

HISTORY OF VIDOR TX

HISTORY OF VIDOR TX: A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME IN SOUTHEAST TEXAS

HISTORY OF VIDOR TX IS A FASCINATING TALE THAT REFLECTS THE BROADER NARRATIVE OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS DEVELOPMENT, COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, AND CULTURAL EVOLUTION. NESTLED IN ORANGE COUNTY, VIDOR MAY SEEM LIKE JUST ANOTHER SMALL CITY AT FIRST GLANCE, BUT ITS ROOTS RUN DEEP WITH STORIES OF EARLY SETTLERS, INDUSTRIAL BOOMS, AND A RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE. UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX OFFERS VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO HOW THIS COMMUNITY HAS SHAPED ITSELF OVER THE DECADES AND CONTINUES TO THRIVE IN THE MODERN ERA.

THE ORIGINS OF VIDOR: FROM PINEY WOODS TO THRIVING TOWN

THE STORY OF VIDOR BEGINS IN THE DENSE PINE FORESTS OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS. BEFORE IT BECAME KNOWN AS VIDOR, THE AREA WAS LARGELY UNDEVELOPED WILDERNESS, CHARACTERIZED BY THE VAST PINEY WOODS THAT DOMINATE THIS PART OF THE STATE. EARLY SETTLERS WERE DRAWN TO THE REGION PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF THE ABUNDANT NATURAL RESOURCES, ESPECIALLY TIMBER.

EARLY SETTLEMENT AND TIMBER INDUSTRY

IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, THE DEMAND FOR LUMBER SKYROCKETED, AND SOUTHEAST TEXAS BECAME A HOTSPOT FOR LOGGING COMPANIES. THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX IS DEEPLY INTERTWINED WITH THE BOOMING TIMBER INDUSTRY. THE CITY WAS OFFICIALLY ESTABLISHED WHEN THE VIDOR LUMBER COMPANY SET UP OPERATIONS THERE. THIS COMPANY PLAYED A PIVOTAL ROLE IN TRANSFORMING THE DENSE FORESTS INTO A BUSTLING LUMBER TOWN.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE RAILROAD FURTHER ACCELERATED GROWTH, ALLOWING TIMBER AND RELATED PRODUCTS TO REACH MARKETS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. WORKERS FROM VARIOUS BACKGROUNDS CAME TO VIDOR, SEEKING EMPLOYMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES, WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO THE TOWN'S BUDDING POPULATION AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

AS THE TIMBER INDUSTRY FLOURISHED, VIDOR EVOLVED FROM A COMPANY TOWN INTO A MORE ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY. BUSINESSES SPRANG UP TO SERVE THE GROWING POPULATION, INCLUDING GENERAL STORES, SCHOOLS, AND CHURCHES. THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX DURING THIS PERIOD IS MARKED BY A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND SELF-RELIANCE.

THE ROLE OF THE RAILROAD

THE RAILROAD WAS MORE THAN JUST A MEANS TO TRANSPORT LUMBER; IT CONNECTED VIDOR TO THE WIDER WORLD. THIS CONNECTIVITY ALLOWED THE TOWN TO DIVERSIFY ECONOMICALLY AND SOCIALLY. OVER TIME, VIDOR ATTRACTED OTHER INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING OIL AND GAS, WHICH BECAME SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORS TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY.

POPULATION GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE

BY MID-CENTURY, VIDOR'S POPULATION HAD GROWN STEADILY. INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS SUCH AS PAVED ROADS, ELECTRICITY, AND PUBLIC SCHOOLING HELPED TRANSITION THE TOWN FROM ITS RUGGED FRONTIER ORIGINS TO A MORE MODERN MUNICIPALITY. THESE DEVELOPMENTS PLAYED A CRUCIAL ROLE IN THE CITY'S ABILITY TO ATTRACT NEW RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.

CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS IN VIDOR'S HISTORY

BEYOND ITS ECONOMIC STORY, THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX IS RICH WITH CULTURAL AND SOCIAL NARRATIVES. THE TOWN'S RESIDENTS HAVE LONG MAINTAINED STRONG COMMUNITY TIES THROUGH LOCAL EVENTS, TRADITIONS, AND INSTITUTIONS.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND LOCAL TRADITIONS

VIDOR'S RESIDENTS HAVE ALWAYS VALUED COMMUNITY SPIRIT. FROM ANNUAL FESTIVALS CELEBRATING THE TOWN'S HERITAGE TO LOCAL SPORTS EVENTS, THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF VIDOR IS TIGHTLY WOVEN. THESE TRADITIONS HAVE HELPED STRENGTHEN BONDS AMONG RESIDENTS AND PRESERVE A SENSE OF IDENTITY THROUGH GENERATIONS.

CHALLENGES AND CHANGES

LIKE MANY COMMUNITIES IN TEXAS, VIDOR HAS FACED ITS SHARE OF CHALLENGES. ECONOMIC FLUCTUATIONS, NATURAL DISASTERS SUCH AS HURRICANES, AND SOCIAL CHANGES HAVE ALL IMPACTED THE CITY. HOWEVER, THE RESILIENCE OF THE PEOPLE OF VIDOR SHINES THROUGH IN HOW THEY HAVE ADAPTED AND REBUILT, MAINTAINING THEIR COMMUNITY'S CORE VALUES.

MODERN VIDOR: GROWTH AND PRESERVATION

TODAY, THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX INFORMS ITS FUTURE. WHILE THE TIMBER INDUSTRY NO LONGER DOMINATES, THE CITY HAS DIVERSIFIED ITS ECONOMY AND CONTINUES TO GROW. MODERN VIDOR BALANCES PROGRESS WITH A DEDICATION TO PRESERVING ITS UNIQUE HERITAGE.

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

MODERN INDUSTRIES IN VIDOR INCLUDE MANUFACTURING, RETAIL, AND SERVICES, REFLECTING BROADER ECONOMIC TRENDS IN SOUTHEAST TEXAS. THE CITY'S STRATEGIC LOCATION NEAR MAJOR HIGHWAYS AND CITIES LIKE BEAUMONT AND HOUSTON MAKES IT AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.

PRESERVING HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

EFFORTS TO PRESERVE VIDOR'S HISTORICAL LANDMARKS AND STORIES ARE EVIDENT THROUGHOUT THE TOWN. MUSEUMS, HISTORICAL SOCIETIES, AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS WORK TO KEEP THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX ALIVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. THESE INITIATIVES NOT ONLY EDUCATE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS BUT ALSO FOSTER PRIDE IN THE CITY'S UNIQUE PAST.

WHY UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX MATTERS

DELVING INTO THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX PROVIDES MORE THAN JUST DATES AND FACTS; IT OFFERS A WINDOW INTO THE SPIRIT OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS COMMUNITIES. LEARNING ABOUT VIDOR'S EVOLUTION FROM A TIMBER TOWN TO A MODERN CITY REVEALS THE IMPORTANCE OF ADAPTABILITY, COMMUNITY COHESION, AND RESPECT FOR HERITAGE.

WHETHER YOU'RE A RESIDENT, VISITOR, OR HISTORY ENTHUSIAST, EXPLORING VIDOR'S PAST ADDS DEPTH TO YOUR APPRECIATION OF THIS VIBRANT TOWN. IT REMINDS US THAT EVERY SMALL CITY HAS A STORY WORTH TELLING—ONE FILLED WITH DETERMINATION, GROWTH, AND A DEEP CONNECTION TO THE LAND.

