two volumes will deal with transformed animal cells and the RNA tumor viruses.)

The present volume does justice to the progress that has been made in our knowledge of the biological behavior and molecular biology of several major classes of DNA tumor viruses in this relatively short period. The book is introduced by a clearly written chapter on the basic features of the major DNA tumor virus groups that effectively molds much seemingly disparate information into a coherent unit. There follows a series of comprehensive and knowledgeable reviews of the biology and molecular biology of individual viruses. The ordering of these chapters is logical in that discussions of small viruses are followed by discussions of viruses of increasing genome size. The biological and the known molecular biological properties of SV40 and polyoma viruses, the human papovaviruses, papilloma viruses, adenoviruses, adenovirus-SV40 hybrids, herpes simplex, and other oncogenic herpesviruses such as Marek's disease virus, Epstein-Barr virus, herpes saimiri and ateles, and Lucké frog virus are individually considered. Where presented, critical examinations of molecular biological mechanisms are generally incisive, and many enlightening illustrations and tables are provided. A number of judicious attempts are made to relate important features of the biology, replication, and control of gene expression and what is known of the transforming mechanisms of certain viruses to analogous features of others, helping to give cohesion to the volume. A comprehensive bibliography follows each chapter.

The monograph is replete with information useful for the planning of experiments on most of the viruses considered. As one example, detailed restriction maps of prototype DNA's of types 1 (F) and 2 (G) herpes simplex virus and Hsu I maps of the four isomers of herpes simplex virus type 1 DNA are presented in a well-integrated figure. Another example is a particularly useful and unique flow diagram denoting the individual experimental manipulations involved in the isolation of each of the non-defective and certain defective adenovirus-SV40 hybrids. In addition, for investigators interested in the papovaviruses and adenoviruses, there are appendixes containing details of the genome structure of SV40, polyoma virus, BK virus, and the group A, B, and C human adenoviruses. Included are the complete nucleotide sequences of SV40, polyoma virus, and BK virus and partial nucleotide sequences of certain of the human adenoviral genomes, along with detailed restriction maps of these viruses.

This volume should serve as an invaluable reference for both investigators and students.

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A Regional Prehistory

The Archaeology of New England. DEAN R. SNOW. Academic Press, New York, 1980. xvi, 380 pp., illus. $32.50. New World Archaeological Record.

With the New World Archaeological Record series, Academic Press has breathed new life into an ambiguous and tenuous literary genre—the regional culture history. To Snow's credit, he has striven in this contribution to the series to transcend the traditional descriptive-catalogue format for regional prehistories. He has, however, in keeping with tradition, eschewed a consistent theoretical perspective. Instead, he presents sets of ideas about prehistory. The ideas, drawn from many discrete sources, are frequently inconsistent from one context to another within the book. With such a structure it is very easy for an author to depend on crisp aphorisms and confident assertions rather than fully reasoned arguments. Because of this, the book raises anew the old questions about the intended audience and the ultimate purpose of regional prehistories. For whom is Snow writing, and does he mean primarily to entertain or to instruct?

Snow's definition of New England is novel, based as it is upon a combination of river drainages and narrative convenience. Extensions to the northeast to include the St. John drainage and to the south to include Long Island are defensible on both geographic and demographic grounds. The inclusion of the main-stem Hudson valley is justified mainly by historic criteria—the occupation of the area by Algonquian-speakers—while that of the Mohawk valley is rather more arbitrary, being justified because the Iroquoian Mohawk provide a cultural and historical contrast. Snow approaches New England from its margins; he presents the coast of Maine and the Hudson and Mohawk valleys in detail. The farther the narrative extends from either edge, the more the details blur, leaving the center blank in much of the discussion and on most of the distribution maps.

After a brief chapter introducing the reader to the author's approaches to New England's prehistory, an ethnohistoric tour of the region sets the stage and introduces the historically identified peoples. The remaining six chapters trace prehistoric events and phenomena up to the European colonization in the early 17th century A.D. The chapters are integrated by recurrent themes which together are specifically identified as important departures from "traditional" archeological historiography. The first of these is the contention that river drainages reliably defined community or group boundaries. Though this may be true at a high level of abstraction, the principle gives Snow repeated difficulties throughout the text.

