neapolis-Moline Power Implement Company in 1929 (177). In fact, International Harvester remained in business as an independent company and the nation’s largest tractor manufacturer into the 1970s.

The John Deere Story provides an excellent and concise overview of the lives of John and Charles Deere. It furnishes insight into the development of Moline and its relationship to Rock Island and Davenport, which along with Bettendorf formed the Quad Cities of Illinois and Iowa. Readers seeking a general understanding of the early history of John Deere and Company can now avoid the larger monograph by Wayne Broehl, John Deere’s Company. However, those who are interested in a precise accounting of the details of the company’s emergence and development should still consult Broehl’s work.


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For generations, millions of Americans have visited the plethora of midwestern parks, gardens, cemeteries, planned communities, public spaces, and decorative, private landscapes of gentry, but perhaps few have given much thought to the heritage, science, and landscape architects that influenced and designed the Midwest’s planned landscape. Contrary to popular stereotyping, great landscapes and landscape designers were not limited to the eastern United States and the older, cultured nations of Europe. The Midwest, too, was host to nationally, if not internationally, significant contributors to the field of landscape architecture. Thus, a volume such as Midwestern Landscape Architecture is long overdue, and noted professor of historic landscape architecture William H. Tishler has filled the void with an abundantly illustrated book with chapters written by some of the nation’s foremost authorities on the topic.

Of the 13 featured designers, a few are nationally known, although their work is most often associated with East Coast landscapes. The other featured landscape architects are less well known, yet their contributions will prove fully recognizable, if not iconic, to many. Stylists of landscape philosophy and design such as Jens Jensen, Frederick Law Olmstead, Horace Cleveland, Elbert Peets, Ossian C. Simmonds, and William Le Baron Jenney (better known for introducing the skyscraper to America’s built environment) share midwestern
innovations and levels of contribution with the likes of Adolph Strauch, George Kessler, Warren Manning, Wilhelm Miller, Geneviève Gillette, and Annette Hoyt Flanders. For a few of the landscape architects featured, *Midwestern Landscape Architecture* is quite possibly the only published material about them and their professional contributions to the subject.

Each chapter illuminates the personal and professional background, ambitions, philosophy, and regional influences that shaped the featured designer, and effectively conveys the evolution and development of the individual's once groundbreaking ideology and practice. Although the book is well illustrated with period photos and maps, additional illustrations and schematics would be welcome. Tishler and the contributors to *Midwestern Landscape Architecture* have artfully tailored a book that clearly and enthusiastically tells the intended story, providing an opportunity to build upon it with additional works presenting more contributors to design in the Midwest, such as, for example, John Nolen and his 1920s design of Mariemont, Ohio.

Since its introduction in 2000, *Midwestern Landscape Architecture* has proven a benchmark resource, documenting the remarkable contributions to midwestern landscape design. For perhaps the first time, both the highly recognizable and not so recognizable landscape architects are observed and presented as equals. The volume's authors evaluate the contributions of landscape architecture that were significant not only for the Midwest but for the nation as a whole.


In *The Freedom of the Streets: Work, Citizenship, and Sexuality in a Gilded Age City,* Sharon E. Wood contends that by examining a small municipality—in this case Davenport, Iowa—it is possible to illuminate how the lives of ordinary citizens meld into the broad fabric of American culture. Wood explores how women—from the “respectable” class as well as the “vice” community—and the emerging patterns of American urban life came together, specifically in regard to paid employment.