

## REVIEW NOTICES

NEW OR RECENT FROM INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESS

*Casper and Catherine  
Move to America:  
An Immigrant Family's Adventures,  
1849–1850*

By Brian Hasler

Illustrations by Angela M. Gouge

Introduction by Barbara Truesdell

Afterword by M. Teresa Baer

(Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press,  
2003. Pp. xii, 32. Maps, illustrations. \$17.95.)

Within the covers of this nicely illustrated book lies a typical story of nineteenth-century pioneer “courage, faith, and determination” (p. vii)—with a twenty-first century twist. Brian Hasler, who lives in the Evansville area, imagines a day in the future when his now toddler son comes home from school baffled by the arrival of a Costa Rican immigrant. The son’s questions spark the father’s recital of an adventure involving “sailing ships, stagecoaches, riverboats, and covered wagons,” with a moral for a modern “nation of immigrants.” Truesdell’s introduction outlines the place of such family “legends” and Baer’s afterword shows how modern-day genealogist-“detectives” track

a family in census and vital records. If you are a descendant of Casper and Catherine, this is a must-own. If not, it will interest your children and may even inspire you to write your own family history.



*Indiana in Stereo:  
Three-Dimensional Views  
of the Heartland*

Edited by George R. Hanlin and

Paula J. Corpuz

Essays by Anne E. Peterson,

Joan E. Hostetler, and Darryl Jones

Photographs by Darryl Jones

(Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press,  
2003. Pp. xi, 289. Illustrations, notes, table,  
glossary, bibliography. \$34.95.)

This well-designed and handsomely produced small book will appeal to anyone interested in period photographs of the Hoosier state and to those interested in historic photographic techniques. Beginning with two informative essays on stereographs in general and stereography in Indiana, the volume continues with several topical

chapters of vintage stereographs. Stereo photographs of landscapes, buildings, street scenes, workplaces, forms of transportation, family groups, and other subjects can be enjoyed with a small stereo viewer included with the book. A concluding essay, written by well-known photographer Darryl Jones, is followed by a collection of his new color stereographs. The book also includes a table identifying Indiana stereographers.

*The Photography of Ben Winans of Brookville, Indiana, 1902–1926*

By Donald L. Dunaway

(Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press, 2001. Pp. xi, 172. Illustrations. Paperbound, \$24.95.)

During the first years of the twentieth century Ben Winans, a printer from the small town of Brookville, Indiana, took up the hobby (later the business) of photography. This volume reproduces several dozen of Winans's best photographs and, in so doing, offers a glimpse of midwestern small-town life during the first two decades of the 1900s. In addition to the usual formal portraits and pictures of buildings, churches, schools, and streets, Winan photographed scenes from the lives of the townspeople. He captured the local marching band in the town's 1902 Decoration Day parade; men lined up to vote at the Hose Company No. 5 firehouse; a traveling salesman for "J. R. Watkins Medical Co."; a family reunion in the park on a summer day;

and a 1907 sharpshooter performing in the "Buckskin Ben" Wild West show. Winans also captured the harsher realities of life, especially in a series of photos taken during the devastation of a 1913 flood.

*Centennial Farms of Indiana*

Edited by M. Teresa Baer,

Kathleen M. Breen, and

Judith Q. McMullen

Genealogical indexes by Ruth Dorrell

(Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society Press, 2003. Pp. viii, 125. Illustrations, notes, indexes. Paperbound, \$24.95.)

In 1947 the Indiana Historical Society began a project to identify all farms in Indiana owned by the same family for one hundred years. The centennial farm project proved so popular with the public that it continued until 1951, by which time more than 1,650 farms had been identified. Tapping into this potentially rich source for rural history and state genealogy, the society has republished the original list of farms, arranged by last name of the original family and also including information on the county in which the farm lies, the date of the farm's beginning, and the name of the descendant who submitted the farm for consideration. Along with this extensive list, which takes up more than one-half of the book's length, the IHS press has included a brief introductory essay on the original gathering project and an excellent longer essay by M. Teresa Baer covering the history of agriculture in Indiana. For the use of modern research-

ers, two more indexes, to the last names of farm family descendants and to counties, are included at the end of the book. This liberally illustrated, well-

produced volume will appeal particularly to historians of rural Indiana and to genealogists.

