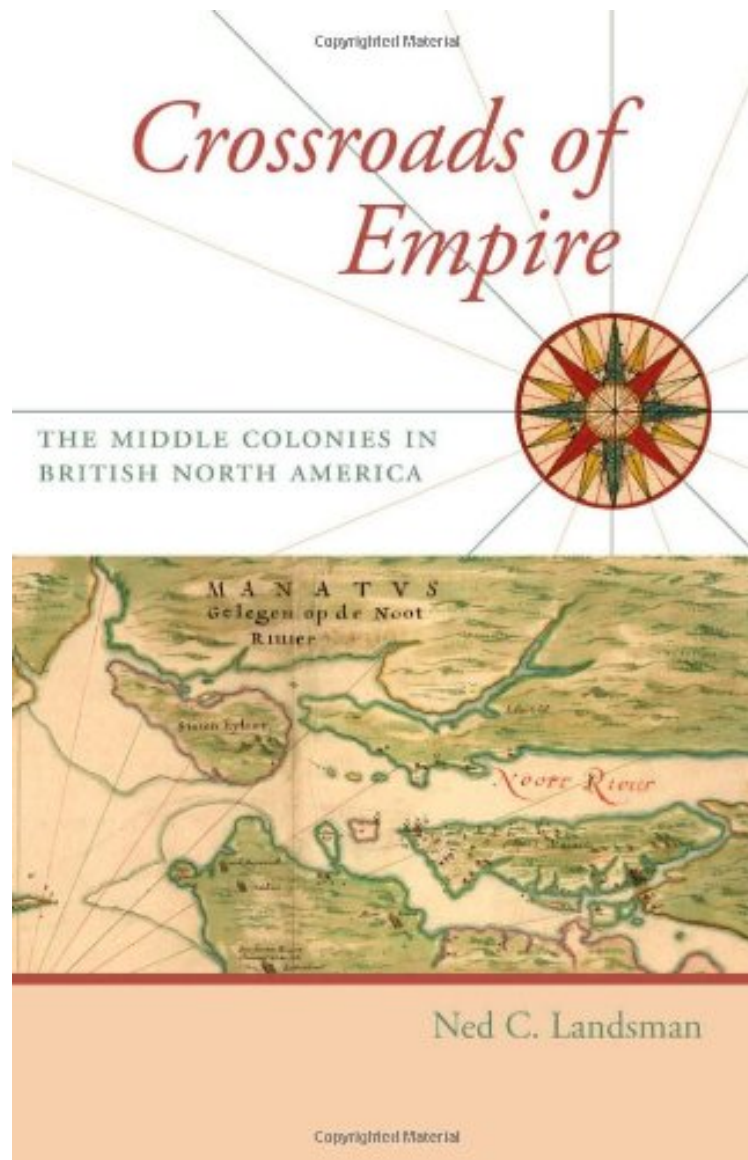


(Get free) Crossroads of Empire: The Middle Colonies in British North America (Regional Perspectives on Early America)

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Ned C. Landsman

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great ReadBy wvaddictGreat book for those interested in Colonial issues in the middle colonies of North America.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Read it for a classBy HistorianThis was a really interesting read. I had to read this for one of my classes, and the depth of knowledge and the organization has made this a strong read to describe this region and time -- it certainly enlightened me a great deal.

This work examines the Middle ColoniesNew York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvaniaas a region at the center of imperial contests among competing European powers and Native American nations and at the fulcrum of an emerging British-Atlantic world of culture and trade.Ned C. Landsman traces the history of the Middle Colonies to address questions essential to understanding their role in the colonial era. He probes the concept of regionality and argues that while each territory possessed varying social, religious, and political cultures, the collective lands of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania came to function as a region because of their particular history and their distinct place in the imperial and Atlantic worlds. Landsman demonstrates that the societal cohesiveness of the three colonies originated in the commercial and military rivalries among Native nations and developed further with the competing involvement of the European powers, eventually emerging as the focal point in the contest for dominion over North America. In relating this progression, Landsman discusses various factors in the region's development, including the Enlightenment, evangelical religion, factional politics, religious and ethnic diversity, and distinct systems of Protestant pluralism. Ultimately, he argues, it was within the Middle Colonies that the question was first posed, What is the American?An insightful and valuable classroom synthesis of the scholarship of the Middle Colonies, *Crossroads of Empire* makes clear the vital role of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania in establishing an American identity.

"Solid, well-sourced, and very readable. Recommended." (PhiloBiblos)"Researchers on the middle colonies may find it a starting point and essential reference on most topics." (Choice)"Informative, nicely written synthesis." (Judith A. Ridner *Journal of American History*)"Landsman and the press are to be commended for promoting, albeit in traditional print format, the importance of the middle colonies for the development of American society to an English-speaking, twenty-first-century audience that is increasingly unaware of historical perspectives before the founding of the Republic." (Marianne S. Wokeck *Historian*)"Students new to the field and senior scholars alike can benefit from, and should enjoy, this excellent short volume." (Liam Riordan *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*)About the AuthorNed C. Landsman is a professor of history at the State University of New York at Stony Brook and the author of *From Colonials to Provincials* and *Scotland and Its First American Colony, 1683-1765*.