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1821–1848 and Chapter Seven *Land, Race and War, 1821–1848*. The new republic sought to redress the effects of Spain's *casta* system through land reform and the extension to Indians, *mestizos* and free *afromestizos* of the citizenship rights enjoyed by white Mexican citizens. Menchaca explores the contradictory consequences produced by these liberal racial reforms for people of the northern territories. The 'colour-blind' legal framework institutionalised in the northern territories ends with the loss of these territories to the United States following the Mexican American War and the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. The US conquest of the northern territories and the reinstatement of a racial order which reinforced boundaries between peoples of colour and accorded few civil rights, access to land or citizenship to many Mexicans of colour is the subject of Chapter Eight *The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the Racialization of the Mexican Population*. Chapter Nine *Racial Segregation and Liberal Policies Then and Now* offers an analysis of US racial legislation and social movements through the twentieth century. The Epilogue concludes the narrative with the author's reflection on the ways in which historical processes of racialisation have influenced her husband's family's racial identification. Menchaca's work is an excellent resource for scholars.

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Sabloff, Jeremy A. (ed.) (2003) *Tikal: Dynasties, Foreigners, & Affairs of State: Advancing Maya Archaeology*. School of American Research (Santa Fe, New Mexico) and James Currey (Oxford), xxiv + 419 pp.

The subtitle does not adequately convey the contents of this book, whose origin was a 1999 seminar, 'Changing Perspectives on Tikal and the Development of Maya Civilization.' The book might have been called 'Updating Tikal Archaeology', and therein lies much of its value. Eight of the eleven chapters were written by members of the University of Pennsylvania Museum Tikal Project, directed by Edwin Shook and William Coe from 1956–1970. The information they provide on Tikal's architecture and artefacts summarises interpretations based on that project, much of which still awaits final publication, as it also updates those views using new findings at Tikal and elsewhere in the Maya area. The remaining authors provide data and insights into Tikal's archaeological and epigraphic records obtained since the end of the Pennsylvania project. Although not all topics could be addressed (e.g., environment, subsistence, art styles and burials receive short shrift), the principal subjects of Tikal archaeology are reviewed.

Maya scholars, other archaeologists and the interested public will want to peruse this volume to get a sense of the state of knowledge concerning what is arguably the most important Classic Maya city. Unfortunately, there is no introduction (beyond a brief preface) or conclusion to guide the reader through the mass of detail, although some chapters do point out important breakthroughs and changes in earlier thinking.

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A more serious production blunder rendered the volume far less useful than it should have been—a decision to reproduce all maps and many figures at a size too small to be read and almost all photos too dark or blurry to be of much value. Readers without access to the Tikal maps and architectural and artefact illustrations will be at a disadvantage.

The book actually opens with a chapter on epigraphy by Simon Martin that attempts to reconstruct the fragmentary dynastic history at Tikal based on current readings of hieroglyphic inscriptions at that site and other centres. This editorial decision reflects the shift away from the ecological focus of the 1960–1970s and increasing emphasis on epigraphic evidence for Classic Maya history and politics. Archaeologists, including some of these chapter authors, are now attempting to correlate their evidence with the historic constructions of epigraphers. Given the longevity of Tikal's dynastic period and its prominence in the central Peten, the chronology provided by its inscriptions is a baseline against which the histories of other centers can begin to be correlated. In this vein, Robert Sharer in the final chapter discusses possible dynastic relationships in the Early Classic between Tikal and Copan to the east. Thus, the archaeological data are framed between two epigraphic discussions.

