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In Darkest Alaska: Travel and Empire Along the Inside Passage

By Campbell, Robert.

University of Pennsylvania Press. 1 Paperback(s), 2007. soft. Book Condition: New. Even before the great Klondike Gold Rush of 1897, Alaska loomed large in the American imagination as a land of unknown wonders. Thousands of adventurers journeyed along the Inside Passage the nearly 1,000-mile sea lane that runs along the Pacific coast from Puget Sound to Icy Strait including wilderness advocate John Muir, landscape painter Albert Bierstadt, and photographers Eadweard Muybridge and Edward S. Curtis. Drawing on firsthand accounts, archival photographs, and maps, Robert Campbell explores the popular images conjured by these travelers' tales, chronicling how Gilded Age sightseers were inspired by Alaska's bounty of tribal artifacts, geological riches, and novel thrills. By portraying Alaska as a "Last West" ripe for American conquest, tourists helped pave the way for later settlement and exploitation. 348.



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