major functions in awakening interest in the study of history and often this interest leads to more serious study. Poorly written, inaccurate popular history, however, merely contributes to confusion and engenders cynical remarks regarding history as a discipline.

Unfortunately the book reviewed herein falls into this latter category. As a means of telling the general story of California's past, the author has used an early settler, Francisco Lugo, and his descendants as a vehicle, recounting the family history as well as that of the area from 1521 to 1860. In itself, such method is quite acceptable; however, when the number of errors in simple historical fact, the spelling of names and basic interpretation, coupled with undocumented invention, reaches the level that it has in this book, clearly no contribution of any kind is made. A complete absence of notes and a very limited bibliography of secondary works reflect further the inadequacy of this work. Lugo, sadly, can only be recommended as an example of what popular history should not be.

University of San Francisco

W. Michael Mathes


This monumental study considers town planning and early urban settlement in the western United States. It describes and analyzes clearly the patterns of town founding and devotes a third of the text to this process in the hispanic borderlands. Having studied hundreds of hispanic and Anglo-American communities, the author concludes that nearly all towns were planned either before actual settlement or shortly after it began. Anglo-American town founders had few rules to follow when they chose a site and had it surveyed. In the hispanic Southwest, particularly in California and Texas, the communities developed under regulations set forth in the Laws of the Indies. The author claims that this produced towns with more physical regularity than Anglo-American settlements. By the 1820s the Anglo and hispanic patterns of town planning came into conflict with the latter being absorbed and all but replaced in the next forty years.

The author has examined a mass of primary and secondary material with care. His ideas are set forth clearly and are documented thoroughly. Hundreds of maps, town plats, and community pictures illustrate and amplify the text. This is an excellent study, one which nearly all future students of the urban process in western America will have to consider.

University of Arizona

Roger Nichols


The author describes the modernization of the sugar mills of Morelos, beginning about 1880 with the introduction of modern equipment, mostly from Europe. This introduction initiated a very complicated chain of consequences that began with expansion of the area planted in cane, moved through revival and exacerbation of latent and active hostilities between hacendados and pueblos concerning rights to land and water, and ended finally in the Revolution. Along the way, the hacendados established regional and other associations that gave them control of supply and prices in Mexico and assured large profits after modernizing.

The shortness of the text (some thirty-five pages by the author) means that many points