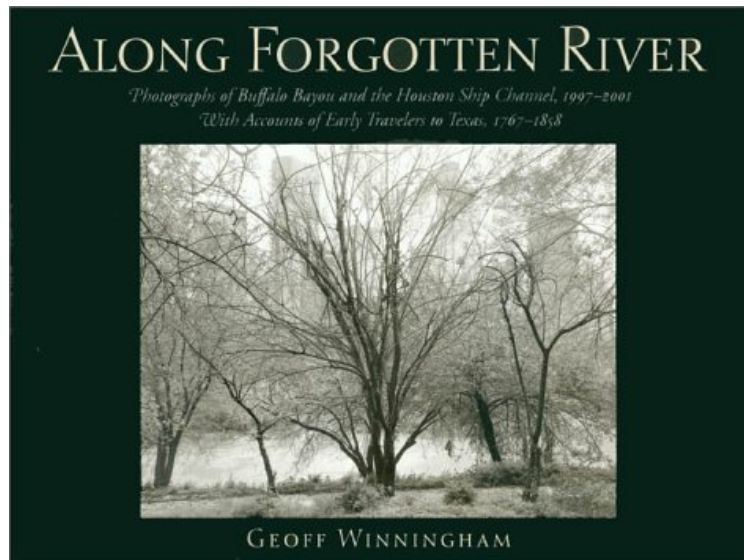


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## Along Forgotten River: Photographs of Buffalo Bayou and the Houston Ship Channel, 1997-2001, With Accounts of Early Travelers to Texas, 1767-1858

Geoff Winningham

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**Geoff Winningham : Along Forgotten River: Photographs of Buffalo Bayou and the Houston Ship Channel, 1997-2001, With Accounts of Early Travelers to Texas, 1767-1858** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Along Forgotten River: Photographs of Buffalo Bayou and the Houston Ship Channel, 1997-2001, With Accounts of Early Travelers to Texas, 1767-1858:

1 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Winningham is no Ansel Adams By Jesse Winningham is no Ansel Adams. If you are a fan of Adams, you may find most of Winningham's photos shallow and unsatisfying. I did not find them inspiring. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. History and topography merge By Thomas To make this a really special book. It may not click for someone who is unfamiliar with the bayous of Texas upper coast and Louisiana, but to see these photos in the context of early Houston history is very moving. So much of this urban area's waterways have been "rectified" or have bridges and high wires crossing them today that it is difficult to see them as early settlers must have. Wonderful excerpts from diaries, letters and early books tell the stories alongside the beautiful photography. Geoff Winningham is a talented photographer whose many books and photographic exhibits have enthralled Houstonians and others for years. John C

For more than five years award-winning photographer Geoff Winningham explored and photographed Buffalo Bayou, the Houston Ship Channel, and the landscape he found along the way. As he hiked and canoed the course of this historic stream, he found pristine stretches of the bayou still untouched by the encroaching city of Houston. He also found areas where the forces of nature and those of the growing city seemed to struggle for supremacy. He revisited

sites of historic importance, such as Allens Landing, where the city was founded in 1836, and the San Jacinto Battlefield, where Texas won its independence in the same year. In *Along Forgotten River*, Winningham has sequenced eighty of his striking, large-format black-and-white photographs, following Buffalo Bayou from its source in the Katy Prairie through the suburbs and into the inner city of Houston. From there, his stunning duotone photographs follow the bayou east to its confluence with the San Jacinto River, where it becomes the Houston Ship Channel, crosses Galveston Bay, and enters the Gulf of Mexico. As a counterpoint to his photographs, Winningham has edited and sequenced passages from the written accounts of the earliest travelers to this part of Texas. Impelled by dreams or curiosity, an incredibly diverse lot of travelers came along the roads and streams of Texas in the preceding centuries. There were Spanish friars and itinerant preachers, prospective settlers, refugees, adventurers, exiles, and naturalists. Some travelers came with their families, looking for a place to settle. Mrs. Dilue Harris was one of these who came to Texas in the early 1830s. In her "Reminiscences," she recalled a night on Buffalo Bayou: "We were surrounded by wolves and water. There was a large sycamore tree that stood in the water near us, and it was as white as snow. The buzzards roosted in it. We could hear owls hoot all night. Mother said it was a night of horrors. . . . She said the owls were singing a funeral dirge, and the wolves and buzzards were waiting to bury us. . . ." In *Along Forgotten River*, Winningham has selected passages from the writings of these and other early travelers and interwoven them with his remarkable and beautiful photographs. The result is a complex and fascinating interplay of pictures and words, of historical perspective and present-day observation.

About the Author GEOFF WINNINGHAM is best known for his six books and three documentary films relating to Texas and Mexican culture, including *Friday Night in the Coliseum*, a study of professional wrestling, and *Rites of Fall*, his now classic book on high school football in Texas. He also published *A Place of Dreams*, a look at the city of Houston at the time of its 150th anniversary and *In the Eye of the Sun*, a photographic study of popular Mexican fiestas. Winningham is a professor of art at Rice University, where he has taught photography in the Department of Art and Art History since 1969.