

# ILLINOIS 101

## RECOMMENDED READING LIST



**SIU**  
CARBONDALE

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

**PAUL SIMON**

**PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE**

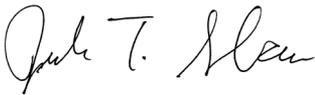
Dear Friends,

The Paul Simon Public Policy Institute asked a number of prominent Illinoisans to respond to the question:

***If you were teaching an “Illinois 101” course to highly motivated undergraduates, what five books you would assign them to read? They can be histories, biographies, novels, or essays. In sum, they would provide a wide-ranging and nuanced understanding of Illinois.***

The Institute passes on these recommendations to those who are looking for a good read and a better understanding of Illinois.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John T. Shaw". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'S'.

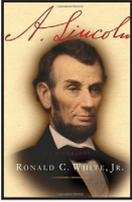
John T. Shaw  
Institute Director  
Paul Simon Public Policy Institute

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

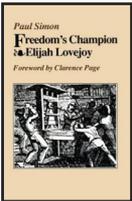
CHRISTOPHER BELT _____	4
ROGER BILES _____	5
TERRI BRYANT _____	6
FRANK CICERO, JR. _____	7
RICHARD DURBIN _____	8
JIM EDGAR _____	10
LaTOYA GREENWOOD _____	11
PATRICK HANLEY _____	12
ERIKA HAROLD _____	13
DAVID JOENS _____	14
RAY LaHOOD _____	16
MIKE LAWRENCE _____	17
CHUCK LEVESQUE _____	19
JIM NOWLAN _____	20
GLENN POSHARD _____	21
BERNARD SCHOENBURG _____	23
GREG SHAW _____	25
JOHN SHAW _____	26
SHEILA SIMON _____	28
EMANUEL "CHRIS" WELCH _____	29
SAMUEL WHEELER _____	30
PAULA WOLFF _____	32

# CHRISTOPHER BELT

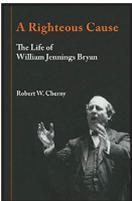
## ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR, 57TH DISTRICT



*A. Lincoln* by Ronald White Jr., 2009.



*Freedom's Champion: Elijah Lovejoy* by Paul Simon, 1994.



*A Righteous Cause: The Life of William Jennings Bryan* by Robert Cherny, 1985.



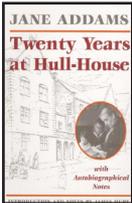
*Mother Jones: The Most Dangerous Woman in America* by Elliott Gorn, 2001.



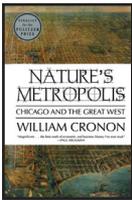
*Behind the Smile: A Story of Carol Moseley Braun's Historic Senate Campaign* by Jeannie Morris, 2015.

# ROGER BILES

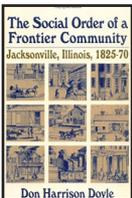
PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF HISTORY, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY



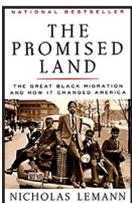
*Twenty Years at Hull-House* by Jane Addams, 1910.



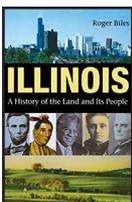
*Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* by William Cronon, 1991.



*The Social Order of a Frontier Community* by Don Harrison Doyle, 1983.



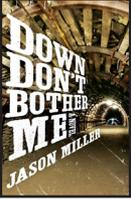
*The Promised Land: The Great Black Migration and How It Changed America* by Nicholas Lemann, 1991.



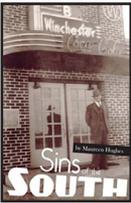
*Illinois: A History of the Land and Its People* by Roger Biles, 2005.

