



Life in Laredo: A Documentary History from the Laredo Archives (Al Filo: Mexican American Studies Series)

Robert D. Wood S.M.

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Based on documents from the Laredo Archives, *Life in Laredo* shows the evolution and development of daily life in a town under the flags of Spain, Mexico, and the United States. Isolated on the northern frontier of New Spain and often forgotten by authorities far away, the people of Laredo became as “grand” as the river that flowed by their town and left an enduring legacy in a world of challenges and changes. Because of its documentary nature, *Life in Laredo* offers insights into the nitty-gritty of the comings and goings of its early citizens not to be found elsewhere.

Robert D. Wood, S.M., presents the first one hundred years of history and culture in Laredo up to the mid-nineteenth century, illuminating—with primary source evidence—the citizens’ beliefs, cultural values, efforts to make a living, political seesawing, petty quarreling, and constant struggles against local Indians. He also details rebellious military and invading foreigners among the early settlers and later townspeople.

Scholars and students of Texas and Mexican American history, as well as the Laredoans celebrating the 250th anniversary (in 2005) of Laredo’s founding, will welcome this volume.

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