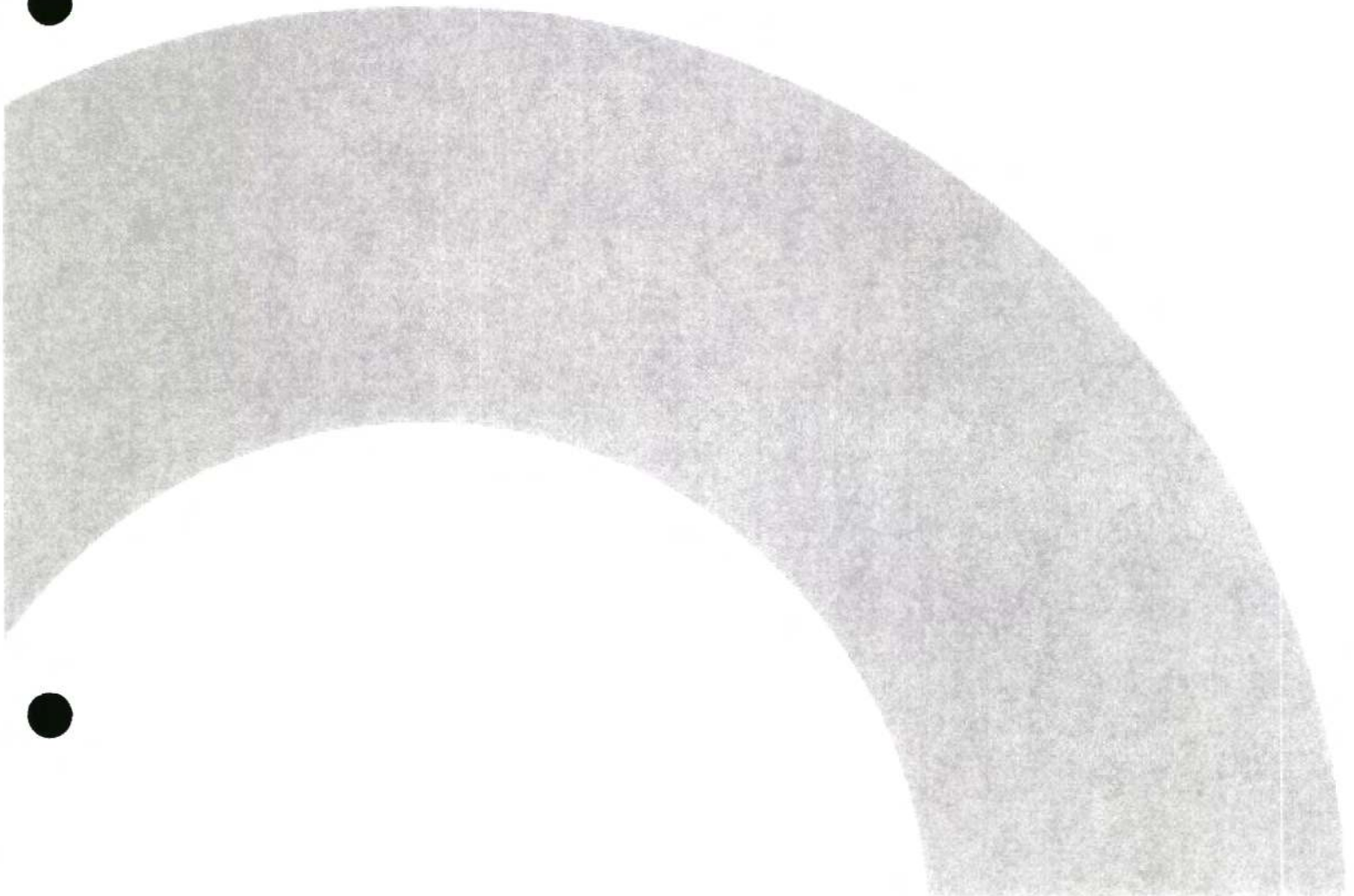


Appendix K

Cultural Resources Information



TEXAS HISTORIC SITES *atlas* ⁽¹⁾
history on your desktop

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ^(http://www.thc.texas.gov/)
real places telling real stories

[HOME \(/\)](#) [ATLAS MAP \(/MAP\)](#) [ADVANCED SEARCH \(/ADVANCEDSEARCH\)](#) [ABOUT ATLAS \(/ABOUT\)](#) [DOWNLOADS \(/DATA/DATADOWNLOAD\)](#)

