

Reviews

New Book Chronicle

Robert Witcher

Reading & writing archaeology

GUY GIBBON. *Critically reading the theory and methods of archaeology: an introductory guide*. viii+244 pages. 2013. Lanham (MD): Altamira; 978-0-7591-2341-0 paperback \$22.95.

JONATHAN M. HALL. *Artifact and artifice: classical archaeology and the ancient historian*. xvi+258 pages, 54 b&w illustrations, 10 tables. 2014. Chicago (IL): University of Chicago Press; 978-0-226-09698-8 paperback \$45 & £31.50.

Reviewing a book about how to read archaeological texts is a potentially tricky business. Not least, in *Critically reading the theory and methods of archaeology: an introductory guide*, GUY GIBBON provides insight into the habits of book reviewers and those providing back-cover blurbs. For example, is the testimonial “required reading for any archaeologist!”—which really does feature on the back cover—a reasonable conclusion, an appeal to authority, or hyperbole (to mention just some of the many devices discussed by Gibbon)?

The book is divided into four sections, each containing chapters headed by questions. The latter include ‘Is there a fallacy in the reasoning?’, ‘Are facts clearly distinguished from opinions and other claims?’ and ‘Are the conclusions reasonable?’ Gibbon advises that the reader can proceed from beginning to end or sample individual chapters. Fundamental, however, is Chapter 1: ‘What kind of archaeology is it?’ Here, Gibbon skirts the “two missteps [of] flatland modernism and skeptical postmodernism” with a four quadrants approach defined graphically by two axes: *x* running from interior to exterior and *y* from individual to collective. The resulting quadrants identify “four perspectives on human beings, each of which has its own distinctive kind of reality, type of valid knowledge, mode of study, version of truth, and means of validation” (pp. 10–11). For example, the upper-left quadrant concerns individual subjective consciousness (e.g. thoughts, experiences) and the lower-right concerns exterior collective considerations (e.g. social organisation, ecosystems). This device allows texts to be read free from personal theoretical preference. Gibbon argues this is important because

“as critical readers, our primary concern is whether a claim (in any quadrant) is well supported—and not with the metaphysical issue of which approach to archaeology is the correct one” (p. 35). Hence Gibbon is not required to take a position on the competing research programmes (or “clusters of assumptions”, p. 151) discussed: trait-centred archaeology, system-centred archaeology, agency-centred archaeology and integral archaeology.

The chapters work around the research cycle and illustrate how the output from this creative process can, and should, be read. Gibbon’s text lies somewhere between the classic archaeology primer by Renfrew and Bahn (2012) and the airport-lounge bestseller, *The art of thinking clearly* (Dobelli 2013). Much of the expected introductory material is present but transformed from textbook to self-help guide: the statistics chapter becomes ‘How are the observations summarized?’ and the history of archaeology is ‘Which research program is my reading an example of?’ But there is also much that does not feature in standard introductions, including guidance on how to spot fallacies (e.g. red herrings, straw persons), euphemisms and dyseuphemisms (e.g. “pot-hunter!”, p. 68) and weasellers (i.e. words to soften or hedge a claim, such as ‘perhaps’—a reviews staple). He also details various other intentional devices and unintentional errors including worked examples of formal logic and common errors in framing explanations.

Each chapter is illustrated with examples: some real, some invented, many humorous. On the problem of unclear writing and establishing the intended meaning of the sentence “[e]nraged cow injures archaeologist with shovel”, Gibbon suggests “if all else fails, try common sense” (p. 61). This serves as a broader reminder that the intended audience is, explicitly, the critical reader and how to deal with others’ (often problematic) texts rather than how to improve one’s own writing. While authors will find many ideas with which to improve their texts, we must hope that Gibbon now turns his attention to a dedicated companion volume on how to write better archaeology.

Critically reading focuses on prehistoric archaeology (the Greek temple on the cover is a red herring) and generally on archaeology as practised in North America. It has, however, far wider resonance. Following Gibbon's advice, I will stop short of dust-jacket hyperbole. I cannot say it is *required* reading for any archaeologist. But I would be surprised if many archaeologists could read this book and not find something useful. Gibbon concludes with a coda: 'Is critical reading worth the effort?' His single paragraph answer is inspired by the belief that the global crises of today (climate change, population, terrorism) have their roots in the past and that understanding these trends is crucial for the survival of our species. This provides a striking line of argument with which to encourage students to appreciate the importance of archaeological theory. But saving humanity, like learning critical reading skills, will "require practice and still more practice" (p. 212).

With *Artifact and artifice: classical archaeology and the ancient historian* by JONATHAN M. HALL we shift from reading to writing, from prehistory to (proto)history, and from best practice to messy reality. Hall takes nine case studies from the classical world and explores the relationship between texts and material culture. He starts with the problem of exactly *what* classical archaeology might be and how it relates to the evidence base and to other disciplines. Is it a branch of archaeology, classics or art history, or a distinct field in its own right? He continues with a history of classical archaeology up to the present day (though omits reference to Terrenato's 2002 prize-winning *Antiquity* paper on this topic). On the emergence of post-processualism and the rediscovery of context and historical imagination, he notes that "[t]he notion that 'context matters' or that there might be a natural alliance between archaeology and history must have struck many classical archaeologists as a revelation akin to the reinvention of the wheel" (p. 15).

Hall's case studies are some of the most contentious examples of how (and sometimes, how not) to bring together ancient texts and archaeological evidence, ranging from naïve attempts to use archaeology to prove the veracity of texts right through to more calculated campaigns to bring the evidence into alignment. The case studies include such (in)famous examples as 'The Delphic Vapours', 'Sokrates in the Athenian Agora', 'The Tombs at Vergina', 'The City of Romulus', 'The Birth of the Roman Republic', 'The House of Augustus' and 'The Bones of St Peter'. Each chapter outlines the controversy, reviews the textual

and material evidence, considers the ingenious ways in which awkward data are accommodated, and explores alternative explanations.

So, did the Pythia (the oracle at Delphi) deliver her pronouncements while in a trance induced by volcanic vapours? Was the eighth century BC wall at the foot of the Palatine Hill the handiwork of a 'Romulus' figure, as argued by Andrea Carandini? Hall's aim is not to answer these questions but to deconstruct why such questions are asked, how they have been addressed and what this tells us about the practice of classical archaeology. In most cases, the simple reality is that we do not (yet) know. For example, "speculation about the identity of the couple interred in Tomb II [at Vergina] is still, perhaps, a little premature" (p. 116; Gibbon might detect 'weaseling' here—in the language, if not the conclusion).

Each of the case studies is followed with translations which show the fragmentary, ambiguous and often contradictory nature of the texts. The archaeological evidence—equally fragmentary, ambiguous and contradictory—is harder to present in summary form; the book provides a reasonable selection of plans and photographs, though these could have been more abundant and (the maps especially) more detailed.

