

Reviews

New Book Chronicle

Robert Witcher

In NBC for December 2012, Madeleine Hummler tackled five 'Oxford handbooks' finding them "a real education" and of "lasting value" (p. 1252). Over the ensuing year, further handbooks have filled the *Antiquity* review shelf, along with a variety of other large, multi-author collections—variously packaged as 'companions', 'sourcebooks' and 'worlds'. This quarter, we set out to investigate what, if anything, distinguishes these various publishing formats.

Worlds (Etruscan and Sumerian)

JEAN MACINTOSH TURFA (ed.). *The Etruscan world*. xlv+1167 pages, 739 b&w illustrations. 2013. Abingdon: Routledge; 978-0-415-67308-2 hardback £150.

HARRIET CRAWFORD (ed.). *The Sumerian world*. 659 pages, 160 illustrations, 15 tables. 2013. Abingdon: Routledge; 978-0-415-56967-5 hardback £125.

The Etruscan world, edited by JEAN MACINTOSH TURFA, is a monumental undertaking: little short of 1200 pages, 6cm thick and 2.2kg in weight (or 6.25 Etruscan heavy *librae*, see Maras on 'Numbers and reckoning'), it presents a panorama of the art and archaeology of the Etruscans which any teaching or research library will find well used for years to come. But what, exactly, is its subject matter: the Etruscan people? The region of Etruria? Etruscan material culture? Or the sub-discipline of Etruscology itself?

The volume comprises eight sections including coverage of 'The historical development of Etruria', 'The Etruscans and their neighbours', 'Religion', 'Special aspects of Etruscan culture' (e.g. town planning, metallurgy), 'Art', and the 'Post antique reception of Etruscan culture'. The volume collates a wealth of material, much of which has not previously been available in English and/or has only been available in specialist or regional literature. Several chapters present summaries of recent and ongoing fieldwork including that at Tarquinia, Pyrgi, and Campo della Fiera at Orvieto, the latter almost

certainly the site of the *Fanum Volumnae*, the federal meeting place of the Etruscan city-states.

Division into 63 chapters has allowed the contributors to focus in detail on their material, though some of the chapters which range more widely have greater success in articulating the significance of the evidence (e.g. Leighton on 'Urbanization in Southern Etruria' considers elite funerary practices as integral to the emergence and transformation of cities). Topics covered include musical instruments, princely chariots and haruspicy; however, a number of fundamental themes and categories of evidence such as rural settlement, agriculture and economic organisation are absent. The section on 'Society and economy' in fact contains only one chapter of six which attends to economic issues. Further, while the title of that chapter appears in the Contents as 'Economy and commerce through material evidence: Etruscan goods in the Mediterranean world and beyond' (Gran-Aymerich), on the title page of the chapter itself it has been truncated to 'Etruscan goods in the Mediterranean world and beyond'. This abbreviated title more faithfully represents the contents of the chapter which makes no claim to be an overarching assessment of the economy, instead providing a wide-ranging overview of the distribution of Etruscan bucchero *kantharoi*, amphorae, bronze vessels and other artefacts outside Etruria. (On the subject of the Contents page, a typesetter's error has transformed part of the title of Chapter 29—the monumental temple known as the Ara della Regina—into a charmingly named additional author.)

For this mass of newly accessible detail alone, this volume is a welcome addition to the literature on Etruscan archaeology. It will not, however, radically challenge perceptions of the sub-discipline in terms of themes and approaches. In her introduction, Turfa notes that non-Etruscologists have often "not felt comfortable" (p. 1) with the Etruscans: she blames the Greco-Roman texts for their hostile portrayals. That may partly explain it, but the traditional emphasis on art historical approaches may be equally culpable. As presented here, Etruscan archaeology is still largely a world dominated by the particular and unique,

and coy about drawing on and contributing to wider debates—perhaps it is no surprise that the Etruscans do not feature in *The handbook of the ancient state* (below).

The historiographical chapters by Briquel and Haack—which bookend the volume—skilfully illustrate why the Etruscans and Etruscology are so distinctive; their entire history of reception and study is linked to ‘otherness’—of differentiating between Roman and non-Roman visions of Italy, or between Eastern and Western origins of European civilisation. Briquel reminds us that much of the subject matter of Etruscology, for example the question of origins, is defined by Greek and Roman authors. She pulls no punches: “. . . if Etruscologists of modern times have so long strayed into a dead-end and reductionist debate, it is probably because it is the same debate that was conducted in Antiquity” (p. 50).

In many respects there is a tension within *The Etruscan world*: fighting both ancient and modern stereotypes of ‘mysterious’ and ‘foreign’ tomb-builders, making them less ‘different’, but also reaffirming the existence of a distinctive sub-discipline with its own traditions of study. In this sense, the most obvious omission is some exploration of what defines the Etruscans or coheres Etruscology. The funerary traditions, craft production and urban development documented in these chapters stress diversity, but there is no attempt to justify the assumption of overarching unity. Is it geographical? Cultural? Or ethnic? In reality, much of this coherence comes from the historical texts—precisely the source of the negative stereotypes which many of the chapters set out to challenge.

Finally, we might consider the potential audience: for whom is the volume intended? Some chapters will be perfect for students researching particular sites or seeking introductions to specific themes. Others will be too specialist for this audience. Many chapters present an abundance of detail but do not supply the explicit theoretical or interpretative frameworks with which non-specialists can make sense of it. Nonetheless, Turfa is to be congratulated on corralling so much material into a single, accessible tome; no-one can fail to be impressed by the volume’s ambition and the rich potential of the material culture of ancient Etruria in these pages.

Next we turn to another volume in the Routledge ‘world’ series—*The Sumerian world*, edited by HARRIET CRAWFORD. If the front matter of *The Etruscan world* claims simply that it is “essential

reading for researchers, academics and students of this fascinating civilization”, Crawford’s volume makes a more ambitious claim to be “an authoritative, comprehensive and up-to-date overview of the Sumerian period” presenting a “broad treatment [which] will also make the volume of interest to students looking for comparative data”.

In her introduction, Crawford tackles the question of what defines the Sumerian world by reflecting on the different usages of the adjective Sumerian to indicate language, culture or even a ‘people’. For the purposes of this volume, Sumerian is used in a cultural sense, however Crawford notes—in an entirely positive sense—that as the evidence improves, many of the old certainties about such definitions are becoming fuzzy. Other contributors discuss what they consider to define the Sumerian world, for example, Collins (‘Everyday life in Sumer’) suggests the concentration of population into urban settings is the defining characteristic.

