

## Minnesota in the Civil War: An Illustrated History

By *Kenneth Carley*; foreword by *Richard Moe*  
(St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2000. 230 p.  
Cloth, \$49.95.)

**IN 1961** KENNETH CARLEY'S book *Minnesota in the Civil War* was published. Thirty-eight years later, in 1999, I bought one of the three remaining unsold copies of that first edition. I should have waited.

The Minnesota Historical Society Press has reissued the book with an important change. This version is "An Illustrated History," and the original resembles it in the way Pig's Eye parallels St. Paul—it was only the beginning.

Carley's work provides a solid foundation of fact and legend that remains remarkably accurate. But beginning with the dust jacket, Sarah P. Rubinstein, the editor of this new edition, floods the reader with lost or forgotten details of the time and people that made the Civil War such a remarkable period. From its striking cover through each successive page and all the way to the back cover, the reader is tempted to indulge by looking only at the pictures. Don't resist. The pictures tell a fascinating story by themselves.

The Minnesota Historical Society houses a collection of more than 600 three-dimensional Civil War-related objects from clothing and personal equipment to edged weapons, firearms, uniform insignia, and flags. Here, in brilliant color, are many of these precious items to be visited and enjoyed time and again. Add to these the photographs of people, coupled with their thrilling and sometimes poignant stories and letters, and the reader cannot help but be reminded that, though now long departed, these people were "soldiers once . . . and young."

Editor Rubinstein wisely supplemented Carley's tight text with some wonderful new chapters. A strong foreword from Richard Moe briefly introduces the units that were mustered in the state. Following that is a valuable prologue by Brian Horrigan richly detailing the time and people of territorial Minnesota, early statehood, and the period just before the Civil War. The prologue alone, recalling many important incidents and notables long overlooked, makes this edition a worthy undertaking.

Carley's work comprises the basis of the next six chapters, but skillfully interwoven are explanations of groups, organizations and events, personal letters and vignettes,

or just plain stories that bring vitality and texture to Carley's telling. Neatly concluding the work is an epilogue by Horrigan explaining the lasting effect these soldiers had on our institutions after the war.

Also retained from Carley's version is a Minnesota chronology of war events and a fairly complete roster of Minnesota regimental officers, both valuable tools for the researcher. The depth of solid state history contained within this single book dictates that no library should be without it. Parents should see that schoolchildren are assured access by donating a copy of this important work to their school library.

This is a book that Civil War veterans themselves would have loved to read. And always adding to the understanding and enjoyment are the images, proving once again that a picture is worth a thousand words.

*Reviewed by Patrick M. Hill, a lifelong resident of St. Paul and a purchasing agent. His article, "Colors of Valor: The 28<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment's Flag in Minnesota," appeared in the Summer 2000 issue of Minnesota History.*

## Fish in the Lakes, Wild Rice and Game in Abundance: Testimony on Behalf of Mille Lacs Ojibwe Hunting and Fishing Rights

By *James M. McClurken et al.*  
(East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 2000.  
572 p. Cloth, \$34.95.)

**IN THE SUMMER OF 1837** representatives of Mille Lacs and other groups of Ojibwe met at Ft. Snelling with agents of the U.S. government and signed the Treaty of St. Peters ceding a large parcel of land east of the Mississippi River. Article 5 of the treaty guaranteed "the privilege of hunting, fishing and gathering the wild rice" in the lands ceded "during the pleasure of the President of the United States." More than 150 years later, in August 1990, the Mille Lacs band filed suit against the State of Minnesota to protect those rights. The case ultimately went to the U.S. Supreme Court where, on March 24, 1999, a majority upheld a court of appeals decision affirming those treaty rights. The issues raised in the case generated much con-

troversty in Minnesota and are still capable of doing so.

