including historical legislative documents, administrative records, and public reports. This archive is particularly useful for researchers investigating governmental history and public policy development in Texas.

Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC)

The TSLAC offers a vast collection of digitized historical materials related to Texas' political, social, and economic history. Its digital collections include photographs, maps, manuscripts, and rare books. TSLAC's portal also supports genealogical research with access to census records, vital statistics, and immigration documents, making it a crucial resource for family historians.

Types of Historical Materials Available

Portals to Texas history provide access to a wide array of historical materials that document the state's multifaceted past. Understanding the types of resources available helps users tailor their research and explore Texas history from multiple perspectives.

Photographs and Visual Media

Historical photographs capture the visual essence of Texas through various periods. These images document everything from urban development and rural life to significant events and cultural celebrations. Visual media collections often include postcards, lithographs, and early motion pictures, offering a vivid glimpse into Texas' historical landscape.

Newspapers and Periodicals

Digitized newspapers and periodicals provide contemporary accounts of events, public opinion, and social trends within Texas. Many portals offer searchable archives of historic newspapers dating back to the 19th century, which are invaluable for tracing local history, politics, and daily life across different regions of Texas.

Maps and Geographic Documents

Historical maps and geographic materials illustrate the territorial evolution, land use, and settlement patterns in Texas. These documents include early colonial maps, railroad surveys, and urban planning charts, enriching the understanding of Texas' physical and political development over

Manuscripts and Personal Papers

Manuscript collections contain letters, diaries, official records, and other personal papers that provide firsthand accounts of historical events and daily life. These documents offer unique insights into the experiences of Texas residents from diverse backgrounds and time periods.

Oral Histories and Audio-Visual Records

Oral histories and recorded interviews preserve the voices and stories of Texans across generations. These collections capture personal narratives related to cultural heritage, social change, and historic events, contributing valuable qualitative data to Texas history research.

Accessing and Utilizing Portals Effectively

Maximizing the benefits of portals to Texas history requires understanding how to navigate their interfaces and utilize their search capabilities. Effective use of these resources can significantly enhance historical research outcomes and educational projects.

Search Strategies and Tools

Most digital portals offer advanced search options allowing users to filter results by date, format, subject, and geographic location. Employing specific

keywords related to Texas history, such as "Texas Revolution," "ranching," or "Hispanic heritage," helps refine searches and locate relevant materials quickly.

Using Metadata and Tags

Metadata and subject tags are critical for organizing and retrieving items within digital archives. Familiarity with common terms used to describe Texas history collections improves navigation and enables users to discover connected materials across different repositories.

Downloading and Citing Materials

Many portals provide options to download high-resolution images and documents for academic or personal use. It is important to review usage rights and properly cite sources according to established standards to maintain scholarly integrity and respect copyright regulations.

Integrating Portals into Educational and Research Activities

Educators and researchers can incorporate materials from portals to Texas history into lesson plans, presentations, and scholarly publications. Utilizing primary sources enhances critical thinking, contextual understanding, and engagement with Texas' historical narratives.

Significance of Digital Archives in Preserving Texas Heritage

Digital portals dedicated to Texas history play a vital role in preserving and promoting the state's cultural heritage. By digitizing fragile and rare materials, these archives protect valuable historical records from deterioration and loss.

Enhancing Accessibility and Public Engagement

Portals to Texas history democratize access to historical resources by making them available online to a global audience. This accessibility fosters public

interest, supports community heritage projects, and encourages participation in historical preservation efforts.

Supporting Scholarly Research and Collaboration

The availability of digitized Texas history collections facilitates interdisciplinary research and collaboration among historians, archivists, and educators. It enables the integration of diverse perspectives and contributes to a more comprehensive understanding of Texas' past.

Preserving Diverse Narratives and Underrepresented Histories

Digital archives strive to include materials representing the wide range of cultural, ethnic, and social groups that have shaped Texas. This inclusivity helps ensure that underrepresented voices are preserved and recognized as integral parts of the state's historical fabric.

