William B. Shillingberg. *Tombstone, A.T : A History of Early Mining, Milling and Mayhem.* Spokane, Washington: The Arthur H. Clark Company, 1999. 400 pp., illus., bib., cloth. $39.50.

This book is mistitled. In 348 pages of text your reviewer counted sixty pages of mining, thirteen pages of milling and 159 pages of mayhem. The word "Earp" appears on 171 pages. Most of the discussion of mining and milling concerns only who developed, purchased or sold which properties. Shillingberg's work contains detailed information on early explorations of the area, town development, and the extended controversy over the ownership of town lots. He has conducted extensive research, making especially effective use of city directories and histories to reconstruct the careers of many of Tombstone's early personalities. His encyclopedic presentation of this accumulation of data is sometimes a weakness, however. He develops the district's history quite slowly in the first hundred pages and digresses frequently throughout his text. The book contains an interesting selection of photographs, with a reprint of a Sandborn Map serving as the end pieces. Since so much of the book covers incidents which occurred beyond town limits, the inclusion of a regional map would have been exceedingly helpful.

Shillingberg's interpretation of the violent episodes of the town's formative years intends to debunk the myth of the Earps' nobility. He reasonably concludes that the Earps, though provoked, certainly went looking for trouble when they confronted the Clantons and McLaurys at the OK Corral and that the results of their imprudent actions divided the town. Less convincing is his psychoanalysis of the motives of these tight-lipped and long-dead men. Shillingberg sees Wyatt—and by extension the entire Earp faction—as a frustrated social climber "constantly calculat[ing] every move by how it benefitted himself and his family." (p. 156) Shillingberg's status theory leads him to claim that Wyatt didn't kill the unarmed Ike Clanton at the OK Corral because "even under the pressure of battle Wyatt knew . . . it would destroy any chance of being elected sheriff." (p. 265) Could this assertion be proven, it would at least establish that Wyatt Earp had mythic mental discipline!

While Shillingberg bemoans the town's Wild West image and chides other historians for not taking Tombstone seriously, he shows little in interest in the town's history himself beyond its violent episodes. He skims over Tombstone's mineral developments, the union activities of its miners, its anti-Chinese movements, and the resolution of its townsite controversy. This is remarkable because Shillingberg asserts first and last that Tombstone "is now trapped in myth and legend, a prisoner of that maddening twentieth-century entertainment spiral . . . supported by clouded memory and the tourist dollar." (p. 11) While disparaging this "carnival sideshow," he chooses to devote most of his text to t e very personalities and incidents of Tombstone's history since exploited as myth and entertainment. At one point Shillingberg grumbles that "what the Earps actually did fails to compare with the contributions made by local entrepreneurs or the army of nameless men who worked the mines." (p. 137) Exactly so. Why not tell that story instead? Unfortunately, rather than new questions and answers about this important silver mining district, we are treated to yet another chronicle of mayhem. We still await a sober treatment of the whole course of Tombstone's history. Someday, perhaps.

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Social Approaches to an Industrial Past: The Archaeology and Anthropology of Mining, A. Bernard Knapp, V. C. Piggott and Eugenia W. Herbert (eds.) New York: Routledge, 1998, 328pp. illus. $75.00

This is a rich and wide-ranging collection of case studies, which contains interesting new data and original theoretical insights of interest to students of both American and world mining history. Three of the essays—an excellent introduction by A. Bernard Knapp and two concluding articles by David Killick and Bryan Pffenberger—provide the reader with theoretical insights into the social history of mining coupled with reviews of the literature. The remaining fifteen pieces in the book are about evenly divided in their topical thrust, with seven devoted to the study of industrialized mining communities over the past

150 years, and eight essays directed towards mining communities in the ancient world and the modern 'non-western' world, where traditional or 'peasant', methods of production have predominated. The emphasis in this book is on the "mining *community*" throughout history, rather than on corporate organization, labor and the technology of mining (although the latter issues receive due attention). To better probe what they call "informal mining" (by which they mean part-time mining by non-professionals) in both antiquity and modern times the editors make strong plea for the greater use by historians of the methodological tools of archaeology and anthropology.

Space does not permit us to summarize, or even touch on, each of the eighteen essays included in the volume, but only to cite a few representative examples. At the outset, two scholars, Peter Bell in "The Fabric and Structure of Australian Mining Settlements" and Susan Lawrence discuss the social framework of mining communities in nineteenth and early twentieth century Australia. Using artifacts and relics recently unearthed at the Dolly Creek mining installation, in Victoria province, Dr. Lawrence's essay "Gender and Community Structure on Australian Goldfields" demonstrates that archaeology is not simply a discipline for the study of the ancient civilizations, but that it can also be used for the reconstruction of societies in the more recent past where the written record may be minimal. In the process her article, along with that by Alexy Simmons ("Ladies of the Night and Men of the Day", pp. 59-80.), brings to light interesting information on the much neglected role of women in the development of frontier mining towns in New Zealand as well as the USA. At the level of material culture, Lawrence observes that the predilections of women for the decencies of domestic life, found in such assemblages as crockery, metal and glass containers, printed wallpaper, pieces of woodwork, and articles of clothing demonstrates that wives and mothers were a most important agency for the extension and perpetuation of a 'Victorian-style of life' into the Outback. (pp. 52-55)

