



# First Houses: Native American Homes and Sacred Structures

*By Ray A. Williamson, Jean Guard Monroe*

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Who built the first house? Native American legends reveal fascinating stories of the Beginning Time, when the Old Ones taught people the true ways. In this absorbing book, the authors have gathered legends associated with Native American houses and sacred structures from across the country. There are stories of the Pawnee earth lodge, the tipi of the Great Plains, and the crystal house of the California Chumash. The authors clearly describe how magical First Houses set the pattern for the homes of today. Illustrated.

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### Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 6-9. From the longhouse of the Iroquois to the hogan of the Navajo, *First Houses* describes the basis in myth and environmental conditions of traditional Native American house design, construction, and use. Discussion of tribal history and lifestyle provides the context for the myths used to explain the significance of house designs of 10 tribes. Although some of the structures considered are no longer used as housing, almost all continue to have ceremonial purpose and hold an important place in the tribes' practices and history. The small black-and-white drawings lack the detail given in the text, but the combination of story with factual information provides a perspective that is usually missing from books about Native American housing written for middle readers. A glossary, reading list, and source notes are appended. *Karen Hutt*

From Kirkus Reviews

Though the title gives little hint of the mythological content, the scholarly information here on Native American buildings in North America--Iroquois longhouse, Navajo hogan, Pueblo kiva, and a variety of California and Northwest coast dwellings, tipis, lodges, and sweathouses--is intertwined with myths and legends concerning their creation. The stories, preceded by illuminating background notes, have a sameness making the book more suitable for reports or dipping into than for straight pleasure reading. The b&w drawings are more decorative than informative; the cover resembles a textbook. Similar in approach to the authors' *They Dance in the Sky: Native American Star Myths* (1987), but of less general appeal. Extensive pronouncing glossary; suggested further reading; impressive bibliography. Index not seen. (Nonfiction. 10-14) -- *Copyright ©1993, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Review

"A well-researched and documented book that takes a unique approach to its topic." (*School Library Journal*)

### Users Review

**From reader reviews:**

**Gertrude Barrett:**

As people who live in the modest era should be up-date about what going on or details even knowledge to make them keep up with the era and that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to you is you don't know which you should start with. This *First Houses: Native American Homes and Sacred Structures* is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and want in this era.

**Robert Collado:**

The reserve untitled *First Houses: Native American Homes and Sacred Structures* is the guide that recommended to you you just read. You can see the quality of the publication content that will be shown to you actually. The language that author use to explained their way of doing something is easily to understand.

The article writer was did a lot of investigation when write the book, hence the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also can get the e-book of First Houses: Native American Homes and Sacred Structures from the publisher to make you more enjoy free time.

**Sergio Hawkinson:**

Why? Because this First Houses: Native American Homes and Sacred Structures is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will zap you with the secret that inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who write the book in such wonderful way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This phenomenal book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book get such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I had been you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

**Amanda Bernard:**

In this period of time globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make professionals understand the condition of the world. The health of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, magazine, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher in which print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended to you is First Houses: Native American Homes and Sacred Structures this book consist a lot of the information with the condition of this world now. This kind of book was represented just how can the world has grown up. The words styles that writer require to explain it is easy to understand. Typically the writer made some exploration when he makes this book. This is why this book appropriate all of you.

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