Details for Aransas Pass Light Station

Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5007000184

Data

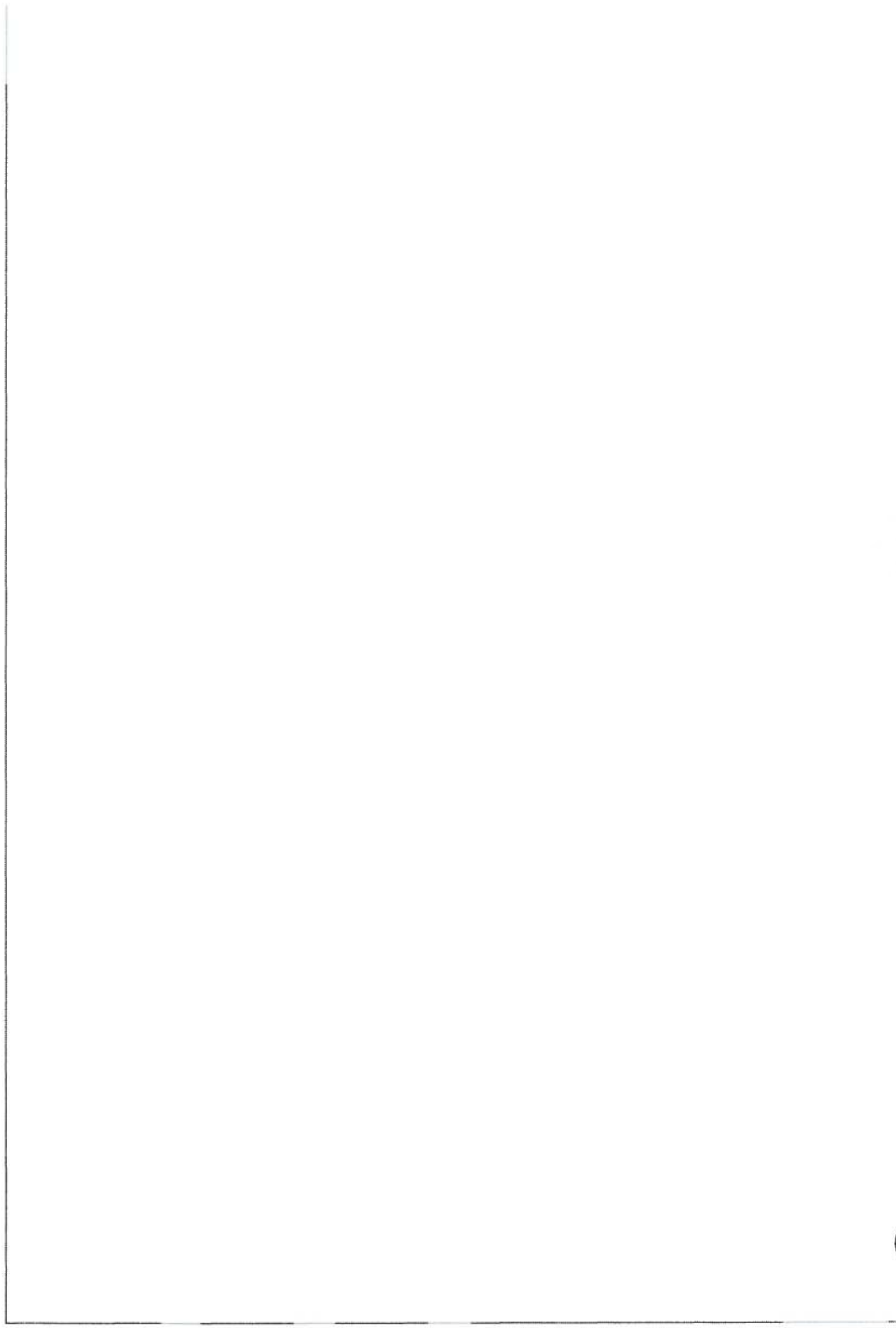
Marker Number	184
Atlas Number	5007000184
Marker Title	Aransas Pass Light Station
Index Entry	Aransas Pass Light Station
Address	off SH 361
City	Port Aransas
County	Aransas
UTM Zone	14
UTM Easting	691356
UTM Northing	3083670
Subject Codes	design and construction; lighthouses; water topics
Marker Year	1973
Designations	
Marker Location	About 2 miles NE of E end of Port Aransas (on Harbor Island), private and only accessible by boat
Marker Size	18" x 28"

Construction of 67-foot tower was started in 1855. The French lens was lighted in 1856, to mark natural Gulf pass to Aransas and Corpus Christi Bays by way of Lydia Ann Channel -- named for the daughter of the first keeper. During Civil War, Confederates (in 1863) buried lens for safety before damaging tower to avert use of light by Federal forces. The auxiliary structures were rebuilt after 1919 hurricane. One of original Texas stations of U.S. Lighthouse Service (merged into the Coast Guard in 1939), this light was decommissioned in 1952 after pass shifted southward. (1973) INCISE ON BASE: Lighthouse not open to public. INCISE ON BACK OF MARKER: Restored in 1972 by Charles C. Butt

