Book Notices

work as a companion volume to the earlier book. Like the first book, this one is illustrated by Lennis Moore, a well-known Iowa artist. The author provides excellent courses for the layperson interested in archaeology—lists of filmstrips, educational leaflets, correspondence courses, and fieldwork opportunities. He shows how scientific archaeology has replaced the early fad of “treasure hunters and curiosity seekers” and how exploration has expanded to include the study of trails, stone quarries, fish traps, and spirit places. The technical literature has been sifted and put into terms the layperson can comprehend in an attempt to let the reader become involved in archaeology in a constructive and intimate way. A book which Iowans should read and enjoy.


The author presents a “sampler” of investigative techniques to explore and teach history outside the traditional classroom. He brings an important new dimension to such study through the on-site research and analysis of material and cultural artifacts—photographs, cartographs, historic house museums, centennial celebrations, plants and natural materials, and regional studies. The book illustrates how research on artifacts moves beyond the mere descriptive stage to actual historical analysis and interpretation. Everything around us becomes a “learning laboratory” and we gain new insights and appreciation of our material culture through reading this book. Once again, AASLH is to be commended for its publication of such a worthy book.


The University of Iowa is noted for its NCAA wrestling championships and its nationally known medical school; but it achieves world renown with its Iowa Writers’ Workshop. The author, a graduate of the English department at the University of Iowa, traces the origins and growth of the Writers’ Workshop from the days of Edwin Ford Piper to the present. A thorough sifting of sources and interviews with former Workshop faculty and students, this book fills a long unfilled need. Reading it is like getting to know the authors of a Who’s Who in
American fiction. Anyone with an interest in American literary regionalism and the University of Iowa will find this book intriguing and rewarding.


The compiler of this book is coordinator for the Czech Village in Cedar Rapids. The book contains 115 Czech recipes from eastern Iowa and elsewhere in the nation. But the book also is composed of historical sketches of the cultural life of the Czech people, including the American poet, Paul Engle who relates the importance of the poppy seed kolache and Elsie Chadima who tells about the visit of the famous composer Dvorak to her father's farm in Spillville. The photographs (some in color) were taken by Joan Liffring-Zug of Iowa City. A very interesting book to be enjoyed by all kolache lovers and Czech buffs.

*Preservation Comes of Age: From Williamsburg to the National Trust, 1926-1949,* by Charles B. Hosmer, Jr. (Charlottesville: The University Press of Virginia, 1981. pp. 1291, illustrations, notes, chronology, index, $37.50 cloth, 2 vols.)

Charles B. Hosmer, Jr., professor of history at Principia College, analyzes the changing national priorities that affect preservation of historic buildings and sites from the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg through the creation of the National Trust. During this time the emphasis in preservation shifted from volunteer efforts to save individual buildings to involvement by professionals on a large scale. The book takes a look at the fascinating behind-the-scenes work of such benefactors as John D. Rockefeller, Jr.; Henry Ford; and Henry Francis du Pont. The author has carefully combed through letters, minutes, reports and manuscripts throughout the U.S. and has combined these with oral history interviews and 225 illustrations to produce a two-volume work which few historians and certainly nobody interested in historic preservation can neglect.


The author, an artist, has described the architectural heritage of Galena in this scrupulously researched and impressively illustrated