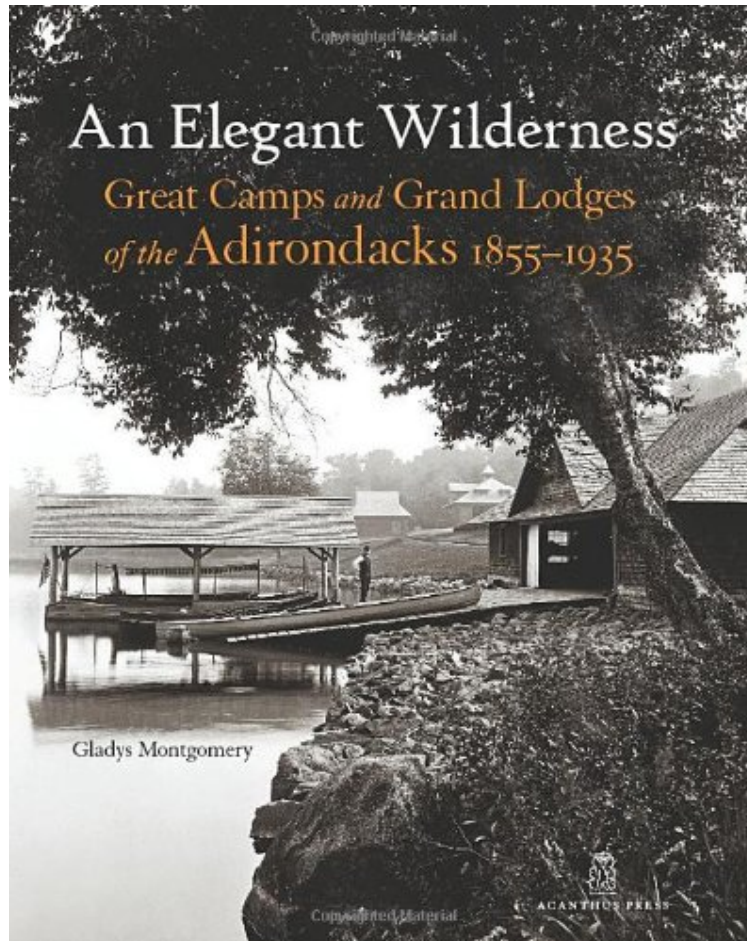


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## An Elegant Wilderness: Great Camps and Grand Lodges of the Adirondacks (The Architecture of Leisure)

Gladys Montgomery

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**Gladys Montgomery : An Elegant Wilderness: Great Camps and Grand Lodges of the Adirondacks (The Architecture of Leisure)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Elegant Wilderness: Great Camps and Grand Lodges of the Adirondacks (The Architecture of Leisure):

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. More Disappointment from AcanthusBy RWEThis would be a great book if there were accompanying maps, diagrams, or plans. As is it is a series of pictures with a little bit of info on the owners. I have noticed with each passing edition that there are fewer and fewer plans published in Acanthus books. I understand that this is an editorial position, but these are, after all, books on domestic architecture. For the price Acanthus charges for these books I expect more. It is too bad that they seem to be either getting lazy or just think those of us interested in architectural history are just happy with pictures and brief summaries. I was thinking of advance

ordering the volume on San Francisco houses coming this fall, but I think I will wait and look first. Way to go Acanthus. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. This was an opportunity to create the definitive scholarly text ...By nemeanThis was an opportunity to create the definitive scholarly text on this architectural vernacular. Unfortunately, it was squandered and turned out a lightweight coffee table effort. Surprising for Acanthus to publish such a thing. I hope someone will nail the topic in the near future. This is an undermined field. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... interested in but I have to say I really enjoyed the bookBy Michael Van OostenNot an area I was overly interested in but I have to say I really enjoyed the book. It sticks to the Acanthus Press formula of great pics and plans along with history of each property.

The Victorian Society in America Metropolitan Chapter 2011 Award for Publication-Architectural HistoryThe Adirondack Center for Writing 2011 Literary Award-Best Book, NonfictionThe first book to place the rustic Adirondack architectural style in the context of the cultural, social, and environmental history, *An Elegant Wilderness*, showcases the intensely private retreats set into the pine forests on the shores of the region's shimmering lakes. Open earlier to tourism and more accessible than the western United States, the Adirondack region is where many urbanites of the Industrial Age came to experience the wilderness. It was in the Adirondacks that the constricting social proprieties relaxed, that city swells hunted in deer-filled forests and angled in trout-stocked lakes, that women shed their corsets to hike, fish, and play tennis, and that children learned to appreciate the great outdoors. Among the owners of the Great Camps there were the mining magnates Berthold Hochschild, Daniel Guggenheim, and Adolph Lewisohn, financiers J. Pierpont Morgan, Otto Kahn, and Isaac Newton Seligman, New York governor Levi Morton, President Benjamin Harrison, and the prominent philosopher William James and neuroscientist James Jackson Putnam. Women camp owners of note included Lucy Carnegie, Margaret Emerson (Vanderbilt), and Marjorie Merriweather Post. Published by Acanthus Press in collaboration with The Adirondack Museum, *An Elegant Wilderness* combines architectural, social, and cultural history with biography, and evocative archival black-and-white archival photographs of rustic homes, idyllic lakes, and recreational pastimes, most of which are published for the first time.

Gladys Montgomery and Acanthus Press make a seminal contribution to the literature on the subject with this book. Drawing on the vast collections of the Adirondack Museum's library and historic photographs, as well as other regional repositories, Ms. Montgomery skillfully depicts the social milieu, architectural precedents, decorative aesthetics, and environmental awareness that stimulated the Adirondack rustic architectural style, along with the individual stories of the people who built the camps and lived the grand life there. --Caroline M. Welsh, Director Emerita, The Adirondack Museum...the most comprehensive book yet about Adirondack rustic architecture and its origins. --Lake George Mirror, July 21, 2011...the most comprehensive book yet about Adirondack rustic architecture and its origins. --Lake George Mirror, July 21, 2011 About the Author Gladys Montgomery is an award-winning writer and editor. The author of five books and the founding editor of *Berkshire Living Home + Garden*, she has penned more than 200 magazine features about architecture, design, antiques, and historic buildings, which have appeared in regional, national, and international publications. In 2007, she transposed this expertise into a real estate career with The Kinderhook Group. She lives in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts.