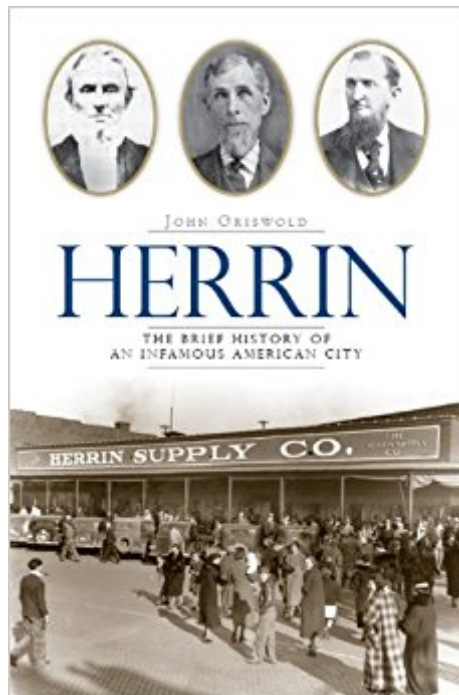




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# Herrin: The Brief History Of An Infamous American City



## Synopsis

Herrin, Illinois, has seen many dramatic events unfold in the nearly two hundred years since it was a bell-shaped prairie on the frontier. Now, Herrin native John Griswold, a writer and teacher at the University of Illinois, provides the first comprehensive history of this most American city, a place that in its time became not just a melting pot, but a cauldron. Discover why the coal was so good in the "Quality Circle" and what happened to the boom that followed its discovery. Explore the roots of the vicious Herrin Massacre of 1922 and learn why the entire nation has focused its gaze on this small Midwestern city so many times. Incorporating the most recent scholarship, interviews, and classic histories and narratives, this brief and entertaining history is illustrated with more than seventy-five archival photos that help tell this important American story.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

John Griswold grew up in Herrin and graduated from Herrin High School in 1981. After serving in the US Army, he attended Northern Illinois University and worked in Chicago for several years as a corporate writer. He now lives with his wife and two sons in Champaign-Urbana, where he teaches writing and literature at the University of Illinois. His novel, *A Democracy of Ghosts*, is set during the infamous Herrin Massacre and its main character is based on Griswold's grandfather, who was a state senator and the UMWA sub-district president in Herrin in 1922.

This is more of a manuscript than a book. Being from Herrin I was disappointed in it.

Fascinating history of the town of Herrin IL. Anyone who has ever lived in Herrin for any amount of time should read. I was fascinated to read about the histories of some of the families that I knew so well growing up.

Very informative. It give me an insight into what the city was so I can put family history into perspective and why they moved there.

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