Several times, Hall observes that (classical) archaeologists have reacted "against the traditional 'great man' approach to history" (p. 210), turning instead to broader social and economic questions. The examples he assembles, however, might be taken to suggest otherwise. Without doubt, some are 'golden oldies' such as Philip II and St Peter, but others stem from more recent investigations, notably Romulus and Augustus. So, is the 'great man' approach resurgent? It is certainly difficult to read the chapter on Philip II at Vergina without sensing parallels to other recent high profile discoveries: "there can be no denying the talismanic properties that the corpse of a celebrity possesses or the awed fervour that it can inspire" (p. 105). Nonetheless, Hall observes the real difficulty of finding famous individuals in the archaeological record.

Diagnosing the problems of classical archaeology, Hall notes an attribution of "a 'unidimensionality' to the other field that [scholars] would never dream of accepting for their own" (p. 209). This includes selecting only one of a number of contradictory textual sources and treating it as representative. For example, in connection with the Shrine of St Peter beneath the Vatican, Hall notes the alternative traditions for the saint's burial on the Appian Way on

the other side of Rome—and even in Jerusalem. Like Gibbon's approach to critical reading, however, there is no quick fix on offer—classical archaeologists need to persevere and master an (expanding) range of skills.

Some of Hall's conclusions seem obvious; for example, that texts must be considered contextually. Hence accounts of Tarquinius Superbus must be understood in relation to stock themes used to characterise tyrants. Yet Hall notes that not all agree, believing context to be an *a priori* aesthetic judgement (Hall concedes the point, but like Gibbon, is reluctant to follow this to the sceptical postmodernist extreme). Most importantly, however, Hall stresses the need to acknowledge that people in the past were also trying to make sense of the stories and material remains from these already ancient sites; “[r]ather than proving the historicity of Romulus, or the location of Peter's grave, the Palatine wall and the Vatican *aedicula* could actually have been *lieux de mémoire* around which the literary traditions crystallized and gradually adopted greater uniformity” (p. 210).

Hall's book reveals a very different type of archaeology to that discussed by Gibbon—not just resulting from different research questions and evidence, but also the political contexts into which the results are drawn. Hall stresses the religious and nationalist agendas which press upon classical archaeology; North American archaeology is characterised by different, if equally contentious, political considerations, though these do not figure so prominently in Gibbon's text. In sum, these books will undoubtedly find their way onto students' reading lists. I wonder, however, whether they will appear on the same reading lists or whether they will be pigeonholed as ‘anthropology’ and ‘classics’. Despite their different aims, subject matters and styles, there is much to be learnt by (critically!) reading these books side by side.

Lines in the sand. . . and mud

SUSAN E. ALCOCK, JOHN BODEL & RICHARD J.A. TALBERT (ed.). *Highways, byways, and road systems in the pre-modern world*. xx+289 pages, 68 b&w illustrations, 7 tables. 2012. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell; 978-0-470-67425-3 hardback £85.

FRANK FÖRSTER & HEIKO RIEMER (ed.). *Desert road archaeology in ancient Egypt and beyond* (Africa Praehistorica 27). 582 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Cologne: Heinrich Barth Institut; 978-3-927688-41-4 hardback €78.

M.C. BISHOP. *The secret history of the Roman roads of Britain*. xiii+210 pages, 51 b&w illustrations. 2014. Barnsley: Pen & Sword Military; 978-1-84884-615-9 hardback £19.99.

JAMES A. MILLWARD (ed.). *The Silk Road: a very short introduction*. xv+152 pages, 11 b&w illustrations. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-978286-4 paperback £7.99 & \$11.95.



In an age when it is easier than ever to travel, it is no surprise that mobility should have become a subject of scholarly attention. In the introduction to *Highways, byways, and road systems in the pre-modern world*, however, the editors ALCOCK, BODEL & TALBERT observe that when they initiated a conference on the subject, they struggled to find contributors from some parts of the world and that there were no comparable volumes then available. The resulting collection therefore fills a niche. The 14 chapters include case studies from China and Japan, central and western Asia, the Americas (north, central and south), Egypt and the Roman Empire. This breadth is illuminating, though the introduction is brief and does not draw out the many points of similarity and difference that the chapters present. With an eye to the themes raised by the other books under review, we can briefly mention a few of the chapters. In ‘Pueblo trails, Chaco roads, and archaeological knowledge’, Snead critiques the idea of a formal road network linking settlements across the Chaco Canyon region during the second millennium AD, highlighting instead the roads' local functions, deviation from least-cost routes, and their distinctive north–south alignments—sometimes with multiple parallel courses. Though he does not see economy and symbolism as mutually exclusive, Snead argues for rather greater emphasis on the latter. He also notes that the existence of a route cannot be taken automatically to imply regular, or indeed frequent, use—roads connect but need not imply connectivity. In ‘Integration, connectivity, and economic performance in the Roman Empire’, Hitchner discusses the ideological and economic significance of Roman

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roads. He emphasises the problems of causally linking investment in infrastructure and economic growth (think current debate about the UK High Speed Rail 2 project) but remains confident that “Roman roads annihilated distance to an unprecedented degree” (p. 226). In turn, Talbert is more sceptical, raising concerns about the imposition of modern ideas of networks and the lack of evidence for contemporary conceptual awareness of an interconnected Roman system, even at the highest administrative levels. It is a general caution raised by other authors including Snead (above) and Bishop (below).

Next we turn to *Desert road archaeology in ancient Egypt and beyond* edited by FÖRSTER & RIEMER. This impressive volume presents 23 essays plus a substantial introduction, mostly focusing on Egypt. Broadly, the book stems from research inspired by the recent discovery of a trail striking out 400km south-west from the Nile Valley via Abu Ballas to the Gilf Kebir Plateau—and probably far beyond—providing evidence that ancient Egyptians travelled deep into the desert. The book is divided into four main sections: ‘Methods, approaches and historical perspectives’ plus three geographical groups of chapters: the Eastern Desert, the Western Desert and a group spanning from Cyrenaica to Arabia. The section on the Western Desert forms the core of the book.

The ‘Introduction’ uses the archaeological literature on roads and mobility to argue that the study of desert roads is a special case which demands its own concepts and methods. Not least, this distinctiveness results from constraints imposed (on people in the past) and opportunities presented (to archaeologists in the present) by extreme aridity. But the authors are far from environmentally deterministic, citing, for example, Gates’ chapter in Alcock *et al.* on roads as the social memory of travellers, past and future, encoded in the landscape. Similarly, while the motivation for the construction of some roads was to connect quarries and the Red Sea ports to the Nile Valley, they are also understood in terms of the projection and maintenance of power.

More generally, we learn that roads are really “bundle[s] of many individual roadways, byways and interconnections” (p. 30) and that what travels along these roads can alter their routes and physical forms, hence the shift from donkeys to camels as the pack animal of choice initiated a shift from hard, rocky tracks to soft, sandy ones (Förster *et al.* and Meerpohl discuss the organisation of donkey and camel caravans respectively). All of this leads the editors to challenge

the notion that “movements are a basically immaterial phenomenon” (p. 26).

