

1995

Book Reviews

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Recommended Citation

Society, Florida Historical (1995) "Book Reviews," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 74 : No. 4 , Article 8.
Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol74/iss4/8>

BOOK REVIEWS

Miami Beach: A History. By Howard Kleinberg. (Miami: Centennial Press, 1994. vi, 236 pp. Preface, photographs, notes, bibliography, index, acknowledgments. \$39.95.)

For much of the twentieth century, Miami Beach has received wide recognition as one of America's premier resorts. The story of "the Beach," however, is much more than that. Owing to an uncanny ability to reinvent itself periodically, Miami Beach has crowded into its relatively brief existence a rich, variegated history.

Consider these shifts in direction and fortune. A desolate, swampy peninsula sandwiched between Biscayne Bay and the Atlantic Ocean (and situated five miles east of Miami, which only emerged as a city in 1896), Miami Beach was magically transformed, in the early decades of this century, through the efforts and resources of Carl Fisher and other developers, into an upscale resort and residential community. Initially restrictive toward Jews, the island (Miami Beach became an island in 1925, when engineers cut a channel from the bay to the ocean through a parcel of land known as Baker's Haulover) would host, by the 1930s and thereafter, one of America's largest and most dynamic Jewish communities. In the immediate aftermath of Pearl Harbor, crestfallen Miami Beach hoteliers worried over future prospects for business. But that was before the United States Army intervened, taking over 300 hotels, apartments, and private homes to accommodate the growing legions of men and women in uniform. In the process, the army transformed the city into one of the nation's largest military training centers in World War II.

When Miami Beach began to fade as a major tourist resort in the 1960s many of its older hotels and apartments became home to hardpressed retirees from the northeast United States. Still later, came refugees from Cuba and other strife-torn lands in this hemisphere. Much of that same aging housing stock has undergone a metamorphosis and today comprises the sparkling Art Deco district, a neighborhood resonating with more energy, activity, and "glitterati" than virtually any other area of the United States. Another portion of the once-depressed neighborhood is presently un-

der intense redevelopment owing to Miami Beach's resurgent popularity and its desirability as a residential address.

Until now, few studies of a serious nature have been devoted to this protean community. Howard Kleinberg, a popular columnist with the *Miami Herald* and the Cox newspaper chain— and earlier, the longtime editor of the now defunct *Miami News*— has filled this vacuum with a masterly account of the island's history, one that convincingly captures, in highly-readable prose, the flavor of this community in each of its many incarnations.

Kleinberg has relied heavily on manuscript sources, including the papers of Carl Fisher, the flamboyant millionaire developer, to tell the story of the development of Miami Beach. Kleinberg's study is especially impressive in its treatment of the early history of the community because it presents many new morsels of compelling information. The author's examination of the island's political arena, found in a later portion of the study, is superb in its explanation of the unique, confrontational nature of politics there. In between are chapters on the great real estate boom of the 1920s the depression era and the resurgence of tourism and prosperity on the eve of World War II, the war years, the heady era following the conflict when Miami Beach became the nation's tourist capital, and the city's decline and resurgence in recent decades.

Kleinberg explains many of the misconceptions associated with the history of the Beach. For instance, that community, contrary to conventional wisdom, has, since its beginnings, possessed a small black residential community. Moreover, African Americans were not the only group forced to carry identification cards, or "passports," but they were typically the only ones forced to present them upon demand to the police after dark. Kleinberg debunks the myth that restrictive clauses in land deeds forbade their sale to Jews. Instead, the restrictions limited property ownership to Caucasians, which, of course, included Jews. In practice, however, many property owners, in the community's early years, refused to rent or sell to Jews.

Miami Beach: A History contains a superb array of photographs effectively keyed to the text, interesting sidebars, and a narrative that is heavily documented. Howard Kleinberg's *Miami Beach: A History* represents a work long overdue, but one worth the wait.

Miami-Dade Community College
Wolfson Campus

PAUL S. GEORGE

William Bartram on the Southeastern Indians. Edited and annotated by Gregory A. Waselkov and Kathryn E. Holland Braund. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1995. Preface, introduction, acknowledgments, photographs, illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$46.50.)

The editors and annotators of this volume set for themselves the tasks of bringing together all of William Bartram's published and unpublished material relating to Native Americans. Once the work commenced, they realized the published accounts differed significantly enough to warrant emendation. To clarify any confusion which may intrude upon Bartram's words, they included all his writings on Native Americans by giving it in its entirety or quoting it at length. This provides the reader the opportunity to evaluate Bartram's work on its own merits; moreover, the editors introductory remarks for each chapter and their notes offer explanatory, corroborative or dissenting remarks.

The purpose of the editors is "to produce a volume of William Bartram's writings that conveys the scope of his contributions to southeastern Indian anthropology, archaeology, and ethnohistory." In this they succeeded admirably; but they did more. They have provided readers with Bartram's writings, which, unlike those of James Adair, reflect the views of a disinterested person. Although some of Bartram's contemporaries complained of his favorable bias towards Native Americans and more recent writers thought he demonstrated loyalist sympathies, the editors successfully lay those charges to rest in the last chapter by showing how his Quaker, democratic, and scientific notions influenced his philosophical views. It is here, as well, they spell out his contributions to anthropology and archaeology.

The editors develop the milieu for Bartram's writings through a biographical sketch which serves as the introductory chapter. The second chapter which deals with his *Travels* is a real treat. All of Bartram's comments on Native Americans in that work appear together with the original page numbers in brackets. While this device is destructive of the holistic view of *Travels*, it emphasizes his views on the native peoples of Florida and the Southeast. Of particular interest are his comments about his journey up the St. Johns River to Blue Springs and west to the Suwanee River. The chapters on "Observations" and "Some Hints" supply more pointed observations on Native Americans while furnishing some of Bartram's reasons for holding the views he had.

The maps found on the front and back endpapers are duplicates, but they provide the reader with the general routes Bartram followed on his travels. Why that map is reproduced again in parts on pages 28, 29 with minor omissions, and 30 is unclear. No effort is made to place a date for the travels on the map because as the editors write, "Whatever else may be said of Bartram's work, it is certainly not a precisely dated travel diary. Indeed, scarcely a date can be trusted in the entire volume." They give credit to Francis Harper for reconstructing the correct sequence of events. The illustrations are drawings by Bartram or copies of his drawings which show Native American public and private buildings, public squares, and Chunky Yards. Perhaps the more interesting ones are those showing the plan of Mount Royal.

Those interested in Southeastern Indians owe a debt of gratitude to Waselkov and Braund not only for focusing their readers' attention on Bartram's writings on native peoples but also for their felicitous handling of text and notes which enlighten as well as bring outside information to bear on a given subject. Those of John Howard Payne and Captain James Cook readily come to mind. This is just one example of how the editors attempt to show the broader picture of Bartram and his contributions to the study of Native Americans. They list all the pertinent authors in their bibliography and note especially the contributions of Francis Harper and the Berkeleys. And it is gratifying to learn that Bartram's alligator story is no longer considered a product of his imagination but a verifiable description of a real encounter between two bull gators. The same can be said of his description of early hardwood-dominated forest in the Georgia Piedmont. This is a volume that is both informative and enjoyable.

University of Central Florida, Emeritus

PAUL WEHR

Had I the Wings: The Friendship of Bachman and Audubon. By Jay Shuler. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1995. xii, 233 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, abbreviations, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$29.95 cloth.)

It was a fortuitous encounter when John James Audubon, already renowned on both sides of the Atlantic for his dramatic paintings of North American birds, met John Bachman in Charleston on October 17, 1831. Bachman, a Lutheran pastor and avid

naturalist, was elated to make the acquaintance of the famous nature artist. Greeting the handsome woodsman with an enthusiasm which “electrified” Audubon, Bachman initiated a friendship that proved momentous for both. Henceforth, their professional and social lives were intertwined, and Audubon’s ultimate legacy was enhanced by a chance meeting on the muggy autumn morning.

This is the starting point for Jay Shuler’s engaging and well-crafted book exploring the relationship of two important 19th-century American naturalists. While the life and work of Audubon is well known, Bachman’s role in that story and his own substantial contributions to American science are not. Jay Shuler, formerly of the National Park Service, provides the first detailed account of this intriguing association and rescues from obscurity an individual who clearly merits historical attention. It was Bachman, after all, for whom Audubon named three species of birds, including one of the rarest in the world, Bachman’s Warbler. The master-work, *Birds of America*, with its 435 double elephant folio plates depicting 489 species, was completed with Bachman’s assistance. Audubon’s massive five-volume, 3,000-page *Ornithological Biography* was enriched by Bachman’s scientific observations and literary skills. And the last great project, *The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*, would never have been realized without Bachman’s indispensable service.