Three questions were central to this case: did President Zachary Taylor's 1850 Executive Order to remove Indian people from their land, subsequent treaties, especially that of 1855, or Minnesota's statehood revoke those 1837 treaty rights? *Fish in the Lakes* addresses the first two of these questions. Rather than publishing actual testimony, as its subtitle implies, this book has compiled the historical research reports prepared at the request of the Mille Lacs band and its attorneys to provide evidence in support of their case. The authors are recognized scholars with expertise in Native American history, culture, and language. Readers familiar with the published ethnohistorical reports resulting from the Indian Claims Commission hearings will recognize that *Fish in the Lakes* follows that pattern. Unlike those volumes, however, this one does not include reports prepared by the defense. Still, the reports provide readers valuable insight into Ojibwe and Minnesota history and politics as well as federal Indian policy.

The work consists of six separately authored essays, three of them extensive. The first essay, by Charles E. Cleland, provides an ethnohistorical overview of the Ojibwe in the nineteenth century; the second, by Bruce M. White, examines in detail Taylor's 1850 removal order; and the third, by James M. McClurken, describes the effects of treaties and legislation signed after 1855 and into the 1900s. Three briefer essays by Helen H. Tanner, Thomas Lund, and John D. Nichols assess the Treaty of 1855, treaty language in the context of nineteenth-century wildlife law, and the problems of translating key phrases of the treaty.

The authors attempt, with some measure of success, to reconstruct the sequence of events as viewed and understood by the Ojibwe people at the time. They tell a story of hardship, resistance, adaptation, and endurance as the Ojibwe struggled not only to preserve their way of life but also to protect their treaty rights threatened by the underhanded activities of timber companies and other business and political interests. As for the treaty issues, the authors conclude that the Mille Lacs band continued to exercise and affirm its treaty rights into the twentieth century, that Taylor's 1850 Executive Order, soon abandoned, was not applied to the Mille Lacs band and did not revoke its treaty-use rights, and that the Treaty of 1855, establishing a reservation, did not mention and thus did not terminate the 1837 treaty rights. These also are the conclusions reached by the Supreme Court. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor's majority opinion is appended.

Since the reports were prepared on behalf of the Mille Lacs band, it is to be expected that the authors' interpretations support the band's legal arguments. As in any collection of essays that examine a topic from different angles, some unavoidable repetition results. A few slight editorial errors also can be found. Nonetheless, the work is well written, and one of its valuable features is the

extensive documentation and bibliography. The authors also quote generously from primary documents. The research generated by this case and now published here has made an important contribution to the historical record. Publication of the defense research reports would help complete that record. I recommend this volume to anyone interested in the 1837 treaty issue and in Ojibwe and Minnesota history in general.

*Reviewed by Edward J. Pluth, a professor of history at St. Cloud State University who teaches courses in Native American and U.S. history. His research interests include Ho-Chunk (Winnebago) and local history, and his article on the failed Watab Treaty of 1853 appeared in the Spring 2000 issue of Minnesota History.*

## Goodhue County, Minnesota: A Narrative History

*By Frederick L. Johnson*

(Red Wing: Goodhue County Historical Society Press, 2000. 383 p. Cloth, \$14.95.)

**THIS FINE WORK IS NOT TYPICAL** of traditional county histories. The dozens of Minnesota county histories that first appeared in the period 1875–1915 glorified the pioneers, who were portrayed as conquerors of the land and its native inhabitants. Users of these older works have grown accustomed to ultra-parochialism, shoddy scholarship, chronicles of events rather than analysis, and disproportionately heavy coverage of those who subscribed to buy the publication. The recent reprinting of many of these volumes has tended to reinforce the impression that history is concerned only with long-gone eras.

Johnson and the Goodhue County Historical Society clearly realize that history is a moving target. The sheer accumulation of experiences over time and resultant new perspectives force us to recognize that history is, in part, how a society views its past. Thus, writing from the perspective of the close of the second millennium, Johnson is able to describe a Goodhue County that has changed as much in the last 150 years as the United States has since the presidency of Millard Fillmore.

