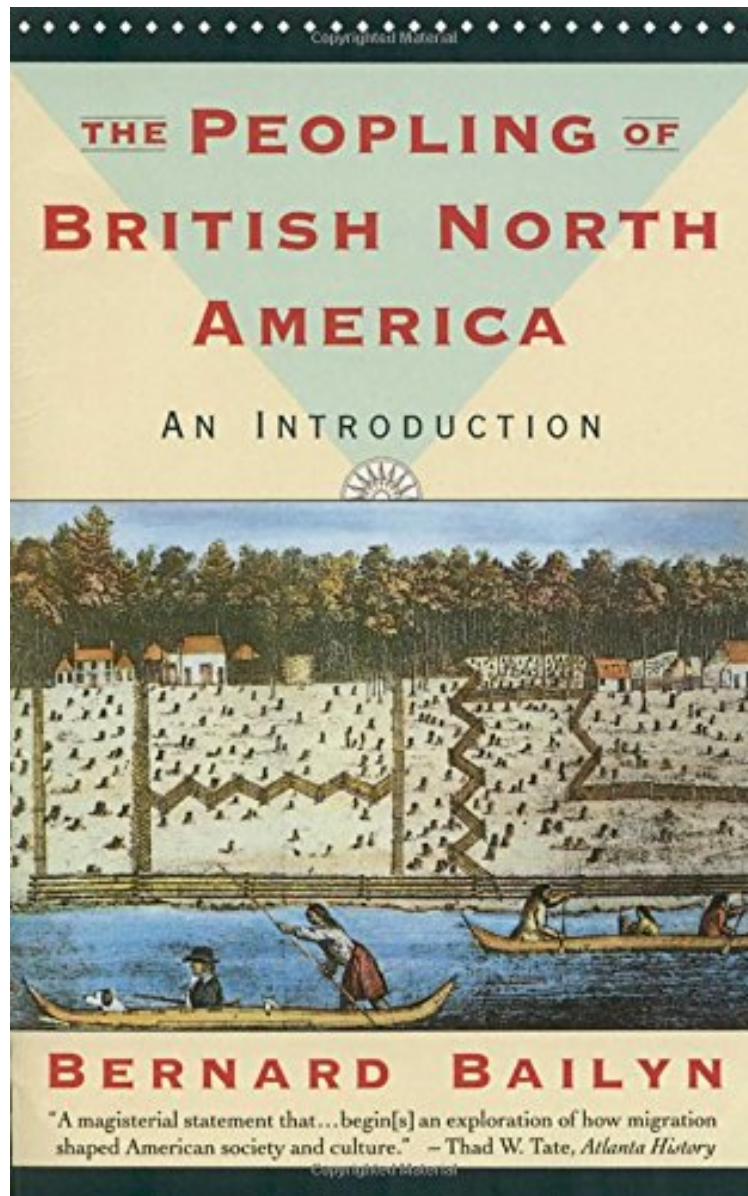


# The Peopling of British North America: An Introduction

Bernard Bailyn

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#703308 in Books Bernard Bailyn 1988-04-12 1988-04-12 Original language: English PDF # 1 8.08 x .53 x 5.131, .47 #File Name: 0394757793192 pages The Peopling of British North America An Introduction | File size: 35.Mb

**Bernard Bailyn : The Peopling of British North America: An Introduction** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Peopling of British North America: An Introduction:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. It's Tough to Start a New Country By E. Geisler I selected this book because I am interested in finding out what made individuals start to come to the "new world." Why would someone

make such a move? In this, and other works by the same author, the reader is introduced to numerous risk takers, men without fame, who took a plunge into the unknown. I think what impressed me most was the amount of violence many of these people encountered. Whether it was battles between competitors over land, between themselves and Indians, or with the obstinate land they worked to tame. This was no easy, quickly accomplished task. When we think about how much we rely on schedules and communication, efficient transportation, handy food supply, and warm housing, it is obvious that these were not available and that getting people here to settle and sustain themselves was not easily accomplished. This author presents these challenges well. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good Introduction to Author's Subsequent Works By George Godley Well researched and written; however, the style was a bit too academic and detailed for me as an introduction to the full-books (i.e., *The Barbarous Years*). It may be a tough read for some, but it does set the stage for Mr. Bailyn's subsequent works. 17 of 19 people found the following review helpful. Brief Introduction to Promising "Voyagers to the West" By S. Pactor This is a brief introduction to Bailyn's highly regarded "Voyagers to the West". The book is, as it states, a series of transcribed lectures that Bailyn delivered to college undergrads. You can tell that these are lectures, but Bailyn has provided ample footnoting at the back of the book. Understand that this is a short book. It should only take about a couple of hours (maybe less) to read. "Voyagers to the West" runs about 800 pgs, so you'd probably want to read this before that, just to make sure this is what you are interested in. Bailyn uses four "propositions" to frame the themes of his lectures. The propositions boil down to the idea that the received wisdom we have about the peopling of the British colonies in America is wrong and that the process was more complex than we thought. I would refer those unfamiliar with this approach (that of framing "propositions" for historical inquiry), to the work of the Annales school in France (Marc Bloch, Phillipe Aries, etc). Fans of David Hackett Fischer's "Albion's Seed" will want to check this one out.

In this introduction to his large-scale work *The Peopling of British North America*, Bernard Bailyn identifies central themes in a formative passage of our history: the transatlantic transfer of people from the Old World to the North American continent that formed the basis of American society. *Voyagers to the West*, which covers the British migration in the years just before the American Revolution and is the first major volume in the Peopling project, is also available from Vintage Books.

From Publishers Weekly Bailyn, prize-winning Harvard historian (Pulitzer, Bancroft, National Book Award), is writing a multivolume interpretive history of the transatlantic movement of people from Europe to America between 1500 and the Industrial Revolution. This volume, which introduces the series, will be followed by *Voyages to the West* announced for publication in the fall. Despite the outpouring of specialized studies, Bailyn notes, the transatlantic movement of some 50 million people remains a blur, a story without structure and scale. He shows how the findings of diverse scholars will be brought together in his series by following several lines of interpretation: that migration was an extension of European domestic mobility; led to the creation of widely varying American urban settlements; and (fired by labor needs and land speculation) gave rise by the early 18th century to an America that was a "ragged outer margin" of British culture. These themes whet appetites for what promises to be an important series. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Mr. Bailyn brings a new vividness, authenticity and excitement to the story of the settlement of North America....He sees the past in a more lively and human fashion, and in sharper detail, than have most previous historians....This is a rich canvas of a great folk-wandering over two centuries .... If the Introduction is any guide to what is to follow, the volumes to come will be treasure houses indeed."-- Esmond Wright, *The New York Times Book* "With a spare and delicate genius, [Bailyn] sketch[es] out the fiendishly complex essentials of a world where 'everything seems strange close up.'... Bernard Bailyn's work has the grandeur of a Braudel and the humanity of a Michelet. And he's got to the roots."-- Gwyn A. Williams, *The Guardian* From the Inside Flap In this introduction to his large-scale work *The Peopling of British North America*, Bernard Bailyn identifies central themes in a formative passage of our history: the transatlantic transfer of people from the Old World to the North American continent that formed the basis of American society. *Voyagers to the West*, which covers the British migration in the years just before the American Revolution and is the first major volume in the Peopling project, is also available from Vintage Books.