The contributors explore desert routes from diverse perspectives: remotely sensed, excavated and walked with camels. Following Förster’s introduction to the Abu Ballas Trail, Hendrickx *et al.* present the evidence for ‘depot-laying’, or the caching of large storage jars for water to create Pharaonic ‘filling stations’. Hendrickx *et al.* use the pottery deposits, some comprising up to 100 largely intact vessels, to date the origins of this route to *c.* 2200/2100 (late Old Kingdom/early First Intermediate period). The authors observe that the technique of storing water along desert roads is discussed by Herodotus. But as Hall has reminded us, we need to look carefully at the context—in particular, Herodotus’ attribution of this invention to the Persians must be considered in terms of the political and military events of his time. Moreover, the dating of the Abu Ballas Trail now clearly pushes the origins of this practice far back in time.

Interestingly, not much flavour of the controversial debate about trans-Saharan trade—its origins, agents and motives—comes through in this volume. The chapter by Masonen, in Alcock *et al.*, on ‘The Sahara as highway’ deconstructs the colonialist historiography of archaeological and historical work on trade and contact across the Sahara with a view to establishing the active role of sub-Saharan Africans. The early dates for the long-distance routes discussed by Förster & Riemer—and further west, in Libya, see Mattingly and Sterry (2013)—bring important new material to this debate.

The secret history of the Roman roads of Britain transports us from arid Egypt to boggy Britain. Author MIKE BISHOP sets out to convince that the well-known and well-understood roads of the Roman province are, in fact, no such thing. The book starts with the ‘Prehistory of Roman roads’. This chapter makes the simple but widely ignored point that, in order to understand the location and impact of Roman roads, we must understand their Iron Age predecessors—contrary to popular belief, people had been moving successfully around the British landscape long before the Roman army arrived. Another caution concerns the incompleteness of the evidence: if we assume that a milestone were erected every mile across a *c.* 12 000km network, then extant milestones represent just 1.24 per cent of the total. This is a small sample by any definition, though the dating of the majority of these to the third century AD

may suggest that milestones were not erected along roads of first/second century date or, if they were, that inscriptions were painted rather than incised.

Despite Bishop's focus on 'Roman' roads, much of the book is devoted to their significance during the medieval and post-medieval periods. The focus, however, is less on landscape legacy and more on the movement of later armies as illustrated by the proximity of famous battle sites to Roman roads—including the Battle of Bosworth, now convincingly relocated and published by Foard & Curry; see review in this issue. There follows some potentially circular reasoning whereby the proximity of known battle sites to Roman roads is suggested as a method which might allow archaeologists to use roads to pinpoint other currently unlocated battle sites.

Bishop provides interesting insights into the peculiar world of Roman road studies in Britain. He observes how this subject has remained largely in the ambit of the amateur rather than professional archaeologist. This may be because roads were—and remain—amenable to study by individuals armed only with an OS map and pair of walking boots, while the lack of professional interest is a reflection on past scholarly priorities. But is it possible that the recent attention directed towards roads attested by the other volumes under review will stimulate a revival of academic interest in the roads of Roman Britain? If it does, Bishop provides some notes of caution. Through comparison of key works, he exposes evolving methods and assumptions, for example about the reliability and (in)completeness of evidence and how to represent and interpret it. As a result, he demonstrates that our knowledge about the number, location, form and use of Roman roads in Britain is far more fragmentary than we might like to believe. The good news, however, is that this means there is lots more work to be done, and Bishop makes his own contribution by collating evidence for possible roads in north-eastern England and south-eastern Scotland. In sum, a useful volume which pulls together many disparate threads and which, along with the companion website, <http://romanroadsinbritain.info>, provides the basis for a new phase of Roman road studies in Britain—it may even inspire the academic interest lacking to date.

Finally, by way of a very short conclusion, we can mention *The Silk Road: a very short introduction* by JAMES MILLWARD. Each of the books discussed above makes reference to the Silk Road, though only Neelis, in Alcock *et al.*, elaborates. This little OUP volume

certainly does not fill that gap. It is not an archaeological study—indeed, to read it, one might think that Aurel Stein was the last archaeologist to work in this vast region. Nonetheless, the connections with the other volumes are real: the braided routeways which combine into 'roads' and the need to consider not only the destinations but also the movement of people, things and ideas (here neatly packaged as biology, technology and arts). As well as east–west movement between China and the Mediterranean, Millward also puts great emphasis on the route for north–south movement, linking India and Central Asia.

Although working on a very different scale to the other roads under consideration, interpretations of the Silk Road share similar misconceptions. For example, Millward notes the inadequacy of the standard economic interpretation which asserts that the advent of direct maritime trade between East and West *c.* AD 1500 led to the collapse of the more expensive overland route. As noted in the other books, however, roads are rarely functions of economic considerations alone—and indeed, there is now plentiful evidence for pre-1500 maritime trade and for post-1500 activity along the Silk Road. As observed above, such routes might exist for cultural and symbolic reasons as well as economic ones and it is no coincidence that Millward sees significant geopolitical reasons for a possible revival of the Silk Road in the near future.

These volumes, however, do not agree on everything. For example, do roads develop from animal paths? Riemer & Förster note the “now ample evidence” (p. 29) and Bishop takes this as read; conversely, Snead, in Alcock *et al.*, adamantly rejects this as a passive and immutable definition of movement. Most if not all of the authors, however, agree that studying roads requires direct experience. Riemer & Förster suggest that “[w]hen we leave behind the car and walk a road. . .we are often subject to the same decision making factors as our ancient predecessors” (p. 35) and Snead notes that, even though “[w]alking ancient paths is a charged practice in the Euro-American tradition” (p. 107), we can nonetheless “learn from walking along them” (p. 122). Bishop suggests walking, cycling or even riding a horse. Hence, collectively, there is recognition of the use of the bodily movement and sensory perception of the archaeologist to reanimate the past—an approach which would fall on the left-hand ‘interior’ side of Gibbon's four quadrants approach.

Roads seem to be amenable to similes and metaphors: Hall's *Artifact and artifice* starts with the assertion that:

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“the route we take is as important as the destination to which we are headed, since, in confronting our own assumptions and value judgements, we inevitably have to engage in a profoundly humanistic project of self-knowledge” (p. 2), and Riemer & Förster (p. 25) suggest an “avenue of research” which might require periodic assessment to ensure that it is “on the right track”. Certainly these volumes make useful contributions along these lines.

Working Nile to five

ANNA STEVENS. *Akhenaten's workers: the Amarna Stone Village survey, 2005–9. Volume 1: the survey, excavations and architecture*. 467 pages, numerous b&w illustrations, and tables. 2012. London: Egypt Exploration Society; 978-0-85698-208-8 hardback £65. *Volume 2: the faunal and botanical remains, and objects*. 398 pages, numerous b&w illustrations, and tables. 2012. London: Egypt Exploration Society; 978-0-85698-209-5 hardback £65.

