Kristen Carlson and Leland C. Bement’s edited book *The Archaeology of Large-Scale Manipulation of Prey: The Economic and Social Dynamics of Mass Hunting* focuses on many archaeological and ethnographic aspects of large-scale hunting, that is, hunting that produces “a surplus of resources to provision a large group of people for a short period of time” (p. 3). The eight-chapter volume explores central questions relevant to prehistoric archaeology concerning this type of subsistence strategy: how did people conduct large-scale hunting, how did hunting strategies change over time, what are the sociopolitical implications of mass or cooperative hunting, and what are the similarities and differences in mass hunting strategies across geographic regions? Chapter 1 by coeditor Leland Bement serves as an overview that anchors the volume, while Chapter 8 by John Speth includes a collection of resources for theoretical and methodological frameworks as well as a number of observations and global case studies to address questions left unanswered. Chapters 2 through 7, authored by a diverse group of scholars, are based on original ethnographic and archaeological research on communal hunting across space and time. The volume is largely focused on the North American Great Plains (Chapters 2 and 5–7), but Chapters 3 and 4 provide additional geographic perspectives with research from Australia and Greenland, respectively.

Despite the eclectic nature of the essays, a clear theme emerges that threads the volume together. The authors challenge the simplistic and traditional assumption that people (and mostly men) simply followed migrating herds from place to place. The authors expose human-prey relationship complexities that are still beyond the reach of knowing owing to the incomplete archaeological record. In other words, this volume highlights how archaeologists interpret large-scale hunting sites and, through new data and observations, reveals ways archaeologists can improve their interpretations with better ethnographic frames of reference and revamped models. When dealing with communal hunting of large prey (i.e. bison, caribou), we need to understand not only the people and their cultural complexities, such as territory formation (Chapter 2), how labor was invested and organized (Chapter 3), and the use and wasting of meat (Chapter 4), but also the structure of prey populations (Chapter 5) as well as prey behavior and migration patterns (Chapters 6 and 7).

From this collection of chapters, the important takeaway is that we must find ways to test meaningful research questions that address human behavior through ethnographic analogy, experimental archaeology, paleoenvironmental analysis, and prey modeling. The volume opens possibilities for new research questions while exposing the limits of archaeology when it comes to understanding the social and political complexity of what have been traditionally considered egalitarian societies that practice communal hunting subsistence. Collecting chapters from ethnographic and archaeological perspectives together in one volume creates a rare multidisciplinary dialogue between history, ethnography, and archaeological science and allows us to challenge assumptions about what we know about communal hunting. Thus, the volume serves historians, ethnographers, and archaeologists conducting research on hunting strategies by offering new insight and suggestions to test new research questions. Moreover, individual chapters are good for specialized study in graduate school and in advanced archaeological seminars, allowing for discussion of the current state of ethnographic frameworks and archaeological models.

Specialized Great Plains archaeologists and paleoecologists who are particularly interested in the connections between bison herds and people will gain significant insight from new data. However, it is disappointing that more archaeological sites in Kansas, such as arroyo traps and bison jumps, are not directly included. This omission highlights the need for additional research and publication on adaptive strategies by hunter-gatherers in Kansas. Nonetheless, researchers in Kansas archaeology will find value in the broader regional data and perspectives as well as the extensive reference lists for each chapter.

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