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Review of *Bridging the Divide: Indigenous Communities and Archaeology into the 21st Century.* Edited by Caroline Phillips and Harry Allen.

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**BOOK REVIEWS**


An outgrowth of demands for ethical treatment and repatriation of their ancestral remains, Indigenous Archaeology (IA) reflects the desire of Indigenous peoples to have a say in how stories of their pasts get told. Too often, Indigenous people claim, archaeologists have discounted oral tradition in favor of scientifically derived histories, histories that may discount or contradict millennia-old beliefs. IA is different, done for them, sometimes by them, and usually in complete collaboration with them. Their questions are central to research agendas and interpretations. IA is controversial because some archaeologists see collaboration as infringement on academic freedom, as movement away from a hard-earned, explicitly scientific archaeology, and as essentializing Indigenous people. Nevertheless, IA has rapidly expanded internationally as part of an effort to decolonize archaeology. Many more Indigenous people have become trained as archaeologists, and those who practice IA have carefully pondered the many epistemological issues it raises.

This volume derives from the World Archaeological Congress’s 2005 Inter-Congress on “The Uses and Abuses of Archaeology for Indigenous People” held in Aotearoa/New Zealand. The dozen chapters are wide ranging geographically and provide a solid overview of the status of Indigenous archaeology. In New Zealand, Australia, and North America, for example, Indigenous archaeology has seen nearly two decades of implementation, and scholars are discussing detailed epistemological issues. In most of South America, however, arguments are ongoing about whether it is even a reasonable approach. Most chapters are openly polemical, arguing in support of IA, emphasizing the ways it helps to expand our understanding of the past. The only challenge comes from George Nicholas’s excellent chapter in which he argues for an end to IA. He worries that even though IA provides important insights, it is becoming marginalized when it should be seen as central to a discipline that has experienced an increasing demand for collaboration with stakeholders.

Although none of the chapters in *Bridging the Divide* deal specifically with the Great Plains, some of the earliest IA began in the region during the late 1980s and served as exemplars for the nascent approach. Numerous Great Plains projects continue today due largely to the substantial number of Native Americans living on or near ancestral lands, so issues raised in this excellent volume have relevance for understanding both IA practice and interpretations of its results. Larry J. Zimmerman, Department of Anthropology, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis / Eiteljorg Museum.

*Hell Gap: A Stratified Paleoindian Campsite at the Edge of the Rockies.* Edited by Mary Lou Larson, Marcel Kornfeld, and George C. Frison. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2009. xxiii + 444 pp. Maps, figures, appendices, references, index. $60.00 cloth.

Every Plains archaeologist has heard of the Hell Gap site. But few could tell you much about it. All that changes with the publication of this needed, dense, thorough collection that chronicles the life and content of this singularly important archaeological site. With 20 papers and 13 appendices, this book takes a monumental step forward in furthering our knowledge of nearly the entire Paleoindian sequence of occupation on the western Plains. Hell Gap is the type site for three Paleoindian point styles: Goshen, Hell Gap, and Frederick, and contains at least six other cultural complexes: Folsom, Midland, Agate Basin, Alberta, Eden/Scottsbluff, and Lusk. All in a stratified and fairly well-dated sequence. There are hints of Clovis, but the jury is still out.

Located in eastern Wyoming, the Hell Gap site was discovered when amateur collector J. Duguid picked up a complete Agate Basin point in 1958 (the first appendix tells his story). Sharing that information led to years of excavation by a virtual “who’s who” in the history of Plains archaeology. Previously known by a few short articles and unpublished works, this volume is the first major synthesis of one of the most studied and significant sites in the Plains. Space does not permit review of every chapter and appendix. The volume has extensive paleoenvironmental...