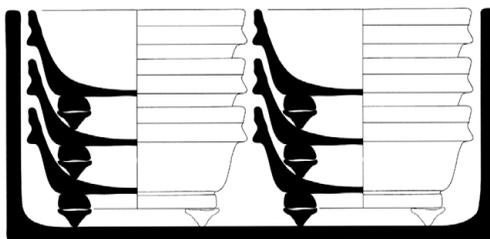
PAUL T. NICHOLSON. *Working in Memphis: the production of faïence at Roman period Kom Helul* (Excavation Memoirs 105). xiii+322 pages, 123 colour and b&w illustrations, 16 tables, CD. 2013. London: Egypt Exploration Society; 978-0-85698-210-1 paperback £70.

CHRIS HEWITSON (ed.). *The homes of our metal manufactures. Messrs R.W. Winfield and Co's Cambridge Street Works & Rolling Mills, Birmingham'. Archaeological excavations at the Library of Birmingham, Cambridge Street* (Birmingham Archaeology Monographs 15). iv+204 pages, 36 colour and 69 b&w illustrations, 33 tables. 2013. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-1099-2 paperback £37.

MIKE MCCARTHY. *The Romano-British peasant: towards a study of people, landscapes and work during the Roman occupation of Britain*. xii+164 pages, 60 b&w illustrations, 9 tables. 2013. Oxford: Windgather; 978-1-905119-47-9 paperback £29.95.

CYNTHIA ROBIN. *Everyday life matters: Maya farmers at Chan*. xx+243 pages, 26 b&w illustrations, 6 tables. 2013. Gainesville: University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-4499-6 hardback \$74.95.

So busy were our ancestors making sense of ancient places and experiencing the landscape, it can be easy to forget that they were also working hard in fields, quarries, workshops and factories. We therefore conclude this quarter's NBC by recognising the hard



graft of these labourers and the lessons we might learn from them. We start, back in Egypt, with *Akhenaten's workers: the Amarna Stone Village survey* by ANNA STEVENS. This two-volume set reports the results of fieldwork conducted from 2005–2009 at a small settlement just outside Amarna, labelled the Stone Village (the site is not to be confused with the well-known Workmen's Village, a separate site closer to Akhenaten's city). Despite the great attention directed towards Amarna and its landscape, the Stone Village appears to have remained unnoticed until the 1970s and has only received serious study during the last decade.

As a result of the fieldwork reported in these volumes—including a chapter on the surrounding desert roads—we now have evidence for a second, and very different, working community alongside that attested at the Workmen's Village. That this was a settlement populated by labourers seems in little doubt. Although only a few burials were excavated, the bones demonstrate the marks of strenuous physical labour and trauma (cf. Kemp *et al.* 2013). The site was also littered with basalt waste flakes from hammerstone production, the latter for use in quarrying limestone, perhaps in association with the construction of tombs in the Royal Wadi. There was also production of textiles, glass and faïence, and metal working. Stevens notes: “[t]he activities observed at the site give a sense that physical labour, rather than mental acumen, was the key to survival” (p. 446).

Understandably, the evidence is constantly referenced to that from the well-known Workmen's Village. In the comparison, the Stone Village is repeatedly found wanting; for example, in terms of diet, material culture, and a “diminished sense of the proprietorship over space” (p. 444) evidenced by the absence of status indicators such as painted plaster walls. Instead, the population of the Stone Village appears modest with “little sign... of people manoeuvring themselves into positions of status, advantage or generally improved conditions” (p. 449). Hence, our first lesson about work: not all workers are equal.

Another work-related monograph published by the Egypt Exploration Society is *Working in Memphis: the production of faience at Roman period Kom Helul* by PAUL T. NICHOLSON. This volume reports on excavations intended to re-evaluate earlier work at Kom Helul by Flinders Petrie and his study of the production of what he termed 'blue glazed pottery'. Nicholson aims to reconstruct the *chaîne opératoire* of faience production and to address specific questions about kiln technology, the development of techniques over time and associated socio-economic organisation—was the production of faience a specialist craft?

The results of the fieldwork, combined with ethnographic analogies, allow the earlier excavations to be better understood. For example, what Petrie took to be the kiln chamber is, in fact, only the firebox, suggesting the kilns were much larger than previously thought. This size would have required careful fuel management and explains the attested use of saggars which allow multiple processes and products to be accomplished in a single firing.

Advancing a wider assessment of the organisation of faience production in Egypt, Nicholson documents the increasingly strong connection with pottery production during Roman times. This tempts him "to see here the importation of industrial, mass-production techniques associated with Roman pottery workshops to the Ptolemaic Egyptian faience industry" (p. 149). Nicholson suggests this was a significant transformation as the traditional Egyptian solution to increased demand was proportional input of more labour—if one unit of flour required one worker, ten units required ten workers. Our second lesson: what counts is not what you produce but how you produce it.

On the topic of mass-production, we move from Roman Egypt to Victorian England and *'The homes of our metal manufactures. Messrs R.W. Winfield and Co's Cambridge Street Works & Rolling Mills, Birmingham'*. *Archaeological excavations at the Library of Birmingham, Cambridge Street* edited by CHRIS HEWITSON. The winner of this quarter's prize for the most unwieldy title reports on large-scale, developer-funded excavations in what is today the centre of Birmingham. In the eighteenth century, however, the site was occupied by Easy Hill House, on the estate of one John Baskerville, on the rural edge of the city. The destruction of the house in a riot paved the way for the development of industrial buildings and infrastructure which characterised the site from the early nineteenth century through to the 1930s when

the area was cleared. These included canal wharves, a brass foundry, a rolling mill and a bedstead works.

In their day, these facilities were state-of-the-art industrial infrastructure. Hewitson presents the archaeological evidence alongside the archival material to illustrate the various manufacturing processes from power generation (Cornish boilers, Lancashire boilers) and transmission (wheel races, drive shafts), to specialist processes such as annealing (muffles), pickling and dipping (vats). In sharp contrast to the problematic relationship between texts and materials discussed by Hall (above), the plans and other archival materials map rather more directly onto the archaeological evidence; for example: "[t]he chimney was identified in the documentary sources, and the dimensions described in 1897 are identical to foundations exposed" (p. 46).

Typical of such industrial archaeology, the artefactual record is less impressive than the structural evidence, reflecting the way in which the site was kept clean during use and cleared before demolition. The pottery, glass and metal small finds would barely fill a shoe box (on the subject of shoes, three pairs were found "heavily contaminated with petro-chemicals and were recorded on site by photograph and subsequently discarded" (p. 105)—a reminder that the excavation of such recent sites can be less than salubrious). Other artefacts include fragments of newspaper from the 1930s, one reading "UNEMPLOYMENT... FIGURES UP" (p. 106).

The conclusion charts the 'Rise and fall of the Cambridge Street works' in terms of the economic, technological and social changes of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A significant issue was that the once peripheral location of these works was incorporated into the heart of the city by rapid urban expansion, limiting room for industrial redevelopment and hindering transport. Much of that urban growth comprised the workers' houses (the plans of the back-to-back terraces are not dissimilar to those in the Workmen's Village at Amarna). In this context, Hewitson reminds us that "[t]he Cambridge Street works bridges the transition from the domestic industrial works to the large modern manufacturer" (p. 157), severing the spatial association of work and home. Our third lesson: the daily commute is nothing new.

