

acknowledgments

Acknowledging one's intellectual debts would be unmitigated pleasure but for the realization that it is an impossible undertaking. Intellectual debts are endless and innumerable. This is, of course, especially true when one is rash enough to write a book that aspires toward the synthesis of a broad range of disparate topics. However, I do want to express my deep gratitude to four happy influences without which *Topophilia* would have remained a private fantasy: the Berkeley ambiance of free but intense intellectual inquiry when I was a graduate student there between 1951 and 1956; the example and encouragement of John Brinckerhoff Jackson; the beauty of New Mexico; the liberal structure of the Minnesota Department of Geography which encourages its faculty to "profess" their real interests, that is, to be professors rather than "resource persons" holding information in the generally approved slots of the discipline.

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