

Review

Among the New Books

ANTHONY SINCLAIR

☞ The conquest of the stars may be one of the defining moments of the 20th century, but our pre-occupation with them has a long history as told in CHRISTOPHER WALKER's (ed.) *Astronomy before the telescope* (352 pages, 115 illustrations, 6 tables. 1996. London: British Museum; 0-7141-1746-3 hardback £25). Separate chapters reflect upon the nature of ancient astronomical knowledge from the stone circles of Prehistoric Europe, the careful astronomical observations of the Babylonians to the almost extreme mathematical manipulation of celestial observations by the Maya. Archaeological evidence is covered in the form of celestial globes and geared measures such as the Antikythera mechanism. Besides a history of astronomy, this book is also a fascinating illustration of both cultural diversity and similarity: from the same possible raw observations different changes were emphasised. For example, CLIVE RUGGLES notes that in southwest Scotland stone circles and heel stones were positioned with lunar observation in mind; later this developed to both lunar and solar observations. In Wessex, however, stone circles were always positioned for lunar observations. According to AVENI all South American cultures recorded celestial observations useful for agrarian management, and conceived of a 260-day cycle paralleling the rearing of crops with the gestation of human; yet in the Mayan world, the mathematics of astronomy seems to develop a life of its own, systematized almost to the point of obsession. It is a cruel irony for modern astronomers, perhaps, that ancient astronomical observations record the occurrence of events that modern theoretical astronomy is particularly concerned with, such as the birth and death of stars, yet which the laws of probability suggest they will never have the opportunity to witness so clearly themselves. Strangely missing from this volume, however, is any discussion of astronomical knowledge prior to the Neolithic; MARSHACK's interpretations of Palaeolithic lunar calendars may be disputed but in such a book it is surely a pity to ignore them.

☞ Astronomical observations and their cultural interpretation lay behind the incredible conquest of the Incas by less than 200 armed Spanish conquistadors led by Pizarro. Whilst some scholars have

argued that it was preceding illnesses, such as influenza, that did the real damage, WILLIAM SULLIVAN's *The secret of the Incas: myth, astronomy and the war against time* (xii+413 pages, 52 figures. 1996. New York (NY): Crown Publishers; 0-517-59468-4 hardback \$35) suggests instead that the Incas were waiting for something dreadful to happen. Inca astronomy had already predicted major changes on earth; Pizarro was simply fulfilling their own expectations of impending disaster. This is not, however, a simple story of fatalism; as a practical and organized people, the Incas reckoned that if the actions of the heavenly world above affected the world below there was also the possibility that this relationship worked the other way. Much of later Inca history, SULLIVAN suggests, therefore, is an attempt to stop the clock, if not turn it back. It has been clear for a long time that astronomy pervaded Inca life: the shape of the city of Cuzco maps out stellar, solar and lunar movements. How does SULLIVAN prove this idea? The Incas left no written records to that effect. Such records, however, exist in the recordings of Andean myths. Myth is also a vessel for essential cargo, 'an ark for the welfare of future generations'. SULLIVAN accepts the work of Decheund and de Santillana and argues that myth is a technical language detailing celestial relationships. In myth, the named animals represent stars, gods represent planets and topographic references are metaphors for the location of the sun. The myths employed by SULLIVAN are those recorded by Spanish missionaries after the Inca conquest. I leave the astronomical details to others more qualified (see ZUIDEMA in *ANTIQUITY* 70: 720–22), but there is one basic problem. Anthropological understandings of myth suggest that oral myths are prone to structural amnesia. Rather than a perfect recording, they are continually reinterpreted in their telling to render them relevant to the present. It is writing that truly stops time.

☞ British Archaeological Reports

With Herculean effort the 1995 and 1996 editions of the BAR series have been delivered to the *ANTIQUITY* office. Three boxes and one office full, they number 44 books in total: five are British, the rest international. In an age of rapid and local, com-

puter-aided publication, it is hard to think of the impact of BAR on the world of archaeology. To help archaeological historians, there is now DAVISON & HENIG's *British Archaeological Reports: past present and future* (75 pages. 1996. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports/Tempvs Reparatvm 1-871314-11-9); the proceedings of a 1994 conference held to mark 20 years of BAR itself. Twenty-three themed papers investigate the many contributions made to the archaeology of particular areas and periods. According to the preface these are 'valuable papers and almost surprisingly interesting', a comment that has accompanied many a BAR in the past. ANTHONY HANDS sums up their philosophy as the publication, without subsidy, of academic archaeology, including compilations of basic data, conference proceedings and reference works. BAR did not stand for Beautiful Archaeological Reports; in the desire for speed and economy, academic standards were not negotiable; elegance of writing and presentation was. PHILIP RAHTZ notes that even though excavation reports may have been the publisher's original intention, they are now a fraction of the total; conference proceedings, synthesis and research predominate; moreover, the uncritical publication of data may have lent some works an immortality they did not deserve. SEBASTIAN RAHTZ adds, with a certain irony, that as BAR bared all, so the archaeological 'establishment' sought to restrict publication to synopses with data properly archived elsewhere. Most significantly perhaps, BAR offered a form of publishing democracy, especially towards younger scholars; historians may see mirrored in BAR contemporary trends in archaeological thinking.

