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American Indian Culture and Research Journal

Title

Columbian Consequences, Volume 2: Archaeological and Historical Perspectives on the Spanish Borderlands East. Edited by David Hurst Thomas.

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7j06s0kk>

Journal

American Indian Culture and Research Journal , 15(1)

ISSN

0161-6463

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Publication Date

1991

DOI

10.17953

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Columbian Consequences, Volume 2: Archaeological and Historical Perspectives on the Spanish Borderlands East. Edited by David Hurst Thomas. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1990. 586 pages. \$60.00 cloth.

This edited volume is the second of an ambitious three-part series that examines the nature of early European (primarily Hispanic)-Native American (and African) interactions within the Spanish Borderlands, a geographic area stretching across the southern and middle sections of the United States, from California to Florida and the Caribbean. More than one hundred scholars from diverse disciplines contributed to the nine symposia published in this series. The Society for American Archaeology, which initiated and cosponsored the series in recognition of the Columbian Quincentenary, established a scholarship fund, from the proceeds of the series, for Native Americans pursuing higher education. The series also seeks to provide an interested public with an accurate account and assessment of the widespread ramifications of Columbus's arrival in 1492 and the subsequent nonindigenous presence in the Spanish Borderlands.

The second volume, with which this review is concerned, addresses the Hispanic-Native American interface along the Spanish Borderlands East by exploring the social, demographic, ecological, dietary, and ideological consequences of this multifaceted contact. The Spanish Borderlands East is defined as the northern rim of New Spain and consists of the geographical areas of La Florida (i.e., modern Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina), the greater southeast United States, and the Caribbean. Skillfully edited by David Hurst Thomas, the volume brings together the work of forty-five scholars from such fields as historical archeology, history, ethnohistory, zooarcheology, and physical anthropology; one author, Conrad Harkins, is a Franciscan friar.

The thirty-five chapters are organized into three sections, entitled "Spanish Entrada into the American Southwest" (chapters 1-14), "The Impact of Hispanic Colonization in the Southeast and Caribbean" (chapters 15-23), and "The Missions of La Florida" (chapters 24-35). Each section includes an especially well-synthesized and conceptualized overview, written by a leading scholar, of the specific geographical setting, Native American context, history of European involvement, and history of research; the respective authors of these three overviews are Jerald T.

Milanich, Kathleen A. Deagan, and David Hurst Thomas. The overviews are designed to make the remainder of the collection "comprehensible" and "palatable" (p. xiv) to a more general audience, and thus each contains a concise chronology of key events and extensive suggestions for additional reading.

Of course, space does not permit even brief reference to all of the thirty-five chapters comprising this volume. Rather, I shall offer general evaluative comments on the book as a whole. Most of the chapters provide archeological perspectives on Hispanic-Native American encounters across the Spanish Borderlands East between the fifteenth and seventeenth centuries. These chapters attempt to use historic archeological material (i.e., artifacts, structural remains, and food remains) to test the accuracy of documentary evidence from the contact period. It is surprising, however, that several chapters that draw on historical documentation in examining Hispanic exploration, colonization, and missionization and their impact on Native Americans do not critically assess the accuracy of such documentary data. On the other hand, chapters by Dale L. Hutchinson, Eugene Lyon, C. Margaret Scarry and Elizabeth J. Reitz, John W. Griffin, and David J. Weber provide valuable insight into potential biases reflected in the historical record (e.g., ethnocentrism and language translation). By contextualizing written accounts, these authors are able to reveal the existence of underlying political agendas and the occurrence of intentional deception maintained by the creators of these texts.

The absence of an author index and, more importantly, a subject index is a conspicuous limitation, particularly to researchers pursuing various topics addressed in the volume but not easily discernible from the chapter titles. Given the length and broad scope of the volume, however, the completion of both indices conceivably could have delayed publication until after the Columbian Quincentenary.

Lastly, while the objective of making the volume understandable to the public by including synthetic overviews is highly commendable, especially in light of the upcoming Quincentenary commemoration, one must question whether this massive and likely intimidating publication (586 pages), containing relatively few illustrations (36 total), is contradictory to the stated purpose. Perhaps an additional, smaller, and more concise book consisting of the three overviews and color photographs would be more appropriate and appealing to a larger audience of lay readers.

Despite these few shortcomings, the vast majority of the chapters in this volume clearly reflect superb scholarly work and the range of contemporary thought on the far-reaching repercussions of Hispanic-Native American interactions along the Spanish Borderlands East. The variety of perspectives represented and the diversity of topics addressed by this publication alone are truly remarkable. In short, the volume is the most comprehensive and up-to-date synthesis of interdisciplinary research on the subject. In addition, and just as significantly, the volume rightfully casts a somber shadow on the upcoming "celebration" of the Columbian Quincentenary by providing exhaustive coverage of the death, demise, and devastation experienced by countless indigenous peoples and their cultures as a result of early New World encounters and discoveries.

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