



Where

An Environmental History

There Are

of the Southern Appalachians

Mountains

DONALD EDWARD DAVIS

Where There Are Mountains An Environmental History Of The Southern Appalachians

Stacy S. Kowtko



Where There Are Mountains An Environmental History Of The Southern Appalachians:

Where There Are Mountains Donald Edward Davis, 2011-03-15 A timely study of change in a complex environment Where There Are Mountains explores the relationship between human inhabitants of the southern Appalachians and their environment Incorporating a wide variety of disciplines in the natural and social sciences the study draws information from several viewpoints and spans more than four hundred years of geological ecological anthropological and historical development in the Appalachian region The book begins with a description of the indigenous Mississippian culture in 1500 and ends with the destructive effects of industrial logging and dam building during the first three decades of the twentieth century Donald Edward Davis discusses the degradation of the southern Appalachians on a number of levels from the general effects of settlement and industry to the extinction of the American chestnut due to blight and logging in the early 1900s This portrait of environmental destruction is echoed by the human struggle to survive in one of our nation's poorest areas The farming livestock raising dam building and pearl and logging industries that have gradually destroyed this region have also been the livelihood of the Appalachian people The author explores the sometimes conflicting needs of humans and nature in the mountains while presenting impressive and comprehensive research on the increasingly threatened environment of the southern Appalachians

Environmental History and the American South Paul Sutter, Christopher J. Manganiello, 2009 This reader gathers fifteen of the most important essays written in the field of southern environmental history over the past decade Ideal for course use the volume provides a convenient entrance into the recent literature on the region as it indicates the variety of directions in which the field is growing As coeditor Paul S Sutter writes in his introduction recent trends in environmental historiography a renewed emphasis on agricultural landscapes and their hybridity attention to the social and racial histories of environmental thought and practice and connections between health and the environment among them have made the South newly attractive terrain This volume suggests then that southern environmental history has not only arrived but also that it may prove an important space for the growth of the larger environmental history enterprise The writings which range in setting from the Texas plains to the Carolina Lowcountry address a multiplicity of topics such as husbandry practices in the Chesapeake colonies and the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew The contributors varied disciplinary perspectives including agricultural history geography the history of science the history of technology military history colonial American history urban and regional planning history and ethnohistory also point to the field's vitality Conveying the breadth diversity and liveliness of this maturing area of study **Environmental History and the American South** affirms the critical importance of human environmental interactions to the history and culture of the region Contributors Virginia DeJohn Anderson William Boyd Lisa Brady Joshua Blu Buhs Judith Carney James Taylor Carson Craig E Colten S Max Edelson Jack Temple Kirby Ralph H Lutts Eileen Maura McGurty Ted Steinberg Mart Stewart Claire Strom Paul Sutter Harry Watson Albert G Way

Culture, Environment, and Conservation in the Appalachian South Benita J. Howell, 2002 Focusing

on the mountainous area from northern Alabama to West Virginia this important volume explores the historic and contemporary interrelations between culture and environment in a region that has been plagued by land misuse and damaging stereotypes of its people Committed to taking account of humankind's place in the environment this collection is a timely contribution to debates over land use and conservation Debunking the nature/culture dichotomy contributors examine how physical space is transformed into culturally constituted place by a variety of factors both tangible architecture landmarks artifacts and intangible a sense of place long term family habitation of land tradition a way of life worth fighting for Archaeologists cultural geographers and ethnographers examine how the land was used by its earliest inhabitants and trace the effects of agricultural decline industrial development and tourism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries Powerful case studies recount past displacement of local populations in the name of progress or conservation and track threatened communities struggles to maintain their claims to place in the face of extralocal counterclaims that would appropriate space and resources for other purposes such as mountaintop removal of coal or a power company's plans to export electricity from Appalachia to distant urban centers Contributors also record successful community planning ventures that have achieved creative solutions to seemingly intransigent conflicts between demands for economic wealth and environmental health

A Literary Field Guide to Southern Appalachia Rose McLarney, Laura-Gray Street, L. L. Gaddy, 2019-10-15