IN TRACING THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX, WE SEE HOW NATURAL RESOURCES, ECONOMIC SHIFTS, AND CULTURAL VALUES HAVE SHAPED NOT ONLY A CITY BUT ALSO ITS PEOPLE. AND AS VIDOR MOVES FORWARD, THESE HISTORICAL FOUNDATIONS CONTINUE TO INFLUENCE ITS PATH, ENSURING THE LEGACY OF THE PINEY WOODS LIVES ON.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN WAS VIDOR, TEXAS FOUNDED?

VIDOR, TEXAS WAS FOUNDED IN THE EARLY 1900S, WITH SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT OCCURRING AROUND 1909 DUE TO THE LUMBER INDUSTRY.

WHAT INDUSTRY PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF VIDOR, TX?

THE LUMBER INDUSTRY WAS CRUCIAL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF VIDOR, TX, AS THE TOWN GREW AROUND LOGGING AND SAWMILL OPERATIONS.

HOW DID VIDOR GET ITS NAME?

VIDOR WAS NAMED AFTER THE VIDOR LUMBER COMPANY, WHICH WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN THE TOWN'S EARLY GROWTH AND ECONOMIC FOUNDATION.

WHAT SIGNIFICANT EVENT AFFECTED VIDOR DURING THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY?

IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, VIDOR EXPERIENCED RAPID GROWTH DUE TO THE BOOMING LUMBER INDUSTRY, BUT ALSO FACED CHALLENGES SUCH AS ECONOMIC FLUCTUATIONS AND CHANGES IN TIMBER SUPPLY.

HOW HAS THE POPULATION OF VIDOR, TX CHANGED OVER TIME?

VIDOR'S POPULATION HAS GROWN STEADILY FROM A SMALL LUMBER TOWN TO A CITY WITH OVER 12,000 RESIDENTS, REFLECTING ITS DEVELOPMENT AND SUBURBAN EXPANSION.

WHAT ROLE DID VIDOR PLAY DURING WORLD WAR II?

DURING WORLD WAR II, VIDOR CONTRIBUTED TO THE WAR EFFORT PRIMARILY THROUGH ITS LUMBER PRODUCTION, SUPPLYING MATERIALS NEEDED FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MANUFACTURING.

HOW HAS VIDOR'S HISTORY INFLUENCED ITS CULTURAL IDENTITY TODAY?

VIDOR'S HISTORY AS A LUMBER TOWN AND ITS EARLY 20TH-CENTURY DEVELOPMENT HAVE SHAPED ITS CULTURAL IDENTITY, WITH A COMMUNITY THAT VALUES ITS HERITAGE AND SMALL-TOWN ATMOSPHERE.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

HISTORY OF VIDOR TX: TRACING THE ROOTS AND EVOLUTION OF A TEXAS TOWN

HISTORY OF VIDOR TX REVEALS A RICH TAPESTRY OF CULTURAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS THAT HAVE SHAPED THIS SMALL YET SIGNIFICANT CITY IN TEXAS. LOCATED IN ORANGE COUNTY, VIDOR'S STORY IS EMBLEMATIC OF MANY SOUTHERN TOWNS THAT TRANSFORMED FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS INTO THRIVING COMMUNITIES THROUGH INDUSTRY, RESILIENCE, AND A UNIQUE BLEND OF CULTURAL INFLUENCES. EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX ALLOWS FOR A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF ITS CURRENT IDENTITY, DEMOGRAPHICS, AND THE CHALLENGES AND TRIUMPHS FACED OVER MORE THAN A CENTURY.

ORIGINS AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX BEGINS IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY, DURING A PERIOD MARKED BY RAPID INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION IN TEXAS. ORIGINALLY PART OF A VAST EXPANSE OF PINE FORESTS, THE AREA WAS PRIMARILY WILDERNESS BEFORE DEVELOPMENT BEGAN. THE TOWN'S NAME, "VIDOR," IS OFTEN ATTRIBUTED TO A COMBINATION OF THE NAMES OF TWO LUMBERMEN OR LOCAL BUSINESS FIGURES, REFLECTING ITS DEEP ROOTS IN THE TIMBER INDUSTRY.

