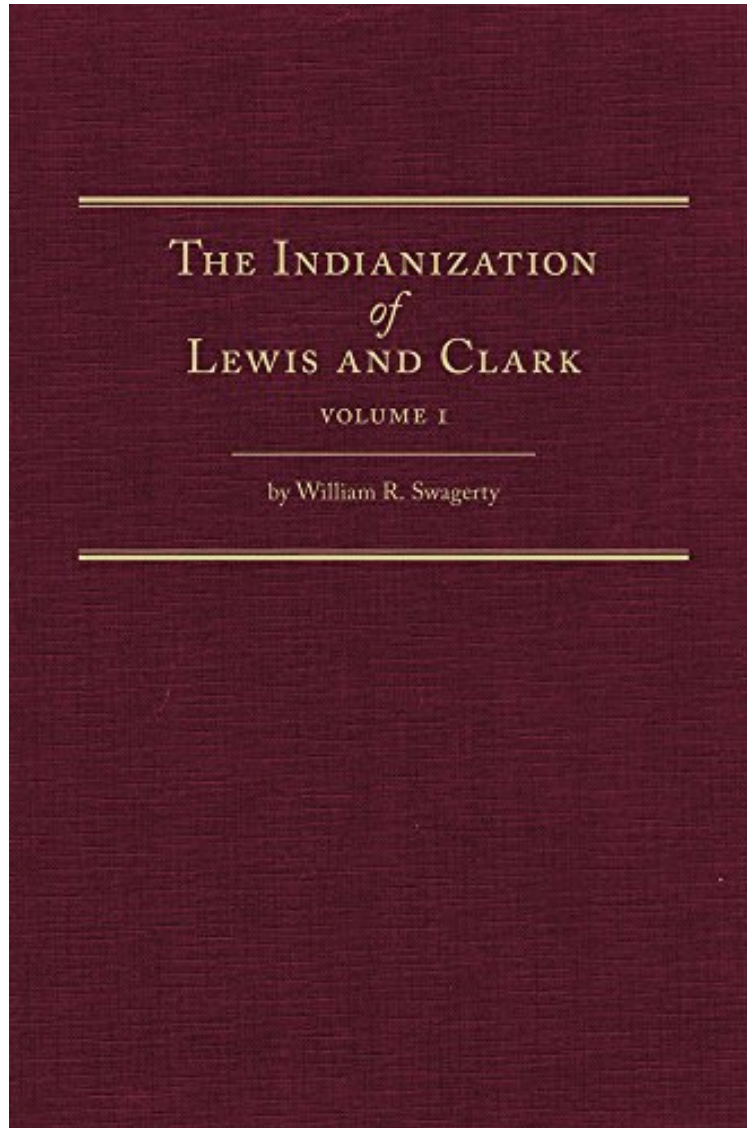


The Indianization of Lewis and Clark

Dr. William R. Swagerty Ph.D
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#2954061 in Books The Arthur H. Clark Company 2012-10-12Original language:EnglishPDF # 2 9.25 x 2.96 x 6.131, 3.75 #File Name: 087062413X820 pages | File size: 39.Mb

Dr. William R. Swagerty Ph.D : The Indianization of Lewis and Clark before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Indianization of Lewis and Clark:

7 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Disappointing book!By John W. FisherThe author's goal (p. 40) is to demonstrate, "how Native America influenced Lewis and Clark and their Corps of Discovery." Despite the fact that the author has almost 1900 footnotes and a bibliography of over 500 books, after Chapter 2 his book is filled with factual errors, misinterpretations, over-reaching conclusions, and information that is out of date. He relied on some poorly researched books and despite the 778 pages he failed to fully develop some of his themes. The people who

reviewed the manuscript missed these flaws and the five western history and Lewis Clark scholars who have written complimentary formal book reviews were not familiar with the material culture of the Lewis and Clark expedition and/or failed to note the errors. Although somewhat tedious, there is a lot of good information in the two volumes but it is contaminated by so much misinformation that the average reader will not recognize the mistakes. There is the potential for a good book here but it would be less than 300 pages and need a proof reader to correct the manuscript.

Although some have attributed the success of the Lewis and Clark expedition primarily to gunpowder and gumption, historian William R. Swagerty demonstrates in this two-volume set that adopting Indian ways of procuring, processing, and transporting food and gear was crucial to the survival of the Corps of Discovery. The Indianization of Lewis and Clark retraces the well-known trail of Americas most famous explorers as a journey into the heart of Native Americaa case study of successful material adaptation and cultural borrowing. Beginning with a broad examination of regional demographics and folkways, Swagerty describes the cultural baggage and material preferences the expedition carried west in 1804. Detailing this baseline reveals which Indian influences were already part of Jeffersonian American culture, and which were progressive adaptations the Corpsmen made of Indian ways in the course of their journey. Swagertys exhaustive research offers detailed information on both Indian and Euro-American science, medicine, cartography, and cuisine, and on a wide range of technologies and material culture. Readers learn what the Corpsmen wore, what they ate, how they traveled, and where they slept (and with whom) before, during, and after the return. Indianization is as old as contact experiences between Native Americans and Europeans. Lewis and Clark took the process to a new level, accepting the hospitality of dozens of Native groups as they sought a navigable water route to the Pacific. This richly illustrated, interdisciplinary study provides a unique and complex portrait of the material and cultural legacy of Indian America, offering readers perspective on lessons learned but largely forgotten in the aftermath of the epic journey.

About the Author William R. Swagerty is Director of the John Muir Center at University of the Pacific, author of numerous articles on the fur trade, and a contributor to the Smithsonians Handbook of North American Indians.