NEW TITLES:
- Wagons to the Willamette
- Remote Wonders
- Developing the Pacific Northwest
- Instilling Spirit

RECENT RELEASES:
- Yellowstone Summers
- Wild Place
- River Song
- Encounters with the People

Winter Ridge, Oregon
Remote Wonders (October)
Wagons to the Willamette

Captain Levi Scott and the Southern Route to Oregon, 1844–1847

Levi Scott and James Layton Collins
Edited by Stafford J. Hazelett

After the death of his beloved wife, a devastated Levi Scott and his youngest surviving son left Iowa for Oregon. Their overland journey—rife with quarrels, stolen horses, arduous river fords, con artists, and death—ended when he and John finally arrived in Oregon City in November 1844.

In the early 1840s, emigrants who reached The Dalles and chose to continue to the Willamette Valley were required to embark on a perilous raft trip and portage down the Columbia River. Answering the plea of settlers and the provisional government, Scott participated in two expeditions seeking a better, safer way through the Cascades. The first was unsuccessful but the second, organized by Jesse Applegate in June 1846, yielded the southern route through the Umpqua Valley, three mountain ranges, and the Black Rock Desert. Early on a July 1846 morning, the party found the Humboldt River along the established California Trail.

At Fort Hall, Applegate recruited parties to travel the new route. Scott led the initial wagon train west while others went ahead to prepare the road. He details a harrowing trip that included long stretches of unwatered desert, soda plains, mirages, a heroic mother, dense timber, and steep canyons.

In 1847 Scott led a second group to the Willamette Valley over the alternate trail. He retraced it again in 1849 when he served as a guide for the resupply of the Mounted Rifle Regiment. He faced narrow escapes and witnessed several deadly encounters with Native Americans. Later he ran cattle, founded Scottsburg, and participated in Oregon’s territorial legislature.

As he neared his ninetieth birthday Scott employed his friend James Layton Collins to help him record his life story, but the memoir was never published. Now edited and extensively annotated, Scott’s autobiography has become Wagons to the Willamette. An exceptional contribution to Oregon Trail history, his reminiscence is the only first-hand account written by someone who not only searched for the southern route but also accompanied its first wagon train.

Also of Interest

Forgotten Trails
Historical Sources of the Columbia’s Big Bend Country
Ron Anglin
Paperback • $19.95

A Yankee on Puget Sound
Pioneer Dispatches of Edward Jay Allen, 1852–1855
Karen L. Johnson and Dennis M. Larsen
Paperback • $29.95
Remote Wonders
An Explorer’s Guide to Southeast Oregon
Melvin R. Adams

“This is a fresh and interesting introduction to the accessible part of southeastern Oregon’s semi-arid country... As a 23-year veteran of the region, I found much in the book that is new to me.” —Dr. William H. Lyons, archaeologist

At first glance the landscape looks desolate—a barren realm of basalt rims, high cold deserts, dry lakes, and vast expanses of grass and sage. In fact, it is a place where petite flowers bloom on rock shelves. Tiny organisms thrive in hot springs and water saltier than any ocean. Even some of the soil is unique—a special combination that collects and retains water and allows ancient pine stands to survive. The diminutive pika harvests meadow grass, building miniature haystacks to store food for the winter. When the time is right, thousands of tiny green and black frogs emerge from mud cracks along a lake perimeter. There is also human history, evidenced by petroglyphs and remnants of ranches, mills, and mines. Indeed, remote southeast Oregon is a rich wonderland of mountains, forests, creatures, and more—one well worth exploring.

Designed as a road tour guide, Remote Wonders is an ideal introduction to Oregon’s magnificent corner. Individual chapters highlight notable natural and historical features. The book includes essays, numerous photos, and a pull-out map keyed to selected sites. Supplemental information includes side trip recommendations, potential hazards, when to travel, and what to bring.

Born and raised in Oregon’s Outback, the author’s affection for the region shines through. Ultimately, Melvin Adams hopes his book will entice readers to visit and delight in this wild steppe country.

Also of Interest

Netting the Sun
A Personal Geography of the Oregon Desert
Melvin R. Adams
ISBN 978-0-87422-236-4
Paperback • $16.95

Crooked River Country
Wranglers, Rogues, and Barons
David Braly
Paperback • $24.95
Developing the Pacific Northwest
The Life and Work of Asahel Curtis
William H. Wilson

Asahel Curtis arrived on the Puget Sound in 1888. The teenager labored on farms and eventually in his older brother Edward’s successful Seattle photography studio. By 1895 his extended family resided together in the city. With their support, Asahel set out for Skagway, Alaska, in September 1897. Armed with a box camera, he captured numerous images of the Klondike gold rush, recording the trail, miners, gold creeks, and Dawson City. But after he returned home in 1899, he found himself at odds with Edward over those very photographs.

