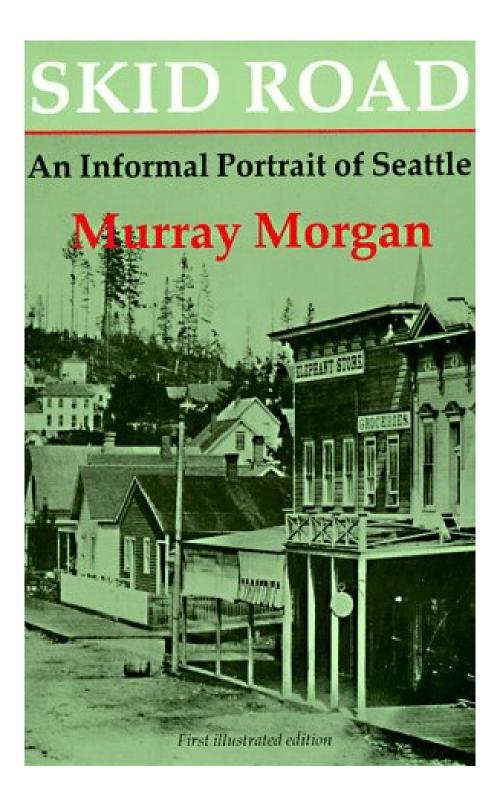


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#### Review

"No one who has ever writte Pacific Northwest history can match Murray Morgan's craftmanship, the signal virtues of which are pace, precision, humor, and a keen eye for the characterizing detail."?Norman Clark, Pacific Northwest Quarterly

"Mr. Morgan's book is the sort of corrective history that all communities should welcome."?Stewart Holbrook, New York Herald Tribune

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Informal and picturesque, Skid Road is the story of Seattle during its first hundred years, seen through the lives of the vigorous personalities of its settlers and early citizens. This handsomely illustrated revised edition brings Seattle's history up-to-date and provides a vivid portrayal of its past: pioneering, Indian warfare, lumber, railroads, the great fire of 1889, the Alaska gold rush, the amusement business, newspapers, the general strike of 1919, and the tumultuous politics of city and state that have made history in the Northwest.

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History as Literature

By James Kielland

Skid Road by Murray Morgan has become somewhat of a classic in the Seattle area, where having read it is basically an indication that you know something about the history of the city.

The book itself is not really what many people would refer to as a history book, however. The subtitle says it all: "an informal portrait." While the book can be read and enjoyed with little or no knowledge of Seattle history, this is a book that's best read for the purpose of providing vivid color to one's understanding of the history of the city. If you're looking for a traditional history with lots of data, maps, and so forth there are better places to begin.

But as a work of literature this is a wonderful book. Morgan is an amazing writer and storyteller, and Skid Road serves as a wonderful example of what local history writing can be. If you have a strong appreciation of quality writing this book will hold your attention even if you have no interest in Seattle.

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. before it was Yesler

### By Gabriel Murray

This is the consensus choice among local historians and writers for the best history of Seattle's founding, and it deserves to be. Morgan's portraits of pioneers like Doc Maynard and Arthur Denny are exhilirating and informative, and the book reads like a collection of excellent short stories rather than a dry recollection. If you are familiar with Seattle, this will change the way you look at Pioneer Square and the waterfront, but a knowledge of the city is not necessary to enjoy these stories of a city's establishment and maturation.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Like this book

By Noel

I was forced to read this book in a history class as a student at Central Kitsap High School. Not only did Mr. Morgan utterly FAIL to cross reference his sources regarding my people (the Suquamish) with any actual Suquamish people, he himself had never even been to our reservation or museum. He has regurgitated racist diatribe to goodness knows how many thosands of impressionible minds of impressonible americans for decades. This book is absolutely loaded with the legacy of white supremacy and historically inaccurate nonsense. The human rights council of Kitsap County advocated until it was removed from all Kitsao County school districts and replaced with updated, factual sources of historical information. Like this book? You'd probably like hitlers version of jewish history as well.

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