

Fred R. Reinman. *An Archaeological Survey and Preliminary Test Excavations on the Island of Guam, Mariana Islands, 1965-66.* Agana, Guam: Micronesian Area Research Center, 1977. Paper. Pp. ix, 197, illustrations, drawings, map. \$8.00.

The appearance of a new publication outlet for archaeological reports is always welcome, and it is encouraging to see that the Micronesian Area Research Centre has issued Reinman's report as the first monograph in its Miscellaneous Series. The report is virtually identical with a mimeographed version privately circulated by the author some years ago; with the resurgence of archaeological interest in Micronesia in recent years, it is highly desirable that all relevant material be made more widely available.

The report describes an intensive site survey, test excavations in five sites in the southern part of the island, and the artifacts and floral and faunal remains recovered. There is a brief concluding section and two appendices on human remains from excavations, one by Jane Hainline Underwood on the skeletal remains and one by Walter H. Birkby on teeth.

The site survey describes sites according to several environmental zones. The great amount of site destruction and damage that have taken place on Guam and the difficulties and occasional successes of locating sites described by earlier workers are well documented. Some important conclusions about the lateness and brevity of occupation at some inland sites are drawn.

The five sites in which excavations took place are all in the south of the island, three on the coast, one a short distance up a river valley and one on an interior upland plateau. The excavations consisted of scattered test pits, and in each case overall interpretation of the history of the site is difficult despite the relatively simple stratigraphy usually encountered. A number of radiocarbon dates are of some assistance in correlations between test pits.

The substantial section on pottery represents a serious attempt to advance the study of Guamanian and Marianas pottery beyond the point reached by Spoehr. It is based on the distinction between temper types, but the divisions identified by Spoehr are on the whole supported. A major difficulty with the pottery study is that it is based on material from test pits excavated by spits, and it will be interesting to see how it stands up when more coherent assemblages from stratigraphic units become available for study.

A wide range of other artifacts are described and illustrated, including stone and shell adzes, slingstones, pestles and mortars, shell fishhooks, and

a variety of other objects in stone, bone, and shell, as well as post-European items.

The section on floral and faunal remains is rather brief. Following older works, a complete check list of molluscs is provided, but information on quantitative analysis of bone and shell is sketchy and lacks chronological control.

The discussion has not been revised to incorporate any new material despite the long delay between the writing of the report and its final publication. This is, of course, a difficult point. Since the conclusions are largely inward looking, concerned with Guam rather than Micronesia at large, the decision not to revise was probably a sensible one.

The report, in essence, is a straightforward account of fieldwork carried out more than ten years before publication. It states what was done and describes what was found. As such, it provides a useful body of information for those now working in the Marianas or adjacent areas. The inexpensive format, with adequate binding and a substantial number of line drawings and photographs, is a suitable way to publish data-rich reports of this nature.

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