Whither BAR? They are of course no longer alone; excavation reports are often produced in-house; there is direct competition for the publication of monographs and conference proceedings; direct mailing is commonplace and 'rapid' publication has become 'instantaneous' with the World Wide Web. The hyper textual nature of the Internet also suits an archive approach to publication where textual synopses lead to nested data files. Finally, academic democracy (or is it anarchy?) stands ever more open via the World Wide Web and its adjudged side effects on quality control and impermanence. Do we stand witness to 'the death of the publisher'?

BARs for 1996

CHANTAL FOUCAULT-FOREST. *L'habitat privé en Palestine au Bronze Moyen et au Bronze Récent*. (BAR International series 625.) viii+263 pages, 115 figures. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-806-6 paperback £34.

SEAN A. KINGSLEY & KURT RAVEH. *The ancient harbour and anchorage at Dor, Israel: results of the underwater surveys 1976-1991*. (BAR International series 626.) xiv+244 pages, 94 plates, 53 figures. 1996.

Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-807-4 paperback £34.

ALAN LUPTON. *Stability and change: socio-political development in north Mesopotamia and south-east Anatolia 4000-2700 BC*. (BAR International series 627.) viii+144 pages, 55 figures, 12 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-808-2 paperback £28.

MOSHE FISCHER, BENJAMIN ISAAC & ISRAEL ROLL. *Roman roads in Judaea II: the Jaffa-Jerusalem roads*. (BAR International series 628.) viii+434 pages, 106 plates, 47 figures, 7 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-809-0 paperback £49.

IRENE LEVI SALA. *A study of microscopic polish on flint implements*. (BAR International series 629.) x+178 pages, 255 illustrations. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-810-4 paperback £30.

JOHN PAMMENT SALVATORE. *Roman Republican castrametation: a reappraisal of historical and archaeological sources*. (BAR International series 630.) viii+182 pages, 20 plates, 55 figures. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-812-0 paperback £31.

EFI KARANTZALI. *Le Bronze Ancien dans les Cyclades et en Crète: les relations entre les deux régions, influence de la Grèce continentale*. (BAR International series 631.) x+454 pages, 167 figures, 1 table, 13 maps. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-813-9 paperback £42.

SUSAN L. BIERWITH. *Lithic analysis in southwest-ern France: Middle Paleolithic assemblages from the site of La Quina*. (BAR International series 633.) iv+75 pages, 11 figures, 42 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-815-5 paperback £24.

EBERHARD SAUER. *The end of paganism in the northwestern provinces of the Roman Empire: the example of the Mithras cult*. (BAR International series 634.) 125 pages, 26 illustrations, 1 table, 2 maps. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-816-3 paperback £30.

MARIE BESSE. *Le Campaniforme en France: analyse de la céramique d'accompagnement*. (BAR International series 635.) 192 pages, 141 figures. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-817-1 paperback £31.

RAZ KLETTER. *The Judean pillar-figurines and the archaeology of Asherah*. (BAR International series 636.) 292 pages, 40 figures. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-818-X paperback £37.

SHIMON GIBSON & DAVID M. JACOBSON. *Below the Temple Mount in Jerusalem: a sourcebook on the cisterns, subterranean chambers and conduits of the Haram al-Sharif*. (BAR International series 637.) xxvi+301 pages, 130 figures, 38 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-820-1 paperback £40.

DONIERT EVELY, IRENE S. LEMOS & SUSAN SHERRATT (ed.). *Minotaur and centaur: studies in the archaeology of Crete and Euboea presented to Mervyn Popham*. (BAR International series 638.) iv+222 pages,



*A board for the playing of the game of liubo, recovered from tomb M3 of the royal Zhongshan tombs, from JESSICA RAWSON's (ed.) *Mysteries of ancient China: new discoveries from the early dynasties* (303 pages, 185 colour plates, 190 illustrations. 1996. London: British Museum Press; 0-7141-1472-3 paperback £25). Intertwining snakes cover the four ends of a cross. Complete sets show that six rods were required to play the game, perhaps mimicking ancient divination practices. The four ends of the cross are metaphors for the four directions and the six rods for the two players end up as the significant number of twelve. For fatalistically-minded readers, it might be a game of snakes and ladders without the ladders. Written to accompany a major exhibition at the British Museum, *Mysteries of ancient China* contains both an illustrated and annotated catalogue of the exhibits; it also has a general introduction by JESSICA RAWSON and a series of chapters written by leading Chinese scholars concerning the recent discoveries related to the major periods of the Chinese archaeological past.*

54 plates, 39 figures, 1 table. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-821-X paperback £28.

