been lost. Like the Nashville Agrarians he echoes, he sees the flaws in the modern age and the strengths of the bygone system. As agriculture wallows in depression throughout the country, and as the new-model “family farm” thrashes about in death agony, the issues Daniel raises take on a new cogency and relevance. *Breaking the Land* would be a good book any time; it is especially timely right now.

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DAVID B. DANBOM


*A Field Guide to American Windmills* is divided into two parts. The first, consisting of 111 pages, is the more interesting for the general reader. It is organized into sixteen very short, liberally illustrated chapters that cover the history, technology, and use of windmills in the United States. Orientation to the Midwest is especially strong, for that was where the device found its greatest popularity. The text is well written, although including a few labeled diagrams would have assisted readers in following the brief technical discussions that have been included.

Part two, the heart of the work, consists of an alphabetical listing and discussion of 112 windmill models ranging from the Halladay Standard, the first commercially successful windmill, to the well-known I.X.L. steel windmill, a fixture of the early decades on midwestern farms, to such oddities as the oil drum windmill, using fifty-five-gallon oil drums split in half as vanes. As in part one, the illustrations are profuse and are supplemented with pen-and-ink silhouette sketches. The text often provides little-known information and frequently in considerable detail given the limited format (each model is assigned only a page or two of space including illustrations).

Two appendixes round out the volume. They provide an exhaustive listing of windmill manufacturers, together with model identification features and the dates and places of manufacture.

Because of its wealth of research material, *A Field Guide to American Windmills* will undoubtedly become a standard reference source. Virtually every library, certainly in the Midwest, will want its own copy of this valuable work. But this does not mean that the volume is not without it shortcomings. Although carefully edited, the text does make occasional gaffes. On page 20, for example, the Caribbean Island of Aruba is given as “Oruba.” More serious is a general lack of any reference to, or discussion of, European-type windmills that were built in
North America in considerable numbers in an earlier period. Baker also
totally ignores the subject of domestic tank houses, which are so much
a part of the cultural landscape of California and the far western Great
Plains. Finally, the discussion of the exportation of American wind-
mills to Latin America fails to include perhaps the largest market, that
of the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, where American-made windmills
still dot the area and are used to draw water in this land where there are
no surface streams.

These deficiencies do not materially detract from the value of the
book. It is a superb work, lovingly put together by both author and
publisher. It is an important work as well, documenting a material cul-
ture, landscape feature rapidly disappearing from the countryside.

UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

ALLEN G. NOBLE

The Ephrata Commune: An Early American Counterculture, by E. G.
pp. Illustrations, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. $21.95 cloth,
$8.95 paper.

The Salvation Army Farm Colonies, by Clark C. Spence. Tucson: Uni-
versity of Arizona Press, 1985. vii, 151 pp. Illustrations, notes, biblio-
graphical essay, index. $19.95 cloth.

Anyone interested in the history of intentional communities will find
the volumes by E. G. Alderfer and Clark Spence welcome additions to
the literature. Although neither book deals with an Iowa subject, both
Alderfer’s account of Ephrata, Pennsylvania, and Spence’s of Salva-
tion Army farm colonies in California, Colorado, and Ohio, include
discussions of the ideological and economic currents that fed not only
these experiments but others throughout the country and abroad.

Several comparable communities have, in fact, been established
in Iowa. The Amanas are justly famous as one of the longest surviving
communal societies in American history. Less well known were several
communities established along secular lines: the Icarian settlement
near Corning, in Adams County, which lasted from 1865 to 1895; the
Iowa Pioneer Phalanx, in Mahaska County, which flickered briefly for
several months in 1844-45; and Communia, near Elkader, in Clayton
County, which was founded in 1847 by Swiss and German socialists
and disbanded in factional strife nine years later.

Ephrata was one of the most remarkable of several fascinating in-
tentional communities in colonial America. Located fifty miles from
Philadelphia, in Lancaster County, Ephrata was founded in 1733 by