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## Review of Historical Atlas of Texas.

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Press, offers sixty-four topics relating to the history and geography of Texas with accompanying maps. The first six topics outline basic geographic characteristics—location, topography, physiographical regions, rainfall, and native plant life. Then follow two dozen maps that treat topics antedating the annexation of Texas by the United States in 1845. They include the route followed by various explorers from Cabeza de Vaca in the sixteenth century to the James Long expeditions of 1819-22, as well as several topics relating to the Republic of Texas, 1836. The next cluster of maps concerns early statehood, including the Mexican and Civil wars. The last group of maps treats more topics such as transportation systems, military installations, state and national parks, colleges and universities, and metropolitan statistical areas.

As with so many historical atlases, this one will be valued primarily as a reference book. But it fails to convey any real sense of history, and the geography it offers is incidental. The topics the authors choose to include are useful enough and the maps are well executed, but the opportunity to develop a series of maps that unite temporal and spatial relationships remains unexploited. One cannot discover, for example, either patterns of settlement over time in the early period or of population changes that have occurred in more recent Texas history. The fascinating mosaic of ethnicity in Texas is absent. Agricultural history is similarly ignored. Instead, readers are offered an imbalanced diet, including three separate maps on parks, three on higher education, and three on legislative districts.

In general, the textual material that accompanies the maps is succinct and well written. The book concludes with ten pages in double columns of references that both reveal sources and lead to further study.

*Historical Atlas of Texas.* By A. Ray Stephens and William M. Holmes. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1989. Maps, bibliography, index. xxiv + 160 pp. \$24.95.

This volume, the latest in a well-known series published by the University of Oklahoma

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