# TERRI BRYANT

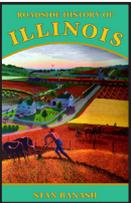
ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 115TH DISTRICT



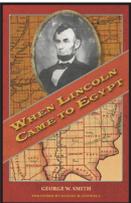
*Down Don't Bother Me: A Novel* by Jason Miller, 2015.



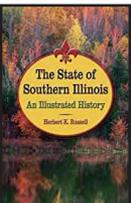
*Sins of the South: Big Secrets in a Small Town* by Maureen Hughes, 2012.



*Roadside History of Illinois* by Stan Banash, 2013.



*When Lincoln Came to Egypt* by George Smith, 2016.



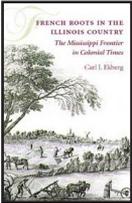
*The State of Southern Illinois: An Illustrated History* by Herbert Russell, 2012.

# FRANK CICERO, JR.

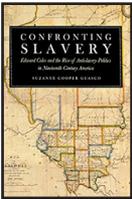
ATTORNEY, KIRKLAND & ELLIS



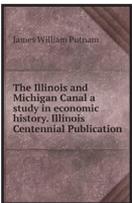
*Nathaniel Pope, 1784–1850: A Memoir, Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society* by Paul Angle, 1936.



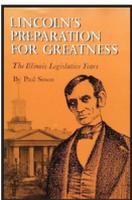
*French Roots in the Illinois Country: The Mississippi Frontier in Colonial Times* by Carl Ekberg, 1998.



*Confronting Slavery: Edward Coles and the Rise of Anti-Slavery Politics in Nineteenth-Century America* by Suzanne Cooper Guasco, 2013.



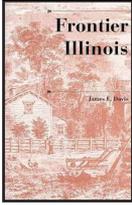
*The Illinois and Michigan Canal: A Study in Economic History* by James William Putnam, 1918.



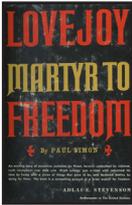
*Lincoln's Preparation for Greatness: The Illinois Legislative Years* by Paul Simon, 1971.

# RICHARD DURBIN

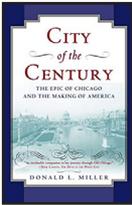
## U.S. SENATOR FROM ILLINOIS



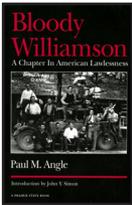
*Frontier Illinois* by James Davis, 1998.



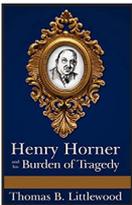
*Lovejoy: Martyr to Freedom* by Paul Simon, 1964.



*City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America* by Donald Miller, 1996.

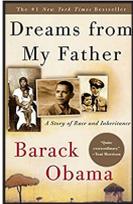


*Bloody Williamson* by Paul Angle, 1969.

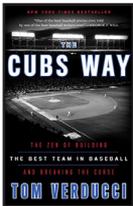


*Henry Horner and his Burden of Tragedy* by Thomas Littlewood, 2007.

## ADDITIONAL READING



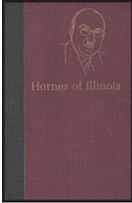
*Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance* by Barack Obama, 1995.



*The Cubs Way: The Zen of Building the Best Team in Baseball and Beating the Curse* by Tom Verducci, 2017.

# JIM EDGAR

FORMER ILLINOIS GOVERNOR



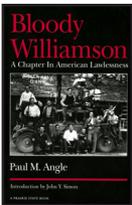
*Horner of Illinois* by Thomas Littlewood, 1969.



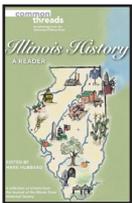
*Bipartisan Coalition in Illinois* by Thomas Littlewood, 1960.



*Clout: Mayor Daley and His City* by Len O'Connor, 1975.



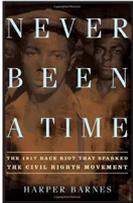
*Bloody Williamson* by Paul Angle, 1969.