SHEILA MCNALLY. *The architectural ornament of Diocletian's Palace at Split*. (BAR International series 630.) viii+153 pages, 116 illustrations, 3 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-823-6 paperback £28.

DAVID N. EDWARDS. *The archaeology of the Meroitic state: new perspectives on its social and political organisation*. (Cambridge Monographs in African Archaeology 38, BAR International series 640.) vi+136 pages, 38 figures, 6 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-825-2 paperback £23.

ANTHONY MCNICOLL & WARWICK BALL. *Excavations at Kandahar 1974 and 1975: the first two seasons at Shahr-i Kohna (Old Kandahar) conducted by the British Institute of Afghan Studies*. (BAR International series 641.) xxvi+409 pages, 2 colour plates, 277 illustrations. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-826-0 paperback £49.

WANDA LÖWE. *Spätbronzezeitliche Bestattungen auf Kreta*. (BAR International series 642.) xii+376 pages, 35 figures, 18 tables, 4 maps. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-827-9 paperback £42.

PHILIP MASON. *The Early Iron Age of Slovenia*. (BAR International series 643.) xiv+212 pages, 273 figures, 19 maps. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-828-7 paperback £33.

KEN HEFFERNAN. *Limatambo: archaeology, history and the regional societies of Inca Cusco*. (BAR International series 644.) viii+271 pages, 79 plates, 57 figures, 50 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-829-5 paperback £38.

TERENCE COELLO. *Unit sizes in the Late Roman army*. (BAR International series 645.) ii+71 pages. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-830-9 paperback £19.

MARIA EFFINGER. *Minoischer Schmuck*. (BAR International series 646.) x+438 pages, illustrations, 6 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-8312-7 paperback £46.

TIMOTHY INSOLL. *Islam, archaeology and history: Gao region (Mali) c. AD 900–1250*. (Cambridge Monographs in African Archaeology 39, BAR International series 647.) iv+143 pages, 16 plates, 24 figures, 8 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-832-5 paperback £27.

BORIS DEUNERT. *Modern archaeology and its reflection in the value system of contemporary culture: based on anthropological/archaeological research conducted in Australia*. (BAR International series 648.) x+110 pages, 12 plates, 14 figures, 4 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-833-3 paperback £25.

GWILYM HUGHES. *The excavation of a late prehistoric and Romano-British settlement at Thornwell Farm, Chepstow, Gwent, 1992*. (BAR British series 244.) vi+125 pages, 10 plates, 48 figures, 39 tables.

1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-811-2 paperback £24.

J. PARKHOUSE & EDITH EVANS (ed.). *Excavations in Cowbridge, South Glamorgan, 1977–88*. (BAR British series 245.) x+252 pages, 41 plates, 73 figures, 31 tables. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-819-8 paperback £36.

ALLAN PEACEY. *The archaeology of the clay tobacco pipe. XIV: The development of the clay tobacco pipe kiln in the British Isles*. (BAR British series 246.) vi+295 pages, 130 illustrations, 9 tables, 5 maps. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-822-8 paperback £36.

CHRISTOPHER A. SNYDER. *Sub-Roman Britain (AD 400–600): a gazetteer of sites*. (BAR British series 247.) 70 pages, 7 figures. 1996. Oxford: Tempvs Reparatvm; 0-86054-824-4 paperback £19.

Fieldwork and field reports

Fine examples of rapid, in-house publication of excavation reports can be found in three volumes from the Trust for Wessex Archaeology. These are ANDREW B. POWELL, MICHAEL J. ALLEN & I. BARNES' *Archaeology in the Avebury area, Wiltshire: recent discoveries along the line of the Kennet Valley foul sewer pipeline, 1993* ((Wessex Archaeology Report 8.) x+99 pages, 9 plates, 22 figures, 16 tables. 1996. Salisbury: Wessex Archaeology; 1-874350-15-9 paperback £10), S.J. LOBB & P.G. ROSE's *Archaeological survey of the Lower Kennet Valley, Berkshire* ((Wessex Archaeology Report 9.) viii+137 pages, 19 figures, 27 tables, microfiche. 1996. Salisbury: Wessex Archaeology; 1-874350-14-0 paperback £20) and PHIL ANDREWS & ANDREW CROCKETT's *Three excavations along the Thames and its tributaries, 1994: Neolithic to Saxon settlement and burial in the Thames, Colne, and Kennet Valleys* ((Wessex Archaeology Report 10.) x+184 pages, 24 plates, 82 figures, 28 tables. 1996. Salisbury: Wessex Archaeology; 1-874350-18-3 paperback £10). All are carefully produced to a well laid-out and illustrated format. Of similar quality is MIKE M. EMERY, DAVID J.L. GIBBINS & KEITH J. MATTHEWS' *The archaeology of an ecclesiastical landscape: Chapel House Farm, Poulton (Cheshire) 1995* ((Chester Archaeology Excavation and Survey Report 9.) vi+90 pages, 50 figures. 1996. Chester: Chester City Council and University of Liverpool; 1-872587-09-7 paperback £9.95).

