

OXBOW
BOOK NEWS

113



New and forthcoming books
Winter 2024–2025

ARCHAEOLOGY
PREHISTORY
ANCIENT HISTORY
MEDIEVAL HISTORY

Welcome to Book News 113, featuring:

Aarhus University Press • Ad Ilissvm • British Institute at Ankara • British Institute for the Study of Iraq •
British Museum Press • Cotswold Archaeology • Francis Cairns Publications • Frontline Books •
Gorgias Press • Oxbow Books • Oxford Archaeology • Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology •
Oxford University School of Archaeology • Pen & Sword Books • Sidestone Press •
Society of Antiquaries of London • Sovereign Rarities • Spink Books •
Thames Valley Archaeological Services • University of Pittsburgh Press • Windgather Press

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All prices and publication dates in this catalogue correct at time of printing but subject to change.



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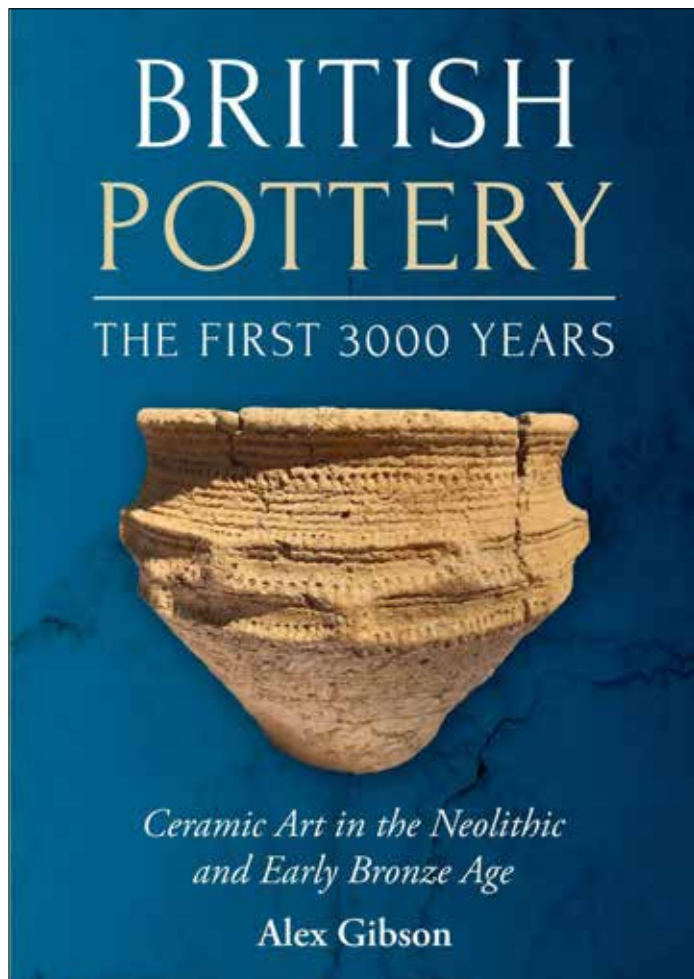


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www.casemateuk.com/blog

Cover image taken from *The Rother Valley* by John Boardman and Ian Foster (Oxbow Books, 2024). More information on page 1.



British Pottery: The First 3000 Years

Ceramic Art in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age

Alex Gibson

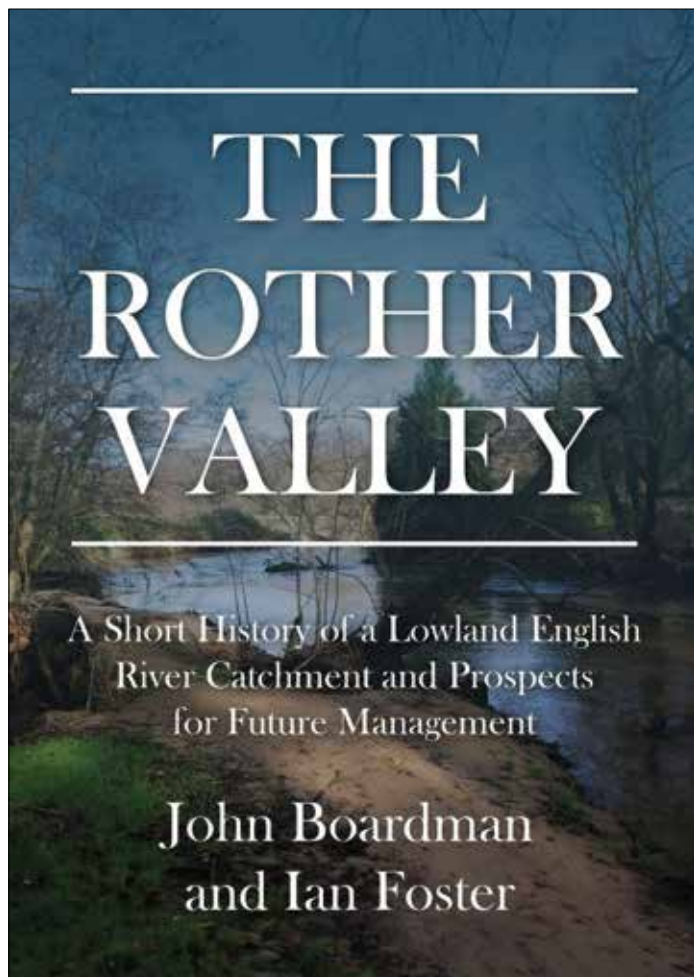
New, fully illustrated, comprehensive examination of the development, chronology, manufacture, context and use of British Neolithic and Bronze pottery by the country's leading expert.

Pottery was at the heart of the 'Neolithic package' appearing in Britain with the first farmers around 4000 BC. It arrived as a mature technology and was essential to the new, largely sedentary, lifestyle and economy. It transformed storage and cooking practices, and the earliest ceramics seem to have been essential equipment in the new practice of dairying. The pottery changed over time and, as a result, ceramics have been fundamental to the construction of relative chronologies since the early days of modern archaeology. Even with the development of absolute dating techniques, the role of pottery as a dating tool has not diminished but instead has become refined and more accurate. But pottery is not just a tool to dating the past – it also represents a facet of prehistoric art and expression. This book traces the 3000 years of ceramic use and development in Britain, charting the changing forms and decorative techniques and the differing and changing roles that pottery played within its contemporary society.

OXBOW BOOKS

Paperback • 9798888570715 • £39.95

October 2024 • 240x170 • 208 pages • 70 B/w illustrations



The Rother Valley

A Short History of a Lowland English River Catchment and Prospects for Future Management

Edited by John Boardman, Ian Foster

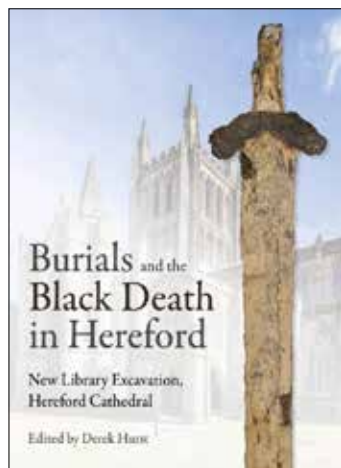
Looking at the Rother Valley in West Sussex, the authors give a short history of a lowland English river catchment and prospects for its future management.

The valley of the western Rother lies within the South Downs National Park but has a special character based on its Cretaceous geology of sandstones and clays. These give rise to soils that are ideal for agriculture but are extremely erodible. Over the centuries the area has been exploited by humans and partially cleared of forest. In this book, the archaeological history of the Rother Valley is summarised, with particular emphasis on the evidence for Mesolithic, Bronze Age and Roman occupation. Analysis of sediments in ponds adds to the evidence for changes that have happened over the last few hundred years. A notable feature of the cultural landscape is the network of sunken lanes. The impact of recent changes on water availability for irrigation and human consumption are explored in relation to ecosystem requirements. Finally, the future of the valley's landscape is considered, including plans for restoration of the flood plain. Contributors include planners, researchers and managers of the large estates that are an integral part of the Rother landscape.

WINDGATHER PRESS

Paperback • 9781914427275 • £39.95

October 2024 • 246x185 • 216 pages • 60 colour and B/w illustrations



Burials and the Black Death in Hereford

New Library Excavation, Hereford Cathedral

Edited by Derek Hurst

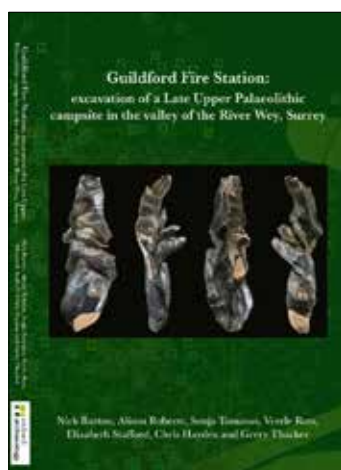
[A report of excavations at Hereford Cathedral, including a thorough study of the human remains.](#)

The excavation at Hereford Cathedral that took place in 1993 revealed extensive remains, some potentially dating back to the 7th/8th century, including timber-built buildings and a late Saxon cemetery. The site was given over to a cemetery from c. 1140 onwards, and excavation of over 1000 burials has provided a full cross-section of the medieval population. Almost 200 individuals were associated with three pits. These are considered to date from the first outbreak of plague in Hereford in 1349, the 'Black Death'. In addition to detailed reporting on some notable individual artefacts, there is a thorough study of the human remains, while the interpretation of the entire stratigraphic sequence is underpinned by extensive radiocarbon dating and chronological modelling.

OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9781789258684 • £40.00

March 2025 • 297x210 • 352 pages • B/w and colour illustrations



Guildford Fire Station

Excavation of a Late Upper Palaeolithic Campsite in the Valley of the River Wey, Surrey

Nick Barton, Alison Roberts, Sonja Tomasso, Veerle Rots, Elizabeth Stafford, Christopher Hayden, Gerry Thacker

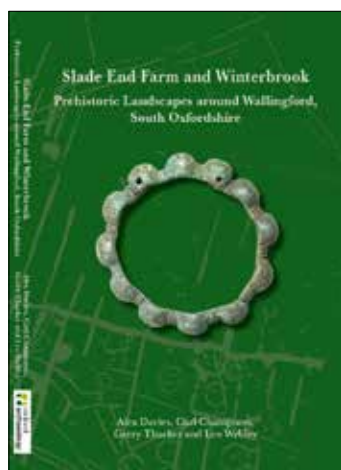
[Excavations prior to the construction of a new fire station in Guildford revealed a well preserved Upper Palaeolithic flint scatter.](#)

Excavations carried out prior to the construction of a new fire station in Guildford, Surrey, revealed a well preserved, in situ Late Upper Palaeolithic flint scatter. Typological analysis of the flint and OSL dates suggest that the scatter itself dates from the first half of the Late Glacial (Windermere) interstadial (c 1415KBP). Two main concentrations of knapping are represented, the main focus of which were the production of blade blanks some of which were removed from the site. Functional analysis of the tools suggests relatively short occupation during which hunting, small scale craft activities linked with the retooling of hunting weapons and the manufacture of hide items, and limited processing of animal and plant materials took place.

OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY MONOGRAPH, 37 | OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

Paperback • 9780904220926 • £20.00

June 2024 • 297x210 • 224 pages • 183 illustrations



Slade End Farm and Winterbrook

Prehistoric Landscapes around Wallingford, South Oxfordshire

Alex Davies, Carl Champness, Gerry Thacker, Leo Webley

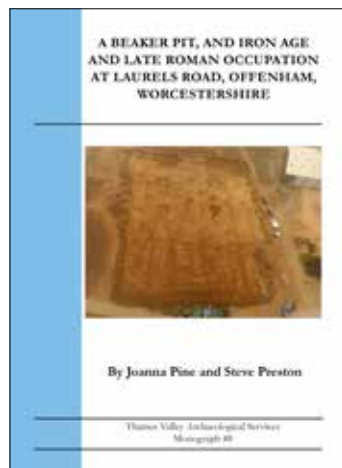
[This volume reports on two excavations carried out by Oxford Archaeology on the outskirts of Wallingford.](#)

The sites of Slade End Farm and Winterbrook provide windows into the same gravel terrace landscape and together shed significant new light on the prehistory of the south Oxfordshire Thames Valley. Slade End Farm was repeatedly visited for settlement in the early Neolithic. Numerous clusters of pits were found that contained pottery, flintwork and other finds. Sparser settlement subsequently occurred at the two sites during the middle and late Neolithic and the Beaker period. Both sites were reoccupied for settlement during the early and middle Iron Age. At Winterbrook, part of a settlement dating to the 11th to 12th centuries was also uncovered, providing the first good archaeological evidence for a rural community in the immediate hinterland of the medieval town of Wallingford.

THAMES VALLEY LANDSCAPES MONOGRAPH, 46 | OXFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Paperback • 9781905905522 • £20.00

June 2024 • 297x210 • 340 pages • 145 illustrations



A Beaker Pit, an Iron Age and Late Roman Occupation at Laurels Road, Offenham, Worcestershire

Joanna Pine, Steve Preston

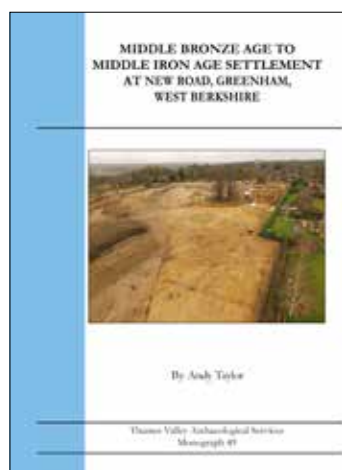
[A Beaker Pit, an Iron Age and Late Roman Occupation at Laurels Road, Offenham, Worcestershire.](#)

Archaeological excavation of a 0.64ha area in advance of development of a larger field produced evidence of use of this landscape from the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age (Beaker period), middle to late Iron Age and middle to late Roman, besides later ridge and furrow. The Beaker period was represented only by a single pit containing the period's distinctive pottery, with no evidence of the burial that often accompanies such deposits. A large C-shaped ditch can be dated to the Middle Iron Age, although it also received later pottery. It cut across a couple of field boundary ditches which also underlay a square enclosure surrounding a grave of Late Iron Age date. The main results of the excavation, however, date to the Roman period, from the middle of the 2nd century until the late 4th or even early 5th century.

TVAS MONOGRAPH SERIES, 48 | THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Paperback • 9781911228707 • £15.00

July 2024 • 294X210 • 71 pages



Middle Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age Settlement at New Road, Greenham, West Berkshire

Andy Taylor

[Middle Bronze Age to Middle Iron Age Settlement at New Road, Greenham, West Berkshire.](#)

The excavation revealed an extensive spread of archaeological deposits, the limits of which were not reached. The majority of the features are of Earlier to Middle Iron Age date with a few deposits assigned to the Early Bronze Age, Middle Bronze Age, Roman and Medieval periods. Despite the proximity of the site next to the village of Greenham recorded in the Domesday Book, no Anglo-Saxon deposits were recorded and Medieval activity was restricted to a number of field boundaries. The small number of Roman features recorded included a single cremation burial of 2nd/3rd century date and possibly a rectangular building. The chronology of the site is supported by seven radiocarbon dates.

TVAS MONOGRAPH SERIES, 49 | THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Paperback • 9781911228714 • £17.00

July 2024 • 294X210 • 115 pages



A Late Iron Age to Late Roman Settlement at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire

Steve Preston, Agata Socha-Paszkiewicz

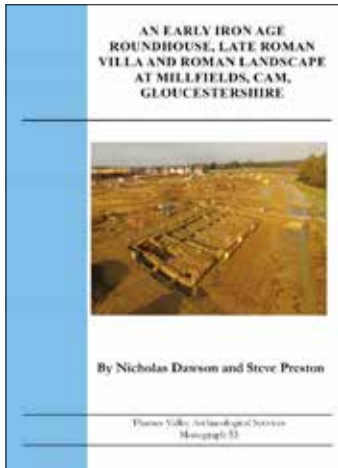
[A Late Iron Age to Late Roman Settlement at Draycott Lane, Blockley, Gloucestershire.](#)

Archaeological excavation revealed a late Iron Age to Roman settlement typical of the Cotswold Hills for this period. The fieldwork revealed a complex settlement comprising numerous ditched (and hedged) pens, paddocks and enclosures which had been re-ordered on numerous occasions. The settlement was not enclosed per se but was aligned on a nearby ditched trackway. The emphasis on numerous small enclosures is thought to indicate that livestock management was the dominant economic activity of the occupants. Sieving recovered few charred cereal seeds and no facilities for cereal processing (such as corn driers) or storage were recorded. The faunal remains indicated a typical range of stock animals dominated by cattle followed by sheep and pig with some horse.

TVAS MONOGRAPH SERIES, 50 | THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES

Paperback • 9781911228738 • £17.00

July 2024 • 294X210 • 121 pages



An Early Iron Age Roundhouse, Late Roman Villa and Roman Landscape at Millfields, Cam, Gloucestershire

Nicholas Dawson, Steve Preston

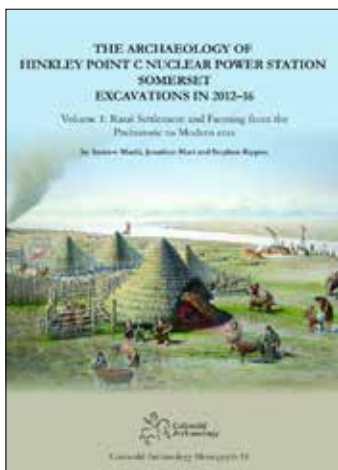
[An Early Iron Age Roundhouse, Late Roman Villa and Roman Landscape at Millfields, Cam, Gloucestershire.](#)

Fieldwork revealed details of a wide landscape of Roman fields and enclosures laid out around the junction of two droveways and probably spanning the entire Roman period. The chief interest of the site lies in the late Roman period (later 3rd to 4th century) when a rectangular villa was constructed on the terrace edge overlooking the river Cam. Initially of just three rooms it was soon expanded to six and the southern end was then subdivided to form a bath suite. Although of very simple plan form, the building was of some sophistication with very substantial deep stone foundations carrying stone walls, an elaborate hypocaust, decoratively painted wall plaster, stone roof, and furniture including some with decorative stone tops.

TVAS MONOGRAPH SERIES, 53 | [THAMES VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES](#)

Paperback • 9781911228752 • £17.00

July 2024 • 294x210 • 134 pages



The Archaeology of Hinkley Point C Nuclear Power Station, Somerset. Excavations in 2012-16

Volume 1: Rural Settlement and Farming from the Prehistoric to Modern Eras

Andrew Mudd, Jonathan Hart, Stephen Rippon

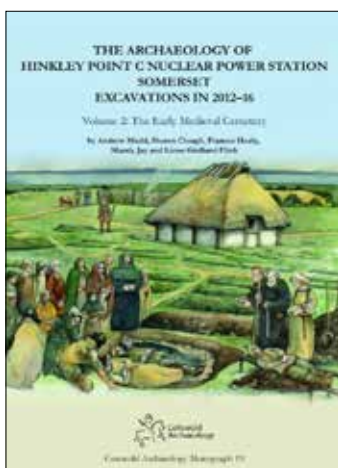
[Archaeological fieldwork undertaken between 2010 and 2016 ahead of the construction of the new nuclear power station at Hinkley Point, Somerset, by EDF Energy.](#)

Early Neolithic occupation (from about 3600 BC) was represented by small groups of pits which were partly contemporary with a well-known round barrow – a protected monument called Wick Barrow or Pixies' Mound – lying just outside the development site. Later prehistoric remains included Bronze Age burnt mounds, boundary ditches, a Late Bronze Age enclosure, and an Early Iron Age midden. There was more widespread Late Iron Age and Roman settlement, including a seasonally occupied linear settlement with evidence of salt-making. Contemporary activity included a nearby late Roman settlement. On another site a sequence of occupation from the late Iron Age to modern eras was examined. Here historical documents add to the account of the site and preserved the names of some of the farm's recent inhabitants.

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY MONOGRAPH, 18 | [COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY](#)

Hardback • 9781999822248 • £35.00

July 2024 • 297x210 • 424 pages • 277 illustrations



The Archaeology of Hinkley Point C Nuclear Power Station, Somerset. Excavations in 2012-16

Volume 2: The Early Medieval Cemetery

Andrew Mudd, Sharon Clough, Frances Healy, Mandy Jay, Linus Girdland Flink

[A small cemetery dating to between the 5th and 7th centuries was revealed. Careful examination of the remains has revealed insights into burial practices.](#)

The cemetery was excavated in its entirety and contained the remains of around 300 individuals. Its form is shown to have many characteristics in common with other cemeteries of this period in the western British Isles, including the extended, supine posture of the deceased in simple earth-cut graves largely aligned in a west/east orientation. There were a limited number and range of grave accompaniments. The deposition of seashells with a number of the burials appears to be a rite so far unique to this community. The stratigraphic sequence allied to radiocarbon dates on 51 individuals has enabled an unusually refined chronology, showing that the cemetery was used from the early 5th to the later 7th centuries.

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY MONOGRAPH, 19 | [COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY](#)

Hardback • 9781999822255 • £30.00

June 2024 • 210x297 • 312 pages • 160 illustrations

WHAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE CERNE ABBAS GIANT

By Michael J. Allen

As a result of National Trust excavations in 2020, and the subsequent geophysical, land snail and auger surveys in 2023 and 2024, we have learnt much more about the Rude Man of Dorset, otherwise known as the Cerne Abbas Giant. Here Michael J. Allen, editor of 'A Date with the Two Cerne Giants', offers up his top ten facts about this iconic hill figure.

1. How old is the Cerne Giant?

For centuries the date of the Giant has been debated in pubs, clubs, learned society, universities, and conferences and by the public at large. Speculation has ranged from him being prehistoric (Bronze Age or Iron Age, like the Uffington White Horse, or earlier), Roman, or a post medieval 17th century Giant. The Long Man of Wilmington in Sussex is AD 1550, so perhaps the Giant could be too? Keyhole excavations in March 2020 allowed Prof Philip Toms of the University of Gloucester to take samples for optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) dating from deposits associated with the Giant. The chalking of the Giant did not date, but the lowest and oldest deposits associated with him suggest that he's 10th century, Saxon (or early medieval) ... a surprise to the excavators, the National Trust, archaeologists and historians alike.

2. How many giants are there?

Surely there's just the one white, club wielding, manly Giant? But no. Excavations and research showed that there are two, and probably three Giants, as he was redrawn and reconfigured on the Dorset hillside over a millennia.

3. Where did the Giant disappear to for 700 years?

The Giant was inscribed on the Dorset hillside in the 10th century, but the first record of him is 1694. No antiquarian, cartographer, or person of note, no members of the landed gentry or man of the cloth noted his presence in any of their writings. Yet many passed along the road from Sherborne to Dorchester – among them John Aubrey, Tudor antiquarian John Leland, father and son cartographers, the two John Nordens who mapped the area – none mention the Giant. The Giant seems to have been hidden in plain sight during this time. The analysis of the land snails from soils associated with the Giant and taken during the excavation showed that he was built in an open, short-turfed grazed grassland, but that soon after his construction, grazing pressure was reduced.

4. How long has the Giant been a white chalk figure, and how is he kept so white?

Originally the Giant was outlined as a broad shallow cut exposing the white chalk. But as soil filled the cut and was scooped to refresh the Giant, more soil accumulated against the Giant. Soon this was 0.6m deep, so he was outlined as a deep trench (as seen in Eric Ravilious' 1939 painting). Only in the mid 20th century did he take on his chalk-filled white form. The National Trust rangers (previously called wardens) regularly weed and tidy the Giant, and seasonally he is grazed by sheep to keep the grass height down. Periodically he is also given a make-over. Originally the villagers would scour the Giant (dig out the old, weathered, dirty, and vegetation-infested chalk and replace with new). In 1956 and 1979 the National Trust employed contractors who built a trackway and hauled carts up the slope, removing and renewing the Giant with 45 tonnes of fresh chalk. More recently less chalk has been removed and replenished with fresh, and this has been done by a small army of National Trust volunteers.

5. Why was the Giant cut into the steep slope of the Dorset hillside?

The slope was steep, and can be seen from afar. Obviously whoever put the Giant there wanted him to be seen. Ideas abound, a marker, a muster point, I think not, but a sign and marker on the hillside... possibly... to what – see suggestions in *A Date with the Two Cerne Giants*.

6. Who is the Giant?

The new dates and new research rule out many common ideas of the identity of the Giant. Suggestions that he was a ridicule of Cromwell were always tenuous and now completely untenable. Could he be the Roman god Hercules? The pagan deity Helith? The Saxon saint Eadwold? All these suggestions are discussed in *A Date with the Two Cerne Giants*, and are the subject of new ongoing research.

7. Why is his phallus 2.9m longer now than in antiquity?

The Giant once had a navel, but now no longer ... In their excitement workmen cleaning and restoring him in the earlier 20th century extended the phallus joining it to and incorporating his navel. An accident or purposeful joke?

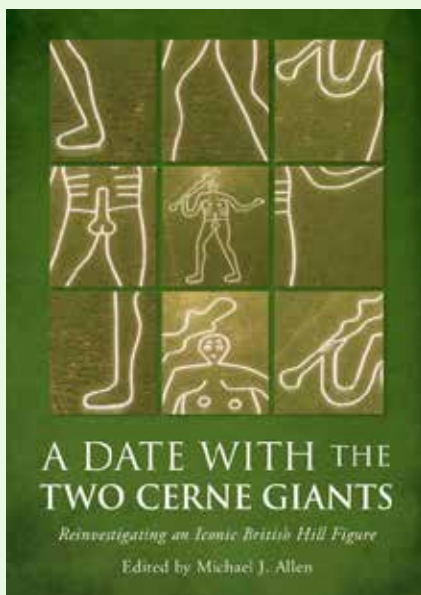
8. Who owns the Giant?

