

Spring 2011

Book Review: Discovering South Carolina's Rock Art

Allison Faix

Coastal Carolina University, afaix@coastal.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln>

Recommended Citation

Faix, Allison (2011) "Book Review: Discovering South Carolina's Rock Art," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 59 : Iss. 1 , Article 7.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol59/iss1/7>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Southeastern Librarian by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu.

BOOK REVIEWS

Discovering South Carolina's Rock Art. Charles, Tommy. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2010. 168 pages. ISBN 978-1570039218 (Hardcover). \$29.95.

Books about petroglyphs and rock paintings in the Southeastern United States are few and far between. The scarcity of published materials on this topic possibly reflects the fact that Southeastern petroglyphs and rock paintings themselves tend to be rarely found and are often far less well-preserved than those located in other regions of the country, most notably the Southwest. In fact, until the 1980s, it was widely believed that the state of South Carolina did not contain examples of any prehistoric rock art at all. This book is the first to focus solely on South Carolina's rock art, and nowhere else will such an extensive survey be found.

Author Tommy Charles was involved with the South Carolina Rock Art Survey project from its very beginnings in Greenville County in 1983. This book chronicles the project, which led to the eventual documentation of sixty-one petroglyph sites, three pictograph sites, and numerous portable petroglyphs found primarily in South Carolina's upstate region. The book's many photographs, some in color, do an excellent job of illustrating both the process of discovery and numerous excellent examples of the art itself.

Tommy Charles joined the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA) at the University of South Carolina in 1979 and became a member of the SCIAA Research Division in 1993. Now retired, he worked on many research projects with the institute over the years. Today he still continues his research into prehistoric Native American culture in the South Carolina upstate region.

This book is essential for South Carolina libraries, especially those with collections in Native American studies, South Carolina history, archaeology, and anthropology. Other Southeastern libraries with collections in these subject areas should also consider acquiring this title.

Allison Faix
Coastal Carolina University, SC.

How Kentucky Became Southern: A Tale of Outlaws, Horse Thieves, Gamblers, and Breeders. Wall, MaryJean. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 2010. 291 pages. ISBN 978-0-8131-2605-0. (hardcover: alk.paper). \$29.95.

How Kentucky Became Southern: a Tale of Outlaws, Horse Thieves, Gamblers, and Breeders is a superior magnum opus supplying a phenomenal amount of research on horse racing not only in Kentucky but in all areas of the United States. The monograph includes Introduction, the excellent chapters Chapter One The Fast Track into the Future, Chapter Two The Greening of the Bluegrass, Chapter Three A Killing Spree and a Hanging Tree, Chapter Four All the Best Jockeys of the West are Colored, Chapter Five Old Money Meets the Arrivistes, Chapter Six Winners and Losers in the Age of Reform, Chapter Seven The Idea of Horse Country Reclaimed, Notes, Selected Bibliography, and a precise index. The outstanding work has connection to southern USA in that the publication superbly explains how Kentucky, which did not secede during the Civil War, is thought of as a southern state.

People read to shut out the pioneering machine period and associated worker fights that reduced tranquility. Literature glamorized Kentucky describing palaces with columns, mint juleps, and majestic horse development areas and terrain. The absolute opposite was portrayed in newspapers with revelations of Kentucky murders, dangerous crowds, night horse riders burning farms, horse thefts, and mountain kin arguing. The 1900s' Kentucky authors conveyed beautiful landscapes and regal castles accompanying elaborate lucrative horse development facilities to represent Kentucky as similar to the South with