The volume is divided into six parts which broadly echo the structure of *The Etruscan world*: ‘Background’, ‘Material remains’, ‘Systems of government’, ‘Life and death’, ‘Neighbours’, and the ‘Ends of the Sumerian world’; art, however, is not given dedicated treatment and is integrated into wider discussion. Similarly, many of the themes covered in the 32 chapters parallel those in *The Etruscan world*: ‘Calendars and counting’, ‘Women’, ‘Trade’, and ‘Death and burial’. Others topics are, of necessity, more specific, such as ‘Seals and sealing’. Agriculture receives a dedicated chapter, but economy does not (indeed, the term does not even appear in the index). Compared to *The Etruscan world*, the contributions are similarly dense with detail, but most also supply more context and explicit interpretation with which to evaluate this evidence.

A key issue raised in *The Etruscan world*, and most of the other volumes under review, is the relationship of archaeology and history, material culture and text. In *The Sumerian world* this concerns cuneiform tablets. Widell’s contribution on ‘Sumerian agriculture and land management’ is based almost entirely on these tablets; this, he notes, is a necessity given the (current) lack of archaeological evidence. But it is also risky. As the author observes, 83 per cent of Ur III (2112–2004 BC) tablets—some 49 000!—come from a window of just 25 years representing “an exceptionally short period of time with an extreme concentration of information” (p. 55). The fine grain of this text-based chapter can be profitably read

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

alongside Jason Ur's contribution on 'Patterns of settlement in Sumer and Akkad', which provides a detailed overview of settlement history from the fifth to second millennia. Elsewhere, Stone's contribution on 'The organisation of a Sumerian town' parallels Widell's problem of chronologically uneven data, noting that the archaeological evidence for cities concentrates on the mid third millennium (i.e. the later Early Dynastic period) with very little from the latter part of the millennium (Akkadian and Ur III periods). Nonetheless, Stone is able to trace the evolving physical structure and socio-political organisation of the city from the Protoliterate period, into the later Early Dynastic period—when the "recognizable characteristics of the Mesopotamian city: the institutional complexity of palace and temple and dense urban fabric based on courtyard houses" (p. 161) is first established—and into the later Sumerian periods.

So, reflecting on these two volumes, what characterises the 'world' format? Arguably, the defining feature of these worlds is not universality but particularity—they are self-contained spheres. Like travellers to a foreign land, we enter these worlds and engage with them on their own terms and conform to their way of doing things. Like all travel, it broadens the mind, even if we return home still less than completely fluent in the local language.

Companions (Roman Republic and Roman architecture)

JANE DEROSE EVANS (ed.). *A companion to the archaeology of the Roman Republic*. xxiv+722 pages, 101 b&w illustrations, 4 tables. 2013. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell; 978-1-4051-9966-7 hardback £120.

ROGER B. ULRICH & CAROLINE K. QUENEMOEN (ed.). *A companion to Roman architecture*. xvii+589 pages, 115 b&w illustrations. 2014. Chichester: Wiley Blackwell; 978-1-4051-9964-3 hardback £120.

The 'Blackwell companions to the ancient world' series continues to grow rapidly. The front matter states the aims of the series are to provide "sophisticated and authoritative overviews. . .written in a clear, provocative, and lively manner, designed for an international audience of scholars, students, and general readers". Does the *Companion to the*

archaeology of the Roman Republic, edited by JANE DEROSE EVANS, fulfil this mission statement?

This companion provides the first major English language collection which explicitly tackles the Roman Republic from an archaeological perspective. There are plenty of volumes which cover the history, specific archaeological themes or geographical regions of republican Italy, but this collection provides something new and useful. The editor's introduction does not outline any overarching rationale; instead Evans dives headlong into a chapter-by-chapter commentary. This skilfully narrates the common threads which unite the individual contributions, thereby providing a real sense of coherence to the volume. As a result, we have no manifesto or claims for new or innovative developments, but we do have a clear sense of scope and structure.

In fact, the volume gives a good sense of recent developments in the archaeology of Italy during the Roman republican period, with particularly strong sections on 'Landscape' (Part II) and 'Identity' (Part IV). Perhaps the most welcome aspect of the volume, however, is the inclusion of a series of chapters in Part V ('The archaeology of empire during the Republic') which take us beyond the Italian peninsula to examine evidence for theatres of war, client states and fledging provinces, spanning Hispania to Palestine. These Mediterranean case studies are valuable in their own right, as well as providing a useful perspective on republican Italy.

Helpfully, Evans also explains why some Mediterranean areas have been excluded from coverage, including Gaul and Illyria. Here, we are told, the Romans were only interested in maintaining land routes through these areas to more distant destinations (Spain and the Bosphorus, respectively); there was "minimal adoption" of Roman material culture in these areas during the Republic, only subsequently changing in the Augustan period—chronologically beyond the remit of the volume (pp. 9–10). This lack of impact, however, raises interesting questions; not least, it seems to presuppose a very specific archaeology of the Roman Republic which is defined by change rather than a lack thereof. But why was the response to Roman intervention so muted—especially given the long history of contact with Greeks, Phoenicians and Etruscans—and what does it tell us about those areas where impact was more decisive? Whereas *The Etruscan and Sumerian worlds* survey the 'neighbours', the *Companion to the archaeology of the Roman Republic* demands, if

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

not conformity, at least change as a criterion for inclusion.

Like the *The Etruscan and Sumerian worlds*, there is no dedicated treatment of economic issues (though see Laubenheimer on ‘Amphoras and shipwrecks’). This absence is perhaps more surprising in the context of the Roman Republic given the extensive study and debate about trade, commerce and the slave mode of production. This situation, however, probably does accurately reflect the recent shift in interest away from economic (and Marxist) approaches towards identity and landscape.

The contribution by Warden, ‘The importance of being elite: the archaeology of identity in Etruria (500–200)’, inevitably invites comparison with *The Etruscan world*. Surveying the same material, it conveys a dynamic impression of the subject matter. In tackling the Etruscans from the perspective of identity, Warden addresses the crucial question: who were the Etruscans? Is it possible, for example, to define civic identities using specific artefact categories? How did individual civic identities relate to regional or ‘Etruscan’ identity? Warden poses more questions than he can answer, but in doing so he opens up the potential of this material.

The *Companion* will provide a hugely useful first port-of-call for students of any level new to the archaeology of early Roman Italy, giving coherence to a topic which until now has been scattered across a number of books. Nearly every chapter provides an accessible introduction to often complex topics which should inspire students to delve deeper and, to that end, I’ve already added the *Companion* to my students’ reading list. For my teaching, the case studies on agriculture (Goodchild), villas (Becker), Italic identities (Stek), Greek, Lucanian and Roman Poseidonia/Paestum (Gualtieri), Samnium (Suano & Scopacasa) and the Latin colony of Cosa (Dyson), amongst several others, will be particularly valuable.

