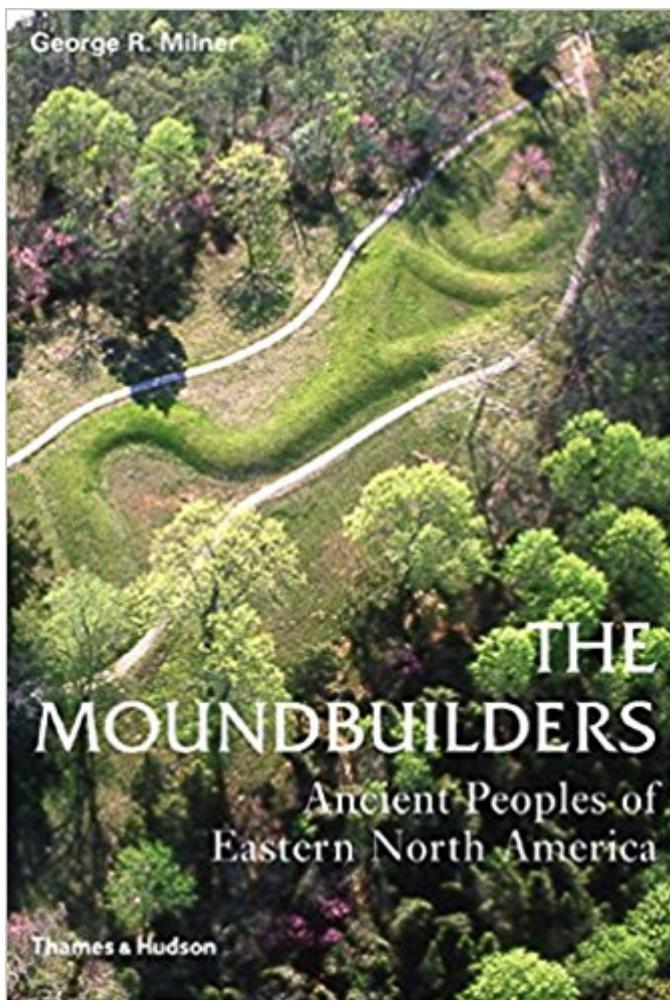


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The Moundbuilders: Ancient Peoples Of Eastern North America (Ancient Peoples And Places)



Synopsis

Nineteenth-century explorers of the American continent were amazed to find great monuments built of earth in the Eastern Woodlands. Thousands of these mounds were discovered in the plains and forestssome up to a hundred feet high, some overgrown hillocks, some conical, others flat-topped. Speculation was rife as to the identity of the moundbuilders. As George Milner shows, research over the past century demonstrates conclusively that Native Americans built these mounds. In a period ranging from 3000 BC to the sixteenth century AD, North American Indians quarried tons of earth to form the monuments, which vary widely in location, size, and purpose. Some contained thousands of burials, others served as platforms for chiefs' residences, and many were low-lying "effigy" mounds in the form of serpents, panthers, and other sacred beasts. Moundbuilding was a key element in society—how people worshiped gods, buried the dead, remembered their ancestors, and respected their leaders—and many beautiful objects have been found inside the mounds, including artifacts of shell, copper, and mica. The Moundbuilders covers the entire sweep of Eastern Woodlands prehistory, with an emphasis on how societies developed from hunter-gatherers to village farmers and town-dwellers. Great strides have been made in recent research, and many of the most impressive mounds, such as Poverty Point, Cahokia, and Moundville, are described and discussed in detail. This wide-ranging and copiously illustrated book, complete with information on dozens of sites to visit, is the perfect guide to the region for tourists, archaeologists, and students. 153 illustrations, 20 in color

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A readable overview of the complex prehistoric cultures of the eastern United States . . . succeeds on several levels. Gorgeous color illustrations . . . are among the finest published presentations of these objects."

George R. Milner is Professor of Anthropology at Pennsylvania State University. His previous books include *The Cahokia Chiefdom: The Archaeology of a Mississippian Society*.

Nice book. He sticks to the facts and doesn't go into wild speculation as most writers are tempted to do. We will never know the extent of this civilization or its contacts with groups outside of their area. Both of which usually tend to be more extensive than at first thought.

For Native American, often the historical tale is one of the west and south America. In the Eastern U.S. the engineering and art of the Hopewell and Adena people who equal the Myans and Incas. Great story.

This was required for an Archaeology of North America class in college. I learned a lot. The book is a little dry, but informational about moundbuilding tribes of North America.

A good general reference, with well placed illustrations, maps and photographs. This book gives an overview of the ancient cultures grounded in archeology without too much extrapolation and dramatization on the part of the author about how people thought or acted.

Good quality, a. It too collegial for the average reader.

Fascinating book, arrived in excellent condition and has more than met my expectations.
Thank-you!

Such an incredible "overview" that a beginner, like me, needs!! Chock full of information and easy to read!

Good book

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