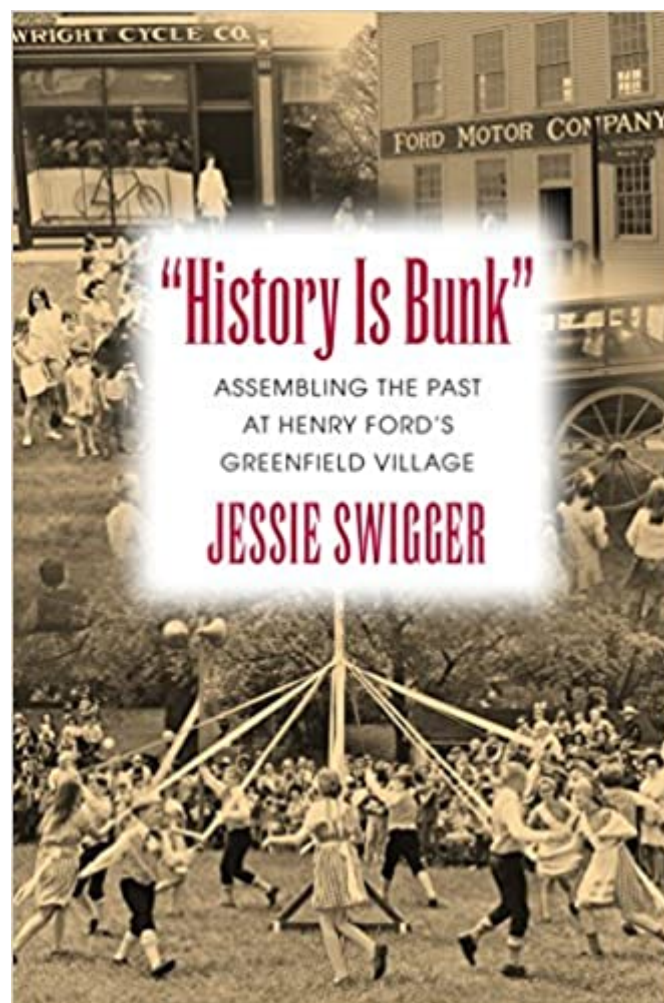




The book was found

# "History Is Bunk": Assembling The Past At Henry Ford's Greenfield Village (Public History In Historical Perspective)



PDF



**DOWNLOAD EBOOK**

## Synopsis

In 1916 a clearly agitated Henry Ford famously proclaimed that "history is more or less bunk." Thirteen years later, however, he opened the outdoor history museum Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan. It was written history's focus on politicians and military heroes that was bunk, he explained. Greenfield Village would correct this error by celebrating farmers and inventors. The village eventually included a replica of Thomas Edison's Menlo Park, New Jersey, laboratory, the Wright brothers' cycle shop and home from Dayton, Ohio, and Ford's own Michigan birthplace. But not all of the structures were associated with famous men. Craft and artisan shops, a Cotswold cottage from England, and two brick slave cabins also populated the village landscape. Ford mixed replicas, preserved buildings, and whole-cloth constructions that together celebrated his personal worldview. Greenfield Village was immediately popular. But that only ensured that the history it portrayed would be interpreted not only by Ford but also by throngs of visitors and the guides and publicity materials they encountered. After Ford's death in 1947, administrators altered the village in response to shifts in the museum profession at large, demographic changes in the Detroit metropolitan area, and the demands of their customers. Jessie Swigger analyzes the dialogue between museum administrators and their audiences by considering the many contexts that have shaped Greenfield Village. The result is a book that simultaneously provides the most complete extant history of the site and an intimate look at how the past is assembled and constructed at history museums.

