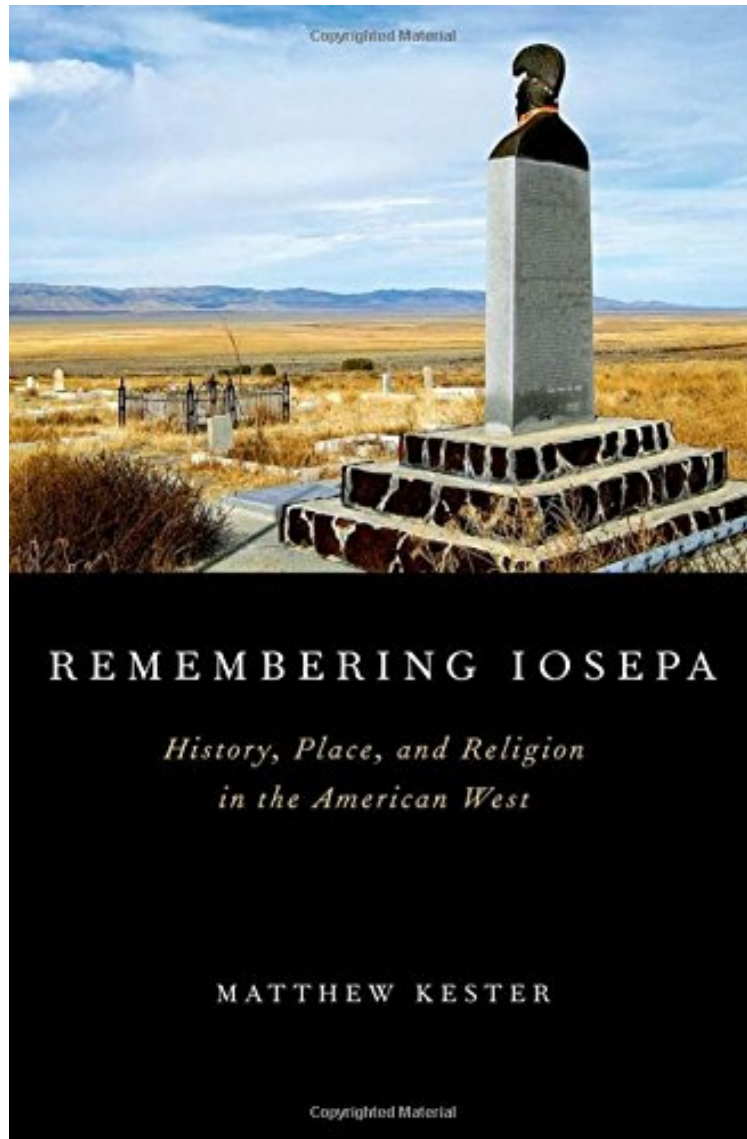


[Download pdf] Remembering Iosepa: History, Place, and Religion in the American West

Remembering Iosepa: History, Place, and Religion in the American West

Matthew Kester

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Matthew Kester : Remembering Iosepa: History, Place, and Religion in the American West before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Remembering Iosepa: History, Place, and Religion in the American West:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. They Were Obedient!!By CustomerLots of researching put into this

book. The writing is very collegiate and beyond, but I get the main gist and appreciate all the work this author put into it. My great grandfather, Joseph Kekuku, his wife Miliama, and 5 little children were the first to settle in Skull Valley 1889. I'm sure it was daunting and traumatic for Pacific Islanders, but their FAITH sustained them. I'm proud of their love, devotion, and bravery. Aloha Ke Akua, their great granddaughter Mana0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. IosepaBy Linda ClarkThis was so good. It answered all my questions, and more. Now I want to visit the monument this spring.