Getting acquainted with local flora and fauna is the perfect way to begin to understand the wonder of nature The natural environment of Southern Appalachia with habitats that span the Blue Ridge to the Cumberland Plateau is one of the most biodiverse on earth A Literary Field Guide to Southern Appalachia a hybrid literary and natural history anthology showcases sixty of the many species indigenous to the region Ecologically culturally and artistically Southern Appalachia is rich in paradox and stereotype defying complexity Its species range from the iconic and inveterate such as the speckled trout pileated woodpecker copperhead and black bear to the elusive and endangered such as the American chestnut Carolina gorge moss chucky madtom and lampshade spider The anthology brings together art and science to help the reader experience this immense ecological wealth Stunning images by seven Southern Appalachian artists and conversationally written natural history information complement contemporary poems from writers such as Ellen Bryant Voigt Wendell Berry Janisse Ray Sean Hill Rebecca Gayle Howell Deborah A Miranda Ron Rash and Mary Oliver Their insights illuminate the wonders of the mountain South fostering intimate connections The guide is an invitation to get to know Appalachia in the broadest most poetic sense

Feral Animals in the American South Abraham H. Gibson, 2016-08-30

The relationship between humans and domestic animals has changed in dramatic ways over the ages and those transitions have had profound consequences for all parties involved As societies evolve the selective pressures that shape domestic populations also change Some animals retain close relationships with humans but many do not Those who establish residency in the wild free from direct human control are technically neither domestic nor wild they are feral If we really want to understand humanity's

complex relationship with domestic animals then we cannot simply ignore the ones who went feral This is especially true in the American South where social and cultural norms have facilitated and sustained large populations of feral animals for hundreds of years Feral Animals in the American South retells southern history from this new perspective of feral animals

A Handbook to Appalachia Grace Toney Edwards,JoAnn Aust Asbury,Ricky L. Cox,2024-07-31 Scholars who teach write or speak on the history and culture of the Appalachian region are frequently asked by students administrators or colleagues to recommend a relatively short comprehensive book about Appalachia Until now there has been no interdisciplinary introductory text in Appalachian studies A Handbook to Appalachia comprises a collection of concise accessible overviews of the region written by top academics in a variety of fields all directed at a general audience Accompanied by dozens of inviting photographs the essays offer information to those becoming acquainted with Appalachia for the first time as well as to more experienced observers of the region The essays are arranged to show how various features of Appalachia are related Each essay is followed by a list of suggested readings for further study A Handbook to Appalachia provides a clear concise first step toward understanding the expanding field of Appalachian studies from the history of the area to its sometimes conflicted image from its music and folklore to its outstanding literature Chapters History The Peoples of Appalachia Natural Resources and Environment Economics Politics of Change Health Care Education Folklife Literature Religion Visual Arts and Appalachians Outside the Region

Encyclopedia of Appalachia Rudy Abramson,Jean Haskell,2025-12-08 Winner of the W D Weatherford Award Appalachian Studies Association Outstanding Contribution to Appalachian Literature Award Appalachian Writer s Association and Award of Distinction East Tennessee Historical Society Appalachia holds a curious place in the American psyche There is a pervasive perception of the region as a hinterland inhabited by a backward and developmentally stunted people Economically culturally and technologically suspended in an era gone by this Appalachia is regarded as one of America s enduring social and economic problems But there is another perception of Appalachia home to the beautiful mountain system for which the region is named It is a quaint retreat into the past reflecting the integrity of a people with a pioneering spirit and lifestyle that pays homage to a simpler time Until now there has been no general reference work that captures the complexities of this enigmatic region The only guide of its kind the Encyclopedia of Appalachia is replete with information on every aspect of Appalachia s history land culture and people Containing more than 2 000 entries in 30 sections the Encyclopedia is designed for quick reference and access to the information you need to know Teachers students scholars historians and browsers with a passing interest in this beautiful and richly distinct region will quickly come to rely on the Encyclopedia of Appalachia as the authoritative resource on Appalachia s past and present The Encyclopedia details subjects traditionally associated with Appalachia folklore handicrafts mountain music foods and coal mining but goes far beyond regional stereotypes to treat such wide ranging topics as the aerospace industry Native American foodways ethnic diversity in the coalfields education reform linguistic variation and the contested notion of what it means to be Appalachian

both inside and outside the region Researched and developed by the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services at East Tennessee State University this 1 840 page compendium includes all thirteen states that constitute the northern central and southern subregions of Appalachia from New York to Mississippi With thorough detailed yet accessible entries on everything from Adventists to zinc mining the Encyclopedia of Appalachia is an indispensable one stop guide to all things Appalachian