As important as Bachman’s professional contributions were to the Audubon legacy, however, Shuler shows that was only *half* the story— and here is where *Had I the Wings* really breaks new ground. Relying upon their “voluminous and revealing correspondence” and a wealth of manuscript sources, Shuler demonstrates the importance of Bachman and Audubon’s social relationship. Over the course of a decade, during which Audubon shuttled across the Atlantic to oversee publication of *Birds of America* or to procure new specimens, Bachman’s Charleston residence served as his home in America. Audubon was always welcomed—his visits were exciting diversions—and the house on Pinckney Street was transformed into a working studio with rooms prepared for skinning, storing and painting birds. They were kindred spirits who relished their moments together. “Out shooting every day—,” Audubon rhapsodized to his wife Lucy from the Bachman home in 1831. “Skinning, Drawing, Talking Ornithology the whole evening, noon and morning. . .”

A minor quibble: Shuler’s treatment of Audubon in Florida is too brief. The untamed peninsula of the 1830s provided Audubon

with some of the most spectacular species in *Birds of America* and was one of the most demanding areas he ever encountered. While Shuler alludes to Audubon's "grand, if wildly impractical and terribly dangerous plan to walk the beaches all the way from St. Augustine to the Keys," the details are sketchy. The Florida expedition yielded a treasure of flora and fauna—over five cartloads of shells, corals, seeds, plants, amphibians, mammals and, Audubon wrote, some "five hundred and fifty birds, principally of the larger species." He made good use of the naturalistic booty and the Florida trek witnesses a perfection of the Audubon-Lehman collaboration, Audubon's craft was never better. Shuler writes, "The paintings of Florida birds and plants were stunning."

Had I the Wings is enhanced by its historical backdrop, from the French Revolution to the American Civil War, through which Shuler weaves a lively and vivid narrative. The book is a welcome addition to the Audubon legacy. As for Bachman's role in that legacy and his contribution to American science, the book is an indispensable source. While handsomely put together, one might wish for more illustrations—only five of Audubon's paintings appear. *Had I the Wings* is an absorbing and enjoyable read.

Naples, Florida

STEVEN VALDESPINO

Stepping Out of the Shadows: Alabama Women, 1819-1990. Edited by Mary Martha Thomas. (Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 1995. 237 pp. Introduction, photographs, tables, notes, contributors, index. \$19.95.)

This collection of essays first heard as papers at the 1990 Alabama Women's History Forum presents a fascinating study of Alabama women from the antebellum era to the modern period. Editor Mary Martha Thomas has compiled a diverse anthology that surveys the traditionally unexamined lives and accomplishments of both black and white women in Alabama.

In "Stewards of Their Culture: Southern Women Novelists as Social Critics," Elizabeth Fox-Genovese continues to trace her earlier theme from *Within the Plantation Household* (1988) of southern women defending slavery as a superior, albeit flawed, social system compared to the perceived evils of northern capitalism. Fox-Genovese presents brief but succinct plot synopses of several sentimental novels of the antebellum period to prove the regionalism not

feminism nor sisterhood was the driving concern of these white women writers. Her chapter is an interesting study of a group of women who acted all too human in defending their traditional way of life. They were indeed "stewards of their culture."

In "The Plantation Mistress: A Perspective on Antebellum Alabama," Ann Williams Boucher utilizes the theories of Fox-Genovese, Catherine Clinton, Suzanne Lebsock, Jane and William Pease as compass-points in studying wealthy antebellum women in Alabama. Boucher concludes that the plantation mistress examined embody, to some point, a combination of the conclusions of all the aforementioned authors. Rejecting their resolute convictions, however, Boucher finds a dichotomous mix of freedom, slavery, independence, dependence, tension, and stability in the lives of Alabama plantation mistresses.

Researching letters and organizational reports in "White and Black Female Missionaries to Former Slaves during Reconstruction," Harriet E. Amos Doss explores the work of these women who heeded "God's call" to missionary service in the South. This type of work presented an extraordinary opportunity for women to earn money, a sense of self-worth, and a certain degree of autonomy. Although the majority of the missionaries were white women, Doss found numerous accounts of black women overcoming racism and outright violence to serve as missionaries to former slaves in Alabama.

"White and Black Alabama Women during the Progressive Era, 1890-1920" by Mary Martha Thomas and "Stepping Out of the Shadows into Politics: Women in the Alabama Legislature, 1922-1990" by Joanne Varner Hawks, both survey broad time periods in which Alabama women "began to erase the line between the public and private world." (75) The pioneering work of temperance workers, suffragists, women's club members, and legislators is examined. Linked by gender but not by ideology nor common cause, the female progressive legislators represent a staunch group of proactive participants in public policy matters. Chapter 9 also includes a helpful table listing the 20 women who served in Alabama legislature from 1922-1990.

This book also contains five chapters detailing the lives of individual women in Alabama history: "Amelia Gayle Gorgas: A Victorian Mother" by Sarah Woolfolk Wiggins; "Adella Hunt Logan and the Tuskegee Woman's Club: Building a Foundation for Suffrage" by Adele Logan Alexander; "From Parsonage to Hospital: Louise

Branscomb Becomes a Debtor” by Norma Taylor Mitchell; “Loula Dunn: Alabama Pioneer in Public Welfare Administration” Martha H. Swain; and “Alive to the Cause of Justice: Juliette Hampton Morgan and the Montgomery Bus Boycott” Sheryl Spradling Summe. Each of these biographical chapters, like the anthology as a whole, makes an important contribution to southern history and gender studies. Editor Thomas has successfully organized these unique accounts into a well-balanced, informative, and engaging collection. Anyone interested in southern, Alabama, or women’s history would benefit from the scholarship in *Stepping Out of the Shadows*.

Jacksonville University

SARAH P. VICKERS

The Struggle for the Georgia Coast: An Eighteenth Century Spanish Retrospective On Guale and Mocama. By John E. Worth, with an introduction by David Hurst Thomas. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1995. 222 pp. Preface, introduction, acknowledgments, maps, illustrations, tables, references, index, \$23.95.)

The removal of the Cherokee, Creek and Seminole Indians from the present states of Georgia and Florida has received considerable attention from historians and the general public. Less awareness exists of other tribes who experienced similar disruption or displacement as a result of European intrusions. One such instance is the forced displacement of the Guale and Mocama Indians, who occupied the Sea Islands and coastal areas of Georgia and northeast Florida. With his translation and publication of this collection of relevant Spanish documents, John E. Worth has brought increased attention to this migration and performed a significant service for scholars of the early Southeast and of Native Americans.

The documents included were assembled in 1739 at the behest of Florida’s governor Don Manuel de Montiano and sent to Spain to support the King’s claim to the lands within the newly established English colony of Georgia. There they lay basically unknown to scholars until Worth’s rediscovery of the collection in 1991. The documents contain significant information about the Guale and Mocama Indians and their migration southward. Worth complements this with a well-written and informative introduction, which focuses mainly on establishing the locations of the towns and tracing their numerous consolidations and migration in the face of English and enemy Indian attacks. He supports this with very help

ful maps documenting the location and movement of towns over time.

While the location and movements of the Guale and Mocama towns receive the most attention, the introduction and documents contain some ethnographic information about the Indians and the difficult situation they faced. Disease outbreaks repeatedly hurt the Indians, Spanish reluctance or inability to supply firearms and bullets left them outgunned by opponents, and *repartimiento* labor drafts pulled needed manpower away from towns. Perhaps his most intriguing finding is evidence that, even with the consolidation of several villages into one, the leadership structures of the previous settlements continued to exist to a degree in their new homes, largely in the form of hereditary titles.

Information is also present about the Yamasee Indians, who were at one time allied with and living among the Guales and Mocamas, before they turned against the Spanish and became a major force in the English slave raids. Worth attributes the change of allegiance primarily to Yamasee vulnerability to pirates and other raiders. However, given the focus on the importance of the labor drafts and the heavy Yamasee contribution to those requisitions, one might wonder if perhaps the heavy labor load played a major role in the Yamasee change of allegiance. There is evidence in some of his documents of native dissatisfaction with onerous labor requirements.

Information can also be found on the functioning of the Spanish outpost in Florida, including testimony on the military-clerical rivalry, the supply of the colony, and the judicial process in Florida. One interesting group of documents deals with the trial of Captain Don Juan Saturnino de Abaurrea, an officer accused of abandoning his post during an English attack in 1684 and allowing prisoners to be retaken by the enemy. This case brings to light a previously unknown attack on Guale before the final evacuation. Evidence is also presented on the Spanish retaliation raid into Carolina in 1686 in the form of testimony recorded from three English captives.

This work is the fourth valuable monograph to emerge from the study of Mission Santa Catalina de Guale. Dr. Worth, the University of Georgia, and the Santa Catalina project scholars are to be commended for this important contribution. They have cast increased light on an underemphasized episode of intercultural con-

tact and have reminded us of early Native American inhabitants of Georgia and Florida who do not deserve to be forgotten.