Marker Text

ATLAS_NUM=5007000184

Location Map





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

(//thc.state.tx.us)

Texas Homeland Security (<http://www.texas homelandsecurity.com/>) | Texas Veterans Portal (<http://www.texvet.org/partners/texgov>) | Texas.gov (<http://www.texas.gov>)
TRAIL Search (<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/trail/index.html>) | Site Map (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/sitemap>) | Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (/Account/Login?Length=5)
© 2015 Texas Historical Commission.

TEXAS HISTORIC SITES *atlas* (1)
history on your desktop

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/>)
real places telling real stories

HOME (/) **ATLAS MAP** (/MAP) **ADVANCED SEARCH** (</ADVANCEDSEARCH>) **ABOUT ATLAS** (</ABOUT>) **DOWNLOADS** (</DATA/DATADOWNLOAD>)

Details for Aransas Pass, C.S.A.

Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5355000185

Data

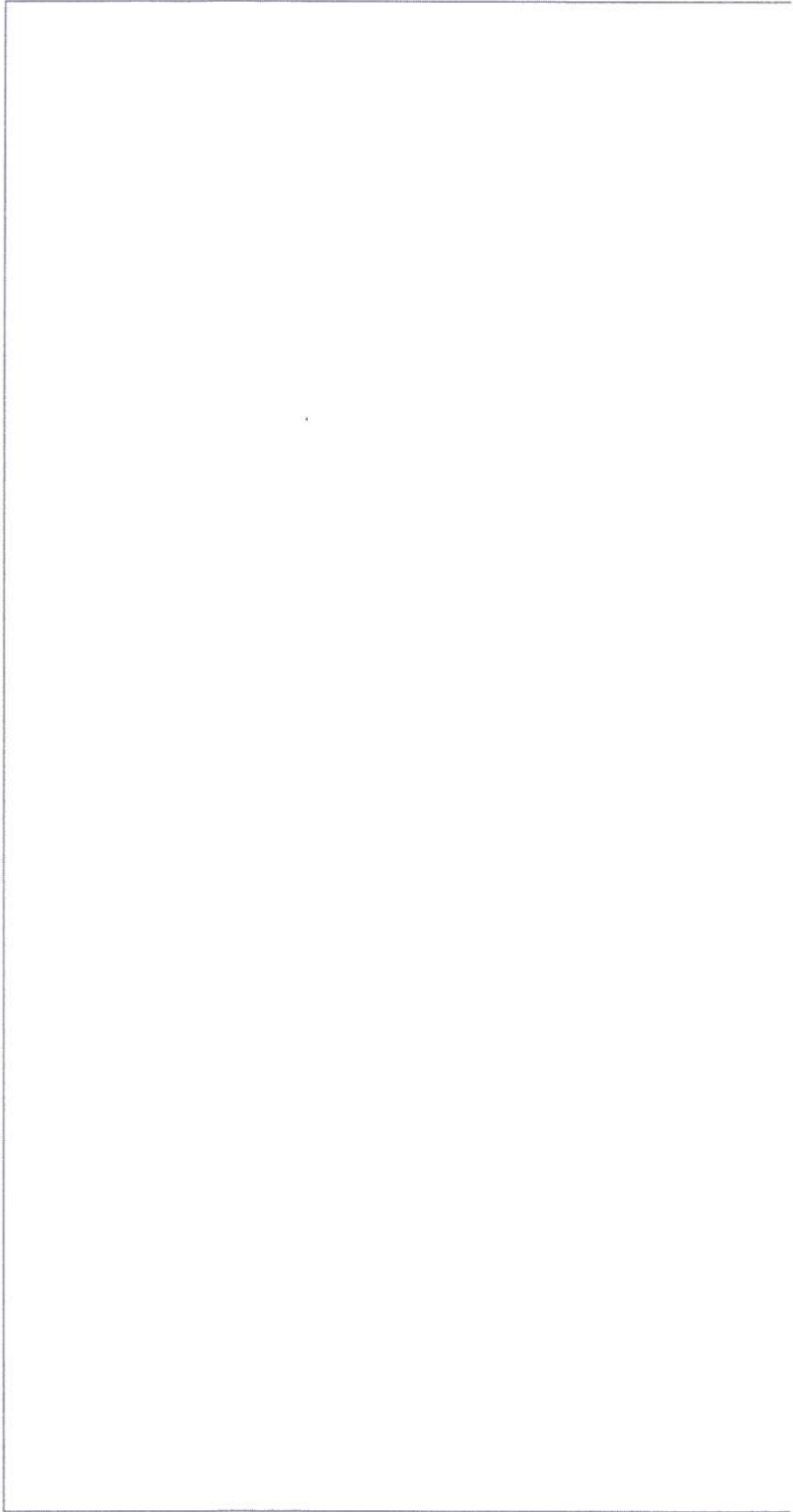
Marker Number	185
Atlas Number	5355000185
Marker Title	Aransas Pass, C.S.A.
Index Entry	Aransas Pass, C.S.A.
Address	SH 361 and Ferry Landing in Roberts Point Park
City	Port Aransas
County	Nueces
UTM Zone	14
UTM Easting	690740
UTM Northing	3081131
Subject Codes	Civil War; military topics
Marker Year	1995
Designations	
Marker Location	at Intersection of SH 361 and Ferry Landing at Far East end of Roberts Point Park, Port Aransas
Marker Size	27" x 42"