The Giant used to be owned by the Pitt Rivers family, but they gave him to the National Trust to care for on 20th July 1920. The National Trust has owned him for over 100 years. One of the reasons for the 2020 excavation, the new research and the scientific dating, was to celebrate the Trust's centennial anniversary of their ownership (the scientific dates were unfortunately not available for that centennial due to Covid).

9. Is the Giant protected?

Yes, he lies in an area of SSSI whose nature is overseen by Natural England, and he's a legally protected archaeological site. He is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, and permission for any research and work on the Giant needs to be obtained from both the Secretary of State, via their agents Historic England, and from the land owners, The National Trust. Today he is fenced off in a large rectangular enclosure that includes a sub-square earthwork (The Trendle) on the hill top above his head, and sheep are seasonally allowed to graze him. This was only installed in 1979; prior to that he was contained in a much smaller tight coffin-shaped enclosure of wrought iron fences made by the local blacksmith in Cerne Abbas. The former coffin-shaped enclosure can still be seen both from the air and on the ground.

KEEP READING...



A Date with the Two Cerne Giants

Reinvestigating an Iconic British Hill Figure
(The National Trust Excavations 2020)

Edited by Michael J. Allen

Imprint: Windgather Press

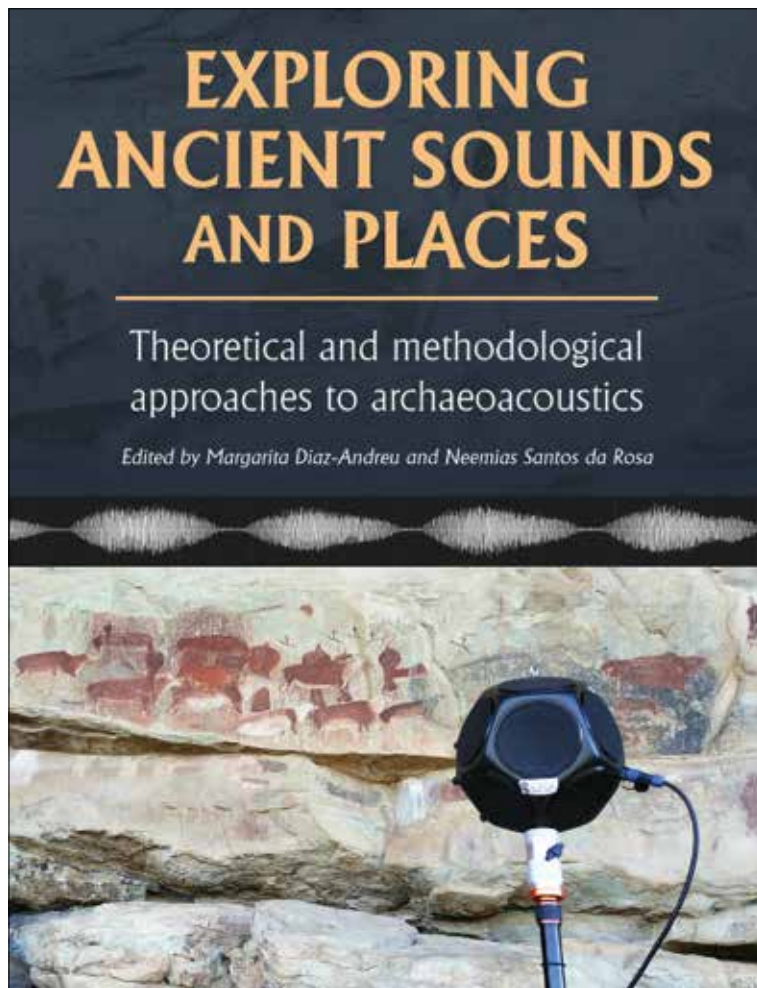
Pages: 376

Illustrations: 75 B/W & colour illustrations

ISBN: 9781914427374

Publication date: August 2024

RRP: £24.95



Exploring Ancient Sounds and Places

Theoretical and Methodological Approaches to Archaeoacoustics

Edited by Margarita Díaz-Andreu, Neemias Santos da Rosa

- An overview of different topics covered by the field of archaeoacoustics, incorporating case studies from America, Asia and Europe.
- First major review of a growing body of evidence for the deliberate and significant exploitation and employment of sound, music and acoustics in ritual and more mundane contexts among communities from Palaeolithic Europe through to recent indigenous population in the Americas, and methods for their study.
- Explores the role of oration in military, religious, and political settings and relationships between the emergence of language, music, cognition and auditory experience.
- Examines the utilisation of acoustically significant rocks and rock outcrops in the landscape, portable and fixed lithophones, the placing of rock art in places with 'special' acoustics and the potential role of shamans in manipulating and directing behaviour and responses to auditory stimuli in such contexts.

Exploring Ancient Sounds and Places: Theoretical and Methodological Approaches to Archaeoacoustics brings together scholars from diverse academic fields – including archaeology, anthropology, architecture, classics, history, art history and sound engineering – to shed light on the role of sound and acoustics in the cultural practices of past societies from various chronologies and locations around the world. This innovative volume covers a broad spectrum of topics, such as the genesis of archaeological investigations into sound, the emergence of speech and song in early humans, the cognitive effects of music in ritualistic contexts, the acoustic dimensions of rock art sites, and the emotional responses elicited by sonorous activities experienced in these decorated spaces. Additionally, the book delves into the study of prehistoric musical instruments, the use of ethnohistorical sources in archaeoacoustic research, the analysis of sound imagery in medieval frescoes, and explores historical approaches to the study of specific acoustic parameters and the sonic properties of urban environments. Each chapter not only aggregates a wealth of academic perspectives but also bridges the gap between theoretical concepts and the most advanced methods used in this field of research. Case studies from all over the world illustrate the different ways in which ancient communities perceived and engaged with sound and the acoustics of the landscapes in which they were immersed. *Exploring Ancient Sounds and Places* is an essential resource for scholars and students interested in archaeoacoustics and how sound has shaped the cognitive, cultural and spiritual facets of human societies across time and space.

OXBOW BOOKS

Paperback • 9798888571774 • £38.00

November 2024 • 240x170 • 312 pages • 86 B/w photos and line drawings



Forsaken Relics

Practices and Rituals of Appropriating Abandoned Artifacts from Antiquity to Modern Times

Edited by Alessandro Buono, Gianluca Miniaci, Anna Anguissola

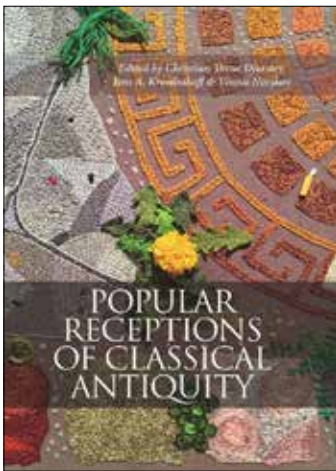
Uses case studies to examine the intricate mechanisms of ritualistic appropriation of ruined and/or abandoned assets and artifacts in the ancient and medieval worlds.

Every society has developed its unique ways of managing the re-appropriation of 'ownerless things', such as places and houses abandoned after conflicts, crises, or natural disasters, forsaken cemeteries, tombs, and forgotten goods. These practices often involve the use of ritualistic methods to mask the intent to appropriate abandoned artifacts. The book aims to stimulate comparative analysis of this topic in both ancient and modern societies, profiling the identity of the 'actors' of appropriation, examining the definition of abandonment, and exploring the ritual aspects such as inventorying material, dedication to ancestors, and prayers to gods that legitimize the re-appropriation of places and goods classified as abandoned.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO ANCIENT SOCIETIES (MATAS), 4 | OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9798888571149 • £50.00

October 2024 • 240x170 • 240 pages • 100 B/w illustrations



Popular Receptions in Classical Antiquity

Edited by Christian Thue Djurslev, Vinnie Nørskov

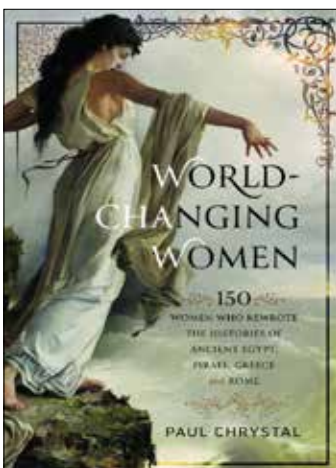
Exploration of the reception of Classical Antiquity in popular culture.

Taking as its point of departure the astounding longevity and ubiquity in our culture of so many themes, genres, visual forms and personalities from the ancient Greek and Roman world, this volume focuses on popular receptions of Classical Antiquity. In doing so, it will explore specific receptions that make immediate sense in a 'present' and among large, popular audiences. In particular, it will focus on three main themes: the reception of Classical Antiquity in Danish popular culture, in popular European music, as well as the popular reception of individual lives in both antiquity and later periods.

AARHUS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Hardback • 9788775972272 • £34.00

November 2024 • 240x210 • 280 pages



World-Changing Women

150 Women Who Rewrote the Histories of Ancient Egypt, Israel, Greece and Rome

Paul Chrystal

Examination of how 150 women significantly influenced, informed and changed the worlds in which they lived.

This book extends the invaluable story of women in early history to pre-classical civilisations, ancient Egypt and Israel to include prominent women in those civilisations as well, thus introducing them, and their roles and places in their respective societies and social histories, to a wide audience. We show how a small, disparate body of women in each of these periods, united by their determination and strength of mind, were able to break free from the norms and values of the patriarchal societies which confined and restricted them to make a valuable difference to their individual societies, cultures, politics and foreign policies; in so doing they have changed perceptions of women and the role women were subsequently allowed to play.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399056465 • £22.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 224 pages • 32 mono illustrations

THE SYMBOLIC ANIMAL

By Guido Guarducci

Guido Guarducci, co-editor of 'Archaeology of Symbols', explores the ways in which people have used symbols throughout history, and continue to do so today, highlighting how this can increase our knowledge of our past.

In 1977 NASA activated the Voyager Program by sending two probes, Voyager 1 and Voyager 2, into outer space in order to collect data from the most distant planets of our system. In addition to that, the probes had another scope. Each of them in fact hosted on board (and still host, since as of today we know that they are still traveling in interstellar space and sending back data) a golden phonographic record containing playback instructions as well as images, music and sounds of the Earth and its species. Images containing data, drawings and also photographs of people, animals, etc.

All these features engraved on the records represent and are communicated in the form of symbols, symbols of our identity, our knowledge and our cultural and natural environment. This also includes the sounds and the photographs, which are certainly mere representations, but at the same time symbolically charged elements since they were carefully chosen for distinctive reasons and to convey specific meanings to possible alien civilizations.

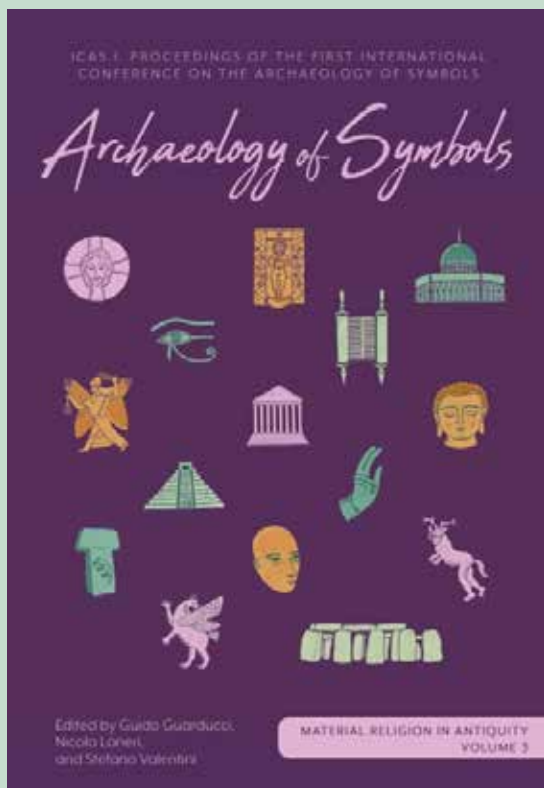
The records represent a unique example of how we have decided to communicate what we are, what is important for us, to those that know nothing about us and that are probably nothing like us. In fact, the message and how to 'read' it, in other words its semiotic value, are encoded, hence exclusive. Carl Sagan, astronomer, science writer and chair of the NASA committee that selected the contents of the records and the way they should be communicated, stated that "the spacecraft will be encountered and the record played only if there are advanced spacefaring civilizations in interstellar space". Moreover, although characterized by different purposes, the process of decoding and understanding ancient symbols in archaeology, shows strong resemblance to the Voyagers' message and those who will have to deal with it, in particular the interpretation of the symbolic aspects of our human ancestors in prehistoric times.

The human mind, i.e. the mind of Sapiens, but also, with minor impact, that of our 'cousins' Neanderthals and perhaps of our common ancestor Heidelbergensis, has set us apart from all the rest of the living creatures on our planet in particular due to its capacity for abstraction, transcending immediacy (time) and materiality (space). Symbols are one of the main means by which we think, imagine, create, communicate as well as understand and manipulate other symbolic structures. For these reasons the German philosopher Ernest Cassirer defined humans as 'symbolic animals' (E. Cassirer, 1944, *Essay on man*, a summary of his earlier works, published between 1923 and 1929).

Our symbolic behavior has left through time an abundance of tangible results, the material embodiment of part of that symbology. The reason and significance associated with these objects or contexts may be hidden or patent, according to our own contemporary 'symbolic toolkit'. Hence, one of the main goals of archaeology, and its anthropological lens, is to detect, document and possibly decode and finally interpret these symbols to increase the knowledge of our past.

The aim of the *Archaeology of Symbols* volume, and in particular the ICAS (International Conference on the Archaeology of Symbols) behind it, is to create a common ground for symbolic analysis formed by various geographic and chronological context in order to foster information exchange and perhaps create new avenues of interpretation. The interaction during the scientific event and the proceedings contained in the book represent a quite interesting sample of this approach and a further step in the comprehension of the 'symbolic animal'.

KEEP READING...



Archaeology of Symbols

ICAS I: Proceedings of the First International Conference on the Archaeology of Symbols

*Edited by Guido Guarducci,
Nicola Laneri, and Stefano Valentini*

Imprint: Oxbow Books
Series: Material Religion in Antiquity (5)
Pages: 304
Illustrations: 130 B/W illustrations
ISBN: 9798888570982
Publication date: February 2024
RRP: £59.95



The Snettisham Hoards

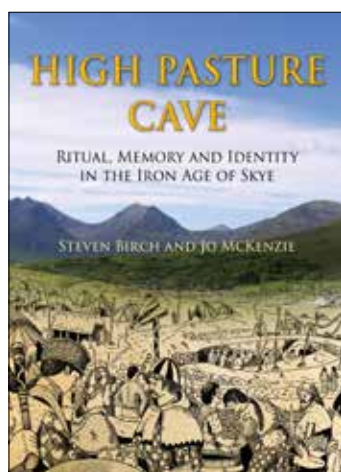
Edited by Julia Farley and Jody Joy

First complete publication of one of the most important Iron Age sites in Europe.

For over 60 years, spectacular discoveries have been made on a wooded hillside at Snettisham, overlooking the northwest Norfolk coast, close to Hunstanton. The location of the discoveries, at Ken Hill, is known as the 'gold field' because of the large number of gold and silver alloy neck-rings ('torcs') and coins recovered from the site. Known as the 'Snettisham Treasure', these objects represent one of the largest collections of prehistoric precious metal objects ever discovered, and one of the largest concentrations of Celtic art. The objects from Snettisham are widely known, but the site has never been fully published. This book is the first comprehensive account of the discoveries and excavations at the site and presents a full catalogue of the finds.

BRITISH MUSEUM RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS, 225 | BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS

Paperback • 9780861592258 • £40.00
November 2024 • 297x210 • 728 pages



High Pasture Cave

Ritual, Memory, and Identity in the Iron Age of Skye

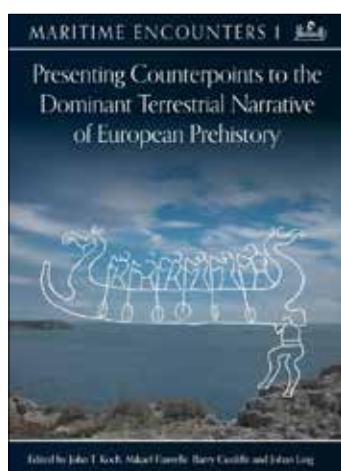
Steven Birch, Jo McKenzie

Details excavations at High Pasture Cave Complex, Skye, Scotland, challenging our current understanding of Iron Age cave use and function.

High Pasture Cave, located on the island of Skye, Scotland, occupies a liminal location on the very edge of a settlement, and appears to have been a focus for specific and special activities. Its extended period of use is indicated by ephemeral signs of Neolithic Activity, limited Bronze Age usage, and vast artefactual and environmental assemblages recovered dating to the Early to Middle Scottish Iron Age, c. 800 BC to AD 150. This book details the research-led excavations at the cave and its context in the landscape, including geology and stratigraphy, the use and transformation of the cave from the Neolithic, post-medieval activity after the site's closure, chronology and radiocarbon dating, the human remains, and stable isotope analysis.

OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9781785709500 • £48.00
February 2025 • 297x210 • 648 pages



Presenting Counterpoints to the Dominant Terrestrial Narrative of European Prehistory

Edited by John T. Koch, Mikael Fauvelle, Barry Cunliffe, Johan Ling

First in a major new series examining the contribution and significance of maritime transport, movement and trade in the shaping of Bronze Age and Iron Age communities and social complexity in north-west Europe.

This book is the first in the multi-author series *Maritime Encounters*, outputs of the major six-year (2022–2028) international research initiative, funded by Sweden's central bank. Our programme is based on a maritime perspective, a counterpoint to prevailing land-based vantages on Europe's prehistory. In the Maritime Encounters project a highly international cross-disciplinary team has embarked on a diverse range of research goals to provide a more detailed and nuanced story of how prehistoric societies realised major and minor sea crossings, organised long-distance exchange, and adapted to ways of life by the sea in prehistory. Recent advances with ancient DNA have brought migration back into archaeological explanation, but little attention has been paid to maritime aspects of these movements or the maritime legacies inherited from indigenous cultures.

MARITIME ENCOUNTERS, 1 | OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9798888571842 • £55.00
March 2025 • 280x216 • 272 pages • 120 B/w and colour illustrations



Craftful Minds

Tracing Technical Individuality in Production Processes

Moiken Hinrichs

This book presents a combination of statistical and descriptive methods to enhance an understanding of flint production processes of Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age daggers and sickles.

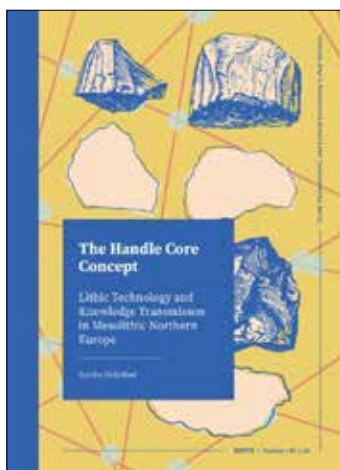
The aim of the thesis was to provide a framework for the identification and analysis of individual craftspeople in bifacial flint production. Flint production flakes from replications of South Scandinavian Late Neolithic daggers and Early Bronze Age sickles were the focus of the study, in contrast to research so far, mostly relying on finished and often exceptional pieces. The results and the approach of the thesis can help us gain a clearer picture of local technical traditions of flint production. They also provide opportunities to identify and analyse processes of knowledge transmission and by this to reconstruct possible paths of learning, contacts between groups and the development and change of technological systems.

ROOTS BOOKLET SERIES, 7 | SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464280814 • £45.00

Hardback • 9789464280821 • £95.00

December 2024 • 280x210 • 266 pages • 140fc / 18bw illustration



The Handle Core Concept

Lithic Technology and Knowledge Transmission

Sandra Söderlind

A pan-European study of handle core technology.

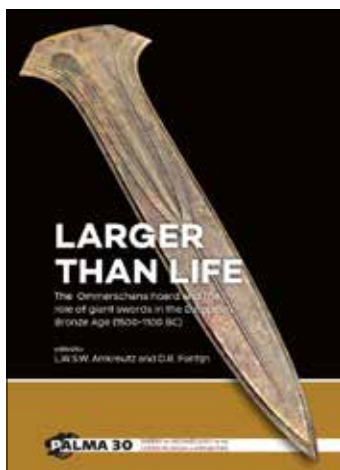
This work deals with topics related to mobility, contacts and transmission of knowledge. The study of these topics regarding the past can promote an understanding of the social implications of migration, communication and learning today through long-term perspectives of change. This volume focuses on these topics in the Mesolithic by analysing a specialised lithic concept known previously from Scandinavia and Northern Germany. The implementation of the Handle Core Pressure Concept (HCPC) is based on a pressure technique to produce small regular blades from single-fronted cores, often utilised in slotted bone points. The use of pressure technique means that the HCPC requires social learning for maintenance and diffusion of the tradition.

ROOTS BOOKLET SERIES, 6 | SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464280753 • £65.00

Hardback • 9789464280760 • £120.00

December 2024 • 280x210 • 406 pages • 120fc / 55bw illustrations



Larger than Life

The Ommerschans Hoard and the Role of Giant Swords in the European Bronze Age (1500-1100 BC)

Edited by Luc Amkreutz, David Fontijn

Sheds new light on one of the most spectacular finds of the European Bronze Age: the Ommerschans hoard and the mysterious role of the giant swords of Plougrescant-Ommerschans type.

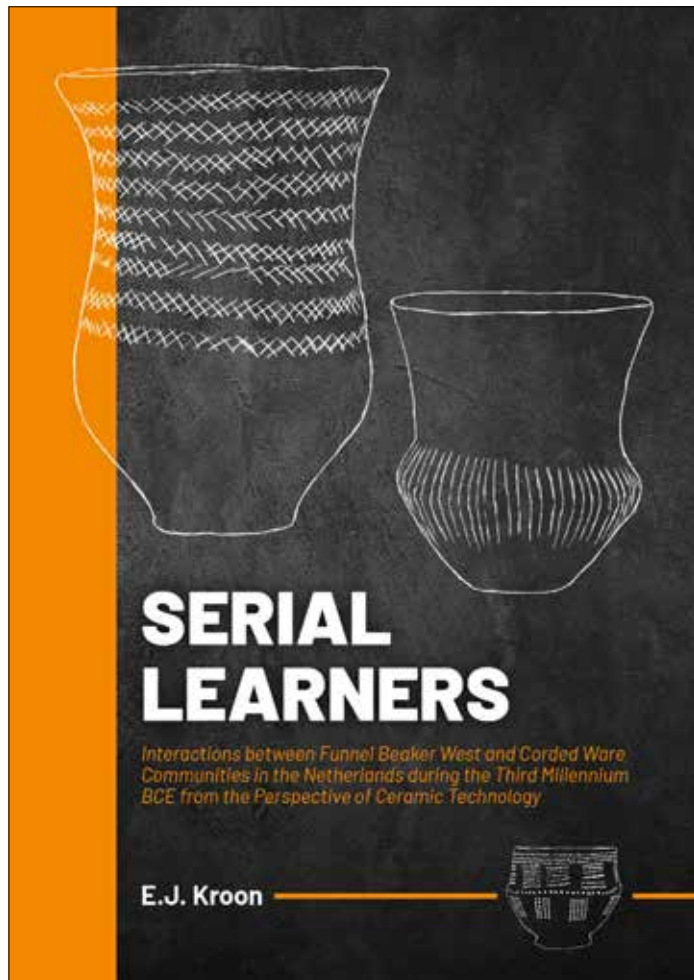
In 1896 a remarkable hoard was discovered near Ommerschans in the eastern Netherlands that included a spectacular object: a giant bronze sword. Over time this sword, or rather dirk, would prove not to be a singular exception. Instead it is now part of a select family of six discovered in England (Oxborough and Rudham), France (Plougrescant and Beaune) and the Netherlands (Jutphaas and Ommerschans). This book aims to unravel some of the mysteries surrounding this exceptional group of larger-than-life Bronze Age blades. It offers a detailed overview of the discovery and find context of the Ommerschans hoard, as well as a physical description and analysis of all finds.

PALMA, 30 | SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262605 • £65.00

Hardback • 9789464262612 • £130.00

September 2024 • 280x210 • 400 pages • 169fc / 44bw illustrations



Serial Learners

Interactions between Funnel Beaker West and Corded Ware Communities in the Netherlands during the Third Millennium BCE from the Perspective of Ceramic Technology

Erik J. Kroon

An innovative study of ceramic production in Funnel Beaker West and Corded Ware vessels which sheds new light on one of the most pivotal migration events in European prehistory 5,000 years ago.

5,000 years ago, a migration shaped Europe's future. Migrating communities spread across Europe within two centuries, leaving lasting changes in interconnectivity, language, and ancestry. Yet these migrating communities did not enter an empty continent. Across Europe, they encountered indigenous communities with millennia-old roots. What interactions between migrating and indigenous communities gave rise to those lasting changes? This study sheds new light on this question with an innovative approach to ceramics. Ceramics bear traces of the production techniques which potters learned and applied to create them. The approach developed here combines a chaîne opératoire analysis of these traces with network analysis and probability theory to provide a quantitative estimate of the amount of shared knowledge between the prehistoric potters who made these ceramics.

