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Bard, Busby, and Kobori: *Ezra's Retreat: A Rockshelter/Cave Occupation Site in the North Central Great Basin*

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## Brief Notes on Recent Publications

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*Inland Chumash Archaeology: An Annotated Bibliography.* Helen F. Wells and C. William Clewlow, Jr. Los Angeles: University of California Institute of Archaeology Occasional Paper No. 4, 35 pp., 1979. Entries for three categories: I, Archaeology, 114; II, Village and Place Names and Locations, 10; and III, Selected Bibliographies, 6.

*Mexican Majolica In Northern New Spain.* Mark R. Barnes and Ronald V. May. Ramona, California: Acoma Books, 1979, vi + 50 pp., 3 figs., 3 pls., bibliographies, \$4.95 (paper). Two sections dealing with the Majolica ceramic: I, in the Santa Cruz Valley, Arizona; and II, from the San Diego Presidio. Reprint of Pacific Coast Archaeological Society Occasional Paper No. 2, 1972.

*The Religions of the American Indians.* Åke Hultkrantz, translated by Monica Setterwall. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1979, xiv + 335 pp., pls., bibliography, \$14.95. A broad survey providing examples of conceptions and rites of 'tribal' Indian religions, essentially an elements of religion list in prose; California and Great Basin examples included.

*The Road: Indian Tribes and Political Liberty.* Russel Lawrence Barsh and James Youngblood Henderson. Berkeley: University of

California Press, 1980, xv + 301 pp., \$14.95. Political and legal considerations of the position of the Indian tribe within the broad context of American federalism: self-determination, constitutional guarantees, tribal sovereignty.



*Ezra's Retreat: A Rockshelter/Cave Occupation Site in the North Central Great Basin.* James C. Bard, Colin I. Busby and Larry S. Kobori. Davis: University of California Center for Archaeological Research at Davis Publication No. 6, xi + 255 pp., 3 plates, 4 maps, 45 figures, 32 tables, 6 appendices, \$6.50 (paper).

Reviewed by C. MELVIN AIKENS  
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Ezra's Retreat is a cave located on the north fork of the Little Humboldt River, ca. 50 miles northeast of Winnemucca in north-central Nevada. The site lies at a juncture between riparian and sagebrush-grassland vegetation belts, in the Upper Sonoran life zone.

Five separate areas of the cave were sampled by one or more 5-foot square test pits, and it is estimated that approximately 20% of the total floor area was excavated. Digging, carried out in 10-cm. arbitrary levels, extended to bedrock at depths which varied from one to

two meters in different parts of the cave. The deposits, dry on the surface, became wetter with depth. Four levels visually defined in most of the test pits were differentiated principally by progressively greater decomposition of the organic material in the deeper, moister levels. Rodent nests and burrows were observed throughout the excavation. Cultural features included several large burned areas, one cache, and one disturbed human burial.

No C-14 dates were obtained, but four occupational periods were defined on the basis of typological cross-dating. These periods, and their diagnostic projectile point types, are as follows: 2100 (?) B.C.-1800 B.C., Pinto and Elko types; 1800 B.C.-A.D. 200, Elko types; A.D. 200-1300, Eastgate types; A.D. 1300-historic, Eastgate and Rose Spring types.

For the projectile points and biface artifacts, very detailed descriptions are offered of attributes of manufacture, damage, and preform morphology. Line drawings of selected specimens, and metric attributes of each individual item are also provided. Other lithic specimens, flakes, and debitage, receive less detailed but still adequate consideration. Nonlithic specimens were limited to a few bone awls and beads, and several fragments of cordage, basketry, and worked wood.

An appendix reports over 8000 bone specimens, some 1800 of which proved identifiable. Detailed tabulations record the species, anatomical nomenclature, and provenience of each identified bone. Observations on a fragmentary human skeleton are also recorded in a separate appendix. Other appendices briefly describe petroglyphs and other archaeological sites discovered in the vicinity of the cave. One of these, the North Fork Lithic Scatter, is to be the subject of a subsequent report.

This monograph is an important contribution to the prehistory of a heretofore little-known region. Much of the painstakingly developed descriptive detail provided in the report does not seem to have yielded commen-

surately rigorous analytical understanding, but the basic interpretation placed on Ezra's Retreat as a temporary campsite intermittently occupied over several thousand years of time is a reasonable one. The report is well-edited and well-produced, in a compact and attractive quarto format.



***Indian Names for Plants and Animals Among Californian and Other Western North American Tribes.*** C. Hart Merriam (assembled and annotated by Robert F. Heizer). Socorro, New Mexico: Ballena Press *Publications in Archaeology, Ethnology, and History* No. 14, 1979, 296 pp., 3 appendices, \$12.95 (paper).

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This is presumably the end of R. F. Heizer's getting-Merriam-in-print project. The project began in 1955 (I described this in an earlier review—see *The Journal of California Anthropology* 4:330-331) and has continued up to the volume under review. R. F. Heizer died 18 July 1979 and so far as I know did not leave any Merriamiana in addition to this volume to be published under his editorship. Some Merriam material remains to be published, but certainly the bulk of it has now seen the light of day.

The core of this volume consists of data transcribed from a series of 122 check lists. Each check list has 417 biological items as follows: nos. 1-68 Mammals, 69-228 Birds, 229-246 Reptiles and Batrachians (amphibians), 247-251 Fishes, 252-256 Mollusks, 257-278 Insects, 279-389 Trees and Shrubs, and 390-417 Miscellaneous (other plants). The lists