



Mythic Frontiers: Remembering, Forgetting, and Profiting with Cultural Heritage Tourism (Cultural Heritage Studies)

Daniel R. Maher

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“Maher explores the development of the Frontier Complex as he deconstructs the frontier myth in the context of manifest destiny, American exceptionalism, and white male privilege. A very significant contribution to our understanding of how and why heritage sites reinforce privilege.”—Frederick H. Smith, author of *The Archaeology of Alcohol and Drinking*

“Peels back the layer of dime westerns and *True Grit* films to show how their mythologies are made material. You’ll never experience a ‘heritage site’ the same way again.”—Christine Bold, author of *The Frontier Club: Popular Westerns and Cultural Power, 1880–1924*

The history of the Wild West has long been fictionalized in novels, films, and television shows. Catering to these popular representations, towns across America have created tourist sites connecting such tales with historical monuments. Yet these attractions stray from known histories in favor of the embellished past visitors expect to see and serve to craft a cultural memory that reinforces contemporary ideologies.

In *Mythic Frontiers*, Daniel Maher illustrates how aggrandized versions of the past, especially those of the “American frontier,” have been used to turn a profit. These imagined historical sites have effectively silenced the violent, oppressive, colonizing forces of manifest destiny and elevated principal architects of it to mythic heights. Examining the frontier complex in Fort Smith, Arkansas—where visitors are greeted at a restored brothel and the reconstructed courtroom and gallows of “Hanging Judge” Isaac Parker feature prominently—Maher warns that creating a popular tourist narrative and disconnecting cultural heritage tourism from history minimizes the devastating consequences of imperialism, racism, and sexism and relegitimizes the privilege bestowed upon white men.

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Frances Heath:

The reason why? Because this Mythic Frontiers: Remembering, Forgetting, and Profiting with Cultural Heritage Tourism (Cultural Heritage Studies) is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will surprise you with the secret it inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such incredible way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of gains than the other book get such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I have been you I will go to the book store hurriedly.

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