THE EARLY 1900S SAW VIDOR EMERGE AS A LUMBER TOWN, CAPITALIZING ON THE ABUNDANT LONGLEAF PINE FORESTS SURROUNDING IT. THIS INDUSTRY ATTRACTED WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, LEADING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE SUCH AS HOUSING, SCHOOLS, AND COMMUNITY CENTERS. THE RAILROAD PLAYED A CRITICAL ROLE IN VIDOR'S EARLY GROWTH, SERVING AS A CONDUIT FOR TIMBER SHIPMENT AND CONNECTING THE TOWN TO OTHER ECONOMIC HUBS IN TEXAS AND BEYOND.

THE ROLE OF THE LUMBER INDUSTRY

TIMBER WAS THE LIFEBLOOD OF EARLY VIDOR, WITH SEVERAL SAWMILLS OPERATING THROUGHOUT THE TOWN. THIS INDUSTRY NOT ONLY PROVIDED EMPLOYMENT BUT ALSO FOSTERED A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AROUND SHARED LABOR AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS. HOWEVER, THE RELIANCE ON LUMBER ALSO MEANT VULNERABILITY TO MARKET FLUCTUATIONS AND NATURAL RESOURCE DEPLETION. THE CYCLICAL NATURE OF THE TIMBER INDUSTRY INFLUENCED THE TOWN'S ECONOMIC STABILITY AND POPULATION TRENDS THROUGHOUT THE 20TH CENTURY.

MID-20TH CENTURY: GROWTH AND CHALLENGES

AS THE TIMBER RESOURCES BEGAN TO WANE, VIDOR HAD TO ADAPT AND DIVERSIFY ITS ECONOMIC BASE. THE MID-1900S MARKED A PERIOD OF TRANSFORMATION, WITH THE COMMUNITY EMBRACING OTHER SECTORS SUCH AS OIL AND GAS, MANUFACTURING, AND RETAIL. THIS DIVERSIFICATION WAS CRUCIAL IN SUSTAINING THE TOWN'S ECONOMY AND PREVENTING DECLINE.

DURING THIS TIME, VIDOR ALSO EXPERIENCED SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES. THE POPULATION GREW STEADILY, AND THE TOWN'S INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVED WITH BETTER ROADS, SCHOOLS, AND PUBLIC SERVICES. HOWEVER, THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX DURING THE MID-20TH CENTURY IS ALSO MARKED BY COMPLEX SOCIAL DYNAMICS, INCLUDING ISSUES RELATED TO RACIAL SEGREGATION AND CIVIL RIGHTS. THESE FACTORS HAVE INFLUENCED THE TOWN'S SOCIAL FABRIC AND CONTINUE TO BE A SUBJECT OF STUDY AND REFLECTION.

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

TRANSITIONING FROM A LUMBER-DEPENDENT ECONOMY, VIDOR ATTRACTED NEW BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES. THE DISCOVERY OF OIL AND THE EXPANSION OF PETROCHEMICAL PLANTS IN THE REGION OFFERED ALTERNATIVE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. THIS SHIFT WAS COMPLEMENTED BY INVESTMENTS IN PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF HIGHWAYS AND EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES THAT SUPPORTED A GROWING POPULATION.