Also in the same Blackwell series we find *A companion to Roman architecture*, edited by ROGER ULRICH & CAROLINE QUENEMOEN. The 25 chapters are organised to provide a historical overview, from the early first millennium BC through to the Tetrarchy, before moving on to issues of planning, materials and labour. A series of chapters then consider individual building types (houses, baths, fora, etc.) and the volume concludes with three chapters on the reception (e.g. Fascist Romanità) and conservation of Roman architecture. The editors’ introduction spells out how the subject area has been “enlivened and

largely reframed” (p. 3) over the past two decades. Formalist definitions of Roman architecture emphasising static typologies have given way to more expansive approaches exploring space, landscapes, materials and “architecture as integrated cultural practice” (p. 3).

Becker’s contribution on the ‘Italic architecture of the earlier first millennium BCE’ is a good example of what is on offer. Surveying early domestic structures (incidentally filling a gap in the coverage of *The Etruscan world*) alongside civic, sacred and defensive architecture, Becker provides a sense of the various pressing debates. New discoveries and new ways of looking at classic sites suggest a topic on the verge of a transformation in perspective. A number of other chapters perform a similar service.

The contributors draw examples from around the Roman Empire, though there is a general focus on the western Mediterranean provinces. This largely ducks the question of what constitutes ‘Roman’ architecture in the eastern, Greek half of the Empire (though Thomas’ chapter on the ‘Severan period’ provides a taste). Revell’s contribution, awkwardly located between chapters on ‘Private villas’ and ‘Streets and facades’, provides an overview of the impact of Roman architectural forms in the western provinces. Despite the chapter’s title—‘Romanization’—she outlines an approach which thoroughly rejects this concept in favour of a people-centred theory of cultural change which explores the “ideologies and discourses embodied within the fabric of the buildings and the forms of behaviors and practices they enabled” (p. 397). In sum, *A companion to Roman architecture* conveys a sense of a research area which has been busy reinventing itself and is keen to tell us about its endeavours.

A distinctive feature of the *Companion* format is that each chapter concludes with a useful ‘Further reading’ section. The references, however, are consolidated in a single bibliography at the end of the volume. Generally, this works well, but for papers in edited volumes, the references provide only the names of the editors, requiring the reader to locate a third reference, which may be dozens of pages away, in order to establish the work’s title. (I imagine it would require Herculean patience in the e-book versions.) This style of referencing might work in the much shorter individual chapter bibliographies found in the ‘Oxford handbooks’ (though they, in fact, provide the full reference with editors and title for every paper), but it is inconvenient in the consolidated bibliography format.

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

What then distinguishes the ‘companion’ format? The OED suggests a companion to be a person who accompanies or with whom one spends a lot of time. While these short chapters mean the reader will not spend much time with any particular author, each volume does a good job in accompanying the reader. If the ‘world’ format presents self-contained destinations for us to visit, companions are the guides which allow us to travel to, and translate our experiences at, the journey’s end. Moreover, they hold open the possibility that we might return to these destinations again in the future and find that they have changed, not just because of newly discovered attractions but also because of new ways of seeing and understanding.

Handbooks (Mesoamerican archaeology and the ancient state)

DEBORAH L. NICHOLS & CHRISTOPHER A. POOL (ed.). *The Oxford handbook of Mesoamerican archaeology*. xvi+979 pages, 177 illustrations, 4 tables. 2012. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-539093-3 hardback £110.

PETER FIBIGER BANG & WALTER SCHEIDEL (ed.). *The Oxford handbook of the state in the ancient Near East and Mediterranean*. 555 pages, 27 b&w illustrations, 5 tables. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-518831-8 hardback £95.

The ‘Oxford handbook’ series aims to provide authoritative and state-of-the-art surveys of current thinking and research, giving critical examination of the progress and direction of debates and providing compelling new perspectives. Here, we sample a couple of recent additions to the series. *The handbook of Mesoamerican archaeology*, edited by DEBORAH NICHOLS & CHRISTOPHER POOL, is divided into 5 parts and 71 chapters, spanning ice-age hunter-gatherers to landscape change in the Maya region up to AD 1910. The chapters are short—most are about 11 or 12 pages, with anything from 1 to 9 pages of additional bibliography each.

The volume provides plenty of reflection on the problems of definition and coherence. Most obviously, ‘Mesoamerica’ was coined as a culture-historical concept linked with the cultivation of maize during the Archaic period; it is neither geographical nor ethnic and, strictly speaking, cannot be meaningfully applied to earlier periods, though

the contribution on hunter-gatherers (Acosta Ochoa) provides the necessary context for understanding the emergence of farming.

Part I deals with ‘Theory, method, and practice’; Part II is a short section of three chapters on ‘Hunter-gatherers and first farmers’ which paves the way for the core of the volume: ‘Part III. Villages, cities, states and empires’, which comprises 26 chapters sampling research from a diverse range of perspectives: thematic, regional and cultural. Part IV moves onto ‘Institutions, beliefs and practices’, comprising 30 chapters grouped around the themes of ‘Economies’, ‘Social and political relations’, ‘Beliefs and rituals’ and ‘Art and iconography’. Finally, Part V moves forward in time to ‘The Spanish conquest and archaeology of the Colonial and Republican periods’.

To underscore recent progress in Mesoamerican archaeology, the editors’ introduction compares back to *Archaeology: supplement to the handbook of Middle American Indians* (Sabloff 1981). The subsequent developments in themes, theoretical approaches and methods are noteworthy. Consequently aware of the speed of change, the editors also look ahead to consider what the future avenues of research and the challenges might be. Building on this introduction, Gándara provides ‘A short history of theory in Mesoamerican archaeology’ which documents a shift from “theoretical diversification” to “guarded eclecticism” (pp. 38–39). He takes Mesoamerican archaeologists to task, contrasting the self-declared atheoretical (a.k.a. culture historians) with the pick ‘n’ mix approach of those “without a label...who do not really lose their sleep over theoretical name tags” (p. 39). Like a number of other chapters in this volume, this is a contribution with resonance beyond Mesoamerican archaeology.

