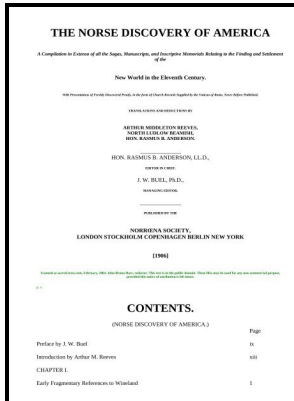


Viking discovery of America, 985 to 1008 - the Greenland Norse and their voyages to Newfoundland

Edwin Mellen Press - Academic Book: Viking Discovery of America, 985



Description: -

America -- Discovery and exploration -- Norse.
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Vikings Discovery of America

The weather was unfavorable and the vessel drifted far to the north. Putting the land astern, Bjarni sailed east and four days later arrived at the Norse settlement in Greenland. And as Alex Zukas maintains, early-modern cartography was also a valuable political-economic tool that assisted the state and merchants in the accumulation of capital from overseas sources, an accumulation which helped them develop power and wealth.

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The Norwegian, Leif Erikson, stands at the rising, and the Dane, Vitus Bering, at the setting sun, and clasp the great American continent in their strong Scandinavian arms. Ward Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 2000.

Academic Book: Viking Discovery of America, 985

While the initial reaction was to conclude that the discovery provided powerful archaeological support for the argument that Vinland was there, at the top of Newfoundland's Northern Peninsula, specialists today are unwilling to describe L'Anse aux Meadows as anything more than a temporary or seasonal habitation site.

Who 'Discovered' America? It Wasn't Columbus...

The sagas--that is to, say, the histories--written in Iceland, describing these voyages of the Norsemen, give very full accounts of the daily life in the Vinland colony, of the explorations, of the natives of America, of the various kinds of products of the soil, of the climate, etc. According to the Sagas of Icelanders, Icelandic literary sagas based on real historical events, it was Erik the Red to first arrive in Greenland.

New ruins of Viking village near the Hudson River seriously question where were the borders of the legendary Vinland

The Norsemen then voyaged south to a timber-rich location they called Markland Forestland, most likely in present-day Labrador, before finally setting up a base camp likely on the northern tip of the island of Newfoundland. He issued tracts of land to his followers. Hoidal reminds us that

three of the four Greenland Norse voyages to North America that were described in the sagas returned with cargoes of lumber, and that archaeological remains provide evidence that timber harvesting continued well after the Vinland voyages came to an end.

The Viking Explorer Who Beat Columbus to America

The Norse mainly relied on the Nordrsetur hunt, a communal hunt of migratory harp seals that would take place during spring.

Vikings in Oklahoma: Norsemen and the Heavener Runestone

IV: 1 September 2002 , pp.

Vikings Discovery of America

While Columbus is , the man considered to be the leader of the first European expedition to North America has not been totally forgotten on the calendar.

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