Martin compiles the new readings of the Tikal rulers' names so that the old nicknames—Curl Snout, Double Bird, etc.—can be laid to rest. Moreover, he outlines the cyclical rising and falling of Tikal's political fortunes from its dynastic beginnings (c. AD 100) to the demise of its royal house at the end of the ninth century. Mesoamericanists will be especially interested in the Tikal evidence for possible incursions in the late fourth century of elites from Teotihuacan—the great central Mexican highland capital—who may have introduced a new dynasty at Tikal as well as at other Maya centres, including Copan, as further discussed by Sharer. Following the documentary chronology, the chapter by T. Patrick Culbert presents the ceramic sequence based on the Pennsylvania project excavations. Much of the archaeological evidence from Tikal continues to be cross-dated using associated ceramics and Culbert notes that absolute dates have yet to be firmly established for all of the ceramic complexes. Hattula Moholy-Nagy reports on all of the other categories of Tikal artifacts and ecofacts, including what they may tell us regarding sociopolitical organisation and economy and how their changes over time give a slightly different perspective on Tikal's history. Neither of the two artifact chapters has a single illustration. Settlement patterns are the subject of chapters by William Haviland on settlement and demography at Tikal itself and by Robert Fry on the Tikal periphery, which entails a discussion of the city's boundaries and likely relationships to outlying minor centres.

The next four chapters focus on Tikal's architecture. Peter Harrison reports on the Central Acropolis (likely the palace or royal court), Christopher Jones on the role of the East Plaza Ball Court in the Late Classic rebirth of Tikal's political prominence and H. Stanley Loten on the North Acropolis (the necropolis for Tikal's early rulers). Marshall Becker interprets the functions and meanings of the different plaza group types, many of which are residential. Finally, Juan Pedro Laporte updates Tikal archaeology with a summary of major excavation and restoration projects undertaken by Guatemalan archaeologists since the end of the Pennsylvania project, with primary emphasis on the Lost World complex. One of the goals of this book was to coordinate

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the information drawn from these various projects and a number of the contributors identified questions requiring future research at Tikal.

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Kleinpenning, Jan M. G. (2003) *Paraguay 1515–1870; a Thematic Geography of its Development. Two volumes*. Bibliotheca Ibero-Americana (Madrid), Vervuert (Frankfurt am Main) Volume 1, pp. 1–882; Volume 2, pp. 883–1819.

It is always striking to be reminded of the extraordinary history of Paraguay and in particular its isolation from the rest of the world in cultural and economic matters, right up to 1870, which is where this encyclopaedic account of the country's economic development ends. Through the 1800s, three dictators controlled or owned outright, nearly all the land and its resources and directed foreign trade. But the exceptional evolution is also due to the country's isolation from the main currents of colonial interest of the mother country, Spain and to its internal geographic position, which has plagued its geopolitics up till the present day. But these matters are not the focus of the present work, which concentrates largely on the evolution of internal settlement and economy. Professor Kleinpenning has contributed by far the most in the English language in modern times on Paraguay, for geographers and indeed for social scientists in general; he has also completed a earlier book *Rural Paraguay 1870–1932*, (published in 1992), which complements the present offering and takes the story up to the time of the Chaco war, so that the historical reach is quite comprehensive.

This comprehensive character is in fact a principal feature of the two volumes reviewed here, which serve as much as review and research source for students, as for a presentation of original research views and conclusions. The bibliography is huge and multi-lingual and brings to light especially the large volume of work done in various parts of Europe, most of which has been unused and indeed unknown to English language writers. In particular, he has read and used the large Latin American collection in Berlin, at the *Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut Preussischer Kulturbesitz*, which covers both the substantial number of German language publications and the Spanish materials coming from Paraguay and elsewhere. This collection is acknowledged by the author as the main source for much of his writing, along with libraries in Asunción and the Latin American collection at Austin, Texas.

As is freely admitted by the author, the basis of the work is not field research in Paraguay but the intensive study of the written documents in the north European libraries. A large glossary of words is appended, some of them standard Spanish, but also many in Guaraní and words in local Spanish dialect or ones which are only encountered in historical sources. Separate complete indexes for subjects, personal and geographical names are provided. The overall treatment is identifiably that of a geographer and is illustrated by many maps, prepared specifically for this publication.