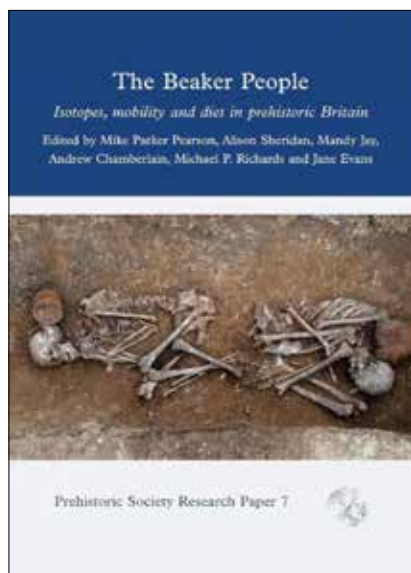
SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464280630 • £45.00

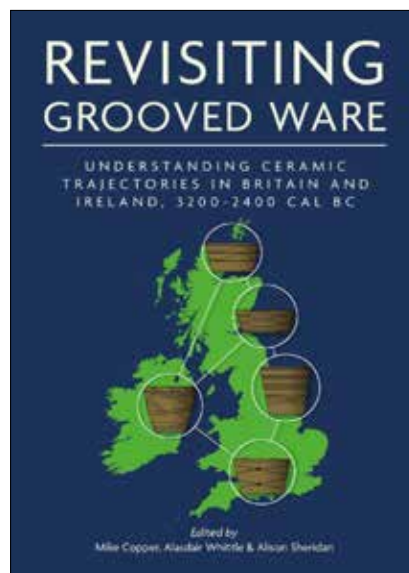
Hardback • 9789464280647 • £95.00

September 2024 • 254x178 • 284 pages • 57fc / 19bw illustrations

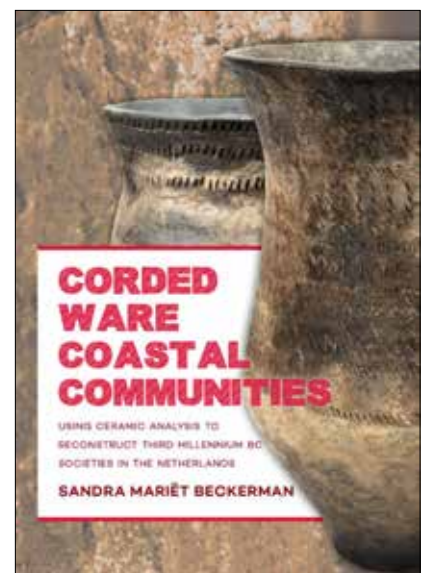
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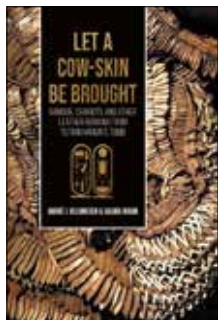
9798888571545 • £42.00 • Oxbow Books



9798888570326 • £45.00 • Oxbow Books



9789088903182 • £45.00 • Oxbow Books



Let a Cow-skin Be Brought

Armour, Chariots and Other Leather Remains from Tutankhamun's Tomb

André Veldmeijer, Salima Ikram

[The finds from Tutankhamun's tomb through the lens of the archaeological leather specialists, bringing new insights.](#)

This work examines the tomb of Tutankhamun and its contents through an unusual lens: leather and other animal soft tissue products that were used in creating some of the tomb's contents. Through a study of these artefacts, the reader is guided through the surprising and complex world of leatherworking in ancient Egypt, focussing on the numerous different objects from the tomb that are either made entirely from or include leather. This approach offers new insights in ancient Egyptian technology as well as in the production and use of specific materials and objects. The findings are discussed in the wider framework of the development and organisation of the leather industry in New Kingdom Egypt.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464260984 • £45.00

Hardback • 9789464260991 • £95.00

December 2024 • 280x203 • 150 pages • 25+ b/w / 100+ full colour illustrations



The Iseum of the Royal Island of Antirodos

Franck Goddio

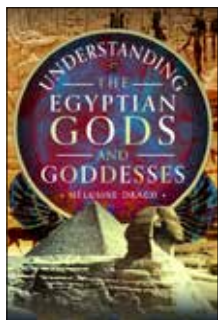
[Examination of the remains of the Iseum on Antirhodos.](#)

In the third century BC, the Ptolemies built a palace on the island of Antirhodos and on a monumental quayside reaching back towards the city they dedicated a temple to the goddess Isis. The quayside on which the temple stood did not share the strong natural foundations of the island and its banks failed, most likely during an earthquake. These collapse deposits, including important pieces of sculpture, objects from the temple treasury and remnants of its architecture and decoration, were rediscovered during surveys and excavations in the Portus Magnus by the Institut Européen d'Archéologie Sous-Marine. This volume examines the archaeological remains from the temple that identify it as an Iseum and discusses its changing role in late Hellenistic and early Roman Alexandria.

EXCAVATIONS IN THE PORTUS MAGNUM OF ALEXANDRIA, 1 | OXFORD CENTRE FOR MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY

Hardback • 9781905905515 • £45.00

December 2024 • 304x211 • 200 pages



Understanding the Egyptian Gods and Goddesses

Mélusine Draco

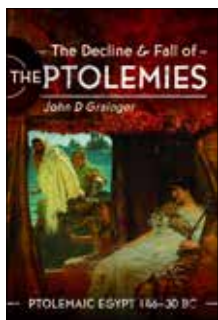
[Exploration of the development of Ancient Egyptian religion.](#)

The authentic Egyptian religion developed over thousands of years, with each deity assuming many forms under the influence of various religious movements and/or foreign invasions. Each form also developed its own positive and negative aspects, which responded in various ways to different people, and so it is now impossible to be dogmatic about how the gods of those different theologies relate and blend. It is also important to realise that the original religion was never an earth-bound concept since the priesthood explored mysticism on a cosmic scale: their spirituality extending to the stars and beyond. The Egyptian civilisation took over 3000 years to evolve fully and a further 2000 years to decay, which is why the Egyptian Mystery Tradition cannot be encapsulated into convenient modern packaging.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399055383 • £25.00

September 2024 • 234x156 • 248 pages • 30 mono illustrations



The Decline and Fall of the Ptolemies

Ptolemaic Egypt 146–30 BC

John D. Grainger

[Conclusion to John D. Grainger's landmark trilogy on the Ptolemaic rulers of Egypt.](#)

The death of Ptolemy VI brought his younger brother Ptolemy VIII to the kingship. This was the start of a prolonged, if intermittent, turbulent period of family strife, punctuated by rebellions, plots and wars. One king, Ptolemy VII, was murdered, Ptolemy VIII's two simultaneous wives plotted and rebelled, and when he died one of these, Kleopatra III, was his effective successor. From the death of Ptolemy IX in 180 BC there were two overriding problems. Ptolemy IX was the last legitimate Ptolemy, and the succession was constantly in dispute from then on. And looming over all was the rising power of Rome. Egypt gradually became drawn into the republic's orbit, mainly as a source of cash to fund its wars

and the greed of the Roman aristocracy until, choosing the side of Mark Antony, the final Ptolemy, Kleopatra VII, went down to defeat before Octavian's forces.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399090124 • £25.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 248 pages • 16 colour illustrations

THE REAL TREASURE OF TUTANKHAMUN

By Rogério Sousa

The tomb of Tutankhamun, opened up by Howard Carter and his team in November 1922, is the only “essentially intact” pharaoh’s tomb to have been found. However the glittering golden artefacts discovered within this royal resting place may have blinded people to the importance of the scientific study of this significant site. Here Rogério Sousa, co-editor of ‘Tutankhamun and Carter’, sheds light on the insights that can be provided by an examination of both the overlooked objects of ‘daily life’ and the much-admired treasures found in Tutankhamun’s tomb.

On the 16th –17th February 2023, one hundred years after the official opening of the burial chamber of Tutankhamun, the conference *Tutankhamun and Carter: Assessing the Impact of a Major Archaeological Find* was held in Lisbon, organised by the Centre for History of the University of Lisbon and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, with the cooperation of CIPEG, the ICOM International Committee for Egyptology.

The conference gathered-together scholars presenting various aspects of the impact of this archaeological discovery on both scientific and popular audiences. After Carter and his team opened the tomb in November 1922, it soon became clear that the spell cast by the objects from the tomb hindered rather than helped the scientific study of this unique find. Despite the huge impact they have had on the study of the ancient world, the media and popular culture, these antiquities remain to this day very inadequately studied.

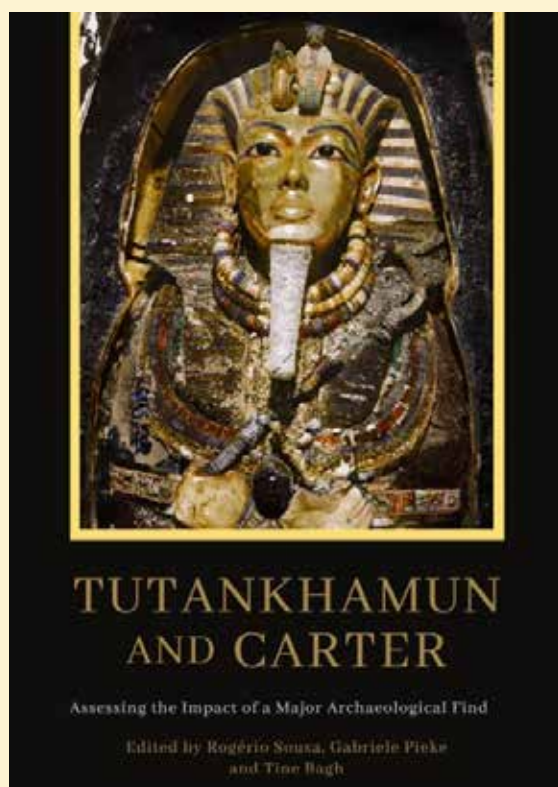
Tutankhamun and Carter was prepared to showcase the variety of perspectives which can be observed in the study of objects from the tomb of Tutankhamun. This applies in particular to the ‘ordinary’ items found at the site, which have not received as much attention as the ‘treasure’. A wide range of ‘daily life’ objects, such as baskets or leather artefacts, have been largely overlooked over the years, and they have only recently begun to receive the study and attention that they deserve. However, even famous masterpieces, such as the golden throne of the king, have remained poorly studied from the technical standpoint, in particular owing to their popularity and ‘charisma’. The planning for the Grand Egyptian Museum and the move of the Tutankhamun objects from the Egyptian Museum at Tahir Square to Giza has given various experts more access to these objects and made it possible to look at them in new lights, particularly in terms of materiality and craft techniques. Incidents like the attack on the Egyptian Museum in Cairo during the revolution in 2011, and the detachment of the divine beard from the golden mask of the king, also opened windows of opportunity for first-hand examination and restoration of precious objects which would otherwise have remained out of reach.

Although disturbed in antiquity, the tomb of Tutankhamun is the only Egyptian royal tomb at Thebes to have been found essentially intact. This circumstance gives us the unique opportunity to consider the role of the objects that belonged to/were deposited in royal burials, which in the remaining tombs of the Valley of the Kings is only possible through small fragments and scattered objects.

The antiquities found in the tomb of Tutankhamun thus provide unrivalled sources for the study of the complex set of rituals and magical beliefs regarding the afterlife of a king, a subject that remains largely overlooked despite the extraordinary wealth of material provided by the tomb. The transitional character of the reign of Tutankhamun, between the reign of Akhenaten and the rise of the 19th Dynasty, makes it a real treasure-trove in terms of how the Amarnian legacy was reintegrated into a more traditional Egyptian structure. In all these aspects, the immense contribution of Howard Carter is evident. He created archaeological methods and invited the best scholars of Anglophone Egyptology to work on the objects. It was through him that the find was salvaged, allowing its scientific study by generations to come.

As always the Griffith Institute of the University of Oxford played a decisive role in supporting the team during the editorial process and in sharing so generously their scientific resources with the team of researchers and in allowing them to publish their images. Special thanks are owed to its Director, Richard Parkinson, and to the Archive Curator, Francisco Bosh-Puche, for his patience and support. A final word of recognition goes to the wonderful team from Oxbow Books, namely to Julie Gardiner, for their immense support and back up.

KEEP READING...



Tutankhamun and Carter

Assessing the Impact of a Major Archaeological Find

Edited by Rogério Sousa, Gabriele Pieke, and Tine Bagh

Imprint: Oxbow Books

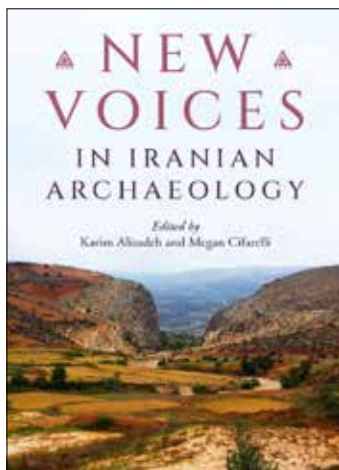
Pages: 200

Illustrations: 200 B/W & colour illustrations

ISBN: 9798888570678

Publication date: June 2024

RRP: £29.95



New Voices in Iranian Archaeology

Edited by Karim Alizadeh, Megan Cifarelli

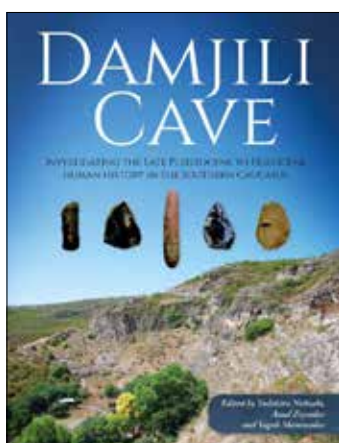
First English publication of key recent archaeological research and excavations in Iran by, mainly female, Iranian scholars and their collaborators.

This volume highlights the excellent, wide-ranging work of a diverse collection of Iranian archaeologists, the new voices in Iranian archaeology. Archaeology in Iran has developed in lockstep with the discipline of archaeology itself, in part due to the colonial endeavors that provided impetus for Europeans to travel to distant lands and extract antiquities and other commodities. But centuries before western archaeologists broke ground on excavations in the lands that would in 1935 be called Iran, a deep and meaningful engagement with and reverence for the past was a thread running through Iranian culture since antiquity. For millennia, the residents and rulers of ancient Iranian lands have admired, interacted with, inscribed, invented stories about, and imitated the visible, often ruined, monuments of their ancestors that dotted the landscape.

OXBOW BOOKS

Paperback • 9798888571453 • £40.00

December 2024 • 240x170 • 192 pages • 110 B/w illustrations



Damjili Cave

Investigating the Late Pleistocene to Holocene Human History in the Southern Caucasus

Edited by Yoshihiro Nishiaki, Azad Zeynalov, Yagub Mammadov

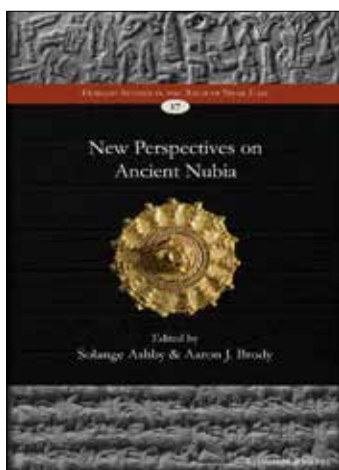
Excavations at Damjili Cave provided the first detailed opportunity to observe Neolithization processes with secure stratigraphic evidence across the Mesolithic–Neolithic transition in Azerbaijan.

This volume presents a set of archaeological evidence obtained from the Azerbaijan–Japan excavations in 2016–2022 at Damjili Cave, West Azerbaijan. The cave contained cultural layers from the Mesolithic period in particular, along with Neolithic, Chalcolithic, Bronze Age and medieval material indicating a very long sequence of use. A program of environmental sampling and both radiocarbon and luminescence dating were undertaken. Through combining the records of the late (Göytepe), early Neolithic (Hacı Elamxanlı Tepe), and Mesolithic (Damjili Cave) periods, our understanding of the Neolithization processes of the South Caucasus will be greatly improved. Data from a combination of three chronologically different sites provide the first opportunity to observe Neolithization processes with secure stratigraphic evidence in a small region of West Azerbaijan.

OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9798888571804 • £55.00

January 2025 • 297x210 • 264 pages • 160 B/w and colour illustrations



New Perspectives on Ancient Nubia

Edited by Solange Ashby and Aaron Brody

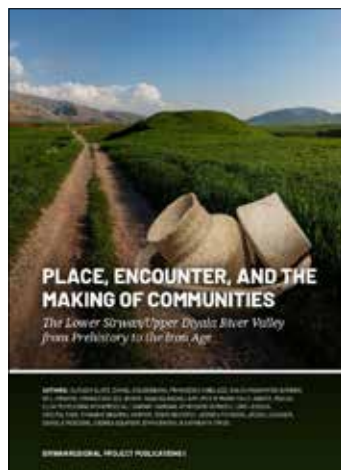
A new window into African achievements and dominance in the ancient world.

Ancient Nubia played key political, social, and economic roles in the ancient world, yet knowledge of Nubian societies remains regrettably narrow, with Nubia often disregarded as derivative of Egypt. This volume provides a timely corrective to this outlook, centering Nubian history and archaeology and presenting research from postcolonial and anti-racist perspectives. In addition to demonstrating Nubiology's potential impact on Egyptological, classical, and biblical scholarship, this volume offers a new window into African achievements and dominance in the ancient world.

GORGAS STUDIES IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST, 17 | GORGAS PRESS

Hardback • 9781463243425 • £89.00

November 2024 • 229x152 • 345 pages



Place, Encounter, and the Making of Communities

The Lower Sirwan/Upper Diyala River Valley from Prehistory to the Iron Age

Claudia Glatz, Daniel Calderbank, Francesca Chelazzi, Salah Mohammed Sameen, Neil Erskine

This book provides the first archaeological history of the lower Sirwan/upper Diyala river valley in northeast Iraq, spanning 12,000 years.

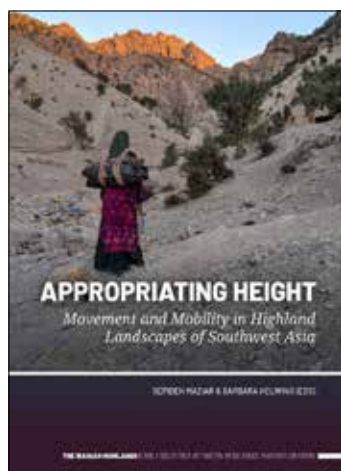
This book sketches the first archaeological history of the lower Sirwan/upper Diyala river valley of north-east Iraq and adjacent landscapes over a period of c. 12,000 years, from the earliest signs of human presence until the mid-first millennium BCE, based on data gathered between 2013 and 2023 by the Sirwan Regional Project (SRP). In order to reconstruct past Sirwan lifeways, the book interweaves regional-scale datasets with the results of ongoing and completed excavations at the Late Chalcolithic site of Shakhi Kora and the Late Bronze to Early Iron Age site of Kani Masi, as well as the results of a wide range of archaeological, Assyriological, art historical, and archaeometric analyses.

SIRWAN REGIONAL PROJECT PUBLICATIONS, 1 | SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464271058 • £80.00

Hardback • 9789464271065 • £140.00

December 2024 • 280x210 • 450 pages • 218fc / 31bw illustrations



Appropriating Height

Movement and Mobility in Highland Landscapes of Southwest Asia

Edited by Sepideh Maziar, Barbara Helwing

This book explores archaeological approaches to highland regions in southwestern and central Asia, focusing on human mobility, adaptation, and resilience from the Paleolithic era to the present.

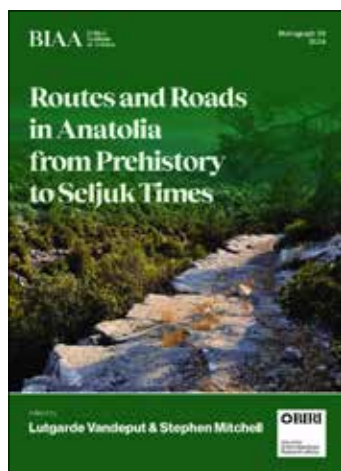
The essays in this book focus on archaeological approaches to the utilization of highland regions in southwestern and central Asia, examining the interplay between human communities and highland landscapes from the Paleolithic era to the present. Contributions combine case studies with theoretical considerations to explore adaptive strategies of movement. They discuss the significance of mobility within archaeological and anthropological discourse. Contributors engage with critical questions: How can archaeologists discern traces of movement and unravel material footprints of diverse mobility? How can they track shifts in mobility through time or regions? By systematizing observations on human spatial behavior across epochs and settings, these essays seek to test and refine traditional archaeological methodologies. They present nuanced frameworks and shed light on the adaptability and resilience of these communities.

THE IRANIAN HIGHLANDS. EARLY SOCIETIES BETWEEN RESILIENCE AND INTEGRATION | SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464271089 • £40.00

Hardback • 9789464271096 • £95.00

December 2024 • 280x210 • 180 pages • 64fc / 24bw illustrations



Routes and Roads in Anatolia from Prehistory to Seljuk Times

Edited by Lutgarde Vandeput, Stephen Mitchell

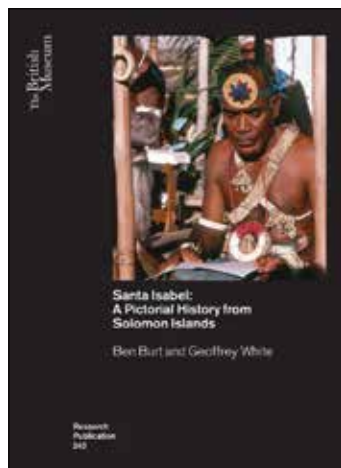
Presents new understanding of connecting road and route systems in Anatolia for the first time.

Turkey has always been a crossroads and therefore offers an ideal location to study interaction between individuals and human communities and societies through time. Interaction has always necessarily involved movement which in turn did not occur randomly in the landscape, but was instead focused on routes and roads that secured faster and easier connections. The Roman long-distance road network has been a focus of research over decades, but local roads and pathways around individual sites are still mostly unknown. Byzantine roads have also received attention, whereas the Seljuk road and routes system is less well known. In this volume, experts from different disciplines, using a variety of methods and approaches, aim to transcend the present fragmentation of knowledge and create a new level of understanding of connecting road and route systems in Anatolia throughout time, for the first time.

BRITISH INSTITUTE AT ANKARA MONOGRAPH, 59 | BRITISH INSTITUTE AT ANKARA

Hardback • 9781912090099 • £55.00

October 2024 • 297x210 • 180 pages • ca 100 B&W illustrations



Santa Isabel

A Pictorial History from Solomon Islands

Ben Burt, Edited by Geoffrey White

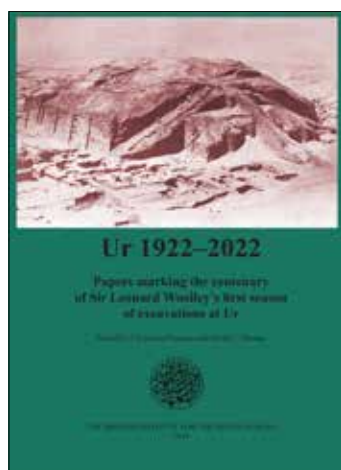
This portrait of Santa Isabel in over 600 pictures shows an island transformed by its colonial history yet maintaining a confident and distinctive identity within Solomon Islands and the Pacific Island region.

This book traces Santa Isabel's history through a selection of the many hundreds of pictures of the island made first by Europeans and increasingly by its own people. These begin with the drawings and paintings of voyagers from the late 18th century, gradually succeeded by photos from the 1860s onwards showing the arrival of missionaries, traders and warships. From the 1900s there are photos made by the Europeans who established plantations on Isabel and colonial officers asserting British colonial authority. However, the pictorial record is dominated by photos from the Anglican Melanesian Mission. The Second World War, portrayed mainly by military photos, was followed closely by economic and political developments leading up to Solomon Islands independence in 1978 – developments portrayed in both church and government photos.

BRITISH MUSEUM RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS, 243 | BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS

Paperback • 9780861592432 • £40.00

December 2024 • 297x210 • 300 pages • 600 illustrations



Ur 1922–2022

Papers Marking the Centenary of Sir Leonard Woolley's First Season of Excavations at Ur

Edited by J. Nicholas Postgate, David C. Thomas

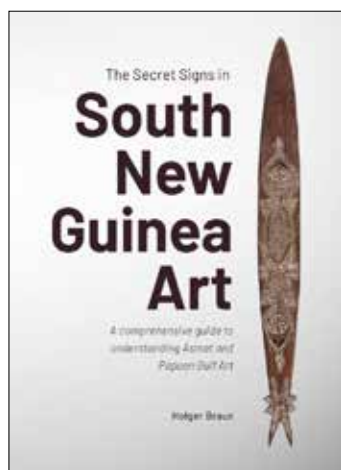
This book publishes 18 papers from an online colloquium held in 2022 to celebrate the centenary of Sir Leonard Woolley's first season of excavations at AlMuqayyar, the Babylonian city of Ur.

