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## Book Review: "Slavery Behind The Wall: An Archaeology Of A Cuban Coffee Plantation" by Theresa A. Singleton

By: Kelly McCallister

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## Social & Behavioral Sciences



the war and of the island, as well as to Puerto Rican people who want to know more about this relatively recent period. A truly outstanding book. Summing Up: ★★★★ Essential. All levels/libraries.—F. W. Gleach, Cornell University

**©** 53-1901 HQ1236 2014-16606 CIP Klein, Hilary. Compañeras: Zapatista women's stories. Seven Stories Press, 2015. 335p bibl ISBN 9781609805876 pbk, \$19.95

This remarkable work is based on interviews and embedded participation that began in the late 1990s with three generations of women involved in various ways with the EZLN—Zapatista National Liberation Army—since the inception of the Zapatista anti-neoliberal revolution in 1983 in southern Mexico. Nine engaging and wellillustrated chapters plus an introduction and epilogue chronicle women's roles in the struggle to (re)gain autonomy, health, and freedom from poverty, patriarchy, racism, and the excesses of nationalism and imperialism. Reading these accounts of struggles for social justice in Mexico that influenced movements such as Occupy and instigated what became known as Indigenous feminism (focused on the dialectic between Indigenous rights and women's liberation) will raise awareness in readers of all ages, not only about the power of Indigenous women but also the possibilities available to all people to organize and fight for change. Mayan women's participation in struggles for land and health are particularly well-drawn, and the metaphor regarding how Indigenous women actually "give birth to new worlds" is well illustrated by focusing on particular women's biographies as they donned masks and worked as combatants, mothers, political and social organizers, and architects of global Indigenous autonomy. Summing Up: ★★★ Highly recommended. All levels/libraries.—K. S. Fine-Dare, Fort Lewis College

2014-42640 MARC HD7324 53-1902 Murphy, Edward. For a proper home: housing rights in the margins of urban Chile, 1960-2010. Pittsburgh, 2015. 343p bibl index afp ISBN 9780822963110 pbk, \$27.95

Murphy (history and global studies, Michigan State) provides an engaging, original historical account of Chile's low-income urban residents. Using a wide range of primary sources, oral interviews, and interdisciplinary scholarship, the author illustrates how Santiago's poorest residents have struggled to find homes, transforming not only the urban landscape but also notions of citizenship, property, and homeownership. He also connects this local story to larger theoretical debates about citizenship and property rights as well as the global history of shantytowns and urban mobilizations. Chronologically organized, the book places the history of the urban poor within a larger discussion of the country's key periods: reform (1960s), socialist revolution (1970-1973), military dictatorship (1973-1989), and post-dictatorship (1990s-). From the activism and land seizures that became emblematic during the 1960s to the struggle for democracy in the 1980s, residents in shantytowns have placed housing rights at the center of the political debate. This fascinating view of Chilean history contributes to a better understanding of how the country has experimented with different models of social and economic development and how poor citizens have crafted their own views of the state and democracy, one that includes their right to own homes. Summing Up: \*\* Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.—A. Vergara, California State University, Los Angeles

2015-4632 CIP HT1076 53-1903 Singleton, Theresa A. Slavery behind the wall: an archaeology of a

Cuban coffee plantation. University Press of Florida, 2015. 261p bibl index afp ISBN 9780813060729 cloth, \$74.95

Archaeologist Singleton (Syracuse) offers a rare glimpse into the Cuban historical landscape through the perceptions of a US-based archaeologist. Her definitive study on the spatiality of slavery, plantation archaeology, and Cuban historical archaeology is as reflective as it is holistic. She begins with the whole of Cuban history, makes comparisons with similar studies in other slavery-based countries, explains the relevance of her work at Cafetal Biajacs, and demonstrates how they are all interconnected in the big picture of spatial slavery and plantation studies. Going beyond a mere analysis of material culture, Singleton dives into the ethnic and gender comparisons of the enslaved people who lived behind the walls. This informative read on the mysterious and little-known Cuban culture and comprehensive how-to manual for archaeologists is an outstanding contribution to the study of slavery and Cuban historical archaeology. Summing Up: ★★★ Essential. Graduate students, faculty, professionals.—K. C. McCallister, Appalachian State University

## Middle East & North Africa

MARC HX441 53-1904

Drew, Allison. We are no longer in France: communists in colonial Algeria. Manchester University Press, 2014. 311p bibl index ISBN 9780719090240 cloth, \$110.00

This engagingly written scholarly treatment draws on the ideological framework of Benedict Anderson (Imagined Communities, CH, Mar'84) to examine communist efforts in French colonial Algeria to "imagine the Algerian nation." Drew (politics, Univ. of York, UK) contends that once the Algerian people (and not just the European Algerians) joined with the PCA (Algerian Communist Party), a fierce battle began between internationalism and a fiery nationalism that ultimately led to the PCA's demise. However, the author goes beyond these opposing forces and envisions an Algeria torn by inequitable land ownership, embittered history, deep religious cleavages, and a complex class structure. She concludes that what emerged in the early 1960s was a "civil society [that] seemed apathetic, exhausted by war, alienated by the FLN's factional battles" and in which the "post-colonial state controlled all public political space." While the Algerian communist party could do little to combat this, Drew argues that the PCA did leave several traces in the form of trade unions, a free press, and campaigns against political repression, which helped Algerians imagine a situation of civil connection. Spanning from conquest to a postcolonial state, this perfect blending of narrative and analysis reorients Algerian political and social studies and repositions a diversity of characters from Albert Camus to Ahmed Ben Bella. Summing Up: ★★ Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and

above.—B. C. Odom, independent scholar

## North America

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CIP

Alexander, Shawn Leigh. W. E. B. Du Bois: an American intellectual and activist. Rowman & Littlefield, 2015. 155p bibl index afp ISBN 9781442207400 cloth, \$35.00; ISBN 9781442207424 ebook, \$34.99

The Library of African-American Biography is to be commended for