

Log Construction in the Ohio Country, 1750-1850

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southeastern Minnesota where French contact began about 1660. Neal Trubowitz compares the trade goods found at three eighteenth-century Indian village sites and a French post near Lafayette, Indiana, concluding that the differences reflect differences in acculturation.

Four chapters deal with the identification of particular sites. Dan F. Morse identifies the Grigsby site in northeastern Arkansas with a Michigamea village located on the Marquette map of 1673–74. Walthall, F. Terry Norris, and Barbara D. Stafford suggest that the Naples site in Randolph County, Illinois, may be the village recorded in the journal of St. Cosme in the winter of 1698, where the chief was a woman named Rouensa. Susan M. Branstner notes that the Hurons at the Marquette Mission in St. Ignace, Michigan, incorporated aspects of European culture but continued to lead a traditional lifestyle, using some tools and implements of their own manufacture as well as others they obtained through trade. Lenville J. Stelle summarizes his efforts to locate the site of the siege in 1730 involving 950 Mesquakie and 1,400 French and Indian allies. He located trade and Indian artifacts and parts of seven structures that conform to historic descriptions of the semisubterranean houses, making him confident that he has located the battle site.

The papers in this volume are well written and well documented, each with valuable bibliographies. They are interesting both substantively and methodologically. They provide information about the early French colonial period in territories neighboring present-day Iowa, and should encourage more research and reporting of similar sites in the state.

Log Construction in the Ohio Country, 1750–1850, by Donald A. Hutslar. Athens: Swallow Press, Ohio University Press, 1992. v, 265 pp. Illustrations, notes, appendixes, bibliography, index. \$19.95 paper.

REVIEWED BY JEFFREY P. BROWN, NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

Historians have increasingly studied the development of the built environment as a means of understanding the past. Donald A. Hutslar's *Log Construction in the Ohio Country*, an abridged edition of his 1986 volume *The Architecture of Migration*, thoroughly assesses all aspects of log use in buildings in antebellum Ohio.

Hutslar, curator of history at the Ohio Historical Society since 1959, explores the origins of log construction on the Ohio frontier. He states that the Scotch-Irish pioneers who occupied much of

Ohio borrowed log building techniques from German and Swedish-Finnish settlers in the Delaware valley, but maintained elongation, height, and roof pitch patterns originally developed in Scotland and Ulster. French and German settlers brought their own log techniques, adding to the complexity of Ohio's building patterns.

Hutsler downplays the importance of southern pioneers in establishing Ohio construction styles. He notes that settlers from New England never preferred log structures, and that as the original forests were removed, other settlers began to use more easily transportable sawn lumber imported from relatively distant areas. By the late 1830s, log cabins were rarely built, and memories of cabin construction evoked nostalgia from many Ohioans. Although quite sturdy, log cabins were soon modified or replaced in most regions of Ohio. Log barns and outbuildings remained in use until they were gradually replaced by timber framed structures.

This volume, which thoroughly reviews building techniques and quotes a number of pioneer memoirs, reminds readers that log buildings represented an efficient adaptation to particular environmental and economic conditions. They were labor intensive, inexpensive, and sturdy. Pioneers combined their prior experiences with the particular conditions that they found in western Pennsylvania, western Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio in creating a log civilization. These insights may help other scholars who will study the creation of the built environment of Iowa and other trans-Mississippi states.

Pea Ridge: Civil War Campaign in the West, by William L. Shea and Earl J. Hess. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1992. xiii, 417 pp. Maps, illustrations, notes, appendixes, bibliography, index. \$29.95 cloth.

REVIEWED BY RUSSELL JOHNSON, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

For two days, March 7 and 8, 1862, in "an oddly fragmented engagement" (313), Union and Confederate armies clashed in northwest Arkansas on and around a plateau named Pea Ridge. The Confederate general, Earl Van Dorn, dreamed of invading Missouri, to put that state back into play as a potential part of the Confederacy. When Van Dorn lost the Battle of Pea Ridge, not only was Missouri permanently lost to the Confederates, but their hold over Arkansas also grew increasingly tenuous. Thus the Battle of Pea Ridge played an important part in the overall result of the Civil War, especially in the West.

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