

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910807854703321
Titolo	Observation points [[electronic resource]] : the visual poetics of national parks // Thomas Patin, editor
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Minneapolis, : University of Minnesota Press, 2012
ISBN	0-8166-7951-7
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (323 p.)
Classificazione	SCI026000HIS036000ART015000
Altri autori (Persone)	PatinThomas <1958->
Disciplina	719/.320973
Soggetti	Visual communication - Social aspects - United States National parks and reserves - United States Landscapes - Social aspects - United States Cultural landscapes - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Machine generated contents note: Contents -- Introduction: Naturalizing Rhetoric -- Thomas Patin1. Being Here, Looking There: Mediating Vistas in the National Parks -- of the Contemporary American West -- Robert M. Bednar2. Remembering Zion: Architectural Encounters in a National Park -- Gregory Clark3. Roadside Wilderness: U.S. National Park Design in the 1950s and 1960s -- Peter Peters4. Critical Vehicles Crash the Scene: Spectacular Nature and Popular Spectacle at the -- Grand Canyon -- Mark Neumann5. How German Is the American West? The Legacy of Caspar David Friedrich's -- Visual Poetics in American Landscape Painting -- Sabine Wilke6. Yellowstone National Park in Metaphor: Place and Actor Representations -- in Visitor Publications -- David A. Tschida7. Image/Text/Geography: Yellowstone and the Spatial Rhetoric of Landscape -- Gareth John8. Can Patriotism Be Carved in Stone? A Critical Analysis of Mount Rushmore's -- Orientation Films -- Teresa Bergman9. Thinking like a Mountain: Mount Rushmore's Gaze -- William Chaloupka10. George Catlin's Wilderness Utopia -- Albert Boime11. Memorials and Mourning: Recovering Native Resistance in and to the Monuments -- of the Nation -- Stephen Germic12. America's Best Idea: Environmental Public Memory and the Rhetoric of -- Conservation Civics -- Cindy Spurlock13. America in Ruins: Parks, Poetics, and Politics -- Thomas

" National parks are the places that present ideas of nature to Americans: Zion, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Yellowstone bring to mind quintessential and awe-inspiring wilderness. By examining how rhetoric--particularly visual rhetoric--has worked to shape our views of nature and the "natural" place of humans, *Observation Points* offers insights into questions of representation, including the formation of national identity. As Thomas Patin reveals, the term "nature" is artificial and unstable, in need of constant maintenance and reconstruction. The process of stabilizing its representation, he notes, is unavoidably political. America's national parks and monuments show how visual rhetoric operates to naturalize and stabilize representations of the environment. As contributors demonstrate, visual rhetoric is often transparent, structuring experience while remaining hidden in plain sight. Scenic overlooks and turnouts frame views for tourists. Visitor centers, with their display cases and photographs and orientation films, provide their own points of view--literally and figuratively. Guidebooks, brochures, and other publications present still other ways of seeing. At the same time, images of America's "natural" world have long been employed for nationalist and capitalist ends, linking expansionism with American greatness and the "natural" triumph of European Americans over Native Americans. The essays collected here cover a wide array of subjects, including park architecture, landscape painting, public ceremonies, and techniques of display. Contributors are from an equally broad range of disciplines--art history, geography, museum studies, political science, American studies, and many other fields. Together they advance a provocative new visual genealogy of representation. Contributors: Robert M. Bednar, Southwestern U, Georgetown, Texas; Teresa Bergman, U of the Pacific; Albert Boime, UCLA; William Chaloupka, Colorado State U; Gregory Clark, Brigham Young U; Stephen Geric, Rocky Mountain College; Gareth John, St. Cloud State U, Minnesota; Mark Neumann, Northern Arizona U; Peter Peters, Maastricht U; Cindy Spurlock, Appalachian State U; David A. Tschida, U of Wisconsin, Eau Claire; Sabine Wilke, U of Washington. "--