ATHOLL ANDERSON, BRIAN ALLINGHAM & IAN SMITH (ed.). *Shag River mouth: the archaeology of an early southern Maori village*. (Research Papers in Archaeology and Natural History 27.) viii+294 pages, 1 colour plate, 175 illustrations, 89 tables. 1996. Canberra: Australian National University; 0-7315-0342-1 paperback \$Aus.49. With its range of material culture and deep Moa bone midden, this site was originally thought to provide evidence of long-term occupation during the Archaic period. These excavations



The reception of Sir William Hamilton into the Society of Dilettanti (after Sir Joshua Reynolds); as illustrated in IAN JENKINS & KIM SLOAN'S Vases and volcanoes: Sir William Hamilton and his collection (320 pages, 249 illustrations. 1996. London: British Museum Press; 0-7141-1766-8 paperback £25). In the centre, Sir William is gesturing towards an illustration in his first vase publication. The Society of Dilettanti included members from all political parties, levels of society and degrees of wealth, united by their experience of the Grand Tour, a passion for collecting and a love of Italy. Hamilton's first collection of antiquities was acquired by the Museum in 1772, helping to change the nature of this institution to that of an educator of the antiquary and artist. Hamilton himself might not have recognized the Museum as it stands today; his exhibits of antiquities, paintings, gems and stones were originally displayed together in the Department of Natural and Artificial Productions. Separate chapters cover his diplomatic career and his collections, followed by a catalogue.

show that occupation was short in duration and dates to the 14th century. 4 sections and 20 chapters deal with the stratigraphy, material culture, faunal remains, environment and conclusions.

ITZHAQ BEIT-ARIEH (ed.). *Horvat Qitmit: an Edomite shrine in the Biblical Negev*. (Monograph series of the Institute of Archaeology, Tel Aviv University, 11.) xvi+319 pages, 200 illustrations. 1995. Tel Aviv:

Institute of Archaeology, Tel Aviv University; 965-440-004-9 hardback \$60. A catalogue and discussion of some 300 cult objects from this site. Excellent line drawings and comments on each piece.

IAN LONGWORTH & GILLIAN VARDELL. *Excavations at Grimes Graves, Norfolk 1972–1976. Fascicule 5: Mining in the deeper mines*. 123 pages, 15 plates, 70 figures. 1996. London: British Museum; 0-7141-2308-0 paperback £45. 3 main sections cover pits re-excavated by G. de G. Sieveking, a catalogue of pits previously excavated, and a discussion of flint extraction.

SUSAN KEECH MCINTOSH (ed.). *Excavations at Jenné-Jeno, Hambarketolo, and Kaniana (Inland Niger Delta, Mali), the 1981 season*. (University of California Publications in Anthropology 20.) xxvi+628 pages, 40 plates, 154 figures, 71 tables. 1995. Berkeley (CA): University of California Press; 0-520-09785-8 paperback \$78. 10 chapters and 5 appendices cover the research background, stratigraphy, ceramics, glass and animal remains.

J.R. HUNTER. *Fair Isle: the archaeology of an island community*. viii+280 pages, 26 plates, 45 figures, 1 table. 1996. Edinburgh: HMSO; 0-11-495750-9 paperback £19.95. The results of a long-term series of fieldwork projects detailing occupation from the Prehistoric through to the Post-medieval period.

Also:

ANDY BODDINGTON. *Raunds Furnells: the Anglo-Saxon church and churchyard*. (English Heritage report new series 7.) xiv+133 pages, 107 illustrations, 91 tables, 2 microfiches. 1996. London: English Heritage; 1-85074-520-X paperback £35.

NORMAN EMERY. *Excavations on Hirta 1986–90*. (The Archaeology and Ethnology of St Kilda 1.) x+218 pages, 37 plates, 102 figures, 34 tables. 1996. Edinburgh: HMSO; 0-11-495715-0 paperback £30.

CARL HENRIK LANGEBAEK RUEDA. *Regional archaeology in the Muisca Territory: a study of the Fúquene and Susa Valleys*. (University of Pittsburgh Memoirs in Latin American Archaeology 9.) xvi+215 pages, 84 figures, 17 tables. 1995. Pittsburgh (PA): Department of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh; 1-877812-34-X paperback \$21.

BETTINA JANIEZ SCHWARZ & DOMINIQUE ROUILLER. *Ein Depot zerschlagener Grossbronzen aus Augusta Raurica: Die Rekonstruktion der beiden Pferdestatuen und Untersuchungen zur Herstellungstechnik*. (Forschungen in Augst 20.) 280 pages, 382 illustrations, 60 tables. 1996. Augst, Switzerland: Römerstadt Augusta Raurica; 3-7151-0020-6 hardback sFr.110.

