

# Review

## New Book Chronicle

Madeleine Hummler

The greater part of this chronicle deals with syntheses on French archaeology. These bring together results obtained on account of the unprecedented pace of development that took place there over the past twenty years or so. Some comments will also be found on a couple of collections discussing aspects of (mainly) European prehistory: burial practices and the early Neolithic Linearbandkeramik. A final note concerns the listing of archaeological sites all over Europe.

### Rewriting deep France

JEAN-PAUL DEMOULE (ed.). *La révolution néolithique en France*. 180 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2007. Paris: La Découverte; 978-2-7071-5138-4 paperback €22.

LAURENT CAROZZA & CYRIL MARCIGNY. *L'âge du Bronze en France*. 156 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2007. Paris: La Découverte; 978-2-7071-5139-1 paperback €20.

PATRICE BRUN & PASCAL RUBY. *L'âge du Fer en France: premières villes, premiers états celtiques*. 180 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Paris: La Découverte; 978-2-7071-5664-8 paperback €22.

MARTIAL MONTEIL & LAURENCE TRANOY. *La France gallo-romaine*. 180 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Paris: La Découverte; 978-2-7071-5664-8 paperback €22.

ISABELLE CATTÉDU. *Archéologie médiévale en France: le premier Moyen Âge (v<sup>e</sup>-xi<sup>e</sup> siècle)*. 180 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Paris: La Découverte; 978-2-7071-5712-6 paperback €22.

JOËLLE BURNOUF. *Archéologie médiévale en France: le second Moyen Âge (xii<sup>e</sup>-xvi<sup>e</sup> siècle)*. 180 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Paris: La Découverte; 9-782-5323-4 paperback €22.

GRÉGOR MARCHAND (ed.). *Des feux dans la vallée: les habitats du mésolithique et du néolithique récent de l'Essart à Poitiers*. 246 pages, 164 illustrations.

ANTIQUITY 83 (2009): 1216–1226

2009. Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Rennes; 978-2-7535-0834-7 paperback €24.

It has become a truism to state that over the past twenty years 'rescue' archaeology (mitigation, or preventive archaeology in French) has revolutionised our understanding of the past over most of Europe. This is particularly visible in France where Inrap (Institut national d'archéologie préventive) has conducted campaigns on a vast scale over huge infrastructure projects. Now it is time to take stock of this rich harvest, and Inrap's six short books on the Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age, Gallo-Roman, early medieval and later medieval periods make an excellent start. Further volumes are planned, on the Palaeolithic, the Mesolithic, modern and contemporary archaeology, environmental archaeology, and the archaeology of France's overseas territories. It will be well worth acquiring the set, in all some 2000 pages for €240.

The books follow a uniform scheme: each book is 180 pages long, well illustrated in colour with useful captions and numerous 'boxes' showing newly discovered sites, landscapes, artefacts and ecofacts, and contains six chapters with a short foreword and conclusions, bibliography and index. In the centre of each book there is an essay, a 'mise en perspective', whose theme seems to have been at the discretion of the authors. Most books are by two authors (from Inrap but also the CNRS, the universities and local or regional authorities) but the Neolithic one has more (it is edited by Jean-Paul Demoule) and the two medieval ones are the work of single authors. All acknowledge the input of further specialists.

If the plan and look of the books is uniform, their content and treatment are not. Each of course reflects the nature of the archaeology of the period under consideration, but each is also the product of its authors' vision, inevitably coloured by the different traditions of prehistoric, protohistoric and historical archaeology. This is not only shown by the various approaches adopted (chronological, or thematic, or concentrating on specific highlights) but also by the choice of central perspectives: for the Neolithic it is a

very wide spectrum which takes account of Middle-Eastern, Anatolian and pan-European currents; for the Bronze Age it is the impact (or not) of early metallurgy and knowledge of minerals; for the Iron Age it is increasing social differentiation. For the later periods, the focus is more centred on France, but the choices are original: in the Gallo-Roman period it is public water management that is seen as the radical innovation of the era; in the early Middle Ages, Isabelle Cattedu chooses to concentrate on health and climatic fluctuations; finally Joëlle Burnouf gives us a wonderfully invigorating essay on heritage and the legacy of the Middle Ages to the contemporary world. Impressions formed on the sextet are as follows: the Neolithic book struck me as the most scholarly, the Bronze Age one as the most innovative, the Iron Age one as the most theoretically informed (but confusing), the Gallo-Roman one as the most user-friendly, the early medieval one as the most informative, and the later medieval one as the most original (and provocative). Thumbnail sketches here may temper these judgments.

