

that spot: “the long view down Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, past the modest neighborhoods to the spires and monumental buildings of the Indianapolis skyline, a vista that mirrors the cemetery’s obelisks and tombs and no-less-beloved markers of common humanity. The view gives rise to the realization that a cemetery is a mirror, however imperfect, of its society—reflecting a people’s grandiosity, pettiness, pain and inequity, along

with their soaring hopes, unshakable courage, and enduring love” (p. 325).

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Dreams of Duneland: A Pictorial History of the Indiana Dunes Region

By Kenneth J. Schoon

(Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2013. Pp. 316. Illustrations, appendices, references, index. \$30.00.)

The geography of the Midwest is not flamboyant. Its primary landscapes of forests and prairies are both more subtle and more subject to heavy editing by human activities than are the canyons and mountains of the American West. Lake Michigan’s duneland fringe has seen substantial editing, as its dunes were mined for road construction and leveled for industrial sites. A nationally important steel industry and its attendant deepwater ports grew up alongside its farms, towns, and cities. But through it all, miles of windswept dunes remained, sheltering wetlands and forests between their rolling crests.

Kenneth Schoon has created a virtual tour of the dunelands—its natural areas, its history, and its com-

munities. His is the work of both a native son and a scholar; he has created a coffee table book for the eye and for the mind. Its mix of archival and modern photographs allows the reader to sample pages at will, knowing that the accompanying text will provide additional insight and context. Readers will become familiar with all manner of the region’s aspects, appreciating the many waves of change that have rolled through and the wildness that nevertheless remains.

Dreams of Duneland is a lightly edited volume, and readers will occasionally find themselves at odds with some of the author’s choices. As a conservation biologist, I was interested in the history of the creation of the state and national parks that

now protect much of the remaining natural area of the region. Residents of the lakeshore area were interested in protecting parts of the dunelands from early on, but progress was slow and fitful, and so it is also in the text. But as I continued to read (another try at a state park and again no progress?), I realized that my reactions likely mirrored, in a short span of time, those of the residents who were forced to wait for generations for the lands they valued to be protected from development. Schoon outlines the pace of those efforts with just enough detail to allow readers to appreciate how many events and turns (even the assassination of President Kennedy) arose to block the creation of the parks.

The state park and national lakeshore are certainly the largest portions of the present dunelands, but they are recent developments and there is far more to the region. Schoon describes the record of ecological history writ-

ten in the changing plant communities that developed over millennia among the dunes; the delicate balance of water, plants, and animals of the bogs; the vulnerability of the towering dunes to sand mining but also to public popularity. But the colorful human history of the area remains his central focus: a host of local luminaries and sights, an exploding powder plant, a major development scam, the defeated plans for a nuclear reactor, and the long-fought battle for protection of the dunes. While the wild heart of the dunelands has maintained its serenity through it all, the region has had a lively history, and it's all here. If you come for the images and artwork, you will stay for the tales—or the other way around!

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The Worlds the Shawnees Made: Migration and Violence in Early America

By Stephen Warren

(Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2014. Pp. 308. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$39.95.)

Historians have tended to write Shawnee history around “great” men like Blue Jacket or Tecumseh and his brother Tenskwatawa. Although the Shawnee people know full well the twists and turns of their past, it has been difficult to connect the deeper

narrative that links their many and various appearances in the historical record into a meaningful whole. *The Worlds the Shawnees Made* departs from the biographical conventions of the past and draws on Shawnee knowledge to explicate their complex history.