

Review

New Book Chronicle

Madeleine Hummler

Invitation to the voyage

One of the fleeting pleasures of being Reviews Editor at *Antiquity* is opening parcels. Publishers daily send exciting dispatches from the four corners of the world, and too few books, albeit a respectable proportion, make it into the reviews section. The opportunity, and distraction, of reading out of pure curiosity is always present. In this chronicle I propose to take fellow readers and procrastinators on an express transcontinental tour from the *luxe, calme et volupté* of a deep armchair.

... in western and central Asia

THOMAS E. LEVY. *Journey to the Copper Age: archaeology in the Holy Land*. 112 pages, over 100 colour illustrations. 2007. San Diego (CA): San Diego Museum of Man; 978-0-9378-0883-2 paperback.

GAJUS SCHELTEMA. *Megalithic Jordan: an introduction and field guide* (American Center of Oriental Research Occasional Publication 6). 142 pages, 85 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Amman, Jordan: American Center of Oriental Research; 978-9957-8543-3-1 paperback \$35.

GEORGE MICHELL, MARIKA VICZIANY & TSUI YEN HU, photographs by JOHN GOLLINGS. *Kashgar: oasis city on China's old Silk Road*. 160 pages, numerous colour illustrations. 2008. London: Frances Lincoln; 978-0-7112-2913-6 hardback £25 & \$50.

WILLIAM N. MORGAN. *Earth architecture from ancient to modern*. xx + 186 pages, 175 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Gainesville (FL): University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-3207-8 hardback \$34.95.

Where better to start than in the Levant, with a real expedition. *Journey to the Copper Age* has all the right ingredients: treasure, stunning landscape, adventures with donkeys, ethnoarchaeology and a big research question – the origins of metallurgy and attendant transformations in social structure, economic balance and ritual behaviour. The exhibition staged at the San Diego Museum of Man in California in 2007

ANTIQUITY 83 (2009): 558–567

(it closed in February 2008) and accompanying book are a resounding success. The book combines three elements: the discovery in 1961 by Psaach Bar Adon of over 400 beautifully crafted copper objects in the Cave of the Treasure on the western shore of the Dead Sea; Tom Levy's National Geographic Society-sponsored expedition of 1997 lasting 10 days with 10 donkeys travelling over a distance of 150km to understand the logistics of copper extraction in the Faynan district of Jordan and transport through the Negev desert to Shiqmin in Israel (the site of a long-term excavation project led by Levy); and an evaluation of the region from Pre-Pottery Neolithic to Iron Age times, but particularly the 'metal revolution' in the Copper Age (4500–3600 BC). The study established that the copper for prestige goods and tools was produced locally in the southern Dead Sea region, advanced knowledge on economic aspects such as the introduction of irrigation cultivation in the Beersheva valley by 4200 BC, and introduced along the way new techniques for ascertaining the position of vast underground storage areas at Shiqmin, through geophysical diffraction tomography. Add to this archaeological historiography – the 1960s Israeli army-supported expeditions to the Dead Sea caves – and experimental archaeology by master craftsmen in South India to document the lost wax casting process and the social implications of copper technology, and you have a fantastic package, crammed into just a hundred pages. I would unreservedly recommend this short book as a model of communication.

Across the border in Jordan, the former Ambassador of the Netherlands, GAJUS SCHELTEMA, collected, during his four-year diplomatic stint in the kingdom between 2003 and 2007, as much information as he could locate on megalithic remains still extant in the region, mainly north-western Jordan. The resulting guidebook, *Megalithic Jordan*, produced by the American Center of Oriental Research in Amman is not only useful – it gives precise locations in a region where maps are difficult to obtain and contains an extensive bibliography – but a testimony to what curiosity and doggedness can achieve. Some sites such as the Showbak dolmens in southern

Jordan were discovered as late as 2002 and the threat from quarrying and other development is very real in many locations (see end section entitled 'No stone unturned'). Although discussing a variety of stone settings such as stone circles, cists, cairns, cup holes and rock-cut tombs, the book mainly concentrates on dolmens and standing stones. Dating is difficult, but dolmens (which look uncannily like the western European ones) concentrate in the Early Bronze Age, while standing stones occupy a larger span, from perhaps the Natufian to recent times. By visiting and photographing all these sites, Scheltema has produced a lasting resource: the colour photographs give a good idea of the local environment and reproduction is good.

Kashgar: oasis city on China's old Silk Road lures us further east, and the material changes from stone to earth. This brilliant photographic essay by JOHN GOLLINGS is supplemented by an informative text by GEORGE MICHELL, MARIKA VICZIANY (leader of the Kashgar Project Team at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia) and TSUI YEN HU (of the Kinjiang Normal University in Urumqi). The book vividly illustrates the contrast between the pale mud brick structures of the old city and burial grounds set in the stark landscape, and the colourful splashes of the markets, mosques, orchards, produce and textiles. Both pictures and text express the flow of the past into the present and the melding of cultures: Kashgar, located beyond the Pamir and Karakorum mountain ranges, on the edge of the Taklimakan desert in the extreme south-west of China, is described as the pivot of Central Asia, a hybrid city where contemporary brutalism and tradition meet and whose inhabitants (Uyghur Muslim in the majority) adhere to syncretic religious beliefs. This is shown for example in the offering of rams' horns and pottery water flasks at contemporary burial sites or the shaping of clay dolls to ask for a cure from shamans (images on pp. 144–5). The book is almost entirely devoted to what Kashgar, who grew and waned in the last two millennia with trade along the Silk Road, is today. Only a few pages at the end refer to the eroded mud brick *stupas* and citadels of the Buddhist era (first few centuries CE) described by Sir Aurel Stein in 1900 and now disappearing fast from the countryside surrounding Kashgar. This in no way belittles the book, written to persuade travellers to discover the Kashgar region. If not, this book is the next best thing.

