

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 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 town-site 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 the 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