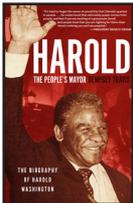
*Illinois History: A Reader* by Mark Hubbard, 2018.

# LaTOYA GREENWOOD

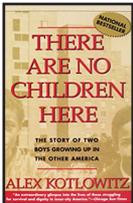
ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 114TH DISTRICT



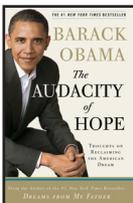
*Never Been a Time: The 1917 Race Riot That Sparked the Civil Rights Movement* by Harper Barnes, 2008.



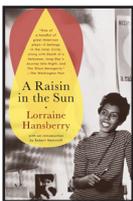
*Harold, The People's Mayor: The Biography of Harold Washington* by Dempsey Travis, 1989.



*There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America* by Alex Kotlowitz, 1991.



*The Audacity of Hope* by Barack Obama, 2006.



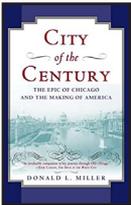
*A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry, 1959.

# PATRICK HANLEY

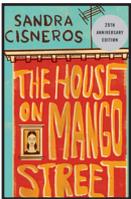
ASSOCIATE, MCKINSEY & COMPANY



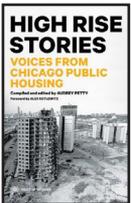
*Midwest Futures* by Phil Christman, 2020.



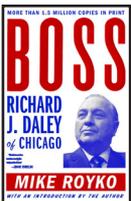
*City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America* by Donald Miller, 1996.



*The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, 1984.



*High Rise Stories: Voices from Chicago Public Housing* by Audrey Petty, 2013.

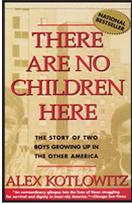


*Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago* by Mike Royko, 1971.

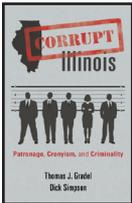
# ERIKA HAROLD

ATTORNEY, MEYER CAPEL

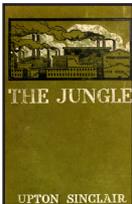
REPUBLICAN NOMINEE FOR ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL



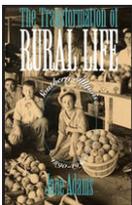
*There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America* by Alex Kotlowitz, 1991.



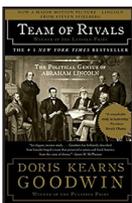
*Corrupt Illinois: Patronage, Cronyism, and Criminality* by Thomas Gradel and Dick Simpson, 2015.



*The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair, 1906.



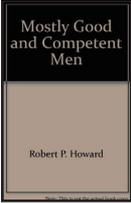
*The Transformation of Rural Life: Southern Illinois, 1890-1990* by Jane Adams, 1994.



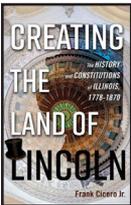
*Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* by Doris Kearns Goodwin, 2012.

# DAVID JOENS

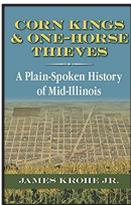
DIRECTOR, ILLINOIS STATE ARCHIVES



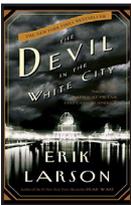
*The Illinois Governors: Mostly Good and Competent Men* by Robert Howard, 1988.



*Creating the Land of Lincoln: The History and Constitutions of Illinois, 1778-1870* by Frank Cicero, Jr., 2018.



*Corn Kings & One-Horse Thieves: A Plain-Spoken History of Mid-Illinois* by James Krohe, Jr., 2017.

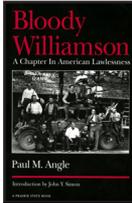


*The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson, 2003.

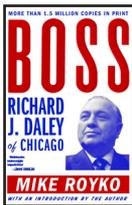


*Illinois Vignettes* by John H. Keiser, 1977.

