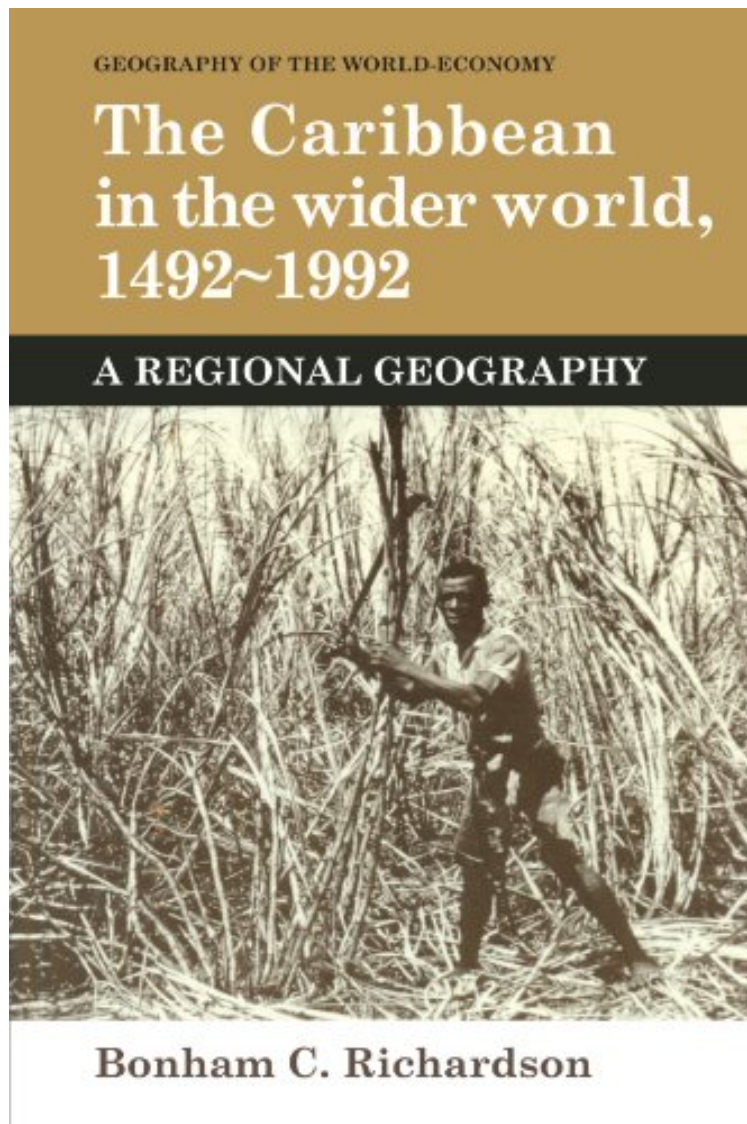


[Ebook free] The Caribbean in the Wider World, 1492-1992: A Regional Geography (Geography of the World-Economy)

The Caribbean in the Wider World, 1492-1992: A Regional Geography (Geography of the World-Economy)

Bonham C. Richardson

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Bonham C. Richardson : The Caribbean in the Wider World, 1492-1992: A Regional Geography (Geography of the World-Economy) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Caribbean in the Wider World, 1492-1992: A Regional Geography (Geography of the World-Economy):

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy ZullayGood condition4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. 500 years of difficult historyBy W BoudvilleIn this short treatise, Richardson spans 500 years of development in the Caribbean. The emphasis is on an economic description of the history. The political events are given short shrift. There is a detailed look at slavery as instituted by the European powers. Mostly to grow sugar cane. The discussion is rather dry, and does not stray into the egregious violations of human rights engendered by the transportation of hundreds of thousands from Africa to toil in the Caribbean. Later, we see the development of other crops, especially bananas. Accompanied by decolonisation, but with the massive influence of the United States, especially through various multinationals. One common theme is that the region was simply too small in terms of people and resources to be fully independent. The history of the region is also largely of the influence of greater external powers. There is also an account of the recent migrations within the Caribbean and to the US and Britain, giving rise to an Afro-Caribbean diaspora.

The Caribbean was Europe's first colony, its landscapes transformed to produce tropical staples and its decimated aboriginal populace replaced with African slaves. As European power has waned in the Caribbean, it has been replaced by the geopolitical domination of the United States. Professor Richardson examines this colonization and recolonization of the Caribbean during the past half millennium, portraying a region victimized by natural hazards, soil erosion, overpopulation and gunboat diplomacy. Most importantly, he explains the ways in which Caribbean peoples have reacted and adapted to their external influences. No other single survey of the region provides equivalent breadth--ranging from aboriginal ecologies to today's narcotic traffic--or harnesses so effectively elements of the past to illuminate the present.