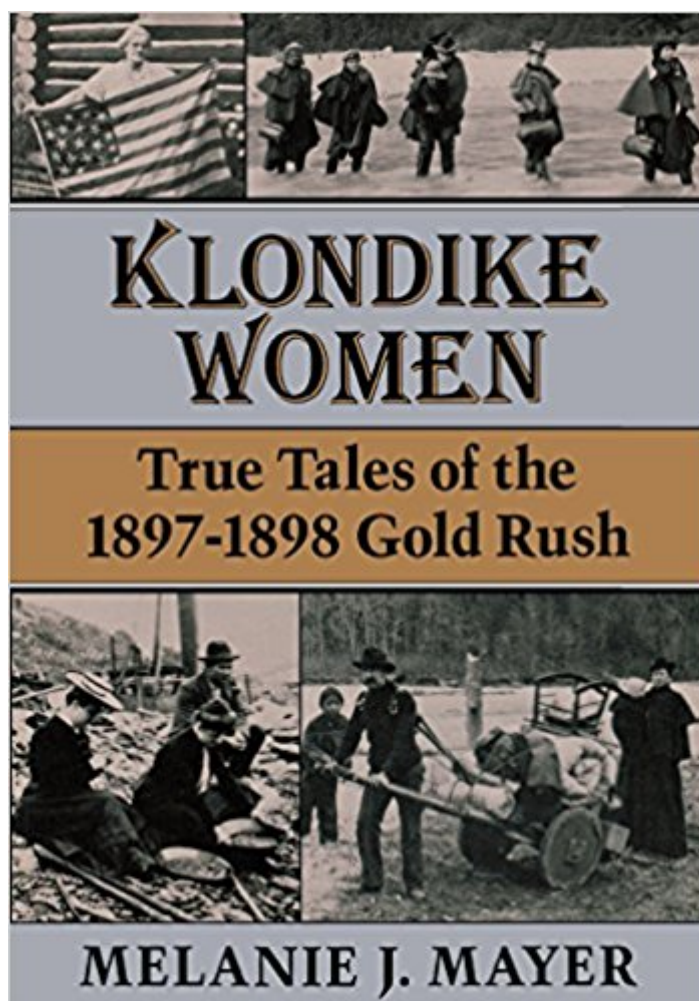


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Klondike Women: True Tales Of The 1897-1898 Gold Rush



Synopsis

Klondike Women is a compelling collection of historical photographs and first-hand accounts of the adventures, challenges, and disappointments of women on the trails to the Klondike gold fields. In the midst of a depression near the turn of the twentieth century, these women dared to act on the American dream. As they journeyed through the Northwest wilderness, they explored and extended not only the physical frontiers of North America but also the social frontiers about the place of women. Challenging the myth that the only women who participated in gold rushes were prostitutes and gold-diggers of the euphemistic sort, Melanie Mayer shows us that Klondike women came from all walks of life; socialites to poor immigrants, single women, wives, widows, and children. They planned to make their money through many different undertakings including mining, business, entertainment, professional, and service enterprises. Their approaches to life were as varied as their roles; optimistic or skeptical; cautious or adventuresome; gregarious or self-contained; contemplative or active. There was no typical Klondike woman. Individually, their stories can be funny, hopeful, tragic, or poignant. Taken together, they give rich, complex images of the people, times, and places of the gold rush. A visually exciting book, Klondike Women features over 150 photographs and illustrations. This volume should appeal not only to the general reader, but to those interested in history, women's studies, and the Pacific Northwest as well.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Profiles in courage may be an overworked phrase, but it fits this story

exactly. Melanie Mayer has assembled a group of remarkable women and she uses many of their own words in chronicling their experiences in the last great trek of the nineteenth century. The book is not only enlightening about the various trails to the Klondike—the Chilkoot, the White Pass, the Edmonton, and the Stikin-Teslin—but it is great armchair adventure as well. —R. N. DeArmond

Klondike Women is a compelling collection of historical photographs and first-hand account of the adventures, challenges, and disappointments of women on the trails to the Klondike gold fields. In the midst of a depression near the turn of the twentieth century, these women dared to act on the American dream. As they journeyed through the Northwest wilderness, they explored and extended not only the physical frontiers of North America but also the social frontiers about the 'women's place.'

This is a good companion book for someone wanting to read the entire narrative on the Klondike and Gold Rush era, which shockingly seemed to rise and fall within a handful of years. Tales from the women's side are interesting, showing a whole nuther side of life there and how hardy women faced the same and often worse privations, successes and tragedies as the menfolk. Read this in conjunction with Rebel Women of the Klondike. I started my Klondike study with the book The Klondike Fever by Breton which while far more detailed, gives another view of many of the same events and varies in details on who did what and why. The entire study is one of widespread mania, greed, deception, tragedy and hopes, sometimes fulfilled to the ultimate and banked, others fulfilled and on top of the world until the gold ran out, the land lots in town went from thousands apiece to nothing and people marooned in the White North with so little to eat they starved. This has epic movie written all over it. I move for Brad Pitt as lead protagonist, leaving New York on the marketing wave of Gold In Them Thar Hills. Cameo by Jack Nicholson as the land baron cashing in the mania with paddle boats and hotels. Angelica Huston as the hotel lady [name escapes me] whose shipment was abandoned by a contract hauler and she went down to the docks and found the meanest guys around, had them fight it out for boss, then marched up the mountain, commandeered her load and all the horses of the defalcating contract hauler. Who needs fiction? This stuff is amazing.

Terrific account of the many women from varied backgrounds who became successful pioneers in the largest gold rush, in terms of people, in North America. Wonderful biographic depictions of these

women, their motivations, failures and successes, from the entrepreneurial real estate tycoons to those who supplied services and provisions to the stampeders.

Women were great during this period.

I really loved this book. I bought it in conjunction with a research project about Nellie Cashman, longtime resident of Arizona and one of American's earliest female mining experts. The details about the trials and tribulations of these people (women and men) are extraordinary. The author has really done her homework. She tries to tell the story of the Klondike by illustrating the trails with diary entries, personal accounts and contemporary pictures. I think she succeeds in doing just that and more. I recommend this book to anyone interested in Western history, in Mining history or even in Women's Studies. GOOD BOOK! BUY ME NOW! :)

I received this book on the 5th. Very fast delivery. I just started reading and it is very interesting and Kudos to the women.

Book was in better shape than it was listed. Slight wear on cover but other than that, in fine condition.

Enjoyable reading! Very informative.

This book was very helpful in researching family genealogy of the Klondike area. I was searching for the maternal aunt of a Southern California pioneer who became rich and famous.

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