Like any other county in the state and nation, Goodhue County's history is both a reflection of broader state, national, and even international themes and local uniqueness. Johnson's ability to consider Goodhue County in the context of American history is one of the book's greatest strengths. Indeed, readers will find that this book provides an excellent review of the nation's development.

The area of Goodhue County experienced the transition of a typical American frontier. After briefly covering the precontact Mississippian Indian culture, Johnson

emphasizes European discovery and exploration and nineteenth-century relations between incoming Euro-American pioneers and the indigenous Mdewakanton Dakota. In keeping with recent interpretations of Minnesota history, Johnson sees the 1851 Treaties of Traverse des Sioux and Mendota between the United States and the Dakota as despicable events forced upon the native people by a land-hungry society. Even before the lands ceded by the Dakota were legally open, aggressive settlers moved in. As one of Minnesota's oldest counties, Goodhue had essentially passed through its subsistence frontier economy stage by the outbreak of the Civil War.

The Civil War was such a defining event that until World War I Americans generally thought of their place in history as being so many years "since the war." Rapid change wrought by the Industrial Revolution made Goodhue County increasingly complex. Agriculture, the dominant industry, had to adjust to changing technology and a market dependent on major urban centers. The Industrial Revolution, which gave rise to unprecedented wealth by major capitalists, led to a backlash in the form of organized labor and farm-protest movements, which, in turn, helped create Minnesota's reputation of political maverickism.

In surveying the history of the twentieth century, Johnson considers all major themes. He explores Progressive-era politics, the birth of the Farmer-Labor Party, the failed experiment with national prohibition, the two world wars, the Great Depression of the 1930s, the anguish of the war in Vietnam, the controversy over the Prairie Island nuclear power plant, increasing urbanization, and the farm crisis of the 1980s.

In this new synthesis, Johnson portrays the significance of both mass movements and outstanding individuals. He avoids the trap of faceless, nameless social history by including colorful character sketches of residents who played key roles in various events and movements. The distinguished persons associated with Goodhue County, either by virtue being born or spending a significant part of their life there, include Mdewakanton chief Red Wing, Civil War hero William Colvill, temperance and female suffrage campaigner Julia B. Nelson, public health pioneer Dr. Charles Hewitt, Governor John Lind, diplomat Eugenie Anderson, North Atlantic Treaty Organization commander Lauris Norstad, lieutenant governor Joanell M. Dyrstad, and Mdewakanton elder Amos Owen.

Those interested in Goodhue County history will welcome this well-written book as an invaluable contribution to the county's historiography. One can only hope that it will become a model for other county historical societies that want to bring the history of their counties up to date.

*Reviewed by William E. Lass, professor of history at Minnesota State University, Mankato. His most recent major publication was a second edition of Minnesota: A History (New York: W. W. Norton, 1998).*

## Honor the Grandmothers: Lakota and Dakota Women Tell Their Stories

*Compiled and edited by Sarah Penman*

(St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2000. 47 p. Cloth, \$29.95; paper, \$14.95.)

**IT WAS DECEMBER 29, 1899.** The year was nearly over. Celane Not Help Him remembers, "My grandfather and grandma and great-great grandfather were all killed at Wounded Knee. After the massacre, Grandmother Earth covered them with a white blanket; everything was covered with snow. Those frozen bodies lay there three days and they [the soldiers] just pick them up and throw them in that trench over there, and nobody didn't even pray or anything; not even a pipe carrier come around."

This engaging and emotional excerpt from *Honor the Grandmothers* bespeaks the depth of the four women's stories included in this short monograph. Celane Not Help Him (Lakota), Stella Pretty Sounding Flute (Dakota), Cecilia Hernandez Montgomery (Lakota), and Iola Columbus (Dakota) share their stories with Sarah Penman, resulting in a compelling account of more than 100 years of Lakota and Dakota history told by women who experienced it. Both principled and personal, the stories are layered with the feminist perspectives of grandmothers, mothers, and daughters. While women's stories are frequently discounted, these elders, with Penman's assistance, have ensured that their voices will not soon be forgotten.

