

Review

New Book Chronicle

Madeleine Hummler

This chronicle begins around the Bay of Naples, in the company of books exploring Pompeii and its surroundings. We then return to Britain for a round-up of books on British pre- and protohistory, a number of them published by Tempus, now the History Press.

Pompeii and Pompeiana

MARY BEARD. *Pompeii: the life of a Roman town*. viii+360 pages, 114 illustrations, 23 colour plates. 2008. London: Profile Books; 978-1-861975-516-4 hardback £25.

PENELOPE M. ALLISON. *The Insula of the Menander at Pompeii, Volume 3: the finds, a contextual analysis*. xvi+504 pages, 83 figures, 132 plates. 2006. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-926312-7 hardback £195.

MARINA CIARALDI. *People & plants in ancient Pompeii: a new approach to urbanism from the microscope room* (Accordia Specialist Studies on Italy Volume 12). 183 pages, 75 illustrations, 17 tables. 2007. London: Accordia Research Institute, University of London; 978-1-873415-30-6 paperback.

CAROL C. MATTUSH. *Pompeii and the Roman villa: art and culture around the Bay of Naples*. xviii+366 pages, 250 colour & b&w illustrations. 2008. London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-51436-8 hardback £30.

VICTORIA C. GARDNER COATES & JON L. SEYDL (ed.). *Antiquity recovered: the legacy of Pompeii and Herculaneum*. viii+296 pages, 123 b&w & colour illustrations. 2007. Los Angeles (CA): J. Paul Getty Museum; 978-0-89236-872-3 hardback £40.

Pompeii and Pompeiana

Mary Beard's *Pompeii, the life of a Roman town* is a cracking good read. Her book is sure to appeal to a wide range of readers, as she expertly answers the question 'What was it like?' Although she pays due

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attention to the high art that made Pompeii famous the world over, and the patrons who commissioned it, she is more interested in the ordinary people who make up the city. She paints a picture of a bustling Mediterranean commercial city, an 'ordinary place' (p. 45) much like modern Naples, peopled by patricians and small folk going about their business: a city where public baths are a hotbed of nasty infections, whose citizens exhale a distinct 'whiff of halitosis', have to cope with 'traffic calming schemes, loiterers and litter', eat 'on the wing' in fast food outlets and whose wealth is owed in part to the production of *garum* 'a truly stinking concoction' (p. 185) produced by 'nouveaux riches who made their fortune on rotten fish' (p. 187).

She is particularly good at debunking myths, starting with that of a 'city frozen in time': although not the first to question the Pompeii premise, she is right to insist, since it has such a hold on the public and academics alike; it is a load of cobblers, a combination of 'voyeurism, pathos and ghoulish prurience' mixed with the illusion of 'immediate contact with the ancient world' (p. 7). Not only was the city in the course of permanent and major refurbishment – again an image familiar to visitors of modern Naples – between the earthquake of AD 62 and the fatal eruption of Vesuvius in AD 79, but also the inhabitants of the city had time to collect their belongings in the period immediately preceding the catastrophe. Thus the assemblages recovered within the houses of Pompeii from the mid eighteenth century onwards must be treated with great caution. Yet, though Mary Beard rightly points out that there is a lot we do not know, there is still a wealth of detail – which can be followed up in the extensive further notes at the end of the book – assembled here, skilfully woven together and told most engagingly (see for example the lively soundscape evoked on p. 80).

The curate behaviour displayed at Pompeii, coupled with the fact that many areas of the city were disturbed after the eruption, make the reconstruction of a whole *insula* a difficult task. This is attempted in PENELOPE

ALLISON's finds report on *The Insula of the Menander*, a hefty scholarly tome published in 2006, volume 3 of the British Pompeii Project which started in 1978 (volumes 1, 2 and 4, on the structures, the decorations and the silver treasure appeared between 1997 and 2005). Add to this the perfunctory recording of the excavations of Insula I between 1926 and 1933 (Allison's remark on p. 4 that 'the recording has not been particularly attentive' is generous) and it would seem that the project of spatial analysis, of reconstructing the function of each building in the insula and the use pattern within them is doomed. Yet Allison's analysis and thorough illustrated catalogue – the list of plates and figures alone takes up 35 pages of print – goes a long way towards characterising the components of the insula, the domestic units, the large atrium houses and gardens (House of the Menander, House of the Craftsman, House of the Lovers), the workshops, taverns and storerooms. Allison concludes that the whole insula was in a 'state of upheaval' prior to the eruption of AD 79, with some dwellings abandoned, some in the course of refurbishment, some showing signs of looting or salvage operations and others inhabited by occupants 'in straitened circumstances' (p. 365). She tends to ascribe this upheaval to either the earthquake that shook Pompeii 17 years earlier in AD 62 or to post-eruption salvaging, paying perhaps too little attention to evacuation immediately before destruction. She does however concede that 'some of this pattern may result from disrupted living conditions prior to eruption' (p. 388).

One of the strengths of Mary Beard's book is that she does not stop at the city gates but sets Pompeii within the Campanian landscape, its source of food. This is also the subject of MARINA CIARALDI's PhD dissertation, *People & plants in ancient Pompeii*. Ciaraldi's archaeobotanical analyses concentrate on four sample areas: three come from the city – from the House of the Chaste Lovers excavated in the 1960s, from the House of the Vestals and the House of Hercules' Wedding excavated in the 1990s – and one from a *villa rustica*, the Villa Vesuvio at Scafati in the nearby countryside. From this a three-phase sequence is constructed: from the sixth to the fourth century BC there is evidence of agriculture within a relatively sparsely populated city, whose inhabitants rely on staple crops and fruit (grain, millet figs and grapes, some olives). In a second phase, between the fourth and second century BC, the range of foodstuffs increases, with more olives and grapes, but

agricultural produce is still processed within the city. Pepper, citrus fruit and some pulses were probably imported, perhaps channelled through the port of Puteoli. In the third phase, from the later second century BC to AD 79, the fully urban Pompeii relies largely on the surrounding countryside for its food, with gardens and vineyards within the city too. The list of comestibles increases, including garden and medicinal plants, herbs, spices, cucumber or melon, dates, pine nuts, pistachio, some imported from the east. At the villa Vesuvio outside Pompeii, Ciaraldi examined residues from a *dolium* which contained large quantities of peaches and walnuts and a wide array of medicinal plants. She concludes that these plants and fruits, together with lizards, frogs and toads also found in the dolium, were used to make medicinal concoctions. This conjures up the hell-broth made by the witches in Macbeth Act IV, Scene I (the dolium also contained little owls, chicken and mice), but I have some doubts as to the security of this context.

Our last two Pompeii books are more concerned with the imprint the discoveries of the eighteenth to twentieth centuries have left on our collective imagination. *Pompeii and the Roman villa* is the book that accompanies an exhibition at the National Gallery of Art in Washington staged between October 2008 and March 2009 and moving to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art between May and October 2009. Its subtitle, *art and culture around the Bay of Naples*, tells us that it is concerned with the wider context, but this time not the ordinary people and commerce (*negotium*) but *otium*, the delightful art of doing nothing, except eat, drink, have congress and discuss Epicurianism in highly landscaped gardens. These pursuits are carried out on a much grander scale than at Pompeii itself, with the 'obscene heaping of wealth upon wealth' (see chapters 2 and 3 by Stefano De Caro and Kenneth Lapatin), shown in the magnificent 170-page long catalogue part of the book, sandwiched between chapters 5 and 6 (Mary Beard on art collecting and Pietro Giovanni Guzzo on archaeology around the Bay of Naples, a largely descriptive account). The book (and presumably the exhibition) is beautifully produced with excellent colour illustrations, conveying something of the 'multimedia environment' – a phrase used by Bettina Bergman in chapter 4 to describe Pompeian gardens – created in these villas of *otium*. It is expertly edited by CAROL MATTUSH, who cannot, however, completely avoid using rather florid art historical language in

some of the catalogue entries (e.g. entry 106, p. 235, waxing lyrical about drapery on a first century AD copy of a marble statue by a pupil of Pheidias).

