

## American Indian Places: A Historical Guidebook

Frances H. Kennedy, Editor and Principal Contributor  
 Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2008  
 335 pp., maps, bibliography, biographies, illustrations,  
 index; \$29.95 (hardcover)  
 ISBN 978-0-393-63336-6

**Reviewed by Shelly Davis-King**

Davis-King & Associates  
 Standard, California 95373-0010

Frances H. Kennedy is known for her passion in preserving and writing about Civil War battlefields. Perhaps her book *The Civil War Battlefield Guide* was a model for her most recent guidebook, *American Indian Places*. This current guidebook to 366 historic or prehistoric public places of significance to American Indians takes us on a journey across the continent and through history, with stories told by Native Americans and other authorities describing the places of importance to them. Kennedy worked on the book for ten years and chose to donate her royalties to the National Museum of the American Indian.

Within five major sections organized geographically, Kennedy shows her deep connections with America's native people, perhaps because she is the emeritus administrator of the National Park Trust at the National Parks and Conservation Association in Washington, D.C., and is spouse to the former Director of the National Park Service and Director Emeritus of the National Museum of American History (Smithsonian Institution). Such positions certainly provided her with unusual access to America's places and first people.

For more than thirty years, Kennedy's land conservation work focused on protecting places significant in American history, and the depth of her knowledge is exhibited in the experts she enlisted to write essays about these places, including David Hurst Thomas, Suzan Shown Harjo, Francis McManamon, Philip Deloria, Catherine S. Fowler, David B. Madsen, Malcolm Margolin, and 271 other tribal culture committees, tribal historians, and local experts. Kennedy, as editor and principal contributor, wrote short essays on more than a hundred of the places in her guide.

This is not a book that one sits down to read *in toto*, but rather refers to when wanting cultural and

historical information about the places, many of which were described by the American Indians with personal connections to them, or by scholars intimate with the archaeological record. Some of the essays provide contextual connections by relaying the oral traditions and histories associated with a place.

The book includes five major geographic sections (although they are not so-titled): the East, Midwest, Plains, Southwest/Great Basin, and California/Pacific Northwest. Each section begins with a map that provides a geographic context for the essays that follow, and plots the places discussed. Color photographs and suggestions for further reading about the sites, along with an extensive bibliography, round out each section.

Section One presents 84 sites in the Northeast, including states north of the Ohio River from Maine westward to the Mississippi River and Minnesota. Early and effigy mound builder places comprise 36 of the locales, followed by numerous historic military, battlefield, and government places that are associated with the local tribes. Some homelands and ceremonial areas are also included. The second section lists 108 sites in America's Southeast, which is here defined as the area south of the Ohio River, from the East Coast westward to the middle of Texas, including all of the southern states. Beginning with an essay on the protocols for visitors to sacred places, the remainder of the section provides information about places associated with the Trail of Tears, Florida's Native American heritage, various Mississippian sites, and American Indians during the Civil War, among others. Section Three covers 59 sites in the northern border states from Montana to Minnesota through the Plains and northern Prairie to the tip of Texas. Here can be found information on petroglyph sites, buffalo jump areas, numerous villages, and a number of battlefield places.

Arriving finally in the west, the book in Section Four provides a discussion of various Pueblo places, lifestyles, and movements, and historic sites such as the Hubbell Trading Post and Mission San Xavier del Bac. Although Nevada and Utah are contained in this section, and David Madsen contributed an essay on the Fremont, the focus remains on Pueblo groups and issues. The final 46 sites in Section 5 (oddly entitled "California") are places in California as well as the entire Pacific Northwest, Idaho, and Wyoming. The discussion in this section

focuses on the core areas of these locales. Catherine Fowler provides an essay in Section 4 on the Great Basin, which is followed by a short list of petroglyph sites, but in general the Great Basin is not included in this book, perhaps because there are few places open to the public.

There are several weaknesses in this comprehensive book. It covers only the continental United States, inexplicably eliminating Alaska and Hawaii. Native Hawaiians are not counted among Native Americans, and there is no explanation for why Native Americans in Alaska were not included. The way in which the 48 states are divided is also rather unusual and difficult to follow, from either a historic or a cultural perspective. This is not a book to take on the road, but rather

one from which at-home, computer research must be conducted in conjunction with proper maps in order to find roads, access information, find local lodgings, or include logistical considerations. Maps in the book are intended not for travel assistance, but are for those who know the area—state boundaries are not well defined in the shades of grey used, nor are they labeled, and the 366 listed places are difficult to find in any kind of numerical order on the maps.

An adequate bibliography for additional reading and an index of places complete Mrs. Kennedy's travel guide. Despite the problems, the book is well suited to planning visits to interesting Native American places and including them in your summer vacation plans.



## *Earth Pigments and Paint of the California Indians: Meaning and Technology*

Paul Douglas Campbell  
Los Angeles: Privately printed, 2007  
224 pp., 280 illus., \$29.95 (cloth)

**Reviewed by David Robinson**  
School of Forensic & Investigative Sciences,  
University of Central Lancashire, Preston,  
United Kingdom, PR1 2HE

Native Californians created a world as rich in material culture as that present in any other indigenous hunter-gatherer region of the world. Because of this, there is a great opportunity, even a need, for archaeologists and anthropologists to research and disseminate focused studies on Native Californian material culture. Certainly in a global context, such work would be of substantial interest to scholars who elsewhere are interested in theoretical and practical aspects of past and present human engagements with artifacts, objects, and raw materials. Indeed, while much attention has been given to beads, boat technology, lithics, and (to a lesser extent) ground stone, as well as the perishables and ceramics

of the Californian past, there are simply not enough synthetic studies having material culture as their primary focus of study. Campbell's book on the earth pigments and paints of the California Indians is therefore a welcome contribution, highlighting the deep importance of pigment as a particular aspect of material culture within indigenous Californian society.

Campbell's narrative technique takes the reader along with him as he discovers how California Indians utilized various forms of pigments, often following or intermingling his first-person account with more detailed discussions of the relevant literature. As a narrative form, this works to keep the interest of the reader as the author navigates through a large body of literature while discussing different places, such as quarries and rock-art sites, in the Californian landscape.

The book is divided into seven chapters, covering topics such as colors; the quarrying and refining of minerals and other sources of pigments; containers; the processing, preparing and adding of binding agents; the use of different types of brushes, and a final chapter on the sheer variety of surfaces painted. The first chapter discusses the contemporary quarrying and use of red ochre along the Colorado River and of red pigment among the modern Hualapai; this chapter has Campbell