Surprisingly, there is no dedicated chapter on climate and environment; Scarborough on ‘Agricultural land use and intensification’ and McClung de Tapia on ‘Ecological approaches’ come closest to serving this role. Perhaps this absence is explained by the repeated stress put on environment, and its diversity, in the individual chapters. Similarly, there is no single, overarching treatment of the economy, though there are several chapters on specific aspects including ‘Ceramic technology and production’ (Rice) and ‘Markets, merchants, and systems of exchange’ (Hirth).

Something of the dynamic and evolving nature of Mesoamerican archaeology can be discerned by comparison of some of the chapters. The

wide-ranging and skilful overviews of ‘Cities and urbanism’ (Blanton) and ‘States and empires’ (Feinman) both adhere to the consensus that there was no dynastic mortuary cult at Teotihuacan, but Sugiyama’s contribution on ‘Ideology, polity and social history of the Teotihuacan state’ presents ongoing research based on recent discoveries beneath the Sun Pyramid and the Feathered Serpent Pyramid which may point to “conspicuously presented rulers” (p. 222) in the form of possible royal tombs. Elsewhere, Oudijk’s chapter, ‘The conquest of Mexico’, contrasts the Spanish colonial accounts with insights from contemporary indigenous documents. This dramatically recasts the conquistadors as one (small) group among many, each with its own distinct aims and agency, extending well beyond a simple desire to liberate themselves from the Mexican tribute state.

All of the volumes under review make some claim to appeal to the non-specialist or even the lay person, and this volume is no different. Where it is particularly successful in this regard, however, is not simply in providing accessible and lively vignettes of Mesoamerican archaeology, but also in explaining the relevance of this material for the wider discipline. Rather than overdose on detail at the expense of meaning, the chapters present debates and interpretations, reaching for case studies as and when they illustrate the broader themes. For example, Fitzsimmons on ‘The living and the dead’ presents relatively little detail on tomb architecture, but gives a clear sense of the significance of burial in terms of land and kinship, lineage and kingship. As a result, archaeologists of any (historical) period or place will find something of interest or value.

Far from a self-contained world, this volume is aware of what it can draw from and offer back to the wider archaeological discipline; Mesoamerican urbanism, for example, is viewed as unique but not beyond comparison. Blanton draws inspiration from the Greek world to consider whether a process of *synoikism* might explain the creation of some Mesoamerican urban forms (for a similar debate, see Leighton in *The Etruscan world*) and Cowgill’s overview of ‘Collapse and regeneration’ starts with the case of Rome.

The editors’ stated aim is to “capture significant theoretical and methodological contributions as an update to the volume edited by Sabloff (1981)”. It therefore aims to be neither comprehensive nor definitive. Consequently, newcomers to Mesoameri-

can archaeology will not find a handy crib with which to sequence and locate Toltecs, Olmecs or Mixtecs. I did not therefore come away from this volume with a detailed knowledge from which I might start a new career as a Mesoamerican archaeologist. What I did discover, however, was a sense of stimulating and rapidly evolving ideas and debates—a shop window to lure in new custom.

Another recent example of the genre is *The Oxford handbook of the ancient state in the Near East and Mediterranean*, edited by PETER FIBIGER BANG & WALTER SCHEIDEL. The ‘Oxford handbook’ series draws no disciplinary divides and the dust jacket identifies archaeologists, anthropologists, sociologists and political scientists as possible audiences; it is, however, authored by ancient and comparative historians and makes limited use of archaeological evidence. (Indeed, the most immediate indicator that this is primarily a text-based history is the dearth of illustration—just 27 in total, 24 of which are maps. Nor does it resort to using archaeological artefacts and landscapes to ‘decorate’ the text, though the image of Rameses II on the cover is a reminder of the centrality of such material culture to many ancient states.) Such arbitrary disciplinary divisions aside, we are confronted with a very different perspective on not only Sumer and the Roman Republic, but Near Eastern, Aegean and post-Roman successor states.

Unlike some of the volumes reviewed here, the rules of engagement are clearly spelled out in the Preface, including commitment to consistency of approach, promotion of cross-cultural comparison, and insistence on high quality data, thus excluding poorly documented states (presumably disqualifying the Etruscans) and “entities whose ‘state-ness’ is uncertain such as the Celtic polities of pre-Roman Gaul” (p. 4). One of the editors, Scheidel, provides a substantial introductory chapter against which the subsequent 17 chapters can be contextualised. Entitled ‘Studying the state’, it draws on a massive and up-to-date multidisciplinary bibliography to explore the definitions, origins and dynamics of ancient states, city states and empires. The other contributors then focus on individual case studies including Egypt, Iran, Anatolia, the Hellenistic empires, Carthage, Byzantium, the Germanic states and the Umayyad Caliphate.

For present purposes, we may focus on the ‘Mesopotamian empires’ by Barjamovic and the awkwardly titled ‘The Roman Empire I: the Republic’ by Mouritsen, which intersect with *The Sumerian*

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

world and *The companion to the archaeology of the Roman Republic* respectively. To what extent do these two chapters engage with landscapes and material culture as well as textual and documentary evidence? The answer is: not very much, Barjamovic making modest use of landscape survey. It would be inappropriate, however, to criticise these chapters, or the volume as a whole, for this lack of engagement. They do not make any claim to include archaeological evidence. Yet, it is noticeable that all of the other volumes under review recognise, if not explore in some detail, the significance of textual or documentary evidence. This is inevitably because Etruscology and Mesoamerican and Roman archaeology are intrinsically shaped by such texts. But if these other volumes all take the position that such textual evidence—as partial and biased as the archaeological record itself—cannot be given primacy, most accord it equal status. *The handbook of the ancient state*, however, would appear to accord archaeological evidence only an ancillary role at best.

Why so? If historians are desperate to compare and contrast in pursuit of overarching explanations, archaeologists—whether culture historians or post-processualists—have focused on the unique and particular. What, for example, is the comparative historian to make of the under-theorised mass of detail accumulated by classical archaeologists? In many ways, these positions are defined by the evidence base itself: in his introduction, Scheidel observes that archaeologists incline towards managerial perspectives on the origins of the state “because they arise organically from the study of the material record” (e.g. irrigation schemes) whereas as historians “privilege conflict and inequalities. . . which are more dominant in the textual evidence” (p. 12).

Certainly the focus on a series of well-documented case studies permits a clarity and coherence which is lacking in some of the other volumes, but arguably the exclusion of the questionable or poorly documented examples—such as in Etruria—also removes the opportunity to explore the concept of the ancient state on its definitional periphery.