JEAN-PAUL DEMOULE'S *La révolution néolithique en France* tries to achieve a balance between major currents and regional trends. This is successful, but there remains a tension between the two aims. It has its origins, as Demoule recognises, in the French tradition, with its multiplicity of cultural groupings based on observations of developments in flint and pottery technology. It is therefore a challenge to steer a path between the specific and the general: Demoule and his collaborators opt for a mainly chronological exposé, going from the early Neolithic (in the South, then the North) to the first manifestations of complex societies in the fifth and fourth millennia (chapter 3); after the perspective essay (on the origins of inequality, with forays also into the Chalcolithic, Bronze and Iron Ages) come a couple of regional chapters (the Atlantic façade, eastern France) and a final chapter on the great upheavals of the third millennium BC. The text is clear, the new material from 'rescue' excavations well integrated, and the boxes generally well placed (in a few cases there are quite large gaps between illustrations and text, e.g. the map of axes on p. 112 is in a section on enclosures and burials; the relevant text is on p. 136). A reader fresh to the subject may find some passages scabrous, such as (on p. 142) '*in the east [of France . . .] first the Swiss Horgen culture, which has affinities with that of the Paris Basin, spreads before the appearance, from the South, of communities of the Ferrières group which will form the Clairvaux group,*

*itself pre-dating the Corded and Beaker phenomena*' (my translation; admittedly this is in a passage entitled 'A cultural mosaic'). Where the book is at its best is when it highlights that France is a *finisterre* at the confines of the Eurasian continent, where the two major (Mediterranean and Danubian) currents of the Neolithic eventually merge and spawn new traditions; when it documents the Neolithic as '*a series of oscillations between periods of concentration of power and periods of return to lesser inequality*' (p. 86); and in its final message (p. 162): now that so much new data have been acquired, we must turn to theoretical questioning, as '*the understanding of the [Neolithic] revolution and its consequences, an essential event in the history of humanity, is not without import to humanity's future*'.

LAURENT CAROZZA & CYRIL MARCIGNY'S *L'âge du Bronze en France* has a more contemporary feel. Its approach is thematic, the authors explicitly reticent to talk in culture-historical terms and upfront about the profound changes recent mitigation archaeology has wrought, not just for the Bronze Age, but for archaeology in general. They insist that archaeology is neither a science nor even a social science, but a *practice*, which has '*liberated itself from institutional and, perhaps, intellectual networks*' (p.10). Less ambitious in its pan-European treatment than the Neolithic volume (though it discusses the origins of metallurgy in its perspective essay – with little about tin), the book is particularly strong on settlement, agriculture, pastoralism and landscape archaeology. Its authors are well aware of the pitfalls of over-interpretation and spend a good part of their last chapter ('A new rural order') revisiting some well-incrusted notions. They review ideas such as the concentration of power, the rise of the individual, elites and aristocracy, the shift of settlements towards defended establishments, the social division of labour or the spread of metal, and point out that individual burial may have been over-emphasised, as have the roles of specialist craftsmen and prestige goods. They suggest that other forms of power (for example heterarchy) may have operated conjointly with aristocratic power, that settlement hierarchy does not necessarily follow an evolutionary path and that mobility is still an important factor; what they see as the major contribution of the Bronze Age is the construction of landscapes with very long term destinies. This fluid view of Bronze Age societies, marked by cycles of growth and crises, is an attractive thesis. It is anchored in fieldwork,

here given prominence and following an illustrious tradition (e.g. Odette and Jean Taffanel's work at Mailhac, the subject of a box on p. 24).

