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Prehistoric farmers  
in Mexico invented  
irrigation,  
developed it into a  
science, and used it  
widely. Indeed,  
many of the canal  
systems still in use  
in Mexico today  
were originally  
begun well before  
the discovery of the  
New World. In this  
comprehensive  
study, William E.  
Doolittle  
synthesizes and  
extensively  
analyzes all that is  
currently known  
about the  
development and  
use of irrigation  
technology in  
prehistoric Mexico  
from about 1200  
B.C. until the  
Spanish conquest in

the sixteenth  
century A.D. Unlike  
authors of previous  
studies who have  
focused on the  
political, economic,  
and social  
implications of  
irrigation, Doolittle  
considers it in a  
developmental  
context. He  
examines virtually  
all the known  
systems, from small  
canals that diverted  
runoff from  
ephemeral  
mountain streams  
to elaborate  
networks that  
involved numerous  
large canals to  
irrigate broad  
valley floors with  
water from  
perennial rivers.  
Throughout the  
discussion, he gives  
special emphasis to  
the technological  
elaborations that  
distinguish each  
system from its

predecessors. He also traces the spread of canal technology into and through different ecological settings. This research substantially clarifies the relationship between irrigation technology in Mexico and the American Southwest and argues persuasively that much of the technology that has been attributed to the Spaniards was actually developed in Mexico by indigenous people. These findings will be important not only for archaeologists working in this area but also for geographers, historians, and engineers interested in agriculture,

technology, and arid lands. This AQUASTAT report presents the most recent information available on water availability and its use in the 18 countries and territories in the Middle East region, with an emphasis on agricultural water use and management. It contains the relevant tables and maps, and a regional synopsis emphasizing the subregional characteristics of this large and diverse region. It also analyses the changes that have occurred since the first survey in 1997. Finally it gives a more detailed description of four transboundary river basins in the region, highlighting

the different levels of cooperation and the agreements between countries located in the same river basin: the Euphrates-Tigris River Basin, the Kura-Araks River Basin, the Asi-Orontes River Basin and the Jordan River Basin. Irrigation came to the arid West in a wave of optimism about the power of water to make the desert bloom. Mark Fiege's fascinating and innovative study of irrigation in southern Idaho's Snake River valley describes a complex interplay of human and natural systems. Using vast quantities of labor, irrigators built dams, excavated canals, laid out farms, and brought millions of acres

into cultivation. But at each step, nature rebounded and compromised the intended agricultural order. The result was a new and richly textured landscape made of layer upon layer of technology and intractable natural forces—one that engineers and farmers did not control with the precision they had anticipated. *Irrigated Eden* vividly portrays how human actions inadvertently helped to create a strange and sometimes baffling ecology. There is today a crucial need to revamp the management and governance of water systems in Asia in order to cater to the increasing demands

of a growing group of users with diverse needs—urban settlements, industry, food producers and environmental needs. Written by a mix of international observers and practitioners, these essays cover a wide range of issues that are involved in this endeavor. Based on actual fieldwork in various Asian countries, the contributors collectively address three major themes:

- The response to the competition for resources including groundwater and aquifers, multiple water use, water reclamation, and watershed and basin management.
- The emergence of new partnerships and institutional

reforms, such as the changing role of governments, participatory approaches, new accountability mechanisms and improving the infrastructure. - The economic productivity of irrigated agriculture through water users' associations, demand-oriented and pro-poor irrigation services, and agribusiness. Drawing vital lessons from the Asian experience, this important volume will greatly assist in the design of efficient and equitable water management systems as well as serve to outline an agenda for future research for practitioners and policymakers. This

publication reviews both published and unpublished sources on Puebloan, Hispanic, and AngloAmerican irrigation systems in the Rio Grande Valley. Settlement patterns and Spanish and Mexican land grants in the valley are also discussed. The volume includes an annotated bibliography. Readers will find that there is no universally "best" irrigation method, and that the proper method selection will depend upon the crop, climate, economics, water quality, support infrastructure, energy availability, and numerous other factors. As such, this report will remain a valuable

resource each time a new irrigation need arises."--BOOK JACKET. Egypt is a country of tremendous land resources but limited water resources. The area of cultivated land is only 3.2 per cent of the gross area. The river Nile is the main sources of water. In the recent years the Government established large-scale agricultural projects in light of food security related to the population growth. Expansion of irrigated agriculture has to be predomantly realized by increasing the water use efficiency. In Egypt, the dominant irrigation method is surface irrigation,

