



The Irish American Myth of the Frontier West (Hardback)

By Marguerite Quintelli-Neary

Academica Press, United States, 2008. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. This is the first research monograph to study the interstices between native Irish folklore and the emerging myth of the American West during the last frontier period (1860 - 1890). It begins with by tracing the role of Irish pioneers and their contributions to the westward migration and then examines the many parallel developments between the myths of Ireland and those that would come to define the American West. Dr Quintelli-Neary, for instance, discusses the adoption of traditional Irish music for Custer's 7th Cavalry (the Garry Owen) as well as the Texas Rangers; this reaffirms not only the presence of the Irish but validates an incorporation of their culture in a blending western population. By examining the trends of American western mythology through the exploits of four major icons who are Irish by origin, association or appropriation the author demonstrates how their adventures serve to enrich a mythology that Americanizes them, while retaining such traditional Celtic features as a cattle raid, the elopement and pursuit motif, the formation of vigilance groups and the establishment of non traditional roles for female heroes. A study...

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