

The Roof At The Bottom Of The World: Discovering The Transantarctic Mountains

Stump, Edmund. *The Roof At The Bottom Of The World: Discovering The Transantarctic Mountains*. Yale Univ.. ISBN 9780300171976. sci.

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Nowhere will readers find a more complete history of the discovery and exploration of the Transantarctic Mountains than in this book. These mountains form the most remote and least-known range in the world. Stump (geology, Arizona State Univ.) takes readers from the 1800s, when the first Antarctic explorers glimpsed its peaks, to 1965, when all the mountains were finally mapped. An Antarctic geologist, Stump has conducted fieldwork in these mountains since 1970, and his enthusiasm for them is apparent here. The book is lavishly illustrated with Stump's own photographs of the area, showing the same views early explorers would have observed.

VERDICT A valuable contribution to the knowledge of these remote mountains, this book is recommended for libraries with polar collections and interests in the age of exploration. The photography alone makes this an essential title. Readers of Antarctic history and the age of exploration will enjoy it.—Betty Galbraith, Washington State Univ. Lib., Pullman

Library Journal, December 1, 2011