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Book Reviews

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Two Worlds: The Indian Encounter with the European, 1492–1509. By S. Lyman Tyler. (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1988. ix + 258 pp. Maps, index, notes. $25.00.)

As the 1992 quincentennial of Columbus' "discovery" of the New World approaches, we can look forward to a spate of publications on early encounters between Native Americans and Europeans. Few, however, will treat Columbus' own experiences, as does S. Lyman Tyler's book; but those who anticipate here new insights on Spanish-Arawakan interactions will be disappointed.

The title page suggests that Tyler, professor emeritus in history in the University of Utah, offers a cultural analysis of early contact. In fact, besides about thirty-eight pages of original text and six pages of notes, the book consists of translations from Spanish. Tyler's background remarks are useful, but they constitute neither a substantial review nor reanalysis of issues concerning contact and conquest.

Editorial sloppiness frustrates the reader's efforts to discover what the book actually contains. The introduction mentions only a new translation of Bartolomé de las Casas' abstract of and quotations from the journal of Christopher Columbus from October 11–24, 1492. Only later does one discover the inclusion of substantial portions from subsequent entries in the Columbus journal and extensive extracts pertaining to the Columbus discoveries from Book 1 of Las Casas' massive *History of the Indies,* begun in 1527.

Although Tyler refers to the Columbus journal materials as "my own translation," he acknowledges Charles W. Wonder "for the original translation" (p. 8). Wonder apparently also provided the initial translation of some chapters

from *History of the Indies*, others of which are extracted from a 1971 partial translation of the work by Andrée Collard. The new translations are competent and readable.

The content of the texts demonstrates how worthwhile would be a reconsideration of the earliest years of Spanish-Indian encounters in the Caribbean. They contain fascinating detail on many topics, including first descriptions of New World Indians by a European observer, arguments regarding the treatment of natives, and evidence for the rapid, devastating impact of the first Europeans on indigenous populations. As raw material, these texts are gripping.

Lacking, however, is any substantial analysis of the original Spanish texts. One searches in vain for a deeper understanding of the powerful cultural attitudes that shaped Columbus' observations and Las Casas' controversial writings. One highly recommended model would be Tzvetan Todorov's brief but brilliant study of Columbus in his *The Conquest of America: The Question of the Other* (1984).

Grant D. Jones
School of American Research and Davidson College

American Indian Holocaust and Survival: A Population History Since 1492. By Russell Thornton. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987. xx + 292 pp. Illustrations, maps, charts, tables, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. $29.95.)

American Indian Holocaust and Survival: A Population History Since 1492 is one of the more important books written in American Indian studies in recent years. Russell Thornton, Professor of Sociology in the University of Minnesota and author of three previous works on American Indians, has built on the earlier works of Borah, Cook, Crosby, Denevan, Dobyns and Ubelaker to produce a first-rate synthesis in which he conveniently documents the population history of North American Indians since Euro-American contact. From a population of seven million in 1492, Thornton carefully shows that the "fires that consumed North American Indians were the fevers brought on by newly encountered diseases, the flashes of settlers' and soldiers' guns, the ravages of 'firewater,' the flames of villages and fields burned by the scorched earth policy of vengeful Euro-Americans" (p. xv). Although he will be criticized for using the term "holocaust," one associated with the destruction of European Jewry from 1938 to 1945, Thornton nevertheless shows that entire American Indian populations, such as the Beothuk, became extinct and others faced near-extinction by genocidal policies as well as by deadly microbes.

Thornton's work contains extensive analysis of the decline of California Indian populations in the nineteenth century, which he refers to as the most blatant and deliberate killing of Indians ever found in North America. From a high of over a quarter million people in 1800, these Indians declined to 18,000 in 1890, largely as a result of violence directed against them.

Thornton discusses other important subjects. He has an excellent chapter on population recovery since 1900 and another on the impact of urbanization. He also has a chapter titled, "The Great Ghost Dance," which concludes that

Indian depopulation and revitalization movements in 1870 and 1890 were causally linked.

This book should be of interest to a scholarly audience since it contains a wealth of data ranging from the intermarriage rates of American Indians to the size of the buffalo herds from aboriginal times to 1983. It should also be of use to the general reader trying to make sense of this difficult subject, which more often than not is buried in quantitative jargon.

Laurence M. Hauptman
State University of New York, New Paltz

Food, Conquest, and Colonization in Sixteenth-Century Spanish America. By John C. Super. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1988. xviii + 133 pp. Maps, notes, bibliography, index. $24.95 cloth, $11.95 paper.)

The most challenging and provocative historical writing today often addresses topics that go beyond the boundaries of human institutions and view man in relation to his natural world. Recent work in ecological history, the study of the relationship, over time, between culture, society and changes in the land, is one example. John C. Super provides another with his excellent book on food in sixteenth-century Spanish America. Focusing on the central areas of the Andes and Mexico, he contributes a strong thesis as well as important insights into the historiographic issues and problems attendant in this kind of research.

Super makes two basic points: first, the European conquest and colonization of the New World, and the resulting Columbian exchange of plants and animals, created in sixteenth-century Spanish America a rich nutritional regime, unparalleled in the world at the time; and second, that the supply and distribution of this food was adequate, for Spanish and Indian alike, for most of the century. As a consequence, food shortages or famines rarely occurred, if at all, and therefore they did not contribute to the population collapse of the sixteenth century, as some historians have argued. Indeed, surpluses of grains and meats may well have helped some Indians to withstand disease and the effects of harsh labor institutions. The great irony, Super concludes, is "that one of the greatest population losses in history occurred during this period of good food supply" (p. 88).

Super cites a number of factors that contributed to this situation. Among others, Spanish America, in contrast to Europe especially, possessed longer growing seasons, multiple harvests, and untapped arable land. Seed-yield ratios, while varying by crops and region, were also higher. In addition, a variety of Spanish economic and political institutions, while far from perfect, effectively controlled the distribution of food.

Super offers valuable commentary on research methodology throughout his study. Close examination of archival and printed sources turns up sufficient evidence to explain the natural and social forces that influenced what and how much people ate; in turn, a sense of the adequacy of diet can be assumed. On the other hand, evidence is too fragmentary, or lacking altogether, to quantify individual diets and therefore measure their nutrient value. Yet Super's analysis

of forces and causal relationships is so persuasive in understanding the role of food in sixteenth-century Spanish America that a modern nutritionist's need to measure calories, vitamins, and minerals seems almost unimportant. As Super remarks: "it is possible to arrive at an understanding of the size of a galaxy without counting all of its stars" (p. 7).

Robert MacCameron
State University of New York, Empire State College

Indian Survival in Colonial Nicaragua. By Linda A. Newson. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987. 496 pp. Tables, notes, bibliography, index. $36.50.)

Linda A. Newson's substantial volume, a study of the impact on Indian peoples of the Spanish colonization and occupation of Nicaragua between 1522 and 1821, is a comprehensive and illuminating work. Newson, a geographer, has used the insights and techniques of history, anthropology, and sociology to look carefully at the changes in the lives of the original Nicaraguans through a period of initial, traumatic cultural clash and its slower-moving but sometimes equally traumatic aftermath.

