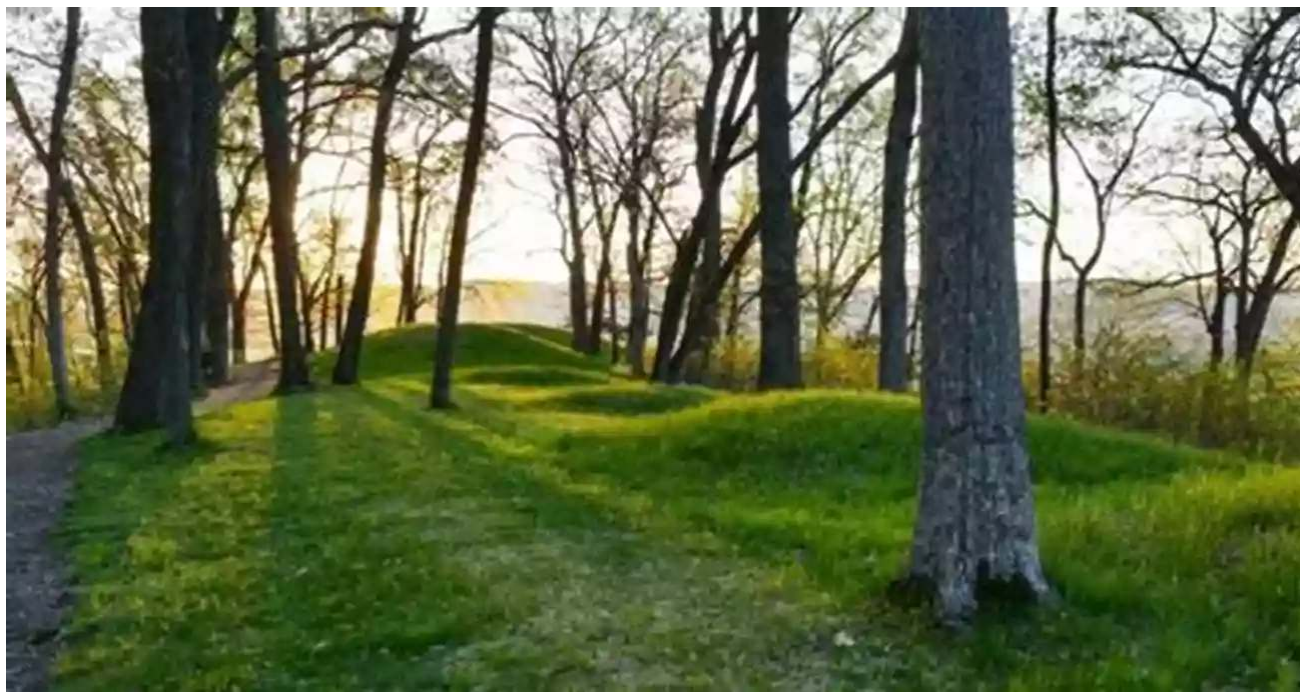
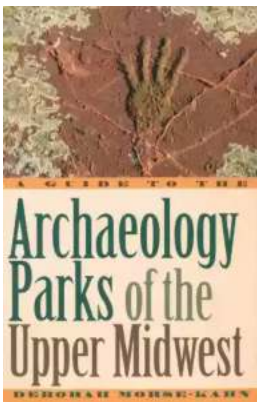


# Uncover Ancient Wonders: Your Ultimate Guide To The Archaeology Parks Of The Upper Midwest



The Upper Midwest region of the United States is brimming with ancient history and archaeological wonders. From the rich Native American cultural heritage to the early European settlements, this area holds a wealth of fascinating sites waiting to be explored. In this guide, we will take you on a remarkable journey through the most captivating archaeology parks of the Upper Midwest.

## **1. Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, Illinois**



## A Guide to the Archaeology Parks of the Upper Midwest by Deborah Morse-Kahn(Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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Our adventure begins with Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site in Collinsville, Illinois. Prepare to be mesmerized by the largest pre-Columbian archaeological site in North America. This UNESCO World Heritage Site showcases the remains of the ancient Mississippian civilization, including over 80 mounds and the impressive Monk's Mound.

The towering Monk's Mound, standing at 100 feet tall, offers a breathtaking panoramic view of the surrounding landscape. Explore the interpretive center, which provides in-depth information about the site's history and culture. You may even have the chance to witness an archaeological excavation in progress.

## **2. Effigy Mounds National Monument, Iowa**



Heading west, we arrive at Effigy Mounds National Monument in Harpers Ferry, Iowa. This unique site preserves more than 200 mounds, which are shaped like

animals such as bears, birds, and turtles. The significance and purpose of these mounds still remain a mystery, adding to the intrigue of this breathtaking park.