which covers approximately 83 per cent of the irrigated areas. Surface irrigation or gravity methods are generally characterized by a low efficiency. One opportunity to increase the efficiency is to convert surface irrigation to modern irrigation systems, which are generally highly expensive for a country like Egypt. Another option to increase the efficiency of surface irrigation systems is to convert the traditional irrigation method based on continuous flow to surge flow irrigation. Surge flow irrigation is the intermittent application of water to furrows in a

series of relatively short on and off time periods. Irrigated agriculture has played a critical role in the economic and social development of the United States—but it is also at the root of increasing controversy. How can irrigation best make the transition into an era of increasing water scarcity? In *A New Era for Irrigation*, experts draw important conclusions about whether irrigation can continue to be the nation's most significant water user, what role the federal government should play, and what the irrigation industry must do to adapt to the conditions of the

future. *A New Era for Irrigation* provides data, examples, and insightful commentary on issues such as: Growing competition for water resources. Developments in technology and science. The role of federal subsidies for crops and water. Uncertainties related to American Indian water rights issues. Concern about environmental problems. And more. The committee identifies broad forces of change and reports on how public and private institutions, scientists and technology experts, and individual irrigators have

responded. The report includes detailed case studies from the Great Plains, the Pacific Northwest, California, and Florida, in both the agricultural and turfgrass sectors. The cultural transformation brought about by irrigation may be as profound as the transformation of the landscape. The committee examines major facets of this cultural perspective and explores its place in the future. *A New Era for Irrigation* explains how irrigation emerged in the nineteenth century, how it met the nation's goals in the twentieth century, and what role it might play in the twenty-first

century. It will be important to growers, policymakers, regulators, environmentalists, water and soil scientists, water rights claimants, and interested individuals. Modern and Traditional Irrigation Technologies in the Eastern Mediterranean A detailed study of the local effects of the British Raj's irrigation schemes. Agriculture in Africa south of the Sahara (SSA) is still largely rainfed. SSA also exhibits the lowest crop yields for major staples in the world, largely due to low use of irrigation and fertilizer. Rainfed agriculture poses growing production risks with increased

climate variability and change. At the same time, smallholder irrigation in the region developed rapidly over the past decade, albeit starting from very low levels. In addition to largely demand-driven irrigation development by smallholders, there is a significant push by donors for large-scale irrigation development, as well as some push for smallholder irrigation. There has also been a long-standing debate about whether irrigation in SSA should be large scale or small scale to achieve its potential. However, given the potentially high rewards, but also high possibility of

failure, the assessment of irrigation potential must go beyond large scale versus small scale to integrate concerns regarding environmental sustainability, resource use efficiency, nutrition and health impacts, and women's empowerment. The hypothesis underlying this review paper is that how irrigation gets deployed in SSA will be decisive not only for environmental sustainability (such as deciding remaining forest cover in the region) and poverty reduction, but also for health, nutrition, and gender outcomes in the region. The focus of this paper

is on the health, nutrition, and gender linkage. We find that to date, few studies have analyzed the impact of irrigation interventions on nutrition, health, and women's empowerment, despite the large potential of irrigation to affect these important variables. Irrigation interventions may have differential effects on different members in the household and in the community, such as irrigators, non-irrigators, children, and women. Measuring and understanding such differences, followed by improving design and implementation to maximize gender, health, and nutrition outcomes,

could transform irrigation programs from focusing solely on increased food production toward becoming an integral component of poverty-reduction strategies. Of all the confrontations man has engineered with nature, irrigation systems have had the most widespread and far-reaching impact on the natural environment. Over a quarter of a billion hectares of the planet are irrigated and entire countries depend on irrigation for their survival and existence. Considering the importance of irrigation schemes, it is unfortunate that until recently the technology and principles of design

applied to their construction has hardly changed in 4,000 years. Modern thinking on irrigation engineering has benefited from a cross-fertilization of ideas from many other fields including social sciences, control theory, political economics and agriculture. However, these influences have been largely ignored by irrigation engineers. Drawing on almost 40 years of experience of irrigation in the developing world, Laycock introduces new ideas on the design of irrigation systems and combines important issues from the disciplines of social conflict,



management, and political thinking. Excerpt from Ground Water for Irrigation in the Sacramento Valley, California No phase of the history of California is more striking and interesting than the economic and social changes which are now affecting the Sacramento Valley. These changes cover the whole field of human activity, and yet in a peculiar sense the control and use of water are the vital factors which differentiate the development of this valley from the industrial expansion that has been common to the whole country since the Civil War. Each step in the mastery of water adds impetus to the basic

