

CONTENTS

FOREWORD ix
by William S. Pugsley

PREFACE xiii

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS xvii

PROLOGUE I

1. ANCIENT HERITAGE, NEW CIRCUMSTANCE 5
2. GOOD INTENTIONS, FITFUL BEGINNINGS 17
3. A FUNCTIONING JUDICIARY 31
4. THE FRONTIER COURT 43
5. THE ANTEBELLUM COURT 53
6. THE CIVIL WAR COURT 66
7. THE RECONSTRUCTION COURTS 75
8. THE REDEEMER COURT 88
9. THE CAPITOL COURT AND THE PUBLIC LANDS 117
10. THE CAPITOL COURT AND THE GILDED AGE 129

II. THE CONSENSUS COURT 139

12. THE WRENCH IN THE GEARS 151

13. THE CURETON COURT 163

14. THE WARTIME COURT 173

15. THE FIFTIES COURT 185

16. THE CALVERT COURT 196

17. THE COURT IN FLUX 206

APPENDIX A. MILESTONES IN THE ORGANIZATION AND
OPERATION OF THE TEXAS SUPREME COURT 227

APPENDIX B. JUSTICES OF THE TEXAS SUPREME COURT,
1836-2012, WITH APPOINTMENT/ELECTION DATES 235

NOTES 255

BIBLIOGRAPHY 293

INDEX 307