

## Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains: a Natural History

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includes a conservation-oriented opening essay, a sample form that users may adapt for recording information about their artifact finds, and a glossary/diagram illustrating common terminology used in projectile point analysis. Clear illustrations and individual discussions for the most common prehistoric point types found along the upper Mississippi valley are then presented. Each type is discussed in terms of its age, distribution, and identifying physical characteristics. Point types are grouped chronologically, with the oldest specimens (Clovis) dating to about 11,300 years ago.

From an Iowa perspective, the orientation of the guide seems unduly weighted toward the author's home territory of southwestern Wisconsin. Only 6 of 108 references cited in the bibliography are related to Iowa archaeological sites, and only one of those could be considered recent. This is unfortunate. Many well-dated projectile point assemblages have been excavated from Iowa sites during the past 20 to 30 years, but none of those are referenced in this work. Nonetheless, this is an easily understood and convenient guide that would be appropriate for regional libraries, perhaps particularly elementary and secondary school libraries. The guide will find an audience with hobbyists, students, and archaeologists. Suitably priced, it would be an appropriate gift for the arrowhead hunter in your family.

*Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains: A Natural History*, by Paul A. Johnsgard. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. xiv, 143 pp. Illustrations, maps, references, index. \$14.95 paper.

Reviewer Joseph Key is assistant professor of history at Arkansas State University. His publications include "Indians and Ecological Conflict in Territorial Arkansas" (*Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, 2000).

*Lewis and Clark on the Great Plains* is a well-illustrated survey of the flora and fauna of the Missouri River from 1804 to 1806—the time of the expedition of the Corps of Discovery led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The book begins with an introductory chapter on the natural history of the region and concludes with a review of the important sites visited by the expedition. The three middle chapters of the book follow the expedition as it passes through the territory that later became the states of Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, and Montana. Each chapter is divided into sections on the various plants and wildlife encountered by the Corps of Discovery. Excellent maps of the Corps' campsites on the Missouri accompany the middle chapters. Additionally, Paul Johnsgard has provided his own fine illustrations of the region's wildlife.

Iowa, along with Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska, is the focus of chapter four. The map on page 13 shows the route of the expedition and its campsites in Iowa. Johnsgard then reviews the diverse wildlife recorded by the Corps of Discovery in those four states. His review of each species notes the location where they were seen and in some cases killed. Some wildlife, such as the Carolina parakeet, is now extinct; others, such as elk in Nebraska, have been extirpated from certain states. The final chapter is a fine guide to present-day towns, Indian reservations, and recreational areas in Iowa and other states where the expedition camped.

*In Tender Consideration: Women, Families, and the Law in Abraham Lincoln's Illinois*, edited by Daniel W. Stowell. Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 2002. xii, 239 pp. Illustrations, tables, notes, index of cases, general index. \$34.95 cloth.

Reviewer Christopher M. Curtis is assistant professor of history at Iowa State University and a fellow with the Center for Agricultural History and Rural Studies. He is writing a history of land reform in nineteenth-century Virginia.

Daniel Stowell has compiled a captivating collection of essays that illuminate the complexity of the field of family law that was emerging in antebellum Illinois. The essays also highlight the essential humanity of those involved with the law on a very personal level. Grounded in evidence drawn primarily from the DVD collection of Abraham Lincoln's Legal Papers, *The Law Practice of Abraham Lincoln: Complete Documentary Edition* (2000), the essays reconstruct the typical experiences of those men, women, and children whose involvement with Lincoln was on a much more mundane and personal level than we are accustomed to considering. Indeed, it is the essayists' deft removal of Lincoln from the center stage of these personal dramas and commentaries on law that makes the volume a significant contribution to the understanding of legal culture in a post-frontier society. This fascinating and ambitious project succeeds at every level and reflects the tremendous potential of the historian's craft skillfully employed.

The collection is presented in three parts. In part one, essays by Stowell and Dennis Suttles serve as an overture and situate women and children as prominent figures in the Illinois courtroom. Stowell's contribution, "*Feme UnCover*t: Women's Encounters with the Law," is the strongest essay in the collection. Its premise is that women were litigants in nearly 20 percent of the approximately five thousand cases that Lincoln and his partners handled before the Illinois and federal courts (20). Stowell effectively depicts the serious practical limitations

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