We stay with earth, in *Earth architecture*, an overview of the structures humans erected in the landscape,

using this beautifully versatile and resilient material. Written by an architect, WILLIAM MORGAN, the book surveys the entire world from the fifth millennium BC to the present day. Nine sections – mounds, shaped hills, earth retained, terraces, platforms, excavations, modified earth, water retained, and cities – provide the structure. Within each, 6 sites are chosen to illustrate diversity, with one example to represent notable achievements, past and present. For example, under 'shaped hills' there are summaries of the theatre of Epidaurus, Babeldaob on the island of Palau in Oceania, the Villa d'Este gardens in Tivoli, the 1928 Duke University stadium in North Carolina, an unrealised project for a World War II memorial on Corregidor island in Manila Bay, and the 1975 Concord Pavilion designed by Frank Gehry in California. Each section is introduced by a short commentary with further examples, such as, in this particular section, field systems in China's Honan province or Maiden Castle. Although one may quibble at some of the classification and terminology (e.g. walls and moats rather than banks and ditches, and berm used rather loosely), regret the brevity of some descriptions and lack of references (there is a bibliography at the end), note the conspicuous absence of Anatolian and Near-Eastern tell sites, this book is still a pleasure to leaf through, with excellent illustrations that include not only colour photographs but architects' sketches and models. The general reader which this book targets will not fail to be impressed by the message: that earth structures or structures altering the earth are beautifully suited to their environment and meet all the requirements of sustainability. And for archaeologists, it is refreshing to see 'their' sites showcased alongside modern architectural and engineering feats.

... in south-eastern Asia

WILLIAM MEACHAM. *The archaeology of Hong Kong*. xiv + 204 pages, 180 illustrations. 2009. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press; 978-962-209-924-1 hardback; 978-962-209-925-8 paperback.

NANCY TINGLEY. *Arts of ancient Viet Nam: from river plain to open sea*. xii + 356 pages, over 100 colour illustrations. 2009. London: Yale University Press; 978-0-300-14696-7 hardback £35.

The archaeology of Hong Kong, by WILLIAM MEACHAM, was first published in 1980 and is now substantially revised to include the information that has dramatically increased with the growth of Hong

Kong over the past 30 years. The book comes in two parts: first a chronicle of discoveries and archaeological practice from 1920 to 2008, and second an overview of the occupation of the territory from c. 5000 BC to later historical periods (chapters 11–26). There are many good features in this book, such as numerous brief chapters which make it easy to navigate and useful tables summarising the main Dynastic periods and a summary of occupation on p. 130. It is copiously illustrated: the photographs give a real feel for the development of archaeology during the twentieth century but some images are of low quality (e.g. Figure 1.2; some have also suffered in the colour printing (my copy contains many images reproduced pink, e.g. Figure 8.3 on p. 44)). Though modern contract archaeology is well established, the scale of investigations is often quite small, and on larger sites it was rather surprising to see the ‘Wheeler box system’ still applied on excavations dating to 2002 (at Sha Ha, Figure 10.9, p. 64). Meacham, who has been active in Hong Kong’s archaeology since 1970, is well placed to report on the territory. He is less inclined to comment on the wider context of south-eastern Asian archaeology, but there are exceptions, e.g. on pp. 90–1 which has a brief discussion of connections with China in the Neolithic. Less reticence is shown where the author disagrees with practice. On pp. 52–3, for example, we find his comments on a territory-wide inventory of archaeological sites carried out in the early 1980s: *‘poorly designed from the outset, the survey did not focus on priority development areas, had no topographic search strategy, made no serious attempt to assimilate the work of previous decades, failed to discover sites that would have been obvious ... had they been inspected at all, tested enormous sites with tiny squares and reached conclusions totally unsupported by the evidence’*. This hints at turf wars between the local Archaeological Society (Meacham) and the authorities. It is of course impossible to judge whether or where blame should be apportioned, but the book, rough edges and all, certainly conveys that its author is passionate about his region’s archaeology.

‘Eastern splendour, order and beauty’ is apparent in abundance in *Arts of ancient Viet Nam*, a major exhibition organised by the Asia Society which will be shown at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston (Texas) between September 2009 and January 2010 and then at the Asia Society Museum in New York between February and May 2010. The exhibition, with