In sum, *The handbook of the state in the ancient Near East and Mediterranean* has quite different aims from *The handbook of Mesoamerican archaeology*. Whereas the latter seeks to promote the vibrant diversity of evidence and ideas, the former is more controlled in objective and outcome. The result can be profitably read alongside any of the other volumes reviewed above where it should encourage greater ambition in

our use of the archaeological record—not simply to contribute to debates about the ancient state, but also to direct them.

A sourcebook (garden archaeology)

AMINA-AÏCHA MALEK (ed.). *Sourcebook for garden archaeology: methods, techniques, interpretations and field examples* (Parcs et Jardins 1). 794 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Bern: Peter Lang; 978-3-0343-0539-6 paperback SFr151 & £101.

Finally, we turn to another format for collected, themed essays: the sourcebook. Edited by AMINA-AÏCHA MALEK, the *Sourcebook for garden archaeology* aims “to respond to the increasing need among archaeologists for advice on how to excavate gardens” and it therefore adopts “a direct, practical objective” (p. 16). At the same time, it aims to stimulate more general interest in research on gardens “as sites to be studied in their own right” but also as “a vital part of human culture in general. . . leading us into aspects of the history of technology, the history of botany and horticulture, and the history of human activities and human settlements. Thus garden archaeology goes beyond the garden itself” (p. 16).

To these ends, the volume is structured in seven parts. In Part I, ‘A short history of garden archaeology’, four chapters—all authored by Malek—examine the history of garden archaeology through case studies from Japan, Roman Italy, medieval Britain and colonial North America. These narrative accounts document the parallel development of garden archaeology during the 1960s and ‘70s in very different social and historical contexts. Perhaps because of the relatively recent emergence of garden archaeology, its history is still focused on the contributions of key individuals, such as William Kelso and Christopher Taylor, and the results from a relatively small number of sites, such as Pompeii, Williamsburg and Monticello (a situation explicitly acknowledged by Malek on p. 70). Core among these founding figures is Wilhelmina Jashemski, best known for her excavations of gardens buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79. Malek describes the *Sourcebook* as part of Jashemski’s intellectual heritage and her presence can be discerned throughout the volume, including (co-)authorship of

a number of chapters. (Jashemski died in 2007 and the *Sourcebook* is dedicated to her memory.)

Part II deals with practical and conceptual issues grouped around non-intrusive investigation (e.g. geophysical survey); Part III moves onto excavation techniques, with chapters outlining the special considerations to be taken into account in detecting and documenting gardens: shallow and discontinuous stratigraphy, the expectation of more soil features than artefacts, and the need for large trenches. Part IV is dedicated to biological investigations including chapters on soils, phytoliths and invertebrates. In seeking to provide a manual for “archaeologists with no training in the excavation of gardens who unexpectedly discover remains” (p. 16), the *Sourcebook* goes back to basics, starting with the formation and recording of soil and crop marks and proceeding through the gamut of archaeological methods to lidar.

From fieldwork, Part V moves onto the thematic aspects of analysis and interpretation, focusing on Vesuvian and American gardens and Part VI turns to conservation. Finally, Part VII provides a ‘A garden of practical examples’—25 case studies of garden excavations drawn from Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, India, China, Japan, and North, Central and South America. These contributions provide a real sense of the diversity of chronological and historical contexts in which garden archaeology has been deployed, as well as some evidence of similar methodological challenges and unity of aims and approach.

One of the objectives of the *Sourcebook* is to devise a definition of gardens—and of garden archaeology—which is sufficiently universal to provide support for the claim to intellectual and methodological coherence but also flexible enough to accommodate the great variety of cultural and historical contexts involved. Some of the pioneers of garden archaeology, whose work is summarised in Part I, worked without any specific definitions—arguably it is the generalisation of their work and the desire to compare results which has made conceptual clarification more pressing. The *Sourcebook* makes several attempts to tackle this problem, reviewing key theoretical contributions and ‘type-sites’ to discern commonalities. Stylistically, in these chapters, the definition and evaluation of a canon of garden archaeology literature involves a fair amount of précis and direct quotation. The volume as a whole does not

conclusively resolve these issues of definition. Malek, however, strikes a balance by rejecting the notion of garden archaeology as a sub-discipline with, for example, its own body of theory, whilst identifying a distinctive set of challenges and methodological solutions. Despite its relatively short history, and search for self-identity, the volume rather maturely does not plead any inherent importance for the study of gardens in their own right, but stresses the value of garden archaeology for wider understanding of the past societies which built and tended them.

One approach to definition may have been the observation that the case studies of Part VII relate, almost entirely, to historical contexts and are able to draw on documentary and literary texts to define or nuance interpretation. Even if, time and again, we are reminded that the excavation of material remains can inform us about aspects of gardens which these texts (colonial, elite, male, idealising) do not illuminate, these sources continue to structure research questions and interpretative frameworks. This begs the question: can the concept of a ‘garden’ be traced—or projected—back into prehistory? Notably, those garden case studies in Part VII which stretch back before historical periods tend to shade into agricultural fields (such as Erickson on the ‘Raised fields as monumental farmed landscapes’ on Lake Titicaca). Such prehistoric, or non-text-based case studies, might be one way in which the concept of gardens, gardening and garden archaeology could be explored and defined.

In summary

The past few years has witnessed a proliferation of handbooks, sourcebooks, companions and worlds—as well as other formats including guides, encyclopaedias, manuals and toolkits. Like the previous Reviews Editor, I have found reading a selection of these volumes to be an education and, indeed, an incentive to read others. But to return to the original question, what if anything distinguishes a handbook from a sourcebook, and a companion from a world? Superficially, these volumes look very similar: multi-authored, thematic collections by leading scholars aiming to provide up-to-date and authoritative overviews of their subject matter for the widest possible audience. Is there any substantive difference between them? I confess some surprise at being able to answer in the affirmative.

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

'Worlds' present a mass of detail drawn from specialist, and sometimes hard-to-access, literature. In organisation they reflect the interests of their sub-disciplines and, if not aiming to be comprehensive, they are self-contained. They do not necessarily break new conceptual ground, but will remain reference works for years to come. 'Handbooks' and 'companions' share a number of characteristics: they are patchier in coverage, but generally provide more context and reflection. There is a sense of openness (towards new audiences and comparative study) as well as open-endedness in terms of theory and debate. Comparison of *The handbooks of the ancient state* and *Mesoamerican archaeology*, however, reveals differences within the handbook format which may result from categories of evidence and disciplinary traditions, as well as editorial choices. Finally, the 'sourcebook' presents something different again: a comprehensive attempt not only to reflect a sub-discipline, but to constitute one. Its profusion of brief case studies, rather than a more select series of detailed examples, flags the claim of a relatively new research area to global relevance and audience. There are fewer trends and more personalities, more method and less debate. It defines its own 'world' and then serves as the reader's 'companion'.

