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*Prehistory of Utah and the Eastern Great Basin.* Jesse D. Jennings. University of Utah *Anthropological Papers* No. 98, 263 pp., 239 figs., 2 append., \$8.00, paper.

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Jennings presents a rich synthesis of the prehistory of Utah and the eastern great Basin in nine chapters, covering the Broad Cultural Context, the Natural Setting, the Lithic Stage, the Desert Archaic, the Anasazi, the Fremont, the Historic Peoples, Utah's Prehistoric Heritage, and a summary of 10,000 Years of Utah Prehistory. Most of the evidence presented was generated through the efforts of Jennings himself, beginning with his excavations at the now-classic site of Danger Cave in 1949, and continuing throughout the following decades as several generations of students worked under his direction and with his support all over the region treated in this book.

The book is written in a nontechnical style for the benefit of the general reader, but it is nevertheless detailed and inclusive in coverage, making it of interest to Jennings' professional colleagues as well. It is lavishly illustrated with photographs and drawings from primary reports of the original fieldwork, here reproduced with a clarity and finish which often exceeds that found in the original sources.

The Lithic Stage, or Paleo-Indian period, as it might be otherwise referred to, is not well-attested in Utah; there have been no authenticated finds of extinct fauna associated with artifacts, although Clovis Fluted points are known as surface finds. Assemblages containing ovate handaxe-like specimens or crude choppers and scrapers of rather "paleolithic" aspect are known, but where found in datable context, as at the Pine Spring site in southwestern Wyoming, such specimens do not

exceed 10,000 years in age, and some are thought to have been made as late as A.D. 1200.

By 9000 B.P. the Desert Archaic was richly attested at Danger Cave, and a number of other sites have yielded comparable records. Jennings characterizes this broad-spectrum, hunting-gathering lifeway concretely and in considerable detail through an account of the excavations at Danger and Hogup caves in northern Utah, and at Thorne Cave, Deluge Shelter, Sudden Shelter, Cowboy Cave, and other sites in eastern and south-central Utah. A very long period is represented, some nine millennia between the time of earliest Archaic occupation at Danger Cave and the replacement of the Archaic pattern throughout Utah by a horticultural lifeway shortly after the time of Christ.

The Anasazi culture of the Pueblo Southwest became established in southern Utah several centuries after the beginning of the Christian era. A sketch of this village-farming culture in its regional and temporal variants is presented through description of such important sites or localities as Cave DuPont (Basketmaker II), Alkali Ridge (Basketmaker III-Pueblo II), Segazlin Mesa, Bonanza Dune, and Three Mile Ruin (Pueblo II), and the Coombs Village (late Pueblo II). Many other sites are mentioned as well in filling out the account of the Anasazi way of life as represented in the area under consideration.

The Fremont culture, to the north of the Anasazi and roughly contemporaneous with it, represents a distinctively Utahan culture pattern which grew out of the Desert Archaic with the local adoption of maize-beans-squash horticulture and other elements ultimately of Mexican origin. Considerable evidence suggests that the Fremonters' lifeway was less heavily based on horticulture than was that of the Anasazi, and there appears to be significant regional variation in the relative

importance of hunting-gathering and horticulture, as well as in other elements. Data from selected sites in various parts of Utah are summarized, providing concrete illustration of the extent of variation within the Fremont culture.

In historic times, Utah was inhabited by the Gosiute, Ute, and Southern Paiute, who are believed on both archaeological and linguistic grounds to have replaced the Anasazi and Fremont peoples some time around A.D. 1300. The historic peoples were hunter-gatherers, who followed a lifeway not markedly different from that of the early occupants of Danger Cave, some 9000 years ago. Thus, as Jennings notes, the story of Utah prehistory ends as it began, with the foragers of the desert.

This synthesis, though completed in 1973, was not released until 1978. New evidence of course accumulated in the interim, but some of the most important of the new data and interpretations were added at a late stage of the production process, and the account is respectably current despite the lag between original completion and publication.

Jennings' book is notable in several respects: it is the first major synthesis of Utah prehistory, fittingly done by the man who has contributed more to the field than any other; it is dominated throughout by an ecological perspective which emphasizes adaptation to environment as reflected primarily in the food economy; it is concrete, stressing archaeological evidence rather than theoretical superstructure; and it is interpretive, while remaining tentative and undogmatic in its conclusions. These attributes make it a valuable book for layman and professional alike. The former will find it an interesting, factual, and well-presented account of Utah's prehistoric past; the latter will find in it a set of interpretations with which to quibble, leads for further investigation, and a broad perspective within which to appreciate the culture history of an important part of western North America.

The book is well-edited and handsomely produced after the usual manner of the University of Utah Press.



***Ukomno'm: The Yuki Indians of Northern California.*** Virginia P. Miller. Socorro, New Mexico: Ballena Press *Anthropological Papers* No. 14, 1979, 108 pp., 1 map, 8 figs., bibliography, \$6.95.

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The Yuki were a unique and little-known people who inhabited the isolated, fertile, and beautiful Round Valley in the North Coast Range. They are unique because of a physical stature clearly distinct from other California Indians, unique because of a language apparently unrelated to neighboring language groups or any other North American languages, and unique because of a propensity for warfare. As a consequence, their reputation was established among other Californian Indians for ferociousness. Their uniqueness is all the more fascinating for the lack of information about them. They are so poorly documented because, although Powers in 1877 and Kroeber in 1925 dealt briefly with them, no systematic or thorough study was undertaken until Foster's and Susman's separate efforts in the late thirties. These studies resulted in Foster's (1944) ethnography and reconstruction of pre-contact culture, *A Summary of Yuki Culture*, and Susman's (1976) recent publication on their acculturation, *The Round Valley Indians of California*. While better late than never, the thirties was a bit late even for salvage ethnography to form more than a fragmentary record of history, and Virginia Miller has stepped into this breach with ethno-historical method.