

Foreword

In the rarified and sparsely populated realm of the cartographic history of North America, the arrival of a new book is a significant event. Books on the subject can be divided into two categories. The first and more frequently appearing are literary works to whet or satisfy the appetites of the aficionados, including those with a cursory interest and others with a passion for the subject matter. The readership includes scholars, historians, collectors, librarians, and dilettantes. Although the cumulative number is small, the level of enthusiasm is high. These literary works are read, generally with pleasure and then relegated to a book shelf along side others related to the subject. The second category of publications includes reference works. The reference works are kept constantly available, close at hand. The bindings are opened and closed on innumerable occasions. They evoke recurrent appreciation from the readers.

Philip D. Burden's extension of his *Mapping of North America* that appeared in 1996 is a most welcome addition. The *Mapping of North America* encompassed a period from 1511 to 1670, and provided the most inclusive and detailed presentation of the subject. The fact that the current extension is limited to 30 years speaks to the increasing production of maps depicting North America and the complexity of the required research. The period covered by this volume witnessed the spread of settlement from Virginia, one of the bloodiest conflicts on American soil, King Philip's War, the separation of the colony of New Hampshire from Massachusetts, the establishment of the province of Pennsylvania, the expansion of the French westward to Lake Superior, the discovery of the Mississippi River, and the definition of the geographical relationship between California and the continent. The maps produced during that period provide graphic evidence of the events that took place.

A carto-bibliography, such as is uniquely provided by this book and its predecessor, is truly invaluable. It has the permanence of a skeleton to which can be added the functional elements of analysis that can enhance our knowledge of the history of the westernization of North America.

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The Mapping of America,
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