The conflict led to a lifelong estrangement. Asahel partnered with William P. Romans to form another studio, and in time opened the Asahel Curtis Photo Co. Although he earned his living as a commercial photographer, his major focus was outside the camera lens. He married Florence Etta Carney and in 1907 purchased a small, irrigated farm in the Yakima Valley. Curiously, Asahel did not drive. But as a man who acted on his convictions, he became a dedicated member of the good roads movement. He battled issues surrounding highway beautification, crumbling roads caused by a burgeoning trucking industry, an international highway connecting Puget Sound with Alaska, and Yellowstone Trail Association activities. His overarching goal was not personal gain, but economic development and increased tourism for Washington.

Asahel had an enduring passion for Mount Rainier. He climbed its spectacular heights on multiple occasions and was a founder of the Seattle Mountaineers Club. He also chaired the Mount Rainier Advisory Board, fighting long and vigorously for the advancement of Mount Rainier National Park.

Developing the Pacific Northwest is the first full-length biography of the photographer/booster-mountaineer. Along with comparisons to work by his brother and other contemporaries, the author devotes attention to Asahel’s earlier years, his family and business relationships, his involvement with irrigation and cooperative marketing in eastern Washington, and his beliefs about resource development. Taken together, they provide a comprehensive study of this premier Pacific Northwest photographer.
On a frigid winter morning, young men and women proceeded toward a lonely brick building on a windy hill above Pullman, Washington. There to enroll in college, many came from farms and were deeply grateful for the opportunity. It was January 13, 1892, thirty years after the passage of Justin Morrill’s Land Grant Act and opening day for the Agricultural College, Experimental Station and School of Science of the State of Washington.

The new scholars received personal attention, which was not always the case at other institutions. Germany’s renowned universities were insulated by design—no one should disturb a professor while he was thinking. Harvard’s Charles W. Eliot followed that philosophy, as did Henry Philip Tappan, president of the state college in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

But in Pullman, as in the country’s other small institutions, even the tumultuous early years revolved around relationships. Third president Enoch A. Bryan shaped the school from 1893 to 1916 and often greeted individuals by name—even as the student population grew. By 1900 the campus had a dozen red brick buildings, all surrounding “The Quad.” Bryan believed in teaching through experiences, and hired “active learning” advocates like William J. Spillman. Once, speaking to agriculture teachers, the famous researcher told them to skip lectures about oat diseases and instead take pupils to the field to count damaged oat heads. “You are not teaching agriculture, you are studying agriculture with your students.” Interestingly, the college’s chief scientist was also its first football coach.

The campus championed involvement—whether in music, sports, politics, or debate—until for the majority it became an unquestioned value and essential part of learning. Professors were accessible, often inviting students to their homes in the evening. Even decades later former pupils give glowing accounts of their mentors. As they participated in mascot antics, the Greek system, upheavals in student body politics, and the 1936 strike, state college students also deeply influenced faculty and administrators.

Instilling Spirit traces Washington State University’s early decades, offering a unique perspective on the college experience as it developed in the United States and the Cougar community.

Also of Interest

Picture WSU
Images from Washington State University
Paperback • $19.95

Buck Bailey
The Making of a Legend
Weldon B. “Hoot” Gibson
Hardbound • $10.00
Wild Place
A History of Priest Lake, Idaho
Kris Runberg Smith with Tom Weitz

Remote and rugged, Idaho’s Priest Lake remains a wild place, with brutal winters and an upper lake accessible only by foot, mountain bike, or boat. Even so, beginning in the 1890s a wide cast of homesteaders, prospectors, speculators, and loggers tried their best to tame it.

Despite impressive forests, turn-of-the-century Western expansion bypassed the area, sparing its idyllic beauty. In 1897 President Grover Cleveland created the Priest River Forest Reserve, initiating an enduring tension between public and private lands. Soon both timber and summer cottages were in high demand. Rangers doled out permits, scrappy residents eked out a living, and families created a cherished seasonal community.

Devastating wildfires initiated profound change, leading the Civilian Conservation Corps to concentrate on fire suppression. After World War II, population growth accelerated, electricity became commonplace, and a local newspaper crowed, “Priest Lake has become a cult with many vacationists.” Wild Place traces the region’s history, focusing on little-known yet captivating stories of its colorful characters.

Yellowstone Summers
Touring with the Wylie Camping Company in America’s First National Park
Jane Galloway Demaray

In 1872 Congress established Yellowstone National Park, and its vast wonders mesmerized early sightseers. One of them, school superintendent William Wallace Wylie, visited in July 1880 and was immediately smitten. He returned to Bozeman, Montana, and arranged his first tour group. That effort evolved into a full-fledged business, and from 1896 to 1905 the Wylie Camping Company fed, sheltered, and guided thousands of Victorian vacationers.

Wylie enticed travelers with promises of comfort, ease, and delicious meals, as well as partitioned, heated sleeping tents, informative outings, and fresh-air bonfires. His staff utilized the park as an outdoor classroom, setting an example for concessions. Anecdotes include observations of wildlife, the arrest of a bison poacher, and an altercation with the park’s game warden.