## Book Information

Series: Public History in Historical Perspective

Paperback: 256 pages

Publisher: University of Massachusetts Press (July 8, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1625340788

ISBN-13: 978-1625340788

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #524,130 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #167 in [Books > Business &](#)

[Money > Processes & Infrastructure > Infrastructure](#) #6070 in [Books > History > Historical](#)

[Study & Educational Resources](#) #9587 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > State](#)

## Customer Reviews

"An important study of one of America's leading historical enterprises. What makes this book so original is its comprehensive sweep, its illuminating comparison of Greenfield Village with other historical projects of the same era, and its systematic scrutiny of the written reactions by visitors." — Howard Segal, author of *Recasting the Machine Age: Henry Ford's Village Industries*

"In this excellent study, Swigger offers a richly detailed and well-contextualized analysis of Ford's museum from its founding to the present day. The result is a highly readable book that strikes a good balance between narrative and interpretation. . . . Ideal for classroom use. . . . I hope it gains a wider readership, however, as it is one of the most clearheaded examination of public historical work I have encountered." — American Historical Review

"Swigger's work is well written and would be easily accessible to a wide-ranging audience. . . . She has provided us with an important study not only of Greenfield Village, but also of Henry Ford himself." — Public Historian

"Illustrative of the growing tension between curatorial authenticity and aggressive marketing . . . The book is easy to read, well illustrated, and presents an interpretation of one of America's foremost historical villages in an engaging way." — Michigan Historical Review

"Nicely crafted . . . Jessie Swigger's method of juxtaposing archival research and material culture analysis will please those who have long awaited a serious weighing of Greenfield Village's significance, as well as those more broadly interested in the course of public memory during the last century. Even more interesting is Swigger's sifting through the museum's interpretive trajectory, which she contends has varied over time in 'dialogue' with diverse stake holders." — Winterthur Portfolio

Jessie Swigger is assistant professor of history at Western Carolina University.

Great book about public history, museums, and Ford's life and legacy.

Fascinating history of one of the most important outdoor history museums in the country. What sets this book apart is that it places Greenfield Village into the broader narrative of public history.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

"History Is Bunk": Assembling the Past at Henry Ford's Greenfield Village (Public History in Historical Perspective) Henry and Mudge Collector's Set: Henry and Mudge; Henry and Mudge in

Puddle Trouble; Henry and Mudge in the Green Time; Henry and Mudge under the ... and Mudge and the Forever Sea (Henry & Mudge) Henry and Mudge Collector's Set #2: Henry and Mudge Get the Cold Shivers; Henry and Mudge and the Happy Cat; Henry and Mudge and the Bedtime Thumps; ... and Mudge and the Wild Wind (Henry & Mudge) Draw in Perspective: Step by Step, Learn Easily How to Draw in Perspective (Drawing in Perspective, Perspective Drawing, How to Draw 3D, Drawing 3D, Learn to Draw 3D, Learn to Draw in Perspective) Old-Fashioned Farm Life Coloring Book: Nineteenth Century Activities on the Firestone Farm at Greenfield Village (Dover History Coloring Book) Henry y Mudge con Barro Hasta el Rabo: (Henry and Mudge in Puddle Trouble) (Henry & Mudge) (Spanish Edition) The Henry and Ribsy Box Set: Henry Huggins, Henry and Ribsy, Ribsy Quisqueya la Bella: Dominican Republic in Historical and Cultural Perspective: Dominican Republic in Historical and Cultural Perspective (Perspectives on Latin America and the Caribbean) Ford Tough: 100 Years of Ford Trucks Ford GT40 Manual: An Insight into Owning, Racing and Maintaining Ford's Legendary Sports Racing Car Lois Greenfield: Moving Still Lauren Greenfield: Generation Wealth (9780714872124) Favorite Children's Authors and Illustrators, Volume 3: Leo Dillon and Diane Dillon to Eloise Greenfield Drive!: Henry Ford, George Selden, and the Race to Invent the Auto Age Who Was Henry Ford? Eat My Dust! Henry Ford's First Race (Step into Reading) Unconventional Leadership: What Henry Ford and Detroit Taught Me About Reinvention and Diversity Uncommon Friends: Life with Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, Alexis Carrel, and Charles Lindbergh The Inventor's Secret: What Thomas Edison Told Henry Ford My Life and Work: An Autobiography of Henry Ford

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)