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Who Were the Ancient People of Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, Nevada? Anan W. Raymond; illustrations by Kendall Morris. U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service, Stillwater Wildlife Refuge, Fallon, Nevada, 1992, 24 pp. (unpaginated), 25 illustrations, gratis (paper).

Reviewed by:

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Since more than a half dozen years ago, when catastrophic floodwaters scoured the western Nevada countryside and washed to light an unparalleled archaeological record of absolutely unexpected richness, the U.S.D.I. Fish and Wildlife Service has pursued an aggressive program of cultural resource management at Stillwater Marsh. Almost without precedent in the western states, F&WS has sponsored salvage operations, reconnaissance, survey, mapping, testing, excavations, modeling, and far-reaching research designs, all while engineering what must be one of the niftiest programmatic agreements that archaeologists and Native Americans ever have enjoyed. Now the protagonist of all that work has summarized part of the results in a lovely, nontechnical tract produced for a general audience, an exemplar of what agencies ought to do to repay the public footing the bill.

As Refuge Archaeologist for the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge from 1986 to 1989, Anan Raymond quickly became schooled in crisis management; when floodwaters fell, exposing numerous major habitations and the largest skeletal series (416 MNI) yet yielded by a single Great Basin vicinity, he confronted having to reconcile the sometimes conflicting interests of

Native Americans, archaeologists, resource managers, and a highly scrutinous lay public. In this thoughtfully prepared pamphlet, he has served all his publics well.

Raymond first explains the notion of cultural heritage, then introduces the Stillwater setting and its ethnographic inhabitants (the Toedokado or "cattail eaters," a Northern Paiute group still resident around Stillwater). He then briefly describes the effects of the flood and the exposure of the burials, and discusses the age and sex composition of the skeletal assemblage. There follow seven well-illustrated two-page essays devoted to individual notable burials. Each essay is graced with relevant material drawn from ethnography, archaeology, physical anthropology, and marsh ecology, reflecting the reciprocity of those disciplines in helping understand something of the Stillwater past. While these essays will not satisfy the specialist's needs, they are not intended to do so; instead, they evoke the diversity of the archaeological record and the interpretive richness to which it can give rise. A brief bibliography serves as satisfactory guide to the primary sources from which greater detail can be solicited by those who desire it.

Special praise is due the attention given the design and production of this brief tract. Kendall Morris's fine illustrations of bones, artifacts, and marsh species are conjoined with a connoisseur's selection of modern and historic photographs (all reproduced with metal plates), intelligent formatting, exceptionally clear print, and high-quality paper.

Archaeologists have pontificated for years on the desirability of sharing the results of publicly funded research with its benefactors, and some few actually have carried it off. Who Were the 142

Ancient People? joins the modest library of such port we archaeologists continue to expect. efforts that give tangible validation to the sup-