The four women are articulate, honest, and witty, characteristics they share with other exceptional storytellers. And, while they retain their autonomy and individuality throughout, the reader also discovers recurrent themes in their lives. One common memory that resonates throughout these life histories is the assault on Native tribalism by the dominant culture. It is embodied in the telling descriptions of ignominious treaty negotiations, painful boarding-school experiences, and a world of segregated lunch counters. More importantly, however, the stories explore the complexities of being Indian in the twentieth century.

Readers are introduced to stories about boys who are turned to snakes because they don't listen to their elders. Readers learn of the importance of circles, of land, of dreams, of quilts. Witnesses and participants describe puberty and Sundance ceremonies. The storytellers share the importance of the pipe and what it means to be a "pipe carrier" among the Dakota people. Stereotypes are dispelled as we read about these incredibly hard-working families from Minnesota and the Dakotas devoted to creating a better life for the next generation and dedicated to blending traditional ways with modern ideologies.

With a heavy dose of wit and surprisingly little reproach, the four women explain how they became

activists committed to keeping their cultures alive. Each tenaciously dedicated some portion of her life to retaining and recording the rich values of her culture, not only for the next generation of Indian youth but for the broader public as well. As Iola Columbus says, “They say that there’s two things an Indian person should have: the ability to laugh, the humor, and the ability to share.” *Honor the Grandmothers*, a fascinating and eclectic combination of life history, remembered experiences, and powerfully recalled connections to past and future, encompasses both of these.

The stories of these four Lakota and Dakota elders explore a range of life experiences and emotions, including loneliness, death, and love. Their stories and recollec-

tions that make up *Honor the Grandmothers* are more than an important contribution to the history of the Northern Plains. They also form a poignant chronicle of an evanescent era.

*Reviewed by Sally McBeth, professor of anthropology and multi-cultural studies at the University of Northern Colorado. McBeth is author of Ethnic Identity and the Boarding School Experience (1983), co-author (with Esther Horne, Shoshone) of Essie’s Story: The Life and Legacy of a Shoshone Indian (1998), and numerous journal articles. Her current research includes an investigation of oral traditions concerning Sacajawea and of Native American oral histories in the area of today’s Rocky Mountain National Park. □*

## NEWS & NOTES

*OUR READERS WRITE:* Amy Kreitzer’s article on mandolin mania in Minnesota, “Sweet Harmonies from Little Wooden Boxes” (Spring 2001), struck a chord with several readers. Two of our correspondents shared personal recollections of the era. Janet P. Watson of West Hollywood, California, wrote that she was “especially surprised and delighted to see and read about Albert Bellson, my former teacher.” As Janet Armstrong, she had played in Taylor’s Musical Strings with, among others, her sister Addie and author Evelyn Fairbanks. Ms. Watson enclosed several photographs and explained that she and Addie:

“both played mandolin and also mandocello and mandola. The members of the group changed over the years, but the nucleus of my sister and I and the Morris sisters stayed pretty constant. Dorothy Munson, who is featured in the Society’s tape of African American music in Minnesota, was also a member of the band. Buddy Carter, who came from the musical family of



**Taylor’s Musical Strings, about 1941 (top row, from left): conductor Albert Bellson, Martha Hilyard, Mercedes Morris, Donna Guy; (middle) Dorothy Munson, Antoinette Morris, Virginia Robinson, Omar Faucette; (bottom) Loretta Wade, letter-writer Janet Armstrong, her sister Addie Armstrong, and Norma Baker.**

Carters, was also a member at one time. His father was one of our teachers, as well. The group evolved many times and later we split off into the 'Sepian Lassies,' where we played swing and popular music as well."