## ADDITIONAL READING



*Bloody Williamson* by Paul Angle, 1969.



*Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago* by Mike Royko, 1971.



*The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair, 1906.



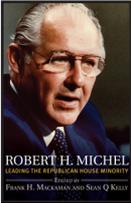
*Illinois: A History of the Prairie State* by Robert Howard, 1972.

# RAY LaHOOD

FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION  
FORMER ILLINOIS CONGRESSMAN



*Fixing Illinois: Politics and Policy in the Prairie State* by James Nowlan and J. Thomas Johnson, 2014.



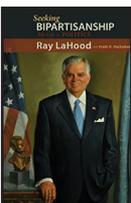
*Robert Michel: Leading the Republican House Minority* edited by Frank Mackaman and Sean Kelly, 2019.



*The Education of a Senator* by Everett McKinley Dirksen, 1998.



*Paul Simon: The Political Journey of an Illinois Original* by Robert Hartley, 2009.



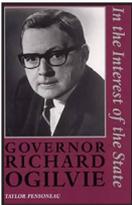
*Seeking Bipartisanship: My Life in Politics* by Ray LaHood with Frank Mackaman, 2015.

# MIKE LAWRENCE

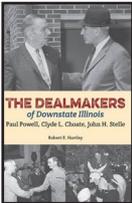
FORMER DIRECTOR, PAUL SIMON PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE



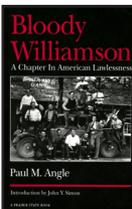
*Dirksen: Portrait of a Public Man* by Neil MacNeil, 1970.



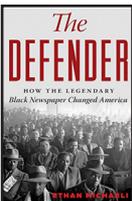
*Governor Richard Ogilvie: In the Interest of the State* by Taylor Pensoneau, 1997.



*The Dealmakers of Downstate Illinois: Paul Powell, Clyde L. Choate, and John H. Stelle* by Robert Hartley, 2016.

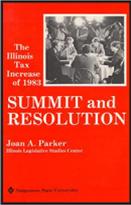


*Bloody Williamson* by Paul Angle, 1969.

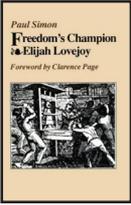


*The Defender: How the Legendary Black Newspaper Changed America* by Ethan Michaeli, 2016.

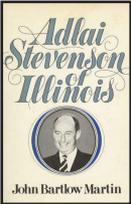
## ADDITIONAL READING



*The Illinois Tax Increase of 1983: Summit and Resolution* by Joan Parker, 1984.



*Freedom's Champion: Elijah Lovejoy* by Paul Simon, 1994.



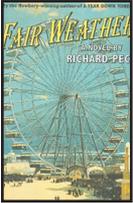
*Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois* by John Bartlow Martin, 1976.



*We Don't Want Nobody Nobody Sent: An Oral History of the Daley Years* by Milton Rakove, 1979.

# CHUCK LEVESQUE

PRESIDENT, DEPAUL USA



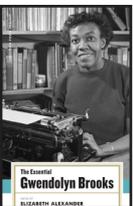
*Fair Weather* by Richard Peck, 2001.



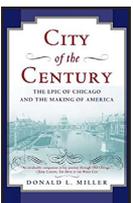
*Chicago: A Novel* by Brian Doyle, 2016.



*Rootabaga Stories* by Carl Sandburg, 1922.



*The Essential Gwendolyn Brooks* by Gwendolyn Brooks, edited by Elizabeth Alexander, 2005.

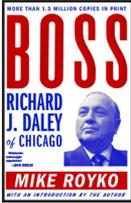


*City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America* by Donald Miller, 1996.

# JIM NOWLAN

POLITICAL COLUMNIST

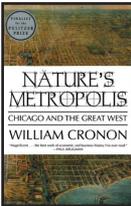
FORMER ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE



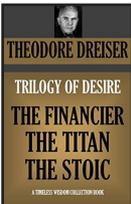
*Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago* by Mike Royko, 1971.