Winner of the Mormon Historical Association Best Community HistoryIn the late nineteenth century, a small community of Native Hawaiian Mormons established a settlement in heart of The Great Basin, in Utah. The community was named Iosepa, after the prophet and sixth president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Joseph F. Smith. The inhabitants of Iosepa struggled against racism, the ravages of leprosy, and economic depression, by the early years of the twentieth century emerging as a modern, model community based on ranching, farming, and an unwavering commitment to religious ideals. Yet barely thirty years after its founding the town was abandoned, nearly all of its inhabitants returning to Hawaii. Years later, Native Hawaiian students at nearby Brigham Young University, descendants of the original settlers, worked to clean the graves of Iosepa and erect a monument to memorialize the settlers.Remembering Iosepa connects the story of this unique community with the earliest Native Hawaiian migrants to western North America and the vibrant and growing community of Pacific Islanders in the Great Basin today. It traces the origins and growth of the community in the tumultuous years of colonial expansion into the Hawaiian islands, as well as its relationship to white Mormons, the church leadership, and the Hawaiian government. In the broadest sense, Mathew Kester seeks to explain the meeting of Mormons and Hawaiians in the American West and to examine the creative adaptations and misunderstandings that grew out of that encounter.

"Kester masterfully situates the story of nineteenth-century Native Hawaiian Mormon migration within the larger seascape of Native Hawaiian and, later, Pacific Islander migrations...What Kester does very well throughout the book is present the history in vivid color. The reader is drawn into the story through vignettes...Remembering Iosepa is beautifully written and accessible to a general and academic audience." --Mormon Studies "Remembering Iosepa is a brilliant piece of scholarship. Kester s work is much needed for scholars of both Mormonism and Hawaiian studies...I would place this book in my top five must read list." --Dominic Martinez, The Juvenile Instructor"Remembering Iosepa' is a significant contribution to both Mormon and Pacific history, and serves as a model for how Mormon studies can be efficiently used as a provocative sub field of broader issues. Students of the Oceania, of Western America, of Utah, and of Mormonism will be well served to spend time with this book, not only incorporating its important story into our broader narratives but also appropriating its sophisticated framing and methodology into our own scholarship." --Association for Mormon Letters"A fascinating and illuminating study, suitable for a wide audience. Summing Up: Highly recommended." --CHOICE"[An] example of the new generation of Mormon historical studies: it blends exhaustive research with sophisticated theory to address issues much broader than Mormonism itself...Its intended audience is much larger than [the Mormon Historical Association]--though it should certainly be an important contribution to that field, as well." --Juvenile Instructor"Matthew Kester begins with a grain of sand - the Native Hawaiian community of Iosepa, Utah - and builds a story that embraces more than a century of Oceania's history. His sensitive ear and engaging prose take us on a voyage from the eighteenth-century colonization of Hawaii to the Pacific Islander diaspora across western North America, from the struggle to retain indigenous space in their homelands to the recreation of indigenous places in locations as various as British Columbia and the Great Basin. In this journey we see contest and accommodation over faith, race, and memory, a journey that continues to unfold in the twenty-first century."-- James F. Brooks, president and CEO, School for Advance Research, Santa Fe, NM, and author of Captives Cousins: Slavery, Kinship, and Community in the Southwest Borderlands"Remembering Iosepa, is part of an expanding body of scholarship that frames Hawai'i and Hawaiians not as victims of history but rather as active agents eagerly participating in the social milieu in which they lived...He masterfully demonstrates that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, which continues to be misunderstood and marginalized within American history, was a key player in westward expansion and settlement despite being targeted by the US federal government as un-American and by non-Mormon settlers who saw their practices as peculiar and at times sinister. By focusing on the intersection of religion and race, Kester gives us a balanced and critical account showing how the history of the American West is also a Hawaiian history of eastward expansion and settlement. The result is a complex, contentious, and contradictory historical landscape that challenges the way we see the American West and Hawai'i."--Hokulani K. Aikau, author of A Chosen People, a Promised Land"In this remarkable book about a truly remarkable place and people, Kester offers us a history of the transnational Pacific World, of Oceania, and the American West, of religion, race, travelers, and diasporas, of sacrifice, memory, and commemoration."--Matthew Basso, University of Utah"Kester s analysis succeeds in using the history of Iosepa to raise critical questions and suggest areas in need of further investigation and interrogation. Kester offers much to complicate our understanding of the American West, the role of Hawaii and Oceania within it, and the ways that religion has been inextricably connected to that complicated and

contested history."--Journal of Religion About the Author Matthew Kester is a historian of Hawaii and the American West who teaches history and cultural studies at Brigham Young University Hawaii.