Newson's major interest is demography, and despite conflicting documents, she shows that the native population of the region dropped approximately 92.5 percent from the beginning of the period of Spanish contact to the beginning of the eighteenth century, from a total of eight hundred thousand to a probable aggregate of sixty thousand. From that time on, a gradual recovery ensued, although the indigenous population never regained its pre-Spanish level. Newson is meticulous in separating the trends in the Mesoamerican area on the Pacific side of the country, the area of earliest, most far-reaching, and longest-lasting Spanish occupation, from the eastern area of the country, which was culturally closer to the indigenous cultures of South America. Indeed, not only does Newson provide the evidence that will make possible a comparison between Nicaragua and other areas of Spanish conquest, she also makes close comparisons between these two areas of Nicaragua.

The most important conclusion of Newson's work is that during the early period of contact the slave trade had a major role in the devastation of Indian populations in the Nicaraguan area, a role, she asserts, that was equal to the effects of disease and of poor treatment, overwork, and social disruption of Indian communities. The importance of the slave trade in the decline of Indian populations has been less noticeable for areas such as Mexico and Peru, where closer Crown control prevented the abuses that were perpetrated in Nicaragua. Indeed, Nicaragua was at best a backwater of Spanish empire and thus was less a focus for Crown concern and influence. As she states: "The sale of slaves was a profitable business and was regarded as the only means by which colonists could support themselves in the area" (p. 102). Despite the Crown's abolition of slavery in the Americas with the promulgation of the New Laws in 1542, the trade was not significantly hindered by Crown action but declined instead in the 1540s because of the diminishing supply of easily enslavable Indians.

For the period 1550–1720, the factors involved in population decline changed

significantly. For this period, Newson sees the importance of disease and the "disruption of Indian economies and societies" (p. 246) as the major factors in the decline of the Indian population. Moreover, she signals the great importance of racial intermixing, which assumed a larger role as time went on, on the decline of the Indian population, both racially and culturally. Increasing European contact with previously isolated zones in the 1720–1821 period prevented anything like a full recovery of the Indian population before independence from Spain.

Although the book is an important contribution to our understanding of the impact of European colonialism on native cultures, it is unfortunately not a good book for the general reader. Certain organizational problems make it less useful than it should be even for the specialist. First of all, it is topically organized into several chapters for each of the periods mentioned. Unfortunately, much of the material used in these chapters overlaps, leading to a great deal of repetition. Skillful editing would have permitted the incorporation of much of the material into fewer chapters. Secondly, many of the author's major conclusions are buried within the chapters, as opposed to the concluding portions of each section. A summary of the most important points would have been immensely useful, and potentially quite illuminating, if they had been pulled together at the end of each section.

In short, this book is an important addition to the literature on contact between European and indigenous cultures. Despite problems in organization, it is of great interest and use to the specialist.

Linda B. Hall
University of New Mexico

Aztec Warfare: Imperial Expansion and Political Control. By Ross Hassig. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988. xx + 404 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. $29.95.)

Aztec Warfare is the most complete and detailed work yet written on this important and fascinating topic. Its publication is timely because of recent debates among scholars over the nature of Aztec war and its links to religion and imperialism. The book is divided into two parts, "War in Aztec Life" and "The History of Aztec Expansion."

Part I provides detailed descriptions of the methods and logistics of war and combat, from military training and preparation to arms and armor. Noteworthy is the use of comparative logistical data to assess the reliability of the sources on marching times and battle organization. This section is a valuable reference tool as Ross Hassig is the first to pull together the available sources on the mechanics of Aztec warfare. This reviewer's only quarrel with Part I is a tendency to present as established fact conclusions based upon only one or two sources.

Part II reviews the chronology of imperial expansion. Hassig uses a wider variety of sources in these chapters to reconstruct a detailed chronology of individual campaigns. Having recently reviewed much of this material, the reviewer has few specific problems with his results, but the data could be

presented in a more useful format. The maps are difficult to interpret, no tables are included, and the system of town numbers is idiosyncratic and changes from one map to the next. This same material was also synthesized in an unpublished 1979 dissertation by H. B. Holt, and *Aztec Warfare* does not appear to improve significantly on Holt's findings. On the other hand, Hassig's comments on the Spanish conquest are original and illuminating.

In conclusion, *Aztec Warfare* is disappointing because it fails to move beyond the narrow confines of combat and chronology. In Part I, we learn much about the mechanics of warfare, but little about its religious or socioeconomic significance. Part II gives a detailed chronology of imperial expansion, but the links between this expansion and socioeconomic developments in Tenochtitlan and elsewhere are not explored. Hassig's application of Luttwak's "hegemonic empire" model to the Aztecs (in his previous book) was a major conceptual advance, but he does not follow up or expand on this notion in the present work. Nonetheless, as a scholarly discussion of Aztec combat and military chronology, *Aztec Warfare* is a useful book and a welcome addition to the growing literature on the Aztecs.

Michael E. Smith
Loyola University, Chicago

Lord of the Dawn: The Legend of Quetzalcóatl. By Rudolfo A. Anaya. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1987. 159 pp. $13.95.)

In 1519 Hernando Cortés and six hundred men landed at Vera Cruz to begin the conquest of Mexico. The Spaniards marched from the coast to the outskirts of Tenochtitlan, the capital of the Aztec empire, where they prepared their attack. The Europeans would find themselves blessed with massive good fortune, for it was the year *Ce Acatl,* or One Reed, on the Indian calendar, the time when the legendary Toltec god Quetzalcóatl—the Plumed Serpent—was to return from centuries of exile to reclaim his kingdom. Initially believing the Spaniards to be Quetzalcóatl and his followers, the frightened Aztecs failed to prepare an adequate defense; within two years Cortés and his men had conquered the Aztec empire.

Ever since the Spanish conquest the Quetzalcóatl legend has intrigued writers and scholars, who continually sift through the scant historical record to separate fact from "myth." Now Rudolfo Anaya, Professor of English in the University of New Mexico, provides a fictional version that brings new life to the old Quetzalcóatl saga.

Anaya's setting is Tollán, the ancient capital city of the Toltecs, who dominated central Mexico long before the Aztecs came to power. Tollán is ruled by the evil Lord Huémac, who has ordered his warriors to plunder the neighboring tribes. Under Huémac's rule, Toltec society falls into disarray as warfare becomes a way of life. The people look to the "Lord of the Dawn," Quetzalcóatl, who preaches against war and encourages the pursuit of the arts and knowledge; under his guidance a rich civilization rises again in Tollán. Recognizing this man as a threat to his rule, Huémac summons Tlacahuepan and the other sorcerers for help. It is the year One-Reed, and Quetzalcóatl's destiny requires

that he return to his father, the Sun; his mission ended, he does not resist when the evil gods plot against him. But the people believe they will someday see Quetzalcóatl's resurrection.

Anaya's *Lord of the Dawn* is a colorful and fast-paced little novel that is sure to please. For students interested in the historical background of the legend, David Johnson provides a brief but informative introduction.