MODERN ERA: COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL IDENTITY

IN RECENT DECADES, THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX HAS BEEN SHAPED BY EFFORTS TO BALANCE GROWTH WITH PRESERVATION OF ITS CULTURAL HERITAGE. THE TOWN, NOW HOME TO AROUND 10,000 RESIDENTS, REMAINS PROUD OF ITS LEGACY WHILE LOOKING TOWARD FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES HAVE FOCUSED ON ENHANCING EDUCATION, IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY, AND FOSTERING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. VIDOR'S LOCATION NEAR THE LOUISIANA BORDER ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO A UNIQUE CULTURAL BLEND, REFLECTED

IN LOCAL FESTIVALS, CUISINE, AND TRADITIONS THAT CELEBRATE BOTH TEXAN AND SOUTHERN HERITAGE.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CONTINUAL SUPPORT OF THE VIDOR INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HAVE PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. SCHOOLS NOT ONLY PROVIDE EDUCATION BUT ALSO SERVE AS CULTURAL AND SOCIAL HUBS FOR RESIDENTS. PROGRAMS AIMED AT YOUTH ENGAGEMENT, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH HIGHLIGHT THE TOWN'S COMMITMENT TO NURTURING FUTURE GENERATIONS.

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

LIKE MANY SMALL TOWNS, VIDOR FACES CHALLENGES SUCH AS ECONOMIC FLUCTUATIONS, INFRASTRUCTURE DEMANDS, AND SOCIAL COHESION. HOWEVER, ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION ALONG MAJOR HIGHWAYS AND PROXIMITY TO LARGER METROPOLITAN AREAS SUCH AS BEAUMONT AND HOUSTON OFFER OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIPS AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT.

EFFORTS TO ATTRACT NEW BUSINESSES, PROMOTE LOCAL HISTORY, AND IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE INDICATE A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE GROWTH. ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS, ESPECIALLY RELATED TO PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, REMAIN A CRITICAL AREA FOR COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AND REGULATORY ATTENTION.

LEGACY AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX IS NOT ONLY A NARRATIVE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT BUT ALSO A REFLECTION OF BROADER REGIONAL AND NATIONAL TRENDS. FROM ITS ORIGINS AS A TIMBER TOWN TO ITS MODERN INCARNATION AS A SMALL BUT VIBRANT COMMUNITY, VIDOR ILLUSTRATES THE COMPLEXITIES OF RURAL AND SEMI-URBAN GROWTH IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH.

UNDERSTANDING VIDOR'S PAST PROVIDES VALUABLE INSIGHTS INTO THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN INDUSTRY, CULTURE, AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE. IT ALSO UNDERScores THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING HISTORICAL NARRATIVES WHILE EMBRACING CHANGE.

PRESERVATION EFFORTS AND HISTORICAL RECOGNITION

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AND CIVIC GROUPS HAVE PLAYED AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN DOCUMENTING AND PRESERVING VIDOR'S HERITAGE. THESE ORGANIZATIONS WORK TO MAINTAIN LANDMARKS, COLLECT ORAL HISTORIES, AND ORGANIZE EVENTS THAT EDUCATE RESIDENTS AND VISITORS ABOUT THE TOWN'S UNIQUE STORY.

THROUGH THESE EFFORTS, VIDOR NOT ONLY HONORS ITS PAST BUT ALSO LEVERAGES ITS HISTORY AS A FOUNDATION FOR TOURISM AND COMMUNITY PRIDE.

COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

WHEN COMPARED TO OTHER TEXAS TOWNS WITH SIMILAR INDUSTRIAL ORIGINS, VIDOR STANDS OUT FOR ITS ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT. WHILE SOME LUMBER TOWNS FADED INTO OBSCURITY, VIDOR'S ABILITY TO DIVERSIFY AND MAINTAIN A STRONG SENSE OF IDENTITY HAS CONTRIBUTED TO ITS ENDURANCE.

THIS COMPARATIVE RESILIENCE HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC FLEXIBILITY AND SOCIAL CAPITAL IN SMALL-TOWN SURVIVAL AND GROWTH.

THE HISTORY OF VIDOR TX IS A TESTAMENT TO THE ENDURING SPIRIT OF A COMMUNITY SHAPED BY NATURAL RESOURCES, ECONOMIC SHIFTS, AND CULTURAL EVOLUTION. ITS STORY CONTINUES TO UNFOLD, OFFERING LESSONS ON ADAPTATION, HERITAGE, AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF LOCAL HISTORY IN THE BROADER AMERICAN NARRATIVE.