Antiquity recovered is a collection of essays by American scholars who explore in great depth what was already touched on in the previous book, i.e. reception, or how Pompeii, Herculaneum and the villas of the Phlegraean Fields and the Bay of Naples to Sorrento have been perceived from the sixteenth century to the present day. Great scholarship is displayed in studies that range from volcanism to gender studies and from the experiences of early tourists to modern film (Roberto Rossellini's *Viaggio in Italia* of 1953 and Jean-Luc Godard's *Il disprezzo/Contempt* of 1963). The 14 essays edited by VICTORIA GARDNER COATES & JON SEYDL, the second part of a project which originated in a 2002 exhibition in Philadelphia (*Antiquity recovered: Pompeii and Herculaneum in the Philadelphia collections*, by the same authors) give deep insights into what Pompeii has come to represent over the years. Yet I cannot help feeling that these highly accomplished scholars are somewhat incurious about the actual archaeology, though there are some valiant attempts in the early chapters at documenting how the remains were uncovered. The finely argued essays on Epicurian philosophy, psychoanalysis or feminism are not matched by equally critical assessments of the archaeological data. Is it that the ancient historians, art historians, philologists and other Classicists are too forgiving or too weary of engaging with the nuts and bolts of archaeological investigation? This may be an indictment of the way archaeologists present their findings. Mary Beard, a scholar at ease with archaeological discourse, shows that the gap between archaeology, ancient history and art history can be bridged, and this is surely the best reason to welcome her book.

British round-up

JOSHUA POLLARD (ed.). *Prehistoric Britain*. xvi+368 pages, 61 illustrations, 3 tables. 2008. Malden (MA) & Oxford: Blackwell; 978-1-4051-2545-1 hardback; 978-1-4051-2546-8 paperback £19.99.

CHRISTOPHER A. SNYDER (ed.). *Early peoples of Britain and Ireland: an encyclopedia*. Volume I: A–G. xxvi+288 pages, 19 illustrations; Volume II: H–Z. xxvi+306 pages, 25 illustrations. 2008. Oxford & Westport (CT): Greenwood; 978-1-84645-028-0 &

978-1-84645-029-7 hardback, £90 (both volumes together).

DAVID BARROWCLOUGH. *Prehistoric Lancashire*. 256 pages, 166 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Stroud: History Press; 978-0-7524-4708-7 paperback £19.99.

ANDREW DUNWELL & IAN RALSTON. *Archaeology and early history of Angus*. 192 pages, 62 figures, 26 colour plates. 2008. Stroud: Tempus; 978-0-7524-4114-6 paperback £17.99.

RICHARD TABOR. *Cadbury Castle: the hillfort and landscapes*. 192 pages, 100 illustrations, 32 colour plates. 2008. Stroud: History Press; 978-0-7524-4715-5 paperback £17.99.

ANGUS KONSTAM, illustrated by PETER DENNIS. *British forts in the age of Arthur*. 64 pages, 60 colour & b&w illustrations. 2008. Oxford: Osprey; 978-1-84603-362-9 paperback £11.99.

GERALD MOODY. *The Isle of Thanet from prehistory to the Norman Conquest*. 192 pages, 103 illustrations. 2008. Stroud: Tempus; 978-0-7524-4689-9 paperback £17.99.

DAVID M. WILSON. *The Vikings in the Isle of Man*. 156 pages, 60 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Aarhus: Aarhus University Press; 978-87-7934-367-2 hardback DKK238, €34.25, £22.95 & \$48; 978-87-7934-370-2 paperback DKK158, €22.95, £15 & \$30.

Prehistoric Britain is a collection edited by JOSHUA POLLARD – who contributes a thoughtful first chapter (The construction of Prehistoric Britain) – of 15 chapters by 15 single authors given the task to review recent trends in British prehistory from the Palaeolithic to the late Iron Age. After a comprehensive overview of the Palaeolithic (Chapter 2, by Paul Pettitt), the book divides into two roughly equal blocks: the first is dedicated to the Mesolithic, Neolithic and Early Bronze Age (Chapters 3–8 by Julian Thomas (Mesolithic-Neolithic transition), Rick Schulting (foodways), Lesley McFadyen (landscapes), Vicki Cummings (monuments), Chantal Conneller (lithics) and Andrew Jones (mortuary practices)); the second deals with the period spanning from the mid second millennium BC to the end of the Iron Age (Chapters 10–12 and 15 by Jacqui Mulville (foodways, later), Joanna Brück (domestic space), Robert Johnston (landscape, later) and Melanie Giles (identity)); a few chapters span longer periods appropriate to their subject matter: David Field's chapter (9) considers the development of the agricultural countryside from

the Neolithic onwards, Ann Woodward's (13) deals with ceramics from the Neolithic to the Iron Age, and Stuart Needham's (14) examines exchange from the Mesolithic to the later Bronze Age.

