



## Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America

By Gwenn A. Miller

 Download

 Read Online

**Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America** By Gwenn A. Miller

From the 1780s to the 1820s, Kodiak Island, the first capital of Imperial Russia's only overseas colony, was inhabited by indigenous Alutiiq people and colonized by Russians. Together, they established an ethnically mixed "kreol" community. Against the backdrop of the fur trade, the missionary work of the Russian Orthodox Church, and competition among Pacific colonial powers, Gwenn A. Miller brings to light the social, political, and economic patterns of life in the settlement, making clear that Russia's modest colonial effort off the Alaskan coast fully depended on the assistance of Alutiiq people.

In this context, Miller argues, the relationships that developed between Alutiiq women and Russian men were critical keys to the initial success of Russia's North Pacific venture. Although Russia's Alaskan enterprise began some two centuries after other European powers—Spain, England, Holland, and France—started to colonize North America, many aspects of the contacts between Russians and Alutiiq people mirror earlier colonial episodes: adaptation to alien environments, the "discovery" and exploitation of natural resources, complicated relations between indigenous peoples and colonizing Europeans, attempts by an imperial state to moderate those relations, and a web of Christianizing practices. Russia's Pacific colony, however, was founded on the cusp of modernity at the intersection of earlier New World forms of colonization and the bureaucratic age of high empire. Miller's attention to the coexisting intimacy and violence of human connections on Kodiak offers new insights into the nature of colonialism in a little-known American outpost of European imperial power.

 [Download Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Rus ...pdf](#)

# Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America

*By Gwenn A. Miller*

## **Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America** By Gwenn A. Miller

From the 1780s to the 1820s, Kodiak Island, the first capital of Imperial Russia's only overseas colony, was inhabited by indigenous Alutiiq people and colonized by Russians. Together, they established an ethnically mixed "kreol" community. Against the backdrop of the fur trade, the missionary work of the Russian Orthodox Church, and competition among Pacific colonial powers, Gwenn A. Miller brings to light the social, political, and economic patterns of life in the settlement, making clear that Russia's modest colonial effort off the Alaskan coast fully depended on the assistance of Alutiiq people.

In this context, Miller argues, the relationships that developed between Alutiiq women and Russian men were critical keys to the initial success of Russia's North Pacific venture. Although Russia's Alaskan enterprise began some two centuries after other European powers?Spain, England, Holland, and France?started to colonize North America, many aspects of the contacts between Russians and Alutiiq people mirror earlier colonial episodes: adaptation to alien environments, the "discovery" and exploitation of natural resources, complicated relations between indigenous peoples and colonizing Europeans, attempts by an imperial state to moderate those relations, and a web of Christianizing practices. Russia's Pacific colony, however, was founded on the cusp of modernity at the intersection of earlier New World forms of colonization and the bureaucratic age of high empire. Miller's attention to the coexisting intimacy and violence of human connections on Kodiak offers new insights into the nature of colonialism in a little-known American outpost of European imperial power.

## **Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America** By Gwenn A. Miller Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #4034046 in Books
- Published on: 2015-12-15
- Released on: 2015-12-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x .62" w x 6.13" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 248 pages

 [Download Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russi ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Rus ...pdf](#)



## Download and Read Free Online Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller

---

### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Russian expansion to America over three centuries left many shadows of memory. Among the most elusive of these are the 'kreol' of Kodiak Island, that first center of Russian commerce in Alaska and a location where a small number of persons of Russian fathers and Alutiiq mothers formed a unique society that lay between two worlds. Largely persons without education and having little literary skill, the sons and daughters of these unions left no records of their own. . . . They form a cluster or class of individuals that stand between the Russian overseers . . . and the Native societies that they left behind. Alutiiq men seem to have been taken into a rough bondage and used as hunters. The women were drawn to the Russian men and played powerful roles, largely in the domestic sphere. Basing her book on a wide range of sources, some Russian, Miller makes a good case for why the subject deserves to be rescued from obscurity." *Choice*, June 2010

"The Pacific World and its impact on the colonial Americas has yet to be as thoroughly explored as the Atlantic, but works such as Gwenn A. Miller's *Kodiak Kreol* demonstrate the importance of widening the view of colonial American encounters. Miller's book offers a colonial narrative far from the cities of Boston, New York, or Charleston that is both similar and different from the stereotypical westward European expansion model. . . . What she offers readers is compelling and engaging. Demonstrating how 'kreolization' took place in another colonial American setting amplifies the historical narrative of European and indigenous encounters in the new world; thus, *Kodiak Kreol* is not to be missed." *Itinerario*

