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BOOK NOTES

Native American Women: A Contextual Bibliography by Rayna Green (Indiana University Press, cloth \$19.50) generally follows the format of volumes in the American Indian Bibliographical Series of the Newberry Library, a series also published by Indiana University Press. Green provides a brief introductory essay about the literature on Native American women and then lists 672 titles in an annotated bibliography. It includes publications that are specifically about Native women as individuals or as members of groups in the United States, including Alaska, and in Canada. The bibliography consists of books, articles, dissertations, some government publications, and works of fiction.

Mountain Campus: The Story of Northern Arizona University by Platt Cline with a foreword by Bruce Babbitt (Northland Press, paper \$14.00) is a thorough history of that growing institution that opened its doors in 1899 when a large building that had been built for a territorial reform school became Northern Arizona Normal School. Cline recounts the history of the school by concentrating on the careers of its presidents. Two such individuals were Rudolph Blome, who played a major role in the development of the institution but was railroaded out of office during World War I, and J. Lawrence Walkup, who presided over the modern expansion of the school. This is a readable history by the long-time publisher and editor of the *Arizona Daily Sun*.

Gauchos and the Vanishing Frontier by Richard W. Slatta (University of Nebraska Press, cloth \$21.95) is the first major English language study of the residents of the Argentine pampas and is of special interest for comparison of gauchos and American cowboys. Slatta strips away much of the romance and myth surrounding the gauchos and demonstrates that these migratory ranch hands and horsemen ceased to exist as an identifiable social group during the last third of the nineteenth century because of legal and political pressures and social and economic change. They faced relentless oppression by successive government administrations acting on behalf of a powerful landed elite that sought to eradicate the gauchos.

Recent reprints by the University of Oklahoma Press include two titles that relate directly to New Mexico history and culture. *The Civil War in the Western Territories: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah* by Ray C. Colton (paper \$8.95) was first published in 1959 and was a pioneering work in its focus on the Southwest. Earlier studies of the Civil War in the West had been more narrow in scope. Colton described the Confederate invasion of New Mexico, its retreat from Glorieta, the arrival of California troops, Indian campaigns, and political issues in these territories. Those interested in this topic might supplement Colton's study with more recent books, including Martin Hall's work on the Sibley campaign, Darlis Miller's *The California Column in New Mexico*, and *Rebels on the Rio Grande*, edited by Don Alberts, which consists of the journal of a soldier in Sibley's brigade.

Book Reviews

BORDERLANDS SOURCEBOOK: A GUIDE TO THE LITERATURE ON NORTHERN MEXICO AND THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST. Edited by Ellwyn R. Stoddard, Richard L. Nostrand, and Jonathan P. West. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1983. Pp. xv, 446. Maps, tables, bibliog., index. \$48.50.

LIKE MOST MASSIVE, COLLABORATIVE, EDITED COMPILATIONS, this one was born older than its editors would have liked. It covers "the literature" through the late 1970s, with only a sprinkling of titles from the early 80s. The fact is, it almost was not born at all, because of prenatal financial pains, which Stoddard explains in "Multidisciplinary Research Funding: A 'Catch 22' Enigma," *The American Sociologist* (November 1982).

The idea of a sourcebook of materials (mostly published but many little-known) bearing on the U.S.-Mexican border region (the northern rank of Mexican states, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Texas) grew out of the multidisciplinary-team effort of Charles P. Loomis at Michigan State University in the 1950s, the subsequent lean years of informal networks among interested individuals, and the eventual founding in 1976 of the Association of Borderlands Scholars. All along, the emphasis has been on contemporary issues (in "borderlands" with a definite border)—migration, human welfare, border officialdom, shared environment and resources, the drug traffic—and on how the applied social and other sciences can help, with archaeology and history (back when the borderlands were frontiers) providing useful background. Contributors, contents, and format all reflect this emphasis.

The statistics are impressive. The book weighs 3.5 pounds. Fifty-one authors from fifteen academic disciplines have provided fifty-nine bibliographical, state-of-the-field essays, grouped by the editors in sections on Frontiers, Boundaries, and Borderlands; History and Archaeology; Geography and the Environment; the Economy; Politics, the Law, and Demography; Society and Culture; and Borderlands Information Resources. The monumental, double-column, composite bibliography runs for one hundred and thirty pages and includes not only books, articles, dissertations, and theses, but also "Unauthored Public Documents and Miscellaneous Resource Materials."