History Of Vidor Tx

history of vidor tx: *Walking in History* Evelyn Wrinkle Caylor Cross, 2006

history of vidor tx: *The New Deal and Texas History* Ronald E. Goodwin, 2021-07-21 This book examines the many ways in which the New Deal revived Texas's economic structure after the 1929 collapse. Ronald Goodwin analyzes how Franklin Roosevelt's initiative, and in particular, the Work Progress Administration, remedied rampant unemployment and homelessness in twentieth-century Texas.

history of vidor tx: *Cartoon History of Texas* Evault Boswell, 2000-05 Based on a 1912 publication about Texans who fought for the South in the Civil War, Texas Boys in Gray presents a collection of fascinating remembrances of those who were there. Sometimes humorous and sometimes heartbreaking, the experiences of these men are documented as a tribute to Texas war veterans. Texas Boys in Gray captures, in their own words, the patriotism, the fear, the confusion, the bravery, the terrible wounds, the desperate hunger, the camaraderie, the horrible prison conditions, and the joyful reunions that were all part of that historical time.

history of vidor tx: *The Bicentennial of the United States of America* American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, 1977

history of vidor tx: *Jet* , 1993-10-04 The weekly source of African American political and entertainment news.

history of vidor tx: *Tracking the Texas Ranger Historians* Bruce A. Glasrud, Harold J. Weiss Jr, 2024-10-15 The first systematic inquiry into the Texas Rangers did not begin until 1935 with Walter Prescott Webb's publication *The Texas Rangers*. Since then numerous works have appeared on the Rangers, but no volume has been published before that covers the various historians of the Rangers and their approaches to the topic. Editors Bruce A. Glasrud and Harold J. Weiss Jr. gather essays that profile individual historians of the Texas Rangers, explore themes and issues in Ranger history, and comprise archival research, biographies, and autobiographies. Several approaches in Texas historiography have influenced the writings on the Texas Rangers and serve to organize the chapters in the volume. Traditionalists (Chuck Parsons, Stephen L. Moore, and Bob Alexander) stress the revered happenings in the nineteenth century that brought about the Lone Star state and its empire-building Ranger force. To these historical writers the Texas Rangers were part of a golden age. Revisionists (Robert M. Utley, Louis R. Sadler, and Charles H. Harris) pull back from this adulation, emphasize the importance of overlooked ethnic and racial groups, and point out misbehavior on the part of Rangers. They also want to separate fact from fiction. Some Ranger historians (Frederick Wilkins and Mike Cox) straddle both traditional and revisionist approaches in their works. The final group, Cultural Constructionalists (Gary Clayton Anderson, Américo Paredes, and Monica Muñoz Martinez), continue the work of Revisionists and focus on an interconnected past that includes theoretical approaches and the study of memory and regional identities. Several themes emerge throughout the book. One is how the Rangers changed from unorganized mounted militia, dragoons in the modern sense, to organized cavalry forces with six-shooter firepower who served as a military arm of the state and nation. A second is how the dichotomous views of the Rangers—as either patriot warriors or bloody avengers—left their imprint on Anglo and Hispanic society. This divergent examination especially derived from incidents in the US-Mexican War, the period from 1910 to 1920, and the lower Rio Grande valley in the 1960s. And yet another theme is how the Rangers first resisted and fought against, yet ultimately absorbed, all creeds and colors into their ranks over two hundred years as they evolved into police officers: Anglo, Black, Hispanic,

Indian, and women Rangers.