Appalachians All Mark T. Banker, 2011-02-01 A singular achievement Mark Banker reveals an almost paradoxical Appalachia that trumps all the stereotypes Interweaving his family history with the region's latest scholarship Banker uncovers deep psychological and economic interconnections between East Tennessee's three Appalachias its tourist laden Smokies its urbanized Valley and its strip mined Plateau Paul Salstrom author of Appalachia's Path to Dependency Banker weaves a story of Appalachia that is at once a national and regional history a family saga and a personal odyssey This book reads like a conversation with a good friend who is well read and well informed thoughtful wise and passionate about his subject He brings new insights to those who know the region well but more importantly he will introduce the region's complexities to a wider audience Jean Haskell coeditor Encyclopedia of Appalachia *Appalachians All* intertwines the histories of three communities Knoxville with its urban life Cades Cove with its farming logging and tourism legacies and the Clearfork Valley with its coal production to tell a larger story of East Tennessee and its inhabitants Combining a perceptive account of how industrialization shaped developments in these communities since the Civil War with a heartfelt reflection on Appalachian identity Mark Banker provides a significant new regional history with implications that extend well beyond East Tennessee's boundaries Writing with the keen eye of a native son who left the area only to return years later Banker uses elements of his own autobiography to underscore the ways in which East Tennesseans particularly successful urban dwellers often distance themselves from an Appalachian identity This understandable albeit regrettable response Banker suggests diminishes and demeans both the individual and region making stereotypically Appalachian conditions self perpetuating Whether exploring grassroots activism in the Clearfork Valley the agrarian traditions and subsequent displacement of Cades Cove residents or Knoxville's efforts to promote trade tourism and industry Banker's detailed historical excursions reveal not only a profound richness and complexity in the East Tennessee experience but also a profound interconnectedness Synthesizing the extensive research and revisionist interpretations of Appalachia that have emerged over the last thirty years Banker offers a new lens for constructively viewing East Tennessee and its past He challenges readers to reconsider ideas that have long diminished the region and to re imagine Appalachia And ultimately while *Appalachians All* speaks most directly to East Tennesseans and other Appalachian residents it also carries important lessons for any reader seeking to understand the crucial connections between history self and place Mark T Banker a history teacher at Webb School of Knoxville resides on the farm where he was raised in nearby Roane County He earned his PhD at the University of New Mexico and is the author of *Presbyterian Missions and Cultural Interaction in the Far Southwest 1850-1950* His articles have

appeared in the Journal of Presbyterian History Journal of the West OAH Magazine of History and Appalachian Journal

The American Chestnut Donald Edward Davis, 2021-11-15 Before 1910 the American chestnut was one of the most common trees in the eastern United States Although historical evidence suggests the natural distribution of the American chestnut extended across more than four hundred thousand square miles of territory an area stretching from eastern Maine to southeast Louisiana stands of the trees could also be found in parts of Wisconsin Michigan Washington State and Oregon An important natural resource chestnut wood was preferred for woodworking fencing and building construction as it was rot resistant and straight grained The hearty and delicious nuts also fed wildlife people and livestock Ironically the tree that most piqued the emotions of nineteenth and early twentieth century Americans has virtually disappeared from the eastern United States After a blight fungus was introduced into the United States during the late nineteenth century the American chestnut became functionally extinct Although the virtual eradication of the species caused one of the greatest ecological catastrophes since the last ice age considerable folklore about the American chestnut remains Some of the tree's history dates to the very founding of our country making the story of the American chestnut an integral part of American cultural and environmental history The American Chestnut tells the story of the American chestnut from Native American prehistory through the Civil War and the Great Depression Davis documents the tree's impact on nineteenth and early twentieth century American life including the decorative and culinary arts While he pays much attention to the importation of chestnut blight and the tree's decline as a dominant species the author also evaluates efforts to restore the American chestnut to its former place in the eastern deciduous forest including modern attempts to genetically modify the species *A Companion to the American South* John B. Boles, 2008-04-15 A Companion to the American South surveys and evaluates the most important and innovative writing on the entire sweep of the history of the southern United States Contains 29 original essays by leading experts in American Southern history Covers the entire sweep of Southern history including slavery politics the Civil War race relations religion and women's history Surveys and evaluates the best scholarship on every important era and topic Summarizes current debates and anticipates future concerns **Appalachian Epidemics** Christopher M. White, Kevin T. Barksdale, 2025-01-14 As the COVID 19 virus swept across the nation in spring 2020 infection and hospitalization rates in states like West Virginia remained relatively low By that July each of Appalachia's 423 counties had recorded confirmed cases The coronavirus pandemic has taken an enormous toll on the health of individuals and institutions throughout the region a stark reminder that even isolated rural populations are subject to historical biological ecological and geographical factors that have continually created epidemics over the past millennia In *Appalachian Epidemics* From Smallpox to COVID 19 scholars from diverse disciplinary backgrounds assess two centuries of public health emergencies and the subsequent responses This volume peers into the trans Appalachian South's experience with illness challenging the misconception that rurality provides protection against maladies In addition to surveying the impact of influenza polio and Lyme disease