But the bibliography is not indexed. Trying to relocate an item I had seen before, something about Bernal Díaz del Castillo, I found myself faced with the choice of guessing which essayist might have mentioned him or starting back through the whole list. And sure enough, when I came to my name, I found myself split, between John I. and John L. To neither were my two books from the University of Arizona Press attributed. But then no one said it was perfect or comprehensive.

As one of those places to look first, and as a store of otherwise unlisted and

unusual items, the *Borderlands Sourcebook* is already on my desk alongside Lyle Saunder's enduring, multidisciplinary *Guide to Materials Bearing on Cultural Relations in New Mexico* (1944). For an electronic index and for updates I'll learn to use "BorderLine," the ever-building, on-line searchable database centered at UCLA and linked to university libraries throughout the borderlands. Still, as one who even now prefers solid black-on-white (and bound) to flickering yellow-green or blue, I'll hope that Stoddard, Nostrand, and West's sourcebook is not the last of a dying breed.

University of New Mexico

JOHN L. KESSELL

THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE. By Robert H. Lister and Florence C. Lister. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1984. Pp. 184. Illus., index. \$32.50.

HOW OFTEN HAVE VISITORS left the ruins of Chaco Canyon, Mesa Verde, Bandelier, and Casas Grande wondering how they all fit together? Through a bountifully illustrated, brilliantly organized, and beautifully published book, the Southwest Parks and Monuments Association answers that question. Commissioning two of the leading archeologists of the Southwest, Robert H. and Florence C. Lister, the association set out to provide prehistoric and historic contexts for the major southwestern archeological sites of the National Park System.

The organization of the book makes the subject manageable. First the Listers describe the environment—desert, plateau, and mountain-valley. Next they briefly summarize the early-man hunting cultures of the Paleo-Indian period and the foraging people of the Archaic era. Then, in lay terms, they present a more comprehensive overview of the three major culture groups—Hohokam, Anasazi, and Mogollon. By contrasting housing types, pottery design, agricultural techniques, burial methods, tool kits, and ceremonial rituals, they distinguish between the three groups. Finally, the Listers conclude with brief descriptions of peripheral cultures related to the three primary groups.

Because current archeological theory stresses similarities of cultural groups rather than differences, the Listers provide the reader with "an all-Southwestern interpretation." In contrast to the more traditional approach, this interpretation describes the evolution of various cultures from hunters and foragers to those who dwell in hamlets, villages, towns, and finally to historic native tribes. This interpretation perceives prehistory "more as a subtle collage than a distinct mosaic of identifiable pieces" (p. 41).

Using both interpretations, the Listers identify the major cultures of each park area. As a further convenience to the reader, they have arranged the parks alphabetically. Under each park description, they discuss its cultural significance and affiliation, then provide a narrative of its history, its archeological investigations, and its preservation. Because repetition has been kept to a minimum and because the history of these areas overlaps, the reader would be wise to read the whole book rather than pick and choose.

Although the book has many fine qualities, it contains a few irritants. While

most anthropologists eschew value judgments, the Listers constantly refer to "culturally advanced" groups. In addition, because the National Park Service interprets standing structures, the book emphasizes those cultures that left ruins and rarely extends beyond the boundaries of the parks to include other significant peoples.

Such minor criticisms do not detract from a major and worthwhile achievement. Not only is the text fully comprehensible to the average reader, but maps and time lines provide further enhancements. In addition, early photos from the George A. Grant collection and modern color prints from David Muench offer depth and contrast. Finally, for those who may want greater detail, the Listers conclude each section with suggested readings.

National Park Service

MELODY WEBB

A BORDERLANDS TOWN IN TRANSITION: LAREDO, 1755-1870. By Gilberto Miguel Hinojosa. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1983. Pp. xviii, 148. Illus., bibliog., glossary, appendix, index. \$10.95

MEXICAN AMERICANS HAVE DEEP ROOTS in Texas and southwestern history, predating the arrival of Anglo Americans to the Southwest. Regrettably, this history is often overlooked. In recent and heated debates over immigration in Congress, a missing element was a historical understanding of the role Mexicans have played in southwestern and United States history. Fortunately, this history is now beginning to be documented. Gilbert Hinojosa's study of Laredo is one step in that direction.

