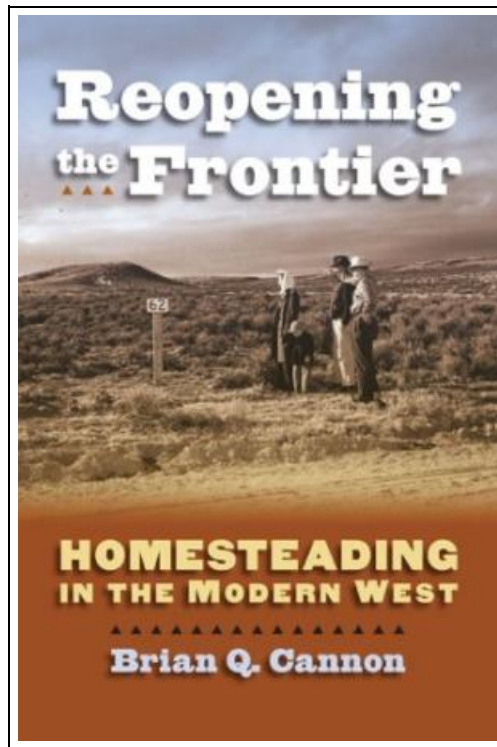# Reopening the Frontier: Homesteading in the Modern West

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Reviews

If you need to adding benefit, a must buy book. I am quite late in start reading this one, but better then never. I am happy to inform you that this is the best book i have read through during my own lifestyle and can be he best publication for at any time.
(Mrs. Phoebe Schimmel)

REOPENING THE FRONTIER: HOMESTEADING IN THE MODERN WEST

University Press of Kansas. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Reopening the Frontier: Homesteading in the Modern West, Brian Q. Cannon, The offer of free farmland after World War II may not have sparked the same stampede that it did in frontier days, but, as Brian Cannon shows in this path-breaking study, postwar homesteading continued to shape the modern West in important ways. Between 1946 and 1966, the Bureau of Reclamation opened up over 3,000 farms on irrigated public lands in the West to returning servicemen. Although involving fewer people than those flocking to western cities, this mini - land rush represents an important continuity in western tradition through the cultivation of values - hard work, security, independence, family stability - long associated with frontier life. Cannon examines these new agricultural settlements and the values they reflected and reinforced, following them through the end of the twentieth century and exploring specific key homesteading and federal reclamation projects. Cannon describes how the Bureau of Reclamation used lotteries to make available free land that had previously been part of Indian reservations, used for Japanese internment, or abandoned by unsuccessful settlers. He then traces the new homesteaders' experiences in establishing a farm, 'proving up,' and gaining title to the land, contrasting the realities of modern homesteading with iconic views of the frontier. Combining archival research with oral history, Cannon opens up genuinely human vistas in the homesteading process. He chronicles the hard life that many of the settlers faced and details wrangling over water policy - which both influenced and was influenced by westerners' shifting perception of the frontier - as well as the impact of shifting values and priorities on agricultural communities. Examining a number of homesteading efforts, he focuses particularly on the failed Riverton Project in central Wyoming, where after fifteen...

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