A second major theme, "the use of radiocarbon and other independent dating techniques to define temporal [units]" (p. 13), is offered in opposition to the use of stylistic criteria for temporally grouping archeological assemblages. Rigid adherence to the principle Snow advocates might well give us a different kind of prehistory, albeit a geochronologically suspect one. Snow, however, is not so consistent in applying it as his reiterations would lead one to expect.

As some commitments to theoretical models are inescapable, Snow chooses versions of the "focal-diffuse" subsistence model and a "systems" perspective for cultural description. A list of 14 cultural subsystems is used to provide comparability between ethnohistorical and archeological cultural reconstructions. The relationships between the subsystems within any functioning culture are not explored. The "religious subsystem" is repeatedly equated with burial practices, to the detriment of both concepts. The social organizations inferred for both historic and prehistoric peoples owe little to recent work in this subject, or to systems logic. An ambitious attempt is made to estimate population densities through time and space.

In the Paleo-Indian chapter, Snow's willingness to range far from the generous boundaries of his New England in search of cultural and paleoenvironmental analogues makes the environmental parts very weak. The environmental literature cited is not notably current, and some discredited notions about late Pleistocene climates, environments, and biota mar the text. The discussion of Paleo-Indian lifestyles reflects little of the recent spate of published research on living hunter-gatherers, caribou as human prey, or optimal foraging strategy modeling. The number of factual errors

and the paucity of citations of others' work on Paleo-Indian adaptations leave this chapter isolated from relevant work both within and beyond New England. These same weaknesses imbue the following chapter, where early to middle Holocene cultural adaptations are the issue.

New terminology signals innovations in concepts discussed in chapters 5, 6, and 7. Both the concepts and the terminology will probably have short lives. It is unlikely that the term "Mast Forest Archaic" will be enthusiastically adopted. The concept it represents is highly vulnerable. Snow proposes to define and bound a cultural system (an "adaptation") in terms of its purported home environment. Cultural ecologists will object that human populations do not adapt to environmental variables at such a high level of abstraction—within the "Mast Forest" are the estuaries and uplands of southern New England, the Connecticut and Hudson valleys, the Allegheny Plateau, and other equally distinct areas. Others will object to the environmental determinism and reductionism implicit in the concept. The same arguments should also doom the "Lake Forest Archaic," which appears to equate habitats as diverse as the White Mountains and the Champlain basin, but that term, at least, has a hold in the literature already. Labeling the time span between 700 B.C. and A.D. 1000 the "Early Horticultural Period" seems to be little more than a wistful speculation. There is no indigenous New England evidence for horticulture at that time (the dubious case cited is not widely credited). Even should such evidence be found, as is expected, horticulture never spread throughout New England, so that both label and concept are blatantly inappropriate to half the region.

The discussion of the "Terminal Archaic" period compresses, generalizes, and ultimately trivializes New England evidence for the period. A dynamic and fascinating episode in New England's past is dismissed brusquely. The discussion is moved west into central New York State to speculate upon Iroquoian origins. One is left to wonder why an investigator bent upon linguistic prehistory interprets a manifestation of the Susquehanna/Broadspear tradition in central New York as an intrusion of Iroquoian speakers, while ignoring closely related cultural complexes in New England.

In the "Early Horticultural Period" chapter also, Snow emphasizes data and interpretations from central and eastern New York in preference to grappling with the more dispersed but not nonexistent literature of New England. This propensity may confuse or mislead readers wishing to learn about New England.

For reasons going far beyond its high price, this book is not well suited for adoption as a textbook. It is too unfocused, underreferenced, logically inconsistent, and idiosyncratic. For regional specialists, it will be a stimulus, even a goad, for the publication of data sets, developed theses, and, dependably, rebuttals. Therefore, though the book does not succeed as an instructional text in the classical sense, it is certainly instructive. On the other hand, the unqualified assertions, colorfully speculative reconstructions, and lively prose convince me that the author's primary purpose is to entertain, to entice the larger public for archeology to look again at New England. That's show biz.

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