- Preservation of fragile historical documents
- Increased public access and educational use
- Facilitation of academic research and interdisciplinary studies
- Promotion of diverse and inclusive historical narratives

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Portals to Texas History?

Portals to Texas History is a digital project that provides free access to a vast collection of historical documents, photographs, maps, and other resources related to the history of Texas.

Who manages the Portals to Texas History?

The Portals to Texas History is managed by the University of North Texas Libraries in collaboration with various Texas libraries, archives, and museums.

How can I access materials on the Portals to Texas History?

Materials can be accessed online for free through the Portals to Texas History website, where users can search and browse collections by topic, date, or location.

What types of resources are available on the Portals to Texas History?

The portal includes a variety of resources such as photographs, newspaper archives, manuscripts, maps, oral histories, and government documents related to Texas history.

Can I contribute my own historical materials to the Portals to Texas History?

Yes, individuals and organizations can contribute their historical materials by partnering with the project and following submission guidelines provided by the Portals to Texas History team.

How is Portals to Texas History useful for researchers and educators?

Portals to Texas History offers a rich digital archive that supports research, teaching, and learning by providing primary source materials that illustrate Texas's cultural and historical heritage.

Additional Resources

- 1. Gateway to Texas: Exploring the State's Historic Portals
 This book delves into the various entry points that have shaped Texas
 history, from early exploration routes to modern border crossings. It offers
 vivid descriptions of key sites where cultures met and blended, influencing
 the state's development. Richly illustrated, it provides readers with a sense
 of the physical and symbolic gateways to Texas's past.
- 2. Portals Through Time: The Historic Landmarks of Texas
 Focusing on Texas's most significant historic landmarks, this book presents
 them as portals to understanding the state's diverse history. Each chapter
 explores a different site, such as missions, forts, and trading posts,
 showing how these places served as crossroads for different peoples and eras.
 It combines narrative history with archaeological insights.
- 3. Crossing Borders: Portals to Texas's Cultural Heritage
 This work examines the cultural exchanges that occurred at key borderlands
 and crossings in Texas history. From Native American trails to immigrant

pathways, the book highlights how these portals facilitated the blending of traditions and customs. Readers gain an appreciation for the multicultural foundations of Texas society.

- 4. Historic Gateways of Texas: From Missions to Modern Borders
 Covering a broad timeline, this book traces the evolution of Texas's
 gateways, starting with Spanish missions and ending with contemporary border
 infrastructure. It discusses how these portals impacted social, political,
 and economic changes in the region. The narrative is supported by archival
 photographs and firsthand accounts.
- 5. Texas Trails and Portals: Pathways to the Past
 This guide explores the historic trails and entry points that served as
 portals into Texas throughout different eras. It highlights famous routes
 like the Old San Antonio Road and the Chisholm Trail, illustrating their
 importance in migration and commerce. The book combines maps, historical
 anecdotes, and travel tips for history enthusiasts.
- 6. Portals of Power: Forts and Strongholds in Texas History
 Focusing on military sites, this book reveals how forts and strongholds acted
 as strategic portals controlling access to Texas territories. It narrates key
 battles and events that took place at these locations, emphasizing their role
 in shaping the state's sovereignty. Detailed site descriptions and historical
 context bring these portals to life.
- 7. Immigrant Portals: The Gates that Shaped Texas Communities
 This book investigates the entry points through which immigrants arrived and settled in Texas, such as rail stations and river ports. It discusses the impact of immigration on Texas's demographic and cultural landscape. Personal stories and historical data illustrate how these portals fostered community formation.
- 8. Portals to the Past: Museums and Historic Sites in Texas
 Highlighting museums and preserved historic sites, this book presents them as
 living portals that connect visitors with Texas history. It offers detailed
 guides to locations where history is interpreted and celebrated, making the
 past accessible to all. The book encourages readers to explore and engage
 with Texas's heritage.
- 9. Border Crossings: Portals of Change in Texas History
 This title explores the social and political transformations that occurred at
 the Texas border through various portals over centuries. It examines themes
 such as migration, trade, and conflict, showing how border crossings have
 been central to Texas's identity. The book combines scholarly research with
 compelling narratives to reveal these dynamic gateways.

