



# Mapping the Frontier: A Memoir of Discovery from Coastal Maine to the Alaskan Rim

*Rufus Harvey Sargent*

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**Mapping the Frontier: A Memoir of Discovery from Coastal Maine to the Alaskan Rim** Rufus Harvey Sargent

Alaska in 1900 was unexplored frontier, a land where risk, danger, and ultimate adventure made teamwork essential. Maine native R. Harvey Sargent led the U. S. Geological Survey in Alaska for over three decades, 1901-1936, charting the vast expanses of this remarkably beautiful and treacherous land. A pioneer of modern mapping, Sargent introduced 20<sup>th</sup>-century “firsts”: photogrammetry and aerial surveys in Alaska, and the first professional surveys of China’s mountainous interior.

*Mapping the Frontier: A Memoir of Discovery from Coastal Maine to the Alaskan Rim* publishes for the first time Harvey Sargent’s diary of his explorations in the world’s outer edges, from China to Mexico, Utah, Arizona, Montana, and Alaska. He was the son of a sea captain, born with exploration and adventure in his veins. Grounded in the foundations of his childhood home of Sedgwick, Maine, to his family residence for a half-century with USGS in Washington, D. C., Sargent’s lively narrative is beautifully illustrated with period maps and photographs. The reader will experience the breathtaking majesty of the Grand Canyon; the deadly harsh winters of Utah’s desert; misty fjords and dramatic icebergs of Glacier Bay National Park; and Sargent’s discovery of Alaska’s Aniakshak crater, today the country’s most remote National Monument and Preserve.

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