Monographs

K.W. ARAFAT. *Pausanias' Greece: ancient artists and Roman rulers*. xvi+246 pages, 1 map. 1996. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 0-521-55340-7 hardback £37.50. The first systematic study of Pausanias' view of Roman involvement in Greece.

PAVEL M. DOLUKHANOV. *The early Slavs: eastern Europe from the initial settlement to the Kievan Rus*. xiv+237 pages, 47 figures. 1996. London & New York: Longman; 0-582-23627-4 hardback £42 & 0-582-23618-5 paperback £15.99. A readable account of the settlement of the great plains of Eastern Europe. The author covers archaeological, historical, linguistic and environmental evidence.

T.J. FERGUSON's *Historic Zuni architecture and society: an archaeological application of space syntax* ((Anthropological Papers of the University of Arizona 60.) xiv+176 pages, 128 illustrations, 36 tables. 1996. Tucson (AZ): University of Arizona Press; 0-8165-1608-1 paperback \$14.95) applies HILLIER & HANSON's social logic of space to a study of Zuni settlement. Separate sections consider both external and internal structures of Zuni architecture. Space syntax reveals a major change in the structure of space, from non-distributed to distributed open space structures between the Prehistoric and the historically recorded villages.

JEAN SPRUYTTE. *Attelages antiques libyens: archéologie saharienne expérimentale*. xvi+147 pages, 17 colour plates, 112 illustrations. 1996. Paris: Éditions de la Maison des sciences de l'homme; 2-7351-0645-4 paperback FF150. A study of Libyan horse and chariot craft, based on rock art studies and experimental reconstructions and their use.

Also:

ANTHONY A. BARRETT. *Agrippina: sister of Caligula, wife of Claudius, mother of Nero*. xxii+330 pages, 19 plates, 6 figures. 1996. London: B.T. Batsford; 0-7134-6854-8 hardback £25.

HANS M. BARSTAD. *The myth of the empty land*. (Symbolae Osloenses Fasc. Suppl. 28.) 113 pages. 1996. Oslo: Scandinavian University Press; 82-00-22756-1 hardback NOK178, £18 & \$25.

H.A.G. BRIJDER. *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum. Fascicule 2, Attic Black-Figure drinking-cups*. xiv+226 pages, 79 plates, 61 figures. 1996. Amsterdam: Allard Pierson Museum; 90-71211-25-8 hardback Dfl299.

BURCHARD BRENTJES. *Arms of the Sakas (and other tribes of the Central Asian Republics)*. 164 pages, 16 plates, 42 figures. 1996. Varanasi, India: Rishi Publications; 81-85193-16-9 hardback Rs1600 & \$60.

FÉLIX CORDENTE VAQUERO. *Polioretica Romana 218 a.C.–73 p.C.* (Doctoral thesis.) vi+705 pages, 19 figures. 1992. Madrid: Editorial de la Universidad Complutense de Madrid; hardback.

WOLFGANG MEID. *Kleinere keltiberische Sprachdenkmäler*. (Innsbrucker Beiträge zur Sprachwissenschaft 64.) 61 pages, 10 illustrations. 1996. Innsbruck: Innsbrucker Beiträge zur Sprachwissenschaft; 3-85124-656-X paperback öS180.

EDWIN M. SHOOK & ELAYNE MARQUIS. *Secrets in stone: Yokes, Hachas and Palmas from southern Mesoamerica*. x+250 pages, black-and-white plates, 15 figures, 2 maps. 1996. Philadelphia (PA):

American Philosophical Society; 0-87169-217-1 hardback \$50.

Colloquia, conference proceedings

MANFRED BIETAK. *Avaris: the capital of the Hyksos. Recent excavations at Tell el-Dab'a*. x+132 pages, 34 plates, 62 figures. 1996. London: British Museum Press; 0-7141-0968-1 paperback £14.99. The first of the Raymond and Beverly Sanker Memorial lectures. 10 chapters cover various aspects of settlement at this site.

ALVAR ELLEGÅRD & GUNILLA ÅKERSTRÖM-HOUGEN (ed.). *Rome and the North*. (Studies in Mediterranean Archaeology and Literature 135.) 121 pages, 35 illustrations. 1996. Jonsered, Sweden: Paul Åströms förlag; 91-7081-104-0 paperback SEK200. 9 papers from a conference on the transformation of the Roman World.

BJÖRN FORSÉN & GREG STANTON (ed.). *The Pnyx in the history of Athens*. (Papers and Monographs of the Finnish Institute at Athens 2.) vi+184 pages, 68 illustrations, 2 inserts. 1996. Helsinki: Foundation of the Finnish Institute at Athens; 951-95295-3-5 paperback \$43. 11 articles and an introduction reassess the published accounts of the excavation of the Pnyx wondering how many Athenians it might have accommodated and if it is possible to determine whether they were divided according to tribal groupings.

