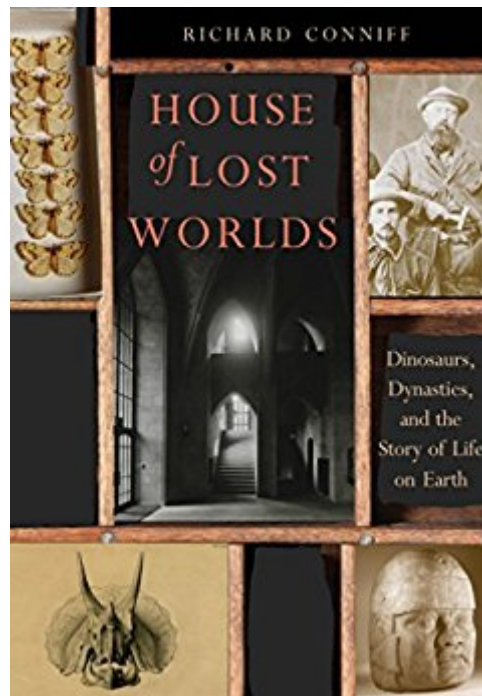


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House Of Lost Worlds: Dinosaurs, Dynasties, And The Story Of Life On Earth



Synopsis

This fascinating book tells the story of how one museum changed ideas about dinosaurs, dynasties, and even the story of life on earth. The Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History, now celebrating its 150th anniversary, has remade the way we see the world. Delving into the museum's storied and colorful past, award-winning author Richard Conniff introduces a cast of bold explorers, roughneck bone hunters, and visionary scientists. Some became famous for wresting Brontosaurus, Triceratops, and other dinosaurs from the earth, others pioneered the introduction of science education in North America, and still others rediscovered the long-buried glory of Machu Picchu. In this lively tale of events, achievements, and scandals from throughout the museum's history. Readers will encounter renowned paleontologist O. C. Marsh who engaged in ferocious combat with his "Bone Wars" rival Edward Drinker Cope, as well as dozens of other intriguing characters. Nearly 100 color images portray important figures in the Peabody's history and special objects from the museum's 13-million-item collections. For anyone with an interest in exploring, understanding, and protecting the natural world, this book will deliver abundant delights.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

An interesting "back-stage" look at the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale and how it changed ideas about dinosaurs, dynasties, and even the story of life on earth. For anyone with an interest in exploring, understanding, and protecting the natural world, this book will deliver abundant information and delights. I've been volunteering there for 28 years and still learned a lot of new "stuff" about the people and collections.

Superb and vivid writing about a subject that is far more of an adventure story than one might anticipate. I visited the Peabody Museum just before I bought the book and feel I understand the place much more than before. I have recommended the book to friends, one of whom turned out to be a distant relative of O.C. Marsh! Fine book.

Writing is enjoyable and historically fascinating. I loved the glossy pages and the great old photos. Such interesting anecdotes about the old dinosaur hunters and the world famous Marsh/Leidy feud. Could not put the book down! As a kid I spent lots of time at the Peabody as I lived in Hamden.

I have visited the Peabody Museum, but I knew only a little about the men who brought this museum to life. I had heard about Cope and Marsh and their famous rivalry over dinosaur bones, but there is so much more to know. I am only half way through the book because the book is dense with information, but information presented in an absorbing way. I find myself lingering over the book and reading it slowly. The author succeeds in presenting the men and women who figure in this true story and in bringing them to life for the reader, not just as historical figures but as admirable and sometimes flawed human beings. I hope to visit the museum again one day to see all that I missed before.

As a volunteer at the Museum I have been very interested in its story. This book has given me some very enlightening info to add to my knowledge and enrich my volunteer work. The pictures are illuminating too.

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