North Of 53: The Wild Days Of The Alaska-Yukon Mining Frontier, 1870-1914

William R Hunt
Alaska is a U.S. state in the northwest extremity of the United States West Coast, just across the Bering Strait from Asia. The Canadian province of British Columbia and territory of Yukon border the state to the east and southeast. Its most extreme western part is Attu Island, and it has a maritime border with Russia (Chukotka Autonomous Okrug) to the west across the Bering Strait. To the north are the Chukchi and Beaufort seas’ southern parts of the Arctic Ocean. The Pacific Ocean lies to the south North of 53°: The Wild Days of the Alaska-Yukon Mining Frontier, 1870-1914. Article. Jan 1976. J am hist. William R. Hunt. Saints and sinners, whores and housewives, swindlers and laborers alike attempted a hasty adjustment to novel conditions in a land that seemed strange and forbidding, writes William R. Hunt in his narrative history of Alaska mining. Hunt has hiked and mined many of the same claims he writes about in the book, and North of 53 offers a rare glimpse into far-flung communities from Skagway to the Yukon to the deep interior of Alaska to the Ididarod and Nome on the Bering Sea. View. Show abstract.
Saints and sinners, whores and housewives, swindlers and laborers alike attempted a hasty adjustment to novel conditions in a land that seemed strange and forbidding, writes William R. Hunt in his narrative history of Alaska mining. Hunt has hiked and mined many of the same claims he writes about in the book, and North of 53 offers a rare glimpse into far-flung communities from Skagway to the Yukon to the deep interior of Alaska to the Iditarod and Nome on the Bering Sea.
Hunt chronicles 40 colorful years of Alaskan booms and depressions, from the first prospectors, the Klondike and Nome stampedes, through the later gold discoveries in Fairbanks and smaller settlements. He also includes a chapter on the literary frontier: Jack London with his brute men and human animals, balladeer Robert Service (“The Shooting of Dan McGrew,” “The Cremation of Sam McGee”), and Rex Beach (The Spoilers). But the glory of the north was as much in the small people as the more extravagant swindlers and big winners. Hunt pans the whole area with a fine eye for paydirt in simple pick-and-spade gold seekers, and in the romantic yearnings of desolation’s hopefuls. Read Book The hard-rock men: Cornish immigrants and the North American mining frontier On Book. Nahaya.

Above, Hammond River (Goldbottom Gulch), J. C. Kinney and partners picked up nuggets from bedrock valued at about $20,000; one nugget, the second largest ever found in Alaska, was worth $2600. The rest of the dump when sluiced yielded a little less than the value of the “pickings.” (Engineering and Mining Journal, 1915, p. 1021; T. Bundzten, personal communication, 1999).
The Wild Days of the Alaska-Yukon Mining Frontier, 1870-1914. by Hunt, William R. Here is the story of the rough, bawdy, adventurous men and women who brought Alaska and the Yukon to national attention in the gold rush of 1897. Now in paperback, this classic book provides a rare glimpse at the social players that pique the armchair historian's attention. Hunt has written an anecdotal narrative that follows hungry prospectors, canny shopkeepers, hopeful hangers-on, and crafty lawyers through a succession of gold camps and temporary towns stretching north from Skagway to Dawson and Circle on the Yukon, deep in the northern interior, and then west through the flashes of R Good news You can still get free 2-day shipping, free pickup, & more. Continue Shopping. Try another ZIP code. ï… Delivering to. Nowâ€”FREE NextDay delivery. Same Every Day Low Prices. Free on $35+ eligible orders. No membership fee. Hunt has hiked and mined many of the same claims he writes about in the book, and North of 53 offers a rare glimpse into far-flung communities from Skagway to the Yukon to the deep interior of Alaska to the Ididarod and Nome on the Bering Sea. Specifications. Publisher. University of Alaska Press. Book Format. Paperback.
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