LARS LARSSON (ed.). *The earliest settlement of Scandinavia and its relationship with neighbouring areas*. (Acta Archaeologica Lundensia in 8° 24.) 306 pages, 145 figures, 8 tables. 1996. Stockholm: Almqvist & Wiksell International; 91-22-01702-X paperback SEK.198. 24 papers consider all aspects of this period and area by just about everyone involved in its archaeology. Besides Scandinavia, papers cover Russia and Poland.

B.A. LITVINSKII & CAROL ALTMAN BROMBERG (ed.). *The archaeology and art of Central Asia: studies from the former Soviet Union*. (Bulletin of the Asia Institute 8.) xiv+341 pages, 177 illustrations. 1996. Bloomfield Hills (MI): Bulletin of the Asia Institute; ISSN 0890-4464 hardback \$65(+ \$8 shipping). For those not fluent in Russian, 18 chapters in English provide a useful reference to key art sites in Central Asia. Included are chapters on Jakutan, Qara-Tepe, Mero Oasis and the Durnali Region.

SARAH MILLIKEN & CARLO PERETTO (ed.). *Archaeology, methodology and the organisation of research: research and excavations of the universities and institutes participating in the Erasmus Project ICP-P-1041*. 119 pages, 28 illustrations, 2 tables. 1996. A.B.A.C.O. Edizioni; 88-86712-26-X paperback free on request. With the birth of Socrates, 9 papers reflect on research and excavations carried out under the auspices of the European Unions Erasmus Project and its resultant European Network of Archaeology.

JEFFREY SPENCER (ed.). *Aspects of early Egypt*. viii+208 pages, 32 colour and black-and-white plates, 45 figures, 19 tables. 1996. London: British Museum Press; 0-7141-0999-1 paperback £30. The proceedings of a 1993 colloquium; 9 papers many concerned with the formation of cult centres.

Also:

ANNE DELAGNES & ANNE ROPARS (ed.). *Paléolithique moyen en pays de Caux (Haute-Normandie). Le Pucheil, Etoutteville: deux gisements de plein air en milieu loessique*. (Documents d'Archéologie Française 56.) 243 pages, 131 illustrations, 40 tables. 1996. Paris: Éditions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme; 2-7351-0615-2 paperback FF225 (until 31-3-97, thereafter FF255).

FRANÇOIS FICHET DE CLAIRFONTAINE (ed.). *Ateliers de potiers médiévaux en Bretagne*. (Documents d'Archéologie Française 55.) 165 pages, 63 illustrations, 4 tables. 1996. Paris: Éditions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme; 2-7351-0631-4 paperback FF175 (until 31-12-96, thereafter FF195).

JOHN F. SCARRY (ed.). *Political structure and change in the prehistoric southeastern United States*. xiv+324 pages, 42 figures, 11 tables. 1996. Gainesville (FL.): University Press of Florida; 0-8130-1433-6 hardback £45.

Festschrifts

JOE D. SEGER (ed.). *Retrieving the past: essays on archaeological research and methodology. In honor of Gus W. van Beek*. xxxii+312 pages, 85 illustrations, 31 tables. 1996. Winona Lake (IN): Eisenbrauns; 1-57506-012-4 hardback \$39.50. Following a personal profile, 19 essays investigate aspects of Near Eastern Neolithic and Bronze Age archaeology.

JIRI SVOBODA (ed.). *Paleolithic in the Middle Danube region: anniversary volume to Bohuslav Klíma*. 323 pages, 125 illustrations, 24 tables. 1996. Brno: Institute of Archaeology; 80-901679-8-5 hardback.

Continuing series

JERALD T. MILANICH. *The Timucua*. xx+235 pages, 49 illustrations, 2 tables. 1996. Oxford: Blackwell; 1-55786-488-8 hardback £35 & \$29.95. The third in the series about the indigenous peoples of America. The Timucua lived in western Florida and southern Georgia.

Translations

JEAN CLOTTES & JEAN COURTIN. *The cave beneath the sea: Paleolithic images at Cosquer*. 200 pages, 191 colour and black-and-white plates, and figures. 1996. New York (NY): Harry N. Abrams, Inc.; 0-8109-4033-7 hardback £45. Continues the excellent coverage of French cave art sites beyond Niaux and Grotte Chauvet: this is a translation of the 1994 French edition.

MARCEL LE GLAY, JEAN-LOUIS VOISIN & YANN LE BOHEC. *A history of Rome*. xxiv+608 pages, 55 plates,

30 illustrations, 7 tables. 1996 (English ed., 1st ed. 1991). Oxford: Blackwell; 0-631-19457-6 hardback £45 & \$59.95 & 0-631-19458-4 paperback £14.99 & \$24.95.

CÉSAR PATERNOSTO. *The stone and the thread: Andean roots of abstract art*. xxiv+272 pages, 127 illustrations, 5 maps. 1996. Austin (TX): University of Texas Press; 0-292-76565-7 hardback \$35. A new English translation of a book that argues that there is no clear distinction between art and craft in Andean art.