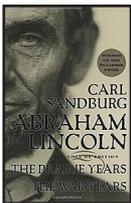
*Illinois: A History of the Prairie State* by Robert Howard, 1972.



*Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* by William Cronon, 1991.



*Trilogy of Desire: The Financier, The Titan, The Stoic* by Theodore Dreiser, 1972.

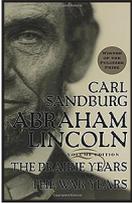


*Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years and the War Years* by Carl Sandburg, 1939.

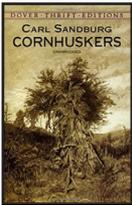
# GLENN POSHARD

FORMER ILLINOIS CONGRESSMAN

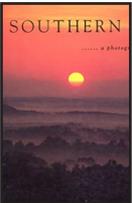
FORMER PRESIDENT, SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY



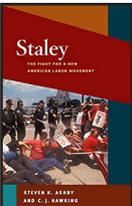
*Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years and the War Years* by Carl Sandburg, 1939.



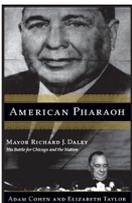
*Cornhuskers* by Carl Sandburg, 1918.



*Southern Illinois: A Photographer's Love for the Countryside and its Beauty* by Ned Trovillion, 1995.

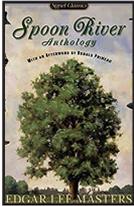


*Staley: The Fight for a New American Labor Movement* by Steven Ashby and C.J. Hawking, 2009.

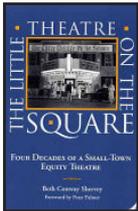


*American Pharaoh: Mayor Richard Daley - His Battle for Chicago and the Nation* by Adam Cohen and Elizabeth Taylor, 2000.

## ADDITIONAL READING



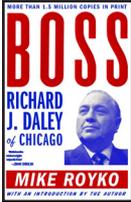
*Spoon River Anthology* by Edgar Lee Masters, 1915.



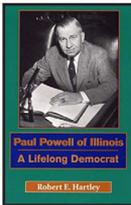
*The Little Theatre on the Square: Four Decades of a Small-Town Equity Theatre* by Beth Conway Shervey, 2000.

# BERNARD SCHOENBERG

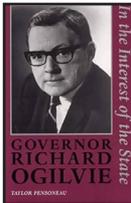
POLITICAL REPORTER AND COLUMNIST, *STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER*



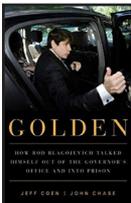
*Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago* by Mike Royko, 1971.



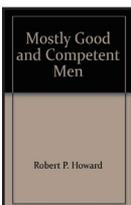
*Paul Powell of Illinois: A Lifelong Democrat* by Robert Hartley, 1999.



*Governor Richard Ogilvie: In the Interest of the State* by Taylor Pensoneau, 1997.

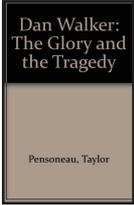


*Golden: How Rod Blagojevich Talked Himself out of the Governor's Office and into Prison* by Jeff Coen and John Chase, 2012.

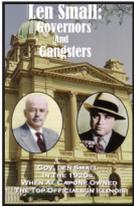


*The Illinois Governors: Mostly Good and Competent* by Robert Howard, 1988.

## ADDITIONAL READING



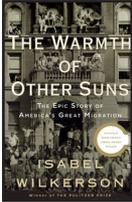
*Dan Walker: The Glory and the Tragedy* by Taylor Pensoneau and Bob Ellis, 1993.



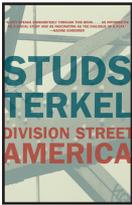
*Len Small: Governors and Gangsters* by Jim Ridings, 2009.

