Thank you for perusing The University of Alabama Press’s Archaeology, Anthropology, and Native American Studies/Ethnohistory catalogue for fall 2014/spring 2015!

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Native American Studies/Ethnohistory is vibrant here with Heidi M. Altman’s “Contemporary American Indian Studies” series. The newest title is Red Eagle’s Children, edited by J. Anthony Paredes and Judith Knight.

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If available, also send an introduction and a sample chapter or two.

Wendi Schnaufer, Senior Acquisitions Editor
(Archaeology, Anthropology, Food Studies, Latin American/Caribbean Studies, Native American Studies/Ethnohistory)
Center Places and Cherokee Towns
Archaeological Perspectives on Native American
Architecture and Landscape in the Southern Appalachians
by Christopher B. Rodning

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In Center Places and Cherokee Towns Christopher Rodning describes how architecture and other aspects of the built environment such as hearths, burials, earthen mounds, and embankments form center places within the cultural landscape of the protohistoric Cherokee (A.D. 1540–1700). This time period corresponds to the first Spanish contacts with Native American chiefdoms in La Florida, and the development of formal trade relations between other Native American societies and colonists in the English and French colonial provinces. As such, this is a critical time period for understanding how Cherokee people responded to the aftermath of European contact in eastern North America before the development of formal trade relations and colonial rule. It is also an ideal period for exploring the roles that architecture and the built environment played in Native American responses to increasing European contact and subsequent colonization.

Focusing on the Coweeta Creek site in the upper Little Tennessee Valley in southwest North Carolina, Rodning describes various architectural features as being the dynamic outcomes of relationships between people and places, and he proposes that architectural spaces form center places that anchor households and towns to particular points within a broader Cherokee cultural and physical landscape. Thus, Rodning reinterprets existing research while also presenting new data about the history of the Cherokee settlement at Coweeta Creek using primary sources dating to the 1700s and Cherokee myths and legends as they were remembered and recorded during the 1800s.
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