The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri: a Survey of a Vanishing Culture

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x, 218 pp., illus., notes, bibliography, index, $15.00.)

The author is concerned with the architectural origins of four temples in Utah of the nineteenth century. Her thesis is to establish an American provenance for these early temples through stylistic analysis.

**The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri: A Survey of a Vanishing Culture.** By Charles van Ravenswaay. (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1977. 535 pp., illus., map, notes, bibliography, index, $45.00.)

In seeking to discover how the origins and experiences of individual Missouri-German craftsmen influenced their work, the author delights in describing individual houses, baskets, chairs, etc. Yet he never loses sight of the people themselves. More than 600 illustrations enhance the book. This work should interest those working with ethnic topics who may not have the expertise to interpret the kinds of historical evidence dealt with in this book.


A skillful examination of the “invention” of the idea of Appalachia and its impact on American thought during the early twentieth century. It is the history of an idea rather than a history of Appalachia itself. An excellent 50-page bibliography enhances the work.

**Steamboats on the Colorado River 1852-1916.** By Richard E. Lingenfelter. (Tucson: The University of Arizona Press, 1978. xv, 159 pp., illus., maps, notes, appendices, bibliography, index, $17.50, $9.50 paper.)

Steamboats played a significant role in the history of Iowa and the Midwest. But few people realize their importance in the West. Other books have dealt with steamboats in other sections of the West, but this is the first to be concerned with the boats