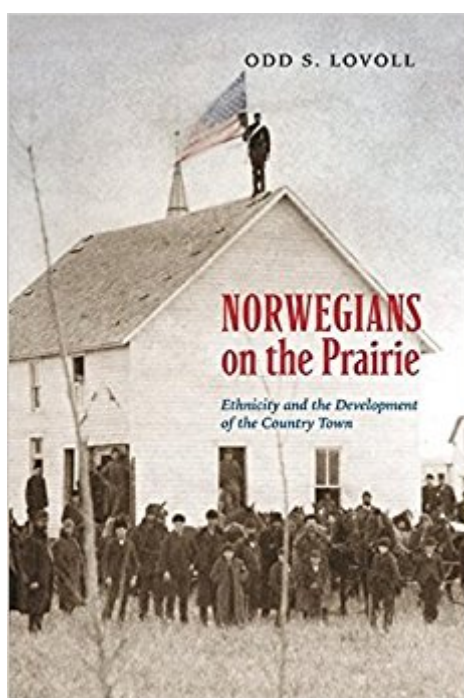


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# Norwegians On The Prairie: Ethnicity And The Development Of The Country Town



## Synopsis

Against the broad backdrop of the expanding western frontier, noted Norwegian American scholar Odd S. Lovoll explores the country town through the lens of ethnicity in this pioneering study. Benson, Madison, and Starbuck, all located on the western Minnesota prairie, were settled primarily by Norwegians and served as urban centers—railroad hubs, destinations for trade, and social nexuses—for the farming communities that surround them. Lovoll's meticulous research into census data, careful reading of local newspapers, and extensive interviews with the descendants of Norwegian immigrants reveals strong ties to homeland that are visible today in each town's social, political, and religious character.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"[Here] we listen to stories of individual settlers and . . . watch and interact with them as each community evolves through the decades."

Todd Nichol is editor for the Norwegian-American Historical Association. This book has been published in cooperation with the Norwegian-American Historical Association.

Prof. Lovoll has provided a terrific addition to the study and understanding of the immigrant experience in America. Like his other masterpieces he thoroughly examines the history and sociology of the Norwegian story. This is an in-depth focus of a particular aspect of the creation of

community in Minnesota, but its principles apply to all frontier communities and the people who built them. I found it engrossing and fulfilling. Professor Lovoll's masterful storytelling helped me understand the challenges and rewards my forefathers endured and celebrated.

Interesting read. This is about small towns springing up across Minnesota and how these towns contributed to the social, moral and economic makeup of what would become the state of Minnesota and the high cost of living isolated lives and other factors associated with prairie towns.

Found it very interesting reading and actually had a relative quoted in the book. Pretty cool!

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