Lewis and Clark Among the Nez Perce: Strangers in the Land of the Nimiipuu

By Allen V. Pinkham

The Dakota Institute. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 332 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.3in. x 1.0in. This extraordinary new look at Lewis and Clark among the Nez Perce represents a breakthrough in Lewis and Clark studies. Lewis and Clark Among the Nez Perce is the first richly detailed exploration of the relationship between Mr. Jefferson’s Corps of Discovery and a single tribe. James Rondas groundbreaking Lewis and Clark Among the Indians (1984) reversed the lens for the first time, to look broadly at the Lewis and Clark expedition through the Native American point of view. Nearly three decades later, Nez Perce historians Allen V. Pinkham and Steven Ross Evans have examined the journals of Lewis and Clark with painstaking care to tease out new insights from what Lewis and Clark wrote about their Nez Perce hosts. Pinkham and Evans evaluate both what Lewis and Clark understood and what they misunderstood in the Nez Perce (Nimiipuu) lifeway and political structure. More particularly they have re-examined the journals for clues about how the Nez Perce reacted to the bearded strangers. They have also gathered together and put into print for the first time the stands of a surprisingly rich Nez Perce oral tradition...

Reviews

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Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark crossed Nez Perce country in the fall of 1805 and again in the spring of 1806. With the exception of their winter encampments, the Corps of Discovery spent more time among the Nez Perce than any other group they encountered in their journey. After some initial apprehension, the Nez Perce embraced the expedition, providing aid during a very trying time and reminded friendly to Lewis and Clark when they returned in 1806. In the aftermath of the expedition’s departure, the promises of a productive relationship with the United States government proved James Ronda’s groundbreaking Lewis and Clark Among the Indians (1984) reversed the lens for the first time, to look broadly at the Lewis and Clark expedition through the Native American point of view. Nearly three decades later, Nez Perce historians Allen V. Pinkham and Steven Ross Evans have examined the journals of Lewis and Clark with painstaking care to tease out new insights from what Lewis and Clark wrote about their Nez Perce hosts. Pinkham and Evans evaluate both what Lewis and Clark understood and what they misunderstood in the Nez Perce (Nimiipuu) lifeway and political structure.

3 Nimiipuu: Peoplehood, Survival, and Relocation: Strangers in a Strange Land. J. Diane Pearson. https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv105b94j.10. The forty-five-year-old Nez Perce Superintendent of the North Idaho Indian Agency, who championed the Nez Perce language (NimiipuutÅmt), Nez Perce sovereignty, and indigenous nationalism, as well as advocated for American Indian education, was gone. Father Cornelius E. Byrne, from the Society of Jesus (sj), who sang the requiem mass and delivered the eulogy, remembered Phinney as a man who dedicated his life to his work, and this work was his people’s; Byrne stated further that Phinney had developed himself by his own God-given talents, not to Nez Perce historians Allen V. Pinkham and Steven Ross Evans have examined the journals of Lewis and Clark with painstaking care to tease out new insights from what the explorers wrote about their Nez Perce hosts. Pinkham and Evans evaluate both what Lewis and Clark understood and what they misunderstood in the Nez Perce (Nimiipuu) lifeway and political structure. More particularly they have re-examined the journals for clues about how the Nez Perce reacted to the bearded strangers. They have also gathered together and put into print for the first time the strands of a surprisingly rich Nez Per...