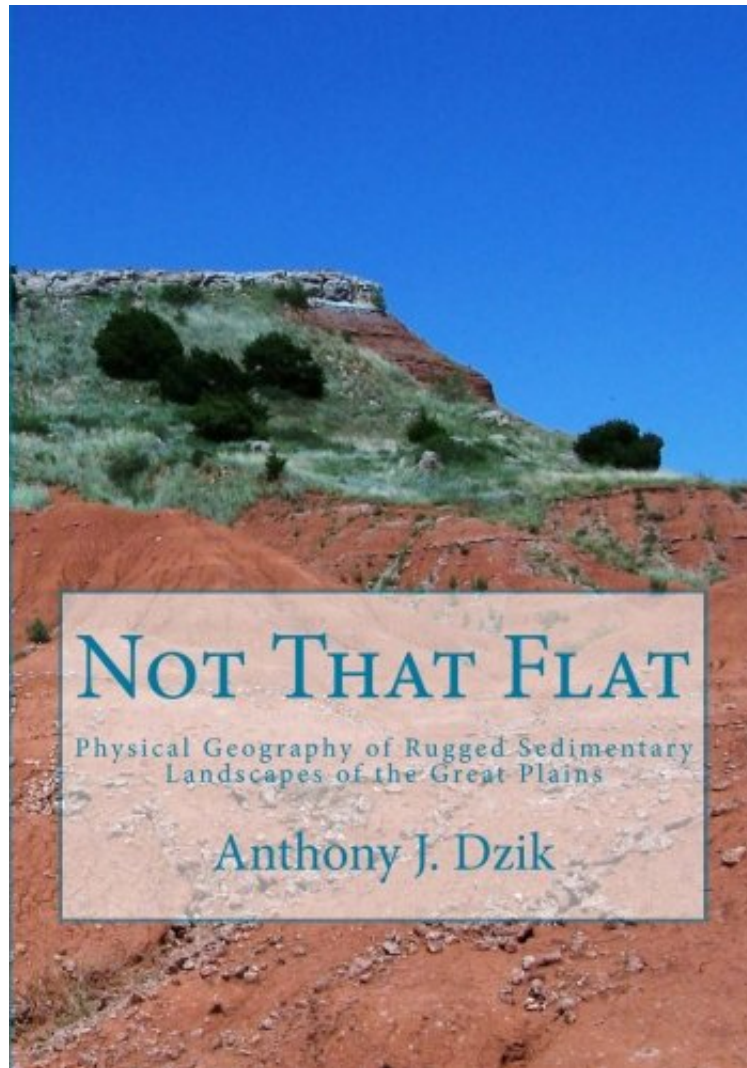


[Free] Not That Flat: Physical Geography of Rugged Sedimentary Landscapes of the Great Plains

# Not That Flat: Physical Geography of Rugged Sedimentary Landscapes of the Great Plains

*Anthony J Dzik*

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**Anthony J Dzik : Not That Flat: Physical Geography of Rugged Sedimentary Landscapes of the Great Plains** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Not That Flat: Physical Geography of Rugged Sedimentary Landscapes of the Great Plains:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Some ideas for your next road tripBy Arthur DigbeeThe title and subtitle say it all. Though they have a reputation of being perfectly flat, the Great Plains of Kansas, Nebraska, western Texas, Oklahoma eastern Colorado, and the Dakotas are not that flat.Dzik shows us this with many photos of the

eroded landscapes of the Plains, mostly "badlands" type. These range from North Dakota's Theodore Roosevelt National Park south to Texas's Palo Duro Canyon State Park. The photos are a mix of scenery and geologic detail. The colors on these photos didn't print quite right on paper, where they come across as over-saturated; I think the author was aiming for images that look like the one on the cover. The text provides a descriptive physical geography of these landscapes. There's a lot of geologic terms (with a glossary). Though it's pretty dry for the non-geologist, Dzik writes clearly and you can figure out what's going on. Dzik also provides some basic tourist information about how to get to the twenty sites he mentions in the book. Some are well-known and easily found off the interstate; a few are on private land, accessible only on bad dirt roads under dry conditions. Many Americans see the Great Plains from the windshield while driving across them. This book will encourage you to make a stop or two along the way.

If you think that the Great Plains are flat and uninspiring, this book will change that percept. Geographer Anthony Dzik presents some of the most awe-inspiring sedimentary landscapes of mid-continent North America. Here are the "canyonlands" of northwest Kansas, the rain pillars of Nebraska, the chalk pillars of the Cretaceous Sea, the Swiss cheese-like lumps of Montana's Medicine Rocks, the sparkling Gloss Mountains of Oklahoma, the "Grand Canyon of Texas", the badlands where Teddy Roosevelt rode the range, Hell's Half-Acre, and many other spectacular deviations from "flatness". In terminology familiar to professional natural scientists (but easily understood by laypersons), Dzik deftly describes the geologic, climatic, and biogeographic processes that fashioned the horizontal sedimentary strata into weird and wondrous landscapes. Over 150 full-color pictures, maps, and charts are part of the package. While not really a guidebook, driving directions and suggested hikes and scenic drives are provided for most locations discussed in the book.

About the Author Anthony Dzik holds the Ph.D. in Geography from Northwestern University (1986). Currently, he is Professor of Geography at Shawnee State University where he teaches Physical Geography, Regional Geography of the American Great Plains, Regional Geography of the U.S. and Canada, Medical Geography, and Fundamentals of Meteorology. Dzik is author of the book *PILLARS OF KEDVALE AVENUE: A GEOGRAPHY OF A CHICAGO WEST SIDE NEIGHBORHOOD IN THE 1960s*. He is a co-author of *THE INTERPRETATION OF OUR PHYSICAL LANDSCAPE: A WORKBOOK* and of *BADLANDS OF THE AMERICAN WEST: A PRIMER*. He has published articles and reviews in the journals *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Virginia Geographer*, *Geographia Medica*, *South Dakota Journal of Medicine*, *Bulletin of the Illinois Geographical Society*, *Professional Geographer*, *Public Health (Journal of Community Medicine)*, *Transactons of the Illinois Academy of Science*, *Ohio Medicine*, *Ohio Journal of Science*, and *West Virginia Medical Journal*.