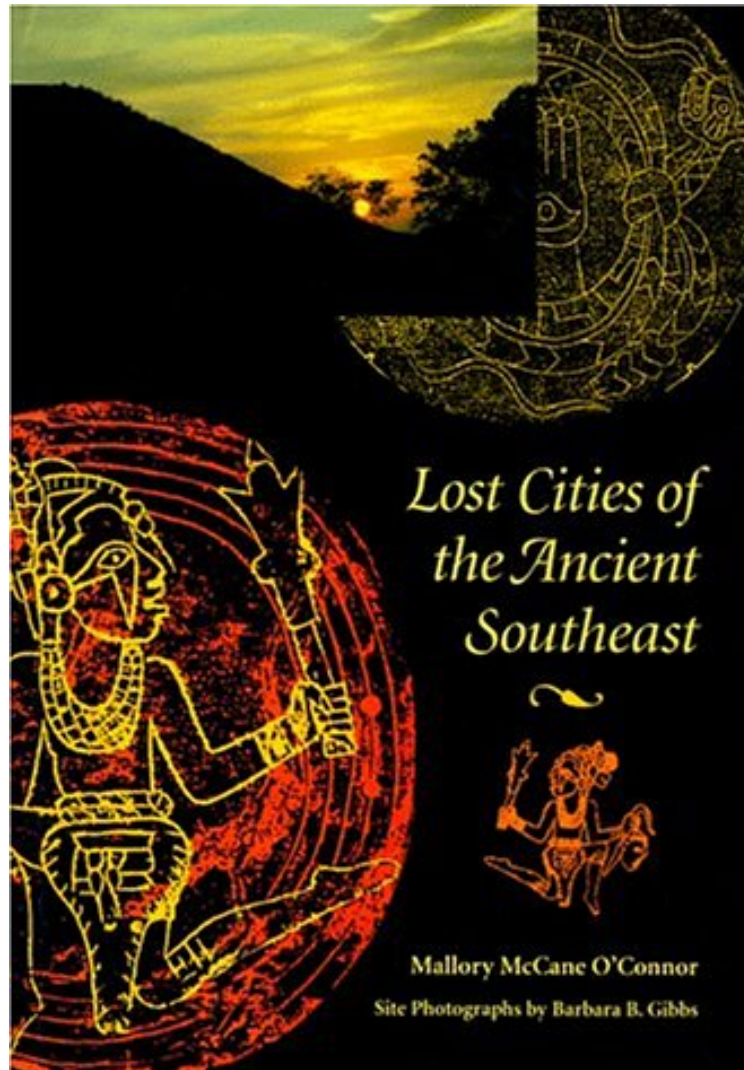


(Free) Lost Cities of the Ancient Southeast

## Lost Cities of the Ancient Southeast

*Mallory M. O'Connor*

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**Mallory M. O'Connor : Lost Cities of the Ancient Southeast** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lost Cities of the Ancient Southeast:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy CustomerGOOD READ A MUST FOR THOSE WHO SEEK ANSWER ABOUT THE MOUND BUILDERS4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Mixed BagBy Paul V CaetanoI was glad I found this book because it has much information about the Precolumbian American Southeast, an area whose history is often ignored. It provided a good description of both the archaeology and iconography of the ancient cultures. If you plan to visit any sites in the Southeast, I would recommend this book. However, the first chapter was not worthy of the rest of the book. It showed an appalling lack of knowledge of other

civilizations. It was both overromanticized and made unjustified comparisons. Luckily, I decided to continue reading.

"First-rate. . . . This book is excellent for both the general public and the general scholarly audience. . . . Lively, lucid prose."--Janet Catherine Berlo, University of Missouri, St. Louis

Provides concise art historical analysis of works of art that have never been subjected to such analysis before. . . . joining the best from old classics and the latest scholarship in the field. It's a huge task and O'Connor has done it well."--Amelia M. Trevelyan, Gettysburg College

When Columbus arrived on the shores of Hispaniola, a rich and complex civilization already existed that forms the core of American cultural history. Exploring ancient southeastern Indian sites from the metropolis of Cahokia (near present-day St. Louis), ancient capital of the American heartland, to the island stronghold of Calos, king of the Florida Calusa, Mallory O'Connor examines the significance of these prehistoric cultures. Bringing together scholarship from classics in architecture, archaeology, and iconography, she discusses twenty sites of Mississippian culture, describing the religious patterns of the inhabitants and the sophisticated art works that supported their sacred practices. She also addresses the controversial topic of repatriation of Indian artifacts and the continuing problem of archaeological "looting" of Indian sites and ceremonial centers. Lavishly illustrated with maps, site plans, and photographs of the ruins of ancient ceremonial centers along with sculpture, ceramics, and other artifacts, *Lost Cities of the Ancient Southeast* captures the timeless beauty and technical sophistication of the art and architecture of pre-Columbian America. Mallory McCane O'Connor is director of the Santa Fe Gallery, Santa Fe Community College, in Gainesville, Florida. She has taught art history at the University of Florida and has published articles on art history and on gender and art in *Native North American Art History*, *American Indian Art Magazine*, and *Southern Quarterly*. Barbara Gibbs, a Gainesville-based photographer, served as a photographic consultant for the Amazonia Research Institute, Brazil, and has photographed sacred ceremonial sites in Latin America and the American Southwest. She has exhibited her photographs in California and Florida.

From *Library Journal* In 1492, America was not an empty wilderness, ripe for European annexation but rather a land of thriving cultural, religious, and commercial centers with complex societies and millions of inhabitants. O'Connor (Native American Art Studies Assn.) traces the rise, flowering, and decline of more than 20 of these lost centers of Mississippian culture, including Cahokia (Illinois), Etowah and Ocmulgee (Georgia), Calusa (Florida), and Town Creek (North Carolina), from 500 to 1500 A.D. The author's emphasis is on the art and architecture of Native American peoples, which reveal a highly developed culture destroyed by factors such as European conquest and modern looting. Her spare and lucid text is complemented by excellent photographs by Barbara Gibbs and architectural drawings by William Morgan. Well organized and visually appealing, this work should lead informed lay readers, as well as scholars, to their own discovery of America. Jamie S. Hansen, Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia

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