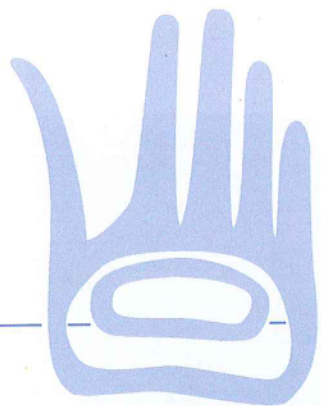
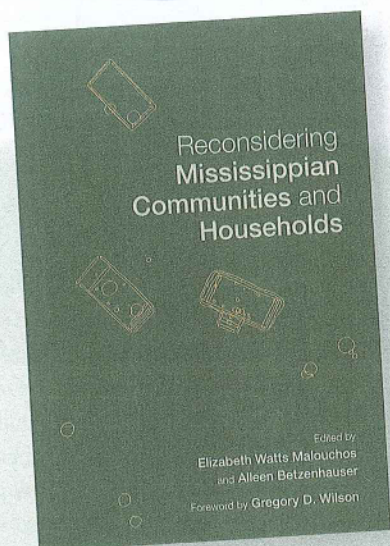




Reviews



Reconsidering Mississippian Communities and Households

Edited by Elizabeth Watts Malouchos and Aileen Betzenhauser

(University of Alabama Press, 2021; 336 pgs., illus., \$65 cloth or ebook; www.uapress.ua.edu)

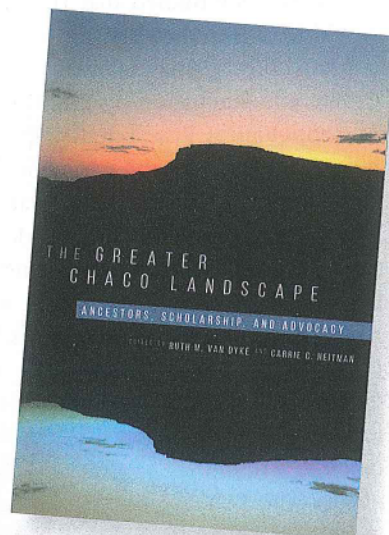
This volume updates the seminal *Mississippian Communities and Households*, edited by J. Daniel Rogers and Bruce D. Smith and published in 1995. That study advanced Southeastern archaeology, bringing the study of Mississippian household architecture to the forefront of the science. The authors of this volume look at Mississippian societies from both regional and temporal perspectives. The relationships between communities and households are examined in case studies from a number of famous locales including Cahokia, Kincaid, Town Creek, Etowah, and Moundville. Household data leads to a better understanding of the overall community.

Twenty scholars contribute fifteen essays that are organized around four themes based on communities and their households. It reflects how Mississippian research over the past twenty-five years has helped us gain a better understanding of this important culture. It is an essential sequel to the original study and it will be a critical part of Mississippian literature.

The Greater Chaco Landscape: Ancestors, Scholarship, and Advocacy

Edited by Ruth M. Van Dyke and Carrie C. Heitman

(University Press of Colorado, 2021; 388 pgs., illus., \$42 paper, ebook free; upcolorado.com)



The Chaco Culture consists of Chaco Canyon with its dozen or so magnificent great houses plus more than 200 outlying sites in the San Juan Basin of New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, and Utah. These outlying sites, called Chaco outliers, consist of Chaco great house communities, isolated great kivas, long, straight roads, shrines, rock art, and astronomical sites. Taken together, scholars know this as the "greater Chaco landscape," and that is the subject of this volume.

The work is a collection of seventeen essays and videos by leading Chaco scholars and Native American contributors. It emerged from a seminar at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, Colorado, held in August 2017, and it focuses on two main themes. First, the authors are concerned with the impact of energy development—oil, natural gas, and coal—in the greater Chaco landscape that threatens the cultural resources. Second is a focus on the greater Chaco landscape and how the various elements interacted over great distances in a very harsh environment between about A.D. 850 and 1130.

The San Juan Basin is not only home to one of America's great native cultural phenomena, it also contains vast deposits of oil, natural gas, and coal. There are more than 40,000 oil and gas wells in the basin, plus miles of pipelines, service roads, and transmission lines. Two massive coal mines provide fuel for giant, on-site power plants. The land is owned by a checkerboard of federal, state, and tribal governments, as well as private individuals, each with their own management priorities.

The authors make their case for the need to protect the cultural resources from energy development and to develop management policies that transcend land ownership. They also make a strong case for looking at the whole Chacoan landscape and how the various elements could have worked independently and together.

The printed version of this study is richly illustrated with 131 photos, maps, and tables. It is also available on the publishers web site for free, and there is also a series of videos that complement the text, including reflections by Native Americans. *The Greater Chacoan Landscape* is an innovative addition to Chacoan scholarship that comes at a time when these priceless cultural resources are in need of better efforts of preservation and understanding.