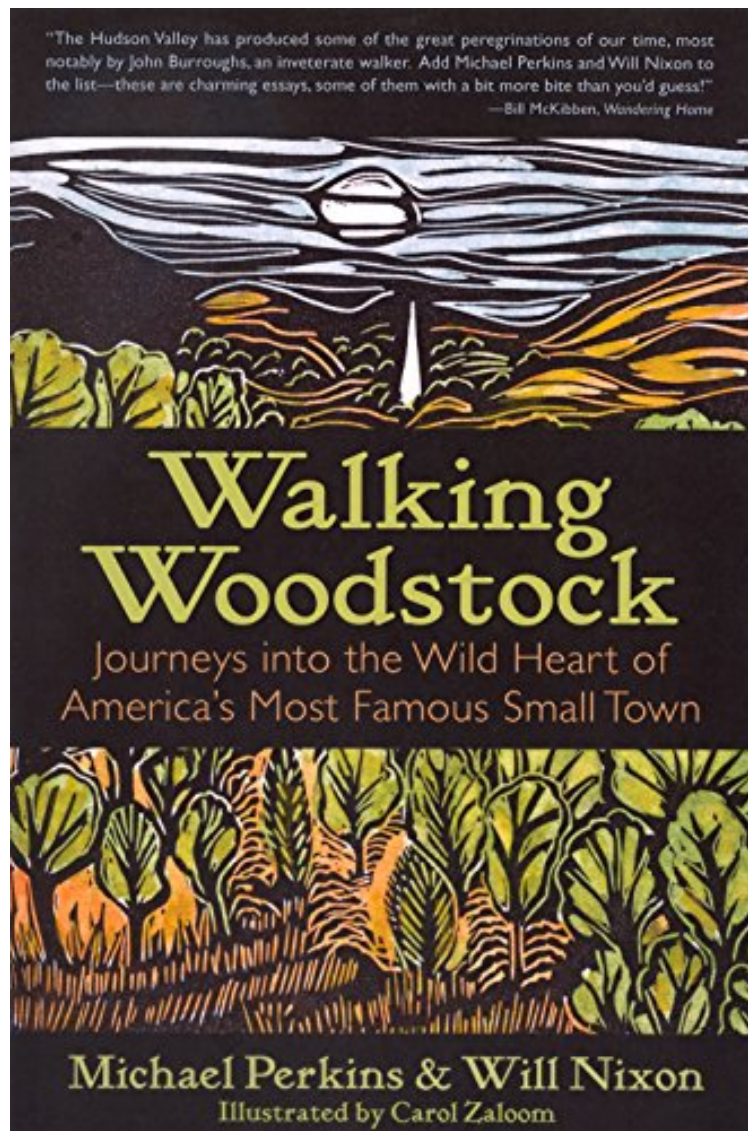


[Free and download] Walking Woodstock: Journeys into the Wild Heart of America's Most Famous Small Town

## Walking Woodstock: Journeys into the Wild Heart of America's Most Famous Small Town

*Michael Perkins, Will Nixon*

*audiobook | \*ebooks | Download PDF | ePub | DOC*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1247336 in Books 2009-12-06PDF # 1 #File Name: 1935534394236 pagesIncludes Suggested WalksOver 40 woodcut illustrations | File size: 45.Mb

**Michael Perkins, Will Nixon : Walking Woodstock: Journeys into the Wild Heart of America's Most Famous Small Town** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Walking Woodstock: Journeys into the Wild Heart of America's Most Famous Small Town:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. WALKING WOODSTOCK ... RAMBLING IN THE CATSKILL