Durham, North Carolina

RICHARD DURSCHLAG

After Appomattox: How the South Won the War. By Stetson Kennedy. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1995. Acknowledgments, advisory, photographs, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$49.95.)

The premise of this work, now reissued by the University Press of Florida, can be surmised from the title: that the states of the Confederacy, though vanquished in battle, managed to win the peace in the aftermath of the war. They did so by asserting their political will in highly undemocratic ways, so the author asserts, with the tacit consent of the Yankee North. In the process, the southerners who took control of the region instituted a system of political rule that was only superficially democratic, and relied on a host of extra-democratic practices— including political terror— to impose white rule on the post-Reconstruction South.

It is not a new story. Nor was it when the book was first issued. It was James Ford Rhodes who first remarked that the punishment inflicted upon the South by the victorious North was the mildest ever visited upon a defeated society by its opponent. It is left to Stetson Kennedy, however, to simplify the story into a shallow morality tale replete with repetitive hyperbole about the savage South.

That the South's savagery in establishing white rule was often grotesque cannot be argued— at least not successfully. And the evidence provided in this book's pages, extrapolated from testimonials given by freedmen before the Joint Congressional Committee in 1872, leaves no doubt regarding the brutalities committed by some white redeemers. But Kennedy's claim that a more effective policy for ending the Confederacy's rebellion, for completing the task of reconstructing the Union along more democratic lines, was an achievable objective is simply unsustainable. Sadly, writers of history can never know what *could* have happened had another road been taken. The road not taken is always a province best left to poets.

Nor is Kennedy any more convincing in his contention that the central constitutional events of the Civil War era— the 13th, 14th

and 15th amendments to the United States Constitution— were rendered nullities in the years after the war. It is certainly the case that the Supreme Court in the late 19th century gave readings to these amendments, most notably the 14th, that the amendment's framers did not foresee— as have subsequent courts. Indeed, it is axiomatic, as Joseph Schumpeter pointed out 70 years ago, that policymakers can never anticipate the full consequences of their actions.

Nonetheless, for readers who have little understanding of the era in the history of the United States that Kennedy examines, the eyewitness accounts that he includes in his book are both compelling and riveting. They are eloquent testimony not only to the tragedies and brutalities of the post-reconstruction South, but to the long series of stresses that beset the American republic in the mid-19th century. “Nor is it over yet,” as has been observed in the standard work on the subject for the state of Florida, is a phrase that applies as well to the present historical moment as it did to the 19th century— albeit with a different meaning as we approach the 20th century decennial.

Contrary to author Kennedy's claim, no one was a victor in the war between the states. In tragedy, there is no celebratory moment, only struggle and acceptance. After Appomatox, the residue of civil strife exposed both the best and the worst of human conduct, in a manner which, sadly, was to be a harbinger of the century to come. But however haltingly, the United States had purged itself of the institution of chattel slavery, at a dear price. It was a monumental achievement, even if it is hidden in the interstices of Stetson Kennedy's book.

University of Florida

AUGUSTUS BURNS

Sloss Furnaces and the Rise of the Birmingham District: An Industrial Epic.

By W. David Lewis. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1994. xxiv, 645. Preface, acknowledgments, photographs, maps, illustrations, abbreviations, notes, bibliography, index, about author. \$39.95.)

The subtitle of Lewis's book *An Industrial Epic* is an apt description of the work which is of epic length. Lewis takes the story of Alabama iron making from its Civil War days when Alabama iron was used on the Confederate ironclad *Merrimac* through the New

South when Birmingham emerged as the iron-making region of the South until the city's civil rights issues of the 1960s. Lewis is a good historian of technology and he explains well the problems of converting Alabama iron ore, with its high concentrations of phosphorus and silica, into steel using the Bessemer process which was in vogue in the late 19th century. Birmingham's promoters did recognize, however, that low-paid black workers were in abundance after the depression of 1873 which would help offset the area's scarcity of capital. So cheap labor, close proximity of iron ore and coal, and the entrepreneurial drive of Col. James Withers Sloss and other Birmingham promoters helped to transform Birmingham into the iron-making capital of the South. Birmingham's specialty would not be steel but cast iron which would be used in houses and cities throughout the United States in the form of cooking utensils, stoves, sewer pipes, and myriad other applications. The Sloss works, founded in 1881 and later to become Sloss-Sheffield, came along in a period of major urban development and population growth, and its products found a ready market. By the latter part of the 19th century technological advancements made it possible for Birmingham to produce steel as well as cast iron and the potential of the region looked promising.

Lewis attributes many of Birmingham's economic problems of the 20th century to collusion among officials of U.S. Steel Corporation and other large steel producers which limited production and relegated Birmingham to second-class status. The favored technique was the policy of "Pittsburgh Plus" by which the manufactures set Pittsburgh as the reference point for steel ingots throughout the entire nation and added uniform freight charges and shipments from other areas. This policy made the price of steel at Pittsburgh lower than anywhere else. Lewis maintains that the Sloss-Sheffield operation would have gone bankrupt during the depression save for its profitable coke production. Sloss-Sheffield was acquired by United States Pipe and Foundry Company (USP&F) in 1942 which in turn was acquired by Jim Walter Corporation in 1969. Jim Walter wanted USP&F's coal deposits. By 1980 the furnaces were cold. Lewis has done the historical profession a good service by chronicling the somewhat neglected phase of the South's iron and steel industry. This work will be of interest to historians of technology, business, and cities.

Florida State University

EDWARD F. KEUCHEL

Louisa S. McCord: Political and Social Essays. Edited by Richard C. Lounsbury. (Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia, 1995. xiii, 510 pp. Preface, illustrations, abbreviations, notes, bibliography, index, index. \$45.00, cloth.)

“God, who has made every creature to its place, has perhaps, not given to woman the most enviable position in his creation, but a most clearly defined position he has given her,” wrote the premier female conservative Southern intellectual, Louisa Susanna McCord, in her 1852 essay, “Enfranchisement of Women.” (108) McCord’s privileged position in Southern society was among the elite, planter class of South Carolina. As a plantation mistress, she benefited from slave labor and ardently defended it in essays on political economy in such publications as *Debow’s Review* and *Southern Quarterly Review*. She also argued conservatively about women in society. She opposed the suffrage movement and staunchly defended the women’s place in their separate and, in her estimation, superior sphere. McCord’s political and social writings, collected by Richard C. Lounsbury in this first of two volumes, provides scholars with a previously forgotten intellectual’s works. Reading them is enlightening and disturbing for she was sarcastic, biting and relentless in her criticism of women’s rights activists and abolitionists. Her words must be heard to completely understand the southern intellectual experience, heretofore told only through male eyes.

By God and nature, declared McCord, blacks or “Cuffee,” as she disparagingly refers to them in a number of her articles, are an inferior race. The slaves supposedly recognized their subordinate place. She writes that “our negro, for instance, feels by instinct that his condition is suited to his powers; and would, but for mischievous interference, never seek, never wish to change it.” (170) And neither would the whites of South Carolina. “We are not ashamed,” she claims in her 1851 “Diversity of the Races; Its Bearing Upon Negro Slavery,” speaking for all slaveholders, “of our ‘peculiar institution,’ nor do we need any sugared epithets to cloak an iniquity of which we are entirely unconscious.” (159) When women of Britain led by Duchess of Sutherland issued “The Affectionate and Christian Address of Many Thousands of the Women of England to Their Sisters, the Women of the United States of America,” calling for abolition, McCord responded in a letter printed August 10, 1853 in the *Charleston Mercury*. She questions the British reformers for singling out American slavery and suggests their ministrations

might be directed toward China and the opium trade. She challenges the Duchess to act upon her convictions and use her wealth to purchase McCord's 160 slaves. Although such a sale would be a sacrifice for McCord since land without labor would be useless, she includes her address hopeful of a response. No one purchased McCord's human property, and she continued to defend the system until it ended. Following the war, she never dealt well with emancipation, and considered emigrating to South America. Her daughter, Louisa, later wrote that the death of Langdon Cheves, beloved son, in the Civil War and the demise of the Confederacy, broke Louisa McCord's heart and later killed her.

On the potent issue of women's suffrage, McCord chastised advocates of change. She believed women's work was the highest labor, the most loving calling ordained by God. Challengers were "Moral monsters . . . things which Nature disclaims." (110) Suffragists were "petticoated despisers of their sex— these would-be men— these things that puzzles us to name." (110) And many of them were Yankees, too. McCord sensed that women's equality would seriously weaken if not destroy the Southern patriarchal structure. As a member of that group, she had to support all of its aspects even those that subordinated her own sex. In her view, women had plenty of opportunity within the sphere to do good, to create a perfect society and "raise the man, by helping, not rivalling, him." (119) Many women agreed with her. A very similar argument persists today. Listening to Louisa McCord's ideas may not be easy, but it is essential for scholars of women's, intellectual, and Southern history.

