From the improverished farmers in the hills of Brown County to the great flood of 1937 and the young soldiers and sailors of 1942, Dorothea Lange, Theodor Jung, and their colleagues produced an eloquent record of a not-so-distant yet long-ago Indiana. Reid has selected a few of their finest photographs for this attractive volume.

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Professionals and volunteers in history museums continually ask for hands on examples—how do you do this, what, when, etc. Theory is fine, but how does one actually do the myriad of things that one is called on to do, particularly in small museums and historical institutions? This volume is as fine a beginning guide as one will find. The various writers offer detailed help and raise important questions. What the reader will find here is offered by those who work in the trenches. Even for the professional or volunteers who have been around museums a long time, this volume is a refresher course, a reminder, and everyone needs reminding and refreshing.

There is a great deal of depth in the book. The various chapters cover research, exhibits, living history and dramatic interpretation, public programming, and local history. The chapter on “Folklife and Local History in Small Museums” is especially useful. There is a good discussion of the attitudes of small museums—indeed, more emphasis could and should be given to the neglect of interpretation in small museums. Too often small size is used as an excuse. The discussion of the context and function of an artifact as necessary tools of interpretation is extremely important and easy to overlook in day to day practice, especially in small museums. Without interpretation, however, history museums are simply reliquariums gathering dust rather than the collective memory of a community or state. The chapters on living history and public programs, especially “Education Outreach,” “Festival Programming,” and “Historic Drama,” also provide very useful information; “Remaking the Past” provides a good perspective on research methods.

This is a very useful book which should have wide readership in spite of what appears at first glance, by title and contents, to be a book exclusively for Indiana. In fact, this reader’s only quibble
with the book is that its subtitle will probably prevent many in the profession from reading it. That would be unfortunate and should be corrected. The book could and should have a national readership because it raises questions and provides points of information that are always pertinent to museum professionals in small museums and historical societies anywhere in the country.

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This handbook, prepared by members of the 1987 Bicentennial Indiana History Task Force under the direction of Evelyn M. Sayers, is a revision of an earlier publication of the same name. Developed to coincide with the bicentennial celebration of the Northwest Ordinance and the Constitution of the United States, the handbook's general purpose was “to focus attention on the value of studying the history of Indiana” (p. vii). More specifically, the task was “to prepare a brief history of Indiana suitable for secondary social studies teachers to use in celebrating Indiana” (p. ix).

The handbook gets off to a fine start with “An Introduction: The Study and Teaching of Indiana History” (pp. xi-xiii), written by Donald F. Carmony who authored the earlier edition in 1961. Carmony succinctly puts forth the guidelines that he considers to be important in determining the content of a course in Indiana history. Although one may not agree with his conviction that “unless Indiana history can be offered at not less than the junior high level, there is quite limited value in offering it at all” (p. xi), his rationale for teaching Indiana history is clear and sound, as are his suggestions for teaching and studying Indiana history. Teachers should make certain that they read this introduction.

The content of the sixteen chapters in this handbook on the history of Indiana are arranged chronologically for the most part. Following the first chapter on geography is one on archaeology and prehistory. In subsequent chapters, the history of Indiana continues to unfold (historic Indians, French and British periods, the Old Northwest, Indiana Territory, and early statehood) through Chapter 14, "Indiana Today." The next chapter, "Indiana Government," is, of course, rich in historical content. The final chapter is "Indiana, Economic Development Toward the 21st Century." The material was written by people who are specialists in Indiana archaeology, economics, geography, history, and government—Donald R. Cochran, Joseph A. Rueff, Peter Harrington, Edward E. Lyon,