PATRICE BRUN & PASCAL RUBY'S *L'âge du Fer en France* has a subtitle, *premières villes, premiers états celtiques*, but it devotes considerable space to the Bronze Age, hammering home the point that antecedents for nearly everything in the Iron Age can be found in the Bronze Age, or even earlier since Celtic identity is suggested as having origins in the Beaker phenomenon. The authors proceed roughly chronologically, from the Bronze Age (1600-800 BC), via Early Hallstatt (800-625 BC), Middle and Late Hallstatt plus La Tène A (625-400 BC), La Tène B and C1 (400-180 BC) to two final chapters on second and first century BC developments. The chronological approach is however only a framework; the book engages, more than the others in the series, in theoretical debates, exposed in the foreword, with diagrams and boxes in support (here the boxes rather interrupt the flow). Amongst propositions are models for change in the dynamics of early Iron Age societies (changes in climatic conditions benefit certain groups and result in the transfer of power from bronze-using arable communities towards pastoral communities who also have access to salt and iron (p. 56)); an insistence that some 'princely' centres of the Late Hallstatt–Early La Tène period were real towns (e.g. Mont Lassois, Bourges, in the fifth century BC) as were many oppida in the last two centuries BC; that society was even more complex than previously thought and that a 'spectacular change in scale' (p. 152) affected all domains from the end of the third century BC onwards, including an agrarian revolution and concomitant urbanisation which provided the basis for much of north-western Europe to this day. In sum, this sometimes confusing but thought-provoking book is more about the way development-led archaeology has changed ideas on the Iron Age than about sites or discoveries.

More amenable to a newcomer or to a reader interested in an up-to date overview is MARTIAL MONTEIL & LAURENCE TRANOY'S *La France gallo-romaine*. The approach is thematic (the army and communications; the urban network; the countryside; crafts, trade and economy; religious and funerary practices; daily life), the narrative straightforward, the boxes well chosen and the photographs telling (I particularly liked the urban scene of the Avenue Jean-Jaurès in Nîmes on the cover and on p. 44 and the image of an asparagus plantation at

Gevrey Chambertin [where else!] on p. 83). Strong points are the chapter on urbanisation and the 'mise en perspective' dedicated to water management. Conclusions are that the term Gallo-Roman is not such a bad choice of adjective, as there is real fusion between indigenous and external forces, since the Imperial project did not need to eradicate an autochthonous substrate. Overall, this is a user-friendly book, a 'promenade en Gaule Romaine' (p. 22), and a very pleasant one it is.

ISABELLE CATTEDU'S *Archéologie médiévale en France: le premier Moyen Âge (I<sup>er</sup>–XI<sup>e</sup> siècle)* presents the Early Middle Ages in roughly chronological order, with the narrative focusing on themes such as settlements, rural society and landscape, resources, techniques and production, transformations in the urban fabric and finally mortuary practices (this last chapter has a nice title: 'Des morts très loquaces' or 'the chattering dead'). Perhaps more tentative than other authors in the series, Cattedu is also more generous with citing her sources in the text and including passages written with other specialists. Apart from her choice of highlights – health as deduced from skeletal material and climatic fluctuations – I found her presentation of fluvial and maritime archaeology (including the site of Quentovic, pp. 106-7 and 134-5) particularly informative (chapter 4). Her conclusions are that there is neither a great break with the late Roman world nor a split around the year 1000. Instead a protohistoric and Roman structure underpins the age, which sees the appearance of incomers and of a new ideology, Christianity. It is a creative age: certain elements such as the medieval nucleated village seem to appear early on the scene (in the seventh–eighth century). Both Cattedu and Burnouf (see below) make good use of the considerable amount of information provided by the environmental sciences and succeed in their aim, which is to get away from a 'miserabilist' portrayal of the Middle Ages.

The final book in the sextet is *Archéologie médiévale en France: le second Moyen Âge (XI<sup>e</sup>–XVI<sup>e</sup> siècle)* by JOËLLE BURNOUF who writes with authority and verve. Though short, this book is no lightweight: it is packed with information, insights and incisive comments. The author's six themes are the environment, rural space, towns, secular and sacred power, industry and lifeways, while her 'mise en perspective' concerns the heritage industry (e.g. pointing out the danger of monument preservation which can exacerbate social exclusion in inner cities) as well as the legacy of the medieval fabric. She has a knack for titles which

are provocative at one level, but also reflect her convictions: for example the urban chapter is called 'The invention of towns' (because it is the medieval town that invented the modern one) or the chapter on production bears the title 'The industrial revolution' (because of the change of scale that occurred during the Middle Ages). My choice of favourite passages in the book would be those dealing with the power of water, mills and river systems, whose management regimes (e.g. controlled flooding) could do with being studied by contemporary planning authorities. I also thoroughly enjoyed Burnouf's spirited championing of archaeology and scorn for written sources: they are 'rare, incomplete, partial and biased', just about 'usable under certain conditions' (p. 18). After a difficult and protracted birth (chronicled in the foreword), medieval archaeology has grown strong in France, thanks in no small measure to Burnouf's persuasive advocacy.

