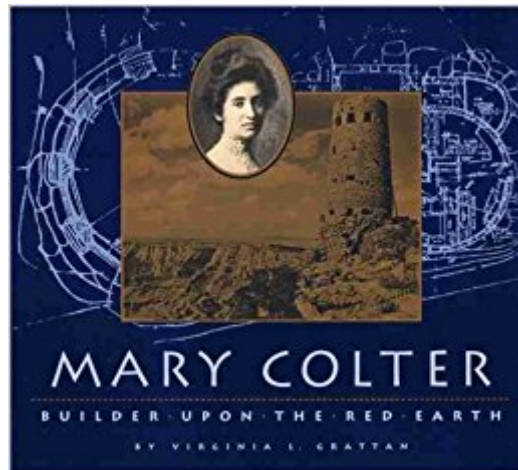




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Mary Colter: Builder Upon The Red Earth (Grand Canyon Association)



Synopsis

An architect for the Santa Fe Railway and the Fred Harvey Company, Colter laid the groundwork for female architects who followed. Seven of her remarkable structures are preserved in Grand Canyon's historic district. This is her story.

Book Information

Series: Grand Canyon Association

Paperback: 132 pages

Publisher: Grand Canyon Association; Revised edition (March 13, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0938216457

ISBN-13: 978-0938216452

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.9 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #119,000 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in [Books > Arts & Photography](#)

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Customer Reviews

A good historical book

A good source book on one of America's First Woman Architects - Mary Coulter!

Great review of her architectural design, the railroad tourism transition and impetus for development and visitation of the national parks.

Mary Jane Colter was an extraordinary lady for her day. This book gives insight into her imagination, drive, and desire for living.

A beautiful, wonderful book!

This work offers insight not only to Mary Colter's work but also to her personality. She had talent

and was proud of it. How much we have benefitted from her knowledge and her empathy for the peoples of the Southwest..

Mary Colter was an amazing woman. As an architect, she built structures that blend into the native landscapes in ways that enhance the landscape rather than detract from it. Her sense of style is still very much with us today in her love for Native American furnishings and artifacts. Her attention to detail has been largely responsible for the recognition of Southwestern art by those of us who live outside the region. That said, the book is a bit lean. It seems to be written for the casual reader rather than the scholar. But, given that it is marketed to the reading tourists, this is most probably appropriate. The many pictures (about half the pages) really help to bring the text to life. This book is a wonderful souvenir from the southwest, especially the Grand Canyon. This is its scope. Much more could have been written about Colter as one who broke through gender restrictions, about the spirituality that informed her work, and other topics. Depending on the reader's interests, this could be a plus or a minus. To this reader, it was just about the right level of detail.

This book is exactly what you'd expect from a book purchased at a gift shop at the Grand Canyon, bland. It is by no means in-depth and spends more time describing the antiques that Colter decorated her buildings with than with her life. Colter was a fascinating woman and I would have liked to learn more about her than this book provided. Being as how Colter isn't exactly someone you're likely to read more than one book about, I would recommend purchasing something with more pictures and information than this one, which is more just a basic outline.

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