Joseph B. Herring
Kansas Newman College

Late Lowland Maya Civilization: Classic to Postclassic. Edited by Jeremy A. Sabloff and E. Wyllys Andrews V. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1986. xiv + 526 pp. Illustrations, maps, charts, tables, notes, bibliography, index. $37.50.)

This book is a concerted effort to treat the Lowland Maya Postclassic Period; an exercise long overdue. It consists of eleven essays by a dozen prominent Maya scholars who, in 1982, participated in a School of American Research advanced seminar. The problems that it addresses are complex, and current data are by no means available to provide solutions to many of them. The book, however, does a thorough job in providing a synthesis of the literature and opinions of those contemporary scholars who are most active in Lowland Maya research. As a consequence, it will appeal to both professionals and laymen interested in the Maya area in particular, as well as those concerned with other regions of Mesoamerica.

A basic question asked in this volume is where to draw the line between the Late or Terminal Classic and the beginnings of the Postclassic. Scholars are divided on the issue. What continuity is there, in fact, between the Classic and Postclassic periods in the Maya area? The editors aptly underscore the point that for too many years the Classic Period of the Southern Maya Lowlands dominated Maya research. It left unresolved such chronic problems as determining the time frame and spatial nature of the Toltec intrusion in the northern lowlands. There is now a general consensus that there is a chronological overlap between Puuc sites and Chichen Itza. Also, what appears as a disjunction between the fall of Chichen Itza and the rise of the Mayapan confederacy is discussed in detail. Most readers will welcome the extensive discussion of both themes.

Gordon Willey's essay on the Classic-Postclassic transition and the Postclassic Period is a comprehensive overview that serves as a benchmark against which new ideas or interpretations can be compared. This essay launched the seminar, since it was the first to have been written and was then distributed to the prospective participants, a successful strategy. Three other essays by Fernando Robles and Anthony Andrews, Arlen Chase, and Charles Lincoln also provide overviews. Four essays—by Arthur Miller, David Pendergast, Prudence and Don Rice—are primarily concerned with data presentation. Essays by Diane Chase, Joseph Ball, and David Freidel are interpretive and offer perspectives from different parts of the region. In the reviewer's opinion, there

is no question that the essays clarify and move us closer to a more comprehensive understanding of events in the Postclassic Period of the Lowland Maya. They will have a productive impact in determining strategies for and defining further archaeological research in the Maya area.

H. R. Harvey
University of Wisconsin, Madison

The House of the Governor: A Maya Palace of Uxmal, Yucatan, Mexico. By Jeff Karl Kowalski. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987. xx + 298 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, notes, bibliography, index. $49.50.)

The House of the Governors at Uxmal, Yucatan, has long been considered one of the finest and most accomplished examples of Maya architecture. In this monograph, Jeff Karl Kowalski attempts to place the palace firmly within the history of Maya architecture and to show that its many remarkable features can be logically explained by this particular history. Essentially he rejects historical and formal explanations that rely too heavily on the non-Maya influences from Central, Eastern, and Southern Mexico in the designing and building of the palace.

To achieve his goals, the author makes a thorough review of all the published records concerning the palace as well as contributing data from his own careful survey of the architectural and iconographic forms. A real accomplishment is in his assessment of contextual data, such as the inscriptions of Uxmal and relief carved stelae, which allows for attribution of the building to the ruler of Uxmal, Lord Chac, and thus dates it to the first years of the tenth century.

The book as a whole makes for dull reading because it retains too much of its dissertation origins. The author has allowed his exhaustive reviews of previous studies and architectural precedents to create a monotonous and predictable pace, especially if the reader is at all familiar with the palace and Uxmal. Furthermore, after being overwhelmed by quoted fact and comparison, the reader will find the conclusions disappointing because, for the most part, the author, rather than synthesizing this material or offering new interpretations, basically uses previous explanations to argue his main themes.

In fact, it is probably because of these problems that one of his main themes, a regional rather than an interregional explanation providing the best architectural history for the palace, is not convincingly argued. That there may be precedents to be found in the Maya region for the various features of the palace does not diminish the clearly perceivable evidence, archaeological and stylistic, for interregional awarenesses, and indeed contact, among the ancient Maya and Mexicans. The author fails to explain how the palace, if based on regional precedents, is still a major example of the International Style of architecture described by Rosemary Sharp in 1978.

The exceptions to these criticisms are Chapters 5 and 7, in which the author offers, respectively, his analysis of the inscriptions of Uxmal (where

little previous work has been done), and his thorough description of the construction of the palace. In these chapters the writing is admirably concise, clear, and convincing.

Finally, it must be noted in fairness that Kowalski's monograph will be used by all future students of the palace for the very reasons of the above criticisms. It is a useful compendium of the historiographic, archaeological, stylistic, iconographic, and descriptive literature dealing with the House of the Governor.

Flora S. Clancy
University of New Mexico

Architectural Practice in Mexico City: A Manual for Journeymen Architects of the Eighteenth Century. By Mardith K. Schuetz. (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1987. xii + 137 pp. Illustrations, chart, notes, bibliography, index. $25.95.)

Architectural Practice in Mexico City, a rare manuscript which surfaced in a Los Angeles bookstore in 1963, offers fascinating insights for serious students of Spanish colonial building in the Americas. Translated by Mardith K. Schuetz, *Architectural Practice in Mexico City* is not so much a book on style but rather a technical manual for both builders and architects in the waning years of the Spanish presence in Mexico (the manuscript was written anonymously between 1794 and 1813).

By this time, the ultra-baroque "Churrigueresque" style manifested in hundreds of church facades and altar screens built throughout Mexico in the eighteenth century had lost favor to the Neo-Classical style. Perhaps the closest either of these architectural modes would approach New Mexico was the Mission of San Xavier del Bac near Tucson. Other than interesting technical information relating to adobe and stone masonry, the student of New Mexico's Spanish colonial architecture will find very few parallels between the practice of architecture in Mexico City in 1800 and that in Santa Fe.

Scheutz' introductory essay is a satisfying inquiry into the historical forbears of the anonymous Mexican manuscript. Beginning with the Roman builder Marcus Vitruvius, whose *Ten Books of Architecture* of ca. 27 B.C. remains the only architectural treatise to survive from the ancient classical world, Schuetz provides a thorough and excellent analysis of Vitruvius' influence on Renaissance architecture. While Italian masters Sebastiano Serlio's *Five Books of Architecture* (1537–1547) and Andrea Palladio's *The Four Books of Architecture* (1570) were to provide the artistic and technical foundation for many of Europe's classical buildings, Spain remained somewhat isolated from the High Renaissance and affected by Moorish ("Mudejar") forms.

Not until the 1640s, when Spanish Carmelite friar Andrés de San Miguel wrote several treatises based upon years of research and his experience as a master of architecture in the New World, do we encounter any significant Spanish colonial books of architecture. In fact, Fray Andrés' work and *Architectural Practice in Mexico City* are the only two architectural manuscripts to have been discovered in Spanish colonial America.

