
Review Notices

The Onliest One Alive: Surviving Jonestown, Guyana. By Catherine (Hyacinth) Thrash, as told to Marian K. Towne. (Indianapolis, Ind.: Marian K. Towne, 1995. Pp. xvi, 140. Illustrations. Paperbound, \$8.00. Order from the author, 5129 N. Illinois Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208.) In July of 1977 Hyacinth Thrash and her sister Zipporah Edwards, long-time followers of the Reverend Jim Jones, arrived in Guyana. Little more than a year later "Zip" and 912 other people were dead, and Hyacinth was one of the few survivors of the mass murder/suicide which shocked the world. From more than sixty hours of interviews, Marian K. Towne has assembled the personal history of an elderly black woman who was born in Alabama, spent the 1920s through the 1950s in segregated Indianapolis, and joined a church led by Jim Jones in 1957. The first part of Thrash's memoir reveals much about working class black life in a segregated northern city and suggests why Jones, an early proponent of integration and a community activist, appealed to so many people. The second part of the book details the growing level of control Jones exercised over his followers and finally the extreme isolation and appalling living conditions of Jonestown. Scholars such as David Chidester have offered theoretical models for understanding what happened at Jonestown; Thrash's memoir adds the poignant detail of personal experience. *Dawn E. Bakken, Indiana University, Bloomington.*

A Short History of Indiana Limestone. By Bill McDonald. (Bedford, Ind.: Lawrence County Tourism Commission, 1995. Pp. iv, 64. Illustrations, figures, graphs, appendices, table, index of illustrations. Paperbound, \$3.50. Order from Lawrence County Tourism Commission, (812) 275-7637.) The full history of the Indiana limestone industry remains to be written, but Bill McDonald has provided an exceptionally important contribution. McDonald's short account surveys the industry from its crude beginnings to its rise to large prominence by 1900. He shows how the Indiana stone belt, about two miles by thirty miles, from Bloomington to Bedford, produced much of the nation's building materials, including the stone for twenty-seven state capitols (Indiana's of course, among them), the Empire State Building, and the Pentagon. McDonald's treatment of the technology and business side of limestone is fullest, and he devotes considerable attention to architectural contexts. There is less attention to the workers, the local farmers and immigrant laborers, the carvers and mill men, their families and their lives outside the mills and quarries. In sixty-four pages, however, Bill McDonald has produced the best published account of this fascinating and multifaceted industry. *James H. Madison, Indiana University, Bloomington.*