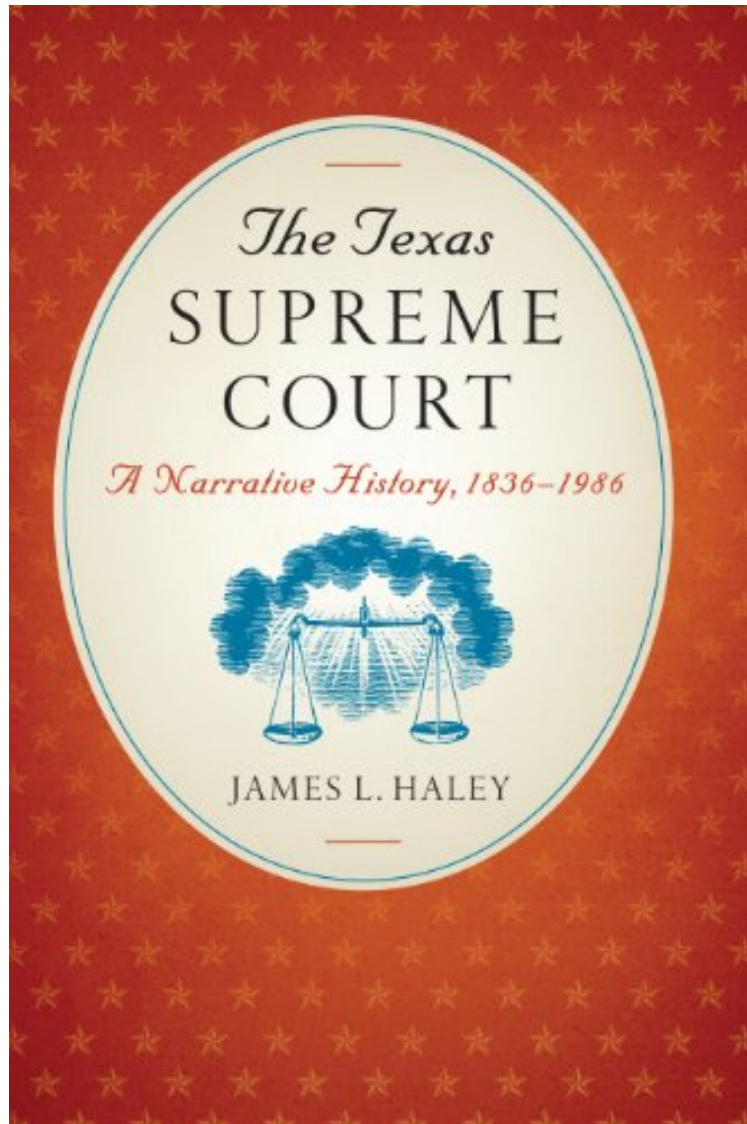


[Ebook free] The Texas Supreme Court: A Narrative History, 1836-1986 (Texas Legal Studies)

The Texas Supreme Court: A Narrative History, 1836-1986 (Texas Legal Studies)

James L. Haley

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James L. Haley : The Texas Supreme Court: A Narrative History, 1836-1986 (Texas Legal Studies) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Texas Supreme Court: A Narrative History, 1836-1986 (Texas Legal Studies)*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Glad this book project received funding. By Robert E. Johnson Jr. I enjoyed reading about the early history of the Court especially the difficulties of going from a Republic to a state. The

"War Court" and the control exerted by the Union during Reconstruction was pretty unbelievable. 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Must-have for every Texas appellate lawyer, jurist, or SCOTX enthusiast
By Dylan O. Drummond
James Haley has done a masterful job of crafting a thorough, entertaining, and accessible narrative history of the Texas Supreme Court. Because this is only the second such attempt since Harbert Davenport's somewhat wooden chronicle of the Court in 1917, Haley's achievement is all the more notable. Far from a dry chronicle of the Court's jurisprudence (which has been ably tackled in the professional literature), Haley's recounting reveals the character of and the challenges faced by the men and women who have served the Court in the 150 years from the establishment of the Republic in 1836 to the State's sesquicentennial in 1986. I highly recommend this work to both the Texas appellate judiciary and bar, as well as anyone interested in Texas history!
3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A must-read for history buffs and Texana fans!
By Marilyn Pruitt
This new history of the Texas Supreme Court has it all--great stories backed by solid research, written in a narrative style that both entertains and informs. The story of the Court in the early days of the Texas Republic was particularly fascinating--even under harsh frontier conditions, the judges were able to create a legal environment that was remarkably progressive. The Court's treatment of slaves and free blacks in the antebellum period, for example, is shown to be far more sympathetic than that of most other Southern states. Haley reveals other surprises as he moves through the Court's history, including some rich behind-the-bench stories of justices with penchants for mischief. It's an altogether good read and a great addition to my collection of history books.

Few people realize that in the area of law, Texas began its American journey far ahead of most of the rest of the country, far more enlightened on such subjects as women's rights and the protection of debtors. Thus James Haley begins this highly readable account of the Texas Supreme Court. The first book-length history of the Court published since 1917, it tells the story of the Texas Supreme Court from its origins in the Republic of Texas to the political and philosophical upheavals of the mid-1980s. Using a lively narrative style rather than a legalistic approach, Haley describes the twists and turns of an evolving judiciary both empowered and constrained by its dual ties to Spanish civil law and English common law. He focuses on the personalities and judicial philosophies of those who served on the Supreme Court, as well as on the interplay between the Court's rulings and the state's unique history in such areas as slavery, women's rights, land and water rights, the rise of the railroad and oil and gas industries, Prohibition, civil rights, and consumer protection. The book is illustrated with more than fifty historical photos, many from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It concludes with a detailed chronology of milestones in the Supreme Court's history and a list, with appointment and election dates, of the more than 150 justices who have served on the Court since 1836.

"Important and entertaining a potent combination!" (H. W. Brands, author of *Lone Star Nation*, *The Age of Gold*, and *TR: The Last Romantic*)
"The Texas Supreme Court is more than the sum of its opinions. Its actions reflect the social and legal developments of the Republic and State since 1836, colored by the personalities and judicial styles of more than 150 justices. The Court's story has been largely neglected in the published histories of Texas, not because it is insignificant or uninteresting, but because no scholar has sorted through the records to get the true story. James Haley has done just that: he has distilled the facts and produced a historical narrative that is both authoritative and entertaining. Anyone interested in Texas law or Texas history should read this book."
(Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Texas, 1988-2004)
Important and entertaining a potent combination! (H. W. Brands, author of *Lone Star Nation*, *The Age of Gold*, and *TR: The Last Romantic*)
About the Author
An independent scholar, James L. Haley is the author of fourteen books, including award-winning books on Texas history. Among them are *Passionate Nation: The Epic History of Texas* and *Sam Houston*, winner of nine historical and literary awards. Haley's book *Wolf: The Lives of Jack London* won the Western Writers of America's Spur Award for Best Biography. He has also written several novels.