Unfortunately for architectural historians, the author of *Architectural Practice in Mexico City* mentions very few of his contemporaries and is equally sparse with his references to architectural influences and predecessors. Schuetz engages in some detective work to establish the identity of the mysterious "Uvolfio," whose treatise on architecture, according to the author, "is so special that one should not want any other subject matter." Not completely sure whether "Uvolfio" is the English architect John Woolfe (co-author of two volumes of *Vitruvius Brittanicus,* published in 1767 and 1771) or Palladio, we can only wonder how much more isolated Spain's colonies were from current European architectural books than British North America.

What *Architectural Practice in Mexico City* does convey to the reader is an entrenched and ponderous architectural guild system in Mexico somewhat at the mercy of church and state. Because the book's illustrations have been lost, it is difficult to establish the manuscript's relationship and influence on actual Mexico City buildings. As a revealing document concerning the professional tools and training of the eighteenth-century Mexican architect, however, the manuscript is invaluable.

Of particular value to New Mexican architectural historians is a glossary of Spanish architectural terms, some of which are antiquated though many are still in use. For her skillful translation and the overview of Spanish colonial architectural treatises provided in her introduction, Schuetz has made a valuable contribution to our understanding of Mexican architecture. Discovery of this long-lost architectural manuscript, however, only underscores the vast contrasts in New Mexican and Mexican architecture, society, and government that existed before 1821. Mexican Independence and the Santa Fe Trail would change the destinies—and architectures—of the two colonies forever.

Elmo Baca
New Mexico Highlands University

Textiles and Capitalism in Mexico: An Economic History of the Obrajes, 1539–1840. By Richard J. Salvucci. (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1988. xiv + 249 pp. Maps, charts, tables, notes, bibliography, index. $40.00.)

While the role of the *obraje* has often been cited in works dealing with the economy of colonial Mexico, there has never been a comprehensive study of the institution. Professor Richard Salvucci of the University of California at Berkeley closes this gap with a highly-detailed and well-organized account of the development and decline of the obraje over a period of three centuries.

The author begins by describing the variety of textile production that existed in colonial Mexico, a "web of weavers" ranging from peasants who produced for themselves to those for whom weaving was a supplementary occupation to artisans who were devoted full time to the trade. These producers were sometimes connected with, but not a part of, the obraje system. Salvucci then describes the structure, function, and rationale of the obraje as it operated in its broader economic context. He challenges the widely-held view that the obraje was a "factory in embryo," pointing out its limited economies of scale,

its lack of technological change, and its structural inflexibility, which prevented it from evolving into a more efficient form of production.

A series of biographies of leading figures in the obraje system provide insight into the workings of the system as well as its major problems. As with many Latin American businesses, kinship played a central role, with family connections being used to reduce the risk involved in an uncertain economic environment. The division between ownership and management became more pronounced as the colonial period progressed, and scarcity of capital proved an underlying problem influencing many operational difficulties. The high cost of information was also a major constraint upon business activities, with market news either non-existent or slow to arrive.

The author devotes an entire chapter to labor in the obrajes, the factor which has drawn so much historical attention. There is a detailed description of work routine, composition of the work force, wages, piece rates, and productivity. Salvucci analyzes the roles played by apprentices, convicts, slaves, and debt peons in a system where coercion was an important factor in mobilizing labor. He concludes that the extent of debt peonage is uncertain and that it tended to be temporary, not permanent. While demonstrating that the obraje workers were clearly exploited, the author also acknowledges that the obraje owners may have been correct in their assertions that higher wages would not have been enough to attract workers and that the owners could not afford to raise wages because they could not pass enough of the cost on to the consumer to make a profit.

The study concludes with an examination of long-term changes in output, investment, and location, which are tied to changes in trade, population, royal policy, and internal demand. The decline of the obraje can be traced largely to a shift in demand for cotton goods as opposed to the woolen products of the obraje and to the inability of domestic producers to compete with foreign producers, primarily the British.

The only reservation concerning this work is acknowledged and dealt with by the author himself. Essentially an economic history, it is of necessity based on statistics, which the author describes as "tentative." To his credit, Salvucci alerts the reader to the shortcomings of some of the measurements, cautioning against "pushing modest data too hard" (p. 56) and answering major questions based on "distressingly thin" data (p. 149). These problems reflect a limitation inherent in the sources, not any lack of research on the part of the author who has done an exhaustive job of searching out information in both Mexico and Spain. *Textiles and Capitalism in Mexico* should become a basic work for students of the colonial Mexican economy.

Don M. Coerver
Texas Christian University

The Making of a Strike: Mexican Silver Workers' Struggles in Real del Monte, 1766–1775. By Doris M. Ladd. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1988. x + 205 pp. Map, charts, tables, appendixes, notes, bibliography, index. $21.95.)

This excellent study of the organization of the first strike in North America makes a significant contribution to the field of labor history. Doris M. Ladd's

story of how Mexican silver miners developed a strike without ideological or organizational precedent is thought-provoking and well-written.

In the summer of 1766, Mexican silver miners of Real del Monte protested changes that threatened their traditional wages and shares. The strike, a popular protest concerted by conspiracy, took more than a year to develop and developed from the workers' view of their rights, a shared experience of resentment, and solidarity forged by work. Strikers, aided by their parish priest, protested pay cuts, increase of the quota, the use of "scabs," and arbitrary acts by management against labor.

The strike succeeded because the crown sided with the workers. The decision of the crown to back the workers was motivated by justice, tradition, and the need for mining revenues. As Ladd notes, there was a labor shortage in the mines and the strike threatened silver production and profits.

In relating the story of the strike and the riots that followed in the workers' own words, Ladd has succeeded in her attempt "to write a book which would allow Mexicans, Mexican Americans, and Spaniards to become aware of the dignity of their heritage" (p. x).

Sources used include the miners' recorded grievances, the notes of royal notaries present at confrontations, arbitration meetings, and investigations, and mining studies dealing specifically with Real del Monte. Ladd has also relied on previous works by Peter Bakewell, David A. Brading, and other authorities. In interpreting the strike, she examines the actual experience of the workers, principles selected from Karl Marx, conclusions arrived at by E. P. Thompson, and experiential field theory drawn upon from behaviorist psychology.

In addition to writing a vivid story of the motivations and intentions and the problem-solving devices of workingmen in a specific setting, Ladd has written a study that investigates the wider significance of how long-lived working class values were used to defend working class interests. Conclusions drawn and theoretical considerations seem convincing, and the book is highly recommended to those interested in lively, thoughtful social history.

Ralph H. Vigil
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

The Frontier People: The Greater Southwest in the Protohistoric Period. By Carroll L. Riley. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1987. xvii + 469 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. $35.00.)

In *The Frontier People* Carroll L. Riley offers a portrait of Native American life and commerce in the Southwest at the time of the Spanish Entrada. He describes a world at the dawn of history, a complex world characterized by "considerable sociopolitical, religious, and economic interaction" among its disparate sub-regions and cultures. Riley guides us in understanding not only the dimensions of that world but also the manner of its demise, as the intricate trading networks on which it depended became casualties, like the Indian traders themselves, of Spanish military operations and European diseases.

