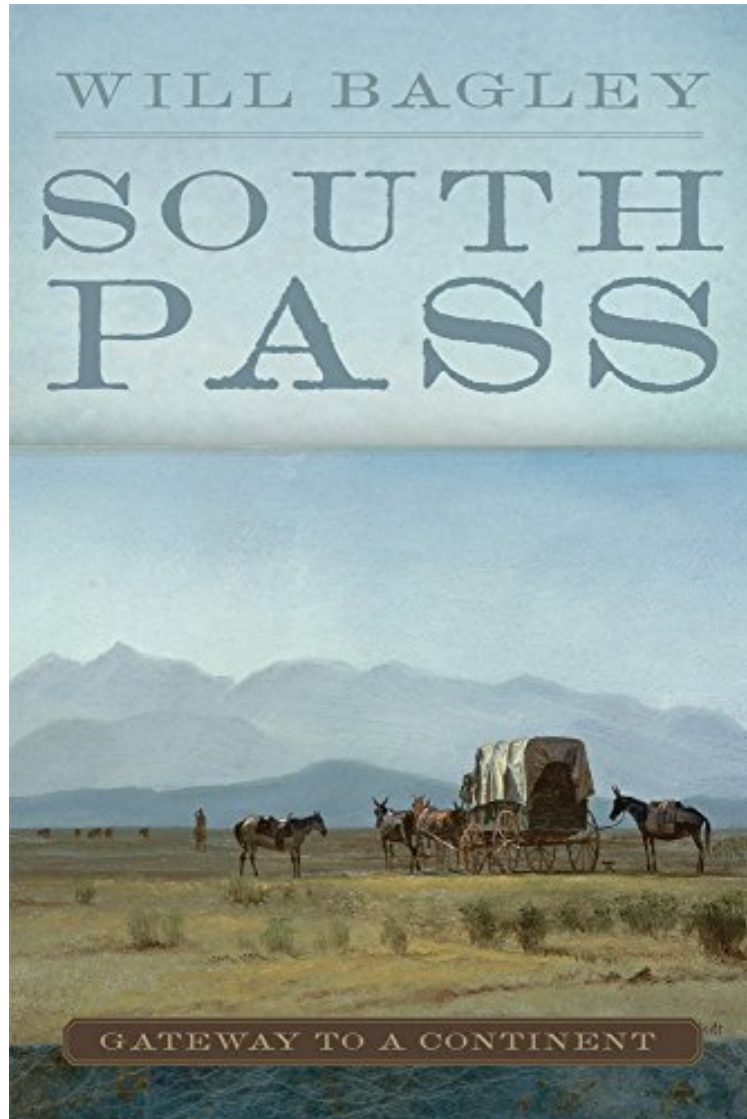


(Download) South Pass: Gateway to a Continent

## South Pass: Gateway to a Continent

Will Bagley

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**Will Bagley : South Pass: Gateway to a Continent** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised South Pass: Gateway to a Continent:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Needs maps very badly.By Hugh T. HarringtonIf ever a book called out for maps this is it. Technically, it does have "maps" but they're 100+ years old and so reduced in size that even with a magnifying glass they can't be used. They're mere decoration. Yet, on every page there are places named, roads/trails, landmarks, towns, etc. and the poor reader doesn't know where they are or how they relate geographically

to each other. Can't believe this book was published without maps. I'd pass on this otherwise excellent book simply because they left out the key to the whole story - maps.\*\*\*\*January 1, 2016. Update. I've downgraded my rating from 3 stars to 2 stars. I found myself reading this book less and less until a few weeks ago I realized that I hadn't opened it and had no urge to do so. The cause is entirely due to the lack of useful maps. Each page has events, places, trails/roads/streams that the reader needs to be able to place geographically. Yet, without maps this can't be done. I've given up in frustration. What a shame. Reminds me of the quotation from Ben Franklin:For the want of a nail the shoe was lost,For the want of a shoe the horse was lost,For the want of a horse the rider was lost,For the want of a rider the battle was lost,For the want of a battle the kingdom was lost" And all for the want of a horseshoe-nail.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great source for South Pass historyBy B. BatesReadable history if not a page-turner. The author goes into great detail concerning the pass and all that goes with its history. Including what went on before the pass was "discovered" and all that happened during/after that. Great source for history of the region. In this day and age I would like to see more authors use GPS coordinates when they write about specific locations instead of general directions. Otherwise I cannot fault this book. May be dry reading so some - but to the history buff it is well worth the effort.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great!By Martha CAnother great historical saga.....

Wallace Stegner called South Pass one of the most deceptive and impressive places in the West. Nowhere can travelers cross the Rockies so easily as through this high, treeless valley in Wyoming immediately south of the Wind River Mountains. South Pass has received much attention in lore and memory but attracted no serious book-length study until now. In this narrative, award-winning author Will Bagley explains the significance of South Pass to the nation's history and to the development of the American West. Fur traders first saw South Pass in 1812. From the early 1840s until the completion of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific Railroads almost forty years later, emigrants on the Oregon, California, and Mormon Trails used South Pass in transforming the American West in a single generation. Bagley traces the peopling of the region by the earliest inhabitants and adventurers, including Indian peoples, trappers and fur traders, missionaries, and government-commissioned explorers. Later, California gold rushers, Latter-day Saints, and families seeking new lives went through this singular gap in the Rockies. Without South Pass, overland wagons beginning their journey far to the east along the Missouri River could not have reached their destinations in a single season, and western settlement might have been delayed for decades. The story of South Pass offers a rich history. The Overland Stage, Pony Express, and first transcontinental telegraph all came through the region. Nearly a century later, President Dwight D. Eisenhower designated South Pass as one of America's first National Historic Landmarks. An American place so rich in historical significance, Bagley argues, deserves the best of historical preservation efforts.

About the Author Will Bagley is an independent historian who has written about overland emigration, frontier violence, railroads, mining, and the Mormons. Bagley has published extensively over the years and is the author and editor of many books, articles, and reviews in professional journals. Bagley is the series editor of Arthur H. Clark Company's documentary history series, KINGDOM IN THE WEST: The Mormons and the American Frontier. Bagley has been a Wallace Stegner Centennial Fellow at the University of Utah and the Archibald Hannah, Jr. Fellow in American History at Yale University's Beinecke Library. Blood of the Prophets: Brigham Young and the Massacre at Mountain Meadows has won numerous awards including a Spur Award from Western Writers of America, the Bancroft History Prize from the Denver Public Library, Westerners International Best Book, and the Western History Association Caughey Book Prize for the most distinguished book on the history of the American West. So Rugged and Mountainous: Blazing the Trails to Oregon and California, 1812-1848 is the first of four volumes of Overland West: The Story of the Oregon and California Trails Series.