hundreds of objects on loan from nine Vietnamese museums, is the result of 20 years’ diplomacy and effort to ‘deepen the American people’s understanding of the culture of Viet Nam’ and to ‘provide a bridge to mutual understanding among the peoples of the world’ (Dang Van Bai, General Director, Department of Cultural Heritage, Socialist Republic of Vietnam; p. x). The book which accompanies the exhibition is more than a beautifully presented catalogue of objects (this fills c. 180 pages with full-page colour photographs facing each entry). The other 180 pages are devoted to a most informative introduction and illustrated overviews of each of the four topics chosen: in chronological order they are the early cultures of the first millennium BC to the second century AD (north, centre and south), the Oc Eo (Fu Nan) culture of the Mekong delta (first–sixth centuries AD), the central coastal kingdom of Champa (c. fifth–eighteenth centuries AD), and trade and exchange channelled through the port of Hoi An on the central-southern coast of the South China Sea (sixteenth–eighteenth centuries). As the catalogue itself is object-based – it also has a final section on ceramics recovered from fifteenth–eighteenth-century shipwrecks off the coast of Viet Nam – with scant information on context, the overviews are invaluable. Here archaeology, of settlements but mostly of burials, and historic documents are judiciously exploited (sadly there are no site plans, particularly missed in the Oc Eo chapter) to illustrate the changes experienced by an area straddling eastern, southern and south-eastern Asia, at various times in contact with Chinese, Indian, Buddhist, Khmer, Austronesian, Japanese, Dutch and many more cultural currents. Congratulations to NANCY TINGLEY and her contributors Andreas Reinecke, Pierre-Yves Manguin, Kerry Nguyen-Long and Nguyen Dinh-Chien for producing such a work of reference and for bringing a fascinating region to the attention of the wider public.

... in Africa

BAOUBA OULD MOHAMED NAFFÉ, RAYMOND LANFRANCHI & NATHAN SCHLANGER (ed.). *L’archéologie préventive en Afrique: enjeux et perspectives* (Actes du colloque de Nouakchott 1^{er}–3 février 2007). 254 pages, 26 illustrations, 40 colour plates, 1 table. 2008. Saint-Maur-des-Fossés: Sépia; 978-2-84280-145-5 paperback.

FRED WENDORF. *Desert days: my life as a field archaeologist*. xxx + 378 pages, 64 illustrations. 2008.

Dallas (TX): Southern Methodist University Press; 978-0-87074-524-9 hardback \$29.95.

When thinking of Africa and development, perhaps rescue archaeology is not what springs to mind as a priority. Yet the diverse nations of Africa face very real challenges and are determined not to let their archaeology slip from view. This was the subject of a colloquium at Nouakchott in Mauritania convened by the Institut Mauritanien de Recherche Scientifique together with the French Inrap (Institut national de recherches archéologiques préventives) in February 2007. The proceedings, *L'archéologie préventive en Afrique*, containing contributions by 28 authors from western and southern Africa, as well as from France and Belgium, tackle the problem head-on. Though there is a plethora of legislation dealing with archaeological heritage, *archéologie préventive* (Cultural Resource Management archaeology – but I look forward to the day when we can drop the confusing and cumbersome CRM label and talk about prescient archaeology), is under-resourced, leaving the dedicated practitioners to deal with development, including mining and drilling, as well as the demands of tourism, and looting on a vast scale. The papers – from Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Ghana, Togo, Nigeria, the Central African Republic and southern Africa – edited by NAFFÉ, LANFRANCHI and SCHLANGER, are concerned with legislation, past experiences and future prospects more than with overviews of the regions' archaeology, though there is plenty to glean from the individual chapters and the 40 colour plates; there are also some searching essays, for example by Alinah Segobye on identity and ethnicity in southern Africa (pp. 164–86). France's experience of mitigation archaeology, through Inrap, is reviewed in three end chapters and some suggestions for adaptation to the entirely different circumstances of African nations are made. The Nouakchott meeting and the proceedings — speedily produced and with all the essential information in French, Arabic and English — ended with a resolution, 'The Call of Nouakchott for preventive archaeology in Africa' which spells out the importance of Africa's archaeology for humanity as a whole and which embeds the principle of 'polluter pays' in the funding and support for archaeological mitigation and subsequent research outcome. *Pro memoria*, the 1992 European Valetta Convention is also included. May the call result in tangible benefits. I look forward to receiving a companion volume celebrating the fruits of this declaration in a few years' time.

Desert days is FRED WENDORF's autobiography. It is the survey of a very full life which started in Texas in 1924, and almost came to a premature end in battle in the Apennines in March 1945. Having survived this, Wendorf was determined to become an archaeologist and indeed he became a most distinguished academic and practitioner: his achievements in the field of Palaeolithic studies in the Nile valley and eastern Sahara, undertaken together with his 'brother' in the field Romuald Schild, are recognised the world over. But this is but one aspect of a career that straddles many fields, including, in the US, Southwestern pueblo archaeology, historical archaeology, salvage and contract archaeology as well as underwater archaeology. Combined with the many duties of a university teacher and head of department, museum director, project leader, fund-raiser and public figure, it is not surprising that the narrative fills a compendious volume. Such a driven personality is obviously unlikely to have had a smooth ride at all times; Wendorf does not try to gloss over the personal difficulties he encountered, accepting of course that an autobiography will contain a degree of self-justification. The character that emerges is someone who would never be beaten, who, when needed, would teach himself how to wire electrical circuits, fly planes or scuba-dive. This attitude is also evident in the author's willingness to innovate in the field, applying new methods (e.g. in palaeoecology) very early on. To immerse oneself in this memoir provides a good opportunity not only to appreciate the import of Wendorf's work in Egypt (summarised in 7 points on p. 336) but also to follow trends in North American archaeology over the last six decades.