An online colloquium was held in late 2022 to celebrate the centenary of Sir Leonard Woolley's first season of excavations at AlMuqayyar, the Babylonian city of Ur. The papers included reevaluate Woolley's work, revisit his archives with fresh eyes and apply 21st century techniques to enrich our knowledge of the 7,000 year old city. They also include results from renewed work at Ur, undertaken by joint Iraqi and international teams of archaeologists. The papers highlight the value of well-documented old excavations and the exciting potential of collaborations to explore new research questions, under the leadership of the Iraqi State Board for Antiquities and Heritage.

BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ

Paperback • 9780903472432 • £20.00

June 2024 • 297x210 • 307 pages



The Secret Signs in South New Guinea Art

A Comprehensive Guide to Understanding Asmat and Papuan Gulf Art

Holger Braun

This book presents an innovative theoretical framework that enables readers to understand the symbolic meaning in the iconic art of South New Guinea in accordance with their origin from the great secret cults.

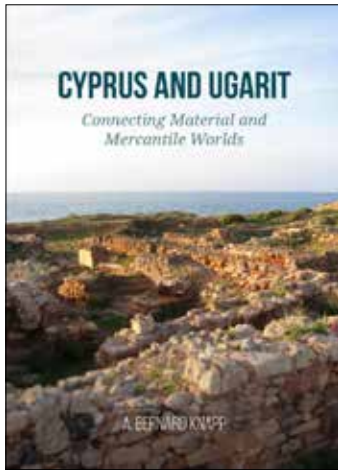
The chain of linked cultures of the southern coast of New Guinea, from the Asmat in the west to the Papuan Gulf in the east all share remarkably similar mythology and rituals, inspired by a common ancient worldview. In this book art historian and anthropologist Dr. Holger Braun takes us on a step by step journey to discover the underlying principles of this ancient worldview which is visible as a secret sign language inscribed into the art objects of this area and intended to be legible exclusively to the initiated. While the eyes of the non-initiated only perceive an aesthetic impression of a specific artwork, the reader of this book will be able to understand the messages conveyed by key details of the design and thus begins to hear the objects telling their centuries old story.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262667 • £75.00

Hardback • 9789464262674 • £150.00

September 2024 • 280x210 • 450 pages • 191fc / 224bw illustrations



Cyprus and Ugarit

Connecting Material and Mercantile Worlds

A. Bernard Knapp

[Detailed study of the archaeological and documentary records of Cyprus and Ugarit.](#)

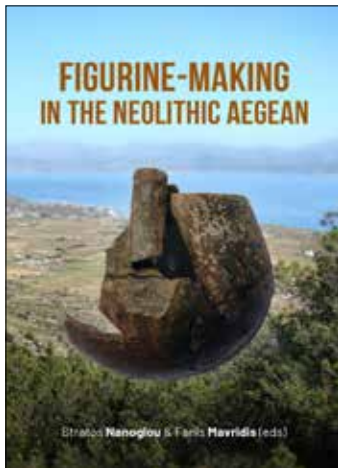
This study considers the detailed archaeological and documentary records of Cyprus and Ugarit (Syria) to gain new insights into the long-term relations between two of the best known, well-connected polities in the Late Bronze Age eastern Mediterranean. All known documentary evidence related to these two polities is presented and discussed with respect to three factors: people, politics and professions. The discussion section that follows takes a broader look at material and mercantile connectivity in the Late Bronze Age eastern Mediterranean, considering in turn the merchants of Ugarit and Cyprus, maritime spheres of interaction, and the actors and agents involved in these mercantile worlds.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Hardback • 9789464263053 • £90.00

Paperback • 9789464263046 • £30.00

December 2024 • 254x178 • 104 pages • 5fc / 6bw illustrations



Figurine-making in the Neolithic Aegean

Edited by Stratos Nanoglou, Fanis Mavridis

[This volume presents a cutting-edge perspective on figurine studies in the Neolithic Aegean, sparking renewed interest and innovative ideas.](#)

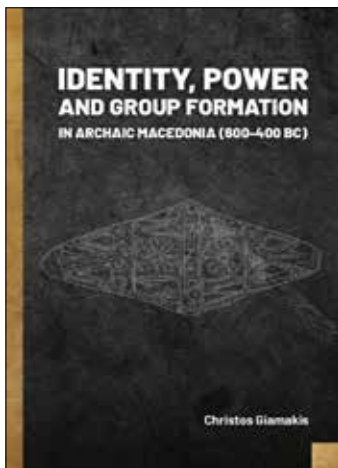
Central to this work are three key questions: What advancements have been made since these seminal publications? Where do we stand now? And what future directions should we explore? A group of esteemed scholars addresses these questions through detailed case studies, presenting fresh material and ideas within a robust contextual framework. This book showcases a rich diversity of methods and results, underscoring that figurines were not uniformly made, understood, or used across different times and places. By advocating for the creation of varied narratives at both macro and micro levels, we highlight the complexity and richness of figurine studies. We hope this volume will serve as a cornerstone for ongoing and future discussions in the field.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Hardback • 9789464271034 • £95.00

Paperback • 9789464271027 • £40.00

November 2024 • 254x178 • 250 pages • 8fc / 72bw illustrations



Identity, Power and Group Formation in Archaic Macedonia (600–400 BC)

Christos Giamakis

[The first ever large-scale synthesis on identity and social dynamics across archaic Macedonia \(600-400 BC\).](#)

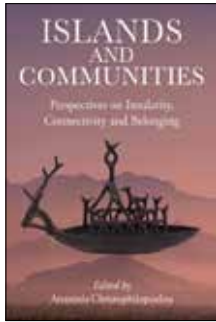
This book provides a detailed narrative exploring the role of power as displayed through material culture in the formation of group identities across the region. Giamakis focuses on data from nine cemeteries in the region combining multiple datasets including grave goods, osteological evidence, burial rites, tomb types and the organisation of the cemetery space in order to explore both inter- and intra-site competition that led to the emergence of different group identities across the region. By doing so, he proposes a new theoretical framework for the study of the region as an alternative to past, ethnicity-based, approaches. The volume encourages the reader to explore the ways in which social inequalities, power dynamics and social interactions all affect the potency of specific identities at the expense of others.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464280784 • £45.00

Hardback • 9789464280791 • £95.00

November 2024 • 254x178 • 272 pages • 27fc / 19bw illustrations



Islands and Communities

Perspectives on Insularity, Connectivity and Belonging

Edited by Anastasia Christophilopoulou

Case studies from Cyprus, Crete and Sardinia reconsider, assumptions about island identity, isolation and interaction, commerce and mobility.

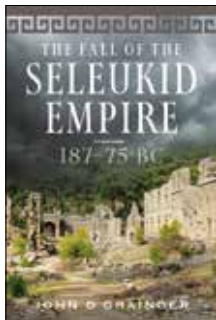
This volume is the culmination of the 'Being an Islander' project's research strands, undertaken by research teams in Cambridge, Cyprus, Greece and Italy. It disseminates research across the main project themes: insularity, connectivity, mobility, migration, island art and material culture production, hybridity and diachronicity, and provides cross-disciplinary arguments and suggestions on the future of island archaeology and associated disciplines. Contributions suggest that the relationship between people, place and material culture is what reveals important aspects of island identity

and reframe the concept of the islands as a dynamic interplay shaped by social and historical episodes, connectivity and mobility, rather than geography or political boundaries.

OXBOW BOOKS

Paperback • 9798888571514 • £38.00

October 2024 • 240x170 • 192 pages • 15 B/w illustrations and 20 colour illustrations



The Fall of the Seleukid Empire 187-75 BC

John D. Grainger

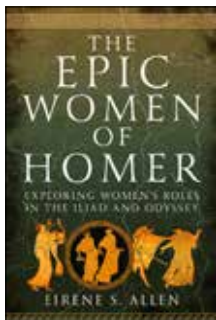
Concluding part of John D. Grainger's unique trilogy narrating the rise and fall of the Seleukid Empire.

This volume traces the tumultuous last century of their empire. In this period it was riven by dynastic disputes, secessions and rebellions, the religiously-inspired insurrection of the Jewish Maccabees, civil war and external invasion from Egypt in the West and the Parthians in the East. By the 80s BC, the empire was disintegrating, internally fractured and squeezed by the converging expansionist powers of Rome and Parthia. This is a fittingly dramatic and colourful conclusion to John Grainger's masterful account of this once-mighty empire.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781036150273 • £14.99

October 2024 • 234x156 • 256 pages • 5 or 6 b/w maps



The Epic Women of Homer

Exploring Women's Roles in the Iliad and Odyssey

Eirene S. Allen

Featuring original line-by-line translations of speeches by and descriptions of women, this book re-establishes these goddesses and heroines to the esteemed positions they held in ancient Greece and reintroduces them to the modern world.

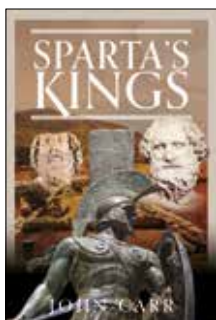
This volume untangles the women of the Iliad and the Odyssey from centuries of narrative constraints to recover their essential meaning and importance. In the process, it challenges the commonplace assumption that the Homeric hero is 'an individual' who fights for 'personal glory', a misconception further fuelled by a lack of understanding of the oral tradition out of which Homer's epics emerged in which linguistic and thematic patterning exists at every level. Analysing

Homer's goddesses and heroes through the lens of these patterns, their recurrence and variation reveal them to be preeminent in a wide range of skills, all of which are necessary, and yet the essence of each is in their relationships with others.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399058636 • £22.00

January 2025 • 234x156 • 224 pages • 30 mono illustrations



Sparta's Kings

John Carr

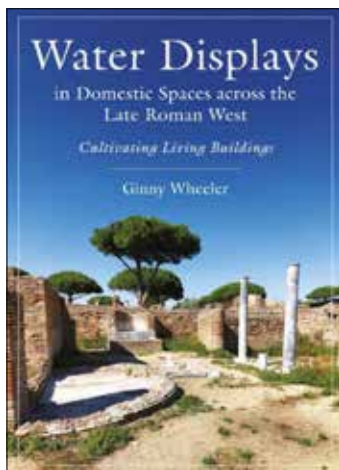
Overview of the careers of all Sparta's kings, emphasizing their role as military leaders.

Wherever Sparta's main battles took place, there the kings were. John Carr offers a chronological account of the kings and their accomplishments (or lack thereof), from the founding Herakleidai clan to Kleomenes III and his successor, the dictator Nabis, and the Roman conquest in the middle of the 2nd century BC. The book is not intended to be a complete history of Sparta. It will be a human interest and war story, focusing attention on the kings personal qualities as well as their (or their generals) military accomplishments and, where applicable, their politics as well.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781036150266 • £14.99

October 2024 • 234x156 • 208 pages • 16-20 b/w photos in 1 x 8pp plate section



Water Displays in Domestic Spaces across the Late Roman West

Cultivating Living Buildings

Ginny Wheeler

Presents the first synthesis of surviving archaeological remains of domestic water displays from pools to dining couches across the late Roman West (3rd–6th centuries).

This volume presents the first synthesis of the archaeological evidence for late antique water features in both urban houses and extra-urban villas across the western Empire. Ginny Wheeler examines a wide and varied range of examples: from decorative basins and pools to fountains of all forms to water-equipped dining couches. Through careful analysis and evocative reconstruction of the water displays in their diverse contexts, this book explores how they were incorporated into late antique residences, the different ways that they enhanced domestic spaces, and the potential motives behind their insertion. To assess the great efforts to which homeowners, particularly in urban settings, went to ensure their installation and continued operation, one case study focuses on the best-preserved cityscape of Ostia.

OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9798888571125 • £45.00

December 2024 • 280x216 • 240 pages • 100 colour and B/w illustrations



Current Approaches to Roman Frontiers

Proceedings of the 25th International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies 1

Edited by Harry van Enkevort, Mark Driessen, Erik P. Graafstal, Tom Hazenberg, Tatiana Ivleva, Carol van Driel-Murray

This is volume one of four of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings.

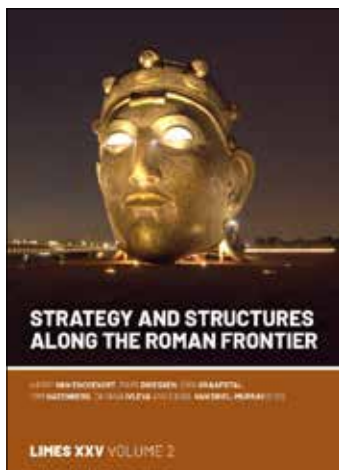
This publication – Current Approaches to Roman Frontiers – is the first volume of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings arranged around the original sessions, in order to form coherent thematical collections that make the vast output more accessible to generalists and specialists alike. This volume starts with a recap of the congress. Regarding the themes it deals with a contemporary feminist approach; new digital methodologies and computational modelling; three themes on archaeological heritage management dealing inter alia with preservation, protection, citizen science and World Heritage aspects, and a comparison between the Roman Limes and the Great Wall of China. It ends with an overview of the sessions and lectures of the congress in Nijmegen.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262759 • £65.00

Hardback • 9789464262766 • £120.00

September 2024 • 280x210 • 340 pages • 195fc / 20bw illustrations



Strategy and Structures Along the Roman Frontier

Proceedings of the 25th International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies 2

Edited by Harry van Enkevort, Mark Driessen, Erik P. Graafstal, Tom Hazenberg, Tatiana Ivleva, Carol van Driel-Murray

This is volume two of four of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings.

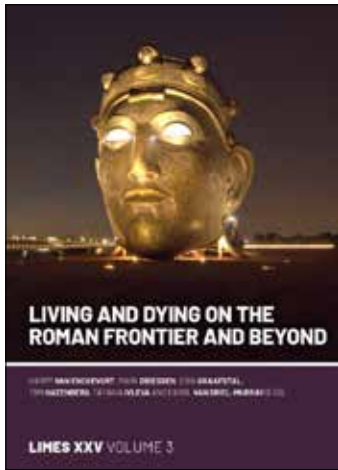
This publication – Strategy and Structures along the Roman Frontiers – is the second volume of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings and deals with the following themes: Roman military activities during the Republic; the early frontier formation processes and tribal reshuffling; new insights in the installations of the Roman armies; an odyssey along different Limes regions; the collapse of Roman frontiers; the afterlife of frontier fortifications. The proceedings are all arranged around the original sessions, creating coherent thematical collections that make the vast output more accessible to generalists and specialists alike.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262780 • £65.00

Hardback • 9789464262797 • £120.00

September 2024 • 280x210 • 390 pages • 154fc / 43bw illustrations



Living and Dying on the Roman Frontier and Beyond

Proceedings of the 25th International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies 3

Edited by Harry van Enkevort, Mark Driessen, Erik P. Graafstal, Tom Hazenberg, Tatiana Ivleva, Carol van Driel-Murray

[This is volume three of four of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings.](#)

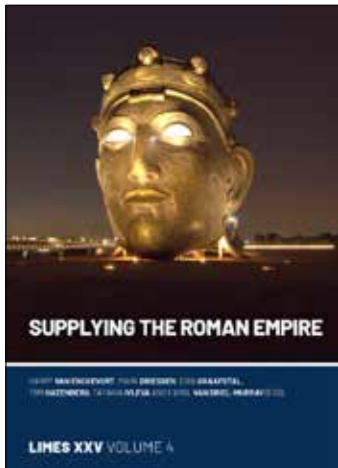
This publication – *Living and Dying on the Roman Frontiers and Beyond* – is the third volume of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings and deals with a variety of themes, including the iconography of victory; aspects of frontier societies; mobility and the place of children; funerary archaeology; the significance of Roman imports beyond the frontiers. The proceedings are mostly arranged around the original sessions, creating coherent thematical collections that make the vast output more accessible to generalists and specialists alike.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262810 • £65.00

Hardback • 9789464262827 • £120.00

September 2024 • 280x210 • 400 pages • 161fc / 22bw illustrations



Supplying the Roman Empire

Proceedings of the 25th International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies 4

Edited by Harry van Enkevort, Mark Driessen, Erik P. Graafstal, Tom Hazenberg, Tatiana Ivleva, Carol van Driel-Murray

[This is volume four of four of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings.](#)

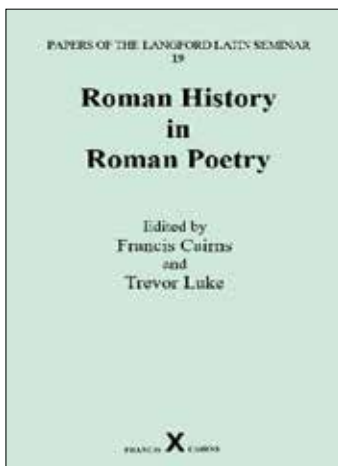
This publication – *Supplying the Roman Empire* – is the fourth volume of the LIMES XXV's congress proceedings and deals with various aspects of the supply and provisioning of the Roman empire, and the role of the Roman armies housed on its fringes herein. The result is a wide-ranging collection of papers dealing with topics such as: finds of organic material; riverine and maritime supply and security; militarily controlled mining; building material procurement and processing; agro-political schemes and water management; military material culture. The proceedings are all arranged around the original sessions, trying to create coherent thematical collections that make the vast output more accessible to generalists and specialists alike.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262841 • £65.00

Hardback • 9789464262858 • £120.00

September 2024 • 280x210 • 330 pages • 157fc / 23bw illustrations



Roman History in Roman Poetry

Edited by Francis Cairns, Trevor Luke

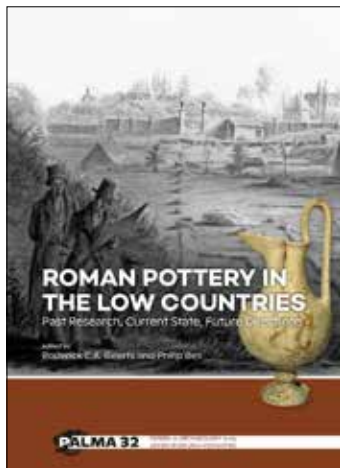
[The nineteenth volume of Papers of the Langford Latin Seminar explores aspects of how historical and historiographical concerns were represented in or affected by Roman poetry.](#)

In *Roman History in Roman Poetry* (the 19th volume of PLLS) distinguished international scholars explore aspects of how historical and historiographical concerns were represented in or affected by Roman poetry. The essays, ranging chronologically from Roman pre-history through the late Republic and early Empire up to the Flavian age, look at the topic in Lucretius, Virgil, Horace, Propertius, Lucan, and Silius, with a concluding paper on the female poet Sulpicia, commenting circumspectly on the politics of the reign of Domitian.

ARCA, CLASSICAL AND MEDIEVAL TEXTS, PAPERS AND MONOGRAPHS, 58 | FRANCIS CAIRNS PUBLICATIONS

Hardback • 9780995461246 • £90.00

October 2024 • 216x138 • 384 pages



Roman Pottery in the Low Countries

Past Research, Current State, Future Directions

Edited by Roderick C.A. Geerts, Philip Bes

[A synthesis of research on Roman pottery in the Low Countries and adjacent regions.](#)

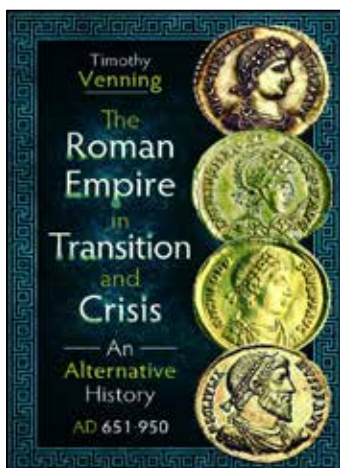
This edited volume was written on the occasion of the 33rd Congress of the *Rei Cretariæ Romanæ Fautores* (www.fautores.org), which was held in September 2024 in Leiden, and offers a status quaestionis of Roman pottery studies in the Netherlands and adjacent regions. A concise history introducing the discipline is followed by ten contributions – centred around four concepts – which are written by experts in their respective fields who discuss key aspects of Roman pottery studies. Many of the contributions are characterised by a diachronic viewpoint, and range from addressing the social and cultural significance of individual ceramic categories, to formative historical developments and regional syntheses. The book concludes by highlighting prospects for future research.

PALMA, 32 | SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262889 • £35.00

Hardback • 9789464262896 • £95.00

September 2024 • 280x210 • 150 pages • 55fc / 39bw illustrations



The Roman Empire in Transition and Crisis

An Alternative History AD 651-950

Timothy Venning

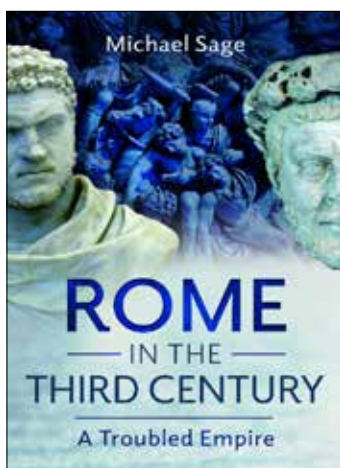
[Thoroughly researched narrative of the political struggle for imperial power in Ancient Rome.](#)

This is not a success story but one of transition and ultimate fall. It is detailed, hugely researched, full of action, personality, and a vivid narrative of political struggle for imperial power as Roman Emperor. It is especially impressive on the role of women, the tangled personal lives, of the elite family competition. And all against the backdrop of transition and decline. But struggle and competition take the Roman Empire and its agents, military and civil, to action on a global scale, to extreme northern Europe, Europe, the Balkans, Near and Middle East, South and East Asia, Africa and even fringes of (later) America.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781036103637 • £25.00

November 2024 • 234x156 • 256 pages • 16 mono illustrations



Rome in the Third Century

A Troubled Empire

Michael Sage

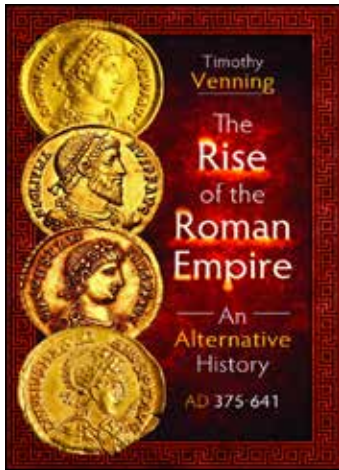
[Narrates the tumultuous events of the third century when the Roman Empire nearly collapsed through internal divisions and external enemies, but recovered.](#)

For its first two centuries the Roman Empire enjoyed a relatively peaceful existence. There were short periods of trouble and instability, but they had no lasting effect. At the end of the second century AD, the situation began to change and by the third century the Empire was beset by serious internal and external threats. This book examines this time of troubles. Michael Sage begins by analysing the available sources, which are difficult to use and provide mostly fragmentary glimpses of the period and looks at the surprising disappearance of historical writing in the western half of the empire. He then discusses in detail the increasing pressures on Rome's northern and eastern frontiers, along with the growing internal threats that the empire faced as the state weakened and experienced increasing internal disintegration.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399063128 • £25.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 224 pages • 1 map



The Rise of the Roman Empire

An Alternative History, AD 375-641

Timothy Venning

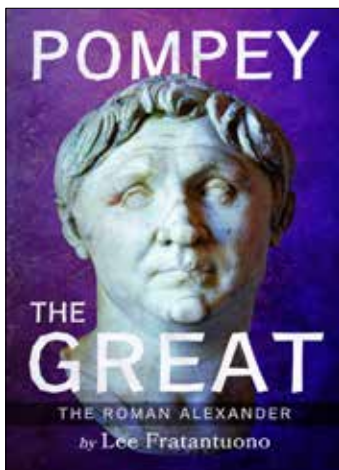
[An alternative history of success rather than decline and fall.](#)

An alternative history of success rather than decline and fall. The actual history is set out and the alternative history with Old Time Lines (OTL) for reference. It is a vivid narrative, deeply researched, full of events and people, great and minor figures who come to life. It is a story of division and controversy concerning imperial and dynastic ambition and struggle, often caustic family relationships, cultural and religious disputes with surviving paganism and the classical philosophy of Neo-Platonism, and expanding Christianity in church and state in both Empires. The Empires are expanding in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Division and crisis are followed by restoration, more division but finally re-unification.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399034395 • £25.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 272 pages • 16 mono illustrations



Pompey the Great

The Roman Alexander

Lee Fratantuono

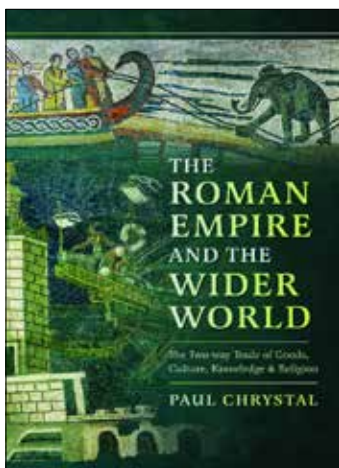
[Detailed coverage of the military career of one of the most significant generals of the late Roman Republic.](#)

Pompey's career in command began at a young age, taking control of his deceased father's legions in support of Sulla during the civil war with Marius. A precocious and ambitious talent, he held repeated commands before he was the legal age. Sulla called him 'the teenage butcher'. He served in the Sertorian War in Spain (recovering from an early defeat), helped crush Spartacus' revolt then freed the Eastern Mediterranean from the depredations of Cilician pirates in a matter of weeks. He brought a victorious end to the long-running Third Mithridatic War and brought the whole of Asia Minor, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Judea under Roman influence by a mix of force and diplomacy.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781526795700 • £25.00

