America’s West

The American West has influenced important national developments throughout the twentieth century, not only in the cultural arena but also in economic development, in political ideology and action, and in natural resource conservation and preservation. Using regionalism as a lens for illuminating these national trends, America’s West: A History, 1890–1950 explores this region’s history and its influence on the rest of America. Moving chronologically from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century, David Wrobel examines turn-of-the-century expansion, the Progressive Era, the 1920s, the Great Depression and the New Deal, World War II, and early Cold War years. He emphasizes cultural and political history, showing how developments in the West frequently indicated the future direction of the country.

David M. Wrobel is a native Londoner who came to the United States for graduate school in 1985 and never left. He is the author of Global West, American Frontier (2013, winner of the Western Heritage Award for nonfiction), Promised Lands (2002), and The End of American Exceptionalism (1993) and is currently working on “John Steinbeck’s America: A Cultural History, 1930–1968.” David is a past president of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association and of Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society, and is a frequent collaborator with K–12 teachers across the country.
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America’s West

A History, 1890–1950

DAVID M. WROBEL

University of Oklahoma
For my mother, Evelyn, with everlasting love and gratitude, from the Southern Great Plains to Southwest London
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