Despite some concerns currently voiced by Inrap, let us salute its achievements and welcome these syntheses. Who will read them? None requires specialist knowledge, but they are a notch above popular books. That is no bad thing, but I suspect they will be read more by students of archaeology than by the general public. Whoever picks them up will however not fail to understand that the last seven millennia in the Hexagon have left a deep imprint that has endured, especially in the rural fabric, to this day. This is not an evocation of the clichéd 'France profonde', more a validation of the 'force tranquille', or dynamic relationship between people and their milieu.

As Inrap's Mesolithic synthesis is yet to appear, the report by GRÉGOR MARCHAND on the site of *L'Essart* in Poitiers will serve to illustrate the work recently conducted for this period. In 2003–2005 a research excavation in advance of quarrying of a sand and gravel terrace on the river Clain involved the collaboration between the regional archaeological service of Poitou-Charente and specialists from the CNRS, the universities of Rennes and Paris I and X and Inrap: 2500m<sup>2</sup> were excavated, revealing a complex of 39 hearths and burnt stone spreads of the Mesolithic, as well as a later Neolithic occupation of the fourth millennium BC. Animal bone preservation was poor, leaving only the most resilient (burnt) bones of aurochs and deer (sheep/goat were also present in the Neolithic). No good material was available for radiocarbon dating which gave disappointing results. For the Neolithic period, there were pits,

rare postholes and a possible dwelling, flint and ceramic. For the Mesolithic (apart from a couple of shell ornaments) the vast majority of the finds are thousands of burnt stones and lithics. The exposé of the research agenda, of the excavation and recording techniques, and of locational and geomorphological studies is commendably detailed, occupying 86 pages in the report and documented by the colour plates in the centre of the book. In the post-excavation phase Marchand and his team have employed a huge battery of analytical and experimental techniques to ascertain how the site, and particularly the hearths, worked. They are thought to be domestic hearths repeatedly cleaned out. The analysis of the lithic material, the microliths, other tools and the debitage of course occupy a sizeable part of the report as does the spatial analysis. For the Mesolithic a synthesis on pp. 207–10 puts the results in context: there was occupation in two phases (in the first and second Mesolithic, eighth and sixth millennia BC) on a valley site where groups returned to carry out the same activities, centred on heating stones – maybe functioning as grills or to cook, smoke or dry the meat of aurochs, deer and perhaps freshwater fish – and making and refreshing tools. They belonged to wide-ranging cultural networks, documented for example by arrowheads of the Montclus group: these have their origin in the southern Cardial sphere, which opens the question of neolithisation, or at least the adoption of one element of the Neolithic kit. Altogether this is an accomplished report whose particular strength is its consideration of taphonomy, always evaluating what can and cannot be deduced. My only quibble is the English translation of the summary on the back cover.

## Prehistoric collected papers

MAXENCE BAILLY & HUGUES PLISSON (ed.). *La valeur fonctionnelle des objets sépulcraux: actes de la table ronde d'Aix-en-Provence 25-27 octobre 2006* (Préhistoire et Anthropologie Méditerranéennes 14). 230 pages, 92 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Aix-en-Provence: Association pour la Promotion de la Préhistoire et de l'Anthropologie Méditerranéennes (APPAM); 1167-492 X paperback €30.

DANIELA HOFMANN & PENNY BICKLE (ed.). *Creating communities: new advances in Central European Neolithic research*. viii+264 pages, 118 illustrations, 17 tables. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217353-4 paperback £40.