November 2024 • 234x156 • 384 pages



The Roman Empire and the Wider World

The Two-way Trade of Goods, Culture, Knowledge and Religion

Paul Chrystal

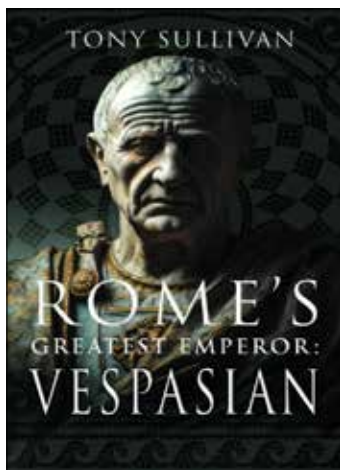
[Describes Rome's contact with the world beyond its borders.](#)

Paul Chrystal examines Rome's relations with the world it never conquered, describing what the Romans knew of it, how trade relations were established and commerce conducted. He explores the major trade routes such as the fabled Silk Road to China and the sea routes to India, as well as many more. He details embassies and exploratory missions conducted across thousands of miles to open trade and diplomatic links, such as that of Chinese general Bao Chao sent to contact the Romans. Importantly he discusses trade in both directions and emphasizes that along with goods went a two-way exchange of people, ideas, knowledge, and culture. Along the way, topical themes such as immigration, inclusion and xenophobia are raised.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399035712 • £25.00

January 2025 • 234x156 • 240 pages • 35 mono illustrations



Rome's Greatest Emperor: Vespasian

Tony Sullivan

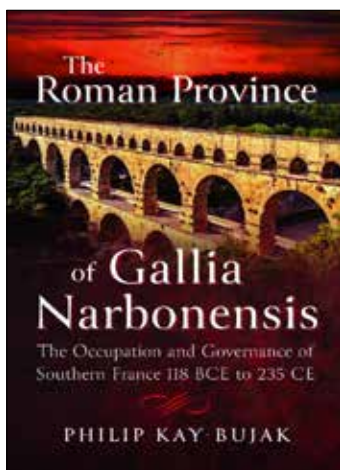
[Follows Vespasian and the Second Legion across southern Britain in the invasion of 43 AD.](#)

To anyone scanning the sea from the southern coast of Britain in the year 43 AD, the sight of hundreds of ships appearing one by one as dots on the horizon would have filled them with awe and dread. On a leading warship, a hundred and twenty oarsmen heaved at their work as one of the four legionary legates scanned the cliff tops expecting to see them lined with warriors as Julius Caesar had described nearly a hundred years before. Vespasian would lead the Second Augusta in the initial invasion and in a remarkable campaign across southern Britain, capturing a score of strongholds, oppida, such as the formidable Maiden Castle, along the way.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781036103040 • £22.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 224 pages • 32 mono illustrations



The Roman Province of Gallia Narbonensis

The Occupation and Governance of Southern France, 118 BCE to 235 CE

Philip Kay-Bujak

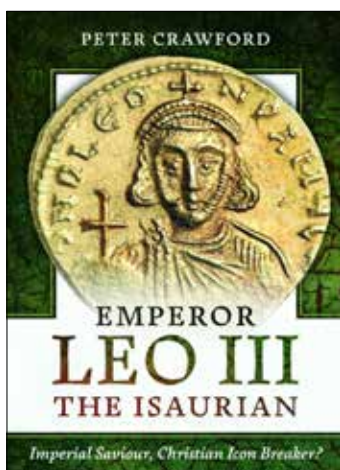
[The history of one of the core provinces of the Roman Empire, in what is now southern France.](#)

According to Pliny (admittedly a native of the province), Gallia Narbonensis was 'by the cultivation of its soil, the manners and civilization of its inhabitants and the extent of its wealth, surpassed by no other province in the Empire'. Philip Kay-Bujak describes how this vital area came to be occupied and incorporated into Rome's domains and how it was then governed. Straddling important roads connecting Rome with Spain, northern Gaul and the Channel ports, the province grew into an agricultural and economic powerhouse. Containing some of the finest examples of Roman cities, such as Narbonne and Lyon, it was among the most sought after postings for Roman officials. However, this strategic positioning also made it the battlefield for numerous foreign invasions and civil wars, and we follow the region's fluctuating fortunes through several centuries of drama.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399032308 • £25.00

November 2024 • 234x156 • 272 pages • 16 colour illustrations



Emperor Leo III the Isaurian

Imperial Saviour, Christian Icon Breaker?

Peter Crawford

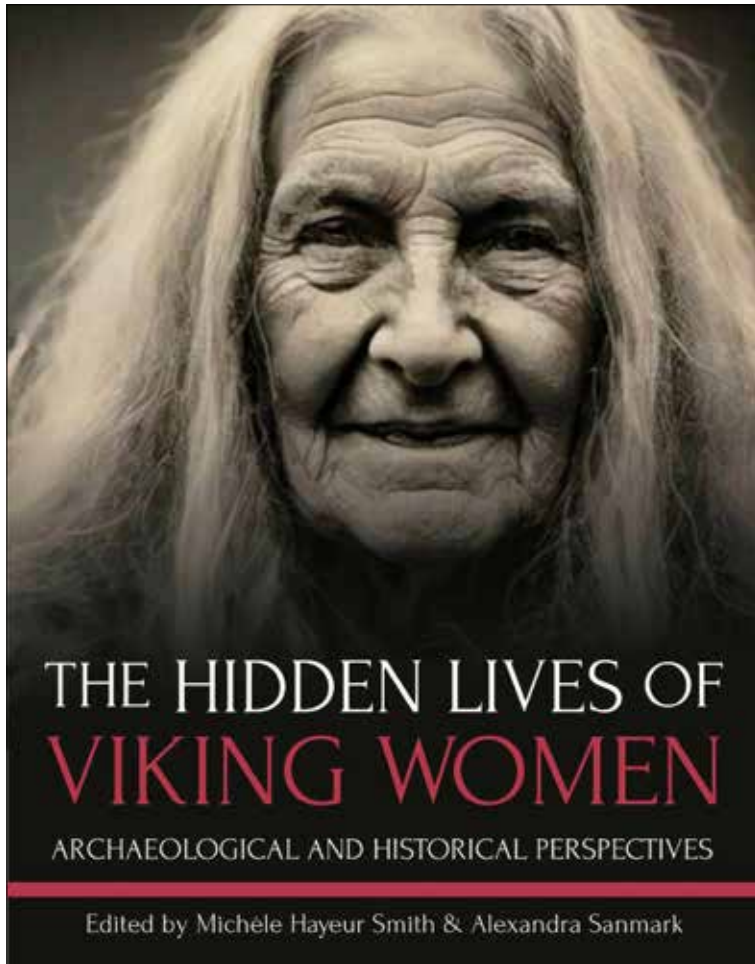
[Discusses Leo's background and his rise to power in the unstable period following the assassination of Justinian II.](#)

The Roman Empire (long since ruled from Constantinople) was in a perilous and tumultuous position in the early eighth century. Surrounded by expansionist enemies, most notably the Muslim Arab Umayyad Caliphate but also the Khazars, Slavs, Avars, Bulgars and Lombards, it was also riven by religious controversy and internal political instability. When a plot brought Leo III to the throne in 717, he was the fourth Emperor since Justinian II's assassination six years earlier. Within weeks of his accession he was faced with the year-long siege of his capital by the Arabs. The siege was eventually broken (with the help of the secret weapon, Greek fire) but was only the first of many crises Leo faced in his twenty-four-year reign.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399072830 • £25.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 352 pages • 24 mono



The Hidden Lives of Viking Women

Archaeological and Historical Perspectives

Edited by Michèle Hayeur Smith, Alexandra Sanmark

- Combines evidence from Icelandic sagas, law codes, poems, runic inscriptions and archaeology to provide and interpret direct evidence about Viking Age and Norse women, their status, roles in religion, place in law, and agency within a strongly male dominated society.
- Investigates the concepts of gendered work and space of the Viking Age and Norse period, critically examining the traditional reliance on idealised, separate gender roles within subsistence farming households and examines how whole households (husbands, wives, blood and other relatives, hired hands and slaves) worked together for their joint survival.
- Demonstrates that while textile work was a distinctly female activity within a strongly patriarchal society, even when textiles became the basis of the Icelandic economy, their production provided women with a say in economic matters and strong political, even magical, powers that brought the bargaining and negotiations of power down to the household level.
- Reviews evidence for Viking women in Britain, demonstrating that women were present with the armies that won new lands for settlement and were thus part of the conquest and early acculturation processes, playing varied roles outside the stereotyped ones of wives and mothers, such as bearers of weapons, sorceresses and rune carvers.

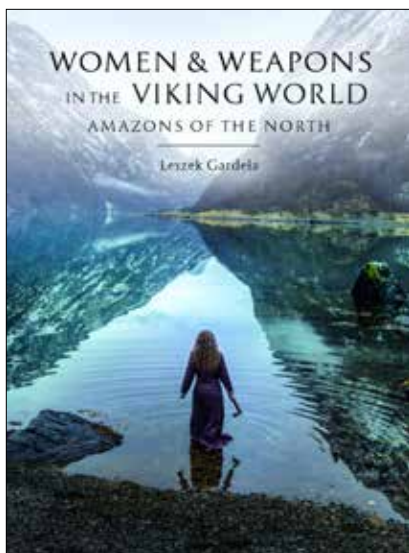
This edited volume brings together an international group of scholars to address the lives, roles, myths, mythology, and lived experiences of Viking women as well as the impacts of change on women during the turbulent period of the Viking Age. Through interdisciplinary perspectives, this is a book dedicated to the lesser-known aspects of women's lives as active members of society. It provides an innovative way of bringing together work from archaeological, anthropological, historical, and literary perspectives to address questions about women in trade, in war, in magic, in the household and activities that provided women with power and respect in their communities.

OXBOW BOOKS

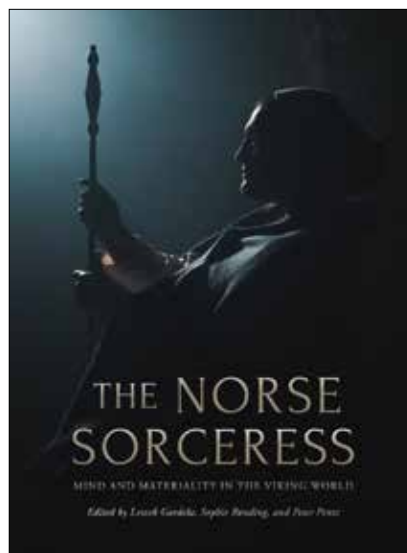
Paperback • 9798888571866 • £29.95

January 2025 • 240x170 • 208 pages • 20 B/w illustrations

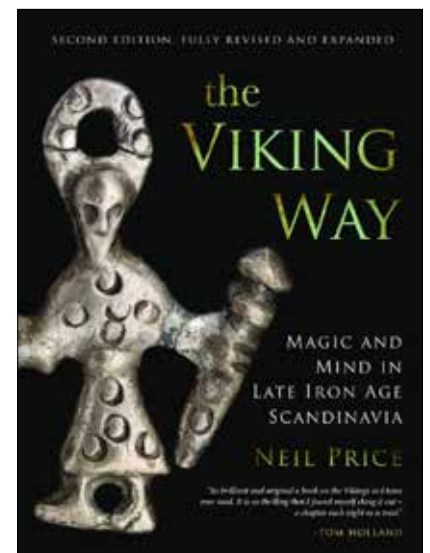
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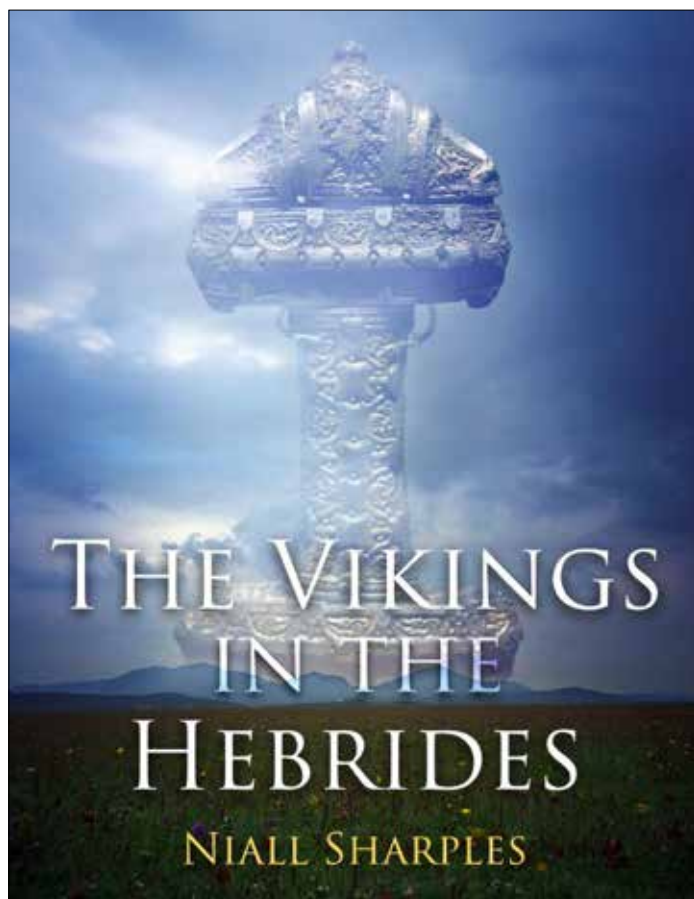
9781789256659 • £30.00 • Oxbow Books



9781789259537 • £60.00 • Oxbow Books



9781842172605 • £35.00 • Oxbow Books



The Vikings in the Hebrides

Niall Sharples

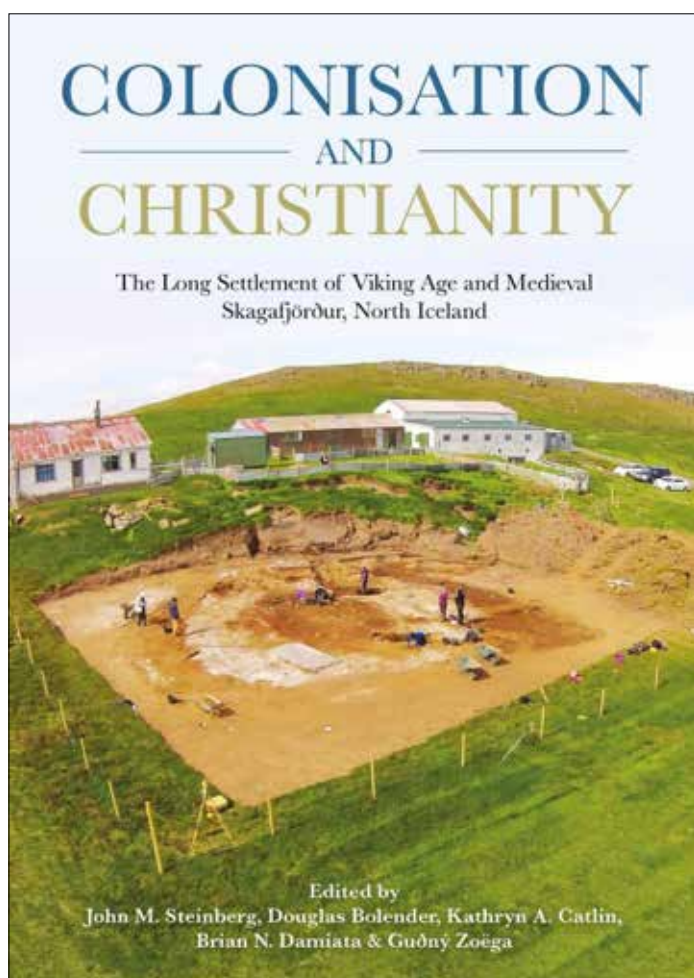
Presents a summary of the excavations at Bornais and Cille Pheadair, providing an introduction to the Viking colonisation and Norse occupation of the Western Isles/Outer Hebrides of Scotland.

This volume provides an introduction to the Viking colonisation and Norse occupation of the Outer Hebrides. Our knowledge of this period in the Hebrides has until recently been minimal as the historic evidence was negligible and the archaeology limited. However, two recent excavations at Bornais and Cille Pheadair have transformed our understanding of the period in the region. These two excavations will provide much of the information that is set out in this book but there is also a comprehensive review of other important discoveries such as the Lewis Chessmen, the burial at Cnip, Lewis and the silver hoards from Stornoway Castle and Dibidale in Lewis. The book places the Outer Hebrides at the centre of the Viking World and provides a unique contribution to our understanding of the islands' importance at the critical period when Scotland was emerging as a major medieval kingdom.

WINDGATHER PRESS

Paperback • 9781914427398 • £38.00

February 2025 • 256 pages • 200 B/w and colour illustrations



Colonisation and Christianity

The Long Settlement of Viking Age and Medieval Skagafjörður, North Iceland

Edited by John M. Steinberg, Douglas Bolender, Kathryn A. Catlin, Brian N. Damiata, Guðný Zoëga

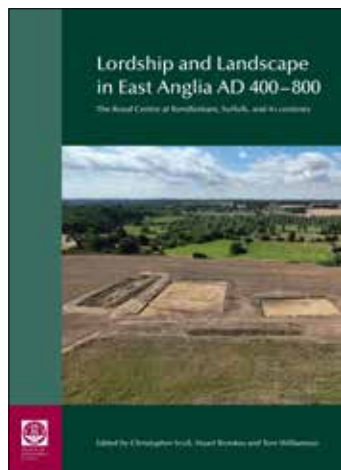
Traces the development of Viking and medieval farmstead settlement patterns in Northern Iceland and the impact of Christianity as revealed by household cemeteries.

This book details the methods and results from an innovative systemic regional archaeological survey that integrated extensive soil coring and shallow geophysical surveying with targeted excavation, tephra and AMS dating and documentary research to produce a near complete inventory of Viking Age and medieval occupation in and around the Hegrans region in lowland Skagafjörður, North Iceland. The survey revealed 32 Viking Age and medieval farmstead sites and seven early Christian household cemeteries at 20 modern farm properties. Results included the first complete regional settlement pattern in Iceland based on systematic subsurface reconnaissance with control over negative evidence; identification and mapping of a household cemetery and Viking Age longhouse and ancillary structures; and barley identified for the first time in the middens of a broad swath of Viking Age farmsteads. The results of the project confirm that the Viking Age settlement, which started in about AD 870, was rapid and the landscape itself was filled in by immigrants from Northern Europe within 60 years, as the Icelandic Family Sagas suggest. However, the process of creating the medieval agropastoral landscape took much longer.

OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9781789259674 • £50.00

April 2025 • 280x216 • 224 pages • B/w and colour images



Lordship and Landscape in East Anglia AD400-800

The Royal Centre at Rendlesham, Suffolk, and its Contexts

Edited by Christopher Scull, Stuart Brookes, Tom Williamson

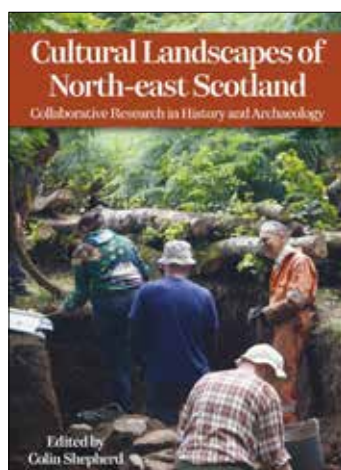
Uses East Anglia as a starting point for a multidisciplinary study of pathways to regional rulership in early post-Roman Britain.

This is an inter-disciplinary study of pathways to regional rulership and territorial lordship in early post-Roman Britain which takes as its starting point the East Anglian royal centre at Rendlesham and its contexts. This book examines the origins and development of the East Anglian kingdom in the fifth to eighth centuries AD through the lens of the elite settlement complex at Rendlesham, Suffolk using an interdisciplinary approach involving field survey, landscape history, excavation and metal-detecting finds. It also examines the wider regional context and proposes a new narrative of kingdom formation.

REPORTS OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE | SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON

Hardback • 9780854313075 • £50.00

October 2024 • 297x210 • 535 pages • 209 illustrations



Cultural Landscapes of North-east Scotland

Collaborative Research in History and Archaeology

Edited by Colin Shepherd

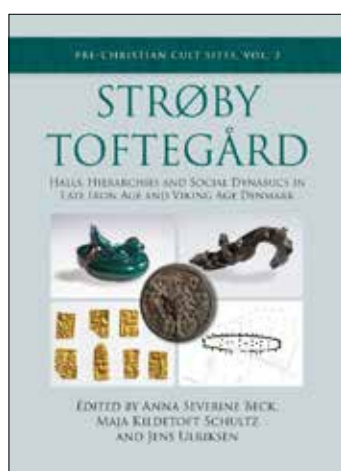
Presents regional inter- and multidisciplinary studies examining and showcasing the cultural landscapes and international interactions of north-east Scotland from glacial to early modern times.

The authors explore multi-faceted aspects of the competing cultural landscapes that comprise the north-east of Scotland. This interdisciplinary collection uses a deep temporal perspective at a range of scales, from micro-landscape studies to large-scale geological and archaeological environments. Authors present new understandings of glacial geology, Mesolithic settlements, Roman, Viking and medieval settlements and environments, and recent crofting landscapes. Today's landscape is shown to be an extraordinarily rich resource for cultural and environmental history that is well worthy of continued protection and care. The research is itself used as a means of reaching into the wider community and engaging in a two-way process of education that connects the various participants.

OXBOW BOOKS

Paperback • 9798888571576 • £45.00

February 2025 • 240x170 • 320 pages • 90 B/w, 60 colour illustrations



Strøby Toftegård

Halls, Hierarchies and Social Dynamics in Late Iron Age and Viking Age Denmark

Edited by Anna Severine Beck, Maja Kildetoft Schultz, Jens Ulriksen

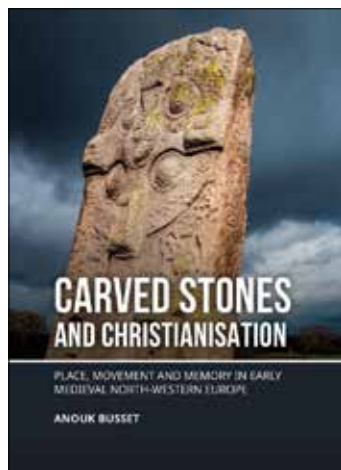
Presents details of the remarkable structures and material culture of Strøby Toftegård, Zealand, revealing it to be a high status, Viking period magnate farm settlement.

This volume presents and considers the archaeological material from the site of Strøby Toftegård in the eastern part of Zealand, Denmark, where comprehensive excavations took place between 1994 and 2013. The book seeks to qualify the interpretation of Farm 1 as the residence of a magnate from c. AD 650 to c. AD 1000 and of the whole settlement consisting of at least nine farm units as a magnate settlement. This is done by means of a detailed survey and analysis of buildings and features, structures, various groups of objects, and a discussion of the landscape, the social context and the creation of social hierarchies that the site fitted into while it was in use.

PRE-CHRISTIAN CULT SITES, 2 | OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9798888571491 • £55.00

December 2024 • 280x216 • 424 pages • 312 colour plans, drawings, photos, 34 B/w illustrations



Carved Stones and Christianisation

Place, Movement and Memory in Early Medieval North-western Europe

Anouk Busset

Explores early medieval carved stones in the process of Christianisation of north-western Europe.

The early medieval period witnessed one of the deepest and most significant transformations of European societies and cultures with the process of Christianisation. Carved stones did not merely reflect these changes, but enabled them within northern societies with traditions of sculpture and epigraphic representations. This book looks at three datasets of monuments from Ireland, Scotland and Sweden using an innovative comparative framework to offer new insights on these monuments and the societies that erected them. Analysed through the three major themes of place, movement, and memory, the case studies are presented from a holistic perspective comprising the monument, their landscape settings and historical and archaeological contexts (when available).

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789088909801 • £60.00

Hardback • 9789088909818 • £180.00

November 2024 • 280x210 • 400 pages • 85bw/315fc illustrations



Searching for the Last Anglo-Saxon King

Harold Godwinson, England's Golden Warrior

Paula Lofting

A thoughtful and careful critique of the life of Harold Godwinson, offering a more accurate evaluation of who he was, how he died, and what happened to his remains after his death.

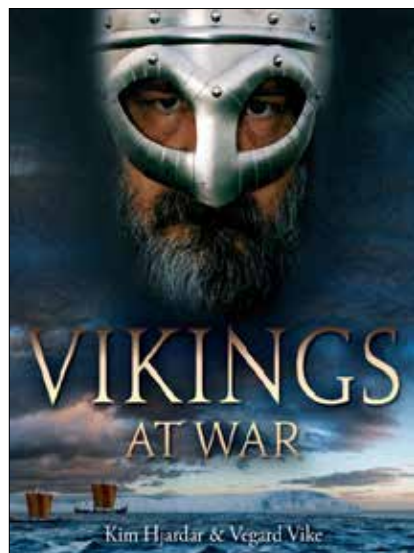
Harold Godwinson occupied his place in the chronicles for more than twenty years after bursting onto the political sphere when he was barely out of his teens. But just who was this man, who some historians recall as one of England's greatest rulers? What were his origins? Is there any truth that he could trace his ancestry to the House of Wessex, and did he really usurp the throne from Duke William, the Bastard of Normandy? In this re-examining of this great historical figure of the eleventh century, we glean new theories and ideas not only about Harold's life, but also questions historians have pondered upon for years. Did Edward really offer the throne to William? And how much of William's claim was truth or fiction?