Also:

JEAN CHEVALIER & ALAIN GHEERBRANT (trans. John Buchanan-Brown). *The Penguin dictionary of symbols*. vi+1177 pages, 4 figures, 3 tables. 1994 (1st publ. in French 1969). London: Penguin Books; 0-14-051254-3 paperback £16.

Second editions and reprints

In small things forgotten, JAMES DEETZ's 'archaeology of early American society' used to exist in an unusual little paperback format, congruent with its title. Published in 1977, it by degrees became a small thing forgotten; it is now republished in a larger format, the text expanded and revised, the pictures redone. A new chapter addresses the influence of African cultures. The 'shotgun' house type of Virginia shows clear and unambiguous derivation from West African house forms; the name 'shotgun' likely comes from the Yoruba *to-gun*, 'house', rather than the lining up of the doors as if you could fire a shotgun clean through the house. Other slave-houses in the South are 'creole' in being hybrids of Anglo-American and African house-types. The classic and compelling accounts from the original edition — of gravestones, of ceramics in colonial society, of the Parting Ways settlement — 20 years old now, are fresh and strong. Still a great book. (xvi+284 pages, 18 drawings. 1996. New York (NY): Anchor; ISBN 0-385-48399-6 paperback \$11.)

ANTHONY CLARK. *Seeing beneath the soil: prospecting methods in archaeology*. 192 pages, 128 illustrations, 2 tables. 1996 (1st ed. 1990). London: B.T. Batsford; 0-7134-7994-9 paperback £19.99. New additions appear in a supplement appended at the back with more of the mathematics of resistivity.

DAVID E. STUART & RORY P. GAUTHIER. *Prehistoric New Mexico: background for survey*. xii+459 pages, 20 plates, 53 figures, 59 tables, 32 maps. 1984. Albuquerque (NM): University of New Mexico Press; 0-8263-1066-4 paperback \$24.95. A re-issue of this 1981 book.

Reference

ROBERT D. DRENNAN. *Statistics for archaeologists: a commonsense approach*. xx+278 pages, 35 figures, 64 tables. 1996. New York (NY): Plenum Press; 0-306-45327-4 hardback \$42.50 & 0-306-45326-6 paperback \$24.50. Another introduction to statistics for archaeologists. Begins with an account of tech-

niques for numerical exploration, then considers random sampling and ends with the analysis of the relationships between two variables.

PETER & LINDA MURRAY. *The Oxford Companion to Christian art and architecture*. xii+596 pages, illustrated. 1996. Oxford & New York (NY): Oxford University Press; 0-19-866165-7 hardback £30. An exploration of the art and architecture inspired by biblical stories and Christian history.

Also:

A. BERNARD KNAPP (ed.). *Sources for the History of Cyprus. Volume II: Near Eastern and Aegean texts from the third to the first millennia BC*. x+92 pages, 1 table, 1 map. 1996. Altamont (NY): Greece & Cyprus Research Center; 0-9651704-2-X paperback.

PIERRE GRIMAL. (trans. A.R. Maxwell-Hyslop.) *The dictionary of Classical mythology*. vi+603 pages, illustrations, 40 genealogical tables, 2 maps. 1996 (English translation). Oxford: Blackwell; 0-631-20102-5 hardback £14.99 & \$24.95.

Popular academic books

It is interesting to compare BAR and the Smithsonian's *Exploring the Ancient World* series as separate publishing endeavours. They are almost total opposites. With titles such as ANTHONY P. ANDREWS' *First cities* (176 pages, 119 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1995. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-043-1 hardback \$19.95), ELIZABETH HILL BOONE's *The Aztec world* (160 pages, 97 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1994. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-040-7 hardback \$19.95) and FLORA SIMMONS CLANCY's *Pyramids* (160 pages, 95 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1994. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-039-3 hardback \$19.95) the general editor, JEREMY SABLOFF, and publishing team have put together a series of eight volumes that are in the best sense, popular, professional and photographic. Needless to say their size is not A4. All are written by acknowledged experts; each is a Professor. Books follow a 'standard' format with an initial chapter stating the nature of the problem and succeeding chapters examining the archaeological evidence from different areas as appropriate. For example, ANDREWS' *First cities* starts with discussions of archaeological theories of state formation by WILLEY and CHILDE, and then considers the processes that led to the formation of these early cities and how they diverge from one another. Other titles include ANTHONY F. AVENI's *Ancient astronomers* (176 pages, 96 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1993. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-037-7 hardback \$19.95), LINDA S. CORDELL's *Ancient pueblo peoples* (176 pages, 101 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1994. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-038-5 hardback \$19.95), T. PATRICK CULBERT's *Maya civilization* (160 pages, 111 colour

and black-and-white illustrations. 1993. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-036-9 hardback \$19.95), DAVID J. MELTZER's *Search for the first Americans* (176 pages, 117 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1993. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-035-0 hardback \$19.95), and JAMES B. RICHARDSON III's *People of the Andes* (176 pages, 133 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1994. Washington (DC): Smithsonian Books; 0-89599-041-5 hardback \$19.95). The pictorial influence of such magazines as the *National Geographic* and *Archaeology* is clear: these books are a slide-maker's dream come true. They are also an excellent example of the way in which the processes of 'thinking about the past' can be made accessible.

