

Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society, Volume 71 (2000), Austin, Paper.

Reviewed by
Larry D. Banks

This annual bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society is a unique contribution specifically focused upon the history of Texas archaeology in a format that no others have done previously. The volume contains 150 pages, the majority of which consists of interviews (146 pages) conducted by the first State Archaeologist of Texas, Curtis Tunnell. In 1968 Tunnell conceived of the idea of obtaining personal interviews from individuals whom he considered his heroes for their pioneering efforts in Texas archeology. This volume entails the first publication of such information, but more will certainly follow. The remaining four pages comprise two different reviews of other publications important in their own right to those interested in Southern Plains archeology of Texas. These two reviews by Timothy K Pertulla and David T. Hughes, respectively, are of *The Coronado Expedition to Tierra Nueva: The 1540-1542 Route Across the Southwest* by Richard Flint and Shirley Cushing Flint, and *Goff Creek: Artifact Collection Strategy and Occupation Prehistory on the Southern High Plains, Texas County, Oklahoma*. The section by Tunnell titled "In Their Own Words: Stories from Some Pioneer Texas Archeologists" contains numerous previously unpublished photographs of people, sites and artifacts referred to the texts. The interviews are from twenty-three different people whose individual names are synonymous with the history of Texas archeology and with archeology on a national and international level. The list reads like a "Whose Who" for the development of archeology in Texas. Others of more recent influence include Fred Wendorf, Edward B. Jelks and Dee Ann Storey. The personal interviews are complemented in most cases with copies of newspaper articles, correspondence with others they considered important, and personal reminiscences of their contemporaries as well as stories about archeology itself. The period of time represented in the stories ranges from 1914 to the 1990s; but, of the twenty-three people represented, most of the interviews are from now deceased archaeologists, which makes these published stories that much more important. It provides an enlightenment of activities and roles of people in Texas archaeology that is not duplicated elsewhere. I highly recommend this volume for anyone interested in the history of archaeology and especially, of course, for those interested in Texas events.

Arkansas Archaeology. Essays in Honor of Dan and Phyllis Morse, edited by Robert C. Mainfort and Marvin D. Jeter, Fayetteville, University of Arkansas Press, 1999. xi, 324pp., paperback. ISBN 1-55728-571-3.

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Robert C. Dunnell

This collection of ten essays honors the retirement of Dan and Phyllis Morse from the Northeast Regional Office of the Arkansas Archeological Survey and the University of Arkansas system. A brief recounting of the honorees' professional lives is the subject of a well-written essay by Mary Kwas accompanied by a "selected" bibliography and a short collection of anecdotes. An environmental account of the central Mississippi valley from 16,000 BP to 1000 BP (radiocarbon or calendric is significant but not stated) by Paul and Hazel Delcourt and the late Roger Saucier follows. Constructed around Saucier's 1994 mapped reconstructions of hydrology/geology, it is fleshed out by paleovegetation derived from eleven sites in the region, four new (but not described here). The Holocene central valley is as well known now as any area south of the glacial border. Unfortunately, since the article is closely keyed to a series of maps, two of the maps, 2.2b and 2.2c, are mislabeled and likely to cause some initial confusion.