Prehistoric gravegoods: what are they for? This was the question posed at a round-table in Aix-en-Provence in 2006, whose proceedings are entitled *La valeur fonctionnelle des objets sépulcraux*. Twelve chapters by 19 authors examine a vast range of meanings projected by, or ascribed to, funerary deposits. Case studies, analyses and syntheses range from the Upper Palaeolithic to the end of the Iron Age – with a preponderance of contributions on the Neolithic – and the geographic coverage is wide: most of western Europe, eastern Europe (Durankulak in Bulgaria and Lugansk in Ukraine), the United Arab Emirates (fifth millennium Al Buhaï) and Upper Egypt (fourth millennium Nagada). Such a spread is impossible to summarise, or even to draw general conclusions from, but the editors, MAXENCE BAILLY & HUGUES PLISSON have tried to group the papers thematically and give pointers. There is also a postface from an anthropological perspective. Three themes were chosen. The first is personhood or bodies and their associated objects; in this category falls a paper by Maiténa Sohn on the collective and individual gravegoods found in late Neolithic collective burials from northern Germany to southern France which fulfilled multiple functions (ceremonial, symbolic, social). The second theme examines life trajectories and object biographies: getting up close to objects, deploying for example use-wear analysis, can reveal much, as shown by an interesting contribution by Angélique Polloni on late Neolithic personal ornaments, especially pendants from collective and individual burials in the Paris Basin. The third and final theme is high-status burial and includes an essay by Luc Baray on the development of aristocratic burials in Iron Age western Europe from the eighth to the first century BC. This ambitious paper argues that gravegoods are markers of individual and particularly collective identity which have to be examined each in their context, i.e. a funerary code has to be deciphered. This the author does by establishing a series of levels of deposits, which also includes the distribution of wealth. He insists on the selection of objects as identifiers, as means of conveying political messages, and asks why the kit keeps changing. Thought-provoking as this article is, I find it difficult to acquiesce to a vision of the Iron Age seen entirely as social history. The other world is the great absent. What Baray discusses is a theatre of legitimation staged for the dead, by the people, for the people. Is this putting too modernist an interpretation on a world where the sacred and profane spheres may have

been much closer? There are no gods in Baray's model, but they must have taken part in the conversation; they are politely ignored, perhaps because it is just too difficult for archaeology to understand them. Sticking to social models is safer.

One remark on the production of this collection: the abstracts are useful and helpfully translated into English . . . or what passes for English (the vagrant flintknappers did make me smile however). Please get your translations checked, I'll do it – for a fee.

A welcome contrast to the loosely structured collection above is DANIELA HOFMANN and PENNY BICKLE'S *Creating communities* which brings together new research in the Early Neolithic of Central Europe presented at a European Association of Archaeologists (EAA) meeting in Krakow in 2006. Sixteen chapters by 25 contributors from 8 countries on the Linearbandkeramik culture or LBK are very well edited by Hofmann and Bickle, who provide a useful introduction (they also have a paper each in the book, the former comparing settlement and cemetery burials in Bavaria); the collection ends with an inspiring round-up by Alasdair Whittle. The book's aim is to make available research widely scattered across Europe and the central theme is identity, community and change. The social interactions and the cross-cutting of traits observed show that analyses on different scales are fertile ground indeed. Nevertheless there are big differences in style: contrast for example the contribution by Olga Larina on the eastern periphery of the LBK (Romania, Moldova, Ukraine) rooted in a culture-historical tradition and that of Penny Bickle who adopts a phenomenological approach to examine what it was like for hunters and herders to move about the landscape of the Paris Basin and create networks of relationships. The papers are grouped into three sections, the first considering beginnings, aspects of Mesolithic/Neolithic transitions, colonisation and interactions, from Belgium to Poland. The second examines landscape and networks of exchange (e.g. adzes in Hessen whose raw material was acquired in Bohemia), relationships between settlements and with the world around, and animal exploitation including stable isotope analyses. A third section groups site-specific and material studies such as longhouses (two papers), the treatment of the dead (two studies) and ceramics (bone-tempered pottery in southern Poland). Alasdair Whittle closes with an excellent overview of achievements since the 1970s. Turn

to pages 249-54 first to get a feel for what was going on in the sixth millennium and see clearly exposed the major themes that occupy LBK research: amongst them origins, the system of wards (*Hofplätze*) in settlements, different forms of cultivation and violence (Talheim, Herxheim; the latter the subject of an interesting report in this volume by Zeeb-Lanz *et al.*). Broader concepts like Modderman's 'diversity in uniformity', or the idea of external unity and internal strife are considered too. Whittle pays homage to Behrens and salutes the tradition of work grounded in the soil but unafraid of addressing big questions in a straight-forward manner (p. 257), a tradition also evident in the papers here. In his last 4 pages ('What is to be done?' and 'What's the big idea?') he points to further work, e.g. on chronology and Bayesian modelling, woodland cover, cultivation, husbandry and hunting. He ends with a long wish list which could be summarised as 'What did it look and feel like?': forces that rhythm the LBK, yes, but also more specific interrogations of the 'house society': '*The longhouse world endured, with changes, for a thousand years or so, and so it is hard to see a persistent or unbearable degree of social tension. That the longhouse could lodge history and cosmos . . . all under one roof perhaps made this possible*' (p. 258). So perhaps we could reassign the acronym LBK to *Langhaus bedingte Kultur?* This works in English too: longhouse bound culture.