Hinojosa examines Laredo from its founding as a Spanish outpost in the northern regions of New Spain to its incorporation as an American town in the post-Mexican War period. Unfortunately, Hinojosa's study lacks a basic theme other than his suggestion of an obvious one. That is, that Laredo underwent certain economic, political, and social changes as it moved from Spanish jurisdiction, to Mexican control, and on to being part of Texas as a result of absorption by the U.S. Yet these changes also included a high degree of continuity in the socioeconomic system of this small outpost. Precisely because of Laredo's relative isolation continuity rather than change characterizes its history up to the post-Mexican War period. Not until the U.S. era, when railroads penetrated South Texas, did Laredo undergo fundamental change as it became an important railroad center. Here, however, Hinojosa unwisely chooses to end his study. A stronger book would include this additional period that would illuminate, for example, significant ethnic relations.

Moreover, even in his treatment of the Spanish, Mexican, and post-Mexican periods, Hinojosa's slim volume is too brief to discuss effectively Laredo society. Family life, for instance, in Hinojosa's hands becomes only demographic data. This limitation here contrasts with the rich history of family life in Ramón Gutiérrez's forthcoming book on colonial New Mexico.

In all, Hinojosa's study, although it provides additional knowledge about the

history of Mexicans in Texas, is disappointing for its brevity and its failure to probe deeply into major themes. A topical rather than a chronological organization might have served Hinojosa better.

University of California, Santa Barbara

MARIO T. GARCÍA

SANTA FE: A PICTORIAL HISTORY. By John Sherman. Santa Fe: William Gannon, 1983. Pp. viii, 216. Illus., bibliog., index. \$29.95 cloth, \$16.95 paper.

INITIALLY PUBLISHED IN HARDCOVER limited edition in 1983 for its customers by the First National Bank of Santa Fe, *Santa Fe: A Pictorial History* has now been reprinted in a second edition in hardcover and paperbound, making the book accessible to a wider audience. Written by multifaceted writer John Sherman of Santa Fe, the volume is everything that a photographic history should be: good photographs with good interpretation.

The selection of photographs depicting the history of the City Different is well-balanced with a good mix of street scenes, buildings, festivities, artifacts, documents, monuments, and group and individual portraits. In picturing cultural groups the book, in its interpretation and photographs, is fair to all people: Indians, Hispanics, and Anglos.

Approximately one half of the photographs in the book were gleaned from the Museum of New Mexico Photo Archives; the rest are from various public and private collections. An emphasis is placed on turn-of-the-century to the present photographs of Santa Fe, which is understandable, as there is a comparative dearth, exclusive of portraits, of Santa Fe photographs dating from the development of photography to 1900. Although the author has made a reasonable attempt at covering the history of Santa Fe for the rest of its 250-year history through the use of photographs of artifacts and other materials, the book emerges as a study of Santa Fe in the twentieth century, with brief overviews of the prior stages in the development of the city. Perhaps the story could have been made more complete with additional photographs of examples of material culture from earlier periods.

In essence, though, the book effectively traces the history of Santa Fe from its founding to the present, and a good percentage of the photographs are previously unpublished. Indeed, many of them are remarkable in their depiction of Santa Fe events. One favorite is a photo of a World War I tank razing the Exchange Hotel to clear the site for construction of La Fonda. Other photos afford the reader what may be their first glimpse of Victorian Santa Fe. The photos clearly indicate that Santa Fe had a strong tradition of Victorian architecture, as well as a pre-Victorian building style. The birth of the so-called "Pueblo/Spanish Revival" style, the style of contemporary Santa Fe, is also well-documented.

The book draws subtle attention to one of Santa Fe's largest setbacks as a historical city and cultural oasis: the lack of historic preservation of many of its notable buildings. The photo captions are constant reminders of Santa Fe edifices that have been destroyed: the Nusbaum House (d. 1961), the Magoffin House (d.

ca. 1949, now a parking lot), the Hagerman House (formerly an officer's quarters on the Fort Marcy military complex), the Manderfield Home, the Speigelberg House (torn down to make way for a parking lot), and others, which were either demolished or drastically remodeled.

Santa Fe has two revolutionary codes supposedly dictating its historic preservation and future buildings, the Business Capital District Streetscape Ordinance, and the Historical Design Code, both of which were recently reworked and tightened up. Time will tell whether these laws will hold up under increasing pressure from builders and developers who seek to circumvent the legislation. In the final analysis, although Santa Fe is an old city and contains many historic buildings, it has been quite careless in the preservation of any building threatened by modern encroachments. Generally, existing buildings are pushed aside by new developments.

