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Nancy P. Appelbaum

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#1914897 in Books Nancy P Appelbaum 2016-05-23 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.21 x .72 x 6.141, .0 #File Name: 1469627442320 pages Mapping the Country of Regions The Chorographic Commission of Nineteenth Century Colombia | File size: 20.Mb

Nancy P. Appelbaum : Mapping the Country of Regions: The Chorographic Commission of Nineteenth-Century Colombia before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised

Mapping the Country of Regions: The Chorographic Commission of Nineteenth-Century Colombia:

The nineteenth century was an era of breathtakingly ambitious geographic expeditions across the Americas. The seminal Chorographic Commission of Colombia, which began in 1850 and lasted about a decade, was one of Latin America's most extensive. The commission's mandate was to define and map the young republic and its resources with an eye toward modernization. In this history of the commission, Nancy P. Appelbaum focuses on the geographers' fieldwork practices and visual production as the men traversed the mountains, savannahs, and forests of more than thirty provinces in order to delineate the country's territorial and racial composition. Their assumptions and methods, Appelbaum argues, contributed to a long-lasting national imaginary. What jumps out of the commission's array of reports, maps, sketches, and paintings is a portentous tension between the marked differences that appeared before the eyes of the geographers in the field and the visions of sameness to which they aspired. The commissioners and their patrons believed that a prosperous republic required a unified and racially homogeneous population, but the commission's maps and images paradoxically emphasized diversity and helped create a "country of regions." By privileging the whiter inhabitants of the cool Andean highlands over those of the boiling tropical lowlands, the commission left a lasting but problematic legacy for today's Colombians.

A truly compelling work that provides an important understanding of Colombian culture and history. Highly recommended.--CHOICE A welcome addition to the English-language history of nineteenth-century Colombia, contributing to the history of its science and providing a counterpoint to works that tend to focus on divisions seen principally from a single region.--Hispanic American Historical Review Provides a lens through which we can observe the mechanics of national formation in nineteenth-century Colombia through the analysis of the Chorographic Commission's visual and textual materials.--Journal of Historical Geography A fine addition to a growing body of work in Latin American cartographic history, Mapping the Country of Regions also makes a distinctive contribution to the history of mid-nineteenth-century Colombia. Meticulously researched, thoughtful, and engaging.--Ernesto Capello, Macalester College This insightful and ground-breaking book shows the multiple contradictions and paradoxes of mid-nineteenth-century nation building in Colombia, in particular, and in the Americas, more generally. Mapping the Country of Regions takes us a step closer to understanding the phenomenon of regionalism as an intermediate step in the creation of nations.--Jorge Canizares-Esguerra, University of Texas at Austin About the Author Nancy P. Appelbaum, professor of history at Binghamton University, The State University of New York, is co-editor of Race and Nation in Modern Latin America and author of Muddied Waters: Race, Region, and Local History in Colombia, 1846-1948.