... in the Americas

HESTER A. DAVIS with contributions by BRIAN FAGAN & ERIC POLINGYOUA. *Remembering Awatovi: the story of an archaeological expedition in northern Arizona 1935–1939*. xxiv + 216 pages, 165 illustrations. 2009. London: Harvard University Press; 978-0-87365-912-3 hardback £25.95, €31.50 & \$35.

BRIAN FAGAN. *'Where we found a whale': a history of Lake Clark National Park and Preserve*. 128 pages, over 100 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Anchorage (AK): United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Lake Clark National Park & Preserve; 978-0-9796432-4-8 paperback.

A good time was had by all. That is mostly what *Remembering Awatovi* is about, recounted in HESTER

DAVIS's biography of excavation campaigns carried out between 1935 and 1939 at a Southwestern pueblo and Franciscan mission site in northern Arizona. A visit in 1991 with some of the original participants (Hester's brother and sister) was the catalyst for this trip down memory lane, resulting in a detailed chronicle of life on site, illustrated by numerous photographs and original documents. The survey, excavation and field school led by J.O. Brew on the mesas in Hopi territory acquired a good reputation, helped by excellent food, a well run camp site and lively participants. So far so good; a good team and fond memories are obviously powerful elements in field work – prompting Brian Fagan, who introduces the book, to revisit some of his own African experiences – but what does the book amount to? One chapter at the end ('A scientific legacy') does try to set the campaigns in context and extract the main achievements; relations with the Hopi Indian community were constructive but complex, playing a decisive role – under-reported here, even allowing for the climate of the time – in the abrupt decision not to renew the excavation permit in 1939; and very occasionally we get a glimpse of methodological innovations (e.g. early attempts at flotation and kite photography) but this is meagre compared to the amount of space devoted to logistics and life on site. A scrapbook: enjoyable but rather inconsequential, to my mind not the 'truly groundbreaking piece of archaeological history' greeted by Fagan (p. xi).

There is little surviving archaeology in *Lake Clark National Park and Preserve*, on the Cook Inlet in south-western Alaska, but that has not stopped BRIAN FAGAN from producing a highly informative account and evocation of life in this harsh environment from perhaps 15 000 BP (certainly 11 700 BC) to the period of European contact in 1778. To flesh out his narrative he uses evidence from elsewhere in coastal and island Alaska as well as accounts of the Aleutiq and Dena'ina tribal groups documented in the region. The whole is splendidly illustrated with photographs and reproductions of nineteenth-century archival material. The archaeology in Lake Clark Park is confined to two rock shelters with red painted rock panels, depicting boats, people, birds, whales and a raven's claw. The pictograms appear small (unfortunately scales are missing from all but one image, and the text omits dimensions); Fagan links them to shamanistic practices, which in Alaska are connected with hunting whales. The title of the book, '*Where we found a whale*' itself refers to a local

place name for the area where one of the rock art sites is located (p. 111). Among the devices used to illustrate long past life are short evocative vignettes about events such as a caribou hunt 9000 years ago, or this scene: '*In a rock shelter on a dark night, the flames cast long shadows on the walls. Wood smoke swirls slightly in the soft night breeze, wreathing freshly painted human figures and animals on the wall in flickers and shadows. Only a few people are around the fire, listening to the shaman's chant. He beats a drum as he recites age-old tales of humans and whales, of people and animals. The listeners feel the power, painted figures on the rock face seem to come alive and move with the excitement and danger of the hunt. They spring to their feet, leap and dance, arms and legs outstretched, as the shaman enters a trance and invokes supernatural powers . . .*' (pp. 66–7).

. . . and in fiction

MARGARET ELPHINSTONE. *The Gathering Night*. x + 374 pages. 2009. Edinburgh: Canongate; 978-1-84767-288-9 paperback £12.99.

If Brian Fagan went quite far in recreating the lives of prehistoric hunter-gatherer-foragers of the far North, Scottish novelist MARGARET ELPHINSTONE went the whole way with *The Gathering Night*, a novel set in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland in the Mesolithic. I confess that when I received the book, my heart sank: the blurb promised 'a wilderness adventure from the dawn of time', a 'genre-busting novel' and made ecologically pious noises. But I looked at the afterword, and there I discovered that the author had taken herself through a rigorous Mesolithic crash course, which included learning survival skills, sailing, making a coracle, and excavation on Orkney. She read widely about the Mesolithic and took advice from Caroline Wickham Jones, Steven Mithen, Clive Gamble and Karen Hardy. This looked promising and I got started. It took a long time to lose my prejudices, suspend disbelief and get used to the devices – the story unfolds as the protagonists, who have Basque names, sit around campfires on eight separate nights over a period of several years, each taking turns to advance the tale. The names felt odd, but of course the people have to have names and you could not have called them Morag, Duncan or Fiona. I had to stop myself getting irritated by the use of capital letters for People and Animals and Places, but understood the need to give particular significance to certain locations and characters, especially as the relationship between

the natural world and the humans who inhabit it is such a vital element of the novel. Eventually I was won over: the story holds the attention; you end up caring for the protagonists, the characters, speaking in a rather undifferentiated way to start with, develop individualities as the story unfolds. Margaret Elphinstone does a lot better than James Fenimore Cooper, so lambasted by Mark Twain for crimes against fiction. There is plenty to keep the pace: a tsunami, hunt scenes, rape and murder, family feuds, shamans, but also calmer passages which bring to life the practicalities of securing food, warmth and shelter. As for what it was like 8000 years ago, we are all largely guessing; however, the detail gleaned from archaeological research is skilfully woven into the fabric of the novel. And where we do not know or speculate – e.g. the family groups here are envisaged as matrilineal and mainly endogamous – Elphinstone's view is as valid as anyone's. Altogether a well crafted novel which rewards perseverance.