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399041270 • £22.00

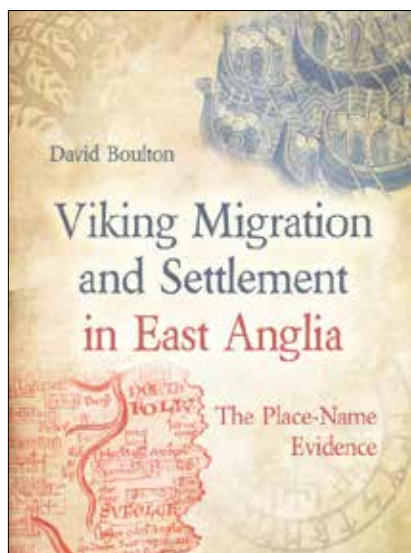
January 2025 • 234x156 • 232 pages • 40 mono illustrations

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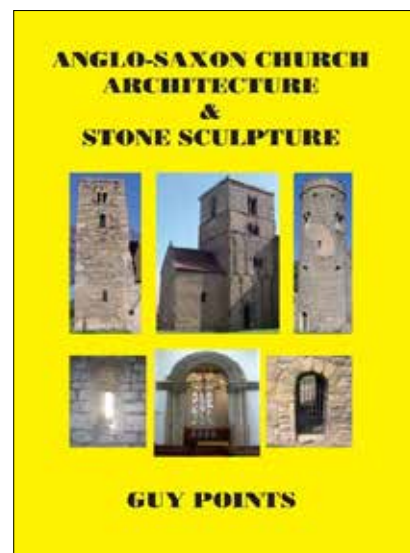
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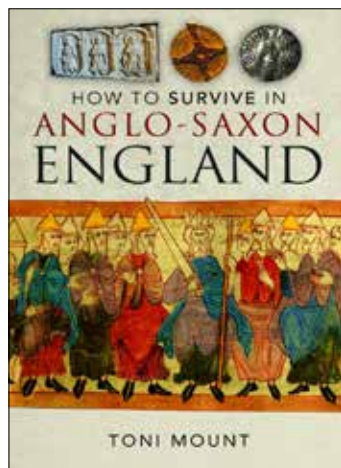
9781914427251 • £39.95

Windgather Press



9780993033964 • £49.00

Guy Points



How to Survive in Anglo-Saxon England

Toni Mount

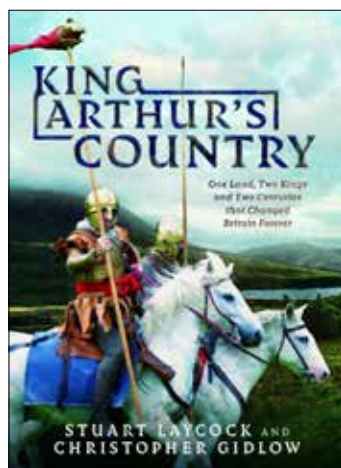
A self-help guide for time-travellers answering all your questions about how you would manage to survive in the England of Anglo-Saxon times.

If you are planning to travel back to the England of Anglo-Saxon times and begin a new life without technology, how will you manage? If you were a king, a thegn or even a slave, what rights do you have under the law? Are women treated well by their husbands, and if you become sick, what are your chances of recovery? How might you earn your living, and the biggest worry: what to do about those fearsome Vikings? This book explores the difficulties you may encounter and the problems that might occur, especially as you are a newcomer in this very different world.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399055734 • £22.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 208 pages • Integrated mono illustrations



King Arthur's Country

One Land, Two Kings and Two Centuries that Changed Britain Forever

Stuart Laycock, Christopher Gidlow

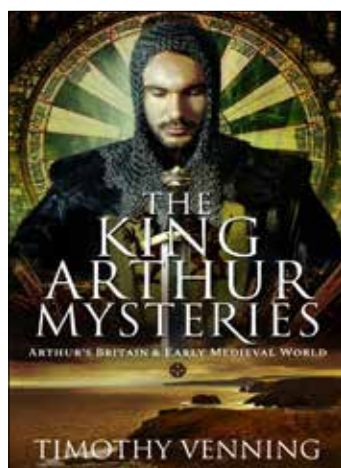
Uses historical and archaeological evidence, much of it new, to explore the link between Arthur's kingdom and the rise of Penda's Mercia.

In the decades after Roman Britain collapsed in the fifth century, the cultures of the Angles and of the Saxons, with significant degrees of homogeneity, spread rapidly westwards across much of eastern, southern and central England. Then it stopped. Or was stopped. Later, the multi-ethnic and multi-cultural kingdom of Mercia, in alliance with British kingdoms in Wales, spread from the Midlands across England under the mysterious King Penda, dominating the earlier Anglo-Saxon kingdoms with its wealth and military power. The region that gave birth to Mercia is also a region that was a most likely base for the elusive figure of King Arthur. This is the story of one region, two kings and two centuries that changed England forever.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399053594 • £25.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 216 pages • 70 mono illustrations



The King Arthur Mysteries

Arthur's Britain and Early Medieval World

Timothy Venning

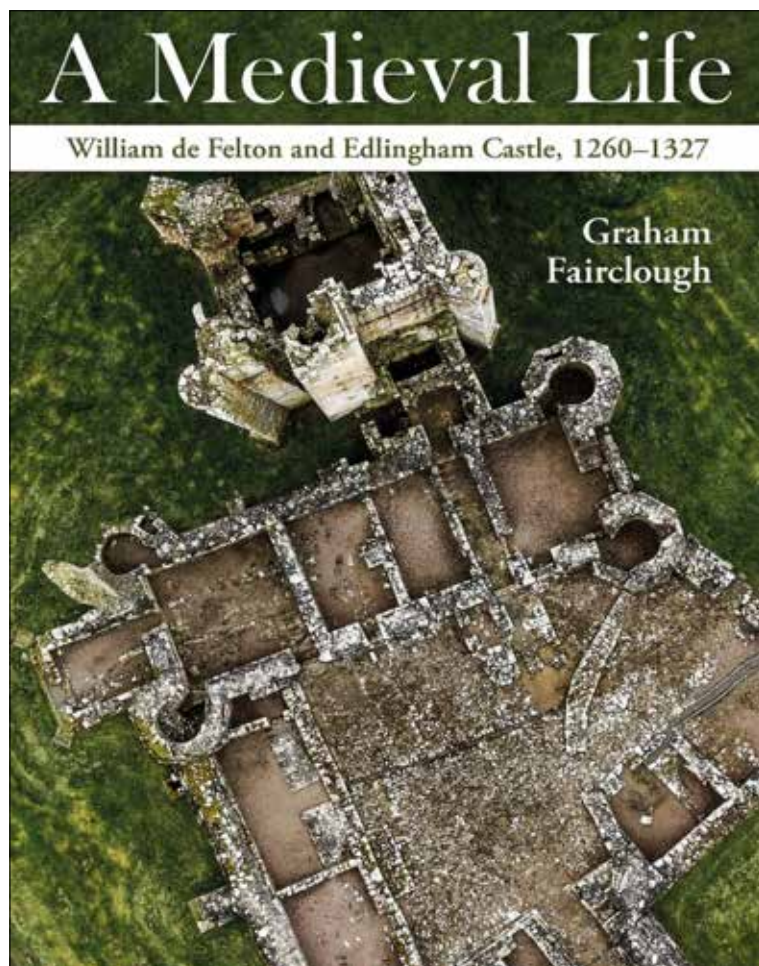
Up-to-date and comprehensive guide to the history of the Arthurian legend.

An up-to-date and comprehensive guide to the history of the 'Arthurian' phenomenon - the imaginary and historical world of the great British warlord and one of the huge historical mysteries of early and medieval Britain. The Arthurian story, based on fact and fiction, is central to Britain's 'creation myth' and the concept of Britain's heroic past. This is a deeply researched and scholarly but essentially accessible history and analysis for general readers and specialists and based on an impressive array of sources. The study surveys King Arthur in fact and fiction, his family, knights, and the legends that have grown up around them and developed to the enduring interest from history, literature to TV and film.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781526783943 • £14.99

January 2025 • 234x156 • 272 pages • 16 black and white illustrations



A Medieval Life

William de Felton and Edlingham Castle, 1260–1327

Graham Fairclough

- A biographical fusion of history, geography and archaeology with a focus on landscape and castles studies, examining Edlingham Castle and its first builder, William de Felton.
- Offers a biographical approach to history framed by archaeological and landscape perspectives.
- Covers regional as well as national history, deals with landscape and archaeology, and has a local history dimension.

A Medieval Life: William de Felton and Edlingham Castle, 1260–1324 is a biographical fusion of history, geography and archaeology with a focus on landscape and castles studies, set in the reigns of Edward I and II in the context of early attempts to create by force a single nation on the British island. A central theme in the book is how medieval biography can be written about someone relatively ordinary and not famous without straying into generalisation. The existing general market readership for medieval history focuses on 'kings, queens and battles', and this book attempts a different perspective.

The book's origin lies in an archaeological excavation between 1978 and 1982 at Edlingham Castle, near Alnwick, Northumberland. Edlingham Castle was first built in the years around 1300 by William de Felton. It was abandoned in the 1660s after less than four centuries of habitation, to be uncovered by excavation just over three centuries later. This is not a conventional excavation report, nor an architectural survey, but an attempt to excavate a buried and concealed life, that of the castle's first builder. In the process it creates a context to understand this unusual building. It offers a biographical approach to history framed by archaeological and landscape perspectives: biographies of one man and of groups of people he knew, but also biographies of place and landscape.

William de Felton has been fairly anonymous to historians; his precise birth and death dates are unrecorded, his parentage has always been uncertain, his place of origin unclear. He was relatively wealthy and privileged, perhaps in the upper five or ten percent of contemporary society, but he does not represent the high aristocracy or even the medieval 'great and the good', which is the most common subject of medieval biography and history. Although not famous either then or since, William's story can nevertheless illuminate the lives and landscapes of those around him because his life is unexpectedly well-documented; his career as a middle-ranking servant in and close to the royal households, combined with the bureaucratic habits of Edward I and Edward II, has bequeathed a corpus of about two hundred contextualised medieval documents that mention him.

These contemporary documents could individually be considered banal. Taken together with the documentary evidence for William's family, friends and colleagues, and located into a known geographic as well as historic context, they enable a reconstruction of his life, and offer windows onto several aspects of life in medieval Britain. They show us William as husband and father, and as a landowner, as an usher of the king's bedchamber, as a soldier during Edward I's continual wars, and as a builder, notably for the king in Gascony, but also in his own right at Edlingham. We see him as an administrator or governor of occupied territories, and later as a local official in Northumberland. The contemporary documents about William also illustrate the mechanisms of long-distance travel in the thirteenth century: contrary to the idea that medieval people travelled little, they show us William moving with the king's armies and household from his native Shropshire, widely around England, into Wales, France, Gascony and Flanders, and Scotland during the first wars of Scottish independence. William's biography and Edlingham Castle opens windows onto life in the Middle Ages, revealing a world not as dissimilar to our own as we might like to think.

WINDGATHER PRESS

Paperback • 9781914427435 • £49.95

February 2025 • 246x185 • 368 pages • 60 B/w and colour illustrations



Scotland's Medieval Queens

From Saint Margaret to Margaret of Denmark

Sharon Bennett Connolly

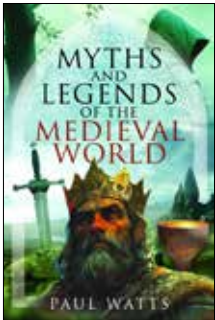
Take a trip through Scotland's violent and bloody past through the eyes of the women who reigned there.

Scotland's history is dramatic, violent and bloody. Being England's northern neighbour has never been easy. Scotland's queens have had to deal with war, murder, imprisonment, political rivalries and open betrayal. They have loved and lost, raised kings and queens, ruled and died for Scotland. From St Margaret, who became one of the patron saints of Scotland, to Elizabeth de Burgh and the dramatic story of the Scottish Wars of Independence, to the love story and tragedy of Joan Beaufort, to Margaret of Denmark and the dawn of the Renaissance, Scotland's Medieval Queens have seen it all. This is the story of Scotland through their eyes.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399098120 • £25.00

January 2025 • 234x156 • 272 pages • 25 mono illustrations



Myths and Legends of the Medieval World

Paul Watts

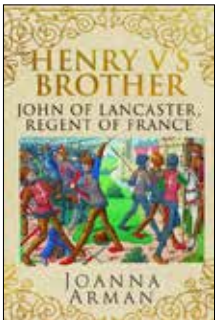
Delve into the origins of the stories that have fascinated us since the Middle Ages and explore some of the most captivating medieval myths and legends from this period.

No one can deny the enduring power of medieval myths and legends. However, the stories we have inherited from our medieval forebears have often been transformed by the embellishments and additions of later generations. In every century since the Middle Ages, stories have been re-imagined, re-told, and sometimes radically changed to suit the audience of the day. This book aims to transport the reader back to the age of the Plantagenets and re-tell these stories as they would have been understood at the time. It explores the stories in detail and looks at what they meant to people living then, how they were told and why they were important.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399056816 • £25.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 256 pages • 30 mono illustrations



Henry V's Brother

John of Lancaster, Regent of France

Joanna Arman

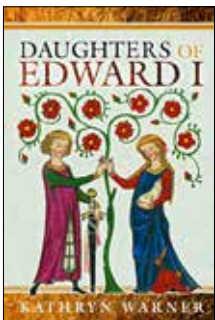
A much-needed reassessment of the life and political career of John of Lancaster Duke of Bedford.

Named after his famous grandfather, John of Gaunt, John of Lancaster Duke of Bedford, has been largely forgotten and sidelined in history. As the third of four sons, he was not his father's heir, but he nonetheless distinguished himself in his youth in his service on the Scottish borders. John became a man noted for equitable rule and an unshakeable commitment to justice. In England, people looked to him to heal the divisions which poisoned Henry VI's government, and in France, they viewed him as the only statesman fully committed to the good governance of Normandy and Paris.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399004466 • £25.00

November 2024 • 234x156 • 256 pages • 40 black and white illustration



Daughters of Edward I

Kathryn Warner

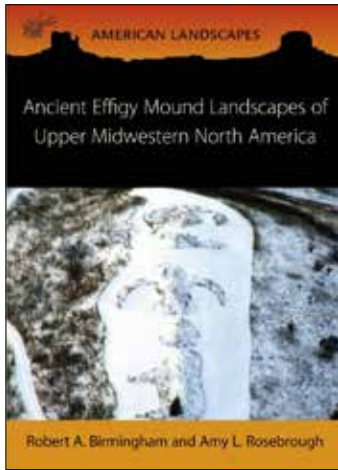
This narrative examines the lives and stories of some of England's forgotten royal women.

Daughters of Edward I traces the lives of these five capable, independent women, including Joan of Acre, born in the Holy Land, who defied her father by marrying a second husband of her own choice, and Mary, who did not let her forced veiling as a nun stand in the way of the life she really wanted to live. The women's stories span the decades from the 1260s to the 1330s, through the long reign of their father, the turbulent reign of their brother Edward II, and into the reign of their nephew, the child-king Edward III.

PEN & SWORD HISTORY

Paperback • 9781399016346 • £14.99

October 2024 • 234x156 • 248 pages



Ancient Effigy Mound Landscapes of Upper Midwestern North America

Robert A. Birmingham, Amy L. Rosebrough

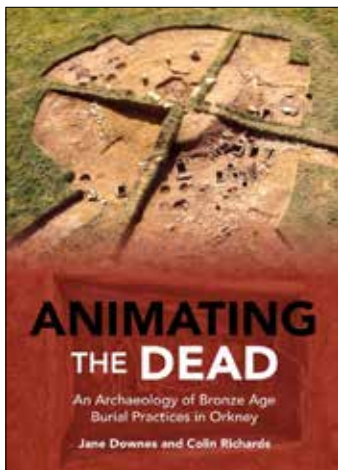
First comprehensive overview of the effigy mound phenomenon of the Upper Midwest of North America c. 700–1100 CE.

This volume provides an overview of the effigy mound phenomenon of the Upper Midwest centered on southern Wisconsin. It documents the nature of these unique landscapes, describing the use of topography and natural features to create the ceremonial landscapes, and provides the interpretation that these were living landscapes in which ancestral animals and supernatural beings were ritually brought back to life at places where the spirits are best evoked in a continuous cycle of death and rebirth of the earth and its people. These monuments can often only be fully appreciated by modern observers from the air. Robert Birmingham includes both high quality historical and modern maps, aerial photographs and the results of the very latest LIDAR imagery to reveal detail of the stunning complexity and ordered layouts of these mysterious spiritual landscapes.

AMERICAN LANDSCAPES, 10 | [OXBOW BOOKS](#)

Paperback • 9781785700873 • £38.00

December 2024 • 246x185 • 240 pages • B/w illustrations



Animating the Dead

An Archaeology of Bronze Age Burial Practices in Orkney

Jane Downes, Colin Richards

Presents the results of an extensive re-examination of Orkney Bronze Age barrows, their chronological development and the changing nature of mortuary and burial practices.

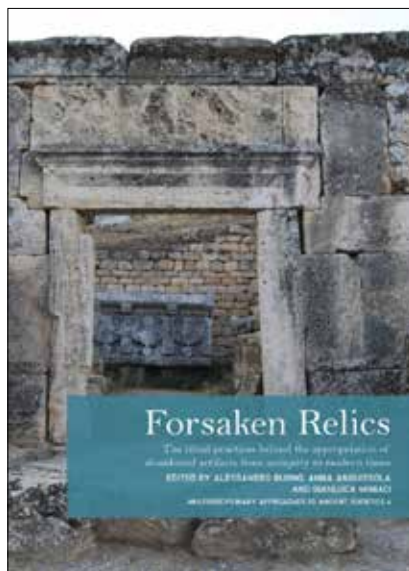
This book provides the exciting results of a long-term project examining Bronze Age round barrow construction and burial practices in Orkney, Scotland. A main focus of this research is on the act of cremation; a technology of bodily metamorphosis as articulated through complex mortuary practices, which produced a distinctive form of funerary architecture. This, and other topical themes, are explored through the results of extensive excavations at several barrow cemeteries including Linga Fiold, Gitterpitten, Varme Dale, Vestrafiold and the Knowes of Trotty, the latter being famous for rich grave goods including gold discs and amber beads. In this context, in being built on the ruins of an early Neolithic settlement, Knowes of Trotty provides an intersection of relational fields, fusing local tradition with faraway places.

[OXBOW BOOKS](#)

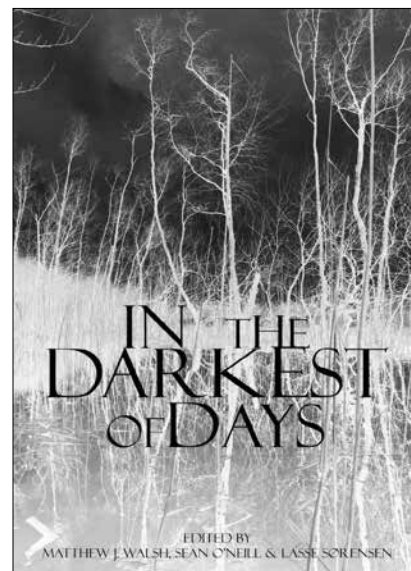
Hardback • 9798888571439 • £40.00

February 2025 • 280x216 • 480 pages • 300 B/w and colour illustrations

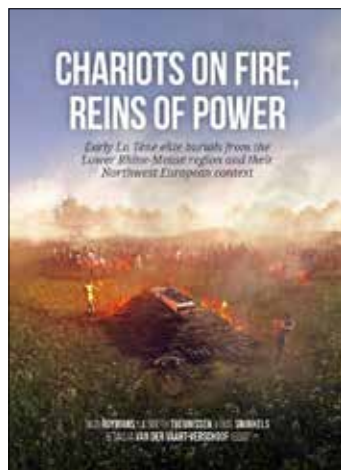
Also of Interest:



9798888571149 • £50.00 • Oxbow Books



9781789258592 • £38.00 • Oxbow Books



Chariots on Fire, Reins of Power

Early La Tène elite burials from the Lower Rhine-Meuse region and their Northwest European context

Edited by Nico Roymans, Louis Swinkels, Liesbeth Theunissen, Sasja Van der Vaart-Verschoof

Presents an overview of the horizon of Early La Tène elite burials in the Lower Rhine-Meuse region and provides a model of the complex social dynamics in this region, including the intense connectivity with the southern Celtic core areas.

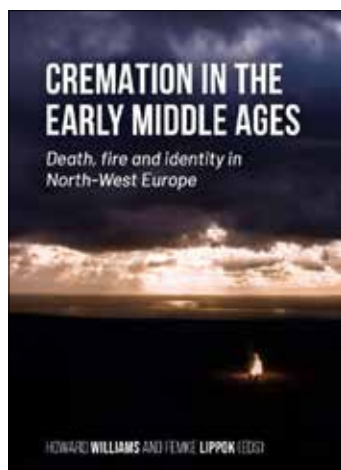
This volume presents the first comprehensive overview of 5th century BC elite graves from the Lower Rhine-Meuse region. Characterised by imported grave goods such as bronze vessels, horse tack, weapons and occasionally two-wheeled vehicles, these strikingly rich cremation burials are the northernmost representatives of an elite culture that had its roots in the Late Hallstatt and Early La Tène culture of more southern regions in France and the German Rhineland. This book is the result of an interdisciplinary study of this northern group of graves, prompted by the recent discovery of a new chariot burial at Heumen, the Netherlands. It will be of great interest to anyone interested in the material culture of the Iron Age and the wider debate about social transformations in the European region at this time.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464262940 • £85.00

Hardback • 9789464262957 • £150.00

November 2024 • 280x210 • 546 pages • 235fc / 77bw illustrations



Cremation in the Early Middle Ages

Death, fire and identity in North-West Europe

Edited by Howard Williams, Femke Lippok

Stimulating and up-to-date overview of current research on early medieval cremation burials in North Western Europe through innovative interviews.

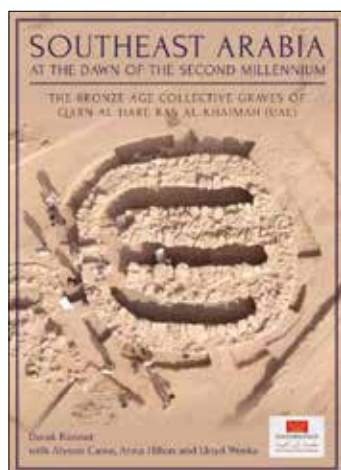
This book draws together the latest research and thinking on early medieval cremation practices. It takes you on a journey through 19 chapters exploring cremation practices from the fifth to the eleventh centuries CE in Fennoscandia, the UK and Ireland, Frisia, Denmark, Germany, Belgium, and France. In this way, the book aims to be a central resource for anyone interested in early medieval cremations, or indeed funerary practices more generally. Notably, the structure and style of this book represent a departure from the norm. As well as a co-authored introduction, chapters constitute a conversation between the editors and key researchers captured via structured interviews, supported by a series of fact boxes highlighting key ideas, methods and techniques, sites, graves and discoveries.

SIDESTONE PRESS

Paperback • 9789464270990 • £50.00

Hardback • 9789464271003 • £95.00

December 2024 • 280x210 • 300 pages • 83fc / 25bw illustrations



Southeast Arabia at the Dawn of the Second Millennium

The Bronze Age Collective Graves of Qarn al-Harf, Ras al-Khaimah (UAE)

Derek Kennet, Alyson Caine, Anna Hilton, Lloyd Weeks

Presents details of five richly furnished communal tombs of the Bronze Age Wadi Suq period (2000–1650 BC), including some exceptional grave goods.

The end of the 3rd millennium was a time of significant transformation in Southeast Arabia. The cultural homogeneity of the preceding Early Bronze Age, Umm an-Nar period (c. 2700–2000 BC) came to an end and gave way to the Middle Bronze Age, Wadi Suq period (2000–1600 BC). Settlements changed, and possibly began to decline in size and number; the economy changed for many; and the important trade in copper ore seems to have declined. In addition, there was a marked change in funerary practices as new types of tombs appeared – both collective and individual burials. All of this took place within the context of a climatic shift that led to a decline in rainfall across many parts of the region.

OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9781789257953 • £65.00

December 2024 • 280x216 • 480 pages • B/w and colour illustrations

COINS, RICHES AND LANDS



PAYING FOR MILITARY
MANPOWER IN ANTIQUITY
AND EARLY MEDIEVAL TIMES



EDITED BY
FERNANDO LÓPEZ SÁNCHEZ, MARISA BUENO & DAVID MARTÍNEZ CHICO

Coins, Riches and Lands

Paying for Military Manpower in Antiquity and Early Medieval Times

Edited by Fernando López Sánchez, Marisa Bueno, David Martínez Chico

- Examines how coins, riches and lands were gained and distributed among soldiers, warriors and mercenaries from Late Pharaonic to early medieval times around the Mediterranean basin and beyond.
- Innovative approach to the relationship between political powers, hired military and their remuneration in terms of land distribution and/or monetary payment.
- Reflects on the respective powers and military organisation of different polities and the significance or otherwise of monetary payment in the recruitment, deployment, and discharge of hired warriors.
- Discusses the impact of such remunerations on the overall developing market economies of the ancient world.