Sherman's book is by no means the last word on the photographic history of Santa Fe; other works and surveys on Santa Fe's and New Mexico's pictorial history are in progress. Still, more work should be done in this specialized area of historical research, both in public and private collections, the latter a virtually untapped source.

The volume will find its way to the bookshelves of collectors of material on Santa Fe because of its photographic account of the evolution of the oldest capital city in the United States.

Museum of New Mexico

CHARLES BENNETT

JEFFERSON AND SOUTHWESTERN EXPLORATION: THE FREEMAN AND CUSTIS ACCOUNTS OF THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION OF 1806. Dan L. Flores, ed. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1984. Pp. xx, 386. Illus., bibliog., index. \$48.50.

FOLLOWING THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE IN 1803 President Thomas Jefferson set into motion plans to explore portions of this vast new territory. As a result, beginning in 1804 several expeditions headed west. Among these expeditions the actions of Lewis and Clark have received most attention from both contemporaries and subsequent scholars. Less widely known are the explorations of William Dunbar and George Hunter on the Ouachita River in 1805, and the larger and better equipped expedition up the Red River the following year led by Thomas Freeman and Peter Custis. *Jefferson and Southwest Exploration* admirably draws scholarly attention to the latter of these two ventures.

In a lengthy introduction and epilogue, which together are almost monographic, editor Dan L. Flores discusses the Freeman and Custis venture of 1806 within the context of Jeffersonian expansionism. He notes that although the Red River foray was the most expensive, the largest, and the first to employ a civilian scientist, it has received little attention. Flores finds two reasons for this oversight. First, because only a part of Thomas Freeman's journal and none of Custis' reports were published, there could be little response to or acclaim for the explorers.

Second, and, in his view most important, the Burr-Wilkinson conspiracy, combined with rumors of treason and a potential war with Spain, combined to frighten President Jefferson into virtually disavowing the expedition. The author overlooks the obvious reason that because Spanish troops intercepted the party it failed to achieve most of its goals.

Obviously, Flores's objective is to rescue the Freeman and Custis Expedition from obscurity, and in this volume he has done just that. Although a few scholars might interpret some of the events differently, the editor states his version clearly and uses his evidence carefully. The research for this volume is also thorough. Flores located Peter Custis' four manuscript reports, none of which had been published previously. In addition he combed the holdings of the Bexar Archives and examined the rarely used correspondence of frontier Spanish officials to find their reactions to American probes into southwestern border regions. In the account of the expedition he combines sections from Thomas Freeman's published journal with the manuscript reports of Peter Custis to give a fascinating and well-connected narrative. His annotations are excellent, identifying people, places, and things, as well as discussing the scientific contributions made, and related scholarly literature.

The chief flaw in the book is the lack of good present-day maps. This limitation is likely the fault of the University of Oklahoma Press, which frequently publishes otherwise first-rate books with inadequate maps. A second issue is the number of full-page photographs. Considering the inflated price of this volume, few readers need pictures of a jack rabbit, a white-tailed deer, a common black bear, or page after page showing the Red River. On the other hand the photograph of the Great Raft in the 1870s is excellent. Despite these minor problems, Flores has contributed a first-rate piece of editing, through which American efforts to explore the environment and to strengthen national territorial claims to parts of the Southwest may be seen as interlocking forces during the Jeffersonian era.

University of Arizona

ROGER L. NICHOLS

RANCHERS, RAMBLERS, AND RENEGADES: TRUE TALES OF TERRITORIAL NEW MEXICO. By Marc Simmons. Santa Fe: Ancient City Press, 1984. Pp. x, 113. Illus. \$5.95.

THIS DELIGHTFUL LITTLE BOOK is a collection of twenty-nine vignettes of New Mexico's American territorial period. It is a companion volume to Simmons' *Taos to Tomé: True Tales of Hispanic New Mexico*, which Adobe Press originally published in 1978 but which is now available from Ancient City Press.

Ranchers, Ramblers, and Renegades was written for a general audience and is not a scholarly monograph like most of the works of this author. Simmons, one of New Mexico's leading historians, believes that popular history serves the important function of introducing the lay reader to the utility and pleasures of the study of history.

Although many of these brief (two- or three-page) stories have been lengthened

or changed, all of them were originally published in various periodicals, including *New Mexico Magazine* and the *El Paso Times*. The book contains no reference notes or bibliography, but Simmons explains in his preface that the articles are based on various primary sources that he has discovered in the course of his scholarly research.

