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## People of chance. Gambling in American society from Jamestown to Las Vegas.

Author(s) : [Findlay, J. M.](#)

Miscellaneous : [People of chance. Gambling in American society from Jamestown to Las Vegas](#)  
1986 pp.272pp.

Abstract : The affinity between gambling and frontier societies is traced, and it is shown that both thrived on high expectations, risk-taking, opportunism, and movement. The book provides a picture of gambling in the colonial and early national periods, from the Mississippi River, and the California Gold Rush. The English styles of betting were gradually modified to suit the New World. The rise of Las Vegas is charted in

part of the book. The culmination of almost four centuries of westward migration and chance-taking by Americans, Las Vegas embodies a link between America's traditional and contemporary, forward-looking values of the Sunbelt culture, particularly Southern California.

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