This list is an impressionistic, subjective selection of standard works in Iowa history. It has evolved as a resource for new staff members of the State Historical Society of Iowa. We've picked those selections we believe to be seminal works in various areas in state history, recognizing that others could also be included. We've assigned categories, also recognizing that many articles appear on this list largely because they cross boundaries and make connections among several fields of inquiry.

This is a growing, changing list. If you have suggestions for additions or deletions, please let us know.

**GENERAL**


Schwieder, Dorothy. "Iowa: The Middle Land." In *Heartland: Comparative Histories of the Midwestern States*. (Bloomington, Ind., 1988). Summarizes in one chapter the key themes to Iowa's past. If you read only one general work, read this one.


**SUBJECT HISTORIES**

**State and local history:**


**Agriculture:**


**Town building:**

Atherton, Lewis. *Main Street on the Middle Border*. (1954; reprint; Bloomington, Ind., 1984).


**Modernization:**


**Indians:**


Green, Michael. ""We Dance in Opposite Directions": Mesquakie (Fox) Separatism from the Sac and Fox Tribe." *Ethnohistory* 30 (1983): 129-40.


**Women:**


**Politics:**


Radical tradition:

African Americans: