

to introduce his subject into a chapter only to have him quickly disappear, not to turn up again until midchapter. An example of this pattern occurs in Crytzer's discussion of Guyasuta's role in the Battle of the Monongahela (1755).

What this book lacks in its primary source investigation, Crytzer makes up for by giving readers an entertaining, lively, and engaging story. This book will serve as an indispensable introduction for members of the general public unfamiliar with this era of Native American and colonial history, and it will perhaps become a companion piece for such classic works on Pennsylvania history as Walter O'Meara's *Guns at the Forks* and Paul A. W. Wallace's *Indians in Pennsylvania*. Finally, with the publication of *Guyasuta and the Fall of Indian America*, Crytzer has also paid an enduring homage to his distinguished teacher, the late David Dixon.

La Roche College

RICHARD S. GRIMES

Robert Morris's Folly: The Architectural and Financial Failures of an American Founder. By RYAN K. SMITH. (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2014. 368 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, index. \$40.)

By all rights, Robert Morris of Philadelphia should occupy a central place in the pantheon of founding fathers. One of only a handful of men who signed both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, Morris earned his title as "financier of the American Revolution" by using his personal wealth to secure loans to pay George Washington's troops in the later years of the war, when Congress had difficulties supporting them. As a backroom power broker, Morris was instrumental in strengthening the national government at the Constitutional Convention and actively participated in shaping its early direction as a senator from Pennsylvania. He even moved out of his own house in order that his close friend Washington could occupy a suitable dwelling when the federal government moved to Philadelphia. Yet, this well-earned reputation was sullied when his extensive business schemes turned sour in the 1790s. Despite warnings about his overextended commitments, Morris failed to rein in his affairs, believing that the next deal would turn his way and restore his financial equilibrium. He continued to speculate heavily in land, currency, and other ventures before sinking inextricably into a morass of debt.

Despite his business misfortunes, Morris did little to trim his family's extravagant living standards. Just before his creditors forced him into bankruptcy, the merchant hired Pierre L'Enfant to design one of the most extraordinary houses ever to be built in the city. Not content with a rowhouse typical of the city's housing stock, Morris commissioned the architect to erect a freestanding mansion that encompassed an entire city square on Chestnut Street, two blocks west of

Congress Hall. With its columns, stone-clad walls, marble bas-relief sculpture, Mansard roof, and eccentric plan devised by a man who paid little heed to costs, there was nothing demure or retiring about this new residence as it slowly took shape in 1796. By the following year, Morris realized that L'Enfant had overspent his budget tenfold and showed no prospect of finishing the house. Given his bleak circumstances, he recognized the folly of continuing and stopped its construction. A few months later, he moved into new accommodations in the nearby Prune Street debtors' prison. The unfinished shell became the cynosure of Morris's precipitous decline.

In nine well-researched chapters, Ryan K. Smith carefully chronicles a tragic story of how the overweening ambitions of a founding father drove his family to financial ruin. He has written a compelling morality tale that exposes many of the economic and social anxieties that affected public and domestic life in the early American republic. In this tightly focused narrative, the author explains the murky late eighteenth-century tricks used to fend off creditors, describes the composition and political pecking order of Philadelphia's social clubs, and explores the furnishings of the city's elite residences. Although the building that came to symbolize Robert Morris's demise was quickly demolished to make way for a series of more prosaic rowhouses, many of its peculiar features survived and were reused in houses and gardens in the city and further afield, keeping the story of this extraordinary folly in the public imagination for more than two centuries. Smith has done a masterful job of telling it anew.

Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

CARL R. LOUNSBURY

Gathering Together: The Shawnee People through Diaspora and Nationhood, 1600–1870. By SAMI LAKOMÄKI. (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2014. 344 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. \$40.)

Gathering Together is a well-researched academic work that looks in great detail at the Shawnee nation's geographic movements, political strategies, and national identities during an intense period of European colonization in the Northeast. Lakomäki's research demonstrates that the Shawnee, perceived historically as "the greatest travelers in America," nevertheless conceptualized themselves during this era as a spiritually bonded nation connected by a common cultural identity.

Throughout the work, Lakomäki discusses what he astutely terms Indigenous and Eurocolonial "shatter zones" of war and starvation that the Shawnee skillfully negotiated and survived by relying on the cultural value of communal ethics. He does not downplay Eurocolonial treachery against Indigenous populations, rightly referred to as "American aggression," as he recounts Euro-Americans looting Shawnee homes, pressing them westward, and ignoring their legal petitions in