References

- HUMMLER, M. 2012. New Book Chronicle. *Antiquity* 86: 1252–62.
- SABLOFF, J.A. (ed.). 1981. *Archaeology: supplement to the handbook of Middle American Indians*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Books received

The list includes all books received between 1 September 2013 and 1 December 2013. 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

LAWRENCE BARHAM. *From hand to handle: the first industrial revolution*. xi+357 pages, 53 b&w illustrations, 5 tables. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-960471-5 hardback £75.

JEB J. CARD (ed.). *The archaeology of hybrid material culture* (Center for Archaeological Investigations Occasional Paper 39). xiv+510 pages, 137 b&w illustrations. 2013. Carbondale & Edwardsville: Southern Illinois University Press; 978-0-8093-3314-1 paperback \$50.

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.

TRAVIS RAYNE PICKERING. *Rough and tumble: aggression, hunting, and human evolution*. xiii+208 pages, 12 b&w illustrations. 2013. Berkeley: University of California Press; 978-0-520-27400-6 hardback £19.95.

JOHN ROBB & OLIVER J.T. HARRIS (ed.). *The body in history: Europe from the Palaeolithic to the future*. xxiv+266 pages, 134 colour and b&w illustrations, 8 tables. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-19528-7 hardback £70 & \$115.

European pre- and protohistory

PIERRE BODU, LUCIE CHEHMANA, LAURENT KLARIC, LUDOVIC MEVEL, SYLVAIN SORIANO & NICOLAS TEYSSANDIER (ed.). *Le Paléolithique supérieur ancien de l'Europe du Nord-Ouest* (Mémoires 56). 516 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations, and tables. 2013. Paris: Société préhistorique française; 978-2-913745-52-0 paperback €45.

MARIE-ISABELLE CATTIN with contributions by JEHANNE AFFOLTER & SYLVIE BEYRIES. *Le site magdalénien de Monruz: la vie quotidienne à travers le travail du silex* (Archéologie neuchâteloise 51). 319 pages, 327 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Neuchâtel: Office et musée cantonal d'archéologie; 978-2-940347-54-4 paperback SFr60 & €50.

SUE COLLEDGE, JAMES CONOLLY, KEITH DOBNEY, KATIE MANNING & STEPHEN SHENNAN (ed.). *The origins and spread of domestic animals in southwest Asia and Europe*. 352 pages, 120 b&w illustrations, 39 tables. 2013. Walnut Creek (CA): Left Coast; 978-1-61132-322-1 hardback \$99.95 & £78.50.

MARIYA IVANOVA. *The Black Sea and early civilizations of Europe, the Near East and Asia*. xv+390 pages, 84 b&w illustrations, 3 tables. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03219-4 hardback £65 & \$99.

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

JEAN MANCO. *Ancestral journeys: the peopling of Europe from the first venturers to the Vikings*. 312 pages, 123 colour and b&w illustrations, 2 tables. 2013. London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-05179-8 hardback £19.95.

GRAHAM ROBB. *The ancient paths: discovering the lost map of Celtic Europe*. xvii+387 pages, 84 b&w illustrations. 2013. London: Picador; 978-0-330-53150-4 hardback £20.

JULIAN THOMAS. *The birth of Neolithic Britain: an interpretive account*. xi+508 pages, 104 b&w illustrations. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-968196-9 hardback £95.

Mediterranean archaeology

KONSTANTINOS CHALIKIAS. *Living on the margin: Chrysi Island and the settlement patterns of the Ierapetra area (Crete)* (British Archaeological Reports international series 2549). vii+154 pages, numerous b&w illustrations. 2013. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-1169-2 paperback £30.

JONATHAN R. W. PRAG & JOSEPHINE CRAWLEY QUINN (ed.). *The Hellenistic West: rethinking the ancient Mediterranean*. xxi+471 pages, 16 colour and 127 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03242-2 hardback £75.

COLIN RENFREW, OLGA PHILANIOTOU, NEIL BRODIE, GIORGOS GAVALAS & MICHAEL J. BOYD (ed.). *The settlement of Dhaskalio: the sanctuary on Keros and the origins of Aegean ritual practice*. xxxii+800 pages, 586 colour and b&w illustrations, 92 tables, CD. 2013. Cambridge: McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research; 978-1-902937-64-9 hardback £80 & \$160.

The Classical world

PAUL CARTLEDGE. *After Thermopylae: the oath of Plataea and the end of the Graeco-Persian Wars*. xxx+203 pages, 13 b&w illustrations. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-974732-0 hardback £16.99 & \$24.95.

RADCLIFFE G. EDMONDS III. *Redefining ancient Orphism: a study in Greek religion*. xii+451 pages, 3 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03821-9 hardback £70 & \$110.

BARBARA GRAZIOSI. *The gods of Olympus: a history*. x+273 pages, 32 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. London: Profile; 978-1-84668-321-3 hardback £18.99.

DANIELLE L. KELLOGG. *Marathon fighters and men of maple: ancient Acharnai*. xiv+348 pages, 10 colour & b&w illustrations. 2013. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-964579-4 hardback £75.

The Roman world

PENELOPE M. ALLISON. *People and spaces in Roman military bases*. xx+487 pages, 167 b&w illustrations, 23 tables. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03936-0 hardback £75 & \$120.

ARI Z. BRYEN. *Violence in Roman Egypt*. 363 pages, 5 b&w illustrations. 2013. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press; 978-0-8122-4508-0 hardback \$75 & £49.

PAUL CHRYSAL. *Women in ancient Rome*. 224 pages, 36 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Stroud: Amberley; 978-1-4456-0870-9 paperback £20.

CRISTINA CORSI & FRANK VERMEULEN (ed.). *Ammaia I: the survey. A Romano-Lusitanian townscape revealed*. 191 pages, 108 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Ghent: Academia; 978-90-3821957-8 hardback €45.

SOPHIE HAY, SIMON KEAY & MARTIN MILLETT. *Ocrinum (Otricoli, Umbria): an archaeological survey of the Roman town* (Archaeological Monographs 22). xviii+169 pages, 107 b&w illustrations, 18 tables. 2013. London: British School at Rome; 978-0-904152-67-8 paperback £39.95.

DAVID L. KENNEDY. *Settlement and soldiers in the Roman Near East*. viii+300 pages, 66 b&w illustrations. 2013. Farnham & Burlington (VT): Ashgate; 978-1-4094-6436-5 hardback £85.