Readers will wish that the space taken up by numerous blank pages scattered throughout the book had been used instead for an index. This deficiency is modified somewhat by chapter subtitles in the table of contents; e.g., "Mystery of the Mayberry Murders" is followed by the subtitle "Still unexplained slaughter in the mining camp of Bonito City, 1885." The usefulness of the book is also enhanced by more than twenty black-and-white photographs, related directly or indirectly to the stories.

While many of the stories in this collection were widely publicized as news at the time they happened, they are virtually unknown to scholars and history buffs of today. The author states, "I have tried to illuminate some of the lesser-known incidents and characters of New Mexican history" during the territorial period. However, some of the characters are not in that category. For example, one article tells how W. L. Rynerson killed Judge John P. Slough at the La Fonda in Santa Fe in 1867. Another tells how Governor Lew Wallace wrote *Ben Hur* in the governor's palace.

The three-part title of this work is intriguing, although it is not clear in some instances which stories go in which category. "Ranchers" obviously includes "The WS Ranch and the Last Apache Uprising" and "A Bar Cross Christmas." Clearly, "Ramblers on the Southwestern Frontier" and "Stalking Grizzlies" are about "Ramblers"; and "Badman Leyba," "The Ghost of Robbers Roost," and the several articles about Indians capturing whites would relate to "Renegades." But what does one do with "The First New Mexico Penitentiary," "The Man Who Saved a President," and "First Airplane on the Rio Grande?"

Still, Simmons has produced a most valuable collection of human interest stories that will enchant devotees of New Mexican history. Teachers and other scholars can also find in these articles many useful facts to add depth and color to their presentations.

Eastern New Mexico University, Roswell

ELVIS E. FLEMING

JOHN GAW MEEM: SOUTHWESTERN ARCHITECT. By Bainbridge Bunting. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1983. Pp. xvi, 177. Illus., appendix, bibliog., index. \$29.95.

THIS HANDSOME VOLUME on John Gaw Meem, perhaps the primary architect of the Southwest during the first half of this century, was put together with the extraordinarily high graphic standards typical of the University of New Mexico Press and the School of American Research. The copious illustrations show plans, elevations, and architectural details of the best work put out by Meem and his architectural offices, as well as photographs of his buildings by Laura Gilpin and

Ansel Adams. Gilpin's photographs in particular bring out the architectural features to their best advantage, and those of Tyler Dingee and Robert Reck approach that quality. The graphic documentation of Meem's work is more than adequate for understanding the ways in which he designed his buildings to articulate space with his own southwestern flavor.

The text is highly readable, which is especially refreshing for a book written by a fellow architectural historian. The format is easy to follow. In the first chapter, Bunting introduces the reader to Meem's life—his birth in Brazil, his study of civil engineering, his move to New Mexico for health reasons, his informal and then formal study of architecture, and his lifetime commitment to historic preservation. Bunting discusses Meem's architectural philosophy in the second chapter, showing how he developed a love for Spanish-Pueblo and Territorial styles in his work, but remained adamantly progressive in his acceptance of new technologies, and the simpler, cleaner lines of twentieth-century architecture. The discussion of Meem's philosophy provides a clear basis for understanding how he successfully used such a variety of architectural idioms in his prolific career—from picturesque Spanish-Pueblo to simple neoclassical—while doing it all with a modern southwestern twist.

Next, Bunting discusses Meem's architectural career and then studies in depth his outstanding commissions. These chapters are sufficiently coordinated to lack redundancy and provide valuable insight into the other principles in Meem's firms and their teamwork approach to design. Particularly enlightening are the discussions of architect/client relations, funding limitations, site and zoning restrictions, and the subsequent effects these subjects had on architectural design. Bunting presents the logic and substance of Meem's architecture. He explains the finer points of structure, describes how the buildings stand up, and why they look as they do.

A shortcoming that crops up throughout the book is Bunting's treatment of Meem's buildings as fine objects—and indeed they are—but without reference to the impact of Meem's buildings when grouped together, such as at the University of New Mexico campus or in his collective contributions to the architectural fabric of Santa Fe. These are instances where the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, even though some of those parts are landmarks of twentieth-century southwestern architecture. Meem's architectural legacy at the UNM campus deserves more attention than a paragraph explaining the numbers of buildings with which he and his associates were involved. The smaller, less extravagant buildings provide a suitable environment for the architectural masterpieces, thereby enhancing those landmarks even more.

