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Buffalo Nation: American Indian Efforts to Restore the Bison

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hers is a successful strategy, as the 16 essays in the book, each a nicely realized set piece of its own, make vivid the texture of life for one family in place.

Given the proliferation of books on the Mississippi River, it is fair to ask why another is needed. Fischer's essays succeed most when they stick most closely to lived and felt experience, painting verbal portraits of life in riverside marinas, small bars, and floodplain communities. In those moments, readers familiar with such literary and historical gems as John Madson's *Up on the River*, Mark Neuzil's *Views on the Mississippi*, and Jonathan Raban's *Old Glory* will find an important complementary voice: that of a mother, wife, professional writer, and avocational boater and river rat at the turn of the twenty-first century. The Mississippi River is a grand and powerful subject, but Katherine Fischer reminds us that much of its power comes on ordinary summer Sundays, on spring mornings, and at other still, quiet moments that bond a human life to the landscapes that shape it.

Buffalo Nation: American Indian Efforts to Restore the Bison, by Ken Zontek. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2007. xvi, 250 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, appendix, bibliography, index. \$19.95 paper.

Reviewer Gregory J. Dehler is an independent scholar in Denver, Colorado. He wrote his dissertation (Lehigh University, 2002) on William Temple Hornaday and wildlife protection.

The traditional narrative of the buffalo entirely excludes American Indians from both the slaughter and the preservation of the animal. Within the past ten years, historians such as Dan Flores and Andrew Isenberg have been writing American Indians back into the story of the animal's precipitous decline. In *Buffalo Nation*, Ken Zontek sets the record straight by restoring Indians to the crucial role they played in saving the buffalo from the abyss of extinction. Zontek covers the efforts of the nineteenth-century Indians whose private herds are the ancestors of nearly all buffalo today, as a growing number of tribes manage buffalo preserves on their own reservations. As most of the book covers the years since 1973, Zontek relies heavily on interviews he conducted with leading figures in the InterTribal Bison Cooperative.

Buffalo Nation makes several important contributions. First, it restores American Indians to the story of bison preservation, a part of the story that has long needed telling. Second, Zontek stresses the role that Indian women have played in the bison preservation movement. Third, he shows that the cultural relationship between Indians and the buffalo remains a constant and is the impetus behind bison preservation

in the twenty-first century. Finally, Zontek compares Indian buffalo preservation efforts in the United States and Canada, concluding that there have been some important similarities and differences north and south of the 49th Parallel.

The University of Iowa Guide to Campus Architecture, by John Beldon Scott and Rodney P. Lehnertz, with the assistance of Caroline Casey. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2006. xxvii, 262 pages. Illustrations, maps, glossaries, index. \$19.95 paper.

Reviewer Loren N. Horton is retired Senior Historian, State Historical Society of Iowa. He has done extensive research and writing about Iowa's architectural history.

This guide to the University of Iowa's campus architecture is thorough, including both past and current uses of buildings. The guide is organized by geographical zones, with each section accompanied by helpful maps. A section of colored photographs is especially attractive. Appendixes at the end of the book include an alphabetical list of buildings, an alphabetical list of architects, and a chronology of completion dates of buildings. There is also a glossary of architectural terms and a list of works of art housed within the buildings.

The book required diligent research to determine completion dates for buildings and attributed architects. The appendixes are particularly useful. Architectural historians describe given buildings in different ways. In this book, buildings are described clearly, if not always the way others might have done it. For instance, some might doubt that the Boyd Law Building is convincingly reminiscent of grain silos (144). And the description of the Newton Road Parking Ramp is laudatory, but punctuated with jargon and therefore difficult for average readers. The authors have suggested useful parallels between the Classical, Renaissance, Gothic, and Romanesque influences on campus structures, comparing the east and west campuses.

Anyone interested in the University of Iowa, or in architecture, will find this a fine contribution. It should be made available to all prospective students and faculty.