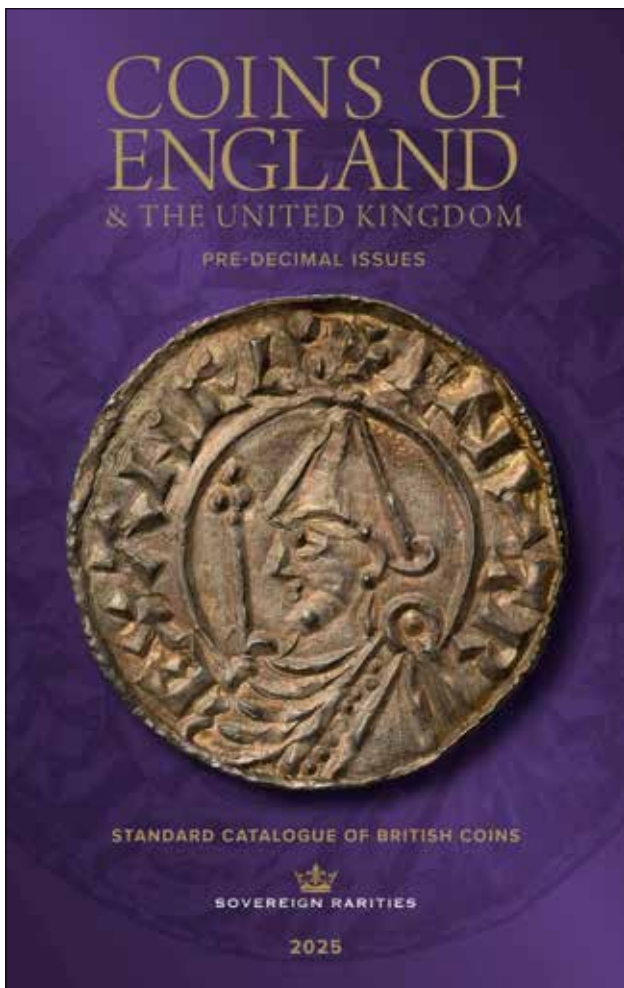
Land was the ideal store of wealth in the ancient Mediterranean world. It brought social respectability, and its possession allowed participation in the politics of the cities governed by landowning elites. Crucial defense of the interests of a given polity through armed services often involved the distribution of lands to laborers still not integrated in these societies. Mediterranean urban dynamics also involved paid labor and were always in need of short-contract manpower, including skilled soldiers and warriors. For short-time military services, lands were not always available so soldiers and warriors were paid with coins and riches. Because of their superior development, urban economies in the Mediterranean were able to attract migrant paid labor. When returning home, the migrant warriors carried coins and riches that would enable them to maximize the return that a homecoming entailed. Although difficult to prove whether these men were paid in advance or when discharged, it is an important issue as it shows the strength of one contractor over another and helps to better understand the construction of statehood in ancient and early medieval times.

This collection of papers sheds light on how coins, riches, and lands were gained and distributed among soldiers, warriors, and mercenaries. Contributions cover a wide chronological span from Late Pharaonic to early medieval times, linking a well-defined core area, the Mediterranean basin, with its peripheries: Central Europe and Scandinavia to the north and the margins of the Sahara Desert and the Fertile Crescent to the south and the east.

OXBOW BOOKS

Hardback • 9781789259902 • £50.00

November 2024 • 280x216 • 280 pages • 120 B/w illustrations



Coins of England & the United Kingdom 2025

Pre-Decimal Issues, 60th edition

Edited by Emma Howard

[The standard reference work for all British pre-decimal coinage.](#)

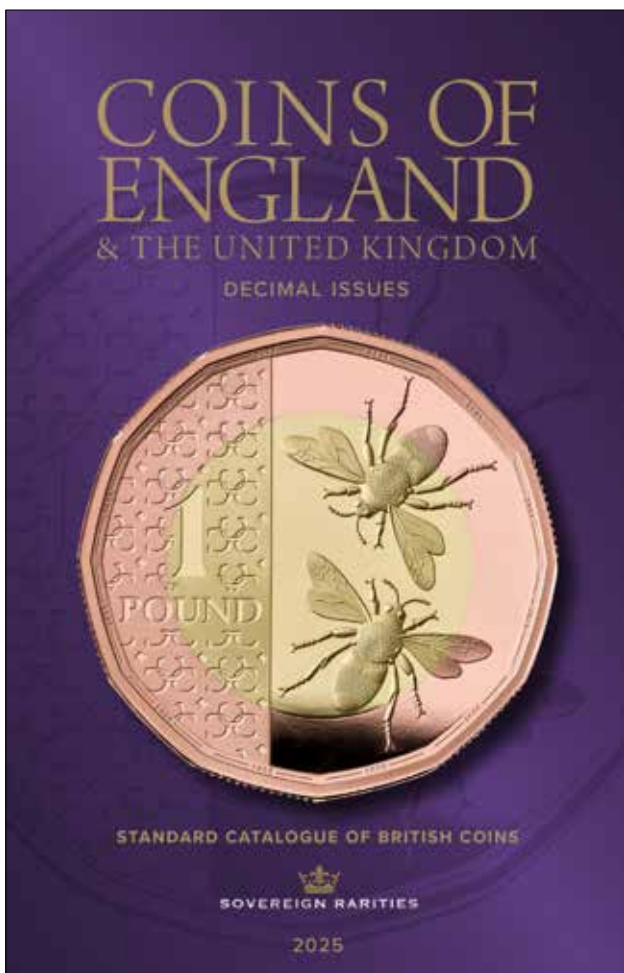
This historic reference work for British coins is still the only catalogue to feature every major coin type from Celtic to the Decimal coinage of King Charles III, arranged in chronological order and divided into metals under each reign, then into coinages, denominations and varieties. This Pre-Decimal volume lists all coinage up to decimalisation, with decimal coinage since 1968 is listed in a separate volume, available as an independent publication.

The catalogue includes up-to-date values for every coin, a beginner's guide to coin collecting, numismatic terms explained and historical information about each British coin, from our earliest (Celtic) coins, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and Norman coins, the coins of the Plantagenet Kings, the Houses of Lancaster and York, the Tudors and Stuarts, to the more modern Milled coinage, minted for the first time in 1561 during the reign of Elizabeth I.

SOVEREIGN RARITIES

Hardback • 9781917269001 • £35.00

January 2025 • 216x138 • 640 pages



Coins of England & the United Kingdom 2025

Decimal Issues, 11th edition

Edited by Emma Howard

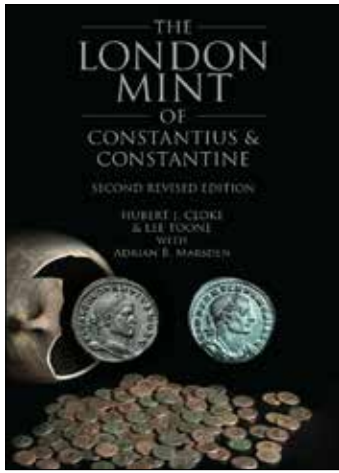
[This 11th edition of the Decimal volume contains all coins minted during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, in addition to all coinage minted to date during the reign of King Charles III.](#)

Coins of England and the United Kingdom Pre-Decimal and Decimal volumes comprise the Standard Catalogue of British Coins. This 11th edition of the Decimal volume contains all coins minted during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, in addition to all coinage minted to date during the reign of King Charles III. The Decimal issue gives a comprehensive overview of all individual coins and sets issued by the Royal Mint since 1971 (and in circulation since 1968), offering an authoritative catalogue of modern British coins under the new ownership of Sovereign Rarities.

SOVEREIGN RARITIES

Hardback • 9781917269018 • £25.00

January 2025 • 216x138 • 464 pages



The London Mint of Constantius and Constantine

Second Revised Edition

Hubert J. Cloke, Lee Toone

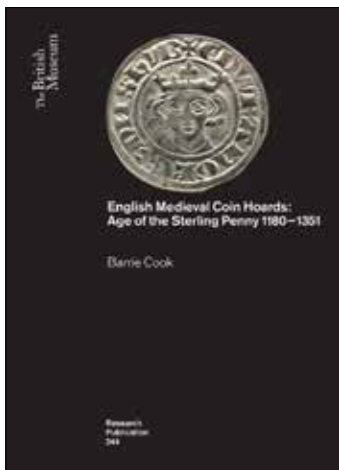
This new edition of LMCC remains the comprehensive catalogue and survey of the coinage of the London mint from AD 296 to its closure in AD 325.

This new edition of LMCC remains the comprehensive catalogue and survey of the coinage of the London mint from AD 296, when Constantius I recaptured Britain from the usurper, Allectus, to its closure in AD 325 when his son and successor, Constantine I, began to shift his power base to the East. LMCC II continues our earlier expansion and revision of the London portions of Volumes VI and VII of The Roman Imperial Coinage by incorporating new types discovered since 2015 and expanding the census tables based on the population totals from several major new hoards.

SPINK BOOKS

Hardback • 9781911718017 • £75.00

July 2024 • 297x210 • 360 pages



English Medieval Coin Hoards

Age of the Sterling Penny 1180–1351

Barrie Cook

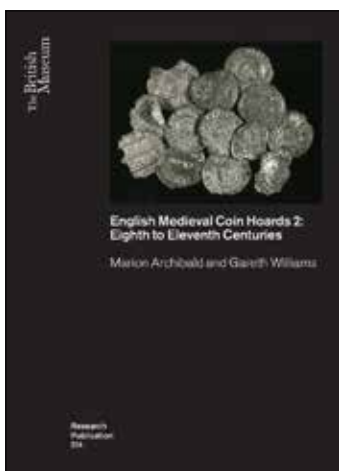
A study of English coin hoards in the context of each of the successive currency periods between 1180–1351.

The aim of this publication is to publish English coin hoards in the context of each of the successive currency periods between 1180 – around the time England arguably became a fully monetised land, with the silver penny under its recently emerged name of sterling – to 1351, when the penny-dominated currency was replaced by a multi-denominational one in both gold and silver. While the hoards discussed in this publication are seen in their national context, they are also placed firmly in their very local context, identifying relevant local economic and social forces and activities. This approach illuminates the place of money in the lives of the majority of England's inhabitants, especially as this was the period in which medieval taxation reached its definitive form.

BRITISH MUSEUM RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS, 244 | BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS

Paperback • 9780861592449 • £40.00

January 2025 • 297x210 • 176 pages • 50 illustrations



English Medieval Coin Hoards 2

Eighth to Eleventh Centuries

Marion Archibald, Gareth Williams

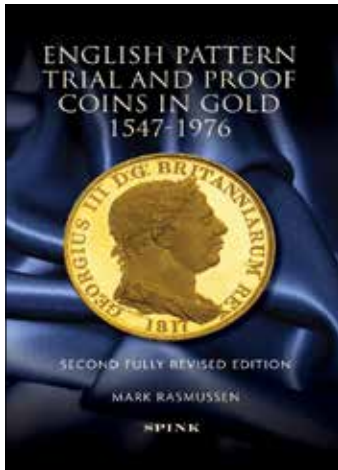
Presents images and discussion of 20 English coin hoards, ranging in date from the 730s to the 1090s.

This volume explores in detail 20 English coin hoards found between the 1960s and 1990s. All were studied by the late Marion Archibald at the British Museum but have never been published in full before now. Each hoard – ranging in date from the 730s to the 1090s – is the subject of its own chapter, with discussion of the discovery and historical context in which it was buried, and a catalogue of relevant coins. The introduction considers developments in the use of coinage in England in the 7th–11th centuries, as well as evaluating hoarding in this period.

BRITISH MUSEUM RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS, 214 | BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS

Paperback • 9780861592142 • £30.00

January 2025 • 297x210 • 130 pages



English Pattern Trial and Proof Coins in Gold 1547-1976

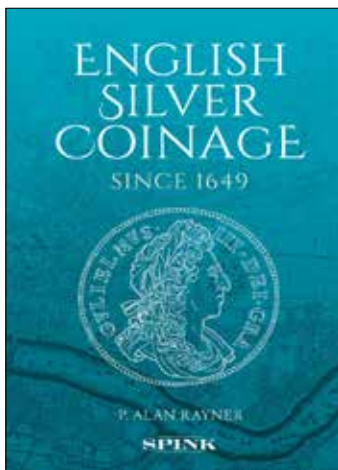
Alex Wilson, Mark Rasmussen

[Attempts to catalogue all known pattern and proof coins struck in gold.](#)

This book attempts to catalogue all known pattern and proof coins struck in gold, together with off-metal strikes and unofficial fantasies, also in gold. Included are the English series from Edward VI to Elizabeth I (1547-1603) and the coinage of Great Britain from James I to Elizabeth II sterling coinage (1603-1976), extending the period covered by the previous edition from 1968 to 1976. Many coins included in the catalogue are the only known specimens, and their present whereabouts are unknown. Photographs of the main types appear wherever possible, and the entire catalogue has been fully revised and updated to include up-to-date information, plus all new discoveries made since the first edition was published in 2000.

SPINK BOOKS

Hardback • 9781912667598 • £50.00
September 2025 • 216x138 • 600 pages



English Silver Coinage "Original"

30th anniversary revised "Platinum" edition, newly illustrated throughout

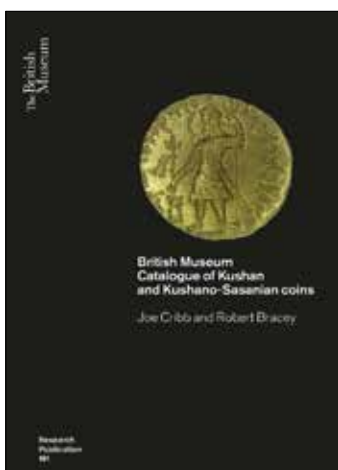
P. Alan Rayner

[30th anniversary revised edition of this classic work, newly illustrated throughout.](#)

P. Alan Rayner's revised fifth edition of Seaby's original *English Silver Coinage* is by many still considered to be the standard work of reference for the series. Rayner extensively revised and extended the catalogue to include details of modern issues up to its publication in 1992, which have been further extended to bring it up to date for this 30th anniversary edition (marking 70 years of Queen Elizabeth II's reign in 2022). Each coin is listed by denomination, using Seaby's original numbering, with over 3,000 coins listed and brand new images throughout.

SPINK BOOKS

Hardback • 9781912667765 • £40.00
September 2024 • 203x127 • 288 pages



Kushan Coins

A Catalogue Based on the Kushan, Kushano-Sasanian and Kidarite Hun Coins in The British Museum, 1st–5th Centuries AD

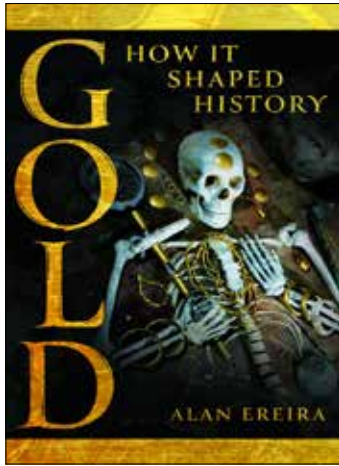
Joe Cribb, Robert Bracey

[Landmark publication offering a comprehensive account of Kushan, Kushano-Sasanian and Kidarite Hun coinages, putting them into a wider historical and cultural context.](#)

The coinage of the Kushan kings (1st to 4th centuries) and of their immediate successors the Sasanian Kushanshahs (3rd–4th centuries) and the Kidarite Hun Kushanshahs (4th–5th centuries) are a key component of our understanding of the history of ancient Afghanistan, Pakistan, northern India, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan during the early centuries AD. Modern knowledge of each of these kingdoms began with the discovery of their coins. Research continues to reveal new aspects of the political structure of these states, their geographical extent, the religious affinities of their rulers and the development of scripts and languages in the region.

BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS

Paperback • 9780861591916 • £40.00
December 2024 • 297x210 • 410 pages



Gold: How it Shaped History

Alan Ereira

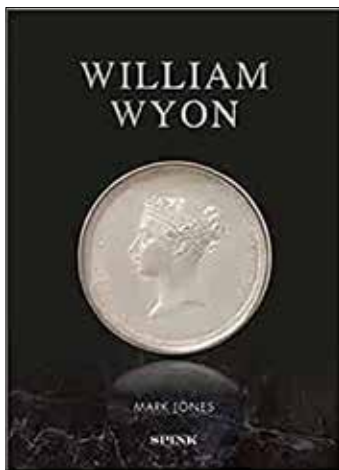
Reveals the pervasive, and often pernicious, impact gold has had on the course of human history and civilization.

Gold is not what we think. It is usually discussed in the context of wealth and art, but this book has a broader subject, so fundamental that it has been largely unremarked. Informed by a mass of recent discoveries and a South American indigenous perspective, it offers a new way of understanding the history of civilization. Gold has been coinage, treasure and adornment. But it has been much more, as the hidden driver of wars and revolutions, the rise and fall of empires and the transformation of societies. All the gold people ever shaped still exists, shining as new; it can be mislaid but never decays. Right from its first appearance on the west shore of the Black Sea, long before the rise of Egypt and Mesopotamia, gold crowned the first proto-king. Ever since, it has been regarded as value incarnate with transcendental power. As Alan Ereira reveals in this skilfully woven narrative, gold is the hidden actor that shapes our story.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781036115333 • £29.99

September 2024 • 234x156 • 512 pages • 16 mono illustrations



William Wyon

Mark Jones

William Wyon was the most popular image maker of the nineteenth century whose work on the different coinages of the British Empire and on the first postage stamps was known all around the globe.

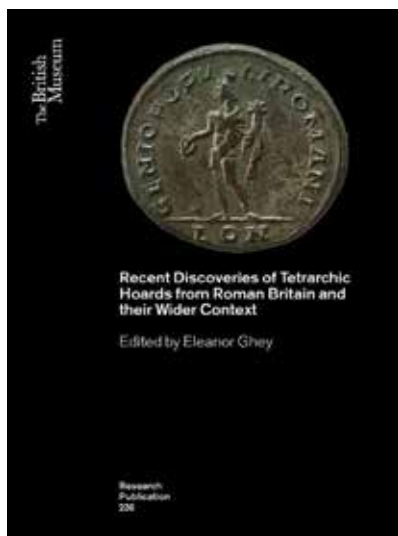
Chief Engraver at the Royal Mint and the leading medallist of his time William Wyon RA (1795-1851) produced some of the best known and most widely distributed images ever made. His portraits of the young Queen Victoria on the coinage, used throughout the British empire, and the more regal head used for the first postage stamps, the penny red and twopenny blue, were reproduced in their millions and distributed all around the globe. A highly regarded modeller in low relief, known and admired for the classical purity of his compositions and the accomplishment of their execution, Wyon was celebrated as a British artist who more than rivalled his continental competitors, favoured by royalty and by many of the most prominent and influential figures of his time. The book aims to understand how and why Wyon's work was commissioned and how it was received, using institutional archives, contemporary correspondence and reminiscence, and the popular press, to create a rounded picture of the life, work, networks, influence and impact of an artist who was also an entrepreneur on his own account and a public servant at the heart of the establishment.

SPINK BOOKS

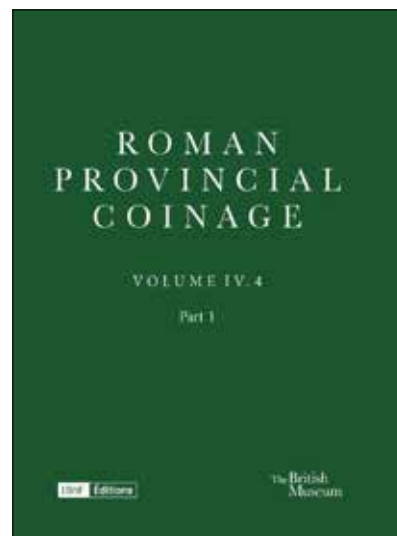
Hardback • 9781912667796 • £50.00

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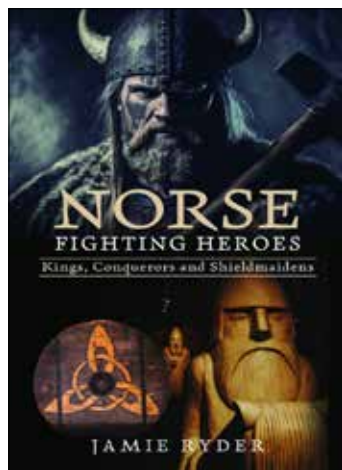
Also of Interest:



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Norse Fighting Heroes

Kings, Conquerors and Shieldmaidens

Jamie Ryder

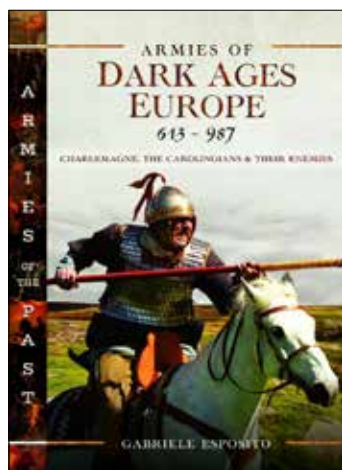
Find out more about the most infamous Vikings in history including Ragnar Lodbrok, Leif Erikson, Egil Skallagrimsson and Norse queens like Auld the Deep-Minded and Freydis Eriksdottir.

Vikings. One of history's most recognisable archetypes. These hardy warriors enjoyed fighting and conquering, but there was much more to the culture than physical might. A deep sense of spirituality and purpose permeated the Norse societies that dreamed beyond their borders. And Norse history is a tapestry of adventurers, kings, wayfarers, queens and conquerors who etched their names into legend. *Norse Fighting Heroes* tells the stories of some of the most (in)famous Vikings in history. From the wanderlust of Bjorn Ironside to the boundless ambition of Harald Hardrada, the lives of these people were anything but black and white. Get to the heart of their wants, loves, fears, reasons for living and dying.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399038904 • £22.00

October 2024 • 234x156 • 208 pages • 30 mono illustrations



Armies of Dark Ages Europe, 613-987

Charlemagne, the Carolingians and their Enemies

Gabriele Esposito

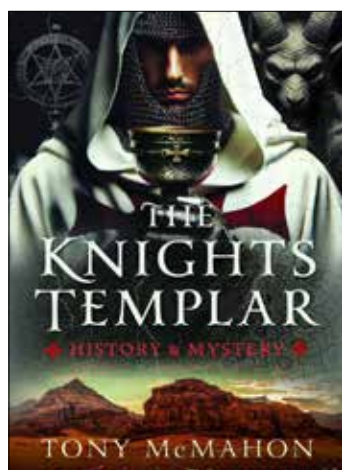
Covers the period of Frankish ascendancy in Europe under Charlemagne and his heirs.

The centuries that followed the fall of the Western Roman Empire in AD 476 saw the formation of numerous Romano-Germanic kingdoms from the fusion between different Germanic communities and the Roman population. In time the Frankish Kingdom came to dominate over all the others and conquered most of continental Europe under the guidance of the famous Carolingian royal family. In the book we will follow the military ascendancy of the warlike Franks from 613 to 987. This book follows the evolution of the Frankish Army from the rise of the Franks under the Merovingian monarchs to the dissolution of the Carolingian royal family, reconstructing the most important military campaigns in detail. The clear text is illustrated with dozens of stunning colour photographs depicting replica weapons and equipment of the period in use.

ARMIES OF THE PAST | PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399031912 • £25.00

October 2024 • 246x172 • 208 pages • 60 colour illustrations



The Knights Templar

History & Mystery

Tony McMahon

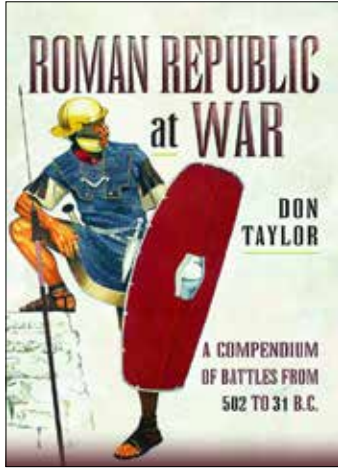
Presents answers to the questions and mystery surrounding the Knights Templar

The Knights Templar have fascinated us for centuries. They were holy warriors who fought with incredible bravery in the Crusades but were then destroyed by their own side. In battle they were the bravest knights – first on the battlefield and the last to quit. Charging towards the enemy with their white cloaks emblazoned with the red cross of martyrdom. Every young man in medieval Europe yearned to be a Knight Templar. The reality, though, could be tough. Battles fought against fearsome foes sometimes resulted in terrible defeat with a huge loss of life. The Templars were always the target of jealousy and hatred because of their military prowess, financial acumen, and strict organisation. Eventually, their enemies got the better of them. Not the Saracens they had fought in the Holy Land, but kings and bishops back home.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781036113483 • £25.00

November 2024 • 234x156 • 232 pages • 30 mono illustrations



Roman Republic at War

A Compendium of Roman Battles from 502 to 31 BC

Don Taylor

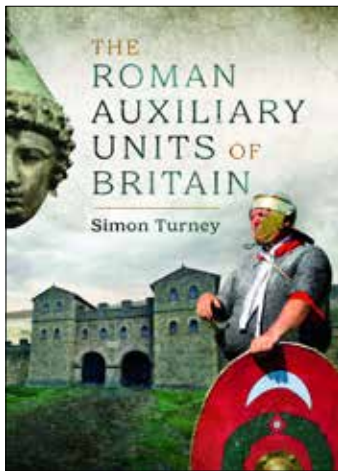
Catalogues and gives a brief description of every significant battle (and most insignificant ones too) known to have been fought by the Roman Republic.