industry of agriculture and, through the ramifications of industry and trade, brings progressive changes to all parts of the social fabric. The control of rivers for navigation and flood protection, the drainage of swamp lands, the harnessing of mountain streams for the production of electric power, and the use of both surface and underground water for irrigation and domestic purposes present problems which "involve in so complete and fascinating a way all of the phases of hydraulic engineering." The solution of these problems is being accomplished with amazing rapidity,

largely by private interests, working under wise laws and effective supervision and control by State and Federal bodies. The possibilities of the Sacramento Valley were early appreciated by the Spanish colonists of California, but the vastness of the province, its distance from Mexico, and the intractability of the northern Indians prevented them from making settlements north of Sonoma. American immigrants, beginning with Gordon, Knight, Wolfskill, and Sutter, recognized the value of the country for raising cattle and established ranches on lands granted by the Mexican

Government. The valley was the stronghold of the Americans during the conquest in 1845, and many of the settlers became rich in the mines in the years following the discovery of gold in 1848. About the Publisher  
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a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works. Agriculture is one of the few industries that has been creating resources continuously from nature. Sustainability of this industry is a crucial issue at now-a-days. Agricultural technologies are important to feed the growing world population. Agricultural engineering has been applying scientific principles for the optimal use of natural resources

in agricultural production for the benefit of humankind. The role of agricultural engineering is increasing in the coming days at the forthcoming challenges of producing more food with less water coupled with climate uncertainty. I am happy to know that a book entitled "Fundamentals of Irrigation and On-farm Water Management", written by Engr. Dr. M. H. Ali, is going to be published by Springer. The book is designed to cover the major fields of agricultural and environmental engineering such as weather, plant, soil, water, and basics of on-farm water management. The book will be quite

useful for the students of agricultural engineering. Students of other related branches of engineering sciences, and engineers working in the field and at research institutes will also be benefited. The book may serve as a textbook for the students and as a practical hand-book for the practitioners and researchers in the field of irrigation and on-farm water management. Utilization of the recent literature in the area and citation of relevant journals / reports have added a special value to this book. Considering the topics covered, engineers, scientists,

practitioners, and educators will find this book as a valuable resource. Initially associated with hi-tech irrigated agriculture, drip irrigation is now being used by a much wider range of farmers in emerging and developing countries. This book documents the enthusiasm, spread and use of drip irrigation systems by smallholders but also some disappointments and disillusion faced in the global South. It explores and explains under which conditions it works, for whom and with what effects. The book deals with drip irrigation 'behind the scenes', showcasing what

largely remain 'untold stories'. Most research on drip irrigation use plot-level studies to demonstrate the technology's ability to save water or improve efficiencies and use a narrow and rather prescriptive engineering or economic language. They tend to be grounded in a firm belief in the technology and focus on the identification of ways to improve or better realize its potential. The technology also figures prominently in poverty alleviation or agricultural modernization narratives, figuring as a tool to help smallholders become more innovative,

entrepreneurial and business minded. Instead of focusing on its potential, this book looks at drip irrigation-in-use, making sense of what it does from the perspectives of the farmers who use it, and of the development workers and agencies, policymakers, private companies, local craftsmen, engineers, extension agents or researchers who engage with it for a diversity of reasons and to realize a multiplicity of objectives. While anchored in a sound engineering understanding of the design and operating principles of the technology, the book extends the analysis beyond engineering and

hydraulics to understand drip irrigation as a sociotechnical phenomenon that not only changes the way water is supplied to crops but also transforms agricultural farming systems and even how society is organized. The book provides field evidence from a diversity of interdisciplinary case studies in sub-Saharan Africa, the Mediterranean, Latin America, and South Asia, thus revealing some of the untold stories of drip irrigation. Excerpt from Irrigation in the North Atlantic States The use of wells as a source of irrigation is quite limited, and throughout the East

the absence of windmills is particularly noticeable. The cost of well boring is considerably higher than in the South and West. Many farmers near the large cities use city water for irrigation, since, if the farm is small and the use of water is limited, it is thought to be cheaper than pumping. The usual cost of such water is \$1 to per cubic feet, or \$44 to \$65 per acre - foot - a price which would certainly seem prohibitive to western irrigators, some of whom pay less than 1 per cent of these costs, and even where pumping is practiced, as in Santa Clara Valley, California, the average cost of

raising water 65 feet is only per acre - foot, or 10 per cent of the above price. The success of irrigation under the conditions found in the East is due not to cheap water supply, but to the high value of crops grown and the careful distribution of the small quantity of water used. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at [www.forgottenbooks.com](http://www.forgottenbooks.com) This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing

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