



WISCONSIN

LAND OF CHANGE

An Illustrated History

ABOUT THE BOOK

Wisconsin is a glacial land of beauty with diverse heritage and a history of innovation in government, education, and conservation. The story of Wisconsin is a story of people who were—and still are—willing to take on new ideas, while preserving Wisconsin's environment.

The first pathways into Wisconsin were Indian trails that followed Ice Age woolly mastodons and much later, buffalo. Indian nations were the first lead miners and the first to tend harvests of wild rice, cranberry, and maple sugar. Early French explorers remarked on Wisconsin's natural beauty as they established trade with local Indian tribes, and the state's waterways led to the European discovery of the Mississippi River.

As the American nation expanded, Wisconsin reflected its Northwest Territory ethic of manifest destiny. Wisconsin's population included 100,000 New Yorkers by 1840, and 100,000 German immigrants by 1850. New settlers changed a buffalo-grazing landscape into pioneer wheat fields. Paul Bunyan moved into Wisconsin's great pine forests and stayed a while.

It wasn't long before the area sounded of cowbells and the ringing of steel. Farmers turned Wisconsin into America's science-based Dairyland, while manufacturers made farm equipment and created the paper industry. The Wisconsin Idea extended the borders of its land-grant university throughout the state. Wisconsin's progressivism led the nation into a more humane twentieth century.

Today tourism completes Wisconsin's "Big Three," along with agriculture and manufacturing. American Indians are creating stronger communities, while Wisconsin's cities are adapting to the changing marketplaces of new technology. Traditional Wisconsin values of education and exploration continue to infuse the state's economy as it moves further into the twenty-first century.

This is the definitive story of Wisconsin's unique and interesting history. The Wisconsin story is one of people: the Indians, explorers, and missionaries who first settled the area; the dairymen and brewers who, in the mid-nineteenth century, created Wisconsin's largest and most enduring industries; and the progressive politicians and modern pioneers who shape and guide the modern state today.

This lively narrative, researched and written by Shiela Reaves, captures the spirit of Wisconsin as never before. Enhanced by more than 450 photographs, the book is sure to be a treasured addition to any library.

A special chapter, "Chronicles of Leadership," highlights the histories of the businesses and institutions that reflect the economic vitality and diversity of Wisconsin and an illustrated chronology of significant events enhances the main text and puts it all in perspective.

Wisconsin, Land of Change: An Illustrated History contains a fascinating look at the evolution of a frontier into a dynamic and vibrant modern state. The book will be a continuing source of unique, interesting, and informative reading to be treasured and turned to again and again.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Shiela Reaves is an associate professor in the department of life sciences communication at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has worked in the fields of writing, photography, and editing—particularly in the area of connecting visual journalism with verbal journalism. She was the first woman photojournalist in Wisconsin to work for a daily newspaper, *The Capital Times* of Madison.

Among her many works, she has written about Mayan ruins in Central America for the *Washington Post*, and a historical study of the magazine muckrakers for *Journalism Quarterly*. Her current research on the ethics of new technology and photojournalism has appeared in the *Journal of Mass Media Ethics*, *Newspaper Research Journal*, *Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly* and *Visual Communication Quarterly*.

Reaves has an outreach service with the Native American Journalism Association and is one of the founders of Project Phoenix, a week-long intensive journalism camp for students in grades 9–12. Through this program students have the opportunity to learn basic journalism reporting and photojournalism skills, and work together to produce their own newspaper, *Rising Voices*.