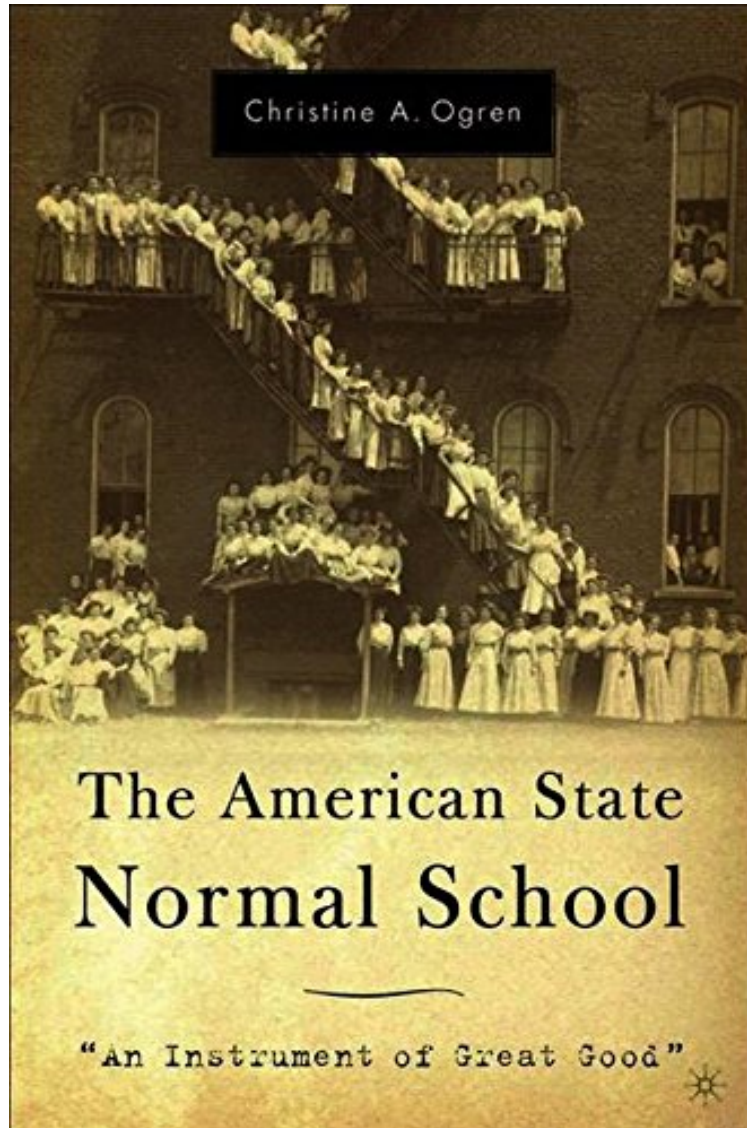


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The American State Normal School: An Instrument of Great Good

C. Ogren

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C. Ogren : The American State Normal School: An Instrument of Great Good before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The American State Normal School: An Instrument of Great Good:

The American State Normal School is the first comprehensive history of the state normal schools in the United States. Although nearly two-hundred state colleges and regional universities throughout the U.S. began as 'normal' schools,

the institutions themselves have buried their history, and scholars have largely overlooked them. As these institutions later became state colleges and/or regional universities, they distanced themselves from the low status of elementary—literally erasing physical evidence of their normal-school past. In doing so, they buried the rich history of generations of students for whom attending normal school was an enriching, and sometimes life-changing experience. Focusing on these students, the first wave of 'non-traditional' students in higher education, *The American State Normal School* is a much-needed re-examination of the state normal school. This book was subject of an annual History of Education Society panel for best new books in the field.