ELIZABETH MARLOWE. *Shaky ground: context, connoisseurship and the history of Roman art*. x+168 pages, 18 b&w illustrations. 2013. London & New York: Bloomsbury; 978-0-7156-4064-7 hardback £45.

DANIEL R. STEWART. *Reading the landscapes of the rural Peloponnese: landscape change and regional variation in an early 'provincial' setting* (British Archaeological Reports international series 2504). vii+163 pages, 20 b&w illustrations, 49 tables. 2013. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-1120-3 paperback £31.

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

Asia

JOHANNA LHUILLIER. *Les cultures à céramique modelée peinte en Asie centrale méridionale. Dynamiques socio-culturelles à l'âge du Fer ancien (1500–1000 av. n.è.)* (Mémoires de la Mission Archéologique Française en Asie Centrale 13). 374 pages, 203 colour and b&w illustrations, and tables. 2013. Paris: De Boccard; 978-2-907431-17-X paperback.

DAVID W. PANKENIER. *Astrology and cosmology in early China: conforming Earth to Heaven*. xxvi+589 pages, 105 b&w illustrations, 9 tables. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-00672-0 hardback £85.

Africa and Egypt

WILLIAM Y. ADAMS (with contributions by NETTIE K. ADAMS). *Qasr Ibrim: the Ballaña Phase* (EES Excavation Memoirs 104). 304 pages, 130 colour and b&w illustrations, 5 tables. 2013. London: Egypt Exploration Society; 978-0-85698-216-3 paperback.

BOB BRIER. *Egyptomania: our three thousand year obsession with the Land of the Pharaohs*. xix+229 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. New York: Palgrave Macmillan; 978-1-137-27860-9 hardback £17.99 & \$27.

ANTONIETA JERARDINO, ANTONIA MALAN & DAVID BRAUN (ed.). *The archaeology of the west coast of South Africa* (British Archaeological Reports international series 2526 / Cambridge Monographs in African Archaeology 84). vi+168 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-1144-9 paperback £32.

RUDOLPH KUPER (ed.). *Wadi Sura: the Cave of Beasts. A rock art site in the Gilf Kebir (SW-Egypt)* (Africa Praehistorica 26). 542 pages, numerous colour illustrations, 2 foldouts. 2013. Cologne: Heinrich Barth Institut; 978-3-927688-40-7 hardback €85.

GIULIO MAGLI. *Architecture, astronomy and sacred landscape in ancient Egypt*. xi+272 pages, 80 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-107-03208-8 hardback £60 & \$99.

SIMONE MULAZZANI (ed.). *Le Capsien de Hergla (Tunisie): culture, environnement et économie* (Reports in African Archaeology 4). 439 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Frankfurt am

Main: Africa Magna; 978-3-937248-36-3 paperback €89.80.

PAUL T. NICHOLSON. *Working in Memphis: the production of faience at Roman period Kom Helul* (EES 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.

WILLIAM H. PECK. *The material world of ancient Egypt*. xiii+214 pages, 93 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-71379-5 paperback £55 & \$85.

Americas

LAWRENCE E. BABITS & STEPHANIE GANDULLA (ed.). *The archaeology of French and Indian War frontier forts*. xx+303 pages, 70 b&w illustrations, 10 tables. 2013. Gainesville: University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-4906-9 hardback \$79.95.

ANDREW K. BALKANSKY & RONALD SPORES. *The Mixtecs of Oaxaca*. xvi+311 pages, 51 b&w illustrations, 1 table. 2013. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press; 978-0-8061-4381-1 hardback \$45.

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.

ALEXANDRE TOKOVININE. *Place and identity in Classic Maya narratives*. viii+167 pages, 67 b&w illustrations. 2013. Washington, D.C.: Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection; 978-0-88402-392-0 paperback £29.95.

GABRIELLE VAIL & CHRISTINE HERNÁNDEZ. *Re-creating primordial time: foundation rituals and mythology in the Postclassic Maya codices*. xxvii+503 pages, 152 b&w illustrations, 50 tables. 2013. Boulder: University Press of Colorado; 978-1-60732-220-7 hardback \$85.

BRADLEY J. VIERRA (ed.). *From mountaintop to valley bottom: understanding past land use in the Northern Rio Grande Valley, New Mexico*. xvi+248 pages, 62 b&w illustrations, 22 tables. 2013. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press; 978-1-607-81266-1 hardback \$60.

ALICE P. WRIGHT & EDWARD R. HENRY (ed.). *Early and Middle Woodland landscapes of the Southeast*. xiv+320 pages, 62 b&w illustrations, 15 tables. 2013.

Gainesville: University Press of Florida; 978-0-830-4460-6 hardback \$79.95.

Britain and Ireland

EVELYN BAKER. *La Grava: the archaeology and history of a royal manor and alien priory of Fontevrault* (CBA Research Reports 167). xxiii+399 pages, 260 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. York: Council for British Archaeology; 978-1-902771-87-8 hardback £50.

STAN BECKENSALL. *Northumberland churches from the Anglo-Saxons to the Reformation*. 96 pages, numerous colour illustrations. 2013. Stroud: Amberley; 978-1-4456-0436-7 paperback £14.99.

MARTIN BELL (ed.). *The Bronze Age in the Severn Estuary* (CBA Research Reports 172). xxxi+368 pages, 26 colour and 116 b&w illustrations, 47 tables. 2013. York: Council for British Archaeology; 978-1-902771-94-6 hardback £50.

N.P. BROOKS & S.E. KELLY. *Charters of Christ Church Canterbury part 1* (Anglo-Saxon Charters 17). lii+662 pages, 5 b&w illustrations. 2013. London: British Academy by Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-726535-2 hardback £50.

N.P. BROOKS & S.E. KELLY. *Charters of Christ Church Canterbury part 2* (Anglo-Saxon Charters 18). I+637 pages. 2013. London: British Academy by Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-726536-9 hardback £50.

NEIL CHRISTIE, OLIVER CREIGHTON, MATT EDGEWORTH & HELENA HAMEROW. *Transforming townscapes. From burh to borough: the archaeology of Wallingford, AD 800–1400* (SMA Monographs 35). xiv+475 pages, 30 colour and 317 b&w illustrations. 2013. Oxford: Society for Medieval Archaeology; 978-1-909662-09-4 paperback £45.

P.Z. DRANSART and numerous other contributors. *Perth High Street: archaeological excavation 1975–77. Fascicule 3: the textiles and the leather*. xv+383 pages, 169 colour and b&w illustrations, 14 tables. 2012. Perth: Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee; 978-0-9561783-6-7.

