

From Ackley to Zwingle: The Origins of Iowa Place Names, by Harold E. Dilts. Second edition. Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1993. ix, 235 pp. Illustrations, bibliography, maps, index, appendix. \$14.95 paper.

REVIEWED BY TOM CAROLLO, SOUTHWEST IOWA REGIONAL LIBRARY

This second edition of *From Ackley to Zwingle* follows the format of the first edition. Two hundred place names have been added to the second edition, and entries carrying over from the first edition have been corrected and added to. The alphabetical arrangement of place names lists Iowa's counties, but concentrates on the names of Iowa's incorporated cities. Over 1,200 place names are discussed, but, as the author clearly states, the list is neither complete nor exhaustive. The author appends a list of place names for which origins have not been determined, a list of place name changes and nicknames, and a list of city place names county by county. Each description carries a reference citation to a relevant item in the bibliography. The author identifies verbal or folkloristic explanations of place name origins.

Dilts gives us an excellent example of popular local history. The book's comprehensive scope provides readers with an introduction to the development of Iowa's railroad system and a glimpse at the impact of the federal postal system on Iowa's society and history. Often the bibliographic sources provide more detailed analysis of a specific place name, but Dilts provides the single, best general compilation for ready reference use. Local history authors will find this work useful as they update city and county histories, and students of local history will also find useful facts in this book.

High on the Okaw's Western Bank: Vandalia, Illinois, 1819-1839, by Paul E. Stroble, Jr. Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1992. xiii, 178 pp. Chronology, illustrations, notes, index. \$32.50 cloth.

REVIEWED BY WILLIAM ROBA, SCOTT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Paul Stroble has written the first scholarly monograph on Illinois's second capital. Although the book offers little insight into the nature of community on the prairie frontier, it does offer interesting vignettes of the first generation of inhabitants. Stroble concludes, not surprisingly, that the town had its own leaders who created a modestly successful town.

Throughout the narrative, Stroble ignores the useful distinction between those who tried to create an Anglo-European settlement no

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