Aransas Pass, the natural inlet (3 miles east) to Aransas Bay, separates San Jose and Mustang Islands. These islands are part of a chain of barrier islands which extend along the entire length of Texas' Coastal Mainland. At the beginning of the civil war countless small vessels transported confederate supplies up and down the Texas and northern Mexican Coast virtually undisturbed by federal naval forces. Cotton destined for foreign markets moved freely through Aransas Pass. By early 1861 a union blockade had halted trafficking by confederate vessels beyond the barrier islands. However, confederate supplies inside the barrier chain continued and inlets such as Aransas Pass became sites of increasingly strategic military value. The Aransas Pass area came under the control of Federal Captain J.W. Kittredge's Naval Forces until his capture in September 1862. In November 1863 a massive federal force gained control of the south Texas Coast from the Rio Grande to Matagorda Bay. Eventually, Federal Forces lost control of the mainland behind Aransas Pass and in June 1864 withdrew from the area. Afterward, confederate ships successfully eluded the federal blockade and delivered vital supplies to the confederacy by way of Aransas Pass. Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood 1845-1995.

Marker Text

ATLAS_NUM=5355000185

Location Map





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories.

(//thc.state.tx.us)

Texas Homeland Security (<http://www.texas homelandsecurity.com/>) | Texas Veterans Portal (<http://www.texvet.org/partners/texgov>) | Texas.gov (<http://www.texas.gov>)
 TRAIL Search (<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/trail/index.html>) | Site Map (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/sitemap>) | Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (</Account/Login?Length=5>)

© 2015 Texas Historical Commission.

TEXAS HISTORIC SITES *atlas* (*1*)
history on your desktop

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/>)
real places telling real stories

HOME (*/*) **ATLAS MAP** (*/MAP*) **ADVANCED SEARCH** (*/ADVANCEDSEARCH*) **ABOUT ATLAS** (*/ABOUT*) **DOWNLOADS** (*/DATA/DATADOWNLOAD*)

Details for Mustang Island

Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5507015857

Data

Marker Number	15857
Atlas Number	5507015857
Marker Title	Mustang Island
Index Entry	Mustang Island
Address	101 E. Brundrett
City	Port Aransas
County	Nueces
UTM Zone	14
UTM Easting	690931
UTM Northing	3080483
Subject Codes	islands, settlements
Marker Year	2009
Designations	
Marker Location	
Marker Size	27" x 42"

Port Aransas is located on Mustang Island, one of seven Texas barrier islands. It is named for the wild horses that came here from shipwrecks and Spanish expeditions, and which once populated the island. The earliest humans here were members of nomadic groups collectively known as the Karankawas; they stayed on or about the islands in winter and fall, before moving inland during spring and summer. Robert Ainsworth Mercer (1799-1875) was Mustang Island's first settler; he came here in 1855 with his wife Agnes and children Mary Agnes, John and Edward. The Mercers built a house and a complex they named El Mar Rancho (Sea Ranch). Other settlers soon joined them, forming a small community; however, the new settlement was abandoned during the Civil War, when the USS Arthur took station off Mustang Island to blockade the Aransas Pass. The Federal sailors lived off the land, prompting six settlers to fire on them on February 11, 1862. The USS Arthur bombarded the island and a landing party further damaged property, leading to the islanders' flight from the island. Settlers returned here after the war, with many engaging in the booming cattle industry. By the 1880s, when the industry declined, islanders found markets for turtles and wild ducks. Many also offered goods and services, including guidance to hunting and fishing grounds, to workers constructing the Aransas Pass Jetties. Sportsmen began to visit the island, and by the 1920s tourism became the basis for its economy. By 1929, two roadways and a ferry service allowed for easier access to the island and further development of the tourist industry. Today, Mustang Island continues to be a popular destination for visitors, while also serving as home to increasing numbers of Texans. (2009)

ATLAS_NUM=5507015857

Location Map





(//thc.state.tx.us)

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

Texas Homeland Security (<http://www.texas homelandsecurity.com/>) | Texas Veterans Portal (<http://www.texvet.org/partners/texgov>) | Texas.gov (<http://www.texas.gov>)
TRAIL Search (<https://www.tsi.state.tx.us/trail/index.html>) | Site Map (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/sitemap>) | Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (</Account/Login?Length=5>)
© 2015 Texas Historical Commission.

