

should be noted that the program has also produced a series of specialized publications, while a general work on the colonial period is to be completed in the near future.

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An Album of Maya Architecture. By TATIANA PROSKOURIAKOFF. Norman, Oklahoma, 1963. The University of Oklahoma Press. Maps. Illustrations. References. Index. Pp. xxi, 142. \$7.95.

This work was first issued in 1946 in the publication series of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. The new edition is designed to reach a large general audience, and properly so, for the text is both authoritative and simple, the illustrations are superb exercises in pictorial reconstruction, and the whole is a work of singular beauty.

The book's purpose is to make visual restorations of Maya architecture. In each instance a small drawing shows the existing ruin, with solid lines to indicate what may be actually seen and with broken lines to indicate what may be reasonably deduced from the site itself. Opposite these drawings the full imaginative restorations are presented, with walls, substructures, and roofs intact, with human figures in appropriate poses, and with all parts in their places. The result is a series of thirty-six plates giving the reader an extraordinary illusion that he is viewing pictures of real Maya scenes.

Accompanying the illustrations are brief textual descriptions and analyses, providing the essential information needed for understanding the various scenes. In easy, unassuming language, sites are identified, styles analyzed, building materials described, and additional relevant topics discussed. A prefatory section, equally unassuming, is informative concerning Maya civilization and Maya architecture in general and provides some bibliography.

Only a relatively small number of Maya sites may be treated in this way, for in most instances the evidence of the extant ruins is insufficient to justify reconstructions in exact detail. The criteria for selection are quite demanding. Enough must be known to permit measurements and projections of sections and plans, necessary preliminaries to reliable perspective drawings. Enough of the building or complex of buildings must remain to yield a plausible restoration of surface features, designs, and decorations. At the very least, enough must be available to allow analogies with other buildings. The emphasis is necessarily on late styles, stone buildings, and thoroughly studied sites.

The book is probably most useful for readers in need of immediate

impressions of what Maya buildings were before the Spaniards came. The Proskouriakoff drawings are unexpectedly impressive. Though imaginary in some details, they are founded on an acute perception of the relations between construction and deterioration. The need met by this book is the need of the tourist or museum goer who cannot from his own knowledge bridge the gap between the fragment and the whole, or between the remnant and the original. This is an important need and it is here admirably served.

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The New World Looks at its History. Edited by ARCHIBALD R. LEWIS and THOMAS F. MCGANN. Austin, 1963. University of Texas Press. Proceedings of the Second International Congress of Historians of the United States and Mexico. Maps. Notes. Index. Pp. 220. \$4.00.

This book contains a collection of papers delivered by distinguished scholars at the Second International Congress of Historians at the University of Texas on November 3-6, 1958. Most of the participants were from Mexico and the United States; others came from Argentina, Brazil, and Canada; and others were from Australia, England, France, and Spain. Scholars from Mexico and the United States planned the program with a view to an examination of the special nature of the history of the Western Hemisphere. After each paper was read, a brief period was given to commentaries upon it.

The papers were grouped into five parts. The first papers, presented by archeologists, dealt with the pre-Columbian culture in the United States Southwest. The planners of the program believed that historians frequently do not fully understand the language of archeologists and anthropologists. In the hope of bridging this gap, these papers, covering the very foundations of American culture, were presented at the outset of the programs.

Following in logical order were papers by historians interested in Iberian culture. Here the stress was Spain as a melting pot of peoples with varied backgrounds—Cantabrians, Basques, Goths, Celtiberians, Moors, and others. Emphasis also was on the Castilian as a plainsman. Brief allusions were made to the *Mesta*, the stockmen's guild in Old Spain which played such an important role in controlling the migrant pastoral industry.

Attention next was given to the Anglo-American frontier. Here Professor Billington explained most lucidly how that frontier differed from any such experience anywhere in the world. A combination of