#### OTHER NEW OR RECENT BOOKS

##### *Indiana:*

##### *A History*

By Howard H. Peckham

(Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2003. Pp. 207. Maps, suggestions for further reading, index. Paperbound, \$15.95.)

This book is a paperback reprint of the original which was published in 1978 as part of *The States and the Nation* bi-centennial series. Although not a thorough history of the state, the book does provide a story about the origins of Hoosier character—a character grounded thoroughly in the pioneer era of Indiana's history. Peckham also addresses religion, education, politics, the economy, cities, literature, and sports.

##### *Indiana Pioneer Stories:*

##### *A Collection of Historical Articles Printed in the Year Books of the Society of Indiana Pioneers*

Volume 1: 1918–1959,

Volume 2: 1960–2000

By Doris Leistner

(Published by the author, 2002. Pp. x, 483; x, 496. Map, illustrations, index. \$45.00 ea. Available at [www.indianapioneers.com](http://www.indianapioneers.com).)

A member of the board of governors of the Society of Indiana Pioneers, Doris Leistner has selected numerous historical articles from the society's newslet-

ters and presented them in chronological order, although some do not include the date of original publication or author. The articles taken together tell at least three stories: one about the experiences of Indiana's nineteenth-century pioneers that were passed on to posterity, another about the way twentieth-century Hoosiers have celebrated their pioneer ancestors, and another about the meetings and "pilgrimages" taken by twentieth-century society members.

##### *Now that Time has had Its Say:*

##### *A History of the Indianapolis Central Canal, 1835–2002*

By J. Darrell Bakken

(Bloomington: J. Darrell Bakken and the Consolidated City of Indianapolis Department of Waterworks, 2003. Pp. xvi, 137. Maps, illustrations, appendixes, notes. Paperbound, \$15.50; electronic, \$3.95. Available at [www.1stbooks.com](http://www.1stbooks.com).)

This thoroughly researched work gives a detailed account of the Indiana Central Canal project and how its initial failure was ultimately transformed into a success. Bakken begins by examining the history of the canal during most of the nineteenth century: its builders, its many sellers and buyers, its uses as transportation, recreation, and water power, and finally its purchase by the

Indianapolis Water Company. The second part of the book details how the failed canal became an integral part of the IWC's water-supply system and how, at the end of the twentieth century, it was transformed again into an important element in the revitalization of downtown Indianapolis. Using many historical photographs and a collection of primary documents, the author sheds light on the role of this little-studied Hoosier canal in the history of the city of Indianapolis.

*Haunted Hoosier Trails:  
A Guide to Indiana's Famous  
Folklore Spooky Sites*

By Wanda Lou Willis

(Zionsville, Indiana: Guild Press Emmis Publishing, LP, 2002. Pp. xii, 179. Illustrations, maps. Paperbound, \$15.95.)

This collection of ghost stories provides the reader with a sample of Hoosier folklore spanning the geography and history of Indiana. Replete with maps and brief histories of the featured counties, Willis's work establishes these

spooky tales within the context of normal Hoosier life.



*Roanoke:*

*The Renaissance of a Hoosier Village*

By Pete Eshelman and

Scott M. Bushnell

Photography Research by

Pamela T. Gray

(Indianapolis: Guild Press Emmis Books, 2003. Pp. xii, 112. Maps, illustrations, chronologies, bibliography.)

Pete Eshelman believes that "there is no limit to the good a man can do if he doesn't care who gets the credit" (p. xiii). The first half of the book covers the three-hundred-plus years of Roanoke's history: a story of Indians, transportation, prosperity, and a decline lasting from the Great Depression to the 1980s. The second half of the book describes the twelve years of Roanoke's "Renaissance" since Eshelman moved his insurance business to town and began to restore the town's aging properties.