Ab! how vast the world is by the light of a lamp!, but that's quite enough Baudelaire for one sitting. Curiosity let this chronicle roam widely in subject matter and genre. Along the way we encountered examples of scholarly writing, reportage, biographies, evocation and fiction. The excellent illustrations in many of the books made the trip all the more enjoyable. There is no special linking factor, except perhaps an overarching one: human experience and ingenuity in its myriad manifestations. And that is what *Antiquity* is about.

Books received

The list includes all books received between 1 December 2008 and 1 March 2009. 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

ANDREW ROBINSON. *Lost languages: the enigma of the world's undeciphered scripts*. 352 pages, numerous illustrations & tables. Second edition 2009 (first published in 2002). London: Thames & Hudson; 9780-500-51453-5 hardback £16.95.

DUŠAN BORIĆ & JOHN ROBB (ed.). *Past bodies: body-centred research in archaeology*. viii + 152 pages, 59

illustrations. 2008. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-341-1 hardback £30.

NICOLE BOIVIN. *Material cultures, material minds: the impact of things on human thought, society and evolution*. xviii + 270 pages, 67 illustrations, 2 tables. 2009. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-87397-0 hardback £45 & \$85.

WILLIAM ANDREFSKY, JR (ed.). *Lithic technology*. xviii + 340 pages, 118 illustrations. 2008. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-88827-1 hardback £48 & \$95.

LAURAJANE SMITH & NATSUKO AKAGAWA (ed.). *Intangible heritage*. xiv + 316 pages, 3 illustrations. 2009. Abingdon & New York: Routledge; 978-0-415-47397-2 hardback £70.

MARTA ANICO & ELSA PERALTA. *Heritage and identity: engagement and demission in the contemporary world* (Museum Meanings). xii + 196 pages, 19 illustrations. 2009. Abingdon: Routledge; 978-0-415-45336-3 paperback £22.99.

NENA GALANIDOU & LIV HELGA DOMMASNES (ed.). *Telling children about the past: an interdisciplinary perspective*. xii + 324 pages, 41 illustrations, 15 tables. 2007. Ann Arbor (MI): International Monographs in Prehistory; 978-1-879621-40-4 paperback \$25.

European pre- and protohistory

DAVID S. WHITLEY. *Cave paintings and the human spirit: the origin of creativity and belief*. 322 pages, 24 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Amherst (NY): Prometheus Books; 978-1-59102-636-5 hardback \$25.98.

H.P. BLANKHOLM. *Målsnes 1: an early post-glacial coastal site in northern Norway*. xii + 108 pages, 76 b&w & colour illustrations, 21 tables. 2008. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-343-5 hardback £35.

MICHAEL D. FRACHETTI. *Pastoralist landscapes and social interaction in Bronze Age Eurasia*. xviii + 214 pages, 53 illustrations. 2008. Berkeley & Los Angeles (CA): University of California Press; 978-0-520-25689-7 hardback £26.95.

ALBERTO J. LORRIO. *Qurénima: el Bronce Final del sureste de la Península Ibérica* (Bibliotheca Archaeologica Hispana 27, Anejo a la Revista Lucentum 17). 598 pages, 281 illustrations, 64 tables.

2008. Madrid: Real Academia de la Historia; 978-84-96849-41-9 paperback.

Mediterranean archaeology

STELLA G. SOUVATZI. *A social archaeology of households in Neolithic Greece: an anthropological approach*. xxii + 310 pages, 82 illustrations, 7 tables. 2008. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-83689-0 hardback £55 & \$95.

W.D. TAYLOUR[†] & R. JANKO. *Ayios Stephanos: excavations at a Bronze Age and medieval settlement in southern Laconia* (British School at Athens Supplementary Volume 44). xxviii + 708 pages, 353 illustrations, 136 tables, CD-ROM. 2008. London: British School at Athens; 978-0-904887-587 hardback.

MARIA KOSTOGLU. *Iron and steel in ancient Greece: artefacts, technology and social change in Aegean Thrace from Classical to Roman times* (British Archaeological Reports International Series 1883). x + 226 pages, 162 illustrations, 20 tables. 2008. Oxford: John & Erica Hedges; 978-1-4073-0239-3 paperback £49.

ANN BRYSAERT. *The power of technology in the Bronze Age eastern Mediterranean: the case of the painted plaster* (Monographs in Mediterranean Archaeology 12). xiv + 258 pages, 36 illustrations, 28 tables. 2008. London: Equinox; 978-1-84553-433-2 hardback £60.

LENA SJÖGREN. *Fragments of Archaic Crete: archaeological studies on time and space* (Uppsala Studies in Ancient Mediterranean & Near Eastern Civilizations 31). 258 pages, 36 illustrations. 2008. Uppsala: Uppsala Universitet; 978-91-554-7373-0 paperback.