# GREG SHAW

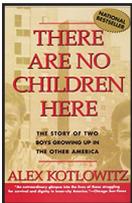
POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR, ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



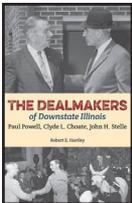
*The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration* by Isabel Wilkerson, 2010.



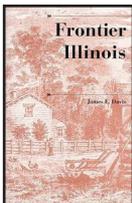
*Division Street: America* by Studs Terkel, 1967.



*There Are No Children Here: The Story of Two Boys Growing Up in the Other America* by Alex Kotlowitz, 1991.



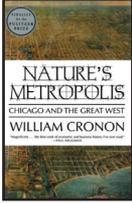
*The Dealmakers of Downstate Illinois: Paul Powell, Clyde L. Choate, and John H. Stelle* by Robert Hartley, 2016.



*Frontier Illinois* by James Davis, 1998.

# JOHN SHAW

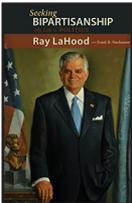
DIRECTOR, PAUL SIMON PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE



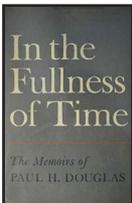
*Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* by William Cronon, 1991.



*The Heartland: An American History* by Kristin Hoganson, 2019.



*Seeking Bipartisanship: My Life in Politics* by Ray LaHood with Frank Mackaman, 2015.

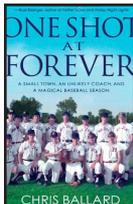


*In the Fullness of Time: The Memoirs of Paul H. Douglas*, 1972.

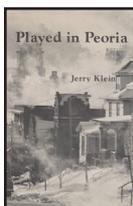


*P.S.: The Autobiography of Paul Simon*, 1994.

## ADDITIONAL READING



*One Shot at Forever: A Small Town, An Unlikely Coach, and A Magical Baseball Season* by Chris Ballard, 2012.



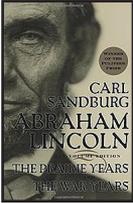
*Played in Peoria* by Jerry Klein Sr., 1980.



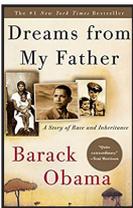
*Cleared for Takeoff: A Pilot's Story of Challenges and Triumphs* by William Norwood, 2014.

# SHEILA SIMON

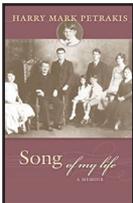
LAW PROFESSOR, SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
FORMER ILLINOIS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



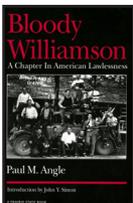
*Abraham Lincoln: The Prairie Years and the War Years* by Carl Sandburg, 1939.



*Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance* by Barack Obama, 1995.



*Song of My Life* by Harry Mark Petrakis, 2014.



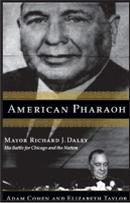
*Bloody Williamson* by Paul Angle, 1969.



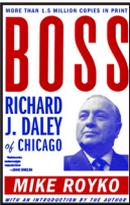
Gwendolyn Brooks.

# EMANUEL "CHRIS" WELCH

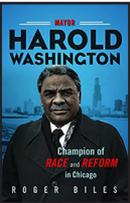
ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE, 7TH DISTRICT



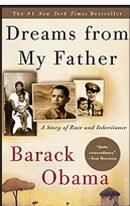
*American Pharaoh: Mayor Richard J. Daley - His Battle for Chicago and the Nation* by Adam Cohen and Elizabeth Taylor, 2000.



*Boss: Richard J. Daley of Chicago* by Mike Royko, 1971.



*Mayor Harold Washington: Champion of Race and Reform* by Roger Biles, 2018.



