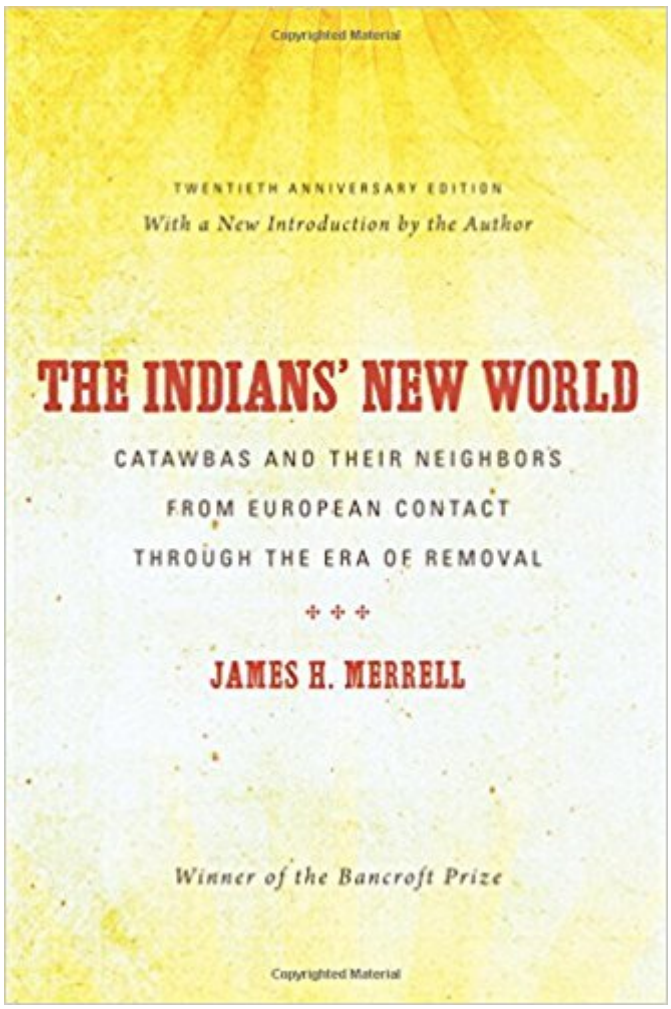
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The Indians' New World: Catawbas And Their Neighbors From European Contact Through The Era Of Removal, 20th Anniversary Ed (Institute Of Early American History & Culture)




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Synopsis

This eloquent, pathbreaking account follows the Catawbas from their first contact with Europeans in the sixteenth century until they carved out a place in the American republic three centuries later. It is a story of Native agency, creativity, resilience, and endurance. Upon its original publication in 1989, James Merrell's definitive history of Catawbas and their neighbors in the southern piedmont helped signal a new direction in the study of Native Americans, serving as a model for their reintegration into American history. In an introduction written for this twentieth anniversary edition, Merrell recalls the book's origins and considers its place in the field of early American history in general and Native American history in particular, both at the time it was first published and two decades later.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Working with difficult evidence and supplementing his reading of the historical record with material from anthropology, folklore, and archaeology, Merrell has produced a well-written and impressive study.--Colin Calloway, The Journal of American HistoryOne of the most carefully crafted and smoothly written narratives I have ever read.--James Axtell, The Journal of Southern HistoryThis thoroughly researched and gracefully written book sets a new standard in American Indian history.--Daniel Usner, Journal of American Ethnic History

The Indians' New World became, at the time of its publication, an instant classic. The story it tells of the Catawbas--balancing agency with victimization, triumph with trauma--can serve as a microcosm

of Native American history at large. Deeply researched, beautifully constructed, written with both power and grace, it has lost none of its lustre today.--John Demos, Yale UniversityThe title says it. . . . By choosing as his protagonists a new people, the Catawbas, who emerged from encounter with Europeans, Merrell made change the central story. In the process, he gave historians a new world, too.--Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Harvard University

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