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American Exodus: The Dust Bowl Migration and Okie Culture in California

By James N. Gregory

Oxford University Press. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 360 pages. Dimensions: 9.4in. x 6.6in. x 1.0in.Fifty years ago, John Steinbecks now classic novel, The Grapes of Wrath, captured the epic story of an Oklahoma farm family driven west to California by dust storms, drought, and economic hardship. It was a story that generations of Americans have also come to know through Dorothea Langes unforgettable photos of migrant families struggling to make a living in Depression-torn California. Now in James N. Gregorys pathbreaking American Exodus, there is at last an historical study that moves beyond the fiction of the 1930s to uncover the full meaning of these events. American Exodus takes us back to the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930s and the war boom influx of the 1940s to explore the experiences of the more than one million Oklahomans, Arkansans, Texans, and Missourians who sought opportunities in California. Gregory reaches into the migrants lives to reveal not only their economic trials but also their impact on Californias culture and society. He traces the development of an Okie subculture that over the years has grown into an essential element in Californias cultural landscape. Gregory vividly depicts how Southwesterners brought with them...



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