

The book was found

# From Skisport To Skiing: One Hundred Years Of An American Sport, 1840-1940



## Synopsis

The first full-length study of skiing in the United States, this book traces the history of the sport from its utilitarian origins to its advent as a purely recreational and competitive activity. During the mid-1800s, inhabitants of frontier mining communities in the Sierra and Rocky mountains used skis for many practical reasons, including mail and supply delivery, hunting, and railroad repair. In some towns skis were so common that, according to one California newspaper, "the ladies do nearly all their shopping and visiting on them." But it was Norwegian immigrants in the Midwest, clinging to their homeland traditions, who first organized the skisport. Through the founding of local clubs and the National Ski Association, this ethnic group dominated American skiing until the 1930s. At this time, a wave of German immigrants infused America with the ethos of what we today call Alpine skiing. This type of skiing became increasingly popular, especially in the East among wealthy collegians committed to the romantic pursuit of the "strenuous life." Ski clubs proliferated in towns and on college campuses and specialized resorts cropped up from New England to California. At the same time, skiing became mechanized with tows and lifts, and the blossoming equipment and fashion industries made a business of the sport. On the eve of World War II, as the book concludes its story, all the elements were in place for the explosion in recreational and competitive skiing that erupted after 1945.

## Book Information

Paperback: 248 pages

Publisher: University of Massachusetts Press; Revised ed. edition (August 28, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1558490477

ISBN-13: 978-1558490475

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #1,952,747 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #63 in Books > Sports &

Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Skiing > Cross-Country #67 in Books > Sports & Outdoors >

Outdoor Recreation > Skiing > Downhill #152 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel >

Adventure > Skiing

## Customer Reviews

"A landmark study of American skiing that integrates the facts of the sport's history with the social

and economic environment in which it developed. This richly illustrated narrative is comprehensive in scope and as historically accurate as it is readable." •Linda Gray, Executive Director, New England Ski Museum "A solid, well-researched book. It is an immensely important contribution to sport history and fills a huge gap in the literature. Allen uses the source material well to evoke vivid pictures of skiers, merchants, marketers, and many others who made this history." •Stephen Hardy, University of New Hampshire

E. John B. Allen is professor of history at Plymouth State College.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

From Skisport to Skiing: One Hundred Years of an American Sport, 1840-1940 American Lighting: 1840-1940 Along the Great South Bay (Illustrated Edition): From Oakdale to Babylon, the Story of a Summer Spa, 1840 to 1940 Along the Great South Bay: From Oakdale to Babylon, (Long Island, NY) the Story of a Summer Spa, 1840-1940 Climbing and Skiing Colorado's Mountains: 50 Select Ski Descents (Backcountry Skiing Series) Backcountry Skiing California's High Sierra (Backcountry Skiing Series) Soft Skiing: The Secrets of Effortless, Low-Impact Skiing for Older Skiers Backcountry Skiing Utah: A Guide to the State's Best Ski Tours (Backcountry Skiing Series) Backcountry Skiing Utah (Falcon Guides Backcountry Skiing) For the Love of Skiing: A Visual History of Skiing The Physics of Skiing: Skiing at the Triple Point The Last Lion: Winston Spencer Churchill, Volume II: Alone, 1932-1940: Winston Spencer Churchill, Volume II: Alone, 1932-1940 West Indian Workers and the United Fruit Company in Costa Rica, 1870-1940: 1870-1940 Independence and Revolution in Mexico, 1810-1940: 1810-1940 (World History Library) Backcountry Skiing Snoqualmie Pass (Falcon Guides Backcountry Skiing) Myth, Magic, and Mystery: One Hundred Years of American Children's Book Illustration Cooking for One: 365 Recipes For One, Quick and Easy Recipes (Healthy Cooking for One, Easy Cooking for One, One Pot, One Pan) Recollections of Siberia, in the years 1840 and 1841 Separate Games: African American Sport behind the Walls of Segregation (Sport, Culture, and Society) More Than Just Peloteros: Sport and U.S. Latino Communities (Sport in the American West)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)