Staying in Britain, but going back in time, we come to *The Romano-British peasant: towards a study of people, landscapes and work during the Roman occupation of Britain* by MIKE MCCARTHY. Rather

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than the wealthy, urban or military who dominate the archaeological literature, this book takes as its protagonist the humble peasant—indeed, McCarthy’s anti-definition is anyone “not belonging to the army, the governing class or the professions” (p. xi). By such definition the vast majority of the Romano-British population were indeed peasants. McCarthy’s own judgement on his rustic subject matter is that it is an important corrective but also “undeniably unspectacular” (p. 13).

McCarthy starts with consideration of environmental influences on the organisation of settlement and agricultural production and their regional variation. He argues that the influence of physical geography has been “airbrushed” (p. 10) and needs to be restored, but that “[e]cosystems can be seen less as determinants of human behaviour than as frameworks within which societies operated” (p. 20). He then moves on to the people of Roman Britain: how many were they and what can their settlements and skeletal remains tell us about where they lived and what they ate?

The theme of work is the focus of two core chapters: ‘Employment: farming’ and ‘Non-agricultural employment’. McCarthy considers the seasonal tasks which structured the agricultural calendar using comparisons with later societies to animate the archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological evidence. The non-agricultural tasks considered include salt, iron and stone extraction, textile and pottery production, construction, retail and distribution (McCarthy notes there were undoubtedly many other tasks) all linked together with “networks of cooperation and skills” (p. 90).

Throughout, McCarthy draws more on studies of peasants in Anglo-Saxon and later England than those from elsewhere in the Roman Empire. The argument is that very different environmental conditions make the Roman Mediterranean less comparable to Roman Britain than Anglo-Saxon England. Many concepts, such as ‘networks of cooperation’, however, have been well explored in Mediterranean contexts and the issue is not so much whether peasant life in Roman Italy was the same as in Roman Britain, but that some of the scholarly literature provides useful concepts, methodologies and points of comparison. For example, many of the questions McCarthy poses about pottery production have been asked, and to some extent, answered in the Mediterranean context: “[w]ere potters self-employed full-time workers, or were they part-time? Were they employed by private contractors, or the army,

and how did they distribute their products?” (p. 116). As such the book raises significant questions about the relative values of contemporary data from contrasting environments *versus* later data from similar environments (McCarthy puts less emphasis on continuity from the preceding Iron Age, presumably at least partially a reflection of differences in the availability of evidence).

Concluding, McCarthy enumerates the reasons to believe there were strong similarities between the Romano-British *colonus* and the Anglo-Saxon *ceorl* (e.g. taxation, lack of technological developments). There were also differences, such as the lack of work for potters in post-Roman Britain but, on balance, McCarthy is struck more by the similarities and follows Peter Fowler in arguing that cultural labels are less relevant to the study of agrarian history than “the essentials of life, subsistence, shelter, tools and equipment to which should be added hope for a good harvest!” (p. 145). Our fourth lesson: the daily grind never ends.

We conclude our work survey in Belize with *Everyday life matters: Maya farmers at Chan* by CYNTHIA ROBIN. This book provides a manifesto for the study of everyday life underpinned by an interpretative synthesis of the results of an eight-year project focused on a small farming community occupied c. 800 BC–AD 1200 (encompassing the Mayan Preclassic, Classic and Postclassic periods). Chan lies in western Belize, though we have to wait until Chapter 5 before we are provided with a location map. The reason is that Part I of the volume is concerned with detailing Robin’s approach to the study of everyday life.

Her theories and methods are eclectic and include: “Marxism, phenomenology, feminist theory, developmental biology, critical theory, and subaltern studies...without a dogmatic adherence to a particular theoretical perspective” (p. 12)—an example of Gibbon’s ‘integral archaeology’. Echoing Hall (above), Robin argues for the need to get past grand (or ‘great man’) narratives and to focus on the day-to-day lives of ordinary folk, because the failure to acknowledge everyday life has led to “a silencing of the very people whose lives researchers are attempting to theorise” (p. 176).

In terms of motivation—refocusing attention from elites to farmers—Robin shares a mission with McCarthy. But *Maya farmers at Chan* is a very different book from *The Romano-British peasant*. Robin argues that: “the humdrum nature of everyday life in farming communities [has] led to rural farmers

being viewed as a timeless and unchanging mass who played little role in the innovations and changes in their societies” (p. 185). As such, Robin finds the peasant model inadequate and turns instead to a more dynamic smallholder concept. If McCarthy aims to make peasants more visible, Robin aims, additionally, to redefine them and to grant them agency. Her discussion ranges widely but focuses on the failure of concepts such as hegemony and false consciousness to explain the operation of power which is embedded in the social relations of everyday life.

Part II turns to the evidence from Chan, a farming community clustered around a small administrative and ritual centre. The project documented 274 households (of which 26 were excavated) and 1223 agricultural terraces across an area of 3.2km². The thick description of the results draws out different work-related identities including various farmers and craft producers. The latter include stone-tool workers producing chert bifaces attested by middens with an extraordinary density of 970 000 flakes of debitage per m². Other crafts included limestone quarrying (“quarries were not simply passive locations for the extraction of stone but were active locales where people labored and interacted” p. 140; cf. Snead, above).

Robin argues that the lack of evidence for significant social stratification at Chan indicates that these farmers were not exploited. Indeed, she argues the opposite—that the success of this community may have stemmed from the ability of its members to play off the big regional powers while developing an intensive agricultural economy shaped by local ingenuity and environmental knowledge to support the growing population. “Chan was a resilient community, a socially and environmentally sustainable community, rather than an oppressed community” (p. 202).

A striking and enduring difference between the community at Chan and its neighbours is the low incidence of skeletal stress indicators. Robin suggests that though Chan’s residents were “at the lower end of the social spectrum. . .with less privilege and fewer possessions than. . .society’s power brokers” there is evidence for “a remarkable combination of possessions, personal health, and forest health, which suggests that at Chan there was something people might refer to today as ‘a quality of life’ that was shared by residents across the community” (p. 152). Our fifth and final lesson: working for yourself is better for your health.

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Books received

The list includes all books received between 1 March 2014 and 1 June 2014. Those featuring at the beginning of New Book Chronicle have, however, not been duplicated in this list. The listing of a book in this chronicle does not preclude its subsequent review in *Antiquity*.

