



Quicksilver: Terlingua and the Chisos Mining Company

Kenneth Baxter Ragsdale

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"This is the fascinating story of Howard E. Perry and his Terlingua fiefdom on the edge of Big Bend National Park. Ragsdale's *Quicksilver: Terlingua and the Chisos Mining Company* is perhaps the best book written on the Big Bend country."—William H. Goetzmann

Before Terlingua achieved some notoriety as the site of the annual World Championship Chili Cookoff, the ghost town was the bustling center of the mercury mining industry in the United States. This study, available again in a redesigned paperback edition, examines the company town and its feudal lord, Chicago industrialist Howard E. Perry, who built a hilltop mansion overlooking the dry domain.

Based on many primary sources, *Quicksilver* is solidly researched and historically sound. Color and authenticity come from the author's interviews with such individuals as Robert Cartledge, who for nearly three decades worked as store clerk, purchasing agent, and finally general manager of the Chisos Mining Company in Terlingua.

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