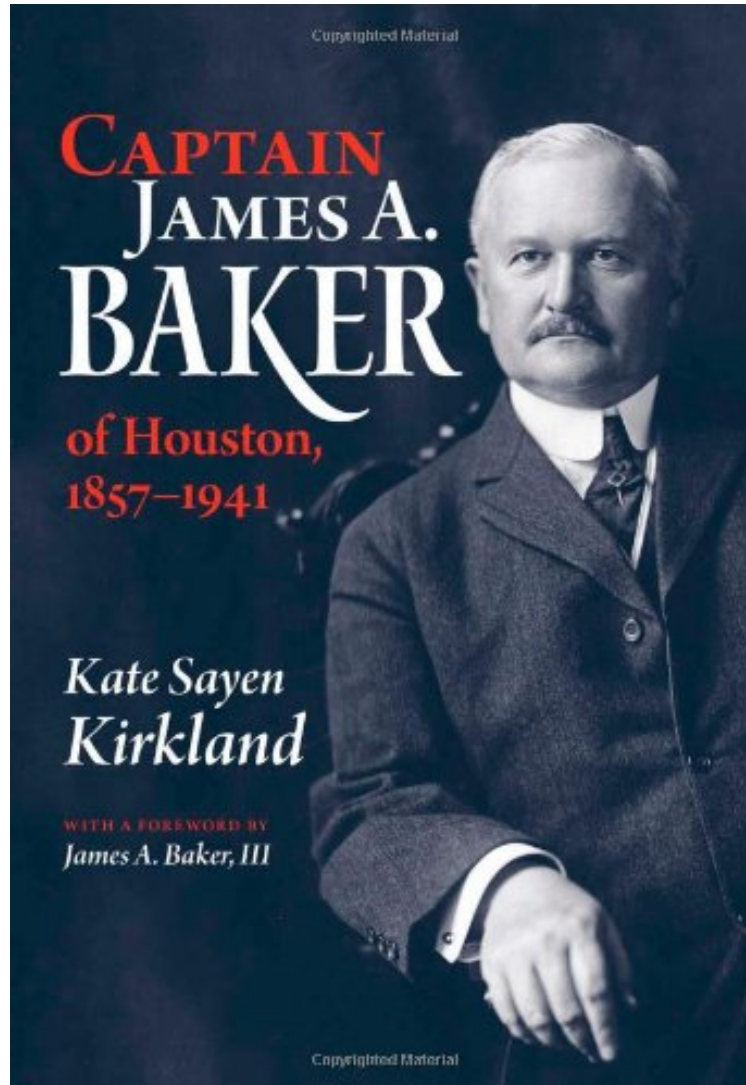


[E-BOOK] Captain James A. Baker of Houston, 1857-1941

Captain James A. Baker of Houston, 1857-1941

Kate Sayen Kirkland

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Kate Sayen Kirkland : Captain James A. Baker of Houston, 1857-1941 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Captain James A. Baker of Houston, 1857-1941:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Interesting Houston History By Dan B. Gerson It is a well written and carefully researched book about not only the history of one family and one institution, Rice University, but of Houston and Texas as well. I found it to be a very interesting read, even realizing that my office in a historical building in downtown Houston, once was home to Captain Baker and his law firm. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. William Marsh Rice by opposing a bad will made by his wife and a forged will ... By William P. Johnson

JrThis is the story of the life of the man that most shaped the city of Houston by being a lawyer, banker business man and real estate. He used the wealth of his client, William Marsh Rice by opposing a bad will made by his wife and a forged will by his murder. Then investing in both the school (first world class university in the South) and Houston development. Must read for any lawyer, Houstonian, or Rice alumni.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The book was informative but tedious. I wish it had been better related to ...By John RoeThe book was informative but tedious. I wish it had been better related to what was happening in Houston at the time from a larger perspective.

Captain James A. Baker, Houston lawyer, banker, and businessman, received an alarming telegram on September 23, 1900: his elderly millionaire client William Marsh Rice had died unexpectedly in New York City. Baker rushed to New York, where he unraveled a plot to murder Rice and plunder his estate. Working tirelessly with local authorities, Baker saved Rices fortune from more than one hundred claimants; he championed the wishes of his deceased client and founded Rice Institute for the Advancement of Literature, Science and Arttoday's internationally acclaimed Rice University.For fifty years Captain Baker nurtured Rices dream. He partnered with leading lawyers to create Houstons first nationally recognized law firm: Baker, Botts, Lovett Parker, now the worldwide legal practice of Baker Botts L.L.P. He chartered several Houston businesses and utility companies, developed two major regional banks, promoted real estate projects, and led an active civic life. To expand the Institutes endowment, Baker invested William Marsh Rices fortune with local entrepreneurs, who were building homes, office towers, commercial enterprises, and institutions that transformed Houston from a small town in the nineteenth century to an international powerhouse in the twenty-first century.Author Kate Sayen Kirkland explored the archival records of Baker and his family and firm and carefully mined the archives of Bakers contemporaries. Published as part of Rice Universitys centennial celebration, *Captain James A. Baker of Houston, 1857-1941* weaves together the history of Houston and the story of an influential man who labored all his life to make Houston a world-class city.

"This deeply researched, richly detailed work is absolutely essential reading for anyone interested in the history of Rice University and the five critical decades of Houston's history following 1890. Written with clarity and verve, it demonstrates James A. Baker's key role as a cultural and institutional leader."--John B. Boles, William Pettus Hobby Professor of History, Rice University