The Batsford/Historic Scotland guides march on. The story so far has told of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Dark-Age and Viking Scotland. The gap in the middle is filled with P.J. Ashmore's *Neolithic and Bronze Age Scotland* (128 pages, 85 illustrations. 1996. London: B.T. Batsford/Historic Scotland; 0-7134-7531-5 paperback £15.99) and DAVID J. BREEZE's *Roman Scotland* (128 pages, 16 colour plates, 97 illustrations, 3 tables. 1996. London: B.T. Batsford/Historic Scotland; 0-7134-7890-X £15.99). Themed chapters consider the archaeological evidence in fair detail. For those wishing to follow the Romans to the ends of the Roman world, there is also ANNA MARIA LIBERATI & FABIO BOURBON's *Splendours of the Roman world* (292 pages, 288 colour illustrations. 1996. London: Thames & Hudson; 0-500-01747-6 hardback £29.95), a big, glossy guide and informative with it.

The geographical appreciation of the human past is further rolled out by BILL MANLEY's *The Penguin historical atlas of Ancient Egypt* (144 pages, colour and black-and-white illustrations and maps. 1996. London: Penguin Books; 0-14-051331-0 paperback £9.99) and ROBERT MORKOT's *The Penguin historical atlas of Ancient Greece* (144 pages, colour and black-and-white illustrations and maps. 1996. London: Penguin Books; 0-14-051335-3 paperback £9.99). Colour maps and illustrative text deal chronologically with the major periods and events of each area. Likewise those pocket-size, colourful guides from Thames & Hudson continue with PIERRE BRIANT's *Alexander the Great: the heroic ideal* (176 pages, illustrated. 1996. London: Thames & Hudson; 0-500-30070-4 paperback £6.95) and ALEXANDRE FARNOUX's *Knossos: unearthing a legend* (160 pages, illustrated. 1996. London: Thames & Hudson; 0-500-30069-0 paperback £6.95).

Also:

ALAIN SCHNAPP. *The discovery of the past: the origins of archaeology*. 384 pages, 257 colour and black-and-white illustrations. 1996 (English edition, 1st publ. 1993). London: British Museum Press; 0-7141-1768-4 hardback £25.

DAVID A. GRIMALDI. *Amber: window to the past*. 216 pages, 114 colour plates, 104 illustrations. 1996. New York (NY): Harry N. Abrams, Inc.; 0-8109-1966-4 hardback £40.

Museum collections and guides

VALÉRIE CHAUSSONNET. *Crossroads Alaska: native cultures of Alaska and Siberia*. 112 pages, 133 plates, 2 maps. 1995. Washington (DC): Arctic Studies Center; 1-56098-661-1 paperback £15.50. A bright, colourful book with introductory sections on Alaskan and Siberian peoples and their histories followed by a catalogue of artefacts from the exhibition. Particularly eye-catching are a series of artefacts described as noisy toys and another as Keren dog spirits.

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART (ed.). *Ancient art from the Shumei family collection*. xii+210 pages, colour and black-and-white plates. 1996. New York (NY): Metropolitan Museum of Art; 0-87099-773-4 hardback \$60 & 0-87099-774-2 paperback \$40. Large colour photographs and text illustrate artefacts from the eastern Mediterranean, near East and China, owned by the Shumei Family, a religious organization in Japan. Soon to be exhibited permanently in a dramatic museum near Kyoto.

Also received:

DONALD HILL. *A history of engineering in Classical and Medieval times*. xii+263 pages, 8 plates, 51 figures. 1996 (1st publ. 1984). London & New York (NY): Routledge; 0-415-15291-7 paperback £13.99.

BERNARD CORNWELL. *The winter king: a novel of Arthur*. xii+495 pages. 1995. London: Penguin Books; 0-14-023186-2 paperback £5.99.

Missing details from September 1996

Subscription details missing from KOTSAKIS review: *Préhistoire Européenne*. Liège: For 1997 BFr.1200 per annum.

Archaeological Dialogues. Leiden: For 1997 Gld.40 (student) & Gld.70 (individual) per annum

JEREMY B. RUTTER. *Lerna: a pre-Classical site in the Argolid: results of excavations conducted by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens. Volume III: the pottery of Lerna IV*. xxxvi+780 pages, 21 plates, 125 figures, 5 plans 244 tables. 1995 Princeton (NJ): The American School of Classical Studies at Athens; 0-87661-226-5 hardback \$120.