General

- JENNIFER BIRCH (ed.). *From prehistoric villages to cities: settlement aggregation and community transformation*. xiv+225 pages, 32 b&w illustrations, 2 tables. 2013. New York: Routledge; 978-0-415-83661-6 hardback £80.
- R.I.M. DUNBAR, CLIVE GAMBLE & J.A.J. GOWLETT (ed.). *Lucy to language: the benchmark papers*. xviii+509 pages, 61 b&w illustrations, 16 tables. 2014. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-965259-4 hardback £95.
- CLIVE GAMBLE. *Settling the Earth: the archaeology of deep human history*. xxi+377 pages, 67 b&w illustrations, 57 tables. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-60107-9 paperback £55 & \$90.
- CLIVE GAMBLE, JOHN GOWLETT & ROBIN DUNBAR. *Thinking big: how the evolution of social life shaped the human mind*. 224 pages, 57 b&w illustrations. 2014. London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-05180-1 hardback £18.95.
- SONIA GUTIÉRREZ LLORET & IGNASI GRAU MIRA (ed.). *De la estructura doméstica al espacio social: lecturas arqueológicas del uso social del espacio*.

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352 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2013. Alicante: Universidad de Alicante; 978-84-9717-287-5 paperback €30.

ALAIN SCHNAPP (ed.). *World antiquarianism: comparative perspectives*. vii+455 pages, 23 colour and 85 b&w illustrations. 2013. Los Angeles (CA): Getty Research Institute; 978-1-60606-148-0 paperback £45 & \$60.

CLAIRE SMITH (ed.). *Encyclopedia of global archaeology*. 11 volumes. 8015 pages, 2619 colour and b&w illustrations, 106 tables. 2013. New York: Springer; 978-1-4419-0426-3 hardback £3780.

JENNIFER L. THOMPSON, MARTA P. ALFONSO-DURRUTY & JOHN J. CRANDALL (ed.). *Tracing childhood: bioarchaeological investigations of early lives in antiquity*. xii+270 pages, 23 b&w illustrations, 22 tables. 2014. Gainesville: University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-4983-0 hardback \$85.

European pre- and protohistory

ANGELIKA ABEGG-WIGG & NINA LAU (ed.). *Kammgräber im Barbaricum. Zu Einflüssen und Übergangsphänomenen von der vorrömischen Eisenzeit bis in die Völkerwanderungszeit*. 446 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. Neumünster & Hamburg: Wachholtz; 978-3-529-05396-2 paperback €64.

SØREN H. ANDERSEN. *Tybrind Vig: submerged Mesolithic settlements in Denmark*. 527 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Højbjerg: Jutland Archaeological Society, Moesgård Museum; 978-87-88415-78-0 hardback DKK399.95.

ANTHONY HARDING & VALERII KAVRUK (ed.). *Explorations in salt archaeology in the Carpathian zone* (Main Series 28). 332 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Budapest: Archaeolingua; 978-963-9911-44-4 hardback €66.

MATTHIEU MICHLER. *Les haches du Chalcolithique et de l'Âge du Bronze en Alsace* (Prähistorische Bronzefunde IX: 9). xii+140 pages, 34 b&w illustrations. 2013. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner; 978-3-515-10627-6 hardback €72.

Mediterranean archaeology

ANDREA BRÄUNING & IMMA KILIAN-DIRLMEIER. *Die eisenzeitlichen Grabhügel von Vergina. Die Ausgrabungen von Photis Petsas 1960–1961* (Monographie

119). vi+328 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations, and tables. 2013. Mainz: Römisch-Germanischen Zentralmuseums; 978-3-88467-223-5 hardback €68.

CHRISTINA F. CLARKE. *The manufacture of Minoan metal vessels: theory and practice* (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology and Literature PB178). xxviii+249 pages, 176 b&w illustrations, 2 tables. 2013. Uppsala: Åströms; 978-91-7081-249-1 hardback €56.

FRANCESCA FULMINATE. *The urbanisation of Rome and Latium Vetus from the Bronze Age to the Archaic era*. xx+410 pages, 133 b&w illustrations, 25 tables. 2014. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03035-0 hardback £65 & \$99.

GIORGOS GEORGIU & VASSOS KARAGEORGHIS. *A Cypro-Archaic tomb at Xylytymbou and three Cypro-Classical tombs at Phlasou: from exuberance to recession* (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology 140). xvi+99 pages, 51 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Uppsala: Åströms; 978-91-7081-254-5 hardback €40.

YANNIS HAMILAKIS. *Archaeology and the sense: human experience, memory, and affect*. xiii+255 pages, 26 b&w illustrations. 2014. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-83728-6 hardback £60 & \$90.

A. BERNARD KNAPP, JENNIFER M. WEBB & ANDREW MCCARTHY (ed.). *J.R.B. Stewart: an archaeological legacy* (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology 139). xviii+239 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Uppsala: Åströms; 978-91-7081-253-8 hardback €80.

JUDITH S. MCKENZIE, JOSEPH A. GREENE, ANDRES T. REYES, CATHERINE S. ALEXANDER, DEIRDRE G. BARRETT, BRIAN GILMOUR, JOHN F. HEALEY, MARGARET O'HEA, NADINE SCHIBILLE, STEPHAN G. SCHMID, WILMA WETTERSTROM & SARA WHITCHER KANSA. *The Nabataean temple at Khirbet et-Tannur, Jordan, volume 1. Architecture and religion. Final report on Nelson Glueck's 1937 excavation* (Annuals of the ASOR 67). xxvii+340 pages, 455 b&w illustrations. 2014. Boston (MA): American Schools of Oriental Research; 978-0-89757-035-0 hardback \$89.95 & £65.

JUDITH S. MCKENZIE, JOSEPH A. GREENE, ANDRES T. REYES, CATHERINE S. ALEXANDER, DEIRDRE G. BARRETT, BRIAN GILMOUR, JOHN F. HEALEY, MARGARET O'HEA, NADINE SCHIBILLE, STEPHAN G. SCHMID, WILMA WETTERSTROM & SARA WHITCHER KANSA. *The Nabataean temple at Khirbet et-Tannur,*

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Jordan, volume 2. *Cultic offerings, vessels, and other specialist reports. Final report on Nelson Glueck's 1937 excavation* (Annals of the ASOR 68). xx+329 pages, 151 b&w illustrations, 18 tables. 2014. Boston (MA): American Schools of Oriental Research; 978-0-89757-036-7 hardback \$89.95 & £65.

DEMETRIOS MICHAELIDES (ed.). *Epigraphy, numismatics, prosopography and history of ancient Cyprus. Papers in honour of Ino Nicolaou* (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology and Literature PB179). xxviii+334+239 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2013. Uppsala: Åströms; 978-91-7081-252-1 hardback €64.

KAREN RADNER (ed.). *State correspondence in the ancient world: from New Kingdom Egypt to the Roman Empire*. xiv+306 pages, 47 b&w illustrations, 4 tables. 2014. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-935477-1 hardback £48.

IAN A. TODD. *Vasilikos Valley Project 12: the field survey of the Vasilikos Valley, volume III. Human settlement in the Vasilikos Valley* (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology 71:12). xxx+252 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Uppsala: Åströms; 978-91-7081-251-4 hardback €76.