In a single volume, *Roman Republic at War* catalogues and offers a brief description of every significant battle fought by the Roman Republic between 480 and 31 BC. The information in each entry is drawn exclusively from ancient texts, in order to offer a brief description of each battle based solely on the information provided by the earliest surviving sources which chronicle the event. This approach provides the reader with a concise foundation of information to which they can then confidently apply later scholarly interpretation presented in secondary sources in order to achieve a more accurate understanding of the most likely battlefield scenario.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781399075916 • £14.99

January 2025 • 234x156 • 328 pages • approx. 30 b/w tactical diagram



The Roman Auxiliary Units of Britain

Simon Turney

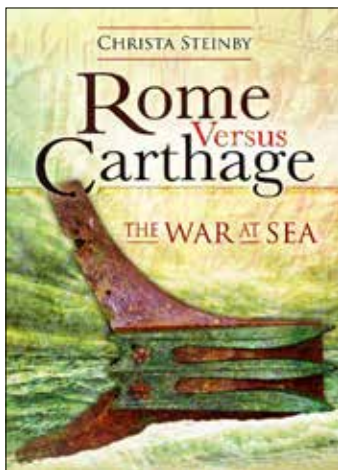
The only full-length reference work devoted to auxiliaries, the bulk of Roman manpower in Britain.

The majority of work on Roman Britain's military focuses on the legions, with much less attention paid to the auxilia, even though the latter formed the vast majority of the manpower. Simon Turney, following decades of research, presents this work, referencing every one of the auxiliary units identified in Britain. For each there is a unit history, detailing their movements, involvement in campaigns and anything noteworthy. This is followed by a set of lists detailing known, attested members of the unit and any inscriptions that mention them. Each entry is also accompanied by photographs and/or maps, including the sites the unit occupied, tombstones, images, inscriptions and so on. This is the finest, most up-to-date reference available for the auxiliary units of Britain.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399056038 • £25.00

November 2024 • 234x156 • 304 pages • 120 mono illustrations



Rome Versus Carthage

The War at Sea

Christa Steinby

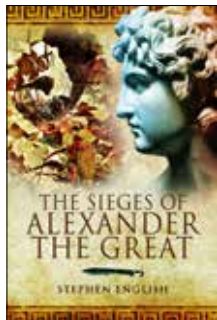
Graphic account of struggle between Carthage and Rome for mastery of the Mediterranean

The epic struggle between Carthage and Rome, two of the superpowers of the ancient world, is most famous for land battles in Italy, on the Iberian peninsula and in North Africa. But warfare at sea, which played a vital role in the First and Second Punic Wars, rarely receives the attention it deserves. And it is the monumental clashes of the Carthaginian and Roman fleets in the Mediterranean that are the focus of Christa Steinby's absorbing study. She exploits new evidence, including the latest archaeological discoveries, and she looks afresh at the ancient sources, quoting extensively from them. In particular she shows how the Romans' seafaring tradition and their skill, determination and resourcefulness eventually gave them a decisive advantage. In doing so, she overturns the myths and misunderstandings that have tend to distort our understanding of Roman naval warfare.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781399078627 • £14.99

October 2024 • 234x156 • 240 pages • 30 mono illustrations



Sieges of Alexander the Great

Stephen English

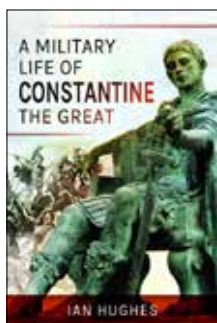
Drawing on the latest archaeology and research this is the only book devoted to the many sieges of the great conqueror.

Most of Alexander the Great's thirteen year reign as king of Macedon was spent in hard campaigning which conquered half the known world, during which he never besieged a city he did not take. Alexander's sieges were no less vital, and certainly more numerous, than his famous battles in securing his vast empire and yet there is no book concentrating purely on his many epic sieges and his mastery of siegecraft. Stephen English narrates the sustained drama of each of Alexander's sieges, analyzing tactics and technical aspects, such as the innovative and astoundingly ambitious siege engines used.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781036150280 • £14.99

November 2024 • 234x156 • 192 pages • 16 B&W Photos & 12 B&W Maps and Diagrams



A Military Life of Constantine the Great

Ian Hughes

A fresh analysis of a pivotal figure in European history from a military perspective.

Much of Constantine I's claim to lasting fame rests upon his sponsorship of Christianity, and many works have been published assessing whether his apparent conversion was a real religious experience or a cynical political manoeuvre. However his path to sole rule of the Roman Empire depended more upon the ruthless application of military might than upon his espousal of Christianity. He fought numerous campaigns, many of them against Roman rivals for Imperial power. This new study assesses whether Constantine would have deserved the title 'the Great' for his military achievements alone, or whether the epithet depends upon the gratitude of Christian historians.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781399012645 • £14.99

November 2024 • 234x156 • 328 pages • 20 black and white illustrations



Swords and Cinema

Hollywood vs the Reality of Ancient Warfare

Jeremiah McCall

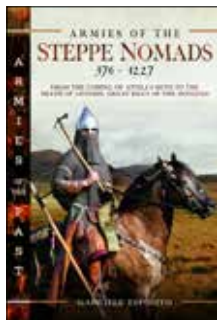
Explores the realism of portrayals of ancient battle in modern cinema.

While Hollywood interpretations of Classical battle continue to spark interest in ancient warfare, to casual viewers and serious enthusiasts alike they also spark a host of questions about authenticity. What does Hollywood get right and wrong about weapons, organization, tactics and the experience of combat? Did the Spartans really fight clad only in their underpants and did the Persians have mysterious, silver-masked assassins in their armies? This original book discusses the merits of battle scenes in selected movies and along the way gives the reader an interesting overview of ancient battle. It should appeal to the serious student of ancient warfare, movie buffs and everyone in between.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Paperback • 9781399078429 • £14.99

October 2024 • 234x156 • 224 pages • 4 maps, approx. 40 b/w photos



Armies of the Steppe Nomads, 376-1227

From the Coming of Attila's Huns to the Death of Genghis, Great Khan of the Mongols

Gabriele Esposito

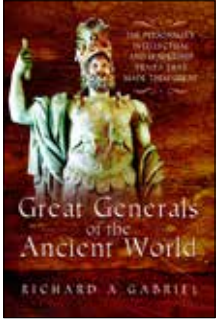
Outlines the military forces of the successive waves of Eurasian nomads that raided, fought and often conquered the Empires of Europe and the Middle East.

Gabriele Esposito presents an overview of the history, organization and equipment of the military forces deployed by the nomadic peoples of the Eurasian steppes during the period from the appearance of the Huns in Eastern Europe to the death of Genghis Khan. Each chapter is devoted to a different group that played a prominent military role during Antiquity and the Middle Ages. By describing the military organization, weapons and tactics of these nomadic peoples the author shows how they dominated the battlefields of the world for almost 1,000 years thanks to their superior capabilities.

ARMIES OF THE PAST | PEN & SWORD BOOKS

Hardback • 9781399037778 • £25.00

October 2024 • 246x172 • 232 pages • 130 colour illustrations



Great Generals of the Ancient World

The Personality, Intellectual, and Leadership Traits That Made Them Great

Richard A. Gabriel

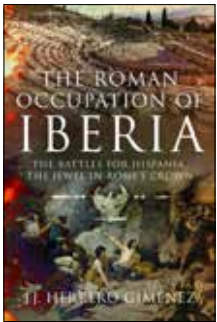
[Reveals the secrets of military greatness, timeless principles of leadership applicable today.](#)

Of the thousands of commanders who served in history's armies, why is it that only a few are remembered as great leaders of men in battle? What combination of personal and circumstantial influences conspire to produce great commanders? What makes a great leader great? Richard A Gabriel analyses the biographies of ten great generals who lived between 1481 BC and AD 632 in an attempt to identify the characteristics of intellect, psychology, personality, and experience that allowed them to tread the path to greatness. Professor Richard Gabriel has selected the ten whom he believes to be the greatest of them all. Those included, and more so those omitted, will surprise many readers.

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The Roman Occupation of Iberia

The Battles for Hispania, the Jewel in Rome's Crown

J. J. Herrero Giménez

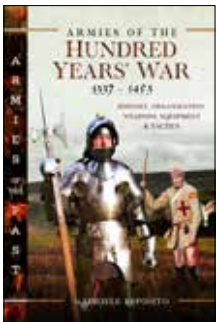
[Explores the Roman conquest and occupation of the Iberian Peninsula, a process that took nearly 200 years to complete.](#)

Many of the main protagonists of the history of Ancient Rome, at some point in their lives lived, and fought, in Hispania. Iberia became a battleground between Rome and Carthage in the Second Punic War, followed by the endless bloody struggle against the Iberian and Celtic tribes that turned Hispania into a kind of Vietnam for the Romans. It was also the scene of bitter fighting during the Civil Wars that led to the end of the Republic and the beginning of the Empire. This volume explores the Roman conquest of the region, examining how they used a gradual process of economic, diplomatic and cultural infiltration and colonization to achieve their aims.

FRONTLINE BOOKS

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Armies of the Hundred Years' War 1337-1453

History, Organization, Weapons, Equipment and Tactics

Gabriele Esposito

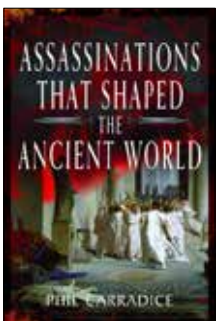
[Informative study of one of the most famous conflicts in British history.](#)

Gabriele Esposito puts the conflict of The Hundred Years' War in context with an overview of earlier Anglo-French conflicts and the roots of the dispute between the Plantagenet and Valois dynasties. He then devotes several chapters to giving a concise overview of the dramatic events of the war, before moving on to describe in detail the organization, tactics, weapons, armour and equipment of all the varied forces. Those drawn in by various alliances, such as Scottish, Spanish and Burgundian troops are not forgotten. The informative text is lavishly illustrated with colour photographs of replica weapons, armour and clothing in use.

ARMIES OF THE PAST | PEN & SWORD BOOKS

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Assassinations That Shaped the Ancient World

Phil Carradice

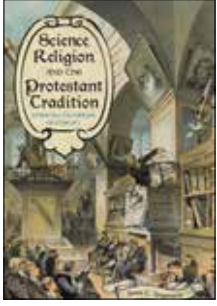
[Find out why rulers such as Caesar and Commodus died before their time with this essential addition to the shelves of anyone interested in the history of the world.](#)

In this new book, Phil Carradice takes a broad sweep at assassinations in the ancient world. Beginning with the Egyptian Empire, it traces the assassin's art through Greek, Roman, Biblical, Chinese, Byzantine and other periods or empires, up to and including the Kings and Emperors of the Dark Ages. The book does not stop there. It examines individual assassinations, motivation and practice and looks at assassination groups such as the thugae of India and the Sacred Band of Thebes.

PEN & SWORD BOOKS

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Science, Religion, and the Protestant Tradition

Retracing the Origins of Conflict

James C. Ungureanu

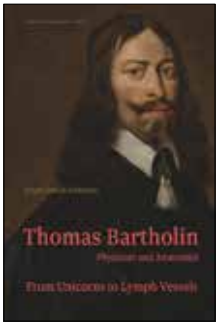
New in paperback edition exploring the origins of the “conflict thesis” between science and religion.

The notion of perennial conflict or warfare between science and religion is part of our modern self-understanding. As the story goes, John William Draper (1811–1882) and Andrew Dickson White (1832–1918) constructed dramatic narratives in the nineteenth century that cast religion as the relentless enemy of scientific progress. And yet, despite its resilience in popular culture, historians today have largely debunked the conflict thesis. Unravelling its origins, James Ungureanu argues that Draper and White actually hoped their narratives would preserve religious belief. For them, science was ultimately a scapegoat for a much larger and more important argument dating back to the Protestant Reformation, where one theological tradition was pitted against another—a more progressive, liberal, and diffusive Christianity against a more traditional, conservative, and orthodox Christianity.

SCIENCE AND CULTURE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY | UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PRESS

Paperback • 9780822967415 • £28.00

January 2025 • 229x152 • 309 pages



Thomas Bartholin. Physician and Anatomist

From Unicorns to Lymph Vessels

Jesper Brandt Andersen, Peter Fisher

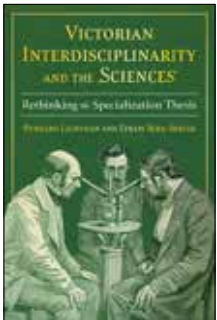
An expanded English version of the author's Danish biography of Thomas Bartholin.

Danish physician and anatomist Thomas Bartholin (1616–1680) was one of the most important anatomists of the 17th century. As a scientist, his greatest achievement was the discovery and naming of the lymphatic vessels, but he was also a pioneer in a number of other areas of medicine. In Denmark, his tireless efforts as head of the Anatomy House in Copenhagen and professor of anatomy and medicine were crucial to the rise of anatomical science in the 17th century. This book unfolds the entire life and work of Thomas Bartholin and analyses and puts into perspective his significance for contemporaries and posterity in a scientific context.

AARHUS UNIVERSITY PRESS

Hardback • 9788772198354 • £57.00

December 2024 • 245x175 • 650 pages



Victorian Interdisciplinarity and the Sciences

Rethinking the Specialization Thesis

Edited by Bernard Lightman, Efram Sera-Shriar

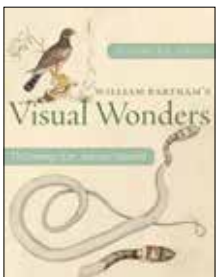
Through a history of Victorian interdisciplinarity, this volume offers a more complicated and innovative analysis of discipline formation.

The idea that nineteenth-century science fragmented into separate forms of knowledge that led to the creation of modern disciplines has played an integral role in the way historians have described nineteenth-century British science. This volume critically reevaluates this dominant narrative in the historiography. While new disciplines did emerge during the nineteenth century, in many cases new forms of specialist knowledge continued to cross boundaries while integrating ideas from other areas of study. Harnessing the techniques of cultural and intellectual history, studies of visual culture, Victorian studies, and literary studies, contributors break out of subject-based silos, exposing the tension between the rhetorical push for specialization and the actual practice of knowledge sharing across disciplines during the nineteenth century.

SCIENCE AND CULTURE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY | UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PRESS

Hardback • 9780822948148 • £47.00

January 2025 • 229x152 • 336 pages



William Bartram's Visual Wonders

The Botanical Drawings of an American Naturalist

Elizabeth A. Athens

Positions Bartram's illustrations as central to his understanding of the Natural World.

Naturalist William Bartram (1739–1823) is best known as the author of a travelogue describing his botanizing journey through the American South in the late eighteenth century. Writing was not, however, Bartram's only or even preferred method of recording the natural world around him. His deeply unconventional drawings, depicting sentient plants and hybrid organic forms, lie at the heart of his understanding of nature. This book considers the strangeness of Bartram's graphic enterprise, exploring the essential role his renderings played in his natural history. Through an examination of Bartram's approach to botanical and zoological representation, the author highlights the struggle between different modes of seeing nature in eighteenth-century Enlightenment science.

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH PRESS

Hardback • 9780822948261 • £32.00

January 2025 • 229x152 • 296 pages



China's 1800s

Material and Visual Culture

Edited by Jessica Harrison-Hall

Essays by leading authorities on Qing culture reveal the social, cultural, religious, creative, economic and political history of makers, users, owners and collectors.

Until recently, the 19th century in China has been often defined – and dismissed – as an era of cultural decline. Building on the critically acclaimed British Museum exhibition *China's hidden century: 1796–1912*, this publication seeks to redefine perceptions about 19th-century Qing arts. Essays by some of the world's leading authorities on Qing culture reveal the social, cultural, religious, creative, economic and political history of makers, users, owners and collectors.

Areas of focus include painting and patronage; calligraphy and seal carving; commerce and fashion; and craft technology and technology ensuring that the book will be a manual for the arts of China's long 19th century.

BRITISH MUSEUM RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS, 241 | BRITISH MUSEUM PRESS

Paperback • 9780861592418 • £40.00

November 2024 • 297x210 • 304 pages • 300 illustrations



British Portrait Miniatures from the Thomson Collection

Susan Sloman

Highlights the remarkable miniature collection of Ken Thomson, discussing the function, circumstances and history of these portraits

Portrait miniatures were highly prized in Europe for nearly four hundred years and, unusually, artists based in Britain were the acknowledged masters of this specialised field. Many of the best painters are represented in this remarkable but relatively little-known collection. As is illustrated and described in this book, miniatures were frequently made as tokens of love or memorials of loved ones; part-likeness, part reliquary and part-jewel, they might be wearable in a locket, on a bracelet or even on a finger ring, but their portability also made them desirable as gifts. Styles, techniques and modes of presentation naturally evolved between 1560 (the date of the first miniature in the catalogue) and around 1900.

AD ILISSVM

Hardback • 9781915401120 • £80.00

August 2024 • 260x215 • 320 pages • 250 illustrations



Ambrogio Lorenzetti's Good and Bad Government

Painting the Politics of Renaissance Siena

Jules Lubbock

Sheds new light on one of the most important artworks of the early Italian Renaissance, presenting a fresh reading of its rich artistic message.

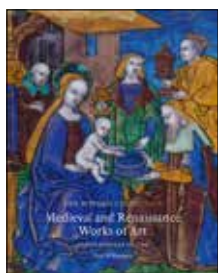
This book sheds new light on one of the most important artworks of the early Italian Renaissance, Ambrogio Lorenzetti's fresco cycle of Good and Bad Government in the Palazzo Pubblico in Siena. By connecting the images with the Hymn to

Justice inscribed on the walls and highlighting Ambrogio's ingenuity and personal approach to the subject the volume presents a fresh reading of its rich artistic message. It attempts finally to illuminate Ambrogio's pictorial strategy by reading it in light of the Hymn to Justice inscribed upon the walls. The frescoes enrich the poet's message, subtly changing and even subverting it.

AD ILISSVM

Hardback • 9781915401137 • £50.00

October 2024 • 280x245 • 304 pages • 100 illustrations



The Wyvern Collection

Medieval and Renaissance Works of Art: Supplementary Volume

Paul Williamson

This handsome catalogue explores a remarkable collection of medieval and Renaissance art in various media.

The Wyvern Collection stands out as one of the world's pre-eminent collections in private hands. This volume includes all the medieval and Renaissance works of art acquired since 2020. The recent acquisitions have built on the existing strengths of the collection, while adding significant new pieces that cover a wide geographical, technical and stylistic range. The beautiful new photographs commissioned specially for this volume bring to light every detail of the pieces,

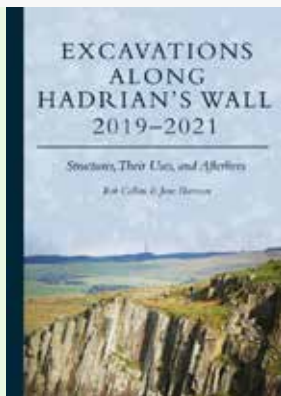
making it possible to appreciate the technical refinement and exceptional craftsmanship of their medieval and Renaissance makers. Alongside their visual and aesthetic quality, the new additions are important documents for the history of collecting.

AD ILISSVM

Hardback • 9781915401144 • £30.00

October 2024 • 277x219 • 112 pages • 80 illustrations

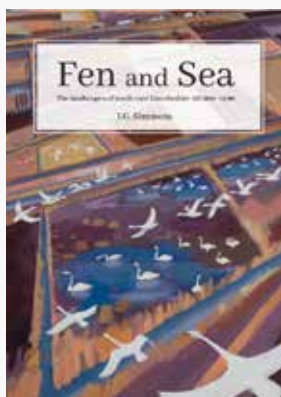
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“[A] very thorough and professional account of a series of fieldwork archeological projects at previously under researched or vulnerable sites along the wall.”

– **Hexham Local History Society**

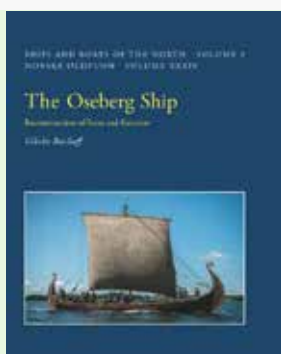
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– **Agricultural History Review**

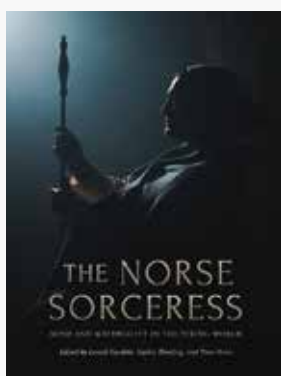
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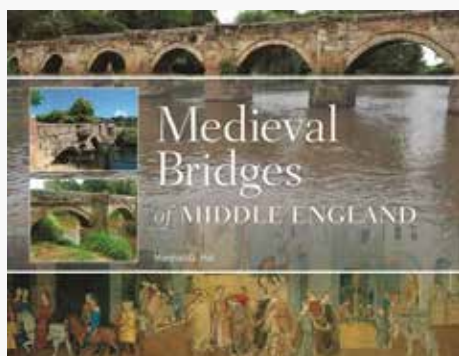
NEW & REVIEWED



"In the Darkest of Days will have a great appeal to both academic and non-academic audiences. Hopefully, it will be a start signal for a new era in the study of human sacrifice and ritual, in which the field gradually moves from speculation to more evidence-based narratives. As the volume shows, in this area of research, the facts may often be more surprising than fiction."

- Antiquity

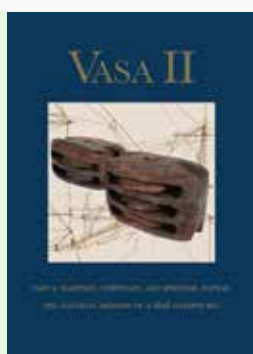
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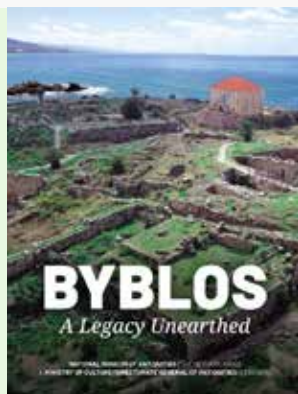


"This book was worth the wait and presents a detailed account of an important excavation within a complex Neolithic landscape, and will therefore contribute to all future discussions of Neolithic monumentality in Ireland, Britain and beyond."

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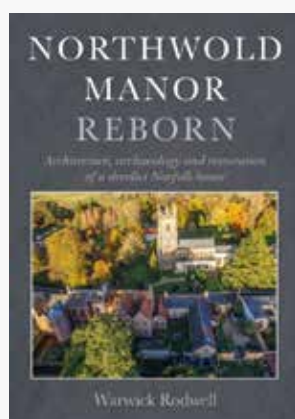
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“This celebration of international cooperation forms an insightful guide and rich introduction to the most fascinating of cities.”

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“The chapters on conservation are highly detailed, and the approach to both the conservation processes and to documenting that work is exemplary. The passion of the owners for the process of renewal shines through in every page, and their joy in the building is evident and affirming. This book should therefore appeal to historians and conservation specialists alike.”

– **Current Archaeology**

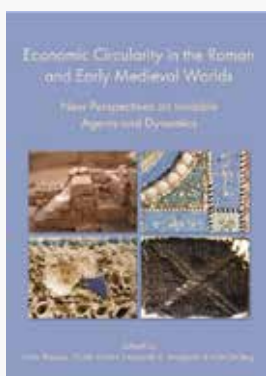
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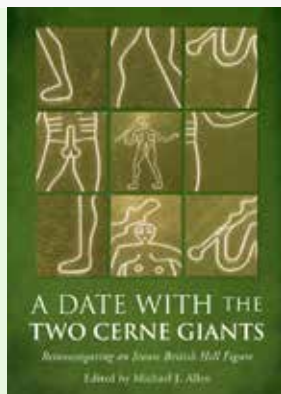


“It will surely serve as a valuable resource for any historian or archaeologist interested in economic circularity, moving the needle on our understanding of this essential emerging topic.”

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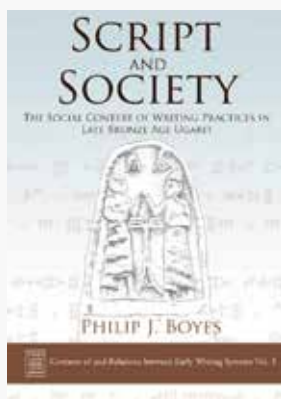
NEW & REVIEWED



“In 2020, to mark 100 years of the National Trust’s stewardship of the Cerne Abbas Giant, we teamed up with Dr. Mike Allen to date the Giant and uncover new insights. Our goal was to spark fresh interest and to inspire a new generation of research into this iconic figure. Today, we’re thrilled to congratulate Dr. Allen and all contributors on the launch of *A Date with the Two Cerne Giants*. We look forward to the Giant and its many mysteries continuing to captivate us for years to come.”

- **Hannah Jefferson, General Manager for North & West Dorset of the National Trust**

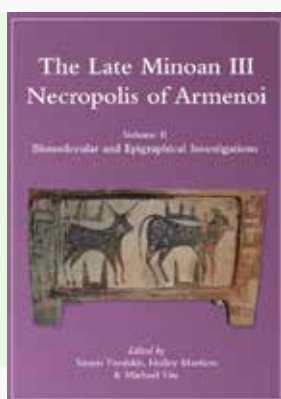
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“This more high-level, material-culture approach allows Philip Boyes’ *Script and Society* to ask incisive questions about Ugaritic’s practical contexts and make a groundbreaking proposal about the motivations for its invention as a response to Hittite imperialism.”

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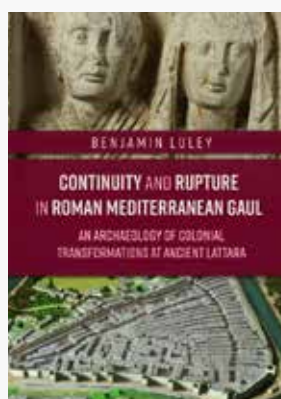
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