The present volume, a revised and expanded version of a 1982 monograph,

is the summation of the author's more than twenty-five years of interdisciplinary study. Riley interrelates two principal categories of information: archaeological data from fifteenth and sixteenth-century sites, and firsthand Spanish accounts of sixteenth and seventeenth-century explorations. He also makes commendably restrained use of later historical and ethnographical materials, along with occasional insights from geographical and ecological perspectives.

This is an encyclopedic book—with all the virtues and vices the term implies. Riley devotes extensive chapters to each of the region's seven protohistorical provinces, whose boundaries, he admits, are unavoidably somewhat arbitrary. Three of the provinces concern the Pueblo homeland. All or part of the other four lie in northern Mexico, and Riley's knowledge of his subject proves equally exhaustive on both sides of the international border. Exhaustiveness, however, is not always a blessing, as the reader is sometimes numbed by the blizzard of information.

There are other, small vexations. Measurements of altitude, area, and temperature are needlessly metric, and one frequently wishes the author were more plain-speaking. But in the end one remains awed by the magnitude of Riley's achievement and fascinated by the world he depicts. It was no accident that the Spanish so quickly surveyed every corner of the "Greater Southwest" or that their empire never moved substantially beyond its limits. Northern New Spain took the shape of the aboriginal trading region it supplanted, a region bound by well-known, well-trafficked trails, a region whose people *knew each other,* linked as they were by vigorous trade in subsistence goods, ceremonial articles, and not least, ideas. Today the traces of those ancient trails are at best faint, but Riley reads their sign with insight and understanding.

William deBuys
Santa Fe

The Rio Abajo Frontier 1540–1692: A History of Early Colonial New Mexico. By Joseph P. Sánchez. (Albuquerque: Albuquerque Museum, 1987. xi + 159 pp. Illustrations, maps, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. $13.95 paper.)

Most New Mexicans have long been familiar with the Rio Abajo and Rio Arriba regions, generally dividing them near Cochiti Pueblo and *"la bajada,"* roughly halfway between Santa Fe and Albuquerque. All places southward from this dividing point and along the Rio Grande are known as the "Rio Abajo," while those northward are part of the "Rio Arriba."

Joseph Sánchez' study, despite its title, treats both the Rio Abajo and Rio Arriba from the arrival of the Spaniards to the first expedition of Diego de Vargas. In fact, the book discusses more than just the Rio Abajo. Throughout, the author relates the "History of Early Colonial New Mexico," thus portraying the subtitle instead of restricting himself to the Rio Abajo.

Although Sánchez states that this is "a neglected period in the history of New Mexico" (p. xi), his chronological narrative and sources demonstrate that historians have already examined much of sixteenth and seventeenth-century New Mexican history. While using some manuscripts from Spain and Mexico, the author relies heavily upon published works by Hammond and Rey, Bolton,

Hackett and Shelby, Hallenbeck, Schroeder and Matson, and Scholes. The story is mostly well-known, concentrating upon journeys from Núñez Cabeza de Vaca and Fray Marcos (neither of whom saw the Rio Abajo or Rio Arriba) and Vázquez de Coronado through the reconnaissance expedition of de Vargas, which did not reconquer and resettle New Mexico as the second one did. Three chapters provide new material on governors, civil-ecclesiastical conflicts, missions, relations with Pueblo Indians, and background of the Pueblo Revolt. An especially informative chapter discusses the trial, imprisonment, escape, and death of Bernardo Gruber, a German merchant from Sonora.

Sánchez provides an orderly narrative of New Mexican history from the mid-1500s to the 1690s, supplemented by many illustrations (some the original art of Kirk Hughey). There are also two maps, endnotes, an appendix listing governors of New Mexico to 1697, a short bibliography, and an index with some omissions (e.g., Zia, Cochiti, Rio Grande, Rio Arriba, and Rio Abajo). Sánchez' references to the Valle de San Bartolomé in the Bolsón de Mapimí (p. 54) and to Chihuahua and Luis de Valdéz as "governor of Chihuahua" (p. 108) are misleading. The Valle de San Bartolomé was in Nueva Vizcaya, near present Hidalgo del Parral, not in the Bolsón. Until the early eighteenth century neither city nor province of Chihuahua existed, and Valdéz was governor of Nueva Vizcaya, not Chihuahua.

Despite these observations, *The Rio Abajo Frontier* is an attractive, interesting, and readable account of a largely familiar period in New Mexican history. As a quality publication of the Albuquerque Museum, it will appeal mostly to the general public instead of scholars and specialists.

Oakah L. Jones
St. Mary's University, San Antonio

The Journey of Fray Marcos de Niza. By Cleve Hallenbeck. (Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, 1987. lxxi + 115 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, index. $29.95.)

When *The Journey of Fray Marcos de Niza* first appeared in 1949, it won praise from nearly all quarters for its combination of physical beauty and scholarly content. Fittingly, nearly forty years later, SMU Press has chosen to reissue this award-winning book to commemorate its fiftieth anniversary and the seventy-fifth anniversary of Southern Methodist University.

Cleve Hallenbeck's original work, here reprinted in facsimile, includes translations of pertinent documents and an analysis of Fray Marcos' important reconnaissance of New Spain's far north in 1539. Returning from his explorations, the friar claimed to have seen firsthand a wealthy city, greater in size than the city of Mexico. On the basis of this misinformation, Spanish authorities mounted a major expedition to the north, led by Francisco Vázquez de Coronado (1540–1542), which ended in disappointment but had long-term significance.

Many scholars believed that Marcos reached the Zuñi pueblos of western New Mexico, and they offered various excuses for the cleric's wild exaggerations. But after careful analysis of the documents and a thorough survey of

the terrain, Hallenbeck concluded that Fray Marcos had not even crossed the present international border and that the friar "was just a plain liar" (p. 73) who had deliberately misrepresented his accomplishments.

In addition to the original contents, the present volume includes some notable additions. David J. Weber's new introduction, done with his characteristic clarity and attention to detail, provides insights into the making of the first edition. From it, we learn of printer Carl Hertzog's painstaking efforts to produce a volume evocative of the theme; the historiographical fate of Hallenbeck's research; and the involvement of El Paso artist José Cisneros. Also contained in this new edition are the nineteenth-century Spanish version of Fray Marcos' *Relación* (from which Hallenbeck made his translation) and several additional pen-and-ink drawings by Cisneros.

The story and significance of Fray Marcos may be well-known to specialists, but new generations of students and the general public, too, will gain from the retelling. This latest edition of *The Journey of Fray Marcos de Niza* makes easily accessible once again an important early chapter in southwestern and Spanish colonial history.

Charles Cutter
Purdue University

Alonso de Zorita: Royal Judge and Christian Humanist, 1512–1585. By Ralph H. Vigil. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987. xiii + 382 pp. Illustrations, map, notes, bibliography, index. $28.50.)

Alonso de Zorita was one of the royal judges involved in the Crown's attempts to enforce the New Laws during the 1540s and 1550s and the author of a number of works about the Indians of New Spain including *The Brief and Summary Relation of the Lords of New Spain.* Biographic sketches have appeared earlier, most notably in Benjamin Keen's introduction to the 1963 translation of the *Brief and Summary Relation,* but this is the first attempt at a detailed life-and-times biography. The book under review won the "Spain and America in the Quincentennial of the Discovery" Prize for 1987.

