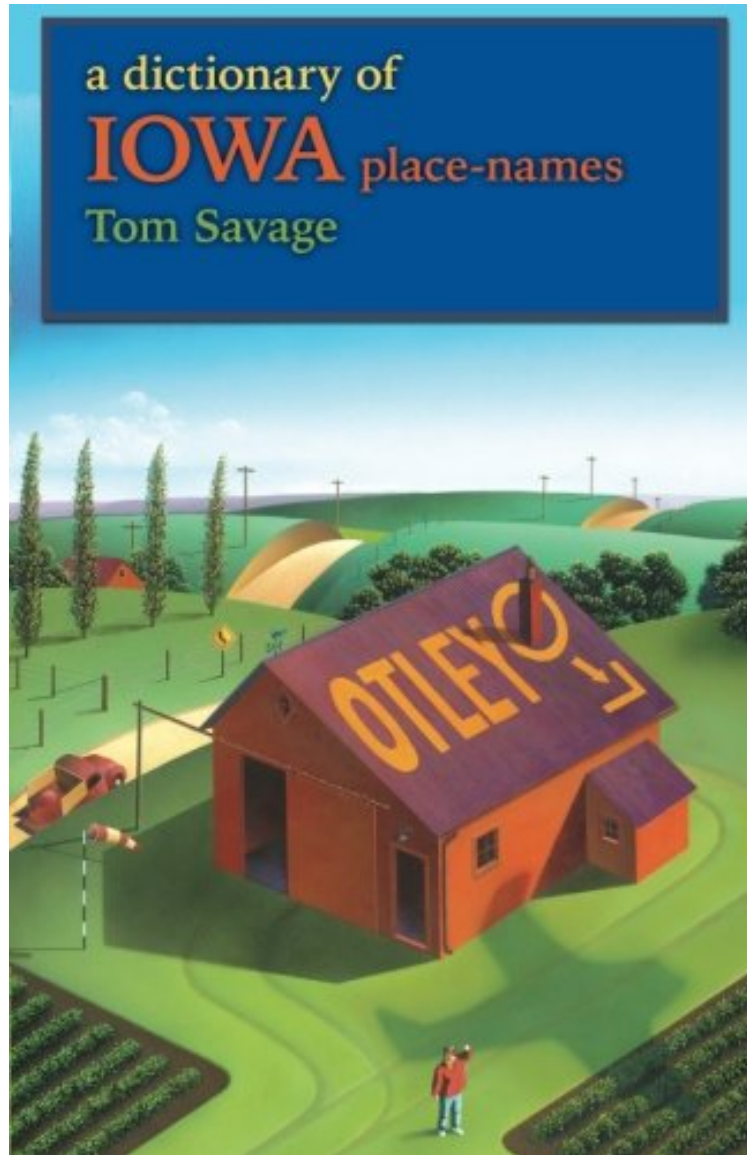


[E-BOOK] A Dictionary of Iowa Place-Names (Bur Oak Guide)

A Dictionary of Iowa Place-Names (Bur Oak Guide)

Tom Savage

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Tom Savage : A Dictionary of Iowa Place-Names (Bur Oak Guide) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Dictionary of Iowa Place-Names (Bur Oak Guide):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy mary lukesA helpful guide to all Iowa towns4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A work of exhaustive scholarshipBy Midwest Book ReviewCompiled and written by Iowa historian Tom Savage, "A Dictionary Of Iowa Place Names" is organized by counties and towns. Of special note is the extended section of place names associated with former Iowan counties, towns and post offices.

Presented alphabetically, each place name is provided with the date the county or town was established along with a numerical cross-reference to the source for the information. Each entree is a succinct summary of the origin, derivation, or definition of the name. The section of identified sources is extensive and comprehensive. Offering a wealth of trivia information with respect to the history of Iowan communities (Dubuque is the oldest town having its origins as a mining camp in the 1780s and incorporating in 1841), A work of exhaustive scholarship which could well serve as a template for similar place name directories for other states, "A Dictionary Of Iowa Place Names" is a very highly recommended addition to academic library American History and Iowa History reference collections.

Lourdes and Churchtown, Woden and Clio, Emerson and Sigourney, Tripoli and Waterloo, Prairie City and Prairieburg, Tama and Swedesburg, What Cheer and Coin. Iowas place-names reflect the religions, myths, cultures, families, heroes, whimsies, and misspellings of the Hawkeye States inhabitants. Tom Savage spent four years corresponding with librarians, city and county officials, and local historians, reading newspaper archives, and exploring local websites in an effort to find out why these communities received their particular names, when they were established, and when they were incorporated. Savage includes information on the place-names of all 1,188 incorporated and unincorporated communities in Iowa that meet at least two of the following qualifications: twenty-five or more residents; a retail business; an annual celebration or festival; a school; church, or cemetery; a building on the National Register of Historic Places; a zip-coded post office; or an association with a public recreation site. If a towns name has changed over the years, he provides information about each name; if a names provenance is unclear, he provides possible explanations. He also includes information about the states name and about each of its ninety-nine counties as well as a list of ghost towns. The entries range from the counties of Adair to Wright and from the towns of Abingdon to Zwingle; from Iowas oldest town, Dubuque, starting as a mining camp in the 1780s and incorporated in 1841, to its newest, Maharishi Vedic City, incorporated in 2001. The imaginations and experiences of its citizens played a role in the naming of Iowas communities, as did the hopes of the huge influx of immigrants who settled the state in the 1800s. Tom Savages dictionary of place-names provides an appealing genealogical and historical background to todays map of Iowa. It is one of the beauties of Iowa that travel across the state brings a person into contact with so many wonderful names, some of which a traveler may understand immediately, but others may require a bit of investigation. Like the poet Stephen Vincent Bent, we have fallen in love with American names. They are part of our soul, be they family names, town names, or artifact names. We identify with them and are identified with them, and we cannot live without them. This book will help us learn more about them and integrate them into our beings. from the foreword by Loren N. Horton Primghar, OBrien County. Primghar was established by W. C. Green and James Roberts on November 8, 1872. The name of the town comes from the initials of the eight men who were instrumental in developing it. A short poem memorializes the men and their names: Pumphrey, the treasurer, drives the first nail; Roberts, the donor, is quick on his trail; Inman dips slyly his first letter in; McCormack adds M, which makes the full Prim; Green, thinking of groceries, gives them the G; Hayes drops them an H, without asking a fee; Albright, the joker, with his jokes all at par; Rerick brings up the rear and crowns all Primghar. Primghar was incorporated on February 15, 1888.

About the Author Native Iowan Tom Savage was born in Mt. Pleasant in 1945. He received his BS in psychology and his MA in college student personnel from the University of Iowa. He was a counselor for Muscatine Community College from 1978 until retirement in 2004; currently he is co-owner of Muscatine Books and More in Muscatine, Iowa. Loren Horton recently retired as senior historian after twenty-four years of working for the State Historical Society of Iowa; he continues to research, teach, and write in the area of nineteenth-century social history.