



Ancient Mexico and Central America: Archaeology and Culture History

By Susan Toby Evans



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A comprehensive new survey that explores every aspect of pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, from Paleoindian times to the sixteenth century.

Susan Evans's authoritative new book provides overviews of the best-known regional cultures, such as those of the Olmecs, Maya, Zapotecs, and Aztecs, as well as balanced coverage of Mesoamerica as a whole, encompassing within the larger story the development of regions such as West Mexico, Guerrero, the Gulf lowlands, and the northern and southern frontiers of Mesoamerica.

The differing cultures are examined within a chronological framework, with reference to the latest archaeological evidence and current research. The book also traces the development, apogee, and decline of numerous sites—from La Venta and Monte Alban to Teotihuacan, Palenque, and Tenochtitlan. Major cultural themes, such as the ball game, maize cultivation, and the development of the calendar, are analyzed in thirty-three special features. Fluently written and lavishly illustrated with photographs, drawings, and newly commissioned maps, this compelling and detailed book is an invaluable guide for travelers, students, scholars, and anyone interested in pre-Columbian Mesoamerica. 460 illustrations, 70 in color.

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Review

A must buy for all those interested in the pre-Columbian world's most dynamic and complex societies. -- *Michael D. Coe*

Superb, a highly innovative and remarkable introduction to the study of ancient Mesoamerica. -- *John M. D. Pohl*

Susan Evans's new book is the best, most up-to-date introduction to this exciting area. -- *Jeremy Sabloff*

About the Author

Susan Toby Evans is Professor of Archaeology at Pennsylvania State University. She is senior editor (with David Webster) of *Archaeology of Ancient Mexico and Central America: An Encyclopaedia*, co-editor (with William T. Sanders) of the Aztec-period volumes of the Teotihuacan Valley Project Final Report, co-editor (with Joanne Pillsbury) of *Ancient Palaces of the New World*, and co-author (with Webster and Sanders) of *Out of the Past: An Introduction to Archaeology*.

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