history of vidor tx: *The Encyclopedia of Film* James Monaco, 1991 An alphabetical reference on the major film figures (stars, producers, directors, writers, et al.), past and present. Each entry provides a substantial career biography and a complete listing of all films the individual has been involved with. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

history of vidor tx: Texas Place Names Edward Callary, 2020-06-02 Was Gasoline, Texas, named in honor of a gas station? Nope, but the name does honor the town's original claim to fame: a gasoline-powered cotton gin. Is Paris, Texas, a reference to Paris, France? Yes: Thomas Poteet, who donated land for the town site, thought it would be an improvement over "Pin Hook," the original name of the Lamar County seat. Ding Dong's story has a nice ring to it, derived from two store owners named Bell, who lived in Bell County, of course. Tracing the turning points, fascinating characters, and cultural crossroads that shaped Texas history, Texas Place Names provides the colorful stories behind these and more than three thousand other county, city, and community names. Drawing on in-depth research to present the facts behind the folklore, linguist Edward Callary also clarifies pronunciations (it's NAY-chis for Neches, referring to a Caddoan people whose name was attached to the Neches River during a Spanish expedition). A great resource for road trippers and historians alike, Texas Place Names alphabetically charts centuries of humanity through the enduring words (and, occasionally, the fateful spelling gaffes) left behind by men and women from all walks of life.

history of vidor tx: The Shape of Texas Richard V. Francaviglia, 1995 Texas-shaped ashtrays, belt buckles, earrings, kitchen utensils--Texas kitsch--fill gift shops alongside highways and in airports. The Lone Star State's unmistakable shape is appropriated by advertisers to hawk everything from beans to automobiles inside Texas' borders and beyond. As a billboard-sized neon sign glowing atop a popular honkey-tonk, the Texas map illuminates the Fort Worth night sky, attracting tourists in search of a good time--and a share of the Texas experience. Over the years America's most recognizable state outline has become one of its most potent symbols, a metaphor for Texas popular culture. In the last decade, the private, commercial, and official use of the Texas map as cultural symbol has boomed. Richard V. Francaviglia identifies this current trend as Tex-map mania, and contends that the Texas map as icon integrates geography with history--and gives shape to a mythic landscape and to abstracted notions of what Texas is and who Texans are. Written in a lively style that engages both the scholar and the general reader in a discussion of the power of symbol and the meaning and significance of a shared aesthetic, *The Shape of Texas* is at the crossroads of cartography and popular culture. Francaviglia uses more than one hundred illustrations in offering a provocative visual and written account of this important, yet much neglected, aspect of Texas history and the dynamics of a still emerging Texas identity.

history of vidor tx: *Timetables of African-American History* Sharon Harley, 1996-01-19 From the first African communities in North America to the days of slavery, from the aesthetic achievements of the Harlem Renaissance to the political triumphs of the civil rights movement, from Harriet Tubman's creation of the Underground Railroad to the election of Carol Moseley Braun -- the first black woman senator -- in 1992, this comprehensive book illuminates African Americans both famous and little known. Thousands of entries document historical moments, laws and legal actions, and noteworthy events in the areas of religion, the arts, sports, education, and science and technology. The varied accomplishments of black Americans come to life in brief profiles of Louis Armstrong, Salt-N-Pepa, Zora Neale Hurston, James Baldwin, Joe Louis, Wilma Rudolph, Paul Robeson, General Colin Powell, and hundreds of others.

history of vidor tx: *International Oil and Gas Development* , 1982

history of vidor tx: *Let the People In* Jan Reid, 2012-10-03 This intimate biography of the pioneering Texas governor is "required reading for political junkies—and for women considering a life in politics" (Booklist). When Ann Richards delivered the keynote of the 1988 Democratic National Convention and mocked President Bush—"Poor George, he can't help it. He was born with a silver foot in his mouth"—she became an instant celebrity and triggered a rivalry that would alter

the course of history. In 1990, she won the governorship of Texas, becoming the first ardent feminist elected to high office in America. Richards opened pathways for greater diversity in public service, and her achievements created a legacy that transcends her tenure in office. In *Let the People In*, Jan Reid offers an intimate portrait of Ann Richards's remarkable rise to power as a liberal Democrat in a deeply conservative state. Reid draws on his long friendship with Richards, as well as interviews with family, personal correspondence, and extensive research to tell the story of Richards's life, from her youth in Waco, through marriage and motherhood, her struggle with alcoholism, and her shocking encounters with Lyndon Johnson and Jimmy Carter. Reid shares the inside story of Richards's rise from county office to the governorship, as well as her score-settling loss of the governorship to George W. Bush. Reid also describes Richards's final years as a mentor to a new generation of public servants, including Hillary Clinton.

