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**Review of *Ice Age Peoples of North America: Environments,
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Bonnichsen and Karen L. Turnmire**

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Ice Age Peoples of North America: Environments, Origins, and Adaptations of the First Americans. Edited by Robson Bonnichsen and Karen L. Turnmire. Corvallis: Oregon State University Press, 1999. 672 pp. Illustrations, maps, index. \$49.95 cloth.

This collection of nineteen articles presents up-to-date regional or topical syntheses of the best data relating to the last Ice Age inhabitants in Northeast Asia, Beringia, and North America. Many of the papers were given in 1989 at the First World Summit, sponsored by the Center for the Study of the First Americans at the University of Maine. Authors were given the opportunity to update their syntheses to include new finds in their regions during the decade between the Summit and the book's publication, though some contributors waived the opportunity.

Perhaps prompted by the important discovery, publication, and acceptance of the pre-Clovis age Monte Verde site in Chile, Bonnichsen and Turnmire present in the opening article an overview of the various scenarios for the peopling of the Americas. The organization of the rest of the book follows the geographical path generally touted as the route taken by the first Americans, beginning in Asia, with articles on "Ice Age Environments of Northern Eurasia with Special Reference to the Beringian Margin of Siberia," by M. G. Grosswald; "Impact of Ice-Related Plant Nutrients on Glacial Margin Environments," by M. D. Turner, E. J. Zeller, G. A. Dreschoff, and

J. C. Turner; and "Periglacial Ecology, Large Mammals, and their Significance to Human Biology," by V. Geist. The geographical expansion of human populations is then tracked into Japan and Beringia in T. Akazawa's "Pleistocene Peoples of Japan and the Peopling of the Americas" and "The Colonization of Western Beringia: Technology, Ecology, and Adaptations," by T. Goebel and S. B. Slobodin. The trek into the New World is chronicled first in Alaska and Canada in "Late Pleistocene Peopling of Alaska" (T. D. Hamilton and T. Goebel), "Bluefish Caves and Old Crow Basin: A New Rapport" (J. Cinq-Mars and R. E. Morlan), and "Searching for the Earliest Canadians: Wide Corridors, Narrow Doorways, Small Windows" (M. C. Wilson and J. A. Burns). The logical southward progression then continues with "Prehistory of the Great Basin/Snake River Plain to About 8,500 Years Ago" (A. L. Bryan and D. R. Tuohy), "The Late Pleistocene Prehistory of the Northwestern Plains, and Adjacent Mountains, and Intermontane Basins" (G. C. Frison), and "Paleoindian Archaeology and Late Pleistocene Environments in the Plains and Southwestern United States" (D. Stanford). At this point the first single-site summary is presented in D. G. Wyckoff's "The Burnham Site and Pleistocene Human Occupations of the Southern Plains of the United States."

The continued expansion of Paleo-Americans is recounted in B. T. Lepper's "Pleistocene Peoples of Midcontinental North America" and "Radiocarbon Chronology of Northeastern Paleo-American Sites: Discriminating Natural and Human Burn Features," by R. Bonnicksen and R. T. Will. The second single-site oriented paper is "No Vestige of a Beginning nor Prospect for an End: Two Decades of Debate on Meadowcroft Rockshelter," by J. M. Adovasio, D. Pedler, J. Donahue, and R. Stuckenrath. A. C. Goodyear's "The Early Holocene Occupation of the Southeastern United States: A Geoarchaeological Summary" along with "The Inhabitants of Mexico During the Upper Pleistocene," by J. L. Lorenzo and L. Mirambell, offer the final two regional syntheses. The final article returns the reader to the Clovis-first versus pre-Clovis (termed Early Entry Model) debate in "Breaking the Impasse on the Peopling of the Americas," by R. Bonnicksen and A. L. Schneider.

These contributions are, for the most part, well written, amply illustrated, and thought provoking. In this regard, the publication should be found on the shelves of professionals, students, and the interested public. The articles by George Frison, Dennis Stanford, and Don Wyckoff directly apply to the Great Plains, and syntheses covering adjacent regions refer to Great Plains chronologies in discussions of population movements and

technological developments, making the entire book of interest to Plains scholars.

One aspect I found particularly intriguing. In all of the articles synthesizing regional sites, the total number of dated sites for any given time period within that region can be counted on one person's fingers and toes, and in many instances shoes and socks need not be removed. Given the small number of dated sites that define the various chronologies, it is not surprising that the discovery of a single new site can have a profound influence on how the peopling of the Americas is perceived. This is one of many factors that keep Paleo-American studies exciting. **Leland C. Bement**, *Oklahoma Archeological Survey, University of Oklahoma*.