

ested general reader. Its only limitation is that, by definition, it only uses materials that previously appeared in the magazine. As a result, there is no comprehensive coverage of topics over time, and there are some obvious trends in coverage—such as relatively little on African American women and an overemphasis on prominent personalities. But McBride makes up for these deficiencies in her strong synthetic introductions. The book as a whole reflects respect both for the contents of the magazine and for the interests of professional historians.

Arrow Rock: The Story of a Missouri Village, by Authorene Wilson Phillips. Missouri Heritage Readers. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2005. xi, 164 pp. Illustrations, maps, bibliography, index. \$14.95 paper.

Reviewer Thomas M. Spencer is associate professor of history at Northwest Missouri State University. He is the author of *The St. Louis Veiled Prophet Celebration: Power on Parade, 1877–1995* (2000) and editor of *The Other Missouri History: Populists, Prostitutes, and Regular Folk* (2005).

In recent years, the village of Arrow Rock, Missouri has become a tourist attraction, especially for those interested in the period before the Civil War. In *Arrow Rock: The Story of a Missouri Village*, Authorene Wilson Phillips recounts the history of the town, starting with the first known references to the impressive flint rock formation for which the town was named in the 1700s. An introduction and eight chapters treat the history of the town from the eighteenth century to the present. The epilogue, subtitled “www.arrowrock.org,” provides short biographies of the prominent citizens who helped to transform the town into a historical tourist attraction over the past two decades.

The book does not offer a comprehensive history of Arrow Rock and its development, but it does provide insight into the major historic figures who were born and raised in the town during the nineteenth century and went on to make a name for themselves. Arrow Rock ultimately produced several prominent midwesterners, including three governors of Missouri and the well-known “Missouri River artist” George Caleb Bingham.

This book is intended for general readers who want a brief history of Arrow Rock, probably before making a visit. If viewed on those terms, the book successfully provides a quick history of this scenic town and the major figures who have passed through Arrow Rock at some point during the past two centuries.

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.