history of vidor tx: Texas State Documents Index , 1977

history of vidor tx: National Genealogical Inquirer , 1979

history of vidor tx: Texas State Documents , 1978

history of vidor tx: Black-Brown Solidarity John D. Márquez, 2014-01-01 Houston is the largest city in the Gulf South, a region sometimes referred to as the "black belt" because of its sizeable African American population. Yet, over the last thirty years, Latinos have become the largest ethnic minority in Houston, which is surpassed only by Los Angeles and New York in the number of Latino residents. Examining the history and effects of this phenomenon, *Black-Brown Solidarity* describes the outcomes of unexpected coalitions that have formed between the rapidly growing Latino populations and the long-held black enclaves in the region. Together, minority residents have put the spotlight on prominent Old South issues such as racial profiling and police brutality. Expressions of solidarity, John D. Márquez argues, have manifested themselves in expressive forms such as hip-hop music, youth gang cultural traits, and the storytelling of ordinary residents in working-class communities. Contrary to a growing discourse regarding black-brown conflict across the United States, the blurring of racial boundaries reflects broader arguments regarding hybrid cultures that unsettle the orders established by centuries-old colonial formations. Accentuating what the author defines as a racial state of expendability—the lynchpin of vigilante violence and police brutality—the new hybridization has resulted in shared wariness of a linked fate. *Black-Brown Solidarity* also explores the ways in which the significance of African American history in the South has influenced the structures through which Latinos have endured and responded to expendability. Mining data from historical archives, oral histories, legal documents, popular media, and other sources, this work is a major contribution to urban studies, ethnic studies, and critical race theory.

history of vidor tx: Billy the Kid on Film, 1911-2012 Johnny D. Boggs, 2013-10-04 A comprehensive filmography, this book is composed of lengthy entries on about 75 films depicting legendary New Mexico outlaw Billy the Kid—from the lost *Billy the Kid* (1911) to the blockbuster *Young Guns* (1988) to the direct-to-video *1313: Billy the Kid* (2012) and everything in between. Each entry gives a synopsis, cast and credits, critical reception, and a discussion of the events of the films compared to the historical record. Among the entries are made-for-TV and direct-to-video films, foreign movies, and continuing television series in which Billy the Kid made an appearance.

history of vidor tx: Encyclopedia of Associations , 1992

history of vidor tx: Oral History Association Newsletter , 1982

history of vidor tx: Cipriano Baca, Frontier Lawman of New Mexico Chuck Hornung, 2013-07-05 This is the first biography of the legendary officer Cipriano Baca, scion of a prestigious Spanish lineage tracing their heritage to the first settlers in Nuevo Mexico. Baca was well educated and a successful businessman before beginning a 52-year career as a peace officer. Tenderhearted by nature, he could be cold as steel, even lethal, doing his duty. He was a man of honor and principle in an age of greed and selfishness. Baca was first an undercover range detective, next a deputy sheriff and a deputy U.S. marshal. In 1901, the territorial governor appointed him the first sheriff of the newly formed Luna County, and in 1905, the territorial governor selected him as the first man to

become the lieutenant of New Mexico's newly established territorial rangers. Written with the full cooperation of the Baca family and utilizing public and private records, this biography presents the truth about a complicated man. One revelation: Baca discovered who was the real killer of Pat Garrett and the motive behind the murder of the man who killed Billy the Kid.

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