

# Contents

List of Illustrations ix  
Preface: A Family Tale xi  
Acknowledgments xv

## CHAPTERS

1 Discovering My Texas Identity 3  
2 Writing as a Tradition 10  
3 The Robertson Papers 17  
4 Learning Texas History 21  
5 Sterling Clack Robertson, Empresario 37  
6 The Alabama Settlement 56  
7 The Prayer on the Sabine 67  
8 Making a Living 73  
9 The Comanche, Karankawa, Lipan Apache, and Tonkawa 82  
10 Political Rumbblings in the Alabama Settlement 88  
11 The Alabama Settlement at War 94  
12 The Texas Revolution as Myth and Identity Ritual 105  
13 Aftermath of the War: Tragedy and Humor 111  
14 Getting Rid of Wildness 116  
15 The Wild Woman of the Navidad 122  
16 The Civilizing Elites: Elijah Sterling Clack Robertson 127  
17 The End of Slavery 140  
18 Remember Who You Are 148  
19 The Macaroni Road Comes to Edna 155  
20 The Migration to Uvalde 161  
21 Getting an Education 172  
22 Family Reunions 184

*Notes* 191    *Bibliography* 203    *Index* 211



## *Illustrations*

- Strips from *Texas History Movies* 26
- Map of the Robertson, Austin, and DeWitt colonies 39
- Genealogy of the Menefee and Sutherland marriages 59
- Map of the first and second migrations of the Alabama Settlement 62
- Mary Elizabeth Robertson and Thomas Shelton Sutherland II 181