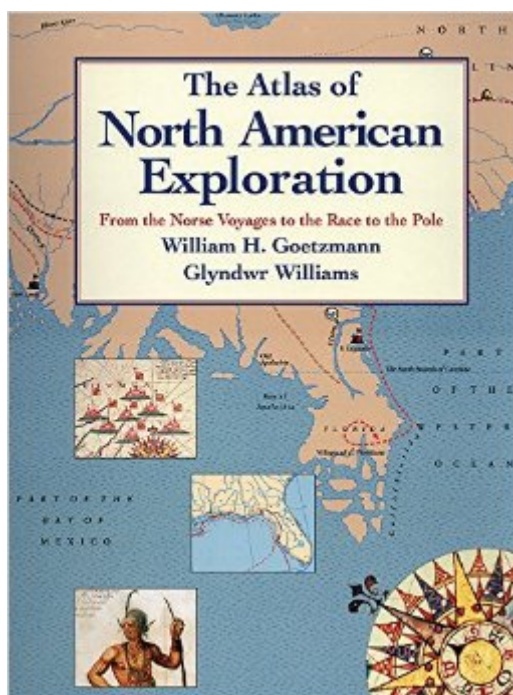


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The Atlas Of North American Exploration: From The Norse Voyages To The Race To The Pole



Synopsis

For more than five hundred years, explorers roamed the wilderness of North America, some in search of a route to the East or fabled cities of gold, others seeking the glossy pelts of the beaver or souls to convert. From the early voyages of Norse seafarers to the opening of the American, Canadian, and Alaskan frontiers and the grueling twentieth-century race to the North Pole, this great adventure is captured as never before in the lavishly illustrated Atlas of North American Exploration. Written by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian William H. Goetzmann and exploration historian Glyndwr Williams, The Atlas of North American Exploration presents this bold drama through more than one hundred full-color maps employing state-of-the-art cartographic techniques. The routes of explorers Ponce de Leon, Henry Hudson, Hernando de Soto, Daniel Boone, Vitus Bering, Lewis and Clark, Admiral Peary, and dozens more are charted, showing the sites of encounters with native inhabitants or rival colonial powers, shipwrecks and uprisings, settlements and trading posts, and the death or disappearance of expeditions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have the original 1992 hardcover edition of this title, as published by Prentice Hall. The pages of this 1998 paperback edition issued by Oklahoma University Press are smaller, which probably reduces readability. Other than that, I don't know what, if any, changes were made in this edition. On the assumption that they were few, what follows are my comments (slightly revised) concerning the 1992 edition. This is a good basic reference on the exploration of North America. It is not really suited for reading cover to cover (although I did that), but it would be a fine addition to most

all-purpose libraries, especially high school and college libraries. (The 1992 hardcover, larger-format edition would be preferable for library use.) Aside from the prefatory texts for the book as a whole and for each part of the book, the basic format consists of two-page spreads, each of which is devoted to a particular episode of the European exploration of the regions of North America that now comprise the United States and Canada. (De facto and without explanation, the book excludes Mexico from North America.) For example, the first three spreads in the book present the voyage of John Cabot (1497), Ponce de León's and other early Spanish expeditions to Florida (1513-1526), and the voyage of Verrazano up the east coast of present-day United States (1524).

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