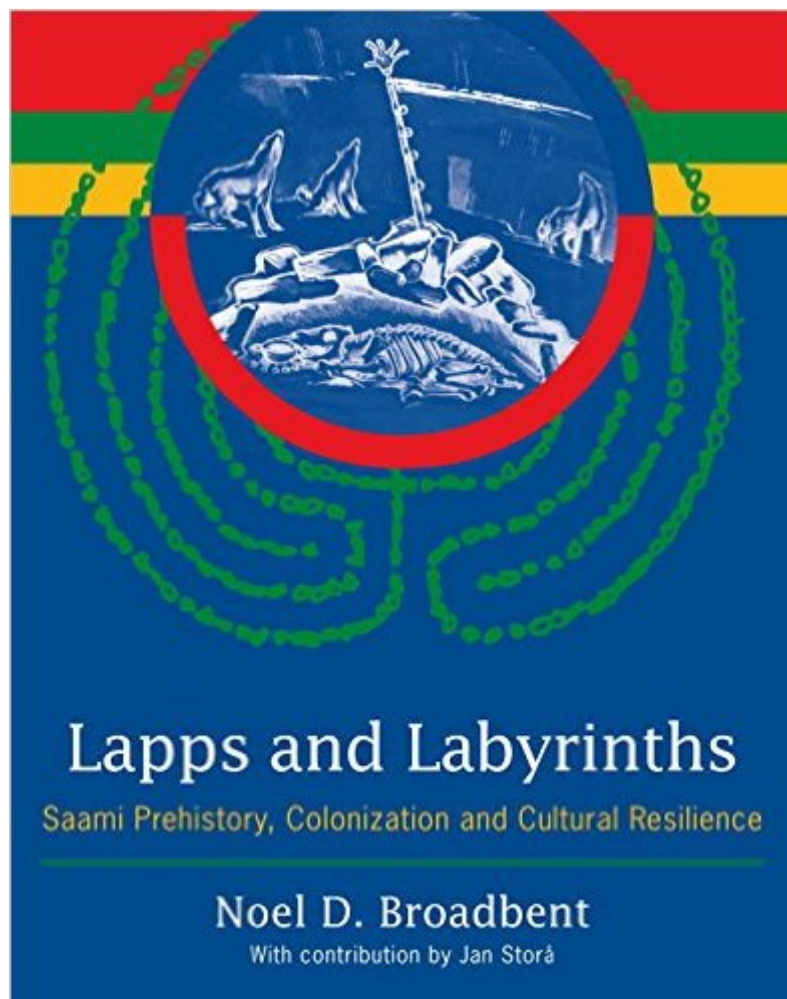


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# Lapps And Labyrinths: Saami Prehistory, Colonization, And Cultural Resilience



## Synopsis

Professor Noel D. Broadbent is one of Sweden's foremost experts on north Swedish archaeology and literally wrote the book on the prehistory of the Skellefteå region on the North Bothnian coast. This knowledge is now brought to bear on the issue of Saami origins. The focus is on the successful adaptive strategies of Saami societies over thousands of years - a testimony to Saami resiliency, of relevance to the survival of indigenous societies worldwide today.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lapps and Labyrinths: Saami Prehistory, Colonization and Cultural Resilience by Noel D Broadbent published by the Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press is an archeology book about the SAAMI IN SWEDEN. I capped those words because most people think the Saami stayed in Northern Finland. New evidence proves they lived in Sweden's northern Baltic coast and had cultural exchange with Scandinavians. For this reason this book is a must for those involved with Heathenry and Asatru. The Late Medieval Period shows the demographic mixing and accommodations made by both ethnic groups. Other places in Sweden have Saami names and both cultures have borrowed words from each other. Possible future archeology will show that, until the nation state and Industrialization, the Saami and Germanic peoples of the North Nordic region were not separated, but instead harmonious neighbors. Politically this could help the oppressed Saami today, the only indigenous people of Europe, who are often seen as the Other. They are gaining more rights to land for their traditional ways of life because of the proof being revealed about their tribal lands. The book

is academic which may turn off many readers. However, it can be scanned and skimmed for relevant information. The relationship between Saami shamanism and the bear cult (found throughout all of the Arctic) and Christianity is intriguing. The labyrinths for example were built on coasts by Christians where the Saami had their own rites. The Saami have been in Sweden below the 60th parallel for at least 2,000 years. This early Saami were not reindeer hunters as much as fishers. Genetic research now shows that today's Saami and the first people to arrive in Scandinavia (who would become the Germanic peoples) more than 10,000 years ago are linked.

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