

## Book Notices

torical accuracy, recognizing folkloristic elements or personal and group bias; and gives suggestions for incorporating oral history materials into written manuscripts. An absolute "must" for every oral historian.

*Access to the Past: Museum Programs and Handicapped Visitors*, by Alice P. Kenny. (Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1980. pp. x, 131, illustrations, appendix, bibliography, index, \$7.95 paper.)

This book should be a valuable guide for anyone interested in making their facilities and programs accessible to disabled persons as required by Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The bibliography is extremely useful and this work should be widely read by all directors and administrators of historical and cultural agencies.

*Local Government Records: An Introduction to Their Management, Preservation, and Use*, by H. G. Jones. (Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1980. pp. xxi, 208, illustrations, appendix, index, \$6.95 paper.)

This is a monumental work and one deserving much attention. The author describes the chaotic state of records preservation and use in the nation's 81,000 local governmental jurisdictions. He discusses the establishment of records management programs, the principles of records appraisal, and the disposition of unnecessary items. He also seeks to foster renewed interest in and research of local records by the general public and scholars. This is a classic in its field and one book which will long remain an authority on records management.

*The Women Who Made the West*, by the Western Writers of America. (New York: Doubleday & Company, 1980. pp. 252, illustrations, bibliography, index, \$10.95 cloth.)

Eighteen sketches of historic women of the Old West are written by eighteen modern writers who employ a wide variety of sources and styles. The sketches are not about well-known figures in the western expansion of our nation, but they do concern some very extraordinary

## THE ANNALS OF IOWA

women: Sally Skull, who was a horse trader on the Mexican border of Texas; Sara Jane Orchard, a homely mining camp cook who became rich as a whore; and Ellis Shipp, who went to medical school to become a doctor in Mormon Utah with the support of her husband and his three other wives. Readers will certainly find these stories enjoyable.

*Sagas of Old Western Travel and Transport*, by Wilbur Hoffman. (San Diego: Howell-North Books, 1980. pp. 304, illustrations, index, \$20.00 cloth.)

The episodes found in this book may seem to come from western films, novels, or television movies, but each is founded on historical fact. The author vividly captures the hardships of the westward pioneers and charts their slow course through ten chapters, each of which revolves around a mode of transportation: handcart, stage-coach, wagon, pack train, steamship, railroad, etc. The volume is further enriched by over 150 photos and maps. This is the story of resourceful, persevering and courageous people attempting to realize their dreams.

*Photographing the Frontier*, by Dorothy Hoobler and Thomas Hoobler. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1980. pp. 192, photographs, maps, bibliography, index, \$9.95 cloth.)

The invention of photography coincided with the opening of the West and as a result we have a rich record of the people and events of the western frontier—Custer's expedition to the Black Hills, General Crook's negotiations with Geronimo, the retreat of Chief Joseph and his band of Nez Perce, the Mormons in Utah, the gold rush in '49, sod houses in Nebraska, and the snow and blood covered ground at Wounded Knee. This book consists of seventy-nine pages of photographs, but it is more than a "picture book." The text is well researched and written in a lively style. The reader will come away with a better understanding of the life of a frontier photographer—often a life characterized by danger and destitution, but also one of intrigue and adventure.

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