Jacksonville State University

SUZANNE MARSHALL

Becoming Southern: The Evolution of a Way of Life, Warren County and Vicksburg, Mississippi, 1770-1860. By Christopher Morris. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. ix, 258 pp. Preface, introduction, figures, tables, illustrations, photographs, epilogue, abbreviations, appendices, notes, index. \$35.00.)

In a discipline inundated by community studies, *Becoming Southern* stands apart. Few historians have focused on the evolution of a southern locale; even fewer have approached their subject with such intellectual rigor. Acknowledging in his preface that "the real South has proven hard to pin down," Christopher Morris examines

the maturation of Warren County and Vicksburg, Mississippi, between the American Revolution and Civil War. As a framework for his discussion, the author applies a cultural materialist model. "The bridge spanning Southern life and mind," he explains, "is better approached from the life side. The nature of historical evidence allows us to be more certain of what people did than of what they thought" (xvi).

Morris's hesitance to explore the mind directly leads him to emphasize the impact of material (largely economic) conditions on human behavior. Much of what Warren County residents did, the reader soon learns, resembled actions exhibited by people at one time or another throughout the United States. Becoming southern, in other words, did not necessarily mean becoming distinct. During the first years of white settlement, for example, geographic and political isolation from distant markets— and not some traditional value system— caused farmers to rely on local, cooperative exchange. The transformation of community- and subsistence-oriented economy to a more individualistic and commercial world occurred not because people began to view the market any differently, but because new outlets for their goods became available and because soil and wildlife depletion made cash crop agriculture essential to settlers' survival.

Material condition determined what men grew and where they sold their produce. So too these considerations defined relations within a household. On early pioneer and non-slaveholding farms, the household head possessed exclusive control of the land but not the labor, which he shared with other adult members of the family. Economic interdependence united the sexes in the common cause of survival and eased restrictions on a woman's rights and freedoms. But as the supply of potential workers grew and land became more difficult to obtain, the balance of power shifted in favor of the landowner. He became independent while his wife and children became increasingly dependent. In cases where slaves served the master's labor needs, a wife's importance in the home or fields decreased precipitously, and with it the power to control her own life.

In the book's most provocative chapter, the author describes Warren County's stand during the secession crisis. A clear majority of local voters supported John Bell and his Constitutional Union party in the 1860 presidential election. The reasons were largely economic. Between 1776 and 1861 the county had been moving

“from the periphery toward the center of the United States— thus the community’s strong desire to see the Union hold together.” (170) Secession, planters feared, could only isolate the county from the markets it required to survive. A minority of Vicksburg voters spoke of secession, but only because they did not share the planters’ confidence in a bright and prosperous future.

Few readers will question the role of material conditions in shaping peoples’ lives, and Morris has done an excellent job of detailing the ways in which men and women adapted to and altered their environment in antebellum Warren County. Disagreements may rise, however, over the relative importance the author gives to economic forces. Granted he has made explicit his ideological predilections and research interests, but are readers to believe that religion and its related moral and ethical values had an insignificant influence on life in Warren County? Did the region’s first settlers arrive in Mississippi without any of the cultural baggage brought by migrants to other parts of America? Had Vicksburg’s churches and ethnic institutions no part to play in shaping family relations, duty to one’s neighbors, or the community’s social structure? One cannot help but feel that a critical part of Warren County’s story still is missing. Whether its inclusion would have changed Morris’s conclusions about the nature of the South remains an open question.

University of Florida

MARK I. GREENBERG

Politics and Welfare in Birmingham, 1900-1975. By Edward Shannon LaMonte. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1995. pp. vii, 298. Illustrations, acknowledgments, notes, bibliography, index.)

Edward Shannon LaMonte’s study of the evolution of public welfare policy in Birmingham, Alabama during the 20th century addresses issues of power and authority in the city that remain relevant today. He takes the reader through several phases of development which were inextricably linked to changes in city government wrought by almost revolutionary change in the political community as the age of Jim Crow passed. Always the problem of race was central to the story LaMonte tells.

LaMonte lays the foundation for his argument with a chapter in which he describes Birmingham government. The chapter is the least original of the book, drawing largely on the work of Carl Har-

ris. Unfortunately, LaMonte uncritically accepts Harris's contention that one can establish how representative government is by identifying the occupations of the elected officials. Thus he concludes that city government served the interests of businessmen. The fact that these officials had to face voters at election time and might not be free to indulge themselves is not even considered in the book. Hence, LaMonte reaches the predictable conclusion that early welfare policy was limited to private efforts because businessmen were opposed to expansive government. He fails to consider the impact of neo-populist movements in the city that manifested little concern for the plight of the poor, particularly the poor among the black population. Indeed, the average white male voter was more likely to associate welfare with handouts to blacks than were more "elite" voters.

Though the problem of reaching conclusions about constituencies by examining leaders persists, the study of welfare policy itself is important. LaMonte explains in clear language the key events in the city's movement away from reliance on private relief to grudging acceptance of the idea that government has some responsibility for citizens in need. Demand for relief, he reveals, grew substantially in the years prior to the Great Depression and then exploded after the collapse of 1929. Private agencies simply could not handle the burden of relief in the 1930s, so the state and federal governments had to step in. The indifference of Birmingham officials toward the plight of the unemployed and under-employed, particularly blacks, limited the impact of New Deal programs in the short term.

Local government funding of public welfare programs continued to lag behind that of comparable cities after World War II. Birmingham therefore became more dependent upon federal aid than were other urban areas. LaMonte argues that this policy of neglect at the local level reflected a consistent refusal to implement policies perceived to be primarily for blacks. A biracial citizens' committee was formed to address this and other problems, but because of the worsening racial climate of the 1950s it accomplished little.

The success of the civil rights movement and the advent of the Great Society brought unprecedented change to Birmingham government and social welfare policy. African Americans and moderate whites assumed leadership in the community and took advantage of the programs the federal government offered. Fed-

eral funding of social programs grew along with local funding as older notions about private responsibility for the needy faded.

LaMonte provides a through analysis of his subject. His argument that local welfare policy reflected the state of race relations in the city is well documented and well taken. He leaves little doubt that Alabama has been and remains very dependent on federal funds and continues to seek federal money. Yet, Alabamians tend to be among the most vocal of the anti-government crowd. Though he does not explore this irony, his work should be required reading for politicians and others who scream for state and local independence but continue to go to Washington for hand outs.

University of South Alabama

HENRY M. MCKIVEN, JR.

Forth to the Mighty Conflict: Alabama and World War II. By Allen Cronenberg. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1995. xii, 220 pp. Preface, photographs, map, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95.)

Allen Cronenberg's purpose in writing this volume was to provide a narrative account of the impact of World War II on the state of Alabama, and, the contributions its citizens made in producing an allied victory. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the subsequent declaration of war on the United States by the Axis powers produced quick and fundamental changes in the social and economic fabric of Alabama. As in other states, the people had to deal with such unfamiliar things as the fear of enemy saboteurs, the establishment of civilian defense boards, scrap and bond drives, and rationing of scarce commodities. The author believes Alabamians dealt with these inconveniences with forbearance.

Large tracts of cheap land, cheap labor, and mild winters were conducive to establishing military bases in southern states. Alabama became one of the major states for training aviators for the Army Air Corps. Among other sites, this training took place at Maxwell and Gunter fields at Montgomery, and the Tuskegee Army Air Field, where the famous black Ninety-ninth Pursuit Squadron was trained. Fort McClellan and Camp Rucker were large infantry training centers. To expand training in production for chemical warfare, the Huntsville Arsenal and Camp Sibert near Gadsden were established.

War plants sprang up in towns and cities in Alabama that produced everything from aluminum and steel to warships and railroad freight cars. The population increased rapidly in the towns and cities where war material was manufactured. For example, Mobile's population doubled during the war, and Huntsville's population increased from 3,500 to 17,000 between 1940-1944. This influx of workers, many of whom were poor whites and blacks from the countryside, created several problems in housing education, public health, and moral standards. In Mobile "hot beds" were rented by the hour, and classes were taught in two shifts at the new Murphy High School. Nearly 13 percent of Alabama's doctors joined the military, leaving rural Alabamians with little access to medical care. With the increase in the number of camp followers, some as young as 13 or 14, the spread of venereal diseases became both a health and a moral problem.

Opportunities for women mushroomed in Alabama during the war. By 1943 approximately a quarter of industry's labor force was female. Nearly 10 percent of shipyard workers were female, and at times their number reached as high as 40 percent to 60 percent in Huntsville and Redstone arsenals. The war also increased employment opportunities for blacks in manufacturing jobs, especially after President Roosevelt created the Fair Employment Practice Commission, which insisted that blacks and women be fairly treated in defense related industries. Over 20 percent of employees at the Huntsville arsenal were black. Despite this progress in equal employment opportunities, racial tensions remained high. Alabama shipyards and Brookley Field in Mobile were the largest employers of women in Alabama. Brookley Field was also a pioneer in the employment of workers with disabilities.

