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A Peak Ahead: Mountains in a Pandemic

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Mountains in a Pandemic

IN SPRING 2020 THE WORLD RETREATED DURING AN UNPRECEDENTED pandemic, something no one alive had ever seen. Using techniques that seemed to come right out of 1918, people around the world quarantined themselves. Mountain trailheads, lodges, and parking lots closed. The next issue of *Appalachia* will publish a range of reflections on the novel coronavirus crisis and its effect on mountain adventure and culture.

Questions the writers are considering include: What do mountain economies like the towns around the White Mountains of New Hampshire and the Alps do when no visitors go? What did these ghost mountain regions look like in spring 2020? Did people stay away? What do climbers who can't climb do? Will the meaning of mountains change from playground to life force?

Also next issue: Bill Geller returns with a fascinating history of women running nineteenth-century sporting camps in Maine's Piscataquis watershed. In New Hampshire, Susan Schibanoff tells why the explosion of newspapers in the mid-1800s provided a gift for history that we haven't fully tapped into. In Norway, Sam Martland takes a walk through the Nordmarka, the protected woods around Oslo and tells how that woods tied the city to the outdoors. And much, much more. See you in December.

—Christine Woodside
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