
Reviewer Carroll Engelhardt is professor of history at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. In addition to a history of that college, he has written several articles about educational reform in Iowa and is a UNI alum.

As one who matriculated at Iowa State Teachers College, graduated from State College of Iowa, and is pictured in the 1964 civil rights march there, I enjoyed this photographic history of this institution that is now called the University of Northern Iowa, published in time for the school’s 125th anniversary. I’m sure other graduates and friends of the university, as well as residents of Cedar Falls, will similarly savor this broad visual survey for the memories it evokes and the sense of history it conveys.

University of Northern Iowa Special Collections Librarian and Archivist Gerald L. Peterson’s skill and purpose in selecting the photographs is suggested by the collection’s first two images. The frontispiece, portraying an eastern view of the campus in its Cedar Falls neighborhood setting in fall 1963, indicates that the book will chronicle campus and community life and how each has changed. The photo of the gateway at 23rd and College Streets, which represented the door to learning and a productive future for the thousands of us who attended, serves here as a portal to the past, allowing us to recall our undergraduate years and to learn more about the history of the institution that shaped our lives.

Detailed descriptions accompany subsequent evocative images, which are organized into seven thematic sections. Readers learn how the school began, see the leaders who shaped its growth, view how teaching and learning occurred inside and outside the classroom, trace campus development through images of buildings, survey the evolution of student residential life, and recall the fun we had as students.


Reviewer Gregory Zieren is associate professor of history at Austin Peay State University. He was an interviewer on the Iowa Labor History Oral Project.

In 1995 the Center for the Study of Recent U.S. History hosted a conference at the University of Iowa to consider the work of a younger generation of scholars who have sparked a renascence of inquiry into twentieth-century packinghouse labor. Skilled in the practice of oral history and community studies, they have both broadened the scope of