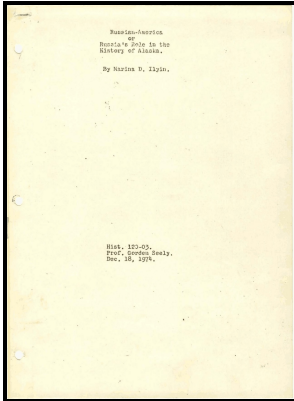


Russian America - the great Alaskan venture, 1741-1867

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Russian America: the Great Alaskan Venture, 1741

Sixty years after the Cossack Ermak crossed the Ural Mountains in 1579, the Cossack Dimitri Kopylov reached the Pacific Ocean, in 1639, at the sea now known as the Sea of Okhotsk. The Russians believed that in a dispute with Britain, their hard-to-defend region might become a prime target for British aggression from, and would be easily captured. Inspired by the same pastoral theology as or , the origins of which come from early Christianity's need to adapt to the cultures of , missionaries in Russian America applied a strategy that placed value on local cultures and encouraged indigenous leadership in parish life and missionary activity.

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Russian colonists took Koniag wives and started families whose surnames continue today, such as Panamaroff, Petrikoff, and Kvasnikoff. The Soviets allow a one-day visit of a group of Alaskans to the Siberian port city of Providenya.

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Its charter was laid out in a 1799, by the new , which granted the company monopolistic control over trade in the and the North America mainland, south to. Coauthor Marvin Falk, a recognized authority on the history of the cartography of Alaska, updated portions of the translated text to reflect scholarship published since 2000. AbeBooks offers millions of new, used, rare and out-of-print books, as well as cheap textbooks from thousands of booksellers around the world.

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