Portals To Texas History

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portals to 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 to 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 to texas history: Civil Rights in Black and Brown Max Krochmal, Todd Moye, 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 Chicanx organizers forged in their efforts to achieve self-determination.

portals to 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 to 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.

portals to 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.

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 to 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 to texas history: Grand Canyon National Park Doreen Gonzales, 2008-07-01 A virtual tour of Grand Canyon National Park, with chapters devoted to the history of this region, history of the park, plant and animal life, environmental problems facing the park, and activities in the area--Provided by publisher.

portals to texas history: New Jersey Women during World War II Patricia Chappine, 2023-10-24 While World War II has long been viewed as a pivotal period that allowed women expanded opportunities in the military and the labor force, locally focused considerations have long been left out of the national narrative. New Jersey Women during World War II: On the Home Front and Abroad by Patricia Chappine explores the experiences that detail the wartime narrative of New Jersey women on the home front and abroad and describes the impact these women had as they pushed past gendered social boundaries and joined the war effort in numbers greater than any previous generation of Americans. Through expansive research, Chappine examines the critical role the women of New Jersey played as they stepped into newly formed military branches and entered the labor force in areas never-before open to them, volunteering in staggering numbers. Focusing on the nuances of women's wartime experiences, this book blends the personal with the social, political, and economic climate of New Jersey and the communicated aspirations, uncertainties, and fears of women during World War II to offer new insights into the role they all played.

portals to 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 to 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 to 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 to 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 to 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.

portals to texas history: The Final Trigger: The Truth and Lies of JFK's Assassination Randall Windle, 2025-02-13 Examines the Kennedy presidency, Cold War tensions, and JFK's assassination's enduring legacy of intrigue. From the glamour of Kennedy's presidency to the enigma of Lee Oswald and the murky world of Jack Ruby, learn their motivations, and see the shadows that continue to linger over one of the most significant moments in modern history.

Unraveling the threads of the Cold War and the Cuban conflict, this historical backdrop fuels the paranoid tension leading up to that fateful day in Dallas, and offers fresh perspectives on a pivotal period in American history. Explore the Kennedy legacy. In an era marked by skepticism towards powerful institutions, Kennedy's legacy compels us to question, analyze, and seek transparency. JFK's assassination emerges as a stark reminder of the consequences of unchecked power.

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portals to 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 guarter 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 to 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.

portals to texas history: Murder, Inc James H. Johnston, 2019-08 Late in his life, former president Lyndon B. Johnson told a reporter that he didn't believe the Warren Commission's finding that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in killing President John F. Kennedy. Johnson thought Cuban president Fidel Castro was behind it. After all, Johnson said, Kennedy was running a damned Murder, Inc., in the Caribbean, giving Castro reason to retaliate. Murder, Inc., tells the story of the CIA's assassination operations under Kennedy up to his own assassination and beyond. James H. Johnston was a lawyer for the Senate Intelligence Committee in 1975, which investigated and first reported on the Castro assassination plots and their relation to Kennedy's murder. Johnston examines how the CIA steered the Warren Commission and later investigations away from connecting its own assassination operations to Kennedy's murder. He also looks at the effect this strategy had on the Warren Commission's conclusions that assassin Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone and that there was no foreign conspiracy. Sourced from in-depth research into the secret files declassified by the JFK Records Act and now stored in the National Archives and Records Administration, Murder, Inc. is the first book to narrate in detail the CIA's plots against Castro and to delve into the question of why retaliation by Castro against Kennedy was not investigated.

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