The Atlas of Sacred Places: Meeting Points of Heaven and Earth, by James Harpur (240 pages, 1994), describes 33 temples, ancient burial places, pilgrimage sites, monuments, and landscapes considered sacred by different cultures past and present. This is not an in-depth study, but the excellent photographs do convey a sense of the extraordinariness of each sacred site. Some unusual locales were chosen, among them Wat Phra Keo in Thailand, Mount Kailas in Tibet, Cahokia in Illinois, and Oseberg in Norway, making this a welcome multicultural approach. $45.00. Henry Holt and Company, 115 W. 18th Street, New York, NY 10011. ISBN 0-8050-2775-0.

A Bibliography of Medical and Biomedical Biography, by Leslie T. Morton and Robert J. Moore (333 pages, 2d ed., November 1994), lists readily available sources of information on significant figures in the history of medicine and the biomedical sciences. This new edition increases its coverage of references to both English-language and European-language works. There is also a stronger representation of information from periodical literature. Also included are a chronological index of biographies arranged by discipline and a short list of books on the history of medicine and related subjects. $99.95. Ashgate Publishing Co., Old Post Road, Brookfield, VT 05036-9704. ISBN 0-85967-981-0.

Biological Anomalies: Humans III, compiled by William R. Corliss (206 pages, October 1994), is a catalog of anthropological data and observations that cannot be explained readily by prevailing scientific theories. Part three of a projected series of ten, this volume covers anomalies in the hominid fossil record (abrupt changes in hominid morphology, the sudden demise of the Neanderthals, giant hominid skeletons); human genetics (human and ape chromosome numbers differ, human mitochondria radically different from those of other organisms); unrecognized hominids (bigfoot/ sasquatch or Chinese wildmen); and human interface phenomena (unusual animal attacks on humans, manipulation of human behavior by viruses, the inverse relationship between human parasites and allergies). Each anomaly is rated for the quality of data supporting it and the degree to which it can or cannot be explained by current scientific laws. $19.95. The Sourcebook Project, P.O. Box 107, Glen Arm, MD 21057. ISBN 0-915554-29-1.


The New York Public Library Book of Popular Americana, by Tad Tuleja (451 pages, November 1994), is a remarkable compendium of both well-known and medium-known people, places, events, and other elements of popular culture in America. It’s a good first choice for identifying such things as Diddy-Wah-Diddy, hopping John, Steve Brodie, Old Stormalong, and the XIT Ranch. Most of the entries, however, are fairly familiar, which makes me think this...

Encyclopedia of Creation Myths, by David Adams Leeming and Margaret Adams Leeming (330 pages, October 1994), recounts the cosmogony and deluge myths of most Eastern and Western cultures. Native American myths are especially well-represented, along with Babylonian, Egyptian, Greco-Roman, Hindu, Chinese, Japanese, and African beliefs. Illustrations of art, sculpture, and manuscripts are provided where available. $60.00. ABC-CLIO, 130 Cremona Dr., Santa Barbara, CA 93116-1911. ISBN 0-87436-739-5.

This is a handy companion volume to ABC-CLIO’s Encyclopedia of Traditional Epics (732 pages, October 1994) which summarizes epics in prose and poetry dealing with heroes, quests, sagas, and other mythic themes in world cultures. $65.00. ISBN 0-87436-724-7.

Introduction to Reference Sources in the Health Sciences, by Fred W. Roper and Jo Anne Bookman (301 pages, 3rd ed., September 1994), has been revised to highlight changes in key health sciences reference sources since the previous edition in 1984. Each chapter contains a discussion of the general characteristics of the bibliographic or informational source being considered, followed by examples of the most important tools in the area. Emphasis is on the use of materials, and, where available, a comparison with similar materials is included. $35.00. Scarecrow Press, P.O. Box 4167, Metuchen, NJ 08840. ISBN 0-8108-2889-8.

Women and Public Policy: A Revolution in Progress, by M. Margaret Conway, David W. Ahern, and Gertrude A. Steuernagel (213 pages, August 1994), offers brief surveys of public policy topics that affect women and their families. Of particular interest is the chapter on women and educational policy, which focuses on the Title IX prohibition of gender discrimination by educational institutions. Other topics are gender-based insurance ratings, equal employment opportunity policy, and women and the criminal justice system. $19.95. Congressional Quarterly Books, 1414 22nd Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20037. ISBN 0-87187-923-9.
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