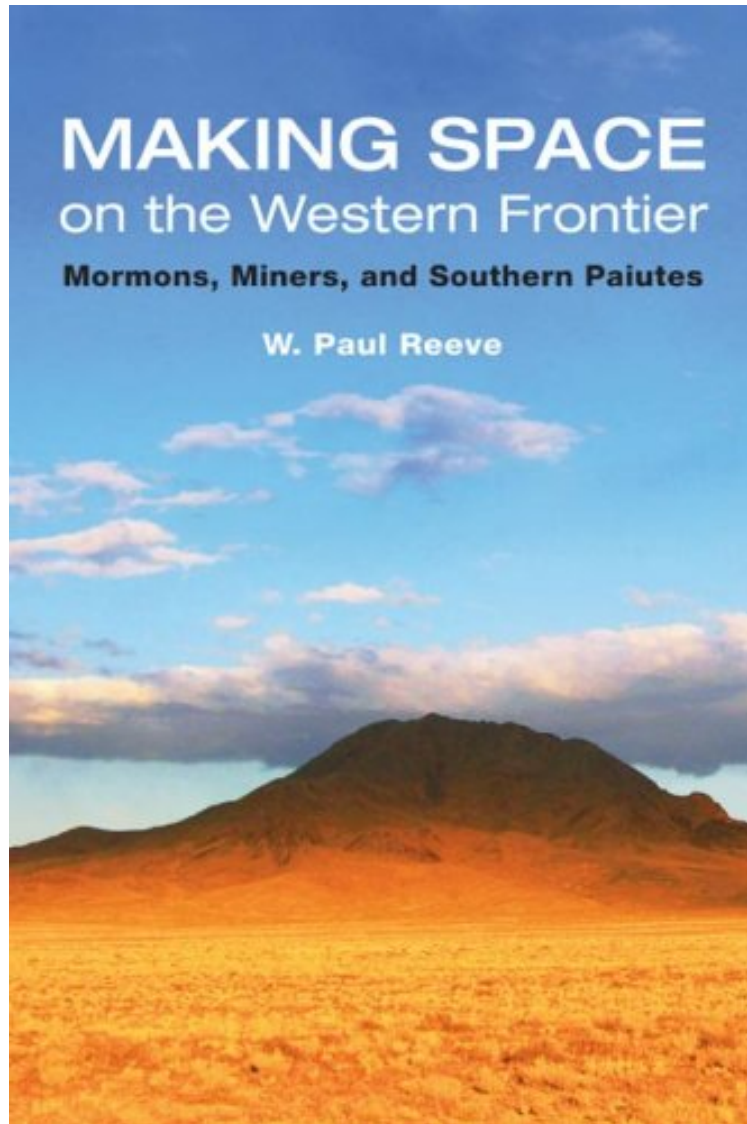


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# Making Space on the Western Frontier:: Mormons, Miners, and Southern Paiutes

W. Paul Reeve

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**W. Paul Reeve : Making Space on the Western Frontier:: Mormons, Miners, and Southern Paiutes** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Making Space on the Western Frontier:: Mormons, Miners, and Southern Paiutes:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Making Space on the Western FrontierBy Stephanie HuntW. Paul Reeve's book is one of the best I have read. Utah becomes a battleground for Indians, Mormon settlers and those

seeking mining fortunes. The stories draw the reader in. You begin to understand the conflicts that still exist today and the historical significance of them. This is a must have book for anyone who is interested in Western history. He is a gifted writer.

When Mormon ranchers and Anglo-American miners moved into centuries-old Southern Paiute space during the last half of the nineteenth century, a clash of cultures quickly ensued. W. Paul Reeve explores the dynamic nature of that clash as each group attempted to create sacred space on the southern rim of the Great Basin according to three very different world views. With a promising discovery of silver at stake, the United States Congress intervened in an effort to shore up Nevada's mining frontier, while simultaneously addressing both the "Mormon Question" and the "Indian Problem." Even though federal officials redrew the Utah/Nevada/Arizona borders and created a reservation for the Southern Paiutes, the three groups continued to fashion their own space, independent of the new boundaries that attempted to keep them apart. When the dust on the southern rim of the Great Basin finally settled, a hierarchy of power emerged that disentangled the three groups according to prevailing standards of Americanism. As Reeve sees it, the frontier proved a bewildering mixing ground of peoples, places, and values that forced Mormons, miners, and Southern Paiutes to sort out their own identity and find new meaning in the mess.

"Reeve's research into the diaries, memoirs, letters, newspaper accounts, government and court records, oral traditions, and ethnography is truly impressive, as is his handling of a vast but scattered secondary literature that crosses several topical fields . . . and research disciplines. . . . This is an important book that deserves wide readership and discussion, both for the history it uncovers and for the engaging scholarly model it presents."--Ethnohistory