*Leroy W. Gardner of Silver Spring, Maryland, related that the article "brought back some memories" of "a great showman and 'music man' of Minneapolis—Chet Gould.*

"I was a student of the Gould School of Music. . . . way back in 1935, '36, '37. . . . I was an accordionist. . . . My sister and I were also in the Gould Banjo Band, which rehearsed on Saturday afternoons, I believe.

"I remember the building which held the Studios was an old run-down structure. We went inside, then up a stair to the second floor. The studio was down a long hallway. There were several lesson rooms and a large room in which the young people gathered to practice. I still have some of the music issued by Chet Gould. Included among those hectographed copies is something called the 'Centennial Overture,' which was written by Gould himself. He was a taskmaster, but I believe he was truly interested in a good musical product from his people.

"I last saw him in about 1946, '47, or '48. . . . He was leading his band in a concert in North Commons Park on the 4th of July. . . . His early death was a tragedy. I think he would have made much of many more children's lives in music if he had lived."

*Craig Johnson, site manager of the James J. Hill House historic site in St. Paul, added another angle to the story:*

"I enjoyed reading about the mandolin mania a century ago. It really put into context some activities of the James J. Hill household after they moved into their new home at 240 Summit Avenue in 1891. The article notes that the craze for mandolins and similar instruments was launched, in part, by university concert tours in the region. On January 1, 1894, James J. and Mary T. Hill sent out engraved invitations for an 'at home' reception and dance 'to meet [the] Yale Glee and Banjo Clubs after the concert.' This event is now the backdrop for our annual 'Hill House Holidays' dramatized tours.

"The mandolin also bedazzled ten-year-old Walter Hill, away at prepar-

atory school in New York when he wrote in several letters home in October 1895: 'Dear Papa, I wish I could take lessons on the mandolin Mr Braddock the teacher would give me lessons he said he would,' and 'Dear Mamma, I wish I could take lessons on the mandolin Mr Braddock would teach me if I could,' and, again, 'Dear Mamma, What do you think about me taking lesson on mandolin from the teacher.' We don't know if Walter ever proceeded with his mandolin 'lessons.' I suspect not—his letters soon became highly focused on playing 'fut-ball.'

"Hill House servants seemed less excited by all the mandolin-related instruments. Second cook Celia Tauer wrote home to her fiancé Henry Forestner in New Ulm in 1910: 'Sunday night Kate & I were to a concert by two blind people. They played piano flute and zither and sang comical songs they were fine any way.'"

*Patty Dean's article on Minneapolis homes and the Arts and Crafts movement, also in the Spring 2001 issue, stirred the interest of several readers who went walking or driving to see the abodes she described. Architectural historian Paul Larson of St. Paul sent Dean more food for thought, "a few additional tidbits about some of the houses and architects featured," and the following:*

"I also appreciated the inclusion of Colonial Revival design. In this country, throwbacks to seventeenth- and eighteenth-century design . . . (both English and Spanish in origin) were every bit as much a part of the Craftsman movement as echoes of current English taste, a fact that writers today more often than not ignore. . . .

"I also offer for your delectation a few small houses which, together with the Cartlich design [pictured on page 256], rank among my Minneapolis Craftsman favorites. In 1911 Maurice F. Maine designed his wood frame version of the \$5,000 fireproof house plan for himself. It still stands on First Avenue just below Curran's Restaurant, although its creosote-stained exterior has undergone a rainbow of successive paintings.

"A year later John W. Lindstrom designed the second of a succession of spec houses he would occupy until they sold, this one just across the present

freeway (I-35) on Minnehaha. I like it for being about as English Arts and Crafts as anything in Minnesota, from the segmental-arched window bay to the tile roof."

THE SOLON J. BUCK AWARD for the best article published in *Minnesota History* during 2000 has been won by Geoffrey Blodgett for "Cass Gilbert and Julia Finch: Falling in Love in the 1880s," which appeared in the magazine's Spring issue. Dr. Blodgett is Robert S. Danforth Professor of History Emeritus at Oberlin College in Ohio.