This collection meets admirably the aims of the *Blackwell Studies in Global Archaeology* series, which seeks to 'immerse readers in fundamental archaeological ideas and concepts, ... thereby exposing [them] to some of the most exciting contemporary developments in the field'. Some contributors tend more towards reviews and overviews (e.g. Mulville), others more towards theoretically informed exposés (e.g. Jones, Brück, Needham), and others showcase the findings of new analyses, in particular biochemical ones (e.g. Schulting), which Pollard hails as the 'quiet scientific revolution' currently taking place. Most authors achieve a good balance between the narration of their particular field of interest and theoretical stances, the latter much permeated by post-processual approaches. These have become very sophisticated. Perhaps inevitably, as a large proportion of the authors must have been born after 1960, Thatcher's legacy of emphasis on the individual and distrust for the notion of society shows. Nevertheless, this book should be placed on reading lists alongside such staples as Hunter and Ralston's 1999 *The archaeology of Britain*, as an excellent way of taking the pulse of recent British prehistory.

For prehistory, I would be less inclined to recommend *Early peoples of Britain and Ireland*, two hardback volumes edited by CHRISTOPHER A. SNYDER. Not that the achievement of this early medievalist based at Marymount University, Arlington, Virginia, is not considerable, marshalling over 500 alphabetical entries by 62 contributors, about half of them American, the other half British (many from Lampeter University), with a smattering of Dutch, Irish and Canadian. Just that the encyclopaedia would have been better had its scope been restricted to the first millennium AD (it ends in AD 1154). For pre- and protohistory, the entries are often quite outdated (there are rather few references to works after 2000) and aleatory. That is not to say that there are not good individual entries, for example Aidan O'Sullivan's long entry on prehistoric and early medieval (but not Roman) houses, or good summaries, for example by John Collis on aspects of the Iron Age (he was not given the Celts to do, that task being taken on by the editor, Christopher Snyder). Commendable as it is to take the long view and expose student of early historic periods to prehistory, the treatment of prehistory is

just not sufficient. This is perhaps best exemplified by the full-page map entitled 'Prehistoric Britain and Ireland in the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic periods' which is woefully empty (great blank swathes between Wessex and Orkney, and not even locating sites mentioned in the accompanying texts); the self same map is repeated three times on pages 389, 412 and 434 to accompany the entries on each of these periods. If these comments seem ungracious, they come from someone less versed in the early Middle Ages, where the encyclopaedia appears more comprehensive and more authoritative. If I needed to look up a lesser known early king or saint, I would certainly turn to *Early peoples* for a convenient way in.

The publishers Tempus, rebranded as the History Press, have a solid reputation for supplying 'entry level' texts on aspects of British archaeology. But they also publish more substantial studies, as we shall see in a brief round-up of recent Tempus/History Press titles. *Prehistoric Lancashire* by DAVID BARROWCLOUGH is one such example: an impressively researched and documented overview of a part of northwest England, perceived by many to have been a prehistoric 'black hole'. Barrowclough, who uses a wealth of antiquarian documentation, as well as hitherto unpublished recent excavation data and a series of 33 new radiocarbon dates for Early Bronze Age burials in the region (Appendix on pp. 229–30) shows that this was certainly not the case in most periods, though for the Neolithic 'the evidence for occupation still needs to be developed' (p. 11). Nevertheless he is able to document a 'continuum of Late Mesolithic practices into the Neolithic' (pp. 83 & 93). It is, however, the Bronze Age that attracts Barrowclough's greatest attention (a third of the book: Chapter 5 is devoted to Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age burial traditions, and the twin themes of continuity and diversity; Chapter 6 to the selective deposition of metalwork in the Middle and Late Bronze Age in rivers and bogs). The book, which also thoroughly documents Mesolithic (Chapter 3) and Iron Age (Chapter 7) occupation in this multifaceted upland and lowland landscape (illustrated by colour plates 4 & 6–8 showing the environmental conditions pertaining to each of the prehistoric periods) is front and back-ended by two essays, one on antiquarian collecting (Chapter 2) and one on 'the past in the past' and constructions of identity (Chapter 8). Barrowclough shows that he is well aware of the new trends charted in Pollard's *Prehistoric Britain* and well

able to use these theoretical stances in his vision of prehistoric Lancashire.

