



A Heritage of Ruins: The Ancient Sites of Southeast Asia and Their Conservation (Hardback)

By William Chapman

University of Hawai i Press, United States, 2013. Hardback. Condition: New. New. Language: English . Brand New Book. The ancient ruins of Southeast Asia have long sparked curiosity and romance in the world s imagination. They appear in accounts of nineteenth-century French explorers, as props for Indiana Jones s adventures, and more recently as the scene of Lady Lara Croft s fantastical battle with the forces of evil. They have been featured in National Geographic magazine and serve as backdrops for popular television travel and reality shows. Now William Chapman s expansive new study explores the varied roles these monumental remains have played in the histories of Southeast Asia s modern nations. Based on more than fifteen years of travel, research, and visits to hundreds of ancient sites, A Heritage of Ruins shows the close connection between ruins conservation and both colonialism and nation building. It also demonstrates the profound impact of European-derived ideas of historic and aesthetic significance on ancient ruins and how these continue to color the management and presentation of sites in Southeast Asia today. Angkor, Pagan (Bagan), Borobudur, and Ayutthaya lie at the center of this cultural and architectural tour, but less visited sites, including Laos s...



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