

TEN Deadly Texans

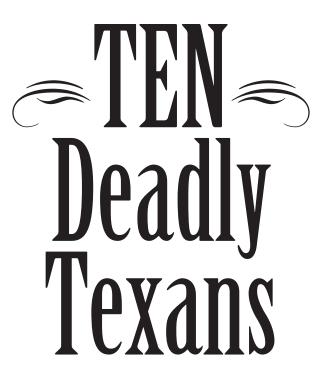




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LAURENCE J. YADON AND DAN ANDERSON

EDITED BY ROBERT BARR SMITH

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To the men and women of Texas law enforcement











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Preface

Our previous popular histories, 100 Oklahoma Outlaws, Gangsters, and Lawmen: 1839-1939 and 200 Texas Outlaws and Lawmen: 1835-1935, focused broadly on law and order in Texas and Oklahoma during a 100-year period beginning in 1835. The current work profiles ten notable Texas outlaws whose feuds, gunfights, and robberies occurred mostly, but not exclusively, in Texas. The chapters are presented in the rough chronological order in which our ten subjects were "prominent." We begin in the years before the Civil War and end in 1935 with the execution of Clyde Barrow associates Ray Hamilton and Joe Palmer.

No doubt our selection of the ten worst outlaws in Texas will be controversial in some quarters. For the most part, we have profiled the better-known Texas outlaws who engaged in numerous Texas gunfights, or Texas robberies in which significant gunfights occurred. Several of our subjects are included because of the notoriety of their misdeeds.

We have again largely relied upon the scholarship of leading Western writers for the stories told here, focusing upon traditional narratives of events, using standard sources and the works of authors generally accepted as reliable. However, in some instances we have rejected traditional narratives of events, offered variations we deem reliable, or related new interpretations based on recent scholarship. Usually the variant theory is referenced but not expounded, since this is a popular history rather than a work of academic scholarship. Generally, we reviewed

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books, magazines, and periodicals available to us as late as January 2008.

Robert Barr Smith (*Tough Towns*, *Tales of Oklahoma Outlaws*) has again inconvenienced his own writing schedule to guide our efforts as consulting editor. Nevertheless, the judgments concerning the relative credibility of competing sources have once again been our own.







Acknowledgments

Research for this project was performed in conjunction with our previous works, 100 Oklahoma Outlaws, Gangsters, and Lawmen: 1839-1939 and 200 Texas Outlaws and Lawmen: 1835-1935. A number of organizations assisted the authors in the research for these projects over the course of four years. These institutions included, but were not limited to, the Flying Fingers Typing Service, Sand Springs, Oklahoma; Texas Ranger Museum, Waco, Texas; the Haley Library; Harris County Public Library; Dallas Public Library; El Paso Public Library; Fort Bend County Public Library; Houston City Public Library; Young County Historical Commission; City-County Library, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Oklahoma Historical Society; Western History Collection; University of Oklahoma Library; Oklahoma Heritage Association; Oklahoma Centennial Commission; Woolarac Museum, Bartlesville, Oklahoma; Texas Jack Association; Oklahombres, Inc.; Oklahoma Outlaws, Lawmen History Association; Tulsa Police Department; Public Library, Enid, Oklahoma; Beryl Ford Collection, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Oklahoma Publishing Company; Lenapah Historical Society; the University of Tulsa; Kansas State Historical Society; Will Rogers Museum, Claremore, Oklahoma; National Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Boone County Heritage Museum, Harrison, Arkansas; and the Lincoln Heritage Trust, Lincoln, New Mexico.

Individuals who assisted us in these three projects





include Nancy Samuelson, Bob Ernst, Jan Devereaux, Robert K. DeArment, Rod Dent, Phil Sanger, Ron Trekell, Armand DeGregoris, John R. Lovett, Mike Tower, Michael and Suzanne Wallis, Gary Youell, Phil Edwards, Terry Zinn, Michael Koch, Diron Ahlquist, Willie Jones, Clyda Franks, Emily Lovick, Lisa Keys, Danielle Williams, Irene and Larry Chance, Glendon Floyd, Curt Johnson, Dee Cordry, Rik Helmerich, and Herman Kirkwood. Thanks are also due Helen J. Gaines, Jim Bradshaw, Adrienne Grimmett, Beth Andreson, Mary Phillips, Stacy M. Rogers, Rand McKinney, Jana Swartwood, Gini Moore Campbell, Phillip W. Steele, Dorman Holub, Sgt. Kevin F. Foster, Jane Soutner, Brian Burns, Jim Bradshaw, Ashley Schmidt, Dana Brittain, and Christina Stopka.

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Finally, without the guidance of our consulting editor, Robert Barr Smith, and patient support of our respective spouses, Julia Anderson and Martha Yadon, this book would not have been possible.







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