

A *Preliminary Study of the Ruins of Xcaret, Quintana Roo, Mexico: With Notes on Other Archaeological Remains on the Central East Coast of the Yucatán Peninsula*. By E. WYLLYS ANDREWS IV and ANTHONY P. ANDREWS. New Orleans, 1975. Middle American Research Institute, Tulane University. Maps. Charts. Illustrations. Appendices. Bibliography. Pp. viii, 117. Paper. \$9.00.

The bulk of this monograph is concerned with the description and illustration of standing architecture in Maya sites of the central east coast of Quintana Roo. However, the authors have included geographical and historical information, site and historic map indices, and a bibliography for their study area, thereby making the report a potential sourcebook on the prehistory and history of the eastern shore of the Yucatán Peninsula.

Xcaret, or Pole, was a seaport in late precolumbian times, and occupation continued into the Spanish period. Among the structures found there is a sixteenth-century chapel, or visita. Indeed, most of the sites described in the report were probably occupied at the time of initial Spanish contact. Archaeological research is needed to supplement the limited documentation available for the early contact period in Yucatán, and this monograph is a modest step in the right direction.

University of Arizona

DAVID PHILLIPS

Historical Dictionary of Uruguay. By JEAN L. WILLIS. Foreword by A. CURTIS WILGUS. Metuchen, New Jersey, 1974. The Scarecrow Press. Latin American Historical Dictionaries, 11. Bibliography. Pp. v, 275. Cloth. \$9.00.

The *Historical Dictionary of Uruguay* has many of the same strengths and weaknesses as other volumes in this series. Entries are arranged alphabetically and cover most aspects of Uruguayan history and society, with emphasis on the twentieth century: important individuals, geographical place names, government agencies, labor unions, newspapers, Spanish words with meanings peculiar to Uruguay, etc. Biographical entries describe writers and artists as well as soldiers and politicians. Entries are usually short, ranging in length from one line to 92 for Juan Antonio Lavalleja and 104 for José Batlle y Ordóñez. The volume ends with a 15-page bibliography which includes many marginal or insignificant items.

As is usually the case with reference books, one may wonder at the inclusion of certain entries and question the space allotted to others. Economic matters are generally slighted; wool, for example, receives only one line. The entry on the Communist party runs for 57 lines while that on the Colorado party is 24 lines long. Other weaknesses may be cited, among them the absence of cross-references and the fact that most biographical entries lack dates of birth, death, or both. Despite these reservations, the volume remains a useful compendium of information on Uruguay.

University of Alabama

HELEN DELPAR