TEXAS HISTORIC SITES *atlas*
history on your desktop

(1)

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

(<http://www.thc.texas.gov/>)

HOME (/) **ATLAS MAP** (/MAP) **ADVANCED SEARCH** (/ADVANCEDSEARCH) **ABOUT ATLAS** (/ABOUT) **DOWNLOADS** (/DATA/DATADOWNLOAD)

Details for Tarpon Inn

Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5355005194

Data

Marker Number	5194
Atlas Number	5355005194
Marker Title	Tarpon Inn
Index Entry	Tarpon Inn
Address	200 East Cotter Ave.
City	Port Aransas
County	Nueces
UTM Zone	14
UTM Easting	691000
UTM Northing	3080750
Subject Codes	inns, hotels, motels
Marker Year	1979
Designations	
Marker Location	200 East Cotter Avenue, Port Aransas
Marker Size	27" x 42"

In 1886 Frank Stephenson, a boat pilot and assistant Arkansas lighthouse keeper, opened an inn at this site in an old barracks. He called the facility "Tarpon Inn" for the abundant trophy fish in nearby gulf waters. The Inn served as a landmark for sailors, and Port Aransas was known for a time as "Tarpon". In 1897 Mary Cotter and her son J.E. Bought the two story inn from Stephenson. After the building burned in 1900, two new structures were built in 1904. When the 1919 hurricane destroyed the main structure, the dining facility was used until it was sold in 1923 to James M. Ellis and his wife. Ellis soon rebuilt this inn to resemble the old barracks. He placed 20-foot poles in 16 feet of concrete with pilings at the corner of each room to reinforce it against future hurricanes. For a time guests could reach the inn only by boat. It became a tradition to sign and date a Tarpon scale and place it on the wall in the front room. Among the famous patrons was president Franklin D. Roosevelt who fished here in 1937. Duncan Hines spent his honeymoon here and recommended the food for the next 25 years. The inn has housed many area residents during storms and served as headquarters for the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Military units.

Marker Text

ATLAS_NUM=5355005194

Location Map





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

(//thc.state.tx.us)

Texas Homeland Security (<http://www.texas homelandsecurity.com/>) | Texas Veterans Portal (<http://www.texvet.org/partners/texgov>) | Texas.gov (<http://www.texas.gov>) | TRAIL Search (<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/trail/index.html>) | Site Map (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/sitemap>) | Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (</Account/Login?Length=5>)

© 2015 Texas Historical Commission.

TEXAS HISTORIC SITES *atlas* ⁽¹⁾
history on your desktop

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ^(http://www.thc.texas.gov/)
real places telling real stories

HOME (/) **ATLAS MAP (/MAP)** **ADVANCED SEARCH** **ABOUT ATLAS** **DOWNLOADS**
 (/ADVANCEDSEARCH) (/ABOUT) (/DATA/DATADOWNLOAD)

Details for The Mercer Family on Mustang Island

Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5507016851

Data

Marker Number	16851
Atlas Number	5507016851
Marker Title	The Mercer Family on Mustang Island
Index Entry	Mercer Family, The, on Mustang Island
Address	101 E. Brundrett
City	Port Aransas
County	Nueces
UTM Zone	14
UTM Easting	690946
UTM Northing	3080503
Subject Codes	water topics; islands; boats, ships, ferries, barges, and other marine vessels
Marker Year	2011
Designations	
Marker Location	In front of Port Aransas Museum on the grassy esplanade (City of Port Aransas property) at the corner of Brundrett and Alister Streets
Marker Size	18" x 28"