Other minor flaws appear in the book. On page 53, for instance, Bunting refers to the building stone of St. Francis Cathedral, the restoration of which Meem was working on, as "soft volcanic tufa," rather than the tuff that it is. Tufa is a travertine, formed by mineral deposits from springs; tuff is a stone of varying densities formed by deposits of volcanic ash. On page 74, the author refers to M. E. J. Colter as "an interior decorator from Kansas City . . . [who] had an eye for architectural design." True, she was the interior designer for Meem's La Fonda

addition in Santa Fe, but Bunting neglects mentioning her background as an architect who designed a number of buildings for the Fred Harvey Company. These are minor points, but they lead the reader to question the possible biases of other information Bunting presents.

Despite these small shortcomings, the book is a worthy and fitting monument not only to John Gaw Meem, but also to Bainbridge Bunting. The contributions of these men to the architecture of the Southwest, and the understanding of that architecture, are enormous.

National Park Service

LAURA SOULLIERE HARRISON

GROWING OLD AT WILLIE NELSON'S PICNIC AND OTHER SKETCHES OF LIFE IN THE SOUTHWEST. By Ronald B. Querry. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1983. Pp. x, 277. Illus. \$18.50 cloth, \$10.95 paper.

AS ONE MIGHT EXPECT in a collection of essays and fictional narratives intended to capture the spirit of the Southwest, some familiar voices proffer what has become by now the basic multicultural perspective: N. Scott Momaday, Leslie Silko, Frank Waters, and (the always so essential) D. H. Lawrence. Mr. Querry has also done a good job of finding a few new voices to round out his score of southwestern writers: Tom Miller, Kirk Purcell, and Clancy Carlile among others. One must wonder why, though, among the twenty voices we find only one woman (Leslie Silko); and, although the Hispanic culture (historical and contemporary) receives attention in several essays, no Hispanic writers appear. This predominance of Anglo-male authors will be problematic to many readers; fortunately, though, the range of topics reflects a broader perspective and more diverse sensibilities. The issues covered in this collection range from the conventional ones—ethnic rituals, cowboy culture, the art culture of Taos, and interracial conflict and accommodation—to items often overlooked—the sociology and economics of raising livestock, the quasi-religious significance of big-time southwestern football, and the integral interrelationship between the old and the young in several ethnic cultures.

Querry's collection does reveal dramatically and graphically what David Lavender in *The Southwest* calls the "Southwest Pepperpot." That is, one gets from this collection a clear perception of the forces of history and landscape that have allowed so many varied cultural groups to maintain a strong sense of identity in this section of the country, producing a cultural mosaic quite distinct from the mythical melting pot of the Midwest. The personal voice in nearly all of these essays and stories rings quite strong, and the authenticity of these voices addresses so well the persistence of the tensions and ambiguities in interracial relationships that have given this section of the United States (New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Texas) its distinctive cultural qualities.

Whether it is Joseph McCoy describing a cattle drive in 1874 or Larry McMurtry noting the "departing grace" of a certain group of Texans, Kirk Purcell sharing the mystique and mayhem of rodeo clowning, or Frank Waters capturing so

poignantly the blood connection between a Native American and his sacred mountain, most of these selections affirm the elemental synergism among the sense of past, the sense of place, and the sense of person so characteristic of the Southwest. Like most efforts in regional literature, these essays and stories vacillate between microcosmic universality and, on occasion, myopic provincialism—though all but a couple have that redeeming quality of the best regional literature of providing a message transcendent in time and place but being firmly rooted in a particular historical subculture. One doubts if some of these voices are ones that Lawrence Clark Powell would see as elemental to an understanding of the southwestern heartland, though most of them do contribute an essential note to this chorus that sings the song of the Southwest in so many ways: environmental, economic, artistic, sociological, political, architectural, religious, and aesthetic.

Finally, with the exception of the ethnic and gender deficiency, one has to appreciate the time and taste that went into compiling this collection. Even the several photographs of authors or southwestern scenes scattered throughout the book enhance the overall impact—and Powell would approve, I suspect, of the cover photograph of the windmill, water tank, fading sun and rising thunderstorm over an arid landscape with mountains in the background. This is a stark land that breeds reverence and respect in people strong enough to expose themselves to it, daring and caring enough to take it to heart.

University of New Mexico

JOEL M. JONES