

Iowa Barns Yesterday and Today, Including Silos, Corncribs, Homes, and Businesses

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the Midwest (including a handful of references to Iowa) that should provide a good starting point for regionally focused studies.

Ku Klux Kulture is an outstanding book that will appeal to laypersons and scholars alike. It deserves a wide readership.

Iowa Barns Yesterday and Today, Including Silos, Corncribs, Homes, and Businesses, by Karlene Kingery. Omaha: Barnhart Press, 2017. 294 pp. Color photographs, map, glossary, index. \$29.95 paperback.

Reviewer Sally McMurry is professor emerita of history at Penn State University. She is the author of *Pennsylvania Farming: A History in Landscapes* (2017).

Iowa Barns represents a gargantuan labor of love stretching back to the 1970s, when the author, Karlene Kingery, received a grant to photograph barns and create a presentation that would help promote public appreciation of Iowa's farming heritage. Kingery completed her photo tour, created her presentation, and then embarked on a five-year odyssey during which she gave hundreds of slide shows to audiences throughout the state. Several decades later she returned to the project and rededicated herself to barn documentation. This book is the result.

The book consists of hundreds of full-color barn photographs, accompanied by individual barn biographies that explain how and when each barn was built, by whom, and for what purpose. Each entry also includes an address. Sometimes period photos are included, or photos of the barn in, for example, 1979 and 2013. The photos are grouped into 15 thematic sections. Some sections are chronological ("19th Century," "Into the 20th Century") while others focus on materials ("Brick and Limestone"), form ("Unique Shapes"); still others refer to uses ("Livestock at Home") or themes ("Institutions and Organizations"). Readers unfamiliar with architectural terms will find the glossary helpful. Although the subtitle mentions "silos, corncribs, homes and businesses," these features together account for fewer than 20 pages.

The barns depicted represent a remarkable range of types and forms, most dating to the pre-World War II era. We can recognize feeder barns and hay barns, for example. Wisconsin-style dairy barns and barns built from catalog designs are also plentiful. There are also quite a few unique or unusual examples, such as circular barns and European-style house barns. Barns in Plain Sect and other communitarian societies are included, although it is not always clear that they are radically different from mainstream barns to the same extent that their creators diverged from mainstream practices in other respects. There is a section on repurposed barns and one on barns with unusual painted decorations.

The photos are high in quality, and the documentation for the individual barns is impressive. In many cases the author was able to determine not only the ownership history but also how the barns were used and how their uses changed over time. For example, she notes specifically how the Ink barn interior (Linn County) was organized and even which doors horses and cattle used. She includes colorful details that enliven the work: a local newspaper notice that helpers at an 1892 barn raising were afterward treated to cigars and lemonade; a story of how a German immigrant came to Iowa because he had heard of topsoil 15 feet deep.

Although the author takes care to relate each barn to agricultural activities on its individual farm, there is only the most general sense of how these barns collectively might represent any larger patterns in Iowa's agricultural past, whether regional or temporal. The approach is more that of a collector than an analyst. We don't learn, for instance, how the different barns might relate to the changes Alan Bogue described long ago in his classic *From Prairie to Corn Belt*, or indeed to work by Deborah Fink (*Open Country Iowa*) or Sonya Salamon (*Prairie Patrimony*). *Iowa Barns* can complement but not replace works such as Allen Noble and Hubert Wilhelm's *Barns of the Midwest* that do provide that broader interpretive context.

Iowa Barns is a worthy addition to a genre that will help to document and promote evidence of a rapidly disappearing agricultural past.

The Mistaken History of the Korean War: What We Got Wrong Then and Now, by Paul M. Edwards. Jefferson, NC: McFarland Publishing, 2018. xi, 186 pp. Notes, bibliography, index. \$35.00 paperback.

Reviewer Allison McNeese is assistant professor of history at Mount Mercy University. Her academic interests include colonial American history, twentieth-century American history, Latin American history, and the history of Iowa, with special emphasis on race and gender issues.

Some 70,000 Iowans, or close to 3 percent of the state's population in 1950, served in the Korean War. Of those, 528 died in the conflict, and nearly half of those who served were still living as of 2012, according to the Iowa National Guard. A monument honoring Iowa's veterans of the Korean conflict was dedicated in 1989, and recently survivors have been recognized by the opening of new museum exhibits (such as in Waterloo) and the awarding of long-postponed medals.

Although the Korean conflict is often referred to as the "Forgotten War" in American culture, a sizable number of memoirs, histories, and