THE MERCER FAMILY ON MUSTANG ISLAND ROBERT AINSWORTH MERCER (1799-1875) ARRIVED ON MUSTANG ISLAND CA. 1855. AFTER STARTING A SMALL SETTLEMENT, MERCER WAS APPOINTED NUECES COUNTY'S WRECK MASTER, WITH OVERSIGHT OF THE DISPOSITION OF VESSELS LOST CROSSING ARANSAS PASS. HIS SONS, JOHN (1840-1896) AND EDWARD (NED) (1842-?), SERVED AS ARANSAS PASS BAR PILOTS. IN 1880, JOHN BECAME THE FIRST KEEPER OF THE ARANSAS LIFE SAVING STATION, WHICH LATER BECAME THE U.S. COAST GUARD STATION THAT CONTINUES TODAY. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MERCER FAMILY WERE DOCUMENTED IN EXHAUSTIVE JOURNALS FROM 1866 THROUGH 1877 AND THESE TEXTS WERE PRESERVED BY SUCCESSIVE MERCER DESCENDANTS, RECOGNIZING THE FAMILY'S INFLUENCE ON THE AREA'S HISTORY. 175 YEARS OF TEXAS INDEPENDENCE * 1836-2011

Marker Text

ATLAS_NUM=5507016851

Location Map





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

(//thc.state.tx.us)

Texas Homeland Security (<http://www.texashomelandsecurity.com/>) | Texas Veterans Portal (<http://www.texvet.org/partners/texgov>) | Texas.gov (<http://www.texas.gov>)
TRAIL Search (<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/trail/index.html>) | Site Map (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/sitemap>) | Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (/Account/Login?Length=5)
© 2015 Texas Historical Commission.

TEXAS HISTORIC SITES *atlas* (1)
history on your desktop

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/>)
real places telling real stories

HOME (/) **ATLAS MAP (/MAP)** **ADVANCED SEARCH** **ABOUT ATLAS** **DOWNLOADS**
([\(/ADVANCEDSEARCH\)](/ADVANCEDSEARCH)) ([\(/ABOUT\)](/ABOUT)) ([\(/DATA/DATADOWNLOAD\)](/DATA/DATADOWNLOAD))

Details for United States Coast Guard on Mustang Island

Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5507015257

Data

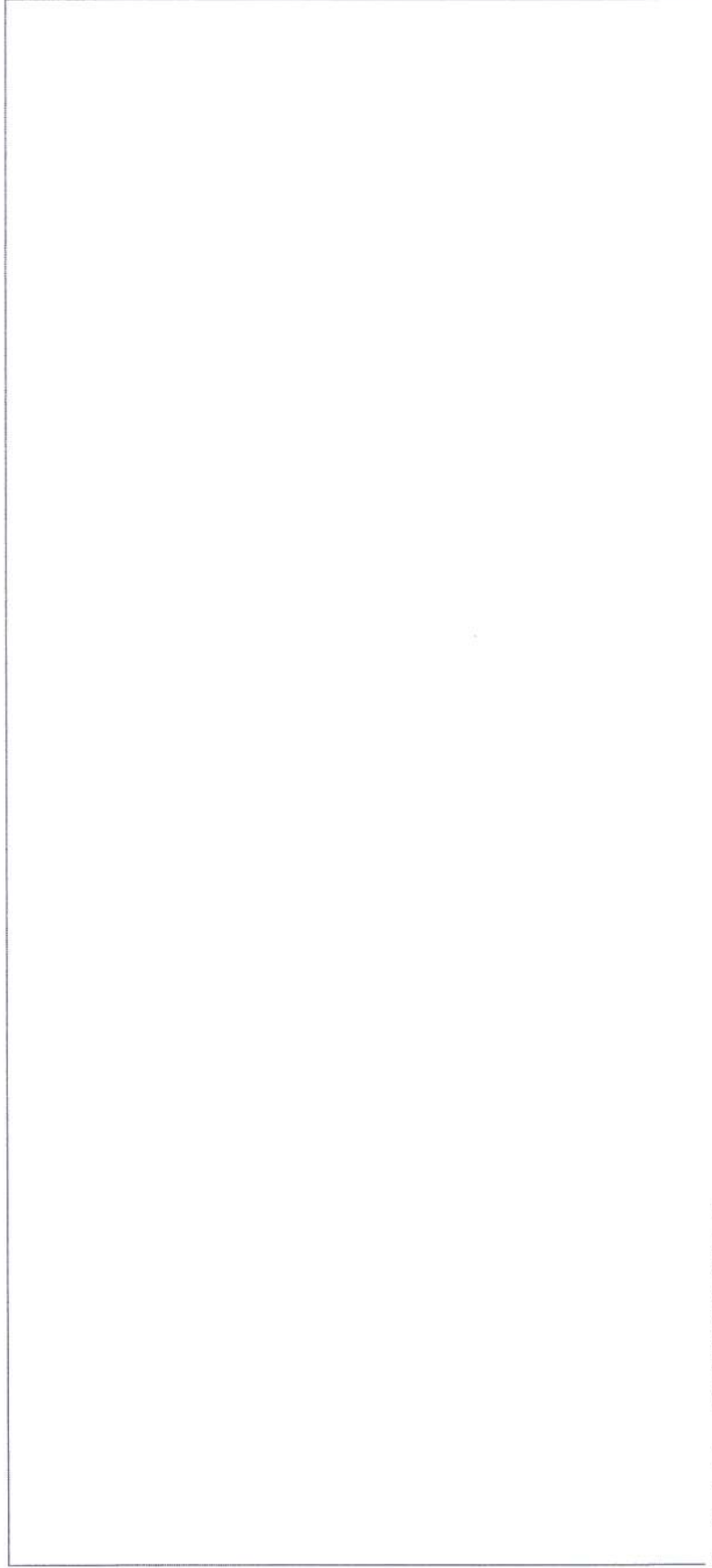
Marker Number	15257
Atlas Number	5507015257
Marker Title	United States Coast Guard on Mustang Island
Index Entry	United States Coast Guard on Mustang Island
Address	
City	Port Aransas
County	Nueces
UTM Zone	14
UTM Easting	690792
UTM Northing	3081100
Subject Codes	
Marker Year	2008
Designations	
Marker Location	Roberts Point Park, J. C. Barr Blvd (east end of park)
Marker Size	27" x 42"