Archaeology and early history of Angus in central-eastern Scotland, between the Grampian mountains, the North Sea and the river Tay reports on the results of five years' work (1996–2000) by field schools of the University of Edinburgh, overseen by its field unit, the Centre for Field Archaeology. ANDREW DUNWELL and IAN RALSTON, after introducing notions of archaeological visibility and the prehistoric sequence in the region (Chapters 2–4) plunge into the main part of their book from chapter 5 onwards: investigations of a number of sites in the Lunan and Esk valleys and uplands, dated mainly to the first millennia BC and AD, designed to 'plug the gaps in the data set' (p. 19). Their findings are woven into their narrative of the hillforts, roundhouses, lowland settlements, souterrains and burial sites of the region, enhanced by good illustrations (Plates 17 and 19 showing the Hawkhill scooped Iron Age building and the Andownie souterrain under excavation are excellent). Of particular interest are the excavations of the twin hillforts of the Brown and White Caterthuns, seen as probably not permanently occupied, perhaps communal meeting places, but certainly defensible (p. 82), just one of many aspects covered in the book. It ends with an overview of Angus in the time of the Celts, Romans, Picts and Scots, stressing that in the Iron Age the landscape was organised on hierarchical lines (p. 160) and that it owed its prosperity to agriculture. Appendices consist of notes on radiocarbon dates, lists of further reading and suggested places to visit.

Cadbury Castle: the hillfort and landscapes is also a report turned into a narrative, this time about the work of the South Cadbury Environs Project, an intensive survey programme which combined geophysical survey, fieldwalking, test pitting and excavation in an area 8 × 8km centred on the hillfort of South Cadbury in Somerset, south-west England, best known from Leslie Alcock's excavations of the 1960s and 1970s (published by Alcock in 1972 and 1995 and by Barrett, Freeman & Woodward in 2000). This very detailed presentation, not without occasional lapses into pure conjecture, of the landscape from the Neolithic to the Early Middle Ages (though the focus fades here after the Iron Age) is the considerable work of a local archaeologist, RICHARD TABOR, who shows what can be achieved by a combination of amateur and academic input and who has interesting comments to make on

archaeological visibility and the design of survey programmes.

South Cadbury also figures in ANGUS KONSTAM'S *British forts in the age of Arthur*, a nicely produced booklet published by Osprey, a publishing house which specialises in military history. The clear text, with good illustrations and vivid reconstructions by PETER DENNIS, summarises such landmark sites as Tintagel, South Cadbury, the Saxon shore forts, Dinas Powys or Dinas Emrys. The author is careful not to overemphasise the Arthurian legend but, perhaps with the readers' market in mind, is still keen to retain a certain aura of mystery around the subject: 'All we can do now is explore these sites, and imagine what might have gone on within the confines of their walls' (p. 55). This is followed by a good section on sites to visit.

If I have greeted Barrowclough's *Prehistoric Lancashire* as a good example of a regional study by an author who is aware of wider contexts, GERALD MOODY'S *Isle of Thanet from prehistory to the Norman Conquest* is more traditional. Though it seems a perfectly good account of the area's archaeology and includes new discoveries (e.g. a number of Beaker burials), the focus is close, really close. There are no maps that show anything much beyond the Isle of Thanet. Not even Richborough, not many miles away from Thanet and whose relationship with the Isle is discussed at length in the Roman chapter, appears on the Roman map (p. 140). Was this a subtle way of discouraging a perception of history encouraged by *1066 and all that*?

There are no problems of focus and definition for the last in our British round-up, DAVID WILSON'S *Vikings in the Isle of Man*. It is written by one of the most respected scholars of the Viking period in Europe, and one who lives in the Isle of Man, about a real island with inhabitants in contact with the North Sea and the North Atlantic world. It takes the reader from early (i.e. around 900 AD, p. 52) pagan, ceremonial burials through to carved stone crosses and the advent of Christianity in a couple of chapters which follow the introduction. Two more chapters are dedicated to settlements, economy, the Church and politics, which takes the narrative to the institution of the Tynwald in the past and in its modern incarnation. A short final chapter comments on the legacy of the Viking age, particularly 'the intangibles – language, law, Church and constitution – that positively confirm the importance of the Norse heritage in the Isle of Man' (p. 138). This book is wonderfully clear and concise. Note that it is not a Tempus book, but one in a similar format

published by Aarhus University Press. Here the (excellent) colour plates occur throughout the text, and there are helpful, unobtrusive footnotes. The paperback version costs less than the Tempus books, so perhaps the History Press can learn a trick or two from the Danes.