PETER VAN DOMMELEN & CARLOS GÓMEZ BELLARD. *Rural landscapes of the Punic world* (Monographs in Mediterranean Archaeology 11). xvi + 284 pages, 82 illustrations, 4 tables. 2008. London: Equinox; 978-1-84553-270-3 hardback £60.

The Classical world

YULIA USTINOVA. *Caves and the ancient Greek mind: descending underground in the search for ultimate truth*. xii + 316 pages. 2009. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-954856-9 hardback £50.

IRAD MALKIN, CHRISTY CONSTANTAKOPOULOU & KATERINA PANAGOPOULOU (ed.). *Greek and Roman networks in the Mediterranean*. xiv + 322 pages, 36 illustrations. 2009. Abingdon & New York: Routledge; 978-0-415-45989-1 hardback.

The Roman world

MARKUS GRIEPENTROG. *Mulva V: die vormunizipale Besiedlung von Munigua* (Madrider Beiträge 29). 372 pages, 48 figures, 89 plates. 2008. Wiesbaden: Reichert; 978-3-89500-565-7 hardback €99.

LOUISE REVELL. *Roman imperialism and local identities*. xiv + 221 pages, 33 illustrations. 2009. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-88730-4 hardback £45 & \$80.

RICHARD A. BILLOWS. *Julius Caesar: the Colossus of Rome*. xxii + 314 pages, 6 illustrations. 2009. Abingdon & New York: Routledge; 978-0-415-33314-6 hardback.

PAT SOUTHERN. *Empress Zenobia: Palmyra's rebel queen*. x + 214 pages, 24 illustrations. 2009. London & New York: Continuum; 978-1-84725-034-6 hardback £25.

BARBANERA MARCELLO. *Collezione di antichità di Palazzo Lancellotti ai Coronari: archeologia, architettura, restauro* (Studi Miscellanei 34). 312 pages, 246 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Roma: L'Erma di Bretschneider; 978-88-8265-485-6 hardback.

JAMES J. O'DONNELL. *The ruin of the Roman Empire*. xii + 436 pages, 21 illustrations. 2009. London: Profile Books; 978-1-86197-935-3 hardback £25.

ADRIAN GOLDSWORTHY. *The fall of the West: the death of the Roman superpower*. x + 532 pages, 53 colour & b&w illustrations. 2009. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson; 978-0-297-84563-8 hardback £25.

Levant, Middle East

GUILLERMO ALGAZE. *Ancient Mesopotamia at the dawn of civilization: the evolution of an urban landscape*. xviii + 230 pages, 26 illustrations, 1 table. 2008. Chicago (IL): University of Chicago Press; 978-0-226-01377-0 hardback £20 & \$35.

ELEANOR ROBSON. *Mathematics in ancient Iraq: a social history*. xxx + 442 pages, 75 illustrations, 63 tables. 2008. Princeton (NJ) & Oxford: Princeton University Press; 978-0-691-09182-2 hardback £20.95.

NICCOLÒ MANASSERO. *Rhyta e corni potori dall'Età del Ferro all'epoca sasanide: libagioni pure e misticismo tra la Grecia e il mondo iranico* (British Archaeological Reports International Series 1750). iv + 280 pages, 140 illustrations. 2008. Oxford: John & Erica Hedges; 978-1-4073-0210-2 paperback £50.

Eastern and southern Asia

GIDEON SHELACH. *Prehistoric societies on the northern frontiers of China: archaeological perspectives on identity formation and economic change during the first millennium BC* (Approaches to Anthropological Archaeology). xiv + 204 pages, 52 illustrations, 20 tables. 2009. London: Equinox; 978-1-84553-315-1 hardback £80.

Egypt and Africa

JOYCE TYLDESLEY. *Cleopatra, last queen of Egypt*. xiv + 290 pages, 11 illustrations, 26 colour plates. 2009 (paperback edition, first published in hardback in 2008). London: Profile Books; 978-1-86197-901-8 paperback £8.99.

MARK SMITH. *Traversing eternity: texts for the afterlife from Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt*. xx + 726 pages, 16 illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-815464-8 hardback £125.

Australia and the Pacific

PATRICK D. NUNN. *Vanished islands and hidden continents of the Pacific*. xiv + 270 pages, 50 illustrations. 2009. Honolulu (HI): University of Hawai'i Press; 978-0-8248-3219-3 hardback.

Americas

EDWARD J. LENIK. *Making pictures in stone: American Indian rock art of the northeast*. xx + 252 pages, 131 illustrations. 2008. Tuscaloosa (AL): University of Alabama Press; 978-0-8173-5509-8 paperback \$36; 978-0-8173-1629-7 hardback \$56.75.

KEVIN E. SMITH & JAMES V. MILLER. *Speaking with the ancestors: Mississippian stone statuary of*

the Tennessee-Cumberland region. xx + 234 pages, 129 illustrations, 3 tables. 2009. Tuscaloosa (AL): University of Alabama Press; 978-0-8173-5465-7 paperback.

