

Indians of North America

Second Edition, Revised

Harold E. Driver





North America

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Indians of North America

To Wilhelmine

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6. Native Population Density
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Preface to the Second Edition

SINCE the first edition was published in 1961 there has been an increased interest on the part of students, laymen, and anthropologists alike in what the Indians of the twentieth century have been doing, especially in the recent years of the 1960's. To meet this demand, the author has deleted the last chapter of the first edition and substituted for it five new chapters on ethnohistory and culture change after A.D. 1492. These terminal chapters divide the continent along national lines, with separate chapters or sections for Mexico, the United States, Alaska, Canada, and Greenland. Because most readers of this book are likely to be residents of the United States and are most concerned with the Indians in this nation, two of these chapters are devoted to the United States.

The five terminal chapters are more concerned with the facts of ethnohistory than with the broad trends or processes of acculturation theory. The author was more impressed with the wide variation in the responses of Indians to Whites than with the overall uniformities which could be pigeonholed under a double handful of theoretical concepts. At the same time, contrasts have been made between the Spanish and the English treatment of Indians in the colonial period, and between the policies and programs of the new governments—Mexico, the United States, Canada, and Denmark—in the later period. The twentieth century is given more space than any other, perhaps as much as the other four historic centuries combined.

The first chapter, on archeology, has been rewritten entirely to include the many discoveries since 1961 and to emphasize the growth of the civilizations in Meso-America. Dancing has been added to the chapter on music by Wilhelmine Driver, and the music of Meso-America has been given fuller treatment.

The order of two chapters has been changed. The chapter on language, originally 25, has been moved forward to become 3. This has been done to familiarize the reader near the beginning with the

terms for language families and subfamilies, which are used throughout the book to localize information of all kinds. The genetic language classification of Voegelin and Voegelin (1966) replaces the older scheme of the first edition. The original Chapter 14, "Property and Inheritance," has now become 16 so that it will follow the two chapters on kinship instead of preceding them. Property was owned and inherited by kinship groups, and their structures must be known in order to understand the discussion about property.

The Circum-Caribbean area has been dropped from the text, although it is left on the maps. It is included in the *Handbook of South American Indians*, edited by Julian H. Steward, in *Native Peoples of South America*, by Steward and Louis Faron, and in other general works on South America. Its geographical and historical affiliations are with South America rather than with North America.

The chapter on horticulture has been drastically revised in light of new research by archeologists and botanists. Intentional diffusion by man of domesticated plants across the Pacific before A.D. 1492 has been abandoned as an explanation in favor of independent domestication in the two hemispheres for all genera and species except the sweet potato, which seems to have been first domesticated in the New World and subsequently diffused to Polynesia within the time span A.D. 1-1492. The list of Meso-American domesticated plants has been expanded, but the new entries are of minor importance in the native culture.

About 150 new references have been cited and added to the terminal bibliography, most of them with dates in the 1960's. The illustrations remain the same except for the deletion of one line drawing; Maps 1, 2, 6, 31, and 37 have been revised. The index retains most of the original entries, to which several hundred new ones have been added.

The criticism made by some reviewers that the first edition of this book lacked functionally integrated descriptions of the cultures of single tribes has not been acted upon because four other books with a wealth of such descriptions have appeared since: *The Americas on the Eve of Discovery*, edited by Harold E. Driver, 1964; *The Native Americans*, by Robert F. Spencer, Jesse D. Jennings, *et al.*, 1965; *This Land Was Theirs*, by Wendell H. Oswalt, 1966; *The North American Indians*, edited by Roger C. Owen, James J. F. Deetz, and Anthony D. Fisher, 1967. These books supplement each other as well as this book.

I wish to thank the reviewers and teachers of courses on Indians for their suggestions for improving the book, especially David Barreis, David Damas, William N. Fenton, Nelson H. H. Graburn, June Helm, Melville Jacobs, Volney Jones and Evon Vogt. My wife Wilhelmine and I are especially grateful to George Herzog for his meticulous and helpful criticism of the revised version of the chapter on music and dance, as well as for suggestions for the language chapter. I wish also to acknowledge the help of Nancy O. Lurie of the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee and Joseph Jorgensen of the University of Michigan, who read the first draft of the terminal chapters on the areas north of Mexico and made valuable marginal notes, most of which were incorporated in the final draft. I am also grateful to Frank Essene of the University of Kentucky for verbal comments on both the old and the new material which improved its quality, and to Daniel Crowley of the University of California, Davis, for giving the typing of the first draft of the terminal chapters priority over his own work. I wish, further, to thank Patricia Rademaker of Davis, California, and Peggy Wagner and Janice Perry of Bloomington, Indiana, for a careful typing job. My greatest debt, however, is to my wife Wilhelmine, who criticized and edited every word of the manuscript from the first to the final draft, read and summarized a number of Spanish sources, and contributed enormously to the thought of the book as well as to the mechanics of the writing.

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