**MOUNTAIN WILDS WITH TWO WILD POETS** By Susan Deer Cloud  
What better way to enter into the Woodstock, NY, region than through a book of essays written by two superb poets who know about the "wild" in the most profound of ways? I am a Catskill Native (that includes being Indian) and I appreciate the careful observation and love, really, that Will Nixon and Michael Perkins brought to *Walking Woodstock* ... essays about various valleys, mountains and trails that they themselves have frequented. The authors convey the unique beauty and Manitou presence of the Catskill Mountains or Onteora, Land in the Sky, while also indicating how rough some of those hikes can be. They bring a deep respect to this land pervaded by ancient panther and Indigenous spirit, not simply describing various mountains but evoking "spirit of place" and the effect of such "spirit" on those humans who venture into the "Wild Heart of America's Most Famous Small Town." Part of the pleasure of this book is that it is written by two friends of different generations, one an elder and one in his middle years ... two friends tramping about Whitmanesque-like, having adventures and gathering stories of all kinds, is nearly magical to follow. Will's and Michael's fine poems are strewn among their storytelling, and the linocut illustrations by Carol Zaloom enhance those most enthralling stories. Prepare to be entranced and ready to make a pilgrimage to Catskill "heart country." 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. **Hiking, Woodstock and Sanity** By BBlockA "Walking Woodstock" is rich with hiking experiences and personal observations. I am not a bushwhacker, but this book would appeal to even a casual hiker, and is as well-written as Thoreau or Muir on this subject. These many essays written by Perkins and Nixon contain personal memoir, descriptions of animals in the wild, and other hikers. An especially endearing and offbeat essay, "Following the Black Line," is about mall walkers in a Kingston mall--seniors, mothers pushing strollers, people losing weight, and anyone eager to get exercise in bad weather. A bad fall by one author leads to an emergency evacuation by volunteers called by the other author, evoking powerful emotions, in two chapters "Emergency" and "Carried Out." I recommend this book for its ecological viewpoint of saving the natural beauty of the Catskills the authors hiked, and their love for their charismatic home town, Woodstock, NY. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Charming, honest, and tart little essays  
By Frank Markowitz While especially interesting and useful as a guide to walking in the Woodstock area, these essays are also fascinating and useful for hikers and casual walkers elsewhere. For example, there are useful passages on bird watching, bushwacking strategy, trail foods, serious first aid, and a host of other topics. The structure of the book is great. Short essays (grouped by theme) with brief notes on access to trails and views, interspersed with charming woodcuts and an area map. Even suggestions for further reading. The reader really comes to know and trust the authors. They're perceptive, usually enthusiastic and humorous, occasionally a bit gruff. Above all, I'm sure they'll inspire hundreds of hikes and rambles in Woodstock and beyond.

At a poetry gathering one evening, authors Michael Perkins and Will Nixon decided to walk across Woodstock not just the modern town of busy roads, but the older village of bluestone quarries, abandoned forest paths and mountain views they had all to themselves. *Walking Woodstock* collects their adventures, many first published in the *Woodstock Times*, that ranged from the delights of finding spring flowers to the fears of a mountain rescue. Full of humor, friendship, nature, hikers' lore and walkers' musings, these journeys reveal the wild heart that beats in all of us when we set forth to explore our home terrain on foot.

Here is an insider's book of Woodstock trails, with good stories on lost roads, cairns, forgotten history, and above all walking. If this inspired book doesn't get us up and out and walking, nothing will. --Gioia Timpanelli, *What Makes a Child Lucky*  
This is a book by two free men two men who have consciously chosen to forsake the desperate quest for speed that characterizes our increasingly impatient age in favor of long, slow, discursive rambles on foot over hill and dale, mountain and meadow, crag and creek and country road. Among other things, to walk in the way that Michael Perkins and Will Nixon do is an act of devotion, an act that entails a close reading of the landscape and happily for us, they write as well as they read. --Mikhail Horowitz, *Rafting into the Afterlife*  
Like Johnny Cash, Perkins and Nixon have been everywhere through, over, under and around Woodstock, and not just Woodstock, New York. These bright remembrances of hikes past should inspire the couch-bound to retake the neglected territory of the upright and bipedal. There's wilderness, poetry and history in this Woodstock, a realm of mountain paths through winding glens and up windy slopes to hidden vistas, a back 40 peopled with the ghosts of Woodstockers past settlers, sculptors, painters, quarrymen, Indian chiefs, town Supervisors and more. No more informed, energized, cantankerous and amiable company could be found than these two foot soldiers of field and stream. Let them guide you where they go. And feel free to follow in their footsteps. --Spider Barbour, *Wild Flora of the Northeast*  
About the Author Michael Perkins grew up in southern Ohio and graduated from Ohio University (Athens) in 1963 after studies at The New School. He was a welfare caseworker, a remedial reading teacher and a bookstore owner, later becoming a freelance writer and small press editor (Tompkins Square Press and Croton Press, Ltd.). He arrived in Woodstock, NY in 1972, and worked as a program director for various arts organizations. He has published over 40 books of poetry, fiction, literary criticism and local history. While in Woodstock he became an avid hiker and in 1986 he walked across Connecticut in a week. Will Nixon grew up in the Connecticut suburbs, spent his young adulthood in Hoboken and Manhattan, then moved to a Catskills log cabin in 1996 complete with a wood stove and mice. For years, he wrote environmental journalism,

then turned to poetry and personal essays. His work has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and listed in Best American Essays 2004. He now lives in Woodstock, NY with a wall thermostat for heat, but still can't get rid of the mice.