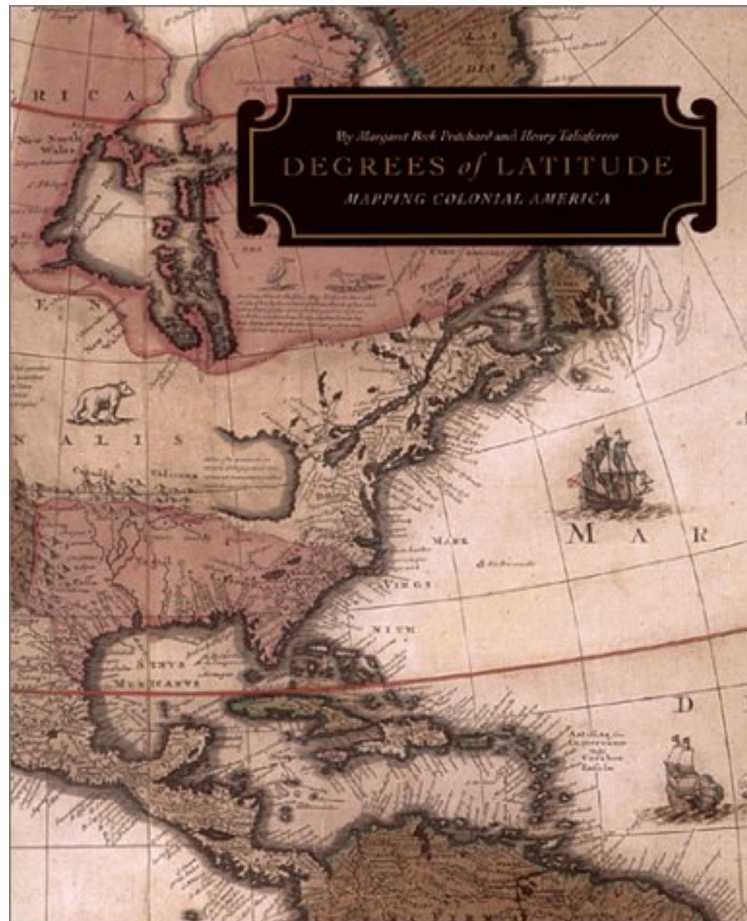


(Ebook free) Degrees of Latitude: Mapping Colonial America (Williamsburg Decorative Arts Series)

Degrees of Latitude: Mapping Colonial America (Williamsburg Decorative Arts Series)

Margaret Beck Pritchard

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Margaret Beck Pritchard : Degrees of Latitude: Mapping Colonial America (Williamsburg Decorative Arts Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Degrees of Latitude: Mapping Colonial America (Williamsburg Decorative Arts Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy ahigherauthorityIf you are a student of Colonial cartography, you simply require this volume in your library0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A beautiful coffee table bookBy CaryI would have liked more close ups for some locations, as much of my interest is genealogical and I wanted to see various areas up close. However the bookm is chock full of maps beautifully reneredered, and it's hard to complain about such a wanderful artifact.21 of 21 people found the following review helpful. A book of the first degree, and I don't mean latitudeBy A CustomerAnyone who enjoys historic maps, particularly of colonial America, will be extremely glad they purchased this book. I have absorbed most of the print off the pages, being careful to leave the innumerable high resolution images in the book for future enjoyment. Many of

the maps illustrated are of such rarity that one will rarely, if ever, see them elsewhere. The book has 5 main sections: 1. Claiming the Land covers 40+ pages; the maps illustrated in this section "tell the story of how Europeans took possession of the land in the New World by royal claims by discovery and exploration, by companies comprised of private investors..., or by wealthy individuals asserting personal holdings. The obvious way... to substantiate ownership [was] by illustrating boundary lines on a chart or map." 2. Maps as Symbolic Objects covers 10 pages includes numerous engravings or portraits from the colonial era in which the subjects are holding or studying maps, or in which maps or globes can be seen in the background. 3. A Selection of Maps from the Colonial Williamsburg Collection is by far the largest section, covering about 268 pages. Just a few of the notable publishers or cartographers works included in this section are Ortelius, de Bry, Smith, Dudley, Senex, Moll, De Brahm, (John) Mitchell, Popple, Fry Jefferson, Mouzon, Faden... WOW, I guess I shouldn't try to name them all. 4. The Atlas of John Custis, 1698 covers about 80 pages. A very thorough and fascinating history of this remarkable composite atlas is followed by a complete analysis of the 94 maps and charts contained therein. 5. Philip Lea and the Seventeenth-Century Map Trade covers almost 20 pages and provides an overview of the actual "business end" of the map trade in the 17th century, and a detailed look at Lea's business. This is a topic frequently (and unfortunately) overlooked in many historical map related texts. Are there any flaws? Not really. I did notice that on several occasions the "detail" images of a section of a map offered no better resolution than the full map image. This is more a compliment to the quality of the full map images than an insult to the "details." I believe the author's intent was to draw attention to a particular component of the map with the "detail" images, not necessarily provide "Hubble" resolution. I have no reservations at all in recommending this book, regardless of how many map books are already on your book shelf. The illustrations alone (I counted 482,185) are justification enough for purchasing the book. But I also found the accompanying text equally fascinating and edifying. Reading the book is not a chore or a bore, yet provides a tremendous educational experience. Oops, I didn't mean to imply that educational books are usually boring, but I guess I did. And no, there aren't really 482,185 illustrations, but there are a boatload, and they are of superb quality. Enjoy the book!

This handsomely illustrated collection of maps of Colonial America takes readers on a spectacular voyage across the continent, and into the geographic imaginations of the first European settlers in America.