It goes without saying that the scales, in time and space, vary greatly in this sample of publications about British archaeology. It is also obvious that close-focus studies feed the wider picture and vice versa. There is inevitably an imperfect match – and a time lapse both ways – between the more theoretically informed overviews such as those in Pollard's edited collection and the narratives developed at local or regional level. Let us hope that archaeologists active in Britain, whatever sector they are working in, will continue to nourish the dialogue that must exist between those who get the stuff out of the ground, those who care about their locality, those who are accomplished at constructing (grand) narratives and those who like to try out new ideas.

Books received

The list includes all books received between 1 September and 1 December 2008. 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

TIM MURRAY & CHRISTOPHER EVANS (ed.). *Histories of archaeology: a reader in the history of archaeology*. x+486 pages, 19 illustrations. 2008. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-955007-4 hardback £85; 978-0-19-955008-1 paperback £35.

DAVID QUAMMEN (ed.). *Charles Darwin 'On the origin of the species'* (illustrated edition). xvi+544 pages, over 350 colour illustrations. 2008. New York: Sterling; 978-1-4027-5639-9 hardback £20 & \$35.

ADRIAN DESMOND & JAMES MOORE. *Darwin's sacred cause: race, slavery and the quest for human origins*. xx+456 pages. 2009. London: Allen Lane; 978-1-8461-4035-8 paperback £25.

SHUICHI MATSUMURA, PETER FORSTER & COLIN RENFREW (ed.). *Simulations, genetics and human prehistory*. xiv+208 pages, 72 illustrations, 23 tables,

CD-ROM. 2008. Cambridge: McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research; 978-1-902937-45-8 hardback £25.

JANA MARÍKOVÁ-KUBKOVÁ, NATHAN SCHLANGER & SONIA LÉVIN (ed.). *Castrum Pragense. Sites of memory: between scientific research and collective representations* (AREA 8, Proceedings of the AREA Seminar at Prague Castle, February 2006). 124 pages, 46 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Prague: Archeologický ústav AV ČR & Nanterre: Archives of European Archaeology; 978-80-86124-86-5 & 978-2-9600527-5-6 paperback.

HENK KARS & ROBERT M. VAN HEERINGEN (ed.). *Preserving archaeological remains in situ: proceedings of the 3rd conference 7–9 December 2006, Amsterdam* (Geoarchaeological and Bioarchaeological Studies 10). viii+326 pages, numerous illustrations & tables. 2008. Amsterdam: Institute for Geo- and Bioarchaeology, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

PENNY CUNNINGHAM, JULIA HEEB & ROELAND PAARDEKOOPER (ed.). *Experiencing archaeology by experiment*. x+118 pages, 66 illustrations, 4 tables. 2008. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-342-8 paperback £25.

PAUL DAVIES. *Snails: archaeology and landscape change*. xvi+200 pages, 98 illustrations, 14 tables. 2008. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-317-6 hardback £40.

STEPHEN HOUSTON (ed.). *The first writing: script invention as history and process*. xviii+418 pages, 123 illustrations, 2 tables. First paperback edition 2008 (first published in hardback in 2004, reprinted in 2005). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-83861-0 hardback £59 & \$105; 978-0-521-72826-3 paperback £17.99 & \$32.95.

JOHN BAINES, JOHN BENNET & STEPHEN HOUSTON (ed.). *The disappearance of writing systems: perspectives on literacy and communication*. xviii+380 pages, 61 illustrations, 8 tables. London: Equinox; 978-1-84553-013-6 hardback £65.

NICOLE BRISCH. *Religion and power: divine kingship in the ancient world and beyond* (Oriental Institute Seminars 4). xiv+272 pages, 50 illustrations, 7 tables. 2008. Chicago (IL): Oriental Institute, University of Chicago; 978-1-885923-55-4 paperback.

LARS FOGLIN (ed.). *Religion, archaeology and the material world* (Center for Archaeological Investigations Occasional Paper 36). xii+366 pages, 99 illustrations, 11 tables. 2008. Carbondale (IL):

Southern Illinois University Carbondale; 978-0-88104-093-2 paperback \$40.

