

whose struggles have often been overshadowed by his public superstar status. In its sensitive juxtaposition of text and Reinhard Derreth's rich photography, *Bill Reid* truly complements its subject's love of the well-made object.

UBC Museum of Anthropology

KAREN DUFFEK

To the Totem Shore — The Spanish Presence on the Northwest Coast, ed. Santiago Saavedra. Madrid: Ministerio de Transportes, Turismo, y Comunicaciones, 1986. Pp. 239.

This book is a collection of articles by various authors. It was produced for sale at the Spanish pavilion at Expo 86, and arrangements for distribution of the unsold copies are being made. The titles of the articles given below have been abbreviated.

The opening article "California, 17th Century," by Francisco Morales Padrón, describes both the real and apocryphal explorations of the North Pacific, the latter being important because of the influence they had on plans for subsequent voyages.

This article is followed by "Incursions into the 'Spanish Lake'" by Thomas Vaughan and E. A. P. Crowhurst Vaughan. Russian, French, and British explorations are described. The most useful part is the account of Russian exploration and establishment of trading posts in the Aleutian Islands and farther east, a subject the Vaughans have studied intensively.

Mercedes Palau's article, "The Spanish Presence," is badly translated. For example, the armament of (Concepción) included six "stone-cutters," according to the translator. These were "pedreros," small swivel-mounted guns which sometimes used stone cannon balls.

The author has confused two separate voyages through the Strait of Juan de Fuca in 1790 and 1791, and she or her proofreader are ten degrees out in the latitude of the supposed Strait of Maldonado.

Palau gives considerable space to the Malaspina voyage, which reached Alaska in 1791, including some material not readily available in English.

In "Spanish Cartography—the Corps of Steersmen" [*sic*], Luisa Martin and Lola Higuera have provided a pair of articles which would be better separated, since the subject matter differs. The translator has made one conspicuous error. The "steersmen" of the title were "pilotos," who were the navigators and often the cartographers on the ships of the

Real Armada. The error exists in the multilingual index to the 1831 *Spanish Maritime Dictionary*.

The first part of the article recounts the establishment of schools for navigators in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, at a time when the British thought the only school worth the name was the cockpit of a man-of-war. In fact, many of the "masters," as the navigators were called in England, were drawn from the merchant service. These included James Cook, who was not commissioned until he had served ten years as a master.

The second part of the article, on cartography, goes beyond its subject to describe the Spanish explorations of the British Columbia coast, repeating some of the material in Palau's article. It also describes the methods and problems of navigation and mapping. Most of the maps which are included to illustrate the article have been so reduced in scale that they can only be read with a magnifying glass. Fortunately, the quality of reproduction is so good that it is possible to do this.

José Alcida Franch's article, "The Culture of the Indians," is the least successful in the book. It is largely copied from anthropological and ethnographic works in English, some badly outdated, which the author does not seem to have understood. The reader's confidence is not strengthened by reading that Douglas Fir trees are nine hundred to twelve hundred metres high, or that the Nootka Indians used kayaks. The above opinions have been checked with Dr. Martine Reid, who would put it more strongly. Photographs of some of the Indian works of art in the Museo de América in Madrid are included. Both the artifacts and the photographs have great beauty.

"Faces in the Forest" is F. V. Grunfelt's summary of Moziño's "Noticias de Nutka," familiar through the translation by Iris Higbie Wilson (now Iris Engstrand). The article is supplemented by reproductions of paintings of plans made by Etcheverria, the artist who accompanied Moziño. They are taken from the originals, now in the Hunt Institute in Pittsburgh.

"The Journal of Tomas de Suria" is a charming commentary by Catherine Poupeney Hart of the Université de Montréal on Suria's fragmentary journal, the original of which is in the Beinecke Library at Yale. Her article is based on the 1936 English translation by H. R. Wagner.

The final article by José de la Sota, "The Nootka Crisis," gives the Spanish version of the clash between the Spanish commander Martinez and the English fur-trader Colnett, which led to a near war between England and Spain in 1789. The article is a valuable addition to material available in English.

The book was produced in a great hurry to be ready for Expo, and suffers from this. The reader has to put up with an annoying number of typographical and spelling errors, and the book could have done with more careful editing. Still, apart from Franch's article, it is an absorbing book to read, and a useful book to study.

The book is generously illustrated. It is worth buying just for the well selected pictures, drawings, and maps. This comment has been reserved until now because *To the Totem Shore* should not be looked on as a "coffee table" book, but as a work of history.

Vancouver

JOHN KENDRICK*

* Author of *The Men with Wooden Feet — the Spanish Exploration of the Pacific Northwest*, the reviewer has since been engaged on historical research for the Canadian Museum of Civilization and other institutions.

The Subarctic Indians and the Fur Trade 1680-1860, by J. C. Yerbury.
Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1986. Pp. 200.
\$22.95.

Perhaps the most significant events affecting research on the early history of Canada in areas outside the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes watershed were the microfilming of the magnificent Hudson's Bay Company Archives (completed in 1966 for records up to 1870) and their transfer from London to Winnipeg in 1974. These events marked the beginning of general accessibility to an enormous source of data, giving scholars the opportunity to write history in exquisite detail. Besides innumerable articles and theses, a number of significant books have appeared, based in large part on these archives. Bishop's *The Northern Ojibwa and the Fur Trade* (1974), Ray's *Indians in the Fur Trade* (1974), Ray and Freeman's "*Give Us Good Measure*" (1978), Francis and Morantz's *Partners in Furs* (1983), and Krech's *The Subarctic Fur Trade* (1984) would all have been impossible twenty years earlier. Yerbury's work is the latest addition to this growing list of books on the fur trade and related changes in native life. Using the Hudson's Bay Co. archives, with methods as well as some of the concepts developed by his predecessors, Yerbury does for the Chipewyan and their neighbours in the subarctic what the others did for the Cree on the Eastmain, the Ojibwa in northern Ontario, and the Assiniboine and the Cree on the Plains and adjacent Woodlands.