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Everybody's History: Indiana's Lincoln Inquiry and the Quest to Reclaim a President's Past

By Keith A. Erektion

University of Massachusetts Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Everybody's History: Indiana's Lincoln Inquiry and the Quest to Reclaim a President's Past, Keith A. Erektion, Revered by the public, respected by scholars, and imitated by politicians, Abraham Lincoln remains influential more than two hundred years after his birth. His memory has inspired books, monuments, and museums and also sparked controversies, rivalries, and forgeries. That so many people have been interested in Lincoln for so long makes him an ideal subject for exploring why history matters to ordinary Americans as well as to academic specialists. In Everybody's History, Keith A. Erektion focuses on the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society--an organisation composed of lawyers, historians, collectors, genealogists, teachers, college presidents, and newspaper editors--who joined together during the 1920s and 1930s to recover a part of Lincoln's life his biographers had long ignored: the years from age seven to twenty-one when he lived on the Indiana frontier. Participants in the "Lincoln Inquiry," as it was commonly known, researched old records, interviewed ageing witnesses, hosted pageants, built a historical village, and presented their findings in public and in print. Along the way they defended their methods and findings against competitors in the fields...



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