MIRIAM T. STARK, BRENDA J. BOWSER & LEE HORNE. *Cultural transmission and material culture: breaking down boundaries*. xviii+318 pages, 49 b&w & colour illustrations, 17 tables. 2008. Tucson (AZ): University of Arizona Press; 978-0-8165-2675-8 hardback \$49.95.

EILEEN M. MURPHY (ed.). *Deviant burial in the archaeological record*. xviii+244 pages, 68 illustrations, 16 tables. 2008. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-338-1 paperback £30.

PAUL BAHN, NATALIE FRANKLIN & MATTHIAS STRECKER (ed.). *Rock art studies: news of the world III*. x+320 pages, over 200 illustrations. 2008. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-316-9 paperback £60.

PAUL BAHN (ed.). *Exploring the ancient world: a guide to the most outstanding historical wonders of the world*. 256 pages, numerous colour illustrations. 2008. Basingstoke: Automobile Association; 978-0-7495-5864-2 hardback £25.

European pre- and protohistory

ANDREW JONES (ed.). *Prehistoric Europe: theory and practice*. xvi+378 pages, 93 illustrations, 2 tables. 2008. Oxford & Malden (MA): Blackwell; 978-1-4051-2597-0 hardback; 978-1-4051-2596-3 paperback £19.99.

JEAN CLOTTES. *Cave art*. 334 pages, over 300 colour plates. 2008. London: Phaidon; 978-0-7148-4592-0 hardback £45, \$90 & €75.

BORIS VALENTIN. *Jalons pour une paléohistoire des derniers chasseurs (XIV^e–VI^e millénaire avant J.-C.)* (Cahiers Archéologiques de Paris 1). 326 pages, 81 illustrations. 2008. Paris: Publications de la Sorbonne; 978-2-8594-4597-3 paperback €35.

FRANÇOIS VALLA. *L'homme et l'habitat: l'invention de la maison durant la préhistoire*. 144 pages, 7 illustrations. 2008. Paris: CNRS; 978-2-271-06727-2 paperback €12.

BRIAN HAYDEN. *L'homme et l'inégalité: l'invention de la hiérarchie durant la préhistoire*. 166 pages, 7 illustrations. 2008. Paris: CNRS; 978-2-271-06665-7 paperback €12.

P.F. BIEHL & Y.YA RASSAMAKIN (ed.). *Import and imitation in archaeology* (Zeitschrift für Archäologie und Kulturgeschichte des Schwarzseeraumes 11).

254 pages, 99 illustrations, 1 table. 2008. Langenweißbach: Beier & Beran; 978-3-937517-95-7 paperback €55.

KLAUS EBBESSEN. *Danmarks megalitgrave, bind 2: katalog*. 440 pages, 1 illustration. 2008. Copenhagen: Attika; 978-87-7528-7314 paperback DKKr.480 + p&p.

NIKLAS STEINBÄCK (ed.). *Stenåldern i Uppland: uppdragsarkeologi och eftertanke* [Stone Age in Uppland: contract archaeology and remains] (Arkeologi E4 Uppland – studier, volym 1). 560 pages, numerous colour & b&w illustrations and tables. 2007. Uppsala: Riksantikvarieämbetet 978-91-7209-465-9; Societas Archeologica Uppsalensis 978-91-976723-0-6; Upplandmuseet 978-91-85618-91-0 hardback.

MICHEL NOTELID (ed.). *Att nå den andra sidan: om begravning och ritual i Uppland* [On the other side: burial and ritual in Uppland] (Arkeologi E4 Uppland – studier, volym 2). 538 pages, numerous colour & b&w illustrations and tables. 2007. Uppsala: Riksantikvarieämbetet 978-91-7209-466-6; Societas Archeologica Uppsalensis 978-91-976723-1-3; Upplandmuseet 978-91-85618-92-7 hardback.

HANS GÖTHBERG (ed.). *Hus och bebyggelse i Uppland: delar av förhistoriska sammanhang* [House and settlement in Uppland in prehistoric context] (Arkeologi E4 Uppland – studier, volym 3). 472 pages, numerous colour & b&w illustrations and tables. 2007. Uppsala: Riksantikvarieämbetet 978-91-7209-467-3; Societas Archeologica Uppsalensis 978-91-976723-2-0; Upplandmuseet 978-91-85618-93-4 hardback.

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