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*Lone Star Pasts: Memory and History in Texas* (review)

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in particular. Lastly, the coverage of particular topics does not necessarily comport with chapter titles, which makes the book somewhat difficult to navigate. On the whole, however, it is an informative work on an intriguing figure in Texas history.

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JODY EDWARD GINN

*Lone Star Pasts: Memory and History in Texas.* Edited by Gregg Cantrell and Elizabeth Hayes Turner. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2007. Pp. 312. Illustrations, color plates, notes, index. ISBN 978-1-58544-563-9. \$19.95, cloth.)

Texans are a people with a strong sense of identity. *Lone Star Pasts: Memory and History in Texas* takes a look at the ways in which Texans' collective memories of past events have helped shape that identity. This edited collection by Gregg Cantrell and Elizabeth Hayes Turner contributes to a growing body of historical scholarship that deals with the concept of collective memory and the way groups use the past in order to assert their identity, justify or attack power relationships in society, and promote contemporary social and political agendas.

As with any edited collection, the chapters of the book represent a variety of perspectives and concerns. Among the most interesting of the essays are those that look at the way past generations have used memory to promote their own agendas and, conversely, the ways in which those agendas shaped their own views of Texas history. Gregg Cantrell's contribution illuminates the way in which Progressive Era Texans took a renewed interest in Texas Revolutionary-era leaders, propping them up as entrepreneurial, risk-taking icons who represented Progressive values. Similarly, Walter Buenger examines the way that both the Texas Ku Klux Klan of the 1920s and the anti-Klan forces of the era used collective memory in order to further their own agendas.

Several contributions to the collection focus on group identity within Texas, demonstrating that there is no one unified Texan memory of past events. Selections on African American memories of Emancipation and of the Civil Rights Era, by Elizabeth Hayes Turner and Yvonne Davis Frear, respectively, show how Texan African Americans forged effective "counter-memories" (p. 167) to that of dominant white society but also have faced internal generational divisions in the way they remember historical events. Other groups have given attention as well. Andrés Tijerina writes on the need to give more attention to Tejano contributions to the Texas past, and Kelly McMichael discusses the efforts of white Texas women to shape societal values by erecting Confederate monuments throughout the state after the Civil War.

Lastly, a number of the chapters examine the way that professional historians and other custodians of the past succeed or fail in shaping collective memory. Laura Lyons McLemore's chapter on the impact of early historians on Texas memory finds that professional historians had very little influence on Texans' view of their own past. Ricky Floyd Dobbs notes a similar lack of influence in modern Texas as he laments the fading interest in Lyndon Baines Johnson, despite attempts to keep his memory alive. Several chapters evaluate some of the ways in which historians deal with the

past. James E. Crisp argues that historians should not attempt to erase embarrassing depictions of the past from the historical record—that there is much to learn from those very depictions about the society that initially accepted them. Don Graham makes a case for artistic license in historical movies, arguing that the obsession with historical accuracy in the 2004 film *The Alamo* robbed it of its impact.

The selections in *Lone Star Pasts* are diverse, and its contents will appeal to various audiences. It is an important contribution to the study of collective memory in general, and for those interested in the topic, the editors and other contributors, including Randolph B. Campbell who writes the conclusion to the book, do an excellent job of familiarizing the reader with the literature on the subject and placing Texas within the context of that literature. For historians and others charged with preserving and shaping memories of the past, the collection is also instructive. Finally, *Lone Star Pasts* will appeal to readers interested in Texas history who want to think about the Texas past in a fresh way.

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*Salado, Texas: Frontier College Town.* By Charles Turnbo. (Salado: Yardley Publishing, 2007. Pp. 316. Illustrations, maps, appendices, notes, bibliography, index. ISBN 978-0-97174-391-5. \$30.00, cloth.)

The town of Salado, Texas, located midway between Austin and Waco, is currently one of the most popular tourist destinations in Central Texas. It is also one of the most historic towns in the region. With a population of 5,000, this Bell County community is located in a peaceful and picturesque setting along a spring-fed creek. Salado boasts upscale boutiques, gourmet restaurants, and bed and breakfasts situated in stately nineteenth-century homes. The town's history dates back to 1848, when the first permanent settlement was established at Salado Springs. Local author Charles Turnbo ably chronicles the story from 1848–1924 of what was once called “The Athens of Texas.”

Turnbo, a former federal prison warden enchanted with his chosen place of retirement, decided to write a book chronicling the community's formative period. After four years of research on the project, he realized that any authoritative study of the community would have to prominently feature Salado College, as the story of both are closely intertwined. Indeed, some of the town's current cachet may be rooted in the cultured and refined citizenry who were drawn to Salado because of its private college. Salado College was one of the first in the state “to recognize ‘the right of women to a higher education and to an intellectual companionship and equality with a man’” (p. xiv). Never a financial success, the college folded and later became a high school. Over the years, the campus's main building burned on three occasions. Although arson was suspected in all three cases, no one was ever arrested. Visitors can still see the ruins of Salado College, where the crumbling walls and natural scenery make for an atmospheric setting.

Turnbo wisely frames his story of Salado within the broader context of the Lone Star State, avoiding the common pitfall of writing a narrowly focused history