

Public Abstract

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Graduation Term:SP 2015

Department:History

Degree:PhD

Title:Agriculture During the Reagan Years

The Farm Crisis of the 1980s occurred during the Reagan Presidency. To date virtually nothing has been written concerning the approach taken by the Reagan administration to combat the crisis. To fill that gap, this study makes extensive use of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library to provide insight into the conflict between the administration and Congress over the method to ameliorate the economic crisis in agriculture. The study concludes that while the administration tried to extract the government from the agricultural economy, that goal was impossible to reach.