

A Natural History of the New World is an ambitious and unprecedented synthesis written by one of the world's leading scholars of botany and geology, Alan Graham. The first complete natural history of its kind, *A Natural History of the New World* traces the evolution of plant ecosystems, beginning in the Late Cretaceous period and ending in the present, charting their responses to changes in geology and climate.

"For all those who've wanted to travel in a time machine to witness New World plant life and ecosystems since the Cretaceous period, here is your chance. This is an unprecedented and much-needed account of American natural history that will serve as the leading book of its kind for many years."

DOLORES R. PIPERNO, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

"A fascinating, comprehensive, and very readable account of past and present lands and life in the New World. Alan Graham has given us a book full of tales of the wonder, grandeur, and heroism of the New World. It is full of information about geology, biology, and the history of the people who explored and discovered aspects of the ecology and the evolution of New World vegetation. It includes a broad range of topics, resulting in a comprehensive account of the natural history of plants in the Americas and the people who studied them. Graham's half century of experience, his knowledge, and his engaging presentation of New World natural history will benefit the politician and the poet as well as the biologist, conservationist, and well-informed traveler."

DAVID DILCHER, Indiana University

"This book is unique in describing the biotic history of the New World from the viewpoint of plants. It documents, from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego, the incredible changes in vegetation that have occurred over the past 100 million years. Studying this turbulent biotic history is vital if we are to understand how human intervention will affect the Earth's system; this book should be essential reading for any who wish to understand how geologic and atmospheric changes induce radical changes in ecosystems."

TOBY PENNINGTON, The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

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