The Theodore C. Blegen Award for the best article by a Minnesota Historical Society staff member goes to Sherri Gebert Fuller, project manager for museum collections, for "Mirrored Identities: The Moys of St. Paul" (Winter 2000–01).

This year's judges were Wilbert Ahern, professor of history at the University of Minnesota, Morris, and Maureen Otwell, the Minnesota Historical Society's assistant director for museums. Each award includes a prize of \$600.

MICHAEL ANDERSON is the winner of this year's *Minnesota History* Publication Award for the best senior-division History Day paper on a Minnesota topic. This year's theme was "Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas," and Anderson's paper explored a Minnesota innovation, "The Midnight Assassination Law: Protecting the Masses or Interfering with the Death Penalty Debate?" Awarded by the editors of *Minnesota History*, the prize includes \$50 and publication in a future issue of the magazine. Anderson is a tenth grader at White Bear Lake Area High School.

"WHAT HAPPENS to an immigrant church over time?" is the larger question that Lorraine Esterly Pierce's *Marching Through Immanuel's Ground: The Evangelical Church on the Minnesota Prairie* seeks to answer. The 221-page cloth-bound book published in 1999 charts the evolution of the Evangelical (later United Evangelical Brethren) Church, founded in the U.S. by German immigrants, from its pioneer beginnings through its 1968 merger with the Methodists to the present.

Twenty-two churches in south-central, southwestern, and western Minnesota are the focus of Pierce's study of this mostly rural and small-town denomination. The book is available for \$19.95 from RLE Press, P.O. Box 732, East Lansing, MI 48826.

PUBLISHED LOCAL HISTORIES preserve memory of the people and events that created our communities. They also provide valuable raw material for genealogists and for historians who write larger, more analytical studies. Stephen Lee's *Circle Pines and Lexington, Minnesota: History of the 1800s to 2000* (Circle Pines: American Guidance Service, 2000, 96 p., paper, \$10.00) examines the history of these Anoka County communities, beginning with a well-researched account of Greenberry Chambers, an early settler who was a former slave and Civil War veteran. Excellent photos and text focus on the twentieth century, the Circle Pines cooperative community, and suburban development as gleaned from newspaper articles since 1950. Order from the city of Circle Pines at 763-784-5898.

A reissue of John A. Mattinen's *History of the Thomson Farming Area* (Cloquet: Carlton County Historical Society, 2000, 230 p., paper, \$15.00), originally published in Finnish in the 1930s, provides a valuable record of the first Finnish families to settle in the Esko area. Richard Impola's new translation includes biographies and business, church, association, and organization histories. Order from publisher at 218-879-1938.

*Pioneers of the Big Lake Community, Washington County, Minnesota* (Stillwater: Washington County Historical Society, 2001, 231 p., paper, \$24.95) by Dick Johnson and Paul Wahlquist recounts the history of the largely Swedish community, focusing on its long-time families. Appendixes list places of birth and dates of emigration, schoolteachers and board members, Elim Lutheran church membership records, and early land transactions. Order from publisher at 651-439-5956.

WOLF RECOVERY is the theme of editor L. David Mech's *The Wolves of Minnesota: Howl in the Heartland* (Stillwater: Voyageur Press, 2000, 128 p.,

cloth, \$24.95). After near extinction, Minnesota's wolf population is estimated at 2,600. Essays by experts trace changing popular attitudes and Minnesota's policies over the decades; describe wolf movements, spacing, reproduction, and management today; and delve into controversies about the animal's comeback. More than 100 photos, including some grisly historical images, illustrate the text.

