

Book Reviews and Notices

Karl Bodmer's America Revisited: Landscape Views across Time, photography by Robert M. Lindholm; introduction and annotations by W. Raymond Wood and Robert M. Lindholm. The Charles M. Russell Center Series on Art and Photography of the American West. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2013. xi, 162 pp. Illustrations, notes, references, index. \$45.00 hardcover.

Reviewer Rachel M. Sailor is assistant professor of art history at the University of Wyoming. She is the author of *Meaningful Places: Landscape Photographers in the Nineteenth-Century American West* (2014).

In 1832 Prince Maximilian of Wied-Neuwied and his hired illustrator, Karl Bodmer, journeyed into the heart of America on an expedition to gather specimens and information relating to the region's natural and cultural history. From Boston they traveled through St. Louis to Fort McKenzie at the base of the Rocky Mountains in present-day Montana, and back.

Robert Lindholm and Raymond Wood have chosen to focus on Bodmer's landscapes as a way to sequentially recreate the original journey, and their book is a response of sorts to *Karl Bodmer's America* (1983), which was the first compendium of Bodmer's work. More importantly, however, *Karl Bodmer's America Revisited* joins a number of publications focused on rephotography as a tool for understanding history.

This publication is primarily visual after a concise and well-written introduction that manages to give a full yet brief account of the 1832–1834 private expedition in the American West. According to the authors, the book “takes the reader back to those years and to Prince Maximilian and Bodmer's North American expedition” (3). Indeed it does.

Bodmer was a talented artist. The images of the journey represent lesser-known work that is usually considered secondary to his more famous portraits of American Indians. Remarkably, the book acts as a travelogue that tracks Maximilian and Bodmer's route.

Bodmer's images alone could have sufficiently described the trip visually, but the rephotography of the same places adds a compelling layer to an already fascinating journey. The design of the book promotes comparison between the old and the new through a recto and

verso display, reminding us not only of how much has changed in over 180 years, but of how much has *not*. Iowans will be especially interested in the images that reveal the Missouri River from St. Louis up along the western border of the state. As viewers, we contemplate the original nineteenth-century journey, the modern journeys of the authors as they tracked down locations across much of the country, and perhaps our own travels through the regions depicted. This, after all, is the enduring value of such a project; the journey through the American interior is a mythic adventure for Americans. It is iconic and ongoing as travelers continue to tread and retread the same paths, mimicking earlier, more historic journeys, but also existing side by side with them.

The authors' ambition is not in analysis or historical discovery. Rather, the clearly defined goal of providing a modern-day visual counterpart to Bodmer's sequential travel imagery is forthright. That approach is generally compelling. Readers will find themselves flipping back and forth in this beautifully illustrated book, stopping to contemplate the changes that have occurred (or not), as well as the obvious artistic liberties that Bodmer often took. Rephotography is an endeavor that is pleasing and quite entertaining, connecting us in a tangible way to a past that usually seems remote. Projects such as *Karl Bodmer's America Revisited* remind us that the past is not so very far away, after all.

Lost Voices on the Missouri: John Dougherty and the Indian Frontier, by Mark William Kelly. Leavenworth, Kansas: Sam Clark Publishing Company, 2013. xiv, 855 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$54.95 hardcover.

Reviewer Robert Willoughby is professor of history and chair at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith. He is the author of *The Brothers Robidoux and the Opening of the American West* (2012).

This is a massive book—physically massive in the number of pages and words, but also massive in the amount of detail and information it offers. Mark Kelly, a professional archeologist, historian, and environmentalist, has left no stone unturned in writing this biography of the early nineteenth-century Indian agent John Dougherty (1791–1860) and examining the territory he traveled over and served for nearly four decades. It is also a riparian biography of the great Missouri River, which Kelly describes in exacting detail from bends and tributaries to all the toils and dangers of traveling it. The story of the river