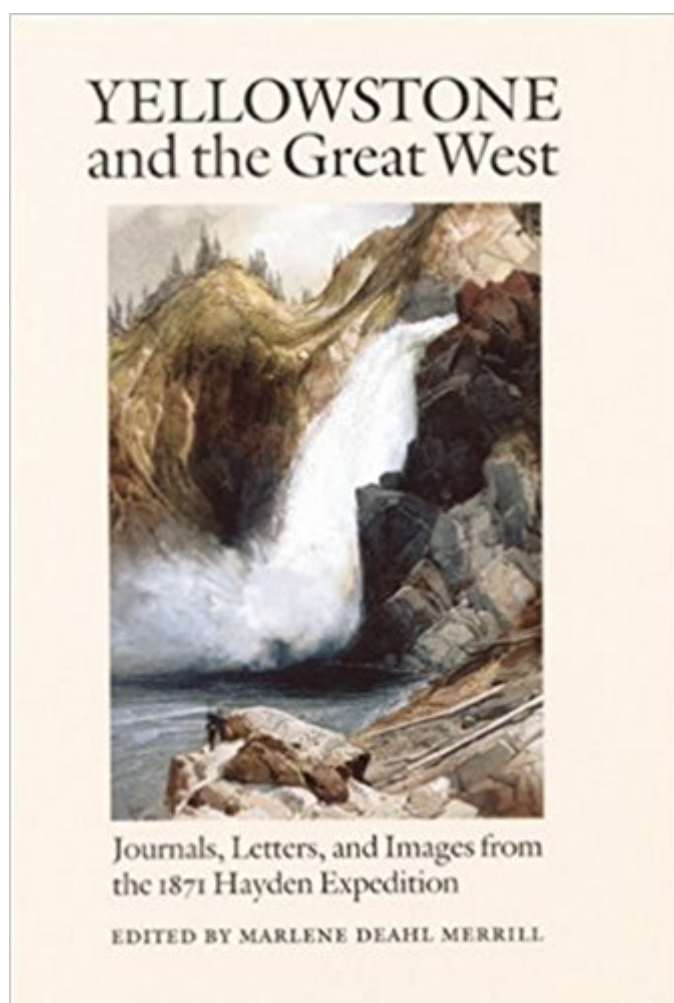


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Yellowstone And The Great West: Journals, Letters, And Images From The 1871 Hayden Expedition



Synopsis

Here, for the first time in paperback, is a fascinating daily record of Ferdinand Hayden's historic 1871 scientific expedition through Utah, Idaho, and Montana Territories to the Yellowstone Basin. The expedition's findings quickly led Congress to establish Yellowstone as the world's first national park. In addition to its scientific discoveries, the expedition is famous for producing the earliest on-site images of Yellowstone, by its photographer, William Henry Jackson, and its guest artist, Thomas Moran. Marlene Deahl Merrill has woven together a compelling daily narrative from the field writings of three expedition members: unpublished journals kept by mineralogist Albert Peale and geologist George Allen, periodic reports by Peale to his hometown newspaper, and letters from Hayden to his friend and mentor Spencer Baird at the Smithsonian Institution. Enriching this narrative are Jackson's photographs of camp scenes and landscapes; rare panoramic drawings by the party's topographical artist, Henry Elliott; maps; an introduction; and extensive annotations.

Book Information

Hardcover: 346 pages

Publisher: University of Nebraska Press (September 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803231482

ISBN-13: 978-0803231481

Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 6.4 x 1.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 1 customer review

Best Sellers Rank: #1,103,326 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #111 in Books > Travel > United States > Wyoming > Yellowstone #364 in Books > History > World > Religious > Ethnic & Tribal #1112 in Books > History > World > Expeditions & Discoveries

Customer Reviews

After the Lewis and Clark expedition, several scientific junkets searched the West, noting mineral deposits, mapping rivers, identifying agricultural lands, and surveying possible railroad routes. Geologist Ferdinand V. Hayden led several expeditions, including one in 1871 to survey the Yellowstone Basin that included photographer William Henry Jackson and artist Thomas Moran. In this volume, historian Merrill (Growing Up in Boston's Gilded Age: The Journal of Alice Stone Blackwell, 1872-1874) weaves together field writings of lesser-known expedition members Albert

Peale and George Allen, who recorded day-to-day activities, failures as well as successes, and personal reactions not found in Hayden's official reports. Excellent editing and extensive notes make this an important contribution to our knowledge of life in the 19th-century Rocky Mountain West. Recommended for most libraries, especially those with Western American collections. A Patricia Ann Owens, Wabash Valley Coll., Mt. Carmel, IL Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

In 1871, Ferdinand Hayden led a scientific expedition through Utah, Idaho, and Montana territories to the Yellowstone Basin. The expedition gathered critical information on the flora, fauna, and geology of the region and led to the establishment of Yellowstone as our first national park. Merrill, a historian and documentary editor at Oberlin College, has compiled the field writings of three expedition members, letters from unpublished journals, and expedition drawings and photographs. The result is a comprehensive and often fascinating view of the vastness and splendor of the West as seen through the eyes of men who regarded it with a mixture of awe and clinical attention to detail. This enlightening and stimulating collection is effective as a work of history and as a travelogue. Jay Freeman

Great

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