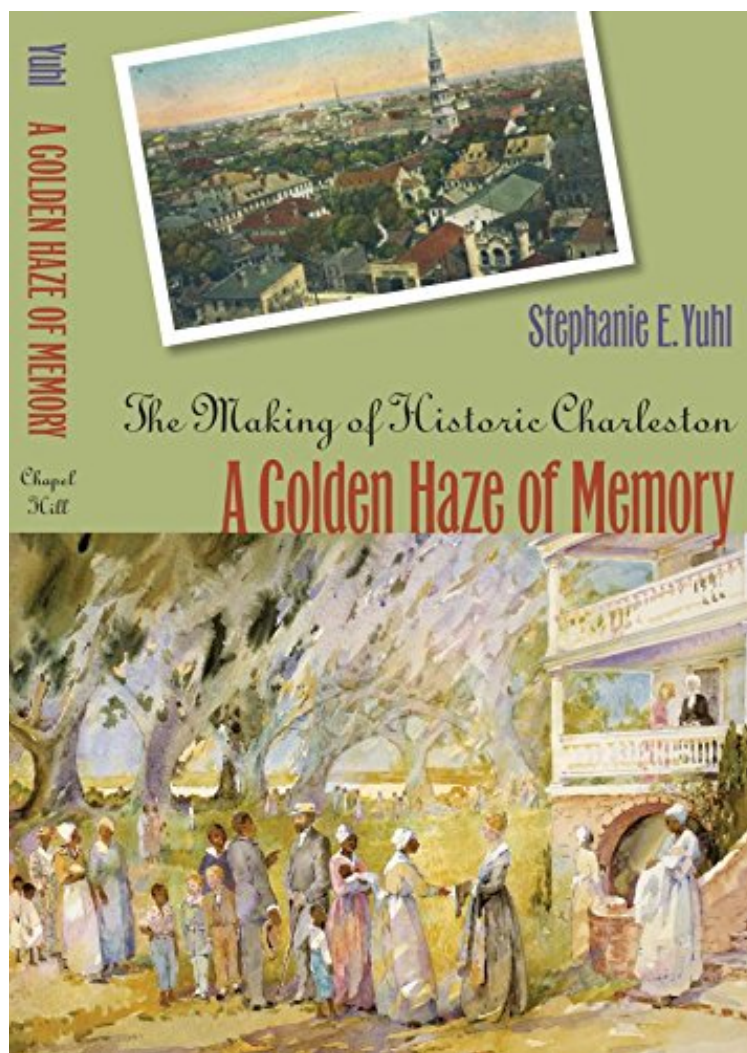



A Golden Haze of Memory: The Making of Historic Charleston

Stephanie E. Yuhl

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Stephanie E. Yuhl : A Golden Haze of Memory: The Making of Historic Charleston before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Golden Haze of Memory: The Making of Historic Charleston:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Telling it like it is - or was. By Mary Coy The great thing about this book is that it gives a side of the story that is seldom heard - or read. It is the story of how the business of 'selling Charleston' came about through the efforts of a great many people - artists and preservationists - in the early 20th century who carefully crafted the image of Charleston in order to sell it to Northerners who were charmed into seeing a somewhat skewed view of reality. A must-read for anyone who really wants to know how the city came to be a mecca for visitors as early as the 1920s. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Lisa Cray A must read! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By Customer It's pretty dank

Charleston, South Carolina, today enjoys a reputation as a destination city for cultural and heritage tourism. In *A Golden Haze of Memory*, Stephanie E. Yuhl looks back to the crucial period between 1920 and 1940, when local leaders developed Charleston's trademark image as "America's Most Historic City." Eager to assert the national value of their regional cultural traditions and to situate Charleston as a bulwark against the chaos of modern America, these descendants of old-line families downplayed Confederate associations and emphasized the city's colonial and early national prominence. They created a vibrant network of individual artists, literary figures, and organizations--such as the all-white Society for the Preservation of Negro Spirituals--that nurtured architectural preservation, art, literature, and tourism while appropriating African American folk culture. In the process, they translated their selective and idiosyncratic personal, familial, and class memories into a collective identity for the city. The Charleston this group built, Yuhl argues, presented a sanitized yet highly marketable version of the American past. Their efforts invited attention and praise from outsiders while protecting social hierarchies and preserving the political and economic power of whites. Through the example of this colorful southern city, Yuhl posits a larger critique about the use of heritage and demonstrates how something as intangible as the recalled past can be transformed into real political, economic, and social power.

Provides a real sense of Charleston's relationship with the rest of the nation. . . . Significantly deepens our understanding of how historical memory was both created and deployed in a southern city that provided a model for similar work across the region. - "Journal of Southern History" "A model memory study that could be duplicated in a region often focused on itself and its illustrious past." -- "South Carolina Historical Magazine" aProvides a real sense of Charleston's relationship with the rest of the nation. . . . Significantly deepens our understanding of how historical memory was both created and deployed in a southern city that provided a model for similar work across the region. a -- "Journal of Southern History" "Help[s] unravel the complicated intentions in the cycles of creation and remembrance that have shaped Charleston across two centuries." -- "Journal of Architectural Historians" "Provides a real sense of Charleston's relationship with the rest of the nation. . . . Significantly deepens our understanding of how historical memory was both created and deployed in a southern city that provided a model for similar work across the region." -- "Journal of Southern History" By explaining how the popular but distorted image of [Charleston's] history was constructed, Yuhl has constructively and eloquently reopened a discussion that previously occurred only in angry shouts and anxious whispers.--Charleston Post and Courier *A Golden Haze of Memory* . . . promises to provide an outstanding read for those interested in the creation and presentation of history, in the cultural history of the south, and in the interwar years. Yuhl's detailed and excellent account of the creation of 'Historic Charleston' offers a substantial contribution to the growing field of historical memory.--Southern Historian Provides a real sense of Charleston's relationship with the rest of the nation. . . . Significantly deepens our understanding of how historical memory was both created and deployed in a southern city that provided a model for similar work across the region.--Journal of Southern History A model memory study that could be duplicated in a region often focused on itself and its illustrious past.--South Carolina Historical Magazine For a brief moment, as this elegant and penetrating study reminds us, Charleston boasted a cultural 'renaissance' that literally transformed the city and its place in the American imagination. *A Golden Haze of Memory* reveals how the preoccupations of some of Charleston's colorful residents became harnessed to one of the nation's most robust campaigns of civic memory. Yuhl underscores the ambiguous legacy of this movement for the city's residents and for a nation that continues to look to Charleston as a symbol of the Old South. With a dazzling mixture of social and cultural history, this book represents a major contribution to our understanding of American arts and society during the 1920s and '30s.--W. Fitzhugh Brundage, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Yuhl's study of the local elite's shaping and uses of history in Charleston between the First and Second World Wars is well conceived, broadly researched, and nicely phrased. A fine book.--David Moltke-Hansen, President and CEO, Historical Society of Pennsylvania Help[s] unravel the complicated intentions in the cycles of creation and remembrance that have shaped Charleston across two centuries.--Journal of Architectural Historians "Anyone interested in historic preservation, cultural tourism, and the interpretation of historic sites will find *A Golden Haze of Memory* especially useful.--Georgia Historical Quarterly From the Inside Flap Yuhl examines elite white artists, literary figures, and cultural groups in Charleston between 1920 and 1940 who nurtured a sanitized version of southern history through their promotion of architectural preservation, art, literature, African American folk culture, and heritage tourism.