Born and raised in Cordoba, Zorita was educated at Salamanca and served for a time before the Audiencia of Granada. His first post in the Indies was as *oidor* of the Audiencia of Santo Domingo. That body sent him to New Granada in 1550 to enforce the New Laws and investigate allegations against Pedro de Ursua and Miguel Diez. From there he was posted to Guatemala, where he actively investigated abuses of the Indians. His final post was as an oidor of the Audiencia of Mexico, from which he retired because of deafness. Zorita's last years were spent in Granada.

Using the rich detail of the various *residencias* and investigations conducted by Zorita or in which his activities are discussed, as well as correspondence, Ralph Vigil provides a series of vignettes of the rough and tumble world of the Indies during the middle years of the sixteenth century and of the actions of one of the key royal officials in those events.

Of the man himself and his motives and personality, we see far less. We learn about the hardships he underwent while in New Granada and Guatemala,

his reputed honesty, his zeal to defend the Indians, and his curiosity about Aztec life before the conquest but little else below this surface. Such a result is less a criticism of Vigil's scholarship and analysis than a recognition of the limitations of the sources. Apparently aware of this weakness in his sources, Vigil suggests personality attributes by sketching the "noble type" portrayed in golden age literature, a creative but not convincing answer to this problem with life and times biography.

This work is a welcome addition to the slender shelf of biographies of sixteenth-century colonial officials and, perhaps even more, to the literature on the enforcement of the New Laws.

Paul E. Hoffman
Louisiana State University

Land, Water, and Culture: New Perspectives on Hispanic Land Grants. Edited by Charles L. Briggs and John R. Van Ness. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1987. ix + 422 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, notes, index. $19.95 paper.)

Dedicated to the heirs of Hispanic land grants, and to their struggle for the land, this volume of essays is the third publication in the *New Mexico Land Grant Series* edited by anthropologist John R. Van Ness. It was planned by the editors to "add new dimensions to the study of Spanish and Mexican land grants" by addressing issues that have received inadequate attention to date, and it attempts to refocus the discussion of land and water issues in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado so that the man-land relationship in this area is no longer viewed as a quaint, historical abstraction, but as an ongoing problem of national and even international significance.

Although some subject matter has been discussed in earlier publications, *Land, Water, and Culture* is unique for several reasons. Written by anthropologists, historians, and attorneys, the six essays address the impact of conquest on the Indo-Hispanic people of this region. To the editors' credit, essays are linked by a focus on the loss of common lands and by an increasing identification with the land by "Mexicanos" in the twentieth century. In fact, the single most important contribution of the book is that some of its authors follow the evolution of land grant problems from Hispanic to modern times.

Attorney G. Emlen Hall's essay, "The Pueblo Grant Labyrinth," is a case in point. Having spent many years living in the area, involved in the litigation and immersed in the historical record, Hall is well qualified to explain how the Pueblo league was viewed by Spanish and Mexican sovereigns, what happened to this land right under North American law, the significance of the *Joseph, Sandoval,* and *Archuleta* decisions, and the impact of statehood struggles and the Pueblo Lands Board in determining what Indians and non-Indians would be allowed to retain within the ancient Pueblo league. Hall's appeal that future scholars "cut across the sovereign seams of New Mexico history . . . to see Pueblo land history as a whole" is echoed by other contributors.

Robert J. Rosenbaum and Robert W. Larson's essay on "Mexicano Resistance to the Expropriation of Grant Lands in New Mexico," describes the *"long*

term skirmishing" by New Mexicans against those who deprived them of customary uses of the land. The authors discuss the maturation of resistance movements from simple violence to the courtroom, and they direct future scholars to study land expropriation as a primary cause of Mexicano unrest in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Attorney-historian Malcolm Ebright writes about "The Legal Background" of New Mexican land grants. He shows that Hispanic settlers were victims of the "negative judicial climate of the U.S. Supreme Court," and he argues that under international law, these courts should have adjudicated land grants "in the same manner that Spain or Mexico would have done." Failing in this, the United States contributed to the multifaceted dilemma of land and water problems in the twentieth century.

Anthropologists John R. Van Ness, Charles L. Briggs, and Sylvia Rodriguez underscore other aspects of Hispanic land loss. Van Ness challenges the thesis of Gary D. Libecap and George Alter, who have argued that "declining agricultural productivity in Hispanic northern New Mexico was a result of partible inheritance, . . ." In fact, Van Ness argues, when one better understands New Mexico's "cultural ecology," it becomes apparent that the use of small, dispersed fields "enhanced the Hispanic community's adaptation to the environment." What doomed subsistence farming, Van Ness argues, was the invasion of common lands by the U.S. Forest Service, thus depriving Hispanic settlers of their traditional pastoral rights. Briggs then makes a compelling case for adding oral history to the study of these issues. Warning that the interviewer must be well prepared and properly versed in the language and local customs, Briggs concludes that oral history can also be used in the courtroom so long as it bears directly on the legal questions deciding the case.

Rodriguez' essay, "Land, Water, and Ethnic Identity in Taos," might have benefited from tighter editing. It is difficult to read because of the professional jargon (primordial isolation, ecological niches, niche overlap, extralocal ethnopolitical settings, etc.), and because of the author's stylistic redundancies. Still, it presents a fascinating discussion of the "Valdez Condo War" and suggests how the people of Taos might be able to survive future attempts by developers to deprive them of their land.

All the essays contain both reference and explanatory footnotes, and most have suggestions for future research. The maps are useful, and some are superbly drawn by G. L. Coles. Overall, the book is a successful contribution to land grant literature. The accent is more on land than water, but perhaps the editors will address this subject more comprehensively in a later volume.

Daniel Tyler
Colorado State University

Hispanic Arizona, 1536–1856. By James E. Officer. (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1987. xx + 464 pp. Illustrations, maps, charts, appendixes, notes, bibliography, index. $45.00.)

In effect, a tightly cross-referenced biographical dictionary in narrative form, this meticulous study by University of Arizona anthropologist and former

Associate Commissioner of Indian Affairs James E. Officer chronicles the Hispanic families of Sonora's northern frontier, especially that part of the Pimería Alta eventually detached from Mexico by terms of the Gadsden Purchase, annexed to the Territory of New Mexico, and finally, in 1863, incorporated in the new Territory of Arizona.

But the title is misleading. The book does not offer three-century coverage. Officer devotes only six pages to the two hundred years after 1536, mainly because there were hardly any "Hispanics" to write about until the 1730s, when the earliest recorded Spanish settlers put down roots in the Santa Cruz Valley north of the present Mexican border. Because the author's interest is the non-missionary population, he mentions every Arizonan's favorite Jesuit, Father Eusebio Francisco Kino, only in passing. The story begins in earnest in 1752, the year non-missionaries founded a presidio at Tubac, the area's first planned Hispanic community. They and their descendants during Spain's colonial rule merit more than sixty pages. Then, the remaining three-quarters of the book, which might have suggested a more accurate title, illuminate—as no previous book has—the Mexican period, from independence in 1821 to withdrawal of the last Mexican troops from Tucson in 1856.

