

# Galveston and Western Railroad Development: 1866-1900 Centennial of the Iron Road

The Galveston and Western Railroad was a major force in the development of Texas in the late 19th century. The railroad connected the port city of Galveston with the interior of the state, and it played a vital role in the growth of agriculture, industry, and commerce in Texas.



## Tracks to the Sea: Galveston and Western Railroad Development, 1866-1900 (Centennial Series of the Association of Former Students, Texas A&M University Book 83) by Earle B. Young

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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The Galveston and Western Railroad was chartered in 1866, and construction began in 1867. The first section of the railroad, from Galveston to Houston, was completed in 1870. The railroad was extended westward in the following years, and by 1881 it had reached Eagle Pass on the Rio Grande.

The Galveston and Western Railroad was a major factor in the growth of Galveston. The railroad made it possible for goods to be shipped to and from Galveston more quickly and cheaply than ever before. This led to a boom in trade and commerce in Galveston, and the city became one of the most important ports in the United States.

The Galveston and Western Railroad also played a vital role in the development of the interior of Texas. The railroad made it possible for farmers and ranchers to ship their products to market more easily. This led to an increase in agricultural production and the growth of towns and cities along the railroad line.

The Galveston and Western Railroad was also important in the development of industry in Texas. The railroad made it possible for businesses to ship their products to and from markets throughout the state and the nation. This led to the growth of manufacturing and other industries in Texas.

The Galveston and Western Railroad celebrated its centennial in 1900. By that time, the railroad had become one of the most important railroads in the United States. The railroad had played a vital role in the development of Texas, and it would continue to be a major force in the state's economy for many years to come.

## **The Early Years**

The Galveston and Western Railroad was chartered in 1866, and construction began in 1867. The first section of the railroad, from Galveston to Houston, was completed in 1870. The railroad was extended westward

in the following years, and by 1881 it had reached Eagle Pass on the Rio Grande.

The early years of the Galveston and Western Railroad were difficult. The railroad faced financial difficulties, and it was often forced to suspend construction. The railroad also faced competition from other railroads, and it struggled to attract passengers and freight.

Despite these challenges, the Galveston and Western Railroad persevered. The railroad played a vital role in the development of Texas, and it eventually became one of the most important railroads in the United States.

### **The Boom Years**

The 1880s were a boom time for the Galveston and Western Railroad. The railroad expanded rapidly, and it began to earn a profit. The railroad also played a major role in the development of the Texas economy.

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## **The Centennial**

The Galveston and Western Railroad celebrated its centennial in 1900. By that time, the railroad had become one of the most important railroads in the United States. The railroad had played a vital role in the development of Texas, and it would continue to be a major force in the state's economy for many years to come.

The centennial celebration was a major event in Galveston. The city hosted a parade, a barbecue, and a fireworks display. The celebration also included a speech by President William McKinley.

The centennial celebration was a fitting tribute to the Galveston and Western Railroad. The railroad had played a vital role in the development of Texas, and it would continue to be a major force in the state's economy for many years to come.

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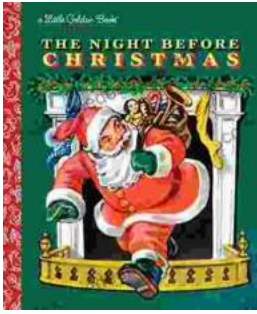
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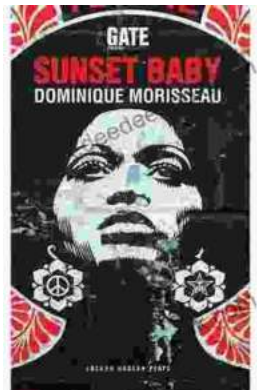
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