

The unevenness of this publication is further hampered by the lack of a standard citation format; some articles use the *Chicago Manual of Style*, others the Modern Language Association, and still others utilize the American Psychological Association system. This volume will be of interest to general readers who want to know about the contributions of Pennsylvania women.

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Peter Osborne. *No Spot in This Far Land Is More Immortalized: A History of Pennsylvania's Washington Crossing Historic Park* (Yardley, PA: Yardley Press, 2014). Pp. 731. Paper, \$39.99.

This book is the magnum Opus of the Peter Osborne literature on State Parks, primarily because it is an encyclopedia of Mid-Atlantic regional history. This regional historian has written a number of books on state parks and the various battles that have taken place throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, yet, this one clearly best illustrates all of Osborne's writing and research skill.

Osborne was asked to write this book by William Farkas, a resident of Pennsylvania whose love for this park emanates from hiking its trails and enjoying its vistas. Farkas identified the need for a book about the starting point of Washington's journey across the Delaware River. Osborne had previously published a similar work titled *Where Washington Once Led: A History of New Jersey's Washington Crossing State Park*, as well as other park studies such as *Images of America: Promised Land State Park* and *Images of America: Hacklebarney & Voorhees State Parks*. This made him the ideal person to write this book.

Washington crossed the Delaware River from Pennsylvania to New Jersey on his way to Trenton and we now have books describing the development of parks on either side of the Delaware River journey. Even though there are two books describing these parks, the publication on the Pennsylvania park is the later study and it includes the rivalry and spirit of cooperation that exists between these parks. The author included historical sources and research from the New Jersey park in this later work.

General Washington's crossing of the Delaware River into New Jersey on Christmas night 1776 provides the historical significance of the park.

As every student of American history learned about the Revolutionary War, Washington's army surprised and defeated the British and Hessian forces at Trenton, New Jersey, while they celebrated the Christmas holiday. It was an important historical event and maybe the most important event of the Revolutionary War. Yet, this book is not about that victory; it is about the development of a park celebrating that victory.

It's about how the idea for a park came about and how the idea became a reality in 1927 with a dedication of the park. The author tells the reader that the dedication was just a beginning and he details the numerous project delays, political battles with state and national government, land acquisitions and national events like the Great Depression, and a world war that impeded local efforts to make this park what it is today. The book is about how various individuals stepped up and kept the idea of what the park could become in the forefront of everyone's thoughts and then worked tirelessly to make the dream for the park a reality.

The strengths of this book is in its detail and Osborne's research that goes back to the beginning and traces land acquisition, rivalry, political intrigue on the national, state and local levels, and the battles won up to the present time that made the dream of many come true.

Osborne added a bibliographic essay at the back of this volume because he wanted a detailed paper trail that would serve future researchers in this field. The bibliography is the most extensive ever created for both parks and combines the bibliographic material used for both Crossing Park histories as well as material on the regional history of Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey.

Osborne ensured that those who are interested in this area of study will find reading this book an adventure. While someone interested in researching the actual battle that took place at Trenton will not find a lot of data, the journey that Washington and his men made to Trenton through Pennsylvania and New Jersey is well documented. Those who go to the park to enjoy its scenic landscape and hiking trails will enjoy this book because it captures the history of the land at the time of the crossing.

Washington's troops were on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware River for about a month before the crossing and while some sites have been lost to development there are preserved buildings that were actually used by Washington and his army; Osborne provides not only the history but also the efforts to preserve these sites. Osborne is enthusiastic in describing the final version of this park with its excellent visitor center that houses many

historically significant books and publications describing the Mid-Atlantic region.

Osborne did more than tell the story of the park in this book. He wished to encapsulate in this volume references from his life's work researching the rich history of the Mid-Atlantic region. The thoroughness of Osborne's research and his meticulous attention to detail will make this book indispensable to researchers; they will find the bibliography alone a treasure trove of data that they can apply to studies of the entire region.

WILLIAM STANLEY TRESS
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W. Clark Gilpin. *Religion Around Emily Dickinson* (University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2014). Pp. 201. Notes, bibliography, index. Cloth, \$34.95; Paper, \$29.64.

This is the second volume in an ambitious series from Pennsylvania State University Press entitled "Religion Around." The series applies the New Historicism to literary and cultural figures of various times, places, and genres. The first effort by series editor Peter Iver Kaufman explored religious ideas, writers, and debates revolving around Shakespeare. Future proposed additions to the series may focus on various cultural figures such as Dante, Edward Gibbon, and Walter Scott, or Langston Hughes, Billie Holliday, Allen Ginsberg, and Sting. The series aspires to shed light on the religious ideas that shaped the selected iconic life and creative work while also considering ways that individual subjects contributed to and resisted, perhaps in previously unrecognized ways, the religious movements and debates swirling around them. The works carve out a new genre, resisting the forms of more traditional biographies, religious histories, literary histories, and literary criticisms at the same time they mine those secondary sources to analyze "religion around."

Gilpin's long and productive career has been firmly situated in the religious history of Christianity in the United States, with special focus on religious literature. His contribution to this series tackles three subjects that most Americans today, even the literate and the scholarly, often find dense and difficult to access—theology, poetry, and, specifically, the life and work of the poet Emily Dickinson. Gilpin traces the relationship between these