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**CELEBRATE DES MOINES AND POLK COUNTY'S RICH HERITAGE  
IN AN IRRESISTABLE HISTORICAL TRIBUTE**

**DES MOINES, OCTOBER 2003** — A remarkable publication that is long overdue! *Des Moines and Polk County: Flag On The Prairie* is an enticing look at how an open prairie developed into a mecca for enterprise. Within its vivid pages thrive a precise, yet lively historical account written by well-known historians Barbara Beving Long Henning and Patrice K. Beam.

Readers are captivated with this spirited portrait of Des Moines and Polk County history as they take an intimate journey through the pages of *Des Moines and Polk County* and discover:

- The fertile and productive prairies, waterpower, excellent railroads and roadways pioneers who clamored into Polk County to settle.
- How the fierce commitment to home, family, church, school and betterment; continuity are the threads that weave a portrait of this place.
- The political struggle over boundaries and the establishment of the county seat.
- The historical figures that make Des Moines what it is today—General Marcellus M. Crocker, Annie Savery, James Long and more!

From the first settlers to the Iowa territory and its “rolling prairie,” the Indians that had already settled there, to the basic needs for farming, housing and transportation, Des Moines and Polk County’s vast unsettled area became tamed through hard work, determination and dreams.

Bravo to Barbara Beving Long Henning and Patrice K. Beam who write lovingly of the area, and also served as photo researchers. The impeccable display of photographs in brilliant color and black and white seem to compound the intensity of this highly distinguished work. One must personally experience *Des Moines and Polk County: Flag On the Prairie* to truly appreciate its brilliance.

Patrice K. Beam will be signing copies and touring the area through the fall and winter months, speaking on various historical topics, delighting audiences with her impeccable knowledge of Des Moines and Polk County, and will be available for media interviews.

**Published by American Historical Press, publisher of distinguished, highly praised city, regional and state histories. Sun Valley, California. For more information or to schedule interviews, please call Debbie Edwards at 800/550-5750 Ext. 108 (\$32.95)**

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