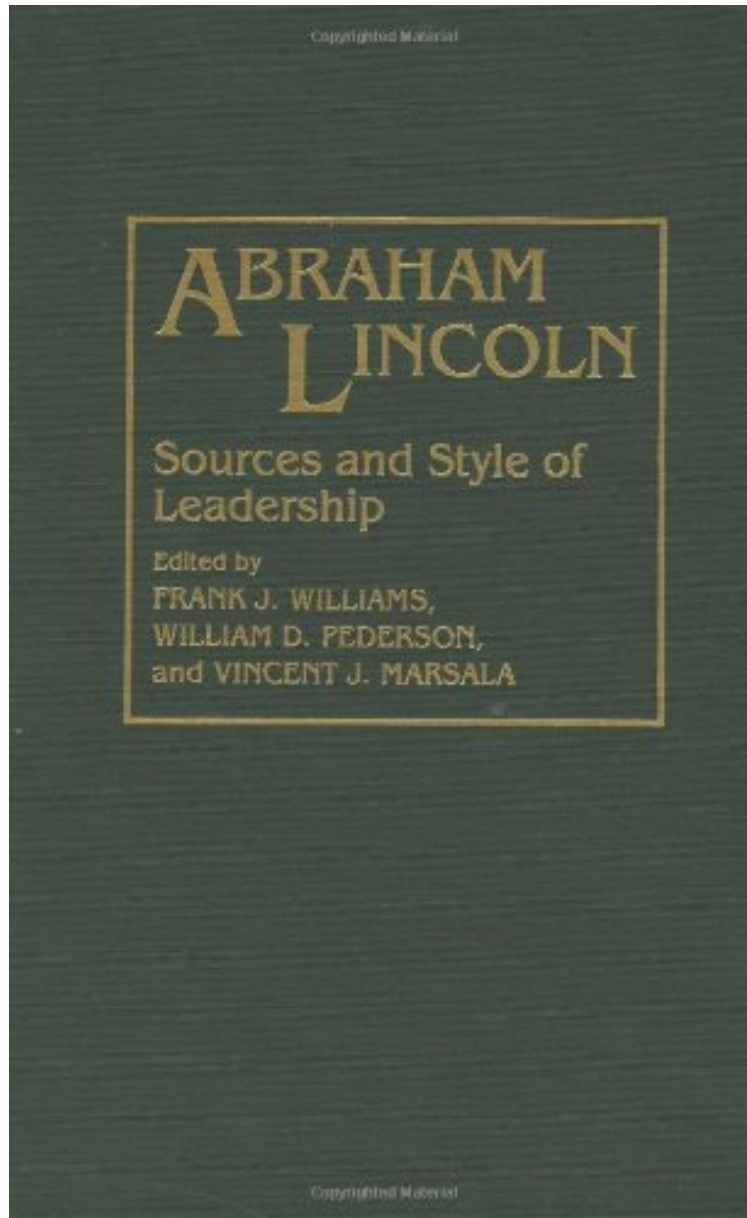


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Abraham Lincoln: Sources and Style of Leadership (Contributions in American History)

Vincent Marsala, William D. Pederson, Frank J. Williams
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time, and all praised Abraham Lincoln: Sources and Style of Leadership (Contributions in American History):

Written by both historians and political scientists, this new essay collection explores the sources, style, and quality of Lincoln's leadership. Challenging several popular schools of thought, the contributors show that both Lincoln's character and American democratic culture influenced his leadership style. They present him as a principled leader who sought realistic solutions in extenuating circumstances. Building on the democratic principles of the nation's framers, his vision of equality was consistent with the views of Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. The portrait that emerges is of an active-flexible president whose culture permitted a magnanimous and prudential political style. Lincoln's leadership encouraged the development of responsible democratic rule. The volume places Lincoln's leadership in a historical context and within the political perspective of the influences on him and his impact on others. It also examines his leadership style in terms of the factors organization theorists consider essential for effectiveness. The initial chapters focus on the impact others had on Lincoln and how he transformed their ideas into his own political vision. The work then turns to Lincoln's political style during the Civil War and how he influenced others. The final chapter puts Lincoln's political style in the perspective of world leaders of his age. This volume will be of interest to both historians and political scientists.

"The skill of the editors combined with the cooperation of the authors has led to a slim but useful volume. What makes this book particularly valuable is its tight focus on leadership. Abraham Lincoln can be considered something of an invitation to scholars to address other aspects of Lincoln's style of leadership. An for that invitation, we should be grateful to the Abraham Lincoln Association as well as to the editors of this volume. They have done their job well."- Illinois Historical Journal

"This collection of nine essays, each of which looks at Abraham Lincoln's leadership from a different perspective, deserves examination by Lincoln specialists and others with a serious interest in his leadership qualities. The nine essayists represent a rich diversity in scholarly experience and in knowledge of Lincoln's life and achievements."-The Filson Club History Quarterly

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"From Japan to Idaho, from Aristotle to U.S. Grant, this book offers wide-ranging perspectives on presidential leadership, with something for nearly every student of Lincoln's all-important public life."-Mark E. Neely, Jr. St. Louis University

"The fecundity of Lincoln scholarship is marvelous. Here is new proof of it--a set of conference papers ranging over subjects as diverse as Lincoln's "classical prudence," his poetry, and his relations with Idaho--and it is all the more interesting because it comes from the Deep South."-Merrill D. Peterson University of Virginia

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"Leadership is the most important but at the same time most mysterious attribute of statesmanship. This book illumines the multiple dimensions of Lincoln's leadership, thereby lessening the mystery while providing wonderful new insights on the qualities that made Lincoln the nation's greatest president who led it through its greatest crisis."-James M. McPherson G.H. Davis 1886 Professor of American History, Princeton University

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About the Author

FRANK J. WILLIAMS is President of the Abraham Lincoln Association. A lawyer and Judge of Probate in Rhode Island, he is the author of numerous articles on Lincoln and is currently preparing a comprehensive bibliography on Lincoln.

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