For students of the history of Africa the essential chapter is that by Eugenia W. Herbert, entitled "Mining as Microcosm in precolonial Sub-Saharan Africa" (pp. 138-154), which is a fine survey of the pertinent literature. A key point of her paper is the nearly universal importance of differentiated gender roles in pre-industrial mining in Africa. As with the two studies in the collection on gold and copper mining in ancient Egypt by Bryan Shaw and Carol Meyer, she concludes that mining was seldom the work of cadres of professional miners who dug for gold, copper, tin or iron full time, but was rather a seasonal activity in which sedentary farmers, hunter-gatherers and even cattle herders, might participate. (138-41.) The Herbert survey is complemented by a regionally specific article by S. Terry Childs on "Iron mine discovery, ownership and among the Toro People of Uganda" in East Africa (pp. 123-137) which underscores, among other complex facets, the powerful religious *symbols* of spiritual, moral and sexual purity, which are attached to traditional mining and smelting in many parts of Africa up to the present day.

Some of the most provocative articles in the collection focus on mining communities in the American 'Old West'. These are the articles by the anthropologist Donald L. Hardesty on "Power and the Industrial Mining Community in the American West" and by the historian Thomas Sheridan on "Race, Class and Labor in the Arizona Mining Industry from the Eighteenth Century until World War II." The essence of Hardesty's exposition is that the archaeological and architectural remains of ghost towns in states like California, and Colorado reveal 'strategies of dominance' and 'strategies of resistance' among the mining population. (p. 85). Another interesting concept for analysis lies in Hardesty's contrast between 'model company towns' and what he calls 'satellite towns'—the latter existing outside the orbit of any single company's control. Taking the example of Reipetown, Nevada a kind of wild and 'wide-open' frontier town, where he himself has undertaken research, Hardesty argues that this was an "alternative" to the typical , company town" and that the existence of a large number of saloons, hotels, and bordellos plus drunkenness and crimes of violence in that town can be categorized as a kind of "alternative life style" and "resistance" against the dominance of the mining capitalists in other parts of the state. (89-92) On the other hand, some skeptics

may contend that this is to endow a rather commonplace occurrence—the 'wide open' mining frontier town, probably more the *norm* than an example of resistance—with too much theoretical significance.

The parallel article by Sheridan provides a fascinating historical case study of a major act of resistance—a strike by mine workers in the copper mines of the Walker District of Arizona in 1903. A major component in Sheridan's story is that of the clash of race and ethnicity—particularly by the minority elite miners of Anglo-Saxon and Irish background against the majority of immigrant workers primarily from Mexico. His main argument is that the bosses of the Arizona copper mining companies deliberately encouraged racial and ethnic prejudice among unskilled miners in order to undercut the budding trade union movement and thereby to keep wages down. (pp. 180-86)

Another excellent essay, worth more than the cursory comment allowed here, is that by John Rule entitled a "A Risky Business: Death, Injury and Religion in Cornish Mining, c. 1780-1870" which provides a European perspective. Anyone who has studied the miner's life and the technology of mining in the nineteenth century knows how important migrant Cornishmen, were in staffing skilled positions—such as timbermen, blastmen—in mines throughout the world. In this encapsulation of his own larger work, Rule covers nearly every important aspect of the Cornish tin miner's life, including management practices, class analysis and working conditions, but with a special emphasis on deaths and injuries due to accident and disease. In the mid-nineteenth century the mortality of Cornish tin miners was more than two and one-half times that of coal miners. (159-60) Yet for a number of interesting reasons, particularly the role of evangelical religion, there was less class conflict and worker resistance in the Cornwall tin mines than in most other sectors of the British mining industry.

The present review cannot do justice to the breadth and variety of this book. In brief, the editors of *Social Approaches to and Industrial Past* have put together a fascinating volume, very different, with its theoretical social science and comparative perspectives, from mainstream mining histories. A number of the chapters are of absolutely top-notch quality; and nearly every one presents interesting new concepts, methodologies and hypotheses that will provide fresh food for thought in mining anthropology, archaeology and history.

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Beth & Bill Sagsetter, *The Mining Camps Speak, A New Way to Explore the Ghost Towns of the American West*, Denver, Colorado: Benchmark Publishing of Colorado, 1998, 283 pp., illus., bib., index. $19.95 paperback.

The Mining Camps Speak offers the reader a new perspective for exploring the towns, structures and artifacts left by the early miners of the Western frontier. Using narratives of their own explorations of the ghost towns of Colorado, the Sagsetter's have put together an admirable book for both the weekend explorer and the mining historian. It is the "Peterson's" field guide to the cultural resources of abandoned mining camps.

The authors seek to develop in the reader a keen sense of observation when looking at the remnants of a mining camp. They demonstrate through both narrative and photographs that careful interpretation of small details can yield insights not apparent from the "big picture." Appropriate warnings regarding entering mines and conservation of sites are also not overlooked.

While sometimes repetitive, each chapter divulges more clues for determining the identity or purpose of a particular item or structure that one might encounter in the field. For example, the author's piece together a seemingly unidentifiable pile of rotten timbers into the assay office it once was. Rusted hoists and boilers are also brought back to life through the experiences and words of Harold Thompson, the hoistman for the London Butte Mine in Alta, Colorado. Each chapter is followed by a field guide which illustrates each subject through photographs of artifacts *in situ* along with a brief description. The *International Correspondence School Reference Library* is frequently referenced for background details on the mining artifacts.