As Officer demonstrates definitively, there is no separating the families, Indian affairs, politics, economics, or settlement patterns of Hispanic Arizona and Sonora along an artificial line drawn in the 1850s. His clarification of Mexico's political convulsions, as reflected in Sonora's several competing capitals, and his detailed compilation of raids, campaigns, and treaties in the endless Indian wars are further contributions.

Because the "pioneer Hispanic families of the Pimería Alta" (p. 307) were always so few, the author has come to know them intimately. He has reconstructed their kinship ties to a remarkable degree. If available sources—among them church registers, censuses, musters, land grants, and memoirs—link an Ortiz man and an Elías woman and reveal who their parents, children, grandchildren, cousins, and nieces and nephews were, Officer provides those vital data in text or notes. By so doing, he demonstrates the historical continuity of generation after generation of the frontier military elite, as well as some of the humbler sorts, who stuck it out or returned to duty at Tubac and Tucson. The book is a Hispanic genealogist's delight—and much more.

John L. Kessell
University of New Mexico

The Hasinais: Southern Caddoans as Seen by the Earliest Europeans. By Herbert Eugene Bolton. Edited by Russell M. Magnaghi. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987. xiv + 194 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. $19.95.)

Herbert Eugene Bolton will always be known for his pioneering work on the Spanish Borderlands. It should therefore come as no surprise that his interest in this region included native peoples. Not long after taking a post at the University of Texas in 1901, Bolton was attracted to the Caddoan Indians,

a highly successful collection of tribes who inhabited east Texas. Finding virtually no scholarship in existence on these people, Bolton began a study of the Hasinais, a major Caddoan group living in east-central Texas. His work continued intermittently until 1950, just three years before his death. The manuscript that he produced, and revised several times, became a part of his papers, housed at the Bancroft Library. It is this original effort that Russell Magnaghi has edited.

The Spanish began their mission effort in east Texas in 1690, after coming to believe that the Caddoans of the region were extremely advanced socially and economically and would be inclined to adopt Christianity. But the early missions were abandoned three years later and reestablished only after the French threat from Louisiana became apparent in 1716. Throughout the remainder of the eighteenth century, the Spanish had contact with the Caddoans, and it is the manuscript sources derived from this contact, found in the United States and Mexico, that Bolton uses as sources for his study.

Bolton's effort is anthropological rather than historical. His chapters concentrate on descriptions of Caddoan politics, housing, economic life, and religion. Such an organizational approach does show its age, limiting, for example, Bolton's ability to deal with other surrounding tribal groups. Bolton is quick to dismiss the Karankawa people living to the south of the Caddoans as cannibals, a misconception that is generally rejected today. Likewise, he demonstrates little if any understanding of marriage in the Caddoan communal setting, arguing that "one would scarcely in a society like that of the Hasinais expect to find matrimony on a very high plane, judged by civilized standards" (p. 87). Editor Magnaghi is conspicuous by his failure to at least tell the reader that such information is outdated and inaccurate.

Yet the publication of Bolton's manuscript is welcome. Indeed, it is an important addition to our understanding of the Caddoans previously available only to patrons of the Bancroft Library. It should encourage more research on these extraordinarily successful and interesting people.

Gary C. Anderson
Texas A&M University

Apalachee: The Land Between the Rivers. By John H. Hann. (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1988. xiii + 450 pp. Maps, tables, appendixes, notes, bibliography, index. $36.00.)

John H. Hann's *Apalachee: Land Between the Rivers* is a historical/archaeological study of the Spanish Florida missions at Apalachee mainly between 1633, when the mission system was initiated in the region, and 1704, when it was destroyed. As a historical sites specialist at the San Luis Archaeological and Historic Site in Tallahassee, Florida, Hann has apparently examined all "readily-available" historical and archaeological documentation and secondary literature in an effort to fulfill "the immediate need for a compilation of current knowledge about the Apalachee Indians" (p. xi).

It is this somewhat limited ambition that creates difficulties for the book. Rather than reading as a well-documented monograph for the specialist or as

a broader treatment for the general public, the work reads more like a status report or extended footnote. Having set himself a rather low bar to jump over, the author predictably clears the bar only to land in something of a quagmire—or perhaps a sinkhole.

Metaphors aside, the book appears to have more to say about methodology than about the historical archaeology of the site. The reader is led through document after document, often with pointed and effective criticism, as Hann discusses such important matters as Apalachee economic life, acculturation processes, conflict with the friars and Spanish soldiers, the role of the missions in the larger Spanish Florida economic and political strategy, and the role of rival Indian groups. What is missing, however, is a distillation of these processes, and even the specialist is left reeling after yet another extended discussion of weak or misinterpreted documentation.

The book succeeds as a compilation of existing knowledge and frequently offers fascinating data on the details of everyday life and interaction among the Indians and the Spaniards. Particularly interesting, for example, is Hann's extended discussion of the Apalachee ball game, a complex ritual providing secular, religious, and military functions which the friars were able to utilize and modify in order to lure the Indians to Christianity.

Centered on the large site of San Luis de Talimali, the Apalachee missions are a proper and vital topic for further research. As Hann points out, San Luis was probably the most important single site after St. Augustine because it was the location of a majority of Florida's missionized Indians in the latter half of the seventeenth century. At this time, however, and by the author's own admission, additional documentation of the missions is available at the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History and other repositories in the United States, Mexico, Cuba, and Spain. The reviewer and reader are left to wonder why such an important topic is presented in such a cumbersome and somewhat premature form. As a result, the pearls are difficult to find among the shells.

D. Lorne McWatters
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Bourgmont: Explorer of the Missouri, 1698–1725. By Frank Norall. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1988. ix + 192 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index. $18.95.)

Etienne de Veniard, also known as Sieur de Bourgmont, is a shadowy figure of western America, oft-mentioned in passing but rarely placed firmly in historical context. Frank Norall has brought together about all that will be known concerning this soldier, fur trader, outlaw, and gentleman from Normandy who was a leader in French expansion efforts in the trans-Mississippi West.

In his youth Bourgmont left France bound for Canada where he enlisted as a soldier. He subsequently saw service with some of the leading figures of his day, and first became a figure of note in 1706 when he took command of the French Fort Pontchartrain at Detroit during the absence of its normal commander, the Sieur de Lamothe Cadillac. His post was soon under Indian

siege and at the conclusion of hostilities, Bourgmont, fearing recriminations, deserted and headed west.

With great capacity in dealing with various Indian groups, particularly with the Missouris with whom he had a special affinity, Bourgmont became a forerunner of more permanent French trade. While engaged in contacts with native groups of the Missouri River basin, he became its first systematic explorer. This was followed by greater recognition of his talents and of his utility in French interests. He was assigned by King Louis XV as personal envoy to potentially hostile Indians who were blocking French expansion into the Great Plains. This was part of a plan motivated in hopes of opening trade with Spanish New Mexico, believed to be rich in gold and silver.

