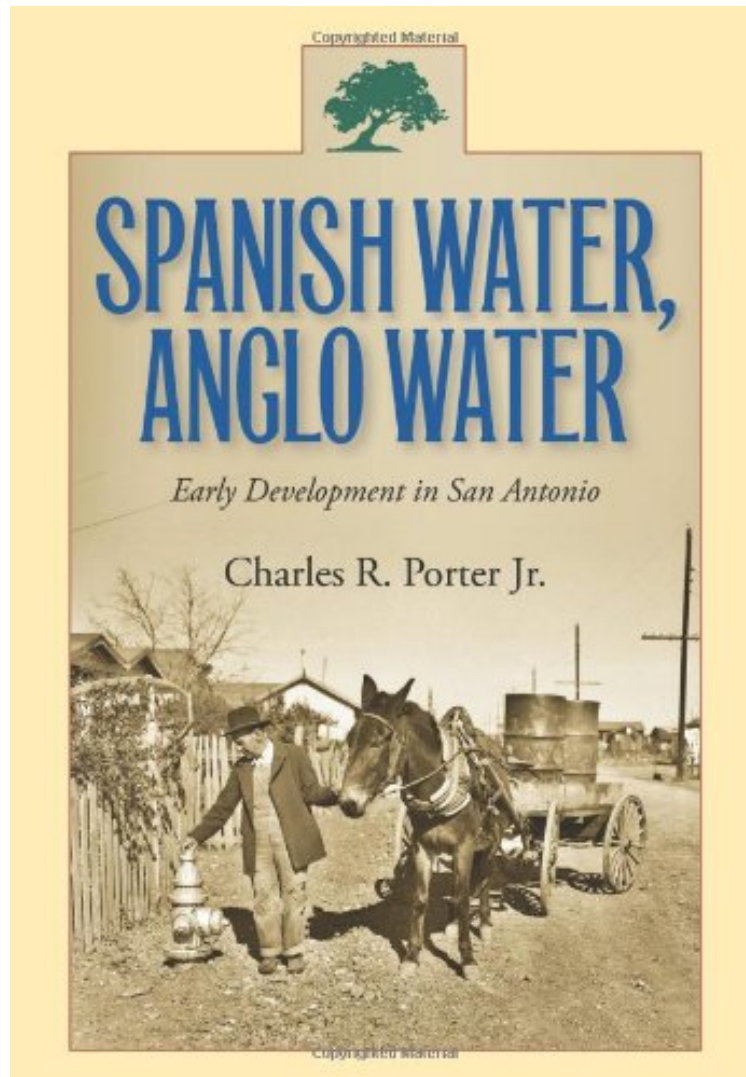


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## Spanish Water, Anglo Water: Early Development in San Antonio (Centennial Series of the Association of Former Students, Texas AM University)

*Charles R. Porter Jr.*

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In 1718, the Spanish settled San Antonio, partly because of its prolific and breathtaking springs at that time, one of the largest natural spring systems in the known world. The abundance of fresh water, coupled with the Spanish colonial legal concept that water was to be equitably shared by all settlers, led to the building of the system of acequias (canals or ditches) within the settlement. The system is one of the earliest and perhaps most extensive municipal water systems in North America. This book offers a meticulous chronicling of the origins and often-contentious development of water rights in San Antonio from its Spanish settlement through the beginning of the twentieth century.

"In his slim and well-illustrated history *Spanish Water, Anglo Water: Early Development in San Antonio*, Charles R. Porter Jr. tells the story of early San Antonio, Texas through the element of water. . . This readable and well-illustrated work is a good introduction to San Antonio's water situation and will attract the interested lay reader. . . The work is also a useful addition to the literature on Hispanic water development and the subsequent overlay of English legal ideas in the American Southwest."--Margaret A. Bickers, H-Net s