WHY PEOPLE GARDEN is the organizing idea for Susan Davis Price's *Growing Home: Stories of Ethnic Gardening* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2000, 196 p., cloth, \$34.95). Interviewing Minnesota gardeners from other parts of the world—ranging from Finland, Greece, and Laos to Uganda, Korea, and Guatemala—the author uncovers the comfort and health people find in ornamentals and edibles linked to their childhood homes and cultures. Lush color photos by John Gregor grace the volume, which will be enjoyed by practicing and armchair gardeners alike.

HISTORIANS and genealogists will find much useful detail in *Minnesota Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*, compiled by Gordon DenBoer and edited by John H. Long (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2000, 412 p., cloth, \$130). This important reference book charts the development of the state from Aitkin to Yellow Medicine County. Its consolidated boundary chronology covers all boundary changes for the entire state, showing how Minnesota was created, subdivided, and its boundaries further altered. Maps and chronologies for each county provide details on the evolution of boundary lines. The volume also includes a table that lists county-creation dates, a table of censuses, census outline maps, maps of territorial organization, a bibliography, and an index of places. The Minnesota volume joins others in a series, sponsored by the Newberry Library and intended to cover the United States from colonial times to 1990.

THE STORY that Robert T. Laudon tells in *Minnesota Music Teachers Association: The Profession and the Community, 1901–2000* (Eden Prairie:

the association, 2000) is more than an organizational history. The book also shows how talented and dedicated musicians, music teachers, and music lovers worked to build "the musical Gibraltar of the Great Northwest." Chronicling the group's evolving goals, attempts to garner state certification, ideological differences with the state's music-education philosophy, and impressive achievements, this well-researched book helps to explain Minnesota's prominent place on the nation's musical map. The illustrated, 188-page paperback is available from the Minnesota Music Teachers Association, 11572 Landing Road, Eden Prairie 55347 for \$17.95; for tax and postage information, contact the society at [mmta@sihope.com](mailto:mmta@sihope.com).

MOVING BEYOND individual buildings, the essays in *Preserving Cultural Landscapes in America* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000, 250 p., cloth, \$45.00, paper, \$22.50) suggest new ways to interpret and preserve places where landscapes intersect with built forms and social life. Editors Arnold R. Alanen and Robert Z. Melnick have put together a varied and interesting look at the field, with essays ranging from Melnick's "Considering Nature and Culture in Historic Landscape Preservation" to Richard Franca-viglia's "Selling Heritage Landscapes," Luis Aponte-Parés's "Appropriating Place in Puerto Rican Barrios," Gail Lee Dubrow's "Asian American Imprints on the Western Landscape," and Alanen's "Considering the Ordinary: Vernacular Landscapes in Small Towns and Rural Areas."

BORN out of tough economic times after the Korean War, the National Farm Organization and its "holding actions" recall the boycotts and grass-roots style of self help practiced by the earlier Farm Holiday movement. In *The NFO, A Farm Belt Rebel: A History of the National Farmers Organization*, agricultural journalist Don Muhm follows the organization from its birth in southwest Iowa and northwest Missouri in 1955 to the present. Minnesota became an NFO chartered state in 1959; by 1972, all states but Alaska and Hawaii were represented in this organization that "sought to gain higher returns in its own way,

and not from federal government programs.” The 318-page book published in 2000 is available from the publisher: Lone Oak Press, 1412 Bush Street, Red Wing, MN 55066 for \$24.95 (hard cover) or \$16.95 (paper). For ordering information, call 651-388-4102 or email info@loneoak.org.

IN A NEW BOOK for children, *Painting the Dakota: Seth Eastman at Fort Snelling* (Afton, MN: Afton Historical Society Press, 2000, 104 p., paper, \$14.95), author Marybeth Lorbiecki recounts the military man and artist’s family life, career, and artistic legacy. Eastman served at Fort Snelling from 1830 to 1832 and 1841 to 1848. His paintings and sketches of Dakota people and scenes from daily life remain today as a primary source of information about the Dakota and the region. The book, written for children, glosses over issues such as Eastman’s Dakota and Euro-American families, but most readers may find this book a useful summary of Eastman’s accomplishments. Though focused on the Fort Snelling years, it also touches on his career (military and artistic) during his numerous other postings.