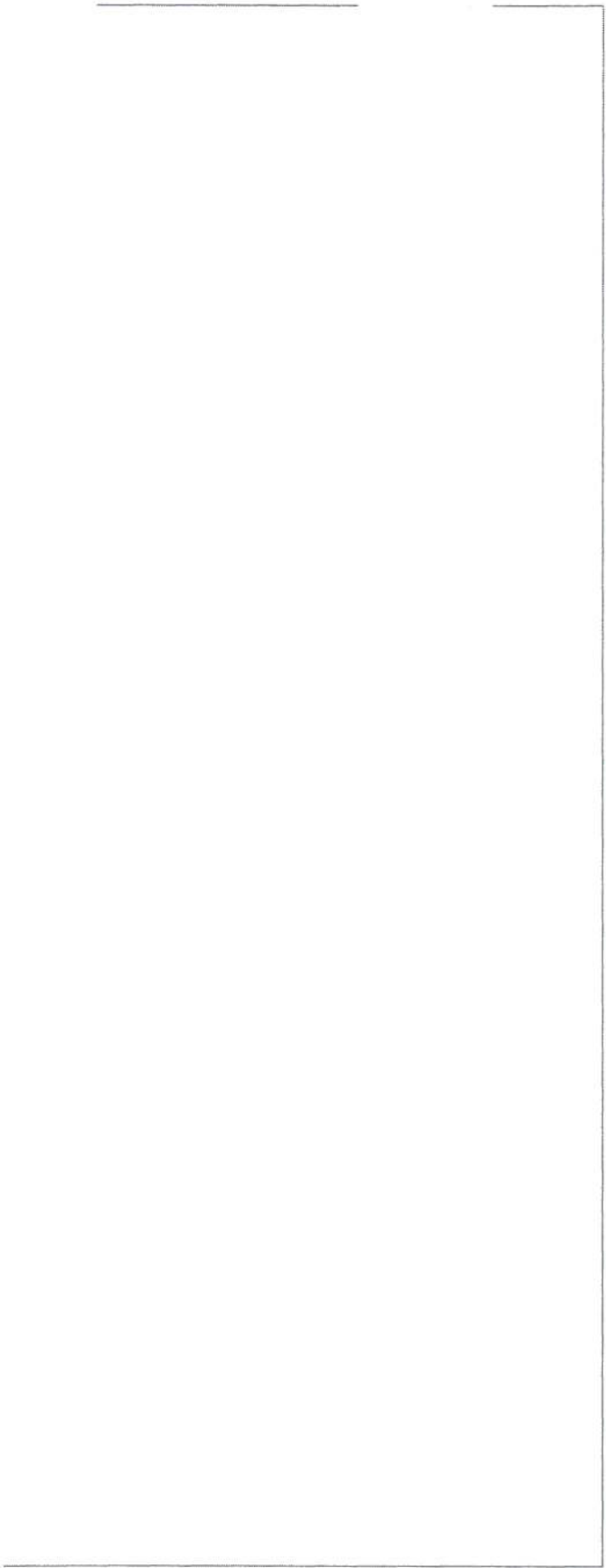
Aransas Pass has significantly influenced the economic development of the region. The natural waterway also has included treacherous navigational hazards. In 1878, the U. S. government addressed this situation when it established the first Aransas Life Saving Station on Mustang Island, at Cotter and Station Streets. The station served the regional waters for several decades, but was destroyed by wind and storm surge flooding during the 1919 hurricane. The Coast Guard on Mustang Island served out of an interim facility until 1925 when the second life saving station opened. Erosion of the second station's concrete foundation, combined with an increasing workload, resulted in the structure's replacement in 1976. In January 1915, President Woodrow Wilson signed a Congressional act combining the Colonial era Revenue Cutter Service and the Life Saving Service (est. 1878) into the U. S. Coast Guard. In times of war, the Coast Guard joined the nation's military. During World War II, the primary lifesaving mission at Mustang Island grew to encompass the Ports, Waterways, Coastal Security mission that required the Coast Guard to watch for enemy naval activity. Roving Coastguardsmen and canine patrols monitored against incursion by enemy agents and saboteurs. In the early 21st century, the War on Terrorism altered the primary life saving orientation of the Coast Guard once again. The new mission structure required the Coast Guard to board vessels entering through the Aransas Pass to examine documentation and inspect cargoes. From the Port of Corpus Christi, U. S. military Sealift Command vessels carrying armored vehicles and other materials to theaters of war were escorted by armed Coast Guard crafts. As a result, the Coast Guard on Mustang Island continued to safeguard lives and provide security. (2008)