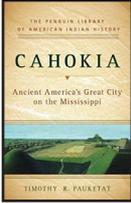
*Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance* by Barack Obama, 1995.



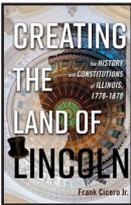
*Our Culture of Pandering* by Paul Simon, 2003.

# SAMUEL WHEELER

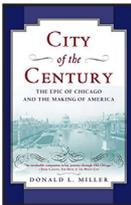
## FORMER ILLINOIS STATE HISTORIAN



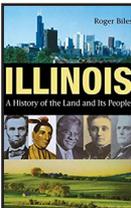
*Cahokia: Ancient America's Great City on the Mississippi* by Timothy Pauketat, 2009.



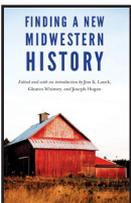
*Creating the Land of Lincoln: The History and Constitutions of Illinois, 1778-1870* by Frank Cicero Jr., 2018.



*City of the Century: The Epic of Chicago and the Making of America* by Donald Miller, 1996.

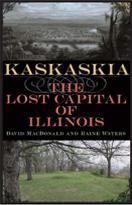


*Illinois: A History of the Land and its People* by Roger Biles, 2005.

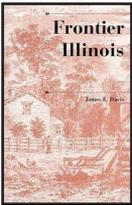


*Finding a New Midwestern History* edited by Jon Lauck, Gleaves Whitney, and Joseph Hogan, 2018.

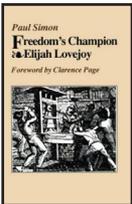
## ADDITIONAL READING



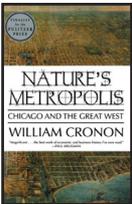
*Kaskaskia: The Lost Capital of Illinois* by David MacDonald and Raine Waters, 2019.



*Frontier Illinois* by James Davis, 1998.



*Freedom's Champion: Elijah Lovejoy* by Paul Simon, 1994.



*Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* by William Cronon, 1991.



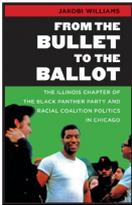
*Race Riot: Chicago in the Red Summer of 1919* by William Tuttle Jr., 1996.

# PAULA WOLFF

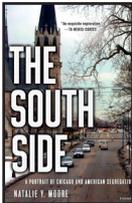
POLICY ADVISOR, ILLINOIS JUSTICE PROJECT



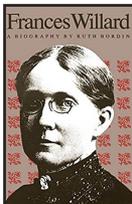
*Jane Addams, Spirit in Action* by Louise Knight, 2010.



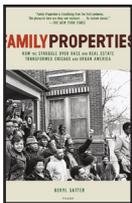
*From Bullet to Ballot: The Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party and Racial Coalition Politics in Chicago* by Jakobi Williams, 2013.



*The South Side: A Portrait of Chicago and American Segregation* by Natalie Moore, 2016.

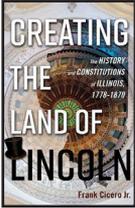


*Frances Willard: A Biography* by Ruth Bordin, 1986.



*Family Properties: How The Struggle Over Race and Real Estate Transformed Chicago and Urban America* by Beryl Satter, 2009.

## ADDITIONAL READING



*Creating the Land of Lincoln: The History and Constitutions of Illinois, 1778-1870* by Frank Cicero Jr., 2018.

## NOTES:

# NOTES:

**Paul Simon Public Policy Institute**  
**Southern Illinois University Carbondale**  
**1231 Lincoln Drive - Mail Code 4429**  
**Carbondale, Illinois 62901**

**618/453-4009**

**[paulsimoninstitute@siu.edu](mailto:paulsimoninstitute@siu.edu)**

**[www.paulsimoninstitute.org](http://www.paulsimoninstitute.org)**



**SIU**  
CARBONDALE

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

**PAUL SIMON**  
**PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE**