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McLendon: *A Grammar of Eastern Pomo*

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eastern Pomo is unique in the extent to which it contains a distinction between dual and plural. Moshinsky's binary semantic analysis is worth close study; its terminology and orientation derive in part from Talmy (1972).

The Pomo verb roots are not as differentiated by shape as are the classificatory verbs in most Athapaskan languages. However, there can be reconstructed for Proto-Pomo a much more complex set of about 20 verbal prefixes known as "instrumental prefixes," many of which indicate the shape of the instrument used in performing the action denoted by the verb; for example, whether the instrument is long or not and, if long, whether it operates lengthwise or sidewise. Intricately interwoven with the classification by instrument shape are prefixes referring to specific body parts (eye, tongue, foot, etc.) and to natural forces (wind, heat, gravity). Sound change in Southeastern Pomo has caused the coalescence of many of the prefixes that are kept distinct in Eastern Pomo and thus a partial breakdown of the system (more details are in Oswalt 1976).

Both of the grammars under review contain useful material on these prefixes but the semantic interaction of prefix and verb root is so complex and radically different from anything in English that the analysis of the system must rest on a very large data base of hundreds of sample sentences for each prefix. It could take a large monograph to present adequately the semantic and syntactic behavior of the instrumental prefixes in one Pomo language.

The two grammars treat to varying extents many other areas: phonology, case, number, derivation, subordination, aspect, mode, evidentials, directionals, postpositions, word order, phrase structure, etc. But, of course, there is much more that needs to be done soon to preserve these moribund languages and to reveal them to others. We can all hope that Moshinsky, or someone else, will be able to carry on the recording and analysis of Southeastern Pomo. McLendon is continuing her work on Eastern Pomo. With these two gram-

mars, they have both made valuable contributions to the field of linguistics and to the preservation of an important part of the Indian heritage.

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*Autobiographies of Three Pomo Women.*  
*Elizabeth Colson.* Berkeley: University of California Archaeological Research Facility (non-serial publication). 1974. 235 pp. \$4.50 (paper).

*Reviewed by* AMELIA SUSMAN SCHULTZ  
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These autobiographies have had an interesting history: Between 1939 and 1941, Colson collected the data under the auspices of the Social Science Field Laboratory under Bernard and Ethel Aginsky. The results came out as a Microcard Publication in Primary Records in Culture and Personality, University of Wisconsin, 1956, which was discovered by

Professor Robert Heizer. He felt that it should be made available to a wider audience and saw to this during his capacity as Director of the Archaeological Research Facility. The format of *Autobiographies* has been unchanged since its preparation in 1945.

The three women, born within a few years of each other, 1874-1882, spoke different dialects. Colson points out that "Lengthy personal accounts from women are all too few and it is rare indeed to find accounts from women who are of the same culture and of approximately the same age." I am of the impression that with a few notable exceptions this is still true.

The life histories are made more meaningful by (1) a description of Pomo life as it existed before and after major disruption in 1850; (2) bibliographies on the Pomos and on autobiographies of Native Californians; and (3) analysis of the data. The monograph concludes with a summary on which I cannot improve: "Pomo life . . . emerges as a simple one . . . dominated by uniform themes . . . offering few alternatives . . . [which] could still produce three women of widely differing personality types. Though they live through similar events, they are quite capable of reacting to them in a different fashion and interpreting them in different ways."



***Piñon Ecotone Settlements of the Upper Reese River Valley, Central Nevada.*** David Hurst Thomas and Robert L. Bettinger. *Anthropological Papers of the American Museum of Natural History* Vol. 53, No. 3. 1976.

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This volume is a further contribution of the Reese River Ecological Project, begun by Thomas and his associates in 1968. The Reese River, an affluent of the Humboldt River,

flows south-to-north through central Nevada. The southern end of the valley, the area studied, is relatively well-watered and has a vertical succession of ecozones from valley floor to uplands typical of the Great Basin. The basic question addressed in the volume is, "how are [archaeological] sites located with respect to distinctive landforms and crucial resources," specifically winter village locales? The authors developed a polythetic predictive model based on seven variables relating to topography, ecology, and water resources. Prior to field work, 74 potential site locales meeting the predictive criteria were plotted for a 12-mile strip in the valley. Subsequently, an intensive field survey was made of the predicted locales and surrounding areas. Sixty-five sites were recorded. Sites were found at predicted locales in over 95% of the cases, validating the polythetic criteria for location. In short, nearly all sites were found to be in the low foothills, on a ridge or saddle, on relatively flat ground, within the piñon-juniper ecotone, and near, but not too close to, a water supply. Some 450 "time-sensitive artifacts," i.e., projectile points, were collected. These were analyzed by the application of an objective typological key, using specific angles, ratios, and indices as criteria for sorting. Pinto, Elko, Humboldt, Eastgate/Rose Spring, Cottonwood, and Desert Side-notched types are identified, with a total indicated time span of ca. 5000 years. Detailed data on, and illustrations of, the points are presented.

Two recorded sites are discussed in detail. The Mateo's Ridge site had an historic cabin and surface scatter of historic artifacts, as well as a scatter of prehistoric lithic material over a 250x450-m. area. The site was gridded into 10-m.<sup>2</sup> units and selected units were systematically collected, yielding some 50,000 items, principally debitage. Artifact distributions are displayed on computer-generated topographic contour analog maps which serve nicely to identify activity areas not otherwise apparent. At the Flat Iron Ridge site an historic Sho-