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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 279 x 216 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Louisiana of today bears little resemblance to the vaguely defined territory acquired by the United States from France in 1803 for $15 million. At the time of the Louisiana Purchase no one could present any maps or documents that delineated the boundaries of the province with reasonable accuracy. As a result of that uncertainty, the United States was more or less free to advance its claims beyond the Mississippi River on terms favorable to its own interests. Louisiana as a province had a colorful and dramatic history in its roles as a European colony, a pawn in European diplomacy, and a territory coveted by the young United States. Over the centuries Louisiana has represented various possibilities to different interested nationalities-both geographically and politically. To the Spanish, Louisiana formed their northernmost borderland in an empire stretching from Buenos Aires to California. For the French, whose ambitions envisioned a North American colony encompassing the entire Mississippi Valley and the Great Lakes Region into Canada, Louisiana and its immense resources held out a great deal of promise, but in reality offered very little in return. For the British, Louisiana represented a challenge to Spain s authority in the Mississippi Valley. Louisiana s boundaries periodically were shifted and redrawn to suit circumstances of empire. The first officially sanctioned geographic and political limits associated with the Louisiana Purchase were not laid down until the state of Louisiana was admitted to the union in 1812-the first state carved out of the Purchase as well as the first state west of the Mississippi. The one prominent feature of Louisiana upon which all powers agreed as being both markedly fixed and of utmost significance for...

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