

Global Philadelphia: Immigrant Communities Old and New. Edited by AYUMI TAKENAKA and MARY JOHNSON OSIRIM. (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2010. 320 pp. Tables, maps, figures, illustrations, index. \$29.95.)

Philadelphia has rarely figured centrally in histories of U.S. immigration; nevertheless the city has been a destination for immigrants for three centuries, and immigrants have played a central role in the region's development. *Global Philadelphia* explores how Philadelphia has affected immigrants' lives, and how they have in turn shaped Philadelphia. This collection of case studies, gleaned from two Bryn Mawr College conferences in 2005 and 2006, taps into several trends in recent immigration studies: a focus on the transnational, relationships within and between ethnic groups, and a comparative connection between contemporary and historical contexts.

One highlight of the volume is the new and nuanced look at populations long associated with Philadelphia: Germans, Irish, Jews, Italians, Latinos, and Chinese. Joan Saverino's essay on Italians looks beyond the South Philadelphia enclave to Chestnut Hill to examine Italians' hybrid contributions to the built environment and illuminate differences between northern and southern regional identities. Victor Vazquez-Hernandez expands ideas of Latino Philadelphia beyond Puerto Ricans, stretching the time line to the late nineteenth/early twentieth century, revealing the presence of a strategic pan-Latino identity long before such politics were current and underscoring the important place Philadelphia had in larger political and economic Atlantic networks. Likewise, Lena Sze heightens awareness of the nonessential nature of the ethnic enclave by emphasizing the strategic nature of community institutions and the contemporary diversity of the Chinatown community. Other authors continue the stories of Germans (Birte Fleger) and Irish (Noel Farley and Philip Kilbride) beyond the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, showing how ethnic institutions changed over time.

Perhaps the most important contribution of *Global Philadelphia* is to map more recent—and still largely unstudied—immigrant flows to greater Philadelphia from Mexico, the Caribbean, Africa, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. The presence and experiences of these global diasporas reconfigure the dynamics of race in a historically black/white city. Philadelphia is often a second or third destination for new immigrants, who tend to disperse through the greater region (with a concomitant decline of urban enclaves). One such dispersed community is Cambodian, the fourth largest in the United States according to Ellen Skilton-Sylvester and Keo Chea-Young. This "Other Asian" presence is often effaced in the larger city landscape, inhibiting incorporation. African immigrants portrayed in Mary Johnson Osirim's piece, on the other hand, play a visible role in the local economy as entrepreneurs, revitalizing declining neighborhoods and organizing for political influence.

Less explored are some of the interethnic relations and neighborhood successions specific to Philadelphia: Mexicans and Southeast Asians in historically Italian South Philadelphia; the relationship among Koreans, Haitians, and Latinos in Olney; or Africans and African Americans in West Philadelphia—all of which are mentioned only in passing. The volume's specific group-by-group frame perhaps limits such analysis.

Although necessarily impressionistic, *Global Philadelphia* opens new avenues to view Philadelphia as an enduring city of immigrants and, it is hoped, paves the way for further and more in-depth explorations of the immigrant experience in greater Philadelphia.

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