Take a guided hike along the trails that wind through the dense forests, allowing you to appreciate the artistry and intricacy of the effigy mounds up close. Keep an eye out for wildlife, as the park is home to a variety of species. Don't forget to bring your camera, as the views from the overlooks are simply stunning.

### **3. Pipestone National Monument, Minnesota**



Next on our journey is Pipestone National Monument in Pipestone, Minnesota. This site holds great cultural and spiritual significance for Native American tribes, as it is where they have traditionally quarried the sacred red pipestone.

Immerse yourself in the rich cultural heritage of the area by visiting the quarry, where you can witness traditional craftsmanship in action. Learn about the spiritual importance of pipestone and its use in creating ceremonial pipes. The visitor center offers informative exhibits that delve into the history and traditions of the Native American tribes who continue to consider this site sacred.

#### 4. Aztalan State Park, Wisconsin



Continuing north, we reach Aztalan State Park in Jefferson, Wisconsin. Explore the remnants of an ancient Native American settlement that thrived here over 1,000 years ago. The park's most striking feature is the reconstructed stockade surrounding the ceremonial platform mound.

As you wander through the park, let your imagination transport you to a time long past. Imagine the daily lives and activities of the inhabitants as you explore the



village area and climb to the top of the mound. The interpretive signs provide insights into the rich cultural history of this remarkable site.

## **5. Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, North Dakota**

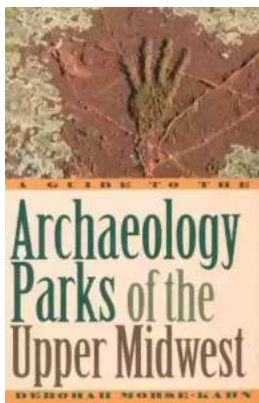


Our final stop takes us to Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site in Stanton, North Dakota. This park preserves the remains of earthlodge villages built by the Northern Plains Indians, including the Hidatsa and Mandan tribes.

Step inside a reconstructed earthlodge and envision the daily life of these Native American communities. Learn about their farming techniques, social structures, and cultural traditions through the site's informative exhibits. Take a guided tour along the trails that lead through the village sites, and gain a deeper understanding of the vibrant history that unfolded within these lands.

The Upper Midwest region is indeed a treasure trove of archaeological parks, each offering a unique glimpse into the diverse history of this land. From massive mounds to exquisite effigy sculptures, sacred quarries to ancient settlements, these sites captivate the imagination and provide invaluable insights into the lives of the people who once called this region home.

As you embark on your journey through the archaeology parks of the Upper Midwest, remember to respect and cherish these sacred grounds. They are not just remnants of the past but are also windows into a world of wonder and discovery. Uncover the secrets and indulge in the rich tapestry of the region's archaeological heritage.



## A Guide to the Archaeology Parks of the Upper

**Midwest** by Deborah Morse-Kahn (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

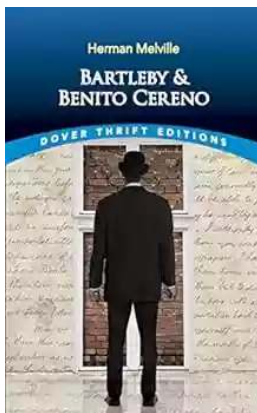
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The archaeology enthusiast will find this versatile guide contains treasure trove of information. A generous collection of black and white photos are scattered throughout this handy book, along with detailed maps, lodging and dining suggestions, and a broad listing of additional local points of interest. The volume's

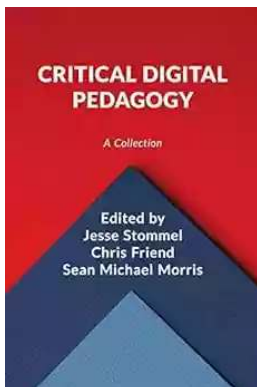
brief introductory chapters offer an overview of the archaeology of the Upper Midwest and explore the symbols and meanings of intricate rock art and effigy mounds.

Eighty-five dedicated archaeology parks exist in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and northern Illinois. Wisconsin alone contains sixty-three of these outstanding parks. From Effigy National Monument in Iowa to the privately held Henschel Mounds in Wisconsin, this magnitude of managed sites is exceeded only by the abundance of archaeology sites found in the American Southwest.



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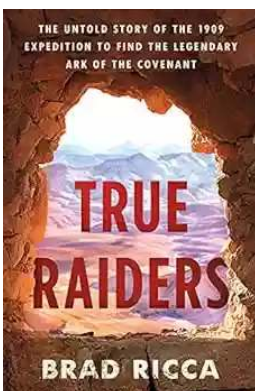
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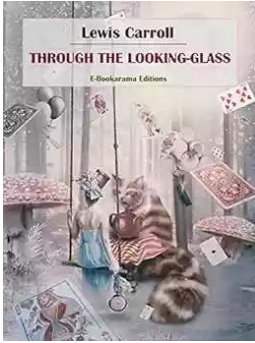
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