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Correction to "Kumeyaay Socio-Political Structure"

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Author
Shipek, Florence C

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own admonition that multiple lines of inquiry may be conjoined potently. In fact, the reports of such surveys, as well as those of the few and limited data retrieval programs so far conducted in the area, were reviewed for useful information; the cursory summary of them in Chapter 2 of our report reflects simply that we did not find in them much that was useful to our purposes. In this, Henn has misconstrued my prescription for “excavations coordinated with site surveys” to mean simply that available sources of information should be exploited. What is diluted in this reading is the more important exhortation that archaeological problem-solving invokes diverse strategies, and is the most effective arbiter of when and where they should be brought into play; after all, the instances in which excavations dictated by the contingencies of highway planning can benefit much from surveys dictated by the contingencies of timber sales always will owe more to serendipity than to insightful research design.

It is on this ground, in fact, that I find myself most at odds with the understanding expressed in the review. Henn chooses to assess the “excitement” level of our work in the Sacramento River Canyon in light of my remark on northeastern California (Raven 1984: 459):

There have, however, been a number of instances in which the decision to excavate a site has been preceded by the phrasing of specific questions in order to resolve identified problems in understanding. When that has happened, the results almost always have been exciting.

It seems almost superfluous to point out that the decision to excavate the Sacramento River Canyon sites was made well in advance of any identification of problems or phrasing of questions, and was preceded chiefly by the decision to build a highway. And that is not what I meant, at all.

REFERENCES

Henn, Winfield G.

Hildebrandt, William R., and John F. Hayes

Raven, Christopher

Correction to “Kumeyaay Socio-Political Structure”

FLORENCE C. SHIPEK

In the original manuscript of my article entitled “Kumeyaay Socio-Political Structure” (Vol. 4[2] of the Journal), a sentence was omitted. On page 301, column 1, the first paragraph should read: “‘Paayon’ (Pion, Davis 1919) of the Hillymeyup shiimull, and his son Jose Largo were the last two Generals, or Kuchult kwataay. The other grandfather (stepgrandfather, actually) of their descendants who were trained for the leadership position, was Jose Kotem Cuero (Kwash shiimull), who was also part of the leadership hierarchy.”

Florence C. Shipek, Division of Behavioral Science, Univ. of Wisconsin – Parkside, Kenosha, WI 53141.