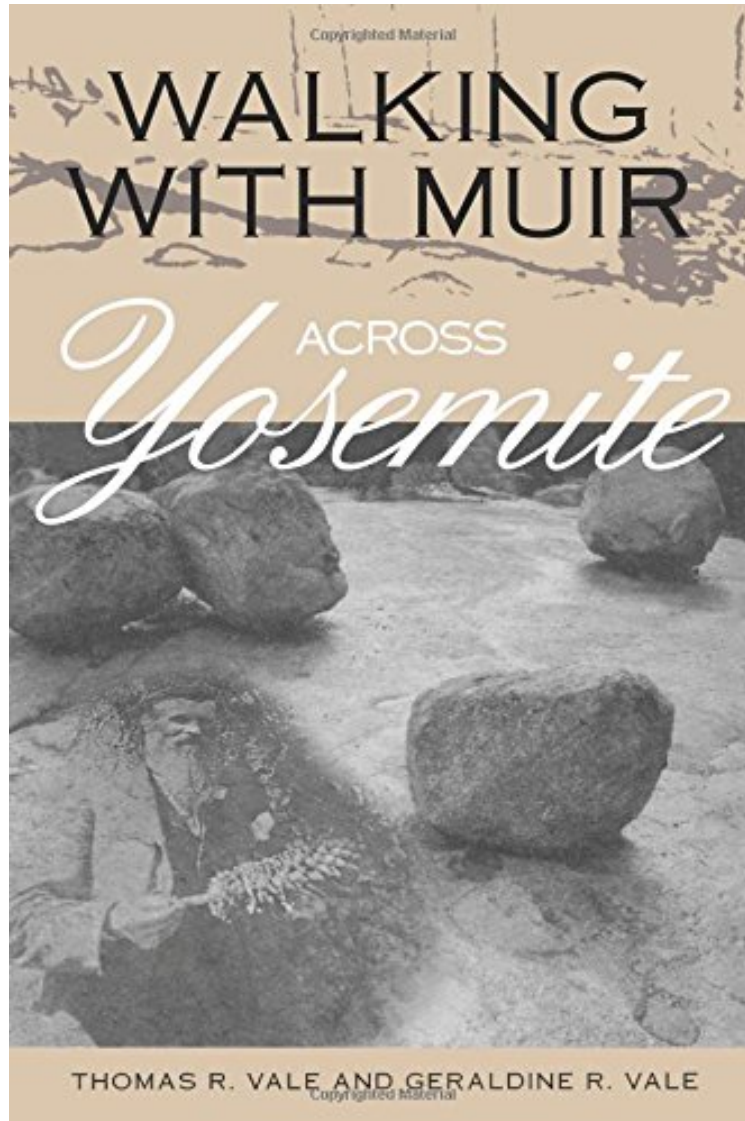


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## Walking with Muir across Yosemite

*Thomas R. Vale*

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#2293408 in Books 1998-04-06 1998-03-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .60 x 6.00l, .52 #File Name: 029915694X160 pages | File size: 53.Mb

**Thomas R. Vale : Walking with Muir across Yosemite** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking with Muir across Yosemite:

Does today's visitor trekking Yosemite National Park find it much different from what John Muir encountered a century ago? Thomas and Geraldine Vale retrace Muir's path, based upon journal descriptions of his activities and

experiences during his first summer in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. From the foothills through Yosemite Valley and on up to the Tuolumne Meadows, the Vales follow the present roads and trails that crossed Muir's route, imagining his reaction to the landscape while reflecting on the natural world in both his time and ours. Illustrated with drawings by John Muir and drawings and photos by the Vales, *Walking with Muir across Yosemite* emphasizes that current visitors to Yosemite indeed to any national park can still experience the solitude, wildness, and romanticism of nature. They believe, however, that this modern exploration would benefit from a national parks policy that actively promotes nature study and encourages a more profound interaction between humans and the natural world.

From *Booklist* Thomas and Geraldine Vale contribute their own observations of places beloved by the renowned naturalist John Muir, while seeking to portray "a holistic understanding" of him. Here the wonders of intimately experiencing Yosemite are explored as the Vales retrace Muir's footsteps as chronicled in *My First Summer in the Sierra*. Contemplating in a fashion similar to Muir's own sense of various locations, the Vales make note of the ways that Muir observed, discovered, and perceived Yosemite's terrain. Their study makes a pertinent document for anyone who appreciates the awesome beauty of Yosemite and shares in a concern for the future of one of the nation's most amazing landscapes. A final chapter looks at issues of public policy, contributing to an ongoing dialogue about the direction of this great national parkland. Alice Joyce "A celebration of the nature experience. This book expresses John Muir's emotional attachment to America's oldest national park." Lary M. Dilsaver, University of South Alabama