JENNIFER M. WEBB & DAVID FRANKEL. *Ambelikou Aletri: metallurgy and pottery production in Middle Bronze Age Cyprus* (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology 138). xx+245 pages, 208 colour and b&w illustrations, 14 tables. 2013. Uppsala: Åströms; 978-91-7081-250-7 hardback €80.56.

The Roman world

JAMES BROMWICH. *The Roman remains of Brittany, Normandy and the Loire Valley: a guide book*. x+319 pages, 60 colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. Peterborough: Lucina; 978-1-78035-662-4 paperback £14.99 & \$24.45.

SERGIO CASCELLA & GIUSEPPE VECCHIO. *La villa rustica di C. Olius Ampliatus. Suburbio sud-orientale di Napoli (Ponticelli)* (British Archaeological Reports international series 2608). iii+103 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2014. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-1239-2 paperback £24.

ANNA COLLAR. *Religious networks in the Roman Empire: the spread of new ideas*. xii+322 pages, 25 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-04344-2 hardback £55 & \$90.

ALESSANDRO DELFINO. *Forum Iulium. L'area del Foro di Cesare alla luce delle campagne di scavo 2005–2008. Le fasi arcaica, repubblicana e cesariano-augustea* (British Archaeological Reports international series 2607). vii+296 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-1238-5 paperback £49.

ARMIN EICH. *Die Römische Kaiserzeit. Die Legionen und das Imperium*. 304 pages, 4 b&w illustrations. 2014. München: Beck; 978-3-406-66012-2 paperback €16.95.

VERÓNICA MARTÍNEZ FERRERAS. *Ánforas vinarias de Hispania Citerior-Tarraconensis (s. I a.C.– I d.C.) Caracterización arqueométrica* (Roman and Late Antique Mediterranean Pottery 4). xvi+319 pages, 182 colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-905739-69-1 paperback £45.

MARCUS JUNKELMANN. *Augustus und seine Zeit. Die 101 wichtigsten Fragen*. 159 pages, 37 b&w illustrations. 2014. München: Beck; 978-3-406-65895-2 paperback €10.95.

BEN RUSSELL. *The economics of the Roman stone trade*. xxi+449 pages, 97 b&w illustrations, 6 tables. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-965639-4 hardback £95.

Anatolia, Levant, Middle East

HELLMUTH H. ANDERSEN & FLEMMING HØJLUND. *The Barbar Temples, volumes 1–2* (Jutland Archaeological Society Publications 48). 427 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2003. Højbjerg: Jutland Archaeological Society, Moesgård Museum; 978-87-88415-27-9 hardback.

JANE A. HILL, PHILIP JONES & ANTONIO J. MORALES (ed.). *Experiencing power, generating authority. Cosmos, politics, and the ideology of kingship in ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia*. xxx+448 pages, 49 b&w illustrations, 12 tables. 2013. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press; 978-1-934536-64-3 hardback \$69.95 & £45.50.

ANNA HILTON. *The stone vessels. Danish archaeological investigations on Failaka, Kuwait. The second millennium settlements 4* (Jutland Archaeological Society Publications 17.4). 191 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations, and tables. 2014. Højbjerg: Jutland Archaeological Society, Moesgård Museum; 978-87-88415-80-3 hardback.

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IAN HODDER (ed.). *Substantive technologies at Catalhöyük: reports from the 2000–2008 seasons. Catalhöyük Research Project vol. 9* (BIAA Monographs 48; Monumenta Archaeologica 31). xxix+507 pages, 459 b&w illustrations, 127 tables, CD. 2013. London: British Institute at Ankara; Los Angeles (CA): Cotsen Institute of Archaeology; 978-1-898249-31-3 hardback \$89.

IAN HODDER (ed.). *Religion at work in a Neolithic society*. xx+382 pages, 47 b&w illustrations, 7 tables. 2014. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-67126-3 paperback £22.99 & \$34.99.

FLEMMING HØJLUND. *The burial mounds of Bahrain: social complexity in Early Dilmun* (Jutland Archaeological Society Publications 58). 175 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2007. Højbjerg: Jutland Archaeological Society, Moesgård Museum; 978-87-88415-45-2 hardback.

POUL KJÆRUM & FLEMMING HØJLUND. *The Bronze Age architecture. Danish archaeological investigations on Failaka, Kuwait. The second millennium settlements 3* (Jutland Archaeological Society Publications 17.3). 162 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Højbjerg: Jutland Archaeological Society, Moesgård Museum; 978-87-88415-63-6 hardback.

PAULA KOUKI & MIKA LAVENTO. *Petra—the Mountain of Aaron. Finnish Archaeological Project in Jordan, volume III. The archaeological survey*. 413 pages, 192 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Helsinki: Societas Scientiarum Fennica; 978-951-653-400-1 hardback €125.

MICHAEL SEBBANE, OSNAT MISCH-BRANDL & DANIEL M. MASTER (ed.). *Masters of fire: Copper Age art from Israel*. 183 pages, 221 colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. Princeton (NJ) & Oxford: Princeton University Press; 978-0-691-16286-7 hardback \$49.95 & £34.95.

Asia

ROBIN DENNELL & MARTIN PORR (ed.). *South Asia, Australia and the search for human origins*. xvi+331 pages, 50 b&w illustrations, 27 tables. 2014. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-01785-6 hardback £65 & \$99.

LI FENG. *Early China: a social and cultural history*. xxi+346 pages, 96 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-89552-1 hardback; 978-0-521-71981-0 paperback £18.99 & \$29.99.

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K. PADDAYYA. *Essays in history of archaeology: themes, institutions and personalities*. xxi+376 pages, 124 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. New Delhi: Archaeological Survey of India; INR1160.

Africa and Egypt

ZOË CROSSLAND. *Ancestral encounters in highland Madagascar: material signs and traces of the dead*. xiv+381 pages, 50 b&w illustrations. 2014. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03609-3 hardback £65 & \$99.

MARIETTE DE VOS RAAIJMAKERS & REDHA ATTOUI. *Rus Africum, Tome I. Le paysage rural antique autour de Dougga et Téboursouk: cartographie, relevés et chronologie des établissements* (Bibliotheca Archaeologica 30). 413 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations, and tables, CD. 2013. Bari: Edipuglia; 978-88-7228-703-3 paperback.

MARIETTE DE VOS RAAIJMAKERS, REDHA ATTOUI & ALESSANDRO BATTISTI. *Rus Africum, Tome II. Le paysage rural antique autour de Dougga: l'aqueduc Aïn Hammam-Thugga, cartographie et relevés* (Bibliotheca Archaeologica 34). 300 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations, foldout map. 2013. Bari: Edipuglia; 978-88-7228-728-6 paperback.

ALFREDO GONZÁLES-RUIBAL. *An archaeology of resistance: materiality and time in an African borderland*. xvii+379 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2014. Lanham (MD): Rowman & Littlefield; 978-1-4422-3090-3 hardback £59.95.

WOLFRAM GRAJETZKI. *Tomb treasures of the Late Middle Kingdom: the archaeology of female burials*. 254 pages, 106 b&w illustrations. 2014. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press; 978-0-8122-4567-7 hardback \$79.95 & £52.

