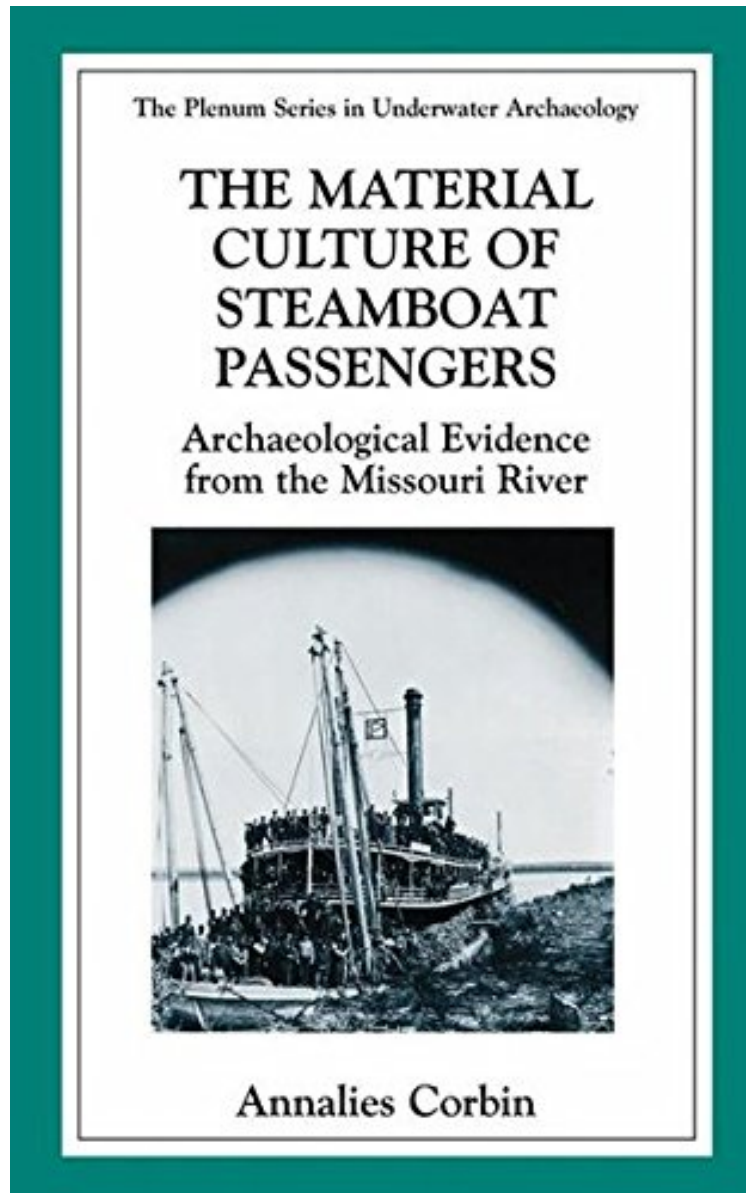


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(The Springer Series in Underwater Archaeology)

The Material Culture of Steamboat Passengers: Archaeological Evidence from the Missouri River (The Springer Series in Underwater Archaeology)

Annalies Corbin

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before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *The Material Culture of Steamboat Passengers: Archaeological Evidence from the Missouri River* (The Springer Series in Underwater Archaeology):

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Specific Glances at Steamboat passengersBy SteveThe book lives up to its title. It is an excellent example of a study of material remains and how they actually relate to the people who left them behind. The fascinating thing about shipwrecks and what material items they house, is that people did not get a chance to pick and choose what they left behind, such as when a Great Plains family left a sod house for their first frame house. Instead, everything they brought, except for that on their back, they were forced to leave behind. It is an instant snapshot of time, place, people, and lifestyle. Dr. Corbin has done an excellent job of explaining why she undertook this project, as well as explaining her conclusions. Granted, she was only able to research so much, but these brief "pictures" of lives gone before us, are illuminating. She does a fine job of bringing the historical record to bear on the artifactual evidence, and vice-versa. Not meant as a book for public consumption, it will have a welcoming audience in "students" of the past and the westward expansion of the United States. The only drawback is the "as usual" high price for a Plenum series book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Two StarsBy LHOWish it was affordable-I'd like to read it, but 158.00 for an ebook? Guess I will try the library!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy Barto ArnoldAnnalies Corbin is one of the leading lights of US underwater archaeology. This book reflects her tremendous energy and accomplished scholarship. Accessible to the professional and the layman. Highly recommended for archaeologists, historians, and steamboat or old west enthusiasts.

For many years, one of my favorite classroom devices in historical archaeology was to ask the students to imagine that they had to make the choice between savingfrom some unnamed calamityall masters theses or all doctoral dissertations in anthropology, but not both. Like good students, they usually looked to their Ph.D. holding professor and chose the dissertations. Much to their surprise, Iwouldrespondthatthethesewould win withouteventakingtime to ponderthe issue. The issue is clearly one of often nave and rarely eloquent theses full of good primary data versus sometimes more sophisticated and better written works full of irrelevant theory and meaningless statistics. Perhaps this is an overstate ment of the situation, but it is not too far offthe mark. The University Microfilms International efforts to make the titles of disser tations in North America and the English speaking portions of Europe available through Dissertation Abstracts is commendable. With only one minor exception, dissertations in historical and underwater archaeology in the United States are to be found listed in Dissertation Abstracts and thus are available for purchase.

`This data base on Missouri steamboats is an impressive piece of research and should prove invaluable to those doing research on the Missouri river trade. The writing style of the author allows easy and quick reading of this book. ...historic archaeologists will find the artifact descriptions and figures useful. ...this work will often be cited in the future by archaeologists working on mid-nineteenth century sites.' *North American Archaeologist*, 21:4 (2000)
`Anyone interested in frontier society will find this to be a very useful volume. It helps explain the development of the Missouri River route that was vital to western Iowa and other portions of the Midwest.' *The Annals of Iowa*, 61:3 (2002)