In the first seven chapters, Cronenberg has effectively chronicled the vast changes Alabama experienced during World War II. In 1941, Alabama lagged behind some other parts of the nation in developments in education, industrialization, and urbanization. Thus the transformation to wartime conditions was seemingly more traumatic for the people to cope with. But Cronenberg claims, and rightfully so, that Alabamians met the challenge head on with a resolve that was admirable by any measurement.

The remaining chapters give brief descriptions of the progress of the war in various theaters, and how soldiers and sailors from Alabama contributed to the final victory. They do not, however, significantly add to the development of the title. Despite this minor

criticism, Cronenberg has added vastly to our knowledge of Alabama's role in World War II.

University of West Florida, Emeritus

GEORGE F. PEARCE

The Fredricksburg Campaign: Decision on the Rappahannock. Edited by Gary W. Gallagher. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995, xii, 243 pp. Introduction, photographs, maps, illustrations, bibliographic essay, contributors, index. \$24.95.)

The Fredricksburg Campaign is a collection of seven essays by different scholars with the central theme of the Battle of Fredricksburg, December 13, 1862. The contributor's purposes are

... to persuade readers to reconsider some comfortable assumptions about the campaign, to think about aspects of the battle and its aftermath that have received little if any previous attention, and to place the military action in a larger social and political context. (viii)

Aims like these are certainly laudable in any work of history and are generally fulfilled in this volume.

The first two essays, by William Marvel and Alan Nolan, are the weakest of the work, largely because both men are trying to condense recent books in essays. Marvel's contribution reiterates the argument of his 1991 biography of Ambrose E. Burnside. He tries to convince the reader that Burnside was not stupid and that the Battle of Fredricksburg really was made disastrous by subordinates, such as William B. Franklin, commanding the Left Grand Division of the Army of the Potomac, and Joseph Hooker, the commander of the Center Grand Division. The essay is unconvincing and just plain dull. One should read the author's book.

The second essay suffers from the same problem as the first. Alan Nolan tries to summarize his 1991 book on Lee. He argues that Fredricksburg was Lee's best-fought battle of the years 1862-1863. (44) While more tightly argued than Marvel's contribution, the reader would once again be better off reading the author's book.

After getting off to a bad start in its first two chapters, *The Fredricksburg Campaign* then improves rapidly with George C. Rable's excellent study of the carnage resulting from the battle. This chap-

ter is followed by Carol Reardon's superb examination of the short-term enlistees from Pennsylvania, who showed indomitable courage in attacking the base of Marye's Heights, even though their casualties were horrendous.

Gary Gallagher's essay next examines the effects of the battle on Southern opinion, and though well done, really demonstrates little that is new. However, William Blair's chapter on the civilians at Fredricksburg is ground breaking in its portrayal of the plight of the citizens of that unfortunate town— a topic generally ignored by previous historians.

Finally, A. Wilson Greene traces the aftermath of the battle, again placing Burnside in a more favorable light than usual. This essay gives an excellent account of the horrors that can result when a general is determined to fight no matter what the conditions.

As with many collections, the quality of the book is uneven. Some of the essays should have been journal articles, where they would have reached a wider audience (especially those by Rable, Reardon and Blair). Others were unhelpful (such as Marvel and Nolan). The third group were useful (Gallagher and Greene).

The fundamental difficulty with this book is its lack of utility for any one but the Civil War scholar. Without prior knowledge of the Battle of Fredricksburg and the controversies surrounding it, a reader would be lost. This fact is unfortunate, because several of these essays really should receive more attention. They stand firmly in the tradition of the "new military history" with its emphasis on the fighting man, the carnage, the civilians, public opinion, strategic decision-making, and so forth.

Unfortunately, this book will generally, and rightfully, end up only in academic libraries, where its good contributions may well lay unnoticed. This is not a book that the layman will find useful.

University of South Alabama

W. ROBERT HOUSTON

When the Yankees Came: Conflict and Chaos in the Occupied South, 1861-1865. By Stephen V. Ash. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995. xi, 309 pp. Preface, photographs, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95 hardcover.)

Stephen Ash analyzed the impact of federal occupation on southern cities during the Civil War. This experience of invasion, occupation and defeat was, according to Ash, essential to the shap-

ing of the southern post-war mentality. During the initial occupation the northern policy was mild, a rosewater period. But continued southern resistance hardened the actions of the occupiers until they retaliated by becoming more repressive. This only increased the hatred of the civilians, widening the gap between the two groups.

However, Ash's conceptualization is far more complicated than his initial premise. He divided the occupied land into zones based on their proximity to Union occupation troops. This created three occupied Souths of the garrisoned towns, the no-man's-land between the towns, and the Confederate frontier. Early in his narrative he presented a schematic representation of his area of concern. Black dots showed the garrisoned towns. Between the towns was the no-man's-land. The next region was the Confederate frontier, an area between the limit of regular federal penetration and the limit of occasional federal penetration. Beyond the frontier was the Confederate interior.

At the end of his narrative Ash placed five maps of the Confederacy locating the Union field and garrison forces on December 1861, July 1862, September 1864, and March 1865. It is unfortunate for the reader that the maps were not placed with schematic representations for a complete graphic overview of Ash's subject. Taken together the schematic and the maps are quite striking, and show the spread of occupied land as the war progressed.

Then for each region he related not only the clash between the Confederates and the Yankees, but the internal struggle among southerners competing among themselves politically (unionists vs. rebels), by class (aristocrats vs. commoners), and racially (slaveowners vs. slaves). Ash built a complex conceptualization of life in the occupied South.

His narrative *modus operandi* was consistent throughout. First he made a generalization. Then he offered a string of quotations from individuals drawn from many diaries, journals, and letters to support his generalization. This procedure allowed him to focus on the generalization and not become bogged down on any specific regional history, for his quotations were drawn from many occupied areas. Generally, after making and supporting his generalization, he would modify his statement and again offer quotations to prove the modification. For example, first, he described the intense hatred of the occupied people for the Union troops, and then developed the fraternization that grew as the two peoples

got to know each other. Then he swung the pendulum in the other direction back to his original generalization. The only struggle he related that remained consistent was that of the slave's continuous desire for freedom.

Ash provided the reader with a fascinating intellectual exercise as he brought him along the path so carefully laid out. In the end, one sees the southern postwar mentality as Ash intended. Only after finishing do you realize that he never discussed the experiences of those who never lived under occupation. Surely those people, with different experiences, also contributed to this mentality? This raises the question of how influential was the mindset of those living under occupation with respect to the southern postwar mentality?

Jacksonville University, Emeritus

GEORGE E. BUKER

April '65 Confederate Covert Action in the American Civil War. By William A. Tidwell. (Kent, OH: Kent State University, 1995. xvi, 264 pp. Preface, introduction, photographs, maps, appendices, notes, bibliography, index. \$30.00.)

In 1988, William A. Tidwell, a retired brigadier general and former Central Intelligence Agency officer, co-authored *Come Retribution: the Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Lincoln*. That book documented the Confederate government's complicity in attempts to kidnap Lincoln and blow up the White House, and indirectly, in John Wilkes Booth's subsequent assassination of the president. Tidwell has expanded upon this earlier study in his new work, *April '65*, which further details the covert operations of the Confederate secret service.

The most enlightening information uncovered by Tidwell comes from records in the Library of Congress and the Chicago Historical Society relating to the disbursement by the Confederacy of gold and paper currency for secret service activities. These monies, the withdrawal of which was personally approved by Confederate President Jefferson Davis, amounted to approximately two million gold dollars. Included were funds labeled as "Necessities and Exigencies" for "'normal' secret service work" and as "Secret Service," which Tidwell argues was used for attacks directed against the Union government. (27)

The author outlines the various elements within the rebel secret service and details the covert operations they undertook. Included were the State Department Secret Service, War Department Secret Service, War Department Signal Bureau, Greenhow Group, Cavalry Scouts, and Operations in Canada. The Greenhow Group was a Washington D.C. espionage organization, named for Rose O'Neal Greenhow, a prominent member of Washington society who provided valuable information on Union military movements prior to the First Battle of Bull Run. Despite Greenhow's arrest later in 1861, her organization gathered intelligence for the Confederate government throughout the war.

Tidwell devotes a chapter to the actions of Bernard Sage, a Louisiana planter and wartime "destructionist" who advocated the conduct of "irregular warfare at sea." (92) He also documents Confederate secret service activities in Canada, which began with efforts to enhance northern anti-war sentiment, advanced to sabotage and raids, and ended in a plot to kidnap Lincoln. Most significant were the actions of George Sanders, who met with Booth in Canada in 1864, and who after the war, through a campaign of disinformation, was "largely responsible for convincing the world that the Confederacy had nothing to do with the assassination of Lincoln". (120) Tidwell concludes by examining Confederate secret service plans during the war's final months, including the proposed capture of Lincoln as well as the attempt to infiltrate explosives expert Thomas Harney into Washington to destroy the White House. Confederate cavalry leader John Mosby provided support for these covert operations.

After reading Tidwell's work, it is difficult to take issue with the author's conclusion: "While our knowledge of many of the details of the Confederate secret service organization is not complete, there can no longer be any doubt that the Confederates engaged in such activity— and that Jefferson Davis kept a measure of personal control over the operations." (195) *April '65* and his earlier *Come Retribution* represent the front rank of Lincoln assassination scholarship. While much of Tidwell's evidence is admittedly circumstantial, his conclusion that the Confederate government was heavily involved in covert actions, including those directed against Lincoln, appears convincing. His writings have certainly discredited earlier theories that Secretary of State Edwin Stanton participated in the conspiracy, and have done much add to our

knowledge of the assassination and its aftermath. The results are not comforting to southern partisans.

Florida State Archives

DAVID J. COLES

The Journals of Josiah Gorgas, 1857-1878. Edited by Sarah Woolfolk Wiggins. Foreward by Frank E. Vandiver. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1995. xxxix, 305 pp. Introduction, acknowledgments, illustrations, photographs, maps, biographical directory, bibliography, index. \$39.95.)

Josiah Gorgas (1818-1883) remains a familiar figure to students of the Civil War due to his outstanding work as head of the Confederate army's ordinance bureau. Gorgas' role in the rebel war effort has been documented by Frank E. Vandiver in a 1947 edited version of his civil war journals and later in a full biography. However it is thanks to Sarah W. Wiggins, professor emeritus at the University of Alabama that now a complete edition of Gorgas' diaries from 1857 to 1878 are available to scholars and the reading public.

Gorgas began keeping his journal some 16 years after graduating from West Point and his antebellum entries are interesting on several levels. From its pages emerges an intelligent and dedicated military officer moving from post to post and not above playing politics with superiors to get preferred assignments. Despite his northern birth Gorgas married an Alabama woman and adopted the South as his home. Politically opposed to the Republicans, Gorgas faced no painful dilemma in 1861 about which side to take in the brewing sectional conflict. Donning Confederate gray he soon assumed the duties of officer in charge of securing arms and ammunition for the new nation.

When Gorgas commenced his journal he dedicated it "to my children and [it] is devoted to their gratification and instruction." (3) Through his words he offers a fascinating look at 19th century American family life from the father's perspective, something rarely documented. The importance of Gorgas' extended southern family is also evident and shows how important such ties were to the functioning of southern society.

The bulk of the *Journals* cover the 1861-1865 period and provide an eye-witness account of the war as seen from Richmond. His military position required that he have full information on battles

and Confederate troop movements and dutifully recorded such on a regular basis. Little escaped his eye or pen. He left candid and at times acid portraits of the civilian and military leadership of the Confederacy. To him "Jefferson Davis is unfortunately no military genius." (430); Florida's Stephen R. Mallory "lacks earnestness and devotion to his duty." (139) Later he even thought Robert E. Lee "fights without much heart in the cause." (154) Interestingly Gorgas felt free to critique the performance of senior generals despite the fact that he himself never held a field command during the entire war. The third section of the *Journals* is perhaps the most touching and personal. Gorgas entered Reconstruction with career gone, finances going, and his beloved family to support. He opted to try operating an iron foundry in his adopted state of Alabama. Unfortunately the depressed post-war southern economy made a poor climate for new business ventures and in the end the works failed. Some of the most poignant entries Gorgas made concern his depression over economic setbacks and fears of leaving his wife and children destitute. Even in the midst of such troubles Gorgas did remain a keen observer of the social revolution, taking positions with the University of the South and the University of Alabama. In such academic settings the old soldier would finally find economic security and comfort until his death in 1883.

The editing of Josiah's Gorgas' journals is full and done with a deft hand which lets the man speak for himself. A major contribution is the replacement of many missing passages defaced over the years, thus giving us the first intact version of these diaries.

The Journals of Josiah Gorgas is significant for the study of the 19th century South and the Civil War. It gives us a window on the life of a unique individual and his family in both peace and war. Scholars of these periods can ill-afford not to become familiar with them.

Florida Atlantic University

ROBERT A. TAYLOR

A Jewish Colonel in the Civil War: Marcus M. Spiegel of the Ohio Volunteers. Edited by Jean Powers and Frank L. Byrne. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1995. xii, 353 pp. Preface, acknowledgments, photographs, maps, abbreviations, bibliographic essay, index. \$12.95.)

Collections of Civil War letters and diaries have become commonplace, telling the stories of hundreds of soldiers on nearly ev-

ery front. But the letters of Marcus M. Spiegel are different from most and that is what makes them special. Spiegel writes little of the war, filling his letters instead with the day-to-day concerns of his missing wife and children, worries about money, the day-to-day drudgery of camp life, and the hopes for the future.

And although Spiegel was an obscure, largely unsuccessful merchant in small-town Ohio before the war, it is clear that had he have survived the war, he was destined to become one of the leading merchants in the country.

More than a century after his death, his great-great-granddaughter assembled the letters he wrote to his family and some of his military orders into a book. The book was published in the 1980s and is now available for the first time in paperback.

Spiegel's journey from German immigrant to marginal merchant to second lieutenant to colonel showed the opportunities offered immigrants. But his life appeared to be on a course for even further greatness before he was killed in an obscure skirmish in 1864. Marcus Spiegel and his brother, Joseph, were aboard the Union steamer *City Belle* when they were attacked by Confederates. Marcus was mortally wounded and his brother slightly wounded. At the time, they were making post-war plans to start a drygoods business in Chicago. Joseph carried on alone, creating the Spiegel Catalog Company. Another relative founded the men's clothing manufacturer, Hart, Schaffner, and Marx.

But Marcus Spiegel was the forgotten member of his family. His attempts to establish a retail business before the war were at best mixed and it appears he joined the Union army as much for a paycheck as patriotic fervor.

The Spiegel diaries are about a man who desperately missed his family, who had critical views of the Union leadership, held an evolving view of slavery, and who was always planning his next promotion. Spiegel is best at describing camp life in all of its dreariness, the routines of short, violent battles amid long periods of waiting, marching, and drilling.

He bemoans the lack of correspondence with his wife back in Ohio, writing in a typical letter, ". . . our Regiment received 1100 letters and but one from you to me and that was written on half sheet, and half of that only from you. Although it was short and sweet, yet I am selfish; I want longer ones . . ." And he constantly writes about money, promising to send more and worrying about his family's financial situation.

One of the most interesting parts of the book concerns his description of his brother Joseph's activities. Joseph Spiegel was selected as the regimental sutler, a kind of roving commissary who accompanied the soldiers in the field and sold them goods. It is clear that Marcus played a major role in brother Joseph's getting the position. At times, officers in the unit helped Joseph sell his wares.

And although Abraham Lincoln may have lost faith in General George McClellan, Spiegel never wavered, writing that, "nobody but McClellan can lead that Army and every other General will get whipped."

Marcus Spiegel was indifferent to the plight of the slaves at the beginning of the war, but his letters show that as he saw their treatment firsthand, his views changed and he gradually came to support emancipation. The book's title contains the phrase "A Jewish Colonel," and although anti-Semitism was a fact of life in 19th century America, the book has little to do with that or with religion.

The book benefits by an excellent editing, an index, and detailed notes. It is fortunate that the University of Nebraska Press has reissued this volume.

Orlando Sentinel

JAMES C. CLARK

Lee's Adjutant: The Wartime Letters of Colonel Walter Herron Taylor, 1862-1865. Edited by R. Lockwood Tower. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1995. 343 pp. Preface, illustrations, maps, photographs, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95.)

Walter Herron Taylor served as Robert E. Lee's aide-de-camp and then as his assistant adjutant general for the duration of the Civil War. A man in his early twenties, Taylor possessed youthful energy, intelligence, dedication, and a facile pen. He performed his duties to Lee's satisfaction, and came to be regarded by the general as virtually a member of the family. Taylor was, as well, a young man deeply in love with his childhood sweetheart and future wife, Elizabeth Selden "Bettie" Saunders to whom he wrote over 100 often lengthy wartime letters which have survived and are presented here with superb editing and commentary by R. Lockwood Tower.

Biographers of Robert E. Lee from Douglas Southall Freeman to, most recently, Emory Thomas, have used various Taylor materi-

als. Indeed, Freeman characterized the Taylor letters as "the most important source of collateral manuscript" information bearing on Lee's military career. Not before 1964, however, was the entire collection available for study, and then only at the Norfolk Public Library in Norfolk, Virginia. The present volume will be welcomed by all with interest in Civil War, Lee, and the Army of northern Virginia.