DAVID J. MATTINGLY (ed.). *The archaeology of Fazzān. Volume 4, survey and excavations at Old Jarma (ancient Ganama) carried out by C.M. Daniels (1962–69) and the Fazzān Project (1997–2001)* (Society for Libyan Studies Monographs 9). xxix+610 pages, 339 colour and b&w illustrations, 100 tables, CD. 2014. London: Society for Libyan Studies; Tripoli: Department of Antiquities; 978-1-900971-18-8 hardback £60.

CHRISTINA RIGGS. *Unwrapping ancient Egypt*. xii+319 pages, 68 b&w illustrations. 2014. London: Bloomsbury; 978-0-85785-507-7 paperback £24.99.

GARRY J. SHAW. *The Egyptian myths: a guide to the ancient gods and legends*. 224 pages, 95 b&w illustrations. 2014. London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-25198-0 hardback £12.95.

Americas and Oceania

TERENCE N. D'ALTROY. *The Incas*. xvii+547 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2015, second edition (first edition 2002). Chichester: Wiley Blackwell; 978-1-4443-3115-8 paperback £22.99.

CARLOS FAUSTO. *Warfare and shamanism in Amazonia*. xv+347 pages, 30 b&w illustrations, 20 tables. 2012 (first published in 2001 in Portuguese). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-02006-1 hardback £62 & \$103.

CLARENCE R. GEIER, DOUGLAS D. SCOTT & LAWRENCE E. BABITS (ed.). *From these honored dead: historical archaeology of the American Civil War*. viii+322 pages, 64 b&w illustrations, 9 tables. 2014. Gainesville: University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-4944-1 hardback \$39.95.

GYLES IANNONE (ed.). *The great Maya droughts in cultural context*. xx+466 pages, 72 b&w illustrations, 13 tables. 2014. Boulder: University Press of Colorado; 978-1-60732-279-5 hardback \$75.

FRANK MEDDENS, KATIE WILLIS, COLIN MCEWAN & NICHOLAS BRANCH (ed.). *Inca sacred space: landscape, site and symbol in the Andes*. vii+309 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. London: Archetype; 978-1-909492-05-9 paperback £65 & \$135.

MARY ELLEN MILLER & MEGAN E. O'NEAL. *Maya art and architecture*. 256 pages, 210 colour and b&w illustrations. 2014, second edition (first edition 1999). London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-20422-1 paperback £12.95.

BASIL A. REID & R. GRANT GILMORE III (ed.). *Encyclopedia of Caribbean archaeology*. xviii+383 pages, 140 b&w illustrations. 2014. Gainesville: University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-4420-0 hardback \$100.

PRUDENCE M. RICE. *Space-time perspectives on Early Colonial Moquegua*. xx+378 pages, 59 b&w illustrations, 32 tables. 2013. Boulder: University Press of Colorado; 978-1-60732-275-7 hardback \$70.

DAVID C. TENNESSEN. *K'etniyi: settlement patterns and prehistory in Lake Clark National Park and Preserve*. An

archaeological overview and assessment. xiii+299 pages, 51 b&w illustrations, 174 tables. 2014. Anchorage (AK): Lake Clark National Park and Preserve & National Park Service, US Department of the Interior; 978-0-9796432-8-6 paperback.

KENICHIRO TSUKAMOTO & TAKESHI INOMATA (ed.). *Mesoamerican plazas: arenas of community and power*. vi+266 pages, 61 b&w illustrations, 7 tables. 2014. Tucson: University of Arizona Press; 978-0-8165-3058-8 hardback \$65.

PATRICK VINTON KIRCH. *Kua'aina Kahiko: life and land in ancient Kabikinui, Maui*. xxiv+310 pages, 80 b&w illustrations, 6 tables. 2014. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press; 978-0-8248-3955-0 hardback \$49.

NEILL J. WALLIS & ASA R. RANDALL (ed.). *New histories of pre-Columbian Florida*. x+300 pages, 56 b&w illustrations, 6 tables. 2014. Gainesville: University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-4936-6 hardback \$79.95.

Britain and Ireland

ROSEMARY CRAMP. *The Hirsell excavations* (SMA Monographs 36). xiv+359 pages, 341 colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. London: Society for Medieval Archaeology; 978-1-909662-35-3 paperback £30.

AIDAN O'SULLIVAN, FINBAR MCCORMICK, THOMAS R. KERR, LORCAN HARNEY & JONATHAN KINSELLA. *Early Medieval dwellings and settlements in Ireland, AD 400–1100* (British Archaeological Reports international series 2604). xi+532 pages, 198 b&w illustrations. 2014. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-1227-9 paperback £68.

MIKE PITTS. *Digging for Richard III. How archaeology found the King*. 208 pages, 41 b&w illustrations. 2014. London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-25200-0 hardback £18.95.

ANN PRESTON-JONES & ELISABETH OKASHA. *Early Cornish sculpture* (Corpus of Anglo-Saxon Stone Sculpture XI). xiv+501 pages, 448 colour and b&w illustrations, 2 tables. 2013. London: the British Academy by Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-726565-9 hardback £85.

SUSAN R. WATTS. *The life and death of querns: the deposition and use-contexts of querns in south-western England from the Neolithic to the Iron Age* (Southampton Monographs in Archaeology

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new series 3). vii+189 pages, 64 colour and b&w illustrations, 14 tables. 2014. Southampton: Highfield; 978-0-9926336-1-5 paperback £35.

Byzantine, early medieval and medieval

CLAIRE NESBITT & MARK JACKSON (ed.). *Experiencing Byzantium*. xvi+390 pages, 39 b&w illustrations, 5 tables. 2013. Farnham & Burlington (VT): Ashgate; 978-1-4724-1229-4 hardback £85.

RENE PFEILSCHIFTER. *Die Spätantike. Der eine Gott und die vielen Herrscher*. 304 pages, 4 b&w illustrations. 2014. München: Beck; 978-3-406-66014-6 paperback €16.95.

MARIANNE VEDELER. *Silk for Vikings* (Ancient Textile Series 15). viii+125 pages, 42 colour and b&w illustrations. 2014. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-78297-215-0 paperback £28.

Other

ELIZABETH WAYLAND BARBER. *The dancing goddesses: folklore, archaeology, and the origins of European dance*. xiii+429 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2014. New York: Norton; 978-0-393-34850-7 paperback \$21.96.

PETER BARBER. *Sievers' Law and the history of semivowel syllabicity in Indo-European and ancient Greek*. xv+437 pages. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-968050-4 hardback £95.

MARCUS SIDONIUS FALX with JERRY TONER. *How to manage your slaves*. xiv+216 pages. 2014. London: Profile; 978-1-78125-251-2 hardback £12.99.

ANNETTE GIESECKE. *The mythology of plants: botanical lore from ancient Greece and Rome*. 144 pages, 55 colour illustrations. 2014. Los Angeles (CA): J. Paul Getty Museum; 978-1-60606-321-7 hardback \$25 & £18.85.

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