**What a 1200 year old burial mound on Lemon Bay reveals about Florida’s past**

Author Ted Ehmann in this new work continues his rethinking of the one hundred and twenty-year-old narrative about the mound-builders Indians in North America. Revisiting the archaeological excavation of a large burial mound on Lemon Bay in what is today Englewood, Florida in, 1938, Ehmann solves the mystery surrounding its construction while simultaneously dismantling the view that such enterprises are proof of a local society becoming more “socially complex.”

 His new research reveals the truly cooperative nature of these strictly hunter-gathering civilizations while exposing the racism then and now that has influenced science. Particularly the application of “environmental archaeology’, a purely Euro-centric view forced upon the highly adaptive and cooperative societies in Florida.

 It took Congress until 1990, after decades of grave looting conducted under the guise of scientific research, to pass the Native American Graves Protection and Reparation Act. While expressing the importance of burials for gathering reliable ethnological data the author demonstrates that all the data can provide answers by revisiting each and respecting the beliefs and practices that are inseparable from the site and those buried there.

*Author of The People of the Great Circle*

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