The letters reflect much about their youthful author and offer insight into various wartime circumstances. Readers will certainly be drawn to Taylor's often changing view of Lee, and a mixed picture emerges. Lee demanded much of Taylor and apparently gave sparse praise. "I assure you at times I can hardly stand up under the pressure of work," he complained to Bettie Saunders. "I never worked so hard to please anyone, and with so little effect as with General Lee. He is so unappreciative." Taylor suggested that this opinion was shared by other staff members. "The truth is Genl. Lee doesn't make *our time pleasant here* & when promotion is offered his staff elsewhere, it is not to be wondered at if they accept the offer." Taylor dismissed his own chances of promotion, and blamed Lee "who will not push us up tho everybody else does." Similar criticisms of the man Taylor served are scattered through his letters. Praise was often balanced with negative judgements. "My chief is first rate in his sphere— that of a commanding general. He has . . . a head capable of planning a campaign and the ability to arrange for a battle, but he is not quick enough. . . . He is too undecided, takes too long to form his conclusions."

At times Taylor's letters to Bettie Saunders reflected admiration for Lee, but again on occasions they expressed condescension or disrespect. Using quotation marks to suggest at least irony, if not sarcasm, he called Lee "the Tycoon," "the greatest man of the day," and the "Greatest and best (?) man living." Taylor's remarks and judgments elsewhere often lacked maturity. The loss of Vicksburg he found inconsequential: "Our people make a sad mistake when they attempt to hold such isolated points . . ." He characterized Pickett's charge as "the handsomest of the war," and opined that the Yankees falsely claimed a victory at Gettysburg "only . . . after they discovered our departure" from the field. Many of his insights concerning camp life, military politics, and domestic conditions in the South, however, are insightful, informative, and judicious.

A charming theme in the letters is Taylor's developing love with Bettie Saunders. One senses a microcosmic view of love and courtship in the culture of the Old South. With Lee's permission,

Taylor wed his true love in a midnight ceremony in Richmond barely hours before that city fell to Grant's troops. Following the wedding, Taylor immediately returned to his military duties.

Virtually every reference to people or events in Taylor's letters receives thorough explanation in editor Tower's comprehensive notes. His scholarship and breadth of knowledge are evident throughout the volume.

Gordon College

HUTCH JOHNSON

Puerto Real: The Archaeology of a Sixteenth-century Spanish Town in Hispaniola. Edited by Kathleen Deagan. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1995. xxxvi, 533 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, figures, tables, photographs, appendices, glossary, references, index. \$75.00.)

This volume presents the synthesized results of a seven-year, cross disciplinary study of 16th century Spanish colonial settlement of Puerto Real on the island of Hispaniola. Puerto Real was one of the first Spanish settlements in the New World, and it can tell us much about the processes of European conquest and colonization. In her introduction, Kathleen Deagan states that the goal of the volume is to present an archaeologically grounded social history and historical ethnography of the town and people of Puerto Real. This is a very ambitious goal; the degree to which the book succeeds is a testimony to the efforts of all the contributors.

The volume is divided into five parts containing 13 chapters. The first part provides the background for the investigations at Puerto Real. The first chapter is William Hodge's fascinating account of his discovery of the site. Next, Kathleen Deagan and Elizabeth Reitz provide baseline information on the natural and cultural settings of the town and Hodges and Eugene Lyon present a summary of the historic documentary record. The second part focuses on the spatial layout and organization of the community. First, Maurice Williams describes the overall town patterning revealed by surveys of the site. In the next two chapters, Raymond Willis and Rochelle Marrinan examine the central, public sector. The third part addresses domestic and commercial aspects. In it, Bonnie McEwan, examines the daily life of the residents of two Spanish households, and Deagan and Reitz look at a commercial/residential site. The fourth part contains more general syntheses of the archaeological data. Reitz and McEwan examine diets and the use of

animals, and Greg Smith looks at evidence relating to Indian and African slave populations at Puerto Real. In the final part, Hodges and Jennifer Hamilton present information on the settlement of Bayahá, occupied by the residents of Puerto Real after the forced abandonment of the town in 1578. In the concluding chapter, Kathleen Deagan looks at the overall results of the project and presents summaries of community life and the impact of the Puerto Real research for the study of early European adaptations to life in the New World.

The archaeological investigations at Puerto Real were quite ambitious. The goals of the project were lofty, and the scale of the field investigations was large. The project generated vast quantities of data on the 16th-century occupation of Puerto Real. However, while there are primary data presented here, *Puerto Real's* strength is as a synthesis of what we have learned about this settlement and about 16th-century Spanish presence in the Caribbean.

While I do not feel that they succeeded completely in constructing a historical ethnography of 16th-century Puerto Real, I can say that this was a very successful study, worthy of praise and emulation. While there is much we still do not know about Puerto Real and its inhabitants, we have learned a lot.

For researchers (both historians and archaeologists) interested in the Spanish exploration and colonization of the Caribbean, *Puerto Real* should be required reading. For those interested in the Spanish colonization around the Caribbean (including Florida), it is also worth the investment. Unfortunately, the cost lessens its appeal as a casual read for others who might find it interesting or useful. The cost also makes it difficult to use in the classroom.

Despite my concern about the cost of the volume (which I understand stems directly from its size), I think that *Puerto Real* is a fascinating and important archaeological study. Readers will not be disappointed.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

JOHN F. SCARRY

Latin American Underdevelopment: A History of Perspectives in the United States, 1870-1965. By James William Park. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1995. 274 pp. Acknowledgments, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$37.50 hardcover.)

James W. Park has written a well-researched and solid survey of Latin America's underdevelopment as perceived by its northern

neighbor. It is a revealing study of the struggle of United States policy-makers and political experts to explain the evident limits of economic growth "below the border." Appropriately, Park's work looks at Latin America during the great century of commercial and industrial development in the United States. The obvious contrast of economic development between the two cultures became the basis for the continuing attempt in the United States to understand the reasons for such differences as well as to find ways to obviate them.

An intriguing element in the book is the inevitable exposure of Latin American attitudes and expectations in the United States. It is interesting to learn how changing values and international roles in this country have affected American attitudes and foreign aid to Latin America. It is similarly interesting to see how Latin America has adapted to such changes in the United States.

Park draws an unflattering "paternal" picture of the United States, in the past hundred years, as it blundered about trying to relate to Latin America. In this dysfunctional inter-colonial family, the United States inconsistently and poorly parented its unruly Latin American children. As a result, cruel dictatorships and subsidized extant elites have thrived for decades with United States support. Although American aid has helped in the economic industrial development of Latin America, all too often only a small minority has benefitted from such assistance.

As an example of the effects of American assistance in Latin America, Park has provided a careful analysis of the Alliance for Progress. Despite optimism, the Alliance ultimately exemplified the difficulties of trying to design and export an American-made model of progress to Latin America. The results of the sixties assistance program still affect today's continuing debate on the role of the United States in Latin America.

A long standing problem in the United States' perception of Latin America is a continuing tendency to disparage the peoples and cultures of the countries in Middle and South America. Park thinks it is a deeply ingrained characteristic of our perspective, unlikely to change in the future. Our beliefs about Latin America, he argues convincingly, emerged from "cherished beliefs stubbornly held, generation after generation."

Park has used a wide variety of primary and secondary sources to support his detailed study. Since "perception" is the subject of his look at Latin American underdevelopment, his primary sources include articles, editorials and book reviews from popular as well as academic journals and magazines. He employs *Business Week* and

Colliers along with *The American* and the *Journal of Inter-American Studies*. His bibliography also indicates research in Congressional records, Presidential papers, and Department of State materials. It suggests an exhaustive effort to find those sources that reveal the American view of Latin American underdevelopment.

Museum of Charlotte County

ROBERT L. GOLD

Turning Right in the Sixties: The Conservative Capture of the GOP. By Mary C. Brennan. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995. 210 pp. Introduction, notes, bibliography, index. \$29.95 hardcover.)

Now that the conservatives have “captured” not merely the GOP but the Congress and much of the country, it may be time to figure out where they came from. Mary C. Brennan points to the most revered and reviled of decades, the 1960s.

To many readers this will come as something of a surprise, since they associate the sixties with freedom riders, peace marchers, and others not likely to vote for Ronald Reagan. Brennan shows, however, that not all the excitement was on the left. Conservative intellectuals, grassroots groups, and politicians were agitating and organizing effectively throughout the period. Particularly noteworthy was the energizing played by such groups as Young Americans for Freedom and the Intercollegiate Society of Individualists. The left had no monopoly on idealistic, enthusiastic, and sometimes extremist youth, nor was every young rebel a potential recruit for Students for a Democratic Society.

