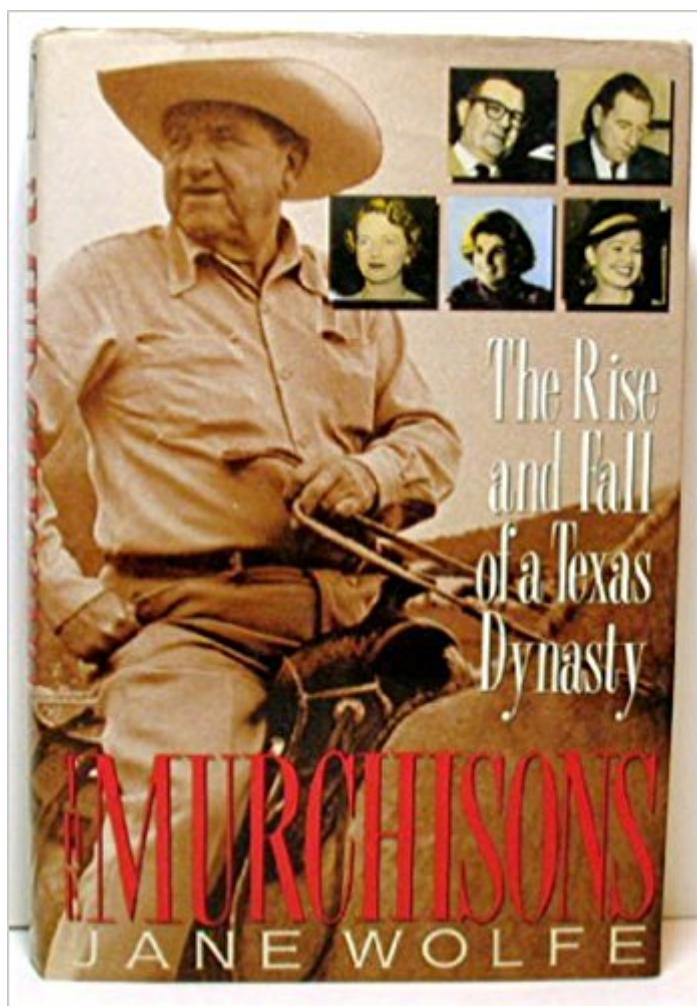


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# The Murchisons: The Rise And Fall Of A Texas Dynasty



## **Synopsis**

An intimate biography of one of America's richest families...photo illustrated

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Wolfe tells a riveting tale of the rising fortunes and ultimate downfall of the Murchison family, quintessential high rollers. Clint Murchison Sr. erupted from East Texas during the rough-and-tumble years of oil drilling in the 1930s, and spent his life "doing deals." Wolfe gives a colorful description of a quiet, unpretentious man whose financial acumen and brilliant use of leverage helped him build a multimillion-dollar conglomerate. His sons Clint Jr. and John shared their father's wizardry, adding to their investment firmament the Vail, Colo., ski resort and the Dallas Cowboys. However, the family's style of loose management and easy credit based on a handshake was ill-suited to the late 1970s, when oil prices toppled and interest rates soared. In her first book, Wolfe, former society editor of the Dallas Morning News, gives a superb glimpse of the personal lives and family dynamics of these millionaires whose bankruptcy in 1985 stunned both the state of Texas and the nation's financial community. Photos not seen by PW. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

How different are the very rich from you and me? Wolfe answers that question in this history of the rise and fall of Texas's Murchison family. Clint Murchison Sr. began building the family fortune selling animal skins for pennies; later with interests in oil, real estate, and publishing, he was one of the first conglomerate makers. His elder son, John, won Wall Street's biggest proxy fight, developed

the Vail, Colorado ski resort, and was a noted jet-setter. Clint Jr., probably best known as the builder and first owner of the Dallas Cowboys, was also a philanderer and deal-maker. Eventually, skyrocketing interest rates and plummeting oil and real estate prices led him to one of the largest personal bankruptcies in history. While his "financing by finagling" precipitated the crash, the family's downfall also resulted from bitter lawsuits in the third generation. In the long run, the Cowboys may be the family's biggest memorial. For public libraries interested in the history of the oil business or Texas, or in the exploits of the wealthy.- Sue Kamm, Los Angeles P.L. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

A fantastic book about an amazing dynasty. I was led to this book from Brian Burrough's "The Big Rich." Ms. Wolfe's book adds a lot of detail and backstory to the Murchison dynasty. It was a pleasure to read. I just wish it was on Kindle.

This an excellent exposé on the legendary rise and then fall of a true TEXAS Dynasty.

Great reading on another of the Texas legends-father and sons. Owning islands and football teams and how it can all end; Clint Jr owning the World Champion Dallas Cowboys and having \$4000.00 in the bank when he filed for bankruptcy.

Balanced history of a most interesting family, especially Sr.

Fascinating. Who knew that this family had so much to do with what we now know and love as Texas?!

This book proved to be a very good read. You are shown how the Murchison family went from fantastic wealth to bankruptcy. This family was able to obtain a massive fortune through their huge success in the oil fields of Texas. They were even able to purchase an island off of the Gulf of Mexico. You are also treated to a history of them owning the Dallas Cowboys. During their time of ownership they went from being the worst team in professional football to winning the Superbowl. Their decline in wealth is also shown. This is a good history of the oilfields of Texas. Read this. You will enjoy it.

Plenty of Texas History you would never learn about in a history class (in Texas).

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