

Contents

Preface, vii

Introduction: Dreams and Homelands, 1

Chapter **1** A New World Begins, 7

Chapter **2** Contest of Cultures, 17

Chapter **3** The Struggle of Empires, 28

Chapter **4** The Western Land and Its Markers, 39

Chapter **5** The Fur Trade, 52

Chapter **6** From Texas to Oregon, 62

Chapter **7** War and Destiny, 80

Chapter **8** Mining Frontiers, 94

Chapter **9** The Power of the Road, 109

Chapter **10** Open Range, 121

Chapter **11** The Safety Valve, 133

Chapter **12** A Search for Community, 147

Chapter **13** The Urban Frontier, 163

Chapter **14** Plunder and Preservation, 176

Chapter **15** The Myth of the Frontier, 191

Chapter **16** The Frontier and West in Our Time, 204

Further Reading, 227

Index, 231

Illustrations follow pages 56, 104, 152, and 200