

(Free) Firearms of the American West 1803-1865 (v. 1)

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Louis A. Garavaglia, Charles G. Worman : Firearms of the American West 1803-1865 (v. 1) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Firearms of the American West 1803-1865 (v. 1):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. IndispensableBy steveMore than just guns - it contains the history around the guns and and explains why the various types of firearms were favored or rejected by the original users both military and civilian. It reads like a novel and puts the evolution of firearms in context in a fascinating way. Indispensable to anyone who is interested in firearms.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Volume 1 of the Finest Work on Western FirearmsBy WillThis book and its companion volume are the finest works I have ever

found on firearms on the American west. Both military and civilian arms are well covered with both text and illustrations. Only the chapter on Native American firearms is a little light comparatively and it is still better than any work save Carl P. Russell's *Guns on the Early Frontiers*. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book. Now I have Vol I and Vol ...By Jim FieldsExcellent book. Now I have Vol I and Vol II . Great addition to my collection.

In 1803 Lewis and Clark set out on their epic expedition across the American wilderness west of the Mississippi, armed with the typical weapon of their day, the single-shot muzzle-loading rifle. By 1865, a variety of breech-loading and repeating arms had been invented there were both easier to use and more accurate. This encyclopedic study, part one of a two-part book, traces the development and uses of firearms on the frontier during that period, drawing on primary sources such as correspondence and diaries, newspaper accounts, government reports, and patent materials. Equally significant are the many rare photographs and illustrations that accompany the text. Then, as now, most of the advances in weaponry were made in response to the military's needs, becoming available somewhat later to civilians, and then to Indians. The authors thoroughly cover the refinements and adaptations of weapons for employ by these three groups and by explorers and trappers, describing in detail each gun, its modifications, operations, and uses. Some of the varieties of the weapons discussed include rifles, smoothbores, carbines and musketoons, and pistols. In many ways the history of firearms on the frontier parallels the history of the development of the West. This engrossing, detailed study adds an important new dimension to our understanding of many of the pivotal events in the settlement of the region, broadening, too, our knowledge of the individuals who took part in them.