But operating his business was a formidable task. There were hungry bears, runaway horses, and cantankerous stage coach drivers. Wylie also contended with various officials and politicians. In the end, his unswerving efforts helped develop, define, and preserve tourism in the West, particularly in America’s first national park.
Encounters with the People
Written and Oral Accounts of Nez Perce Life to 1858
Compiled and edited by Dennis Baird, Diane Mallickan, and William R. Swagerty

Organized both chronologically and thematically, Encounters with the People is an edited, annotated compilation of unique primary sources related to Nez Perce history—Native American oral histories, diary excerpts, military reports, maps, and more. Generous elders shared their collective memory of carefully guarded stories passed down through multiple generations. The work begins with early Nimiipuu/Euro-American contact and extends to the period immediately after the Treaty of 1855 held at Walla Walla.

Most of the selected material is published for the first time or is found only in obscure sources. Part of the Voices from Nez Perce Country series, Encounters with the People includes a thorough, up-to-date, annotated bibliographical essay by Dr. William Swagerty. Those interested in the Nez Perce, Native American studies, Lewis and Clark, early missionary work, and Inland Northwest settlement will find it an essential reference work.
**BEST SELLERS**

**Barnyards and Birkenstocks**  
Why Farmers and Environmentalists Need Each Other  
Don Stuart

Rural America faces two dangerous trends—the loss of farms and damage to ecosystems—and the author believes a major cause is political deadlock. He proposes a radical solution: collaboration.  
2014 • 288 pages • Paperback • $28.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-322-4

**Battle Ready**  
The National Coast Defense System and the Fortification of Puget Sound, 1894–1925  
David M. Hansen

Describing designs, innovations, frustrations over implementation plans, and more, *Battle Ready* summarizes the fascinating saga of Washington State’s seacoast defense.  
2014 • 208 pages • Paperback • $32.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-320-0

**Coal Wars**  
Unions, Strikes, and Violence in Depression-Era Central Washington  
David Bullock

Conflicting labor alliances turn coal miners and their families against each other—a heated, violent battle that unleashes enduring bitterness. *Coal Wars* tells the fateful story.  

**The Crimson Spoon**  
Plating Regional Cuisine on the Palouse  
Jamie Callison with Linda Burner Augustine  
Photographs by E.J. Armstrong

“Start with great ingredients, apply simple cooking techniques, and magic happens.”  
Featuring over 100 recipes covering an array of palates, this lavishly photographed cookbook celebrates regional specialties. Published by the Washington State University College of Business.  
2013 • 224 pages • Hardbound • $38.00 • ISBN 978-0-615-86917-9
In the Path of Destruction
Eyewitness Chronicles of Mount St. Helens
Richard Waitt

A geologist with intimate knowledge of Mount St. Helens, Richard Waitt chronicles the eruption through unforgettable, riveting narratives—the heart of a masterful chronology that also delivers engrossing science, history, and journalism.

2015 • 416 pages • Paperback • $22.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-323-1

John Mullan
The Tumultuous Life of a Western Road Builder
Keith C. Petersen

This West Point engineering graduate completed the West’s first highway. Much of Mullan’s 625-mile triumph became part of Interstate 90. Now Idaho’s State Historian takes a fresh look at the soldier/explorer.

2014 • 352 pages • Paperback • $32.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-321-7

Made in Hanford
The Bomb that Changed the World
Hill Williams

At an isolated location along the Columbia River in 1944, the world’s first plutonium factory became operational, producing fuel for the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, during World War II. Former Seattle Times science writer Hill Williams traces the amazing, tragic story—from the dawn of nuclear science to Cold War testing in the Marshall Islands.

2011 • 208 pages • Paperback • $22.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-307-1

Native Trees of Western Washington
A Photographic Guide
Kevin W. Zobrist

Zobrist, a WSU Extension professor, confers a delightful, enlightening, and lavishly illustrated examination of regional indigenous trees—all from a forestry specialist’s unique perspective.

2014 • 160 pages • Paperback • $18.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-324-8
The Restless Northwest
A Geological Story
Hill Williams

In an easy, conversational style, *The Restless Northwest* provides a brief overview of the remarkable geological processes that have shaped the Pacific Northwest.

2002 • 176 pages • Paperback • $19.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-250-0

Rugged Mercy
A Country Doctor in Idaho’s Sun Valley
Robert Wright

Idaho physician Robert H. Wright’s long and captivating career, chronicled by his grandson, illuminates medicine and family life as well as the region’s thrilling Wild West past.


Surviving the Oregon Trail, 1852
As Told by Mary Ann and Willis Boatman and Augmented with Accounts by other Overland Travelers
Weldon Willis Rau

The 1852 overland migration was the largest on record, and also a year in which cholera took a terrible toll in lives. Presented here are firsthand accounts of those fateful times, including the words and thoughts of a young married couple, Mary Ann and Willis Boatman.

2001 • 256 pages • Hardbound • $35.00 • ISBN 978-0-87422-237-1
2001 • 256 pages • Paperback • $23.95 • ISBN 978-0-87422-238-8

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David Thompson on the Columbia Plateau
Jack Nisbet

Experience the sweep of human and natural history on the early nineteenth-century Columbia Plateau through the eyes of intrepid explorer and cartographer David Thompson.

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