## Listing

PETER A.C. SCHUT (ed.). *Listing archaeological sites, protecting the historical landscape* (EAC Occasional Paper 3). 170 pages, 123 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Brussels: Europae Archaeologiae Consilium; 978-90-579-9144-8 hardback.

With a title such as this, one could expect this to be a worthy and sleep-inducing tome, only to be consulted when you have to. It deals with the mechanisms in place for tracking and protecting sites, and to a lesser degree landscapes, over most of Europe – The Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, France, Iceland, Ireland, Poland, Sweden, Slovenia, Latvia, Russia, England, Romania, Austria, Finland, Germany (the lower German Limes) and Switzerland (the PALAFITTES database on Neolithic and Bronze age lake-dwellings in Europe). But there are pleasant surprises. First it is very well illustrated with colour photographs of numerous sites, maps and screenshots of the various electronic systems used. And

secondly there is a most useful summing up which allows readers to see differences and similarities in approaches in these countries, supported by a question and answer section (pp. 141-67) on listing protocols, legal issues and heritage management (e.g. 'Does your country have policy on what developments are permissible on listed sites?'). This is not boring and in years to come this volume will be seen as a useful statement, not just of the state of affairs in 2008 (the book is the proceedings of a symposium held in Romania by the Europae Archaeologiae Consilium) but as a source for archaeological historiography.

## Books received

The list includes all books received between 1 June and 1 September 2009. Those featuring at the beginning of New Book Chronicle have, however, not been duplicated in this list. The listing of a book in this chronicle does not preclude its subsequent review in *Antiquity*.

## General

FREDERICK L. COOLIDGE & THOMAS WYNN. *The rise of Homo sapiens: the evolution of modern thinking*. viii+308 pages, 41 illustrations. 2009. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons; 978-1-4051-5254-9 paperback £17.99.

PETER N. PEREGRINE, ILIA PEIROS & MARCUS FELDMAN (ed.). *Ancient human migrations: a multidisciplinary approach*. xii+208 pages, 53 illustrations, 21 tables. 2009. Utah (UT): University of Utah Press; 978-0-87480-942-8 paperback \$30.

LYNN MESKELL (ed.). *Cosmopolitan archaeologies*. 296 pages. 2009. Durham (NC) & London: Duke University Press; 978-0-8223-4444-5 paperback £14.99.

ANN GARRISON DARRIN & BETH LAURA O'LEARY (ed.). *Handbook of space engineering, archaeology, and heritage*. xx+1016 pages, over 250 illustrations. 2009. Boca Raton (FL): CRC Press; 978-1-4200-8431-3 hardback £97.

MARCELLO BARBANERA (ed.). *Relitti riletti: metamorfosi delle rovine e identità culturale*. 510 pages, 220 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Torino: Bollati Boringhieri; 978-88-339-1919-5 hardback €75.

PHILIP WILKINSON. *Myths and legends: an illustrated guide to their origins and meanings*. 352 pages, numerous b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. London: Dorling Kindersley; 978-1-4053-3552-2 hardback £16.99.

BARRY B. POWELL. *Writing: theory and history of the technology of civilization*. xx+276 pages, 112 illustrations. 2009. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons; 978-1-4051-6256-2 hardback £50.

ANDREW ROBINSON. *Writing and script: a very short introduction*. xii+157 pages, 37 illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-986778-2 paperback £7.99.

DOMINIC RATHBONE (ed.). *Civilizations of the ancient world*. 384 pages, over 1000 colour illustrations. 2009. London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-28834-4 hardback £19.95.

DALE SERJEANTSON. *Birds*. xxvi+486 pages, 169 illustrations, 61 tables. 2009. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-75858-1 paperback £29.99.

## European pre- and protohistory

K. DI MODICA & C. JUNGELS (ed.). *Paléolithique moyen en Wallonie: la collection Louis Eloy*. 219 pages, 317 illustrations. 2009. Namur: Service du Patrimoine culturel; 2-9600511-9-x paperback €24.

AMIRKHANOV, H. (ed.). *Palaeolithic studies in Zaraysk 1999-2005*. 466 pages, 178 colour & b&w illustrations, 4 loose maps inside back cover, 36 tables. 2009. Moscow: Paleograph Press; 978-5-89526-022-5 hardback (in Russian with 30 pages of summaries and captions of illustration in English).

