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## Shot On This Site: A Traveler's Guide to the Places and Locations Used to Film Famous Movies and T V Shows

*William A. Gordon*

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**William A. Gordon : Shot On This Site: A Traveler's Guide to the Places and Locations Used to Film Famous Movies and T V Shows** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shot On This Site: A Traveler's Guide to the Places and Locations Used to Film Famous Movies and T V Shows:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Find out all about movie locations !!By Mike DirksenIf you are interested in what movies filmed in your area, or in an areas you used to live, this is a very informative, often amusing guide. You might often be surprised at where, and how your current classics, as well as some old faves were filmed. This is definitely worth the investment, especially when you consider the significant discounts you often get as an .com customer !!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Find the movies!By king617I love any book that brings you to a movie location! This one did not disappoint! Ready to check some out in person :)11 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Shot on This SiteBy WilliamAGordonLet me explain to Mediamam ("TV viewer") how professionals review books.First, professionals do not trash virtually every book they come across. Mediaman has done that with 9 of his last 10 reviews on .Second, reviewers select books that were recently published--and available in bookstores--so that potential readers can find out about them and help them decide whether or not to invest a few hours reading the book. Unlike Mediaman, a professional reviewer would never go out of his way to review a reference book that was published 16 years earlier. And a competent reviewer certainly would not go on to complain that the 16-year-old book is out of date.Frankly, I do not even know how he could have found the book to review. "Shot on This Site" has been out of print for at least a decade and has not been available in bookstores for years. Today, only a handful of used-book dealers still carry it. By not disclosing the book's publication date (1995) Mediaman misled readers into thinking this was a new book with outdated information. Of course, a book helping people locate film sites would be outdated 16 years later. The book certainly was not outdated when it was published.Third, Mediaman failed to tell readers how extensive my research was, and misled them by suggesting that anyone could find the approximately 1,000 film and TV sites by doing their own research. Sure, if someone had the time and inclination to review almost 1,000 press kits, identify and interview dozens of location managers, and the heads of approximately 100 film commissions, he could replicate my results. But let us get real here. How many do you know that would have the time and the werewithal to do this? It took me a year and a half to compile the information, even though I already had quite a few industry sources.Fourth, most of Mediaman's criticisms were incredibly nitpicking, like his pointless mention of the park across the street from the Victorians in San Francisco's Alamo Square. He also misread what I wrote. I did not claim the houses were "the most photographed houses in America." I only said they may be. If he had read to the end of the entry he would have discovered that the reasons why filmmakers love Alamo Square is because of its backdrop of downtown skyscrapers (the old Victorians versus a modern downtown).Fifth, while he felt that I could have had more meat and bones with my descriptions of the sites, I felt I had enough. So did my editor. None of the professionals who reviewed the book for the Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune, or other publications felt this was a flaw in my book.Sixth, his criticism that I did not have a photograph accompanying every entry reveals more about his naivety about how books are published than it does about my book. Sure, it would have been nice to have 1,000 photographs, but who is going to pay for it? Apparently it never occurred to him that when the book was published, studios charged \$250 for each photograph. No author or publisher could afford to do what he wants.As for his suggestion that I divide my book into two parts--one with the addresses, the other with descriptions -- that is frankly absurd. The book was a tour guide that I arranged geographically. I tried to make the book as user-friendly as possible. Mediaman's idea would have forced the reader to unnecessarily flip back and forth between the two sections. Sorry, but that was not a smart idea.Eighth, Mediaman may have thought this travel reference book was dull, but he seems to be the only critic who felt that way. The Chicago Tribune, for example, found that "there's enough material here to keep even the most jaded movie and trivia buffs occupied for hours."Finally, Mediaman was unwilling to give me even the teeniest, tiniest bit of credit. But in the end his trashing of my book and all the other books on really does not amount to very much. As Theodore Roosevelt once wrote (in a speech at the University of Paris): "It is not the critic who counts, nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the area."William A. GordonAuthor, "Shot on This Site"[...]

#### Places and locations of movie and tv sites

.com Where was Jurassic Park filmed? How about Beetlejuice? What town was terrorized in The Birds? Where did Meg Ryan "fake it" in When Harry met Sally? Look no further! The author of the authoritative book on famous spots in Hollywood has cast his eyes across the U.S. for sets and sites of interest. Although this is billed as a good way to visit the sites where hundreds of movies and T.V. series have been filmed, I actually found this more interesting as a resource to select videos which took place in certain locales: "Say, honey, let's watch a movie filmed in Charleston..." --a sad commentary on how sedentary my life has become that I'm traveling by VCR!From Library JournalThe brief but numerous entries in this work cover nearly 900 film or television show locations in 48 states (North Dakota and Idaho are left out). In the book's preface, the author says he has concentrated his efforts on "box-office favorites released over the past fifteen years and on the few pre-1980 classics that were not filmed on soundstages in Los Angeles." This statement is misleading on two counts. First, the book includes information on many unpopular films and short-lived television shows. Second, shooting films on location became a common practice

in the early 1950s. Film and television enthusiasts will find it entertaining to browse through this book, which is finally more of a trivia book than a "tourist guide." Barth's *Roadside Hollywood* (Contemp Bks., 1991) is a similar but more amusing work. Recommended for film and television collections; an optional purchase for public libraries. Mary Kalfatovic, Telesec Lib. Svcs., Washington, D.C. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.