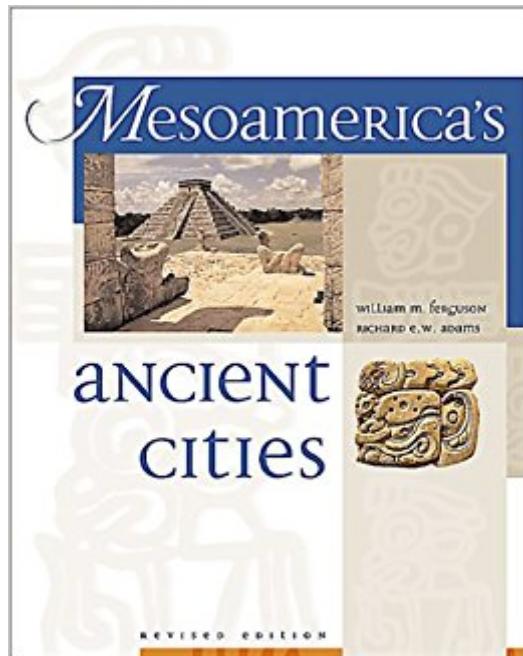


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Mesoamerica's Ancient Cities



Synopsis

William Ferguson's classic photographic portrayal of the major pre-Columbian ruins of Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras is now available from UNM Press in a completely revised edition. Magnificent aerial and ground photographs give both armchair and actual visitors unparalleled views of fifty-one ancient cities. The restored areas of each site and their interesting and exotic features are shown within each group of ruins. The authors have thoroughly revised the text for this new edition, and they have added over 30 new photographs and illustrations as well as a completely new chapter by Richard E. W. Adams on regional states and empires in ancient Mesoamerica. Over a span of three thousand years between 1500 B.C. and A.D. 1500 great civilizations, including the Olmec, Teotihuacan, Maya, Toltec, Zapotec, and Aztec, flourished, waned, and died in Mesoamerica. These indigenous cultures of Mexico and Central America are brought to life in Mesoamerica's Ancient Cities through stunning color photographs. The authors include the most recent research and most widely accepted theoretical perspectives on Mesoamerican civilizations. Ideal for the general reader as well as scholars of Mesoamerica, this volume makes a significant contribution to our knowledge of the Americas.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"An armchair travelogue through Mesoamerican prehistory. " "The photo selections of architecture and site plans give a superb cross-section of each ruin. . . . almost as good as being there. " "This extremely accessible study will be of great interest to the student of Mesoamerica and the general reader interested in uncovering the past. "

A thoroughly revised edition of the classic photographic portrayal of the major pre-Columbian ruins of Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras.

Good points:- Lot's of color photographs showing not just architecture, but art as well.- Many different sites presented.- Enough text (about 10-15%), but not too much. Disappointments:- Thoroughness is sacrificed in favor of including more sites - I would prefer more pictures of each site.- Pictures quality is only fair to good. I was very disappointed that colors are washed out (low color saturation) even though the book is printed on heavy matte stock.- A majority of the pictures are not aerial, though that doesn't detract much for me.- Only recent photos - would have liked to have seen early photos of sites prior to excavation.- Some pictures are mislabeled. Overall, worth checking out of the library or buying used, but probably not worth purchasing new.

A summary of known data; nothing new, except some photographs; no academic structure; lack of architecture and urban analysis. Poor

Good color photography and aerial views of ancient cities. Heavy paper nicely bound.

The information in this book should give cause to rethink America's ancient past. This book has many fine pictures. Great for anybody interested in Ancient Cities of the New World.

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