outbreaks Appalachian Epidemics addresses the less understood social determinants of health The effects of the opioid crisis and industrial coal mining complicate the definition of disease and illuminate avenues for responding to future public health threats From the significance of regional stereotypes to the spread of misinformation and the impact of racism and poverty on public health policy Appalachian Epidemics makes clear that many of the natural political and socioeconomic forces currently shaping the region s experiences with COVID 19 and other crises have historical antecedents *The United States of America* , **The Best of Southern Food** Harry L. Watson, Marcie Cohen Ferris, 2014-12-01 Nourishment nostalgia Native ingredients and global influences Southern Cultures s debut best of collection gets straight to the heart of the matter food For those of us who ve debated mayonnaise brand hushpuppy condiment or barbecue style including in some quarters whether the latter is a noun or a verb bless your heart we present here a collection equal to our passions Culled from our best food writing 2008 2014 this special volume serves up tomatoes turtles molasses Mother Corn and the Dixie Pig bourbon gravy cakes jams jellies pickles and chocolate pie Dig in And stay tuned for more best of collections to come

Appalachian Ecocriticism and the Paradox of Place Laura Wright, Jessica Cory, 2023-05 Ecocriticism and Appalachian studies continue to grow and thrive in academia as they expand on their foundational works to move in new and exciting directions When researching these areas separately there is a wealth of information However when researching Appalachian ecocriticism specifically the lack of consolidated scholarship is apparent With Appalachian Ecocriticism and the Paradox of Place editors Jessica Cory and Laura Wright have created the only book length scholarly collection of Appalachian ecocriticism Appalachian Ecocriticism and the Paradox of Place is a collection of scholarly essays that engage environmental and ecocritical theories and Appalachian literature and film These essays many from well established Appalachian studies and southern studies scholars and ecocritics engage with a variety of ecocritical methodologies including ecofeminism ecospiritualism queer ecocriticism and materialist ecocriticism to name a few Adding Appalachian voices to the larger ecocritical discourse is vital not only for the sake of increased diversity but also to allow those unfamiliar with the region and its works to better understand the Appalachian region in a critical and authentic way Including Appalachia in the larger ecocritical community allows for the study of how the region its issues and its texts intersect with a variety of communities thus allowing boundless possibilities for learning and analysis *Religion and Resistance in Appalachia* Joseph D. Witt, 2016-12-09 In the last fifty years the Appalachian Mountains have suffered permanent and profound change due to the expansion of surface coal mining The irrevocable devastation caused by this practice has forced local citizens to redefine their identities their connections to global economic forces their pasts and their futures Religion is a key factor in the fierce debate over mountaintop removal some argue that it violates a divine mandate to protect the earth while others contend that coal mining is a God given gift to ensure human prosperity and comfort In Religion and Resistance in Appalachia Faith and the Fight against Mountaintop Removal Coal Mining Joseph D Witt examines how religious and environmental ethics foster

resistance to mountaintop removal coal mining Drawing on extensive interviews with activists teachers preachers and community leaders Witt s research offers a fresh analysis of an important and dynamic topic His study reflects a diversity of denominational perspectives exploring Catholic and mainline Protestant views of social and environmental justice evangelical Christian readings of biblical ethics and Native and nontraditional spiritual traditions By placing Appalachian resistance to mountaintop removal in a comparative international context Witt s work also provides new outlooks on the future of the region and its inhabitants His timely study enhances challenges and advances conversations not only about the region but also about the relationship between religion and environmental activism **North American Odyssey** Craig E.