THE CLASSIC REFERENCE on Minnesota’s place names—counties, cities, towns, townships, lakes, and streams—is back in print in an expanded, updated format. This third edition of Warren G. Upham’s *Minnesota Place Names, A Geographical Encyclopedia* (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2001, 718 p., cloth, \$49.95) presents the stories behind the names of more than 20,000 places throughout the state, arranged by county. A browser’s delight, it is also a comprehensive source of information for historians, genealogists, linguists, geographers, and folklorists.

FLOOD CONTROL, an issue of recurring interest, is at the heart of *Taming the Upper Mississippi: My Turn at Watch, William H. Klingner, 1935–1999* (Rochester IL: Legacy Press, 2000, 208 p., paper, \$10 plus postage) by Janice Petterchak. The book is a combination history of flood control efforts and a biography of civil engineer Klingner, whose career spanned some 60 years and who was known as “the most influential private-sector person . . . [to af-

fect] the future of the Upper Mississippi.” Minnesota readers may be especially interested in the chapters on early river history and federal policy and regional initiatives. The book is available from the Upper Mississippi, 1, and Missouri River Foundation, 201 W. Fairground Avenue, Hillsboro, IL 62049; 217-532-5458 or ink@cillnet.com.

IN *On the Backroad to Heaven: Old Order Hutterites, Mennonites, Amish, and Brethren* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2001, 330 p., cloth, \$29.95), sociologists Donald B. Kraybill and Carl F. Bowman compare the cultures and strategies for survival of America’s major Old Order Anabaptist communities, which are flourishing in the twenty-first century. Chapters on each of the four groups are followed by chapters outlining their similarities (all share a common religious heritage) and considerable differences. Though this is a sociological treatment with no historical interpretation or specific mention of Minnesota communities, it provides general insight into the cultures, outside pressures, and choices facing the state’s Old Order groups.

*FORT UNION and the Upper Missouri Fur Trade* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2001, 304 p., cloth, \$34.95) details the history of the nineteenth century’s most important post on the Upper Missouri. Located in present-day North Dakota, it was a major outpost of New Yorker John Jacob Astor’s empire, linked to the powerful Pierre Chouteau Jr.’s enterprise in St. Louis and, later, St. Paul, the merchants’ capital of the West. Author Barton H. Barbour pays particular attention to the interactions of different Indian tribes, African Americans, Hispanics, and Euro-Americans in the region, all of which shaped the trade and community life. Barbour also shows how national and international politics affected frontier life and, ultimately, brought about the demise of Fort Union. □



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 Mary Kiffmeyer, *Secretary of State*  
 Mike Hatch, *Attorney General*  
 Judith Dutcher, *State Auditor*  
 Carol Johnson, *State Treasurer*

# Curator's Choice

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS AGO**, many hundreds of Wahpeton and Sisseton Dakota gathered in an “ample bough house” constructed on the Minnesota River prairie some 75

bridge at the time. It is claimed to have been  
and whereas, such paper if any had,  
and calculated to do  
of our most



*Thunder Dance* by Frank B. Mayer, 1851

Mahpiyawicasta (Cloud Man) and Mazasa (Red Iron) formally filed a protest on December 3, 1852, that criticized the traders' paper for not “conform[ing] with the spirit and stipulations of our treaty.”

Over strong objections, traders were paid from money promised the Dakota. Then, in 1858, the government forced the Dakota to give up half of their small reservation on the upper Minnesota River and, after the 1862 Dakota War, moved them out of the state.

Today, leaders such as Tom Ross of the Upper Sioux Granite Falls community urge that treaties are human-rights documents. “To any Indian who has a treaty with the United States, that document is still alive. . . . Contained in there are those rights we feel we need to protect, that we feel the United States gov-





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