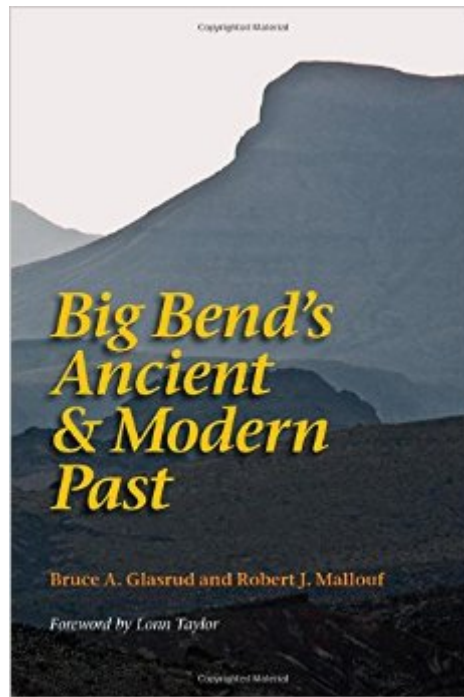


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# Big Bend's Ancient And Modern Past



## Synopsis

The Big Bend region of Texas is variously referred to as "El Despoblado" (the uninhabited land), "a land of contrasts," "Texas' last frontier," or simply as part of the Trans-Pecos. It enjoys a long, colorful, and eventful history, a history that began before written records were maintained. With *Big Bend's Ancient and Modern Past*, editors Bruce A. Glasrud and Robert J. Mallouf provide a helpful compilation of articles originally published in the *Journal of Big Bend Studies*, reviewing the unique past of the Big Bend area from the earliest habitation to 1900. Scholars of the region investigate not only the peoples who have successively inhabited it but also the nature of the environment and the responses to that environment. As the studies in this book demonstrate, the character of the region has, to a great extent, dictated its history. The study of Big Bend history is also the study of borderlands history. Studying and researching across borders or boundaries, whether national, state, or regional, requires a focus on the factors that often both unite and divide the inhabitants. The dual nature of citizenship, of land holding, of legal procedures and remedies, of education, and of history permeate the lives and livelihoods of past and present residents of the Big Bend.

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