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Journey to Goliad (review)

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ties of Mexican land laws. Appendix II reveals that the original records from San Luis Potosí discovered by John G. Kenedy show a survey of the La Barreta tract which “differed materially from the location claimed by Kenedy and the other owners” (159). Kenedy did not reveal his discovery and acquired thousands of additional acres as a result of the subsequent court cases.

This *New Guide*, with its carefully researched history and its fascinating appendices, is an essential source of information for anyone interested in early Texas. Galen Greaser has done an outstanding job of providing us with a more detailed view of a complex subject. This inexpensive book should be part of every Texas historian’s library.

Sam Houston State University

CAROLINA CASTILLO CRIMM

Journey to Goliad. By Melodie A. Cuate. (Lubbock: Texas Tech University Press, 2009. Pp. 182. Illustrations, maps, list of characters, glossary, notes. ISBN 9780896726499, \$17.95 cloth.)

Yet again, Ms. Cuate has taken the reader on an action-packed field trip into the past with the fourth installment of the Mr. Barrington’s Mysterious Trunk Series. In this adventure, *Journey to Goliad*, Hannah, Nick, and Jackie are on a class field trip to the Presidio La Bahía in Goliad, the sight of the Goliad Massacre in 1836. While they are touring the museum at the Presidio, they find Mr. Barrington’s trunk just before spotting a strange woman in odd clothing. The trunk and the unknown woman draw them onto a dangerous and frightening journey. And though they try not to go back in time, there are lessons to learn, people to meet, and battles to survive.

In *Journey to Goliad*, Hannah, Jackie, and Nick face a new challenge. The strange woman they saw in the present day turns out to be Francita Alavez, the Angel of Goliad. She approaches them in the museum and asks for help. When the kids are careless with the trunk, it pulls them back in time to the day the men at Fort Defiance learned that the Mexican Army is in San Antonio. Nick and the girls meet many of the men in the fort and learn of the difficulties of frontier life. They find the trunk quickly this time and open it again in hopes that it will send them home. They have not yet learned what they needed to nor helped Señora Alavez, so the trunk sends them ahead in time to the Battle of Coletto Creek. They are in the Mexican lines during the battle and watch in horror as the battle and Texian surrender unfolds. After the battle, the trunk is found and opened. Again, they are only sent ahead a few days and find themselves in the Presidio under Mexican control just a short time before the massacre. Here is where the lessons are learned, the help given, and lives saved. Here at Goliad, our trio becomes, more than ever before, heroes of the Texas Revolution.

This adventure is the most intricate and exciting of the series so far. The characters are fully developed, are easily understood, and completely captivating. The timeline, cast of characters, glossary, Spanish to English translation, illustrations, and maps all give the reader a deeper understanding of the story and the characters. Ms. Cuate’s writing, though, draws the reader into a page-turner of a story

that will thrill any student of Texas history. This reader, for one, is anxiously awaiting the next installment of this series and the next field trip into the fascinating history of Texas.

Victoria, Texas

DEBORAH BLOYS HARDIN

Indian Alliances and the Spanish in the Southwest, 750–1750. By William B. Carter. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2009. Pp 312. Maps, notes, bibliography, index. ISBN 9780806140094, \$34.95 cloth.)

In this refined version of a doctoral dissertation completed at Arizona State University in 2002, William B. Carter combines recent scholarship on the prehistory and early history of the Southwest in an ethnohistorical perspective to reveal how the Southern Athapaskans of New Mexico and Arizona (also known as the Apacheans, i.e. the Apaches and Navajos) and the Pueblos forged long-lasting ties in the centuries that preceded and followed the arrival of the Spanish on the scene. The author's oft reiterated contention that scholars have tended to view Apacheans and Puebloans in simplistic and antagonistic terms, as predator and prey, is something of a straw man given the current state of scholarship. Yet this should not distract from his attempt to reach a more complex and nuanced understanding of inter-Indian relations and cooperation.

The roots of cooperation, as it turns out, run deep. Integrating indigenous traditions of origins with archeological evidence, Carter begins by retracing the migrations and cultural differentiation of Athapaskan peoples, and by situating those who eventually settled in New Mexico and Arizona within the broader grouping. (Some readers will no doubt find that the narrative of Apachean-Puebloan cooperation and alliance occasionally gets lost in deep contextualization.) The triad of factors which most influenced the alliances of the Southern Athapaskans during the prehistoric period, he argues, were ideology, kinship, and environmental conditions. Major climate changes initiated the slow southward migration and fragmentation of Athapaskan groups into the northwestern Great Plains and the Great Basin circa 800–1300 CE, while to the south Puebloan communities and trade networks proliferated. Another major climate shift brought about violent conflicts, but also a surge in trade and cooperation in the region. As peoples tried to make the most of limited resources, Puebloans incorporated the Apachean newcomers into the recently reorganized world of the Southwest and the latter incorporated the former into a Plains-based trade in bison by-products. By the middle of the thirteenth century, Apacheans were interacting and, thanks to flexible kinship structures, intermarrying with Puebloans.

The arrival of the Spanish, it comes as no surprise, brought profound transformations to the region. In his retelling of their *entradas* in New Mexico, from 1536 to 1591, and of their permanent settlement, from 1598 to 1665, Carter trains the attention of the reader on the complexity of motivations among the Apachean raiders—who were by no means inherently belligerent—and to the continuing existence of alliances with their Pueblo neighbors. He goes on to argue that the Pueblos' Athapaskan allies played a crucial role in the resistance to the Spanish in