Marker Text

ATLAS_NUM=5507015257

Location Map





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

(//thc.state.tx.us)

Texas Homeland Security (<http://www.texas homelandsecurity.com/>) | Texas Veterans Portal (<http://www.texvet.org/partners/texgov>) | Texas.gov (<http://www.texas.gov>) | TRAIL Search (<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/trail/index.html>) | Site Map (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/sitemap>) | Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (</Account/Login?Length=5>)
 © 2015 Texas Historical Commission.

TEXAS HISTORIC SITES *atlas* (1)
history on your desktop

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/>)
real places telling real stories

HOME (/) **ATLAS MAP** (/MAP) **ADVANCED SEARCH** (/ADVANCEDSEARCH) **ABOUT ATLAS** (/ABOUT) **DOWNLOADS** (/DATA/DATADOWNLOAD)

Details for World War II Coastal Defenses at the Aransas Pass

Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5507015267

Data

Marker Number	15267
Atlas Number	5507015267
Marker Title	World War II Coastal Defenses at the Aransas Pass
Index Entry	World War II Coastal Defenses at the Aransas Pass
Address	311 J.C. Barr Blvd.
City	Port Aransas
County	Nueces
UTM Zone	14
UTM Easting	690691
UTM Northing	3081116
Subject Codes	World War II; military topics
Marker Year	2005
Designations	
Marker Location	311 J.C. Barr Blvd., Roberts Point Park
Marker Size	27" x 42"

In the late 1700s, the U.S. began a coastal defense system to protect ports and strategic points. Texas, which became a state in 1845, featured several gulf coast sites that would prove important in U.S. Military engagements in the 19th century and later. In March 1941, before the U.S. entered World War II, the War Department created the Southern Defense Command (SDC) as part of its national defense system. Led by Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger, the SDC included the southern U.S. coastline from North Carolina to Brownsville. After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor (Dec. 7, 1941), the U.S. increased defense efforts along the Texas coast, which included several military bases as well as key wartime industries. A month later, in what may have been a false alarm, a German U-Boat, or submarine, was reported just miles off the entrance to the Aransas Pass. The SDC dispatched a temporary field artillery battery of the 2nd Infantry Division to Mustang Island, where they set up 105 mm Howitzers. In April 1942, relief came to these troops when Battery E, 50th Coast Artillery Regiment arrived. The new troops remained until October 1942 and began replacing two French-designed 155 mm GPF Guns on Panama mounts and building timber magazines, a commander station, searchlights and a camp for 360 men. Two companies later stationed there finished the work: Battery G, 20th Coast Artillery Regiment (Oct. 1942-Mar. 1944) and Battery E, 20th Coast Artillery Regiment (Mar.-Jul. 1944). In conjunction with the coast artillery, the U.S. Navy operated a harbor entrance control post. Officially designated as Temporary Harbor Defense at Aransas Pass, this coastal defense complex just south of the south jetty closed in July 1944, after enemy naval threats in the gulf were no longer a concern. (2005)

ATLAS_NUM=5507015267

Location Map





TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

(//thc.state.tx.us)

Texas Homeland Security (<http://www.texas homelandsecurity.com/>) | Texas Veterans Portal (<http://www.texvet.org/partners/texgov>) | Texas.gov (<http://www.texas.gov>) | TRAIL Search (<https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/trail/index.html>) | Site Map (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/sitemap>) | Policies (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | Archeological Log In (<http://www.thc.texas.gov/policies>) | © 2015 Texas Historical Commission.