

**Caciques and Their People: A Volume in Honor of Ronald Spores.** Edited by Joyce Marcus and Judith Francis Zeitlin. (Ann Arbor: Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan, 1994. xi + 300 pp., preface, illustrations, figures, maps, photographs, tables. \$26.00 paper.)

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Ethnohistorians tend to be uncomfortable with archaeological data, and most would not dream of doing archaeological fieldwork. Most archaeologists, on the other hand, make extensive use of documentary data, but are rarely proficient in the archival methods, paleography, and native languages of the ethnohistorian. Ronald Spores is a rare type of Mesoamericanist, one qualified and experienced in both archaeology and ethnohistory who has made major contributions in both areas. The thirteen chapters in this festschrift volume are fitting testimonials to both the importance of Spores's empirical research in Oaxaca and to his approach to Mesoamerican studies in general. This is a remarkably good collection of papers in spite of the typical festschrift problems of uneven quality and diverse coverage. The title signals a theme from Spores's research—small polities and their leaders—that appears in many of the chapters.

Chapter 1 by Kent Flannery and Joyce Marcus is an intellectual biography and tribute to Ronald Spores that includes a useful selected bibliography of his works. Of the twelve remaining chapters, three stand out for their use of empirical data to address significant anthropological issues. After presenting Hocart's cross-cultural model of coronations, Joyce Marcus reviews epigraphic and documentary data on Aztec, Mixtec, Maya, and Teotihuacan coronation ceremonies. This comparative, anthropological framework is then called on to help interpret carvings from Monte Alban that depict the inauguration ceremonies of the ruler 12 Jaguar. Elsa Redmond and Charles Spencer compare documentary data on the Taíno of Hispaniola with archaeological data from the Cuicatec Cañada. They conclude that the widespread New World distribution of the cacicazgo, or chiefdom, a centralized but internally unspecialized polity, was due to its flexibility and adaptability in varying environmental and sociopolitical conditions. John Chance compares documentary data from four regions of Mesoamerica and finds evidence that Indian elites continued to play important local roles through the eighteenth century. He applies anthropological models of political coercion and market integration to explain differences between elites in the four regions.

Three other studies deserve mention as highly detailed and important empirical studies. Mary Elizabeth Smith investigates why the Second Codex Selden was painted. She combines a contextual analysis of the docu-

ment with independent archival research to conclude that it was produced as evidence during an early colonial boundary dispute between the Mixtec towns of Jaltepec and Yanhuitlan. Frederic Hicks mines early colonial lawsuits to provide new information on pre-Hispanic history and society in the northern Basin of Mexico. Robert Hunt provides an analysis of a narrow yet important question: did the pre-Hispanic Cuicatecs use the waters of the Rio Grande for irrigation? He skillfully combines ethnographic, documentary, and archaeological data with comparative information on crops and irrigation technology to conclude that the Cuicatecs used only the smaller tributary rivers for irrigation, not the large central river.

The remaining chapters are also valuable contributions. Four of them focus on Oaxaca: John Paddock briefly describes the style and iconography of a Mixtec polychrome pot; John Monaghan explores the irrigation and ecological complementarity in Mixtec cacicazgos; María de los Angeles Romero Frizzi writes on native perceptions of the Spanish conquest of Oaxaca; and Judith Zeitlin explores *barrio* organization in pre-Hispanic and early colonial Tehuantepec using both archaeological and documentary data. Michael Lind contributes an essay that identifies places depicted in the Codex Cholula map, and Gary Feinman provides a chapter on archaeological theory.

A consideration of the eleven data-oriented papers reveals an interesting pattern. None of the four ethnohistorians (Chance, Hicks, Smith, Romero) use archaeological data in their chapters, whereas all of the archaeologists (Lind, Paddock, Redmond and Spencer, Marcus, Zeitlin) make heavy use of documentary data. Among the ethnologists, Monaghan complements ethnography with documentary data, and Hunt combines all three data types. These papers unfortunately are representative of the unbalanced relationship that characterizes much of Mesoamerican ethnohistory and archaeology today. Scholars would do well to consider the work of Ronald Spores for his rigorous scholarship in both archaeology and ethnohistory and for his insightful integration of the two types of data. The chapters in this volume explore many of the themes set out in Spores's research, and the papers that come closest to his high standards of archaeological/documentary synthesis are the ones written by archaeologists.