ANN L.W. STODDER (ed.) with contributions by NANCY J. AKINS, VAUGHAN M. BRYANT, REINHARD HILGERS, NANCY J. MALVILLE, DEBRA L. MARTIN, JOHN A. MCCLELLAND, ANN M. PALKOVICH, GORDON F.M. RAKITA, MARCIA H. REGAN, KARL J. REINHARD, TERESA RODRIGUES, HOSKI SCHAAFSMA, TYEDE H. SCHMIDT-SCHULTZ, MICHAEL SCHULTZ, ANN L.W. STODDER, ULRICH TIMME & KATHERINE E. WEISENSEE. *Reanalysis and reinterpretation in southwestern bioarchaeology* (Arizona State University Anthropological Research Papers 59). vi + 237 pages, 35 figures, 44 tables. 2008. Tempe (AZ): Department of Anthropology, Arizona State University; 978-0-936249-39-1 paperback \$30 (+\$3.50 p&cp in US, Canada & Mexico).

DANIEL H. SANDWEISS & JEFFREY QUILTER (ed.). *El Niño: catastrophism, and culture change in ancient America*. x + 290 pages, illustrations, tables. 2008. Washington D.C.: Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection; 978-0-88402-353-1 hardback \$55, €49.50 & £40.95.

JOHN STALLER, ROBERT TYKOT & BRUCE BENZ. *Histories of maize: multidisciplinary approaches to the prehistory, linguistics, biogeography, domestication, and evolution of maize*. xxvi + 678 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations and tables. 2006. Burlington (MA): Academic Press; 978-0-12-369364-8 hardback.

STEPHEN A. KOWALEWSKI, ANDREW K. BALKANSKY, LAURA R. STIVER WALSH, THOMAS J. PLUCKHAHN, JOHN F. CAMBLEE, VERÓNICA PÉREZ RODRÍGUEZ, VERENICE Y. HERODIA ESPINOZA & CHARLOTTE A. SMITH. *Origins of the Nuu: archaeology in the Mixteca Alta, Mexico*. xxviii + 516 pages, 261 illustrations, 123 tables. 2008. Boulder (CO): University Press of Colorado; 978-0-87081-9290-2 hardback \$65.

JEFFREY R. PARSONS with contributions by LARRY J. GORENFLO, MARY H. PARSONS & DAVID J. WILSON. *Prehispanic settlement patterns in the northwestern valley of Mexico: the Zumpango region* (Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan Memoirs 45). xviii + 438 pages, 370 b&w & colour illustrations, 45 tables. 2008. Ann Arbor (MI): Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan; 978-0-915703-70-8 paperback \$44.

JAMES L. FITZSIMMONS. *Death and the Classic Maya kings*. xxii + 282 pages, 79 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Austin (TX): University of Texas Press; 978-0-292-71890-6 hardback \$60.

PRUDENCE M. RICE & DON S. RICE (ed.). *The Kowoj: identity, migration, and geopolitics in Late Postclassic Petén, Guatemala*. xxii + 458 pages, 96 illustrations, 43 tables. 2009. Boulder (CO): University Press of Colorado; 978-0-87081-9308 hardback \$65.

Britain and Ireland

ROGER MERCER & FRANCES HEALY. *Hambledon Hill, Dorset, England: excavation and survey of a Neolithic monument complex and its surrounding landscape*. 2 volumes. xxx + 816 pages, numerous colour & b&w illustrations & tables. 2008. Swindon: English Heritage; 978-1-905624-59-1 paperback.

MARTIN SMITH & MEGAN BRICKLEY. *People of the long barrows: life, death and burial in the earlier Neolithic*. 192 pages, 60 b&w & colour illustrations, 15 tables. 2009. Stroud: History Press; 978-0-7524-4733-9 paperback £18.99.

NEIL CARLIN, LINDA CLARKE & FINTAN WALSH. *The archaeology of life and death in the Boyne Floodplain: the linear landscape of the M4, Kinnegad-Enfield-Kilcock motorway* (NRA Scheme Monographs 2). xviii + 166 pages, 44 b&w & colour illustrations, 7 tables, CD-ROM. Dublin: National Roads Authority; 978-0-9545955-5-5 paperback.

RICHARD WEST. *From Brandon to Bungay: an exploration of the landscape history and geology of the Little Ouse and Waveney Rivers*. iv + 138 pages, 103 b&w & colour illustrations, 5 tables. 2009. Ipswich: Suffolk Naturalists' Society, Ipswich Museum. Paperback £12 (inc. p&cp, or £10 if collected from Ipswich Museum).

CHRISTOPHER EVANS with DUNCAN MACKAY & LEO WEBLEY. *Borderlands: the archaeology of the Addenbrooke's Environs, South Cambridge* (CAU Landscape Archives: New Archaeologies of the Cambridge Region 1). xii + 212 pages, 108 illustrations, 50 tables. 2008. Cambridge: Cambridge Archaeological Unit; 978-0-9544824-7-3 paperback.

STEPHEN TROW, SIMON JAMES & TOM MOORE. *Becoming Roman, being Gallic, staying British: research and excavations at the Ditches 'hillfort' and villa 1984–2006*. xvi + 224 pages, 54 illustrations, 39

tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-842127-336-7 paperback £35.

TIM COPELAND. *Akeman Street: moving through Iron Age and Roman landscapes*. 160 pages, 36 illustrations. 2009. Stroud: History Press; 978-0-7524-4732-2 paperback £16.99.

RONALD HUTTON. *Blood & mistletoe: the history of the Druids in Britain*. xiv + 492 pages. 2009. London: Yale University Press; 978-0-300-14485-7 hardback £30.