As a clever stratagem in carrying out his plains diplomacy, Bourgmont made a well-known trip to Paris with some of his Indian associates. The visit caused considerable stir in Parisian circles but seems not to have had any permanent impact on French-Indian relations. But Bourgmont's astuteness as showman and trader did win for him elevation to the nobility and the Cross of Saint Louis.

This brief book is well worth having, not only for the sketch of Bourgmont's life, but also because of the annotated translation of three lengthy documents illustrative of his activities.

Donald C. Cutter
University of New Mexico

La Salle, the Mississippi, and the Gulf: Three Primary Documents. Edited by Robert S. Weddle, with Mary Christine Morkovsky and Patricia Galloway. Translated by Ann Linda Bell and Robert S. Weddle. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1987. x + 328 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, notes, bibliography, index. $39.50.)

The La Salle expeditions, which came to a mysterious end in Texas three centuries ago, continue to draw a steady share of scholarly attention, as does Spain's response to this, the first French challenge since the 1560s to her control of the Gulf of Mexico or the Gulf Stream. In recent years the field has been tilled by Robert Weddle, with *Wilderness Manhunt: The Spanish Search for La Salle* (1973) and *Spanish Sea: The Gulf of Mexico in North American Discovery, 1500–1685* (1985), and Patricia Galloway, whose original assessment of the known "Sources for the La Salle Expedition of 1682" appeared in Galloway, ed., *La Salle and His Legacy: Frenchmen and Indians in the Lower Mississippi Valley* (1982).

In *La Salle, the Mississippi, and the Gulf,* Weddle collaborates with Galloway and five other scholars to present four (not three) important and little known documents: a relation by the engineer Minet, who was with La Salle on the voyage down the Mississippi in 1682; a journal the same Minet kept of his voyage to the Gulf of Mexico in 1685 on the *Joly;* a diary that Spanish pilot Juan Enríquez Barroto kept on his daring 1687 circumnavigation of the Gulf in *piraguas,* the only craft small enough for charting shallow waters; and an interrogation of the two Talon brothers, who as children survived the massacre at Fort Saint-Louis to live for years among the Texas Indians.

The documents are set like jewels, with illustrations, introductions, and notes of exceptional quality, as are the Bell translations from the French and the three specialist commentaries on the Talon interrogations: Mardith K. Schuetz' for ethnological data; Del Weniger's for natural history; and Rudolph C. Troike's for Karankawa linguistics. Galloway, with a background in comparative literature, handles ethnography with equal grace and assurance. Weddle is an expert guide to Gulf waters and to the *terra firma* from Texas to the Mississippi.

While the volume promises to be useful to both French and Spanish colonial historians, the latter are likely to find some fault with it. Translations from the Spanish exhibit minor errors: *"álagas"* should have been read as *"hálagas,"* meaning cajoleries (p. 174); *"río dulce"* is the common term for a freshwater river on a barrier island coast (p. 177); any Sunday is a day of *"comunión"* (p. 190). In the partisan tradition of Francis Parkman, Weddle labels a Spanish trading vessel "something closely akin to a pirate ship" for harassing French and English buccaneers in Spanish waters (p. 130).

In this handsomely designed book the reader must remain alert for the kind of typographical error that identifies the Wacasassa Bay as the "Wacassa" (p. 197) or transposes a date. More serious are the ambiguities of attribution. The dust jacket in one place gives Morkovsky and Galloway associate editorial status with Weddle and in another place, equal. Morkovsky's editorial function remains unclear. Finally, the table of contents assigns no credit for annotations, obscuring the fact that the valuable notes to Minet's journal are by Weddle.

Amy Bushnell
University of South Alabama

Book Notes

The Royal City. By Les Savage, Jr. (Santa Fe: Friends-of-the-Palace Press, Museum of New Mexico Foundation, 1988. 381 pp. $9.95 paper.) This 1956 novel, telling the story of the Spanish defeat and retreat during the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, has been reprinted by the Friends-of-the-Palace as a fund-raiser for the Palace of the Governors. Copies are available from the Palace of the Governors, P.O. Box 9312, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-9312.

The Human Body and Ideology: Concepts of the Ancient Nahuas. By Alfredo López Austin. Translated by Thelma Ortiz de Montellano and Bernard Ortiz de Montellano. (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1988. Vol. I: xiv + 449 pp. Illustrations, charts, notes. Vol. II: vi + 315 pp. Tables, appendixes, notes, bibliography. $65.00, both volumes). These two volumes describe the Aztec concept of the body, the processes for its care, and how they felt organic equilibrium was lost. The Aztecs conceived the universe as a projection of the human body, and these books are valuable reading for those interested in the complicated cosmological thought of the Aztecs.

Cave of the Jagua: The Mythological World of the Taínos. By Antonio M. Stevens-Arroyo. (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1989. xiii + 282 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, tables, bibliography, index. $27.50.)

Political Essay on the Kingdom of New Spain. By Alexander von Humboldt. Edited by Mary Maples Dunn. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988. x + 243 pp. Map, table, notes, bibliography. $9.95 paper.)

Mexico: A History. By Robert Ryal Miller. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1989. xiv + 414 pp. Illustrations, maps, tables, appendix, bibliography, index. $12.95 paper.)

Gringos in Mexico. Edited by Edward Simmen. (Fort Worth: Texas Christian University Press, 1988. lviii + 390 pp. Illustrations, $13.95 paper.) This anthology presents an array of American short stories concerning Mexico. Authors include Stephen Crane, John Reed, Jack London, John Graves, Margaret Shedd, and Dorothy Tefft.

The San Sabá Mission: Spanish Pivot in Texas. By Robert S. Weddle. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1988. xiii + 238 pp. Maps, notes, bibliography, index. $8.95 paper.) Reprint of the 1964 edition.

From Peones to Politicos: Class and Ethnicity in a South Texas Town, 1900–1987. By Douglas E. Foley, Clarice Mota, Donald E. Post, and Ignacio Lozano. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1988. xvii + 318 pp. Tables, appendix, notes, index. $32.50 cloth, $12.95 paper.) Revised and enlarged edition of the 1977 work.

Archival Collections in the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Vol. I. By S. H. Bud Newman. (El Paso: University of Texas at El Paso Library, 1988. 66 pp. Index. $5.00 paper.)

Cartographic Sources in the Rosenberg Library. Compiled by Henry G. Taliaferro. Edited by Jane A. Kenamore and Uli Haller. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1988. xiii + 234 pp. Maps, notes, bibliography, index. $32.50.) More than 550 maps are described in this guide. Henry Taliaferro's introduction traces the early cartography along the Texas coastline and evaluates the importance of various documents.

Mammals of the Intermountain West. By Samuel I. Zeveloff. (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 1988. xvii + 365 pp. Illustrations, maps, bibliography, index. $40.00 cloth, $19.95 paper.) This comprehensive field guide to native mammals contains descriptions, range maps, a checklist, and illustrations by famed wildlife artist Farrell Collett.

The Coyote: Defiant Songdog of the West. By Francois Leydet. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988. 224 pp. Illustrations, appendixes, bibliography, index. $19.95 cloth, $8.95 paper.) Revised and updated edition of the book first published in 1977. Illustrations by Lewis E. Jones.