Colten,Geoffrey L. Buckley,2014-03-27 This groundbreaking volume offers a fresh approach to conceptualizing the historical geography of North America by taking a thematic rather than a traditional regional perspective Leading geographers building on current scholarship in the field explore five central themes Part I explores the settling and resettling of the continent through the experiences of Native Americans early European arrivals and Africans Part II examines nineteenth century European immigrants the reconfiguration of Native society and the internal migration of African Americans Part III considers human transformations of the natural landscape in carving out a transportation network replumbing waterways extracting timber and minerals preserving wilderness and protecting wildlife Part IV focuses on human landscapes blending discussions of the visible imprint of society and distinctive approaches to interpreting these features The authors discuss survey systems regional landscapes and tourist and mythic landscapes as well as the role of race gender and photographic representation in shaping our understanding of past landscapes Part V follows the urban impulse in an analysis of the development of the mercantile city nineteenth and twentieth century planning and environmental justice With its focus on human environment interactions the mobility of people and growing urbanization this thoughtful text will give students a uniquely geographical way to understand North American history Contributions by Derek H Alderman Timothy G Anderson Kevin Blake Christopher G Boone Geoffrey L Buckley Craig E Colten Michael P Conzen Lary M Dilsaver Mona Domosh William E Doolittle Joshua Inwood Ines M Miyares E Arnold Modlin Jr Edward K Muller Michael D Myers Karl Raitz Jasper Rubin Joan M Schwartz Steven Silvern Andrew Sluyter Jeffrey S Smith Robert Wilson William Wyckoff and Yolonda Youngs

High Mountains Rising Richard A. Straw,H. Tyler Blethen,2010-10-01 This collection is the first comprehensive cohesive volume to unite Appalachian history with its culture Richard A Straw and H Tyler Blethen s High Mountains Rising provides a clear systematic and engaging overview of the Appalachian timeline its people and the most significant aspects of life in the region The first half of the fourteen essays deal with historical issues including Native Americans pioneer settlement slavery the Civil War and Reconstruction industrialization the Great Depression migration and finally modernization The remaining essays take a more cultural focus addressing stereotypes music folklife language literature and religion Bringing together many of the most prestigious scholars in Appalachian studies this volume has been designed for

general and classroom use and includes suggestions for further reading

Chronology of Americans and the Environment Chris J. Magoc, 2011-02-18 Covering the 17th century to the contemporary era this chronological overview of the role of the environment provides many insights into one of the most important aspects of American history Environmental issues such as deforestation water pollution extinction of indigenous animal species and climate change have long existed in the United States Fortunately the American people and their government have demonstrated a willingness to address environmental concerns Chronology of Americans and the Environment encompasses more than four centuries of dynamic and transformational environmental change that illustrate the central importance of the environment natural resources and nature throughout American history The author provides a chronological overview of the significant events major figures and public policy developments throughout the history of our relationship with the environment illustrating the sequence of historical events cultural ideas and trends that have led Americans to take action to protect the environment and public health This book also touches upon prehistoric occurrences and events prior to the arrival of European explorers that provide context for Native American ideas and attitudes toward nature

The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture Martin V. Melosi, 2014-02-01 From semitropical coastal areas to high mountain terrain from swampy lowlands to modern cities the environment holds a fundamental importance in shaping the character of the American South This volume of The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture surveys the dynamic environmental forces that have shaped human culture in the region and the ways humans have shaped their environment Articles examine how the South's ecology physiography and climate have influenced southerners not only as a daily fact of life but also as a metaphor for understanding culture and identity This volume includes ninety eight essays that explore both broadly and specifically elements of the southern environment Thematic overviews address subjects such as plants animals energy use and development and natural disasters Shorter topical entries feature familiar species such as the alligator the ivory billed woodpecker kudzu and the mockingbird Also covered are important individuals in southern environmental history and prominent places in the landscape such as the South's national parks and seashores New articles cover contemporary issues in land use and conservation environmental protection and the current status of the flora and fauna widely associated with the South

America's Natural Places: South and Southeast Stacy S. Kowtko, 2009-11-25 From the Texas Blackland Prairies to the Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain of the Carolinas this volume provides a snapshot of the most spectacular and important natural places in the southern United States America's Natural Places South and Southeast examines over 50 of the most spectacular and important areas of this region with each entry describing the importance of the area the flora and fauna that it supports threats to the survival of the region and what is being done to protect it Organized by state within the volume this book informs readers about the wide variety of natural areas across the south and southeast and identifies places near them that demonstrate the importance of preserving such regions

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