GLENN FOARD & ANNE CURRY. *Bosworth 1485: a battlefield rediscovered*. x+219 pages, 117 colour and b&w illustrations, 3 tables. 2013. Oxford & Oakville (CT): Oxbow; 978-1-78297-173-3 hardback £45.

ADRIAN GASCOYNE, DAVID RADFORD & edited by PHILIP J. WISE. *Colchester, fortress of the War God*.

xvi+398 pages, 89 b&w illustrations, 7 tables. 2013. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-508-8 hardback £45.

JAMES GERRARD. *The ruin of Roman Britain: an archaeological perspective*. xvi+348 pages, 113 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03863-9 hardback £65 & \$99.

DEREK W. HALL and numerous other contributors. *Perth High Street: archaeological excavation 1975–77. Fascicule 2: the ceramics, the metalwork and the wood*. xi+400 pages, 217 colour and b&w illustrations, 9 tables. 2012. Perth: Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee; 978-0-9561783-6-7.

JULIAN HEATH. *Before farming: life in prehistoric Wales 300,000–4,000 BC*. 175 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Llanrwst: Gwasg Carreg Gwalch; 978-1-84527-456-6 paperback £8.

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.

G.W.I. HODGSON and numerous other contributors. *Perth High Street: archaeological excavation 1975–77. Fascicule 4: living and working in a medieval Scottish burgh. Environmental remains and miscellaneous finds*. x+169 pages, 65 colour and b&w illustrations, 40 tables, CD. 2011. Perth: Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee; 978-0-9561783-5-0.

RONALD HUTTON. *Pagan Britain*. xvi+480 pages, 103 b&w illustrations. 2013. New Haven (CT) & London: Yale University Press; 978-0-300-19771-6 hardback £25.

BERNICE KELLY, NIALL ROYCROFT & MICHAEL STANLEY (ed.). *Futures and pasts: archaeological science on Irish road schemes* (NRA Monographs 10). viii+149 pages, numerous colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Dublin: National Roads Authority; 978-0-9574380-5-7 paperback €25.

MARY-ANN OCHOTA. *Britain's secret treasures: extraordinary finds uncovered by members of the public*. 304 pages, numerous colour illustrations. 2013. London: Headline; 978-0-7553-6573-9 hardback £20.

© Antiquity Publications Ltd.

DEIRDRE O'SULLIVAN. *In the company of the preachers: the archaeology of medieval friaries in England and Wales* (Archaeology Monographs 23). xvi+409 pages, 233 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Leicester: University of Leicester; 978-0-9574792-0-3 paperback £38.

DOMINIC PERRING & MARTIN PITTS. *Alien cities: consumption and the origins of urbanism in Roman Britain*. xx+267 pages, 190 colour and b&w illustrations, 64 tables. 2013. London: SpoilHeap; 978-0-9558846-9-6 paperback.

DAVID PERRY, HILARY MURRAY, TOM BEAUMONT JAMES & NICHOLAS Q. BOGDAN. *Perth High Street: archaeological excavation 1975–77. Fascicule 1: the excavations at 75–95 High Street and 5–10 Mill Street, Perth*. xii+242 pages, 166 colour and b&w illustrations, 14 tables, CD. 2010. Perth: Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee; 978-0-9561783-4-3.

DAVE PINNOCK. *The Romans at Nostell Priory: excavations at the new visitor car park in 2009*. x+95 pages, 45 b&w illustrations, 16 tables. 2013. York: On-site Archaeology; 978-0-9561965-2-1 paperback £10.

SAM TURNER, SARAH SEMPLE & ALEX TURNER. *Wearmouth and Jarrow: Northumbrian monasteries in an historic landscape*. xix+244 pages, 124 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Hatfield: University of Hertfordshire Press; 978-1-909291-13-3 paperback £20 & \$40.

KATE WADDINGTON. *The settlements of northwest Wales*. xiv+317 pages, 106 colour and b&w illustrations. 2013. Cardiff: University of Wales Press; 978-0-7083-2666-4 hardback £90.

Byzantine, early medieval and medieval

JOHN BAKER, STUART BROOKES & ANDREW REYNOLDS (ed.). *Landscapes of defence in Early Medieval Europe* (Studies in the Early Middle Ages 28). xviii+383 pages, 55 b&w illustrations, 4 tables. 2013. Turnhout: Brepols; 978-2-503-52956-1 hardback €100.

ALEX BAYLISS, JOHN HINES, KAREN HØILUND NIELSEN, GERRY MCCORMAC & CHRISTOPHER SCULL. *Anglo-Saxon graves and grave goods of the 6th and 7th centuries AD: a chronological framework* (SMA Monographs 33). xix+595 pages, 480 colour & b&w illustrations, 129 tables. 2013. London: Society for Medieval Archaeology; 978-1-909662-06-3 hardback £45 & \$90.

CHRISTOPHER LOVELUCK. *Northwest Europe in the Early Middle Ages, c. AD 600–1150*. xxiii+466 pages, 43 b&w illustrations. 2013. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-1-107-03763-2 hardback £75.

FRANK RIESS. *Narbonne and its territory in Late Antiquity: from the Visigoths to the Arabs*. x+288 pages, 10 b&w illustrations. 2013. Farnham & Burlington (VT): Ashgate; 978-1-4094-5534-9 hardback £65.

Historical archaeology

JAMES SYMONDS, ANNA BADCOCK & JEFF OLIVER (ed.). *Historical archaeologies of cognition: explorations into faith, hope and charity*. x+198 pages, 45 b&w illustrations, 1 table. 2013. Sheffield & Bristol (CT): Equinox; 978-1-84553-534-6 hardback £60.

Journals

Gerión: revista de Historia Antigua vol. 29 (núm. 1, enero–junio 2011 & núm. 2 julio–diciembre 2011). Publicaciones Universidad Complutense de Madrid; ISSN 0213-0181.

Other

MARCELLO BARBANERA. *The envy of Daedalus: essay on the artist as murderer* (Morphomata Lectures Cologne 4). 60 pages, 6 colour illustrations. 2013. Munich: Fink; 978-3-7705-5604-5 paperback €14.90.

ROGER CHARTIER. *The author's hand and the printer's mind*. xiii+231 pages. 2013. Cambridge & Malden (MA): Polity; 978-0-7456-5602-1 paperback £17.99.

CHRIS WEST. *First class: a history of Britain in 36 postage stamps*. vi+257 pages, 36 colour illustrations. 2012. London: Square Peg; 978-0-224-09546-4 hardback £16.99.