

Grit-Tempered: Early Women Archaeologists in the Southeastern United States. Edited by Nancy Marie White, Lynne P. Sullivan, and Rochelle A. Marrinan. University Press of Florida, Gainesville, 1999, \$49.95 (currently available in hardback only).

by

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On the evening of Thursday, 11 November 1999, a reception was held at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Pensacola, Florida, to honor some of the southeast's pioneer women archeologists. The rooms of the University of West Florida Archaeology Institute were packed with guests, many scurrying about to collect autographs from the corsage-bedecked honorees, all of whom glowed from the unexpected but well-deserved attention. The catalyst for this reception was the newly published book, *Grit-Tempered: Early Women Archaeologists in the Southeastern United States*, on the careers of these truly grit-tempered women.

The chapters focus on eleven women---specifically Margaret E. Ashley, Isabel Garrard Patterson, Madeline D. Kneberg Lewis, Bettye J. Broyles, Adelaide K. Bullen, Yuloe W. Lazarus, Carol I. Mason, Hester A. Davis, Martha Ann Rolingson, Elizabeth S. Wing, and Patty Jo Watson---and briefly trace the paths these women took to archeology, the problems they encountered being women in a "man's field," and the scope of their professional contributions. The women chosen for the book were all active in the southeast prior to 1960 and represent a wide range of the ways in which women made contributions, from Ph.D. archeologists (such as Martha Rolingson and Carol Mason) to avocational archeologists (such as Isabel Patterson). Some women contributed skills from other fields (such as zooarcheologist Elizabeth Wing) or created new emphases and directions (such as the public archeology of Hester Davis). Some of the women you may not have heard of, others (such as Madeline Kneberg Lewis and Bettye Broyles) are well known by many.

Chapters are both biographical and autobiographical in treatment, providing differing insights into these women's careers. Chapters that stood out include Carol Mason's charming reminiscence of her early years as a student, Hester Davis' treatment of the rocky career of Bettye Broyles, and Cheryl Claassen's chapter on the nameless black women that served as field workers on Georgia WPA projects. I especially enjoyed the chapters about women I knew, finding fascinating the stories of their pasts and career paths.

The last chapter in the book, by Nancy Marie White, provides a nice introduction to readers about the recent contributions of gender research to archeology and offers some eye-opening thoughts on the different perspectives women may bring to archeological interpretation. Note this excerpt:

What would look different in our pictures of the past if women, or anyone with women more in mind, envisioned the Southeast? There would be menstrual huts in the artist's reconstructions of villages.... There would be women chiefs wearing stunning outfits . . . people dancing, lots more children, perhaps working hard, playing or even fighting. Clan mothers might be pictured running the show.... Men might be bending over doing tedious work or holding babies, as well as bringing home the deer or the trophy head.... There might be... women and men playing games, people gambling, even people hugging or showing some affection.... There might be lovers' glances among the facial expressions.... It wouldn't be hard to come up with real human life... shut out or overlooked in the past (p. 335-6).

This book is an important addition to the history of southeastern archeology, bringing to light the often undervalued or forgotten contributions of the many women who helped to make archeology what it is today.

The Archaeology and Pottery of Nazca, Peru. Alfred L. Kroeber's 1926 Expedition. Alfred L. Kroeber and Donald Collier, edited by Patrick H. Carmichael, Walnut Creek: Altamira Press, 1998.

by
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This volume is the much delayed publication of the results of the Second Marshall Field Archaeological Expedition to Peru in 1926, sponsored by the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, and conducted by Alfred Kroeber (1876-1960). It contains some useful short "history of the discipline" remarks both in the preface by Carmichael and in the draft introduction to the original manuscript by Kroeber and Collier. Donald Collier (1911-1995), was curator at the Field Museum from 1941 to 1976, and was working with Kroeber in the late 1950s to help bring the report out, but work stopped with Kroeber's death in 1960. Carmichael ran across the unfinished manuscript in the Field Museum in 1986 while doing research on the Nasca assemblages as a graduate student, and with Collier's permission and assistance, reassembled the component parts, and edited the manuscript for publication.

In terms of the history of development of ideas, there are thus two useful introductions in this volume. The first is the three page introduction written by Kroeber in 1960, which details his thinking at the time; his view of the state of knowledge of Nasca in 1926, the rationale for his use of A, B, and Y units, and a summary of the joint contributions by Collier and Kroeber. The second is the seven page preface by Carmichael. This preface provides more context for the project. Of particular note, Carmichael argues that Kroeber employed excavation standards in 1926 that were not applied in the region again until the 1950s. Precise measurements were recorded in the metric system, and a complete record and collection for each individual grave was kept. Carmichael thus believes that Kroeber (rather than Max Uhle) should be credited for instituting the first systematic use of stratigraphic excavations in Peru, as Kroeber employed 50-cm levels as excavation units in all of his cuts. Carmichael summarizes Kroeber's contributions to the analyses of burials, sexing, architecture, pukios, and pottery seriation, and also includes a brief note on his own subsequent analyses of Kroeber's collection for his Ph.D. dissertation. The 1960 introduction is time-transgressive, through including not only Kroeber's thinking in 1926 on the Nasca materials, but also the evolution to his final thinking in 1960 as he was writing up the report, his last contribution to Nasca studies.