PRESS RELEASE

Remembering Awatovi book wins 2009 IPPY Independent Publisher Gold Award

(Cambridge, June 8, 2009) Hester A. Davis’s Remembering Awatovi: The Story of an Archaeological Expedition in Northern Arizona, 1935–1939 has won the 2009 IPPY Independent Publisher Gold Award for Best Regional Non-Fiction. The regional "IPPYs" were designed to spotlight the best regional titles from around North America. Over 700 entries were received from across the U.S. and Canada. Books were judged alongside books for and about their regions only, based on their quality and regional significance.

Remembering Awatovi tied for the Gold Award with Hunting the American West: The Pursuit of Big Game for Life, Profit and Sport, 1800–1900, by Richard C. Rattenbury.

Remembering Awatovi is the engaging story of a major archaeological expedition on the Hopi Reservation in northern Arizona. Centered on the large Pueblo village of Awatovi, with its Spanish mission church and beautiful kiva murals, the excavations are renowned not only for the data they uncovered but also for the interdisciplinary nature of the investigations. In archaeological lore they are
also remembered for the diverse, fun-loving, and distinguished cast of characters who participated in or visited the dig.

Hester Davis’s lively account—part history of archaeology, part social history—is told largely in the words of the participants, among whom were two of Davis’s siblings, artist Penny Davis Worman and archaeologist Mott Davis. Life in the remote field camp abounded with delightful storytelling, delicious food, and good-natured high-jinks. Baths were taken in a stock tank, beloved camp automobiles were given personal names, and a double bed had to be trucked across the desert and up a mesa to celebrate a memorable wedding.


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The [Peabody Museum Press](http://www.peabody.harvard.edu), the publishing arm of the Peabody Museum, publishes the unique resources of the Museum and the work of its affiliated scholars. The Press publishes original research in Old World and New World archaeology, zooarchaeology, biological and sociocultural anthropology, indigenous arts, anthropology and aesthetics, and material culture. The Press also publishes *Res: A Journal of Anthropology and Aesthetics*.

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