NICK BATEMAN, CARRIE COWAN & ROBIN WROE-BROWN. *London's Roman amphitheatre, Guildhall Yard, City of London* (MoLAS Monograph 35). xviii + 242 pages, 176 illustrations, 12 tables, CD-ROM. 2008. London: Museum of London Archaeology Service; 978-1-901992-71-7 hardback £29.95.

Early medieval and medieval

TOM WILLIAMSON. *Sutton Hoo and its landscape: the context of monuments*. xii + 154 pages, 69 illustrations. 2008. Oxford: Windgather; 978-1-905119-25-7 paperback £20.

MARTIN CARVER, CATHERINE HILLS & JONATHAN SCHESCHKEWITZ. *Wasperton: a Roman, British and Anglo-Saxon community in central England*. x + 372 pages, 73 b&w & colour illustrations, 45 tables. 2009. Woodbridge: Boydell; 978-1-843834-27-4 hardback £60 & \$115.

ROBERT COWIE & LYN BLACKMORE. *Early and Middle Saxon rural settlement in the London region* (MoLAS Monograph 41). xviii + 240 pages, 150 illustrations, 74 tables. 2008. London: Museum of London Archaeology Service; 978-1-901992-77-9 hardback £14.95.

MICHEL AUDOUY & ANDY CHAPMAN. *Raunds: the origin and growth of a Midland village AD 450–1500, excavations in north Raunds, Northamptonshire 1977–87*. xviii + 148 pages, 130 illustrations, 50 tables, CD-ROM. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-337-4 hardback £28.

STEPHEN RIPPON. *Beyond the medieval village: the diversification of landscape character in southern Britain*. xii + 324 pages, 82 illustrations, 2 tables. 2008. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-920382-6 hardback £60.

CHARLES M. ATKINSON. *The critical nexus: tone-system, mode, and notation in early medieval music*

(AMS Studies in Music). xiv + 306 pages. 2008. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-514888-6 hardback £26.99.

Later historical periods

RUSSELL K. SKOWRONEK & GEORGE R. FISCHER. *HMS Fowey: lost and found*. xxvi + 236 pages, 73 illustrations. 2009. Gainesville (FL): University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-3320-4 hardback \$45.

FANNIA WEINGARTEN. *Miniature rooms: the Thorne Rooms at the Art Institute of Chicago*. 184 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. New Haven (CT) & London: Yale University Press; 978-0-300-14159-7 hardback £30.

Other

ROSE MELIKAN. *The counterfeit guest* (novel). 408 pages. 2009. London: Sphere; 978-1-84744-135-5 hardback £19.99

CATHERINE KING. *Without a mother's love* (novel). 486 pages. 2008. London: Sphere; 978-0-7515-4131-1 paperback £5.99.

Reprints and re-editions online

OLE GRØN, ERICKA ENGELSTAD & INGE LINDBLOM (ed.). *Social space: human spatial behaviour in dwellings and settlements* (Odense University Studies in History and Social Sciences 147). 184 pages, numerous figures & tables. First published in 1991 in Odense by Odense University Press. 2008. Free web reprint by LMR Press, Langelands Museum, Rudkøbing; 978-87-88509-38-9. Available as a free pdf download at <http://www.langelandsmuseum.dk/Engelsk/LMRPress.htm>

OLE GRØN. *The Maglemose culture: the reconstruction of the social organization of a Mesolithic culture in Northern Europe* (BAR International Series 616). 99 pages, 48 figures, tables. First published in 1995 in Oxford by John & Erica Hedges. 2008. Free web reprint by LMR Press, Langelands Museum, Rudkøbing; 978-87-88509-37-3. Available as a free

pdf download at <http://www.langelandsmuseum.dk/Engelsk/LMRPress.htm>

TORUNN KLOKKERNES. *Skin processing technology in Eurasian reindeer cultures: a comparative study in material science of Sami and Evenk methods – perspectives on deterioration and preservation of museum artefacts* (PhD dissertation, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Conservation, Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo). 2007. Free web imprint. Rudkøbing: Langelands Museum; 978-87-88509-33-5. Available as a free pdf download at <http://www.langelandsmuseum.dk/Engelsk/LMRPress.htm>

WILLIAM M. JOHNSON & DAVID M. LAVIGNE. *Monk seals in antiquity: the Mediterranean monk seal (Monachus monachus) in ancient history and literature* (Mededelingen 35). 1999. Leiden: Netherlands Commission for International Nature Protection. Available as a free pdf download at <http://www.monachus-guardian.org/libread.htm>

WILLIAM M. JOHNSON. *Monk seals in post-classical history: the role of the Mediterranean monk seal (Monachus monachus) in European history and culture, from the fall of Rome to the 20th century* (Mededelingen 39). 2004. Leiden: Netherlands Commission for International Nature Protection. Available as a free pdf download at <http://www.monachus-guardian.org/libread.htm>

Exhibition at the British Library

Henry VIII: Man and Monarch, landmark exhibition at the British Library, 23 April – 6 September 2009. For further details, see www.bl.uk/henry. The accompanying book of the same title, edited by David Starkey and Susan Doran, including contributions by Eamon Duffy, James Carley, John Guy, Diarmaid McCulloch and Eric Ives, and with colour illustrations of all 250 exhibits, was published by the British Library in April 2009 (256 pages, ISBN 978-0-712-35026-6). The Psalter of Henry VIII will also be made available for the first time in a facsimile edition published by the British Library and The Folio Society.