"On Kodiak Island, the focus of Gwenn A. Miller's book, the Russian American Company pursued the fur trade and sought the support of church and state for its efforts. In the process, the company's agents disrupted the lives of the indigenous Alutiiq people, not least through forming relationships with local women and creating an ethnically mixed Kreol population. In her exploration of this North Pacific outpost, Miller focuses on how these initially tenuous and later increasingly formalized relationships laid the basis for a distinctive category and community of people within the Russian empire. . . . Although less well known than other Russian ventures, such as that at Sitka, Kodiak was, Miller argues, important in no small part because it lay at the 'crossroads of early Alaskan colonial contact.' . . . Peopling the eastward course of empire through Russia's expansion into the North Pacific with figures such as the ambitious fur trader Grigorii Shelikhov and the young Kreol students who traveled to Saint Petersburg, Miller succeeds in illuminating another, very different colonial story." *William and Mary Quarterly*

"Gwenn A. Miller has constructed a brilliantly conceived and elegantly written book that considerably heightens our understanding of the fur trade in Russian America and how the unique interactions of peoples at Russia's first and only overseas colony, Kodiak, Alaska, matured into a hybrid community distinguished by a complex blending of cultural elements. . . . Anyone with an interest in the fur trade, indigenous

societies, Alaska history, and Russian colonial and missionary history, will find *Kodiak Kreol* a fascinating and rewarding study."?Cary C. Collins, *Canadian Journal of History* (Autumn 2012)

"By focusing on the periphery of a great empire, Miller raises the problem of the dialectic between the periphery and the center. She views this problem through the prism of the Kodiak colony as the link between the two poles, the contact zone where they interacted with each other.*Kodiak Kreolis* a productive attempt to reconstruct the entire imperial project through the effects it produced on the periphery, using sociological, anthropological, and gender perspectives, and comparing this case with other colonial encounters."?Monica Cognolato,*Ab Imperio*(2013)

"In this fascinating book, Gwenn A. Miller skillfully explores the Russian colonization of Alaska, one of the most neglected stories of the early American past. Using Russian-language sources, Miller focuses on the intimate bonds that formed between Alutiiq people and newcomers. She not only shines light on the complex history of the Pacific Northwest but also offers a much broader analysis of how colonialism shaped family and gender relations."?Claudio Saunt, University of Georgia, author of *Black, White, and Indian: Race and the Unmaking of an American Family*

"*Kodiak Kreol* offers a nuanced and engaging account of the first years of contact between Russians and native peoples off the Alaskan coast. Miller's portrait of the intimate history of relations on Kodiak Island?between men and women, children and parents, priests and their flocks?is truly original."?Willard Sunderland, University of Cincinnati, author of *Taming the Wild Field: Colonization and Empire on the Russian Steppe*

"Most Europeans reached the Americas from across the Atlantic Ocean. The Russians, in contrast, approached North America from the west, having already acquired extensive colonial experience in Siberia. Their first?and only?overseas colony was in Alaska. In *Kodiak Kreol*, Gwenn A. Miller offers a new geographic and imperial perspective on colonial encounters in early America. Specialists in other empires in the early Americas and beyond will find this fascinating work rich in comparative perspectives and insights on a host of subjects, including labor, marriage, religion, sexuality, and, above all, the kreols?the mixed-race children of Russian men and indigenous women?who are the special focus of this book."?Alison Games, Georgetown University, author of *The Web of Empire: English Cosmopolitans in an Age of Expansion, 1560-1660*

#### About the Author

Gwenn A. Miller is Associate Professor of History at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Massachusetts.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### **Katherine Anderson:**

What do you in relation to book? It is not important together with you? Or just adding material when you require something to explain what yours problem? How about your spare time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to complete others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? Everybody has many questions above. They have to answer that question mainly because just their can do that will. It said that about publication. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is proper. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America to read.

#### **Cornell Warren:**

In this 21st millennium, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive currently, people have do something to make all of them survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the item for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a e-book your ability to survive raise then having chance to stand up than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading a book, we give you this Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America book as starter and daily reading guide. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

#### **David Barnett:**

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or perhaps 15 minute in your time to upgrading your mind ability or thinking skill possibly analytical thinking? Then you are having problem with the book in comparison with can satisfy your short period of time to read it because this time you only find reserve that need more time to be study. Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America can be your answer because it can be read by you actually who have those short extra time problems.

#### **Richard Dike:**

Guide is one of source of understanding. We can add our knowledge from it. Not only for students and also native or citizen require book to know the upgrade information of year to be able to year. As we know those books have many advantages. Beside all of us add our knowledge, could also bring us to around the world. Through the book Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America we can consider more advantage. Don't one to be creative people? For being creative person must choose to read a book. Just simply choose the best book that ideal with your aim. Don't end up being doubt to change your life with this book Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America. You can more inviting than now.

# **Download and Read Online Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller #ZSPRDMCFVOI**

## **Read Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller for online ebook**

Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller books to read online.

### **Online Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller ebook PDF download**

#### **Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller Doc**

**Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller Mobipocket**

**Kodiak Kreol: Communities of Empire in Early Russian America By Gwenn A. Miller EPub**