Brennan plots the course of conservatism as a fairly steady rise. The 1950s are the years in the wilderness: conservatives are ignored and shunted aside by the liberal Eastern establishment of the Republican Party but lay the foundation for their future success by creating such institutions as the *National Review* and the John Birch Society. They fail to seize the GOP’s presidential nomination in 1960 but obtain it for Barry Goldwater in 1964. Although Goldwater loses badly, conservatives learn from defeat, broaden their base, organize and campaign more effectively, take over the party, and win the presidency in 1968. Although Nixon is not consistently conservative, the movement has matured so completely that it is “only a matter of time” until a true conservative becomes president. This

is a neat success story, from rags to riches, from last to first. But was it really that simple?

It seems to me that the course of Republican conservatism during these years was less like an escalator and more like a roller coaster. Contrary to what Brennan says, the 1950s were no golden age for liberal Republicans: they had to share the party with conservatives and tolerate being led by President Dwight Eisenhower, who might justly be labeled a moderate or conservative but not a liberal. The presidential nomination of Richard Nixon in 1960 marked a continuation of the power-sharing by the two wings of the party. Goldwater's nomination in 1964 signaled a sharp rise in the fortunes of the Republican conservative, but his failure in the election signaled an equally sharp fall. The nomination and election of Nixon in 1968 indicated that the roller coaster had gotten back to where it started, with a president who was liberal in some ways, conservative in more, but never too far from the center. Brennan herself acknowledges that the moderates might have "regained" control of the 1970s had it not been for the disruption caused by the Watergate scandals. The true triumph of the conservative-roller coaster turning into rocket ship- would not come until the 1980s with Reagan or the 1990s with Newt Gingrich. I am not convinced that the 1960s were responsible for that.

Still, Brennan performs a valuable service by retrieving from historical oblivion the activities of conservatives in a decade commonly thought to be merely liberal or radical. What she shows is not the victory of conservatism but the existence of conservatism- a vigorous and spirited existence. It was not only liberals who had ridiculed Eisenhower's golfing but also the editors of the right-wing journal *Human Events*, who had proclaimed that the country needed more strenuous leadership. What seems most remarkable about the sixties, then, is neither liberalism nor conservatism but activism, an activism that flared at both ends of the political spectrum. It was a decade of SDS and YAP, Berkeley and Ole Miss, John Kennedy and Barry Goldwater, the anti-war movement and the Vietnam war. It was not so much a heyday of liberalism as a heyday of heydays, a time when left and right were both on the move.

Brennan studies the history of the Republican party, with an emphasis on struggles for the presidency. She does a fine job of analyzing the top leaders, the issues, the strategies, the elections. What is missing from all this- or, at least, what I miss- are the common people. "Conservatives' most important achievement during

the 1960s," the book says, "was the organization of a grassroots constituency." Yet there is no close examination of those grassroots. Who were these people? Why did they join the movement? What did they do? What did they feel? Examples, anecdotes, of specific individuals could give the reader a vivid sense of what "turning right in the Sixties" really meant for the person, the party, and the country. But perhaps that is a different book. For now, let us be grateful for this interesting and useful one.

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JAMES A. HUIYA

BOOK NOTES

Edited by James J. Horgan and Lewis N. Wynne, *Florida Decades: A Sesquicentennial History, 1845-1995* has just been published by the St. Leo College Press. Organized by decades, its 15 chapters each focus on a specific theme, event, or individual in an effort to capture the character and spirit of the time. In the first chapter, William M. Goza sets a high standard as he relates the process by which the territory of Florida evolved from Andrew Jackson's early acts as provisional governor, through the location of the capitol at Tallahassee, the St. Joseph's constitutional convention, and the final resolution of the disagreements at both territorial and national levels before ultimate admission in 1845.

James J. Horgan addresses the Third Seminole War as representative of the 1850s while Mary Ann Cleveland relates the role of women during the traumatic 1860s. Settlers of the Indian River region are the topic of Carolyn A. Washbon in her chapter on the 1870s. The Chataqua movement swept through Florida in the 1880s. Patti Bartlett features women on the Florida frontier in the 1890s. Irvin D. Solomon's topic for the first decade of the 20th century is "Immigrant Cigar-Makers." Lewis N. Wynne's chapter addresses the rise, decline, and survival of Cedar Key as Florida's growing population spread southward in the peninsula in the early 20th century.

For her chapter on the 1920s Maxine D. Jones selected "The Rosewood Incident" as representative of that uproarious decade. Gordon Patterson's chapter is about "Depression Florida" while Joseph A. Cernik follows with "John "Buck" O'Neil and Black Baseball in Florida" as representative of the 1940s. The chapters on the four decades since 1950 are James A. Schnur, "LeRoy Collins and Charley Johns;" Gene H. David, "NASA and the Space Race;" Jeffrey A. Drobney, "The Impact of Walt Disney's World;" and Jennifer Marx, "Smuggling on the Florida Coast."

The chapters are introduced by James J. Horgan and Lewis N. Wynne furnishes an epilogue. *Florida Decades* is available from St. Leo College Press, P.O. Box 2304, St. Leo, FL 33574. The price is \$19.95 plus \$2.00 for handling.

The Pineapple Press has just released *Historic Homes of Florida* by Laura Stewart and Susanne Hupp. It is a detailed tour of more than 70 of the state's residences dating from the days of Spanish occupation through the 1940s. All are open to the public, either as house museums or as restaurants or bed-and-breakfast establishments. The authors have provided information about hours of operation and contact persons. To make it useful for readers planning trips of varying lengths, the book is organized by region. In addition to details about architecture and furnishings, the authors have included stories about the human side of various houses. Readers may find it interesting that hobos camped out on the Italian floors of the elegant Banyan house in Venice after the land boom collapsed in the 1920s. "The House That Rhymes" got its nickname from the poems former owner Louella Knott wrote of its furnishings. Her verses are tied with ribbons to the objects they address.

In addition to the elegant dwellings Stewart and Hupp have also included the houses of cigar-workers in Ybor City and Gilbert's Bar House of Refuge near Stuart where shipwrecked sailors found refuge. Homes of famous individuals such as Marjorie Kinnan Rawling's house at Cross Creek, Thomas Edison's place at Fort Myers, and Harry S. Truman's "Little White House" in Key West are also included. The book is available in bookstores or may be ordered from Pineapple Press, Inc., at 1-800-PINEAPL. The price is \$14.95.

Compiled by Morton D. Winsburg of the department of geography at Florida State University, *Florida's History Through Its Places: Properties in the National Register of Historical Places* was published by the Florida Department of State. With a brief historical introduction, the book describes the properties and sites which had been nominated for the National Register of Historic Places as of November 15, 1994. Some of them have been on the register for more than 20 years. Properties are first grouped alphabetically by place within the counties. Information includes the address and year the major structure or structures on the property were built, or in the case of sites and districts, their periods of importance. For archaeological sites the dates are often rough approximations. For buildings, descriptions include architectural styles and, if known, the architects. Where appropriate a statement of the historical and/or architectural significance is included. Most of the buildings and sites are accompanied by photographs or illustrations. *Florida His-*

tory Through Its Places is available from the Institute of Science and Public Affairs, 361 Bellamy Building, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida 32306-4016. The price is \$10.00.

“Frankly My Dear . . . ” *Gone With the Wind Memorabilia* has just been published by the Mercer University Press. Compiled by Herb Bridges, whose collection of *Gone with the Wind* items is believed to be the largest in the world, the handsome book includes more than 650 photographs of items from Bridges’ collection. These range from first edition film scripts, and include theater tickets, jigsaw puzzles, recordings, and souvenir rulers. In both book and film forms, *Gone with the Wind* generated an enormous number of material objects which were used in production and promotion. The items photographed for this book are representative of that material. While Herb Bridges has not acquired everything associated with the famous story, it has not been for lack of trying.

Those who share Bridges’ interest in *Gone with the Wind* memorabilia will find this book fascinating. It is available from bookstores and from the Mercer University Press, 6316 Peake Road, Macon, Georgia, 31210-3960. The price is \$34.95.

Crystal River: A Ceremonial Mound on the Florida Gulf Coast by Brent R. Weisman, is the latest publication in the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research’s *Florida Archaeology* series. The Crystal River mound complex is probably the most famous site in Florida. The earliest components of the site date to about 1000 B.C. while some later ceremonial mounds and the village midden areas reflect continuing occupation until just a few years before the arrival of Europeans. The site is still not thoroughly excavated, but limited work has been carried out the last 90 years. Weisman’s report summarizes the results of this work and discusses what is known about the complex. He also addresses some of the intriguing but not so well-substantiated aspects of the Crystal River site. All those interested in North American prehistory will find this book useful. For further information contact the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research, Division of Historical Resources, R. A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL 32300-0250.