SINÉAD MCCARTEAN, RICK SCHULTING, GRAEME WARREN & PETER WOODMAN (ed.). *Mesolithic horizons*. 2 volumes, lx+1007 pages, 688 illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-311-4 hardback £150.

NYREE FINLAY, SINÉAD MCCARTEAN, NICKY MILNER & CAROLINE WICKHAM-JONES. (ed.). *From Bann Flakes to Bushmills* (Prehistoric Society Research Paper 1). xxiv+224 pages, 84 illustrations, 23 tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-355-8 hardback £35.

Y. B TSETLIN. *The centre of the Russian plain in the Neolithic age: decoration of clay vessels and methods for the periodization of cultures*. 350 pages, 74 tables. 2008. Tula: Institute of Archaeology of the Russian

Academy of Sciences; 978-5-8125-1155-5 hardback (in Russian with 15-page English summary).

JEAN GUILAINE, SEBASTIANO TUSA & PRIMO VENEROSO. *La Sicile et l'Europe campaniforme*. 216 pages, 117 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Toulouse: Archives d'Ecologie Préhistorique; 978-2-35842-0006 paperback.

DANUTA PIOTROWSKA. *Prolegomena do archeologii Biskupina. Tom I: bibliografia archeologiczna Biskupina 1933-1983*. 464 pages, 13 illustrations. 2009. Warszawa: Pastwowe Muzeum Archeologiczne w Warszawie; 978-83-60099-17-9 hardback.

FELIX MÜLLER (ed.). *Art of the Celts 700 BC to AD 700*. 304 pages, 238 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Bern: Historisches Museum Bern & Bruxelles: Mercatorfonds; 978-90-6153-864-6 hardback CHFr.60.

MARTIN GOJDA. *Flights into the past*. DVD produced by EU Culture 2000 programme. 2009. Institute of Archaeology of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Institute of Archaeology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences and English Heritage.

## Mediterranean archaeology

MARTA CAMPS & CAROLYN SZMIDT (ed.). *The Mediterranean from 50 000 to 25 000 BP: turning points and new directions*. xxii+354 pages, 158 illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-314-5 hardback £80.

HEDVIG LANDENIUS ENEGREN. *The people of Knossos: prosopographical studies in the Knossos Linear B archives* (Uppsala Studies in Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Civilizations 30). 220 pages. 2008. Uppsala: Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis; 978-91-554-7108-8 paperback.

SARA OWEN & LAURA PRESTON (ed.). *Inside the city in the Greek world: studies of urbanism from the Bronze Age to the Hellenistic period* (University of Cambridge Museum of Classical Archaeology Monograph 1). 140 pages, 28 illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-349-7 paperback £28.

CHRISTOPH BACHHUBER & R. GARETH ROBERTS (ed.). *Forces of transformation: the end of the Bronze Age in the Mediterranean* (Proceedings of an international symposium held at St. John's College, University of Oxford 25-26th March 2006). viii+227 pages, 151 illustrations, 16 tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-332-9 hardback £45.00.

SIMON K.F. STODDARD. *Historical dictionary of the Etruscans*. xl+320 pages, 26 illustrations. 2009. Lanham (MD): Scarecrow; 978-0-8108-5471-0 hardback £49.95.

SINCLAIR BELL & HELEN NAGY (ed.). *New perspectives on Etruria and early Rome*. xxiv+306 pages, 121 illustrations. 2009. Madison (WI): University of Wisconsin Press; 978-029923030-2 hardback \$55.

*Pharos. Journal of the Netherlands Institute in Athens*. Volume XV (2007). vi+220 pages. 2007. Athens: Netherlands Institute in Athens; ISSN 1380-2240 paperback €30.

## The Classical world

JOHN H. OAKLEY & OLGA PALAGIA (ed.). *Athenian potters and painters volume II*. vii+360 pages, 343 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-350-3 hardback £70.

ANDREW ERSKINE (ed.). *A companion to ancient history* (Blackwell Companion to the Ancient World). xxxviii+694 pages, 32 illustrations. 2009. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell; 978-1-4051-3150-6 hardback £95.

RYAN K. BALOT (ed.). *A companion to Greek and Roman political thought* (Blackwell Companion to the Ancient World). xxviii+660 pages. 2009. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell; 978-1-4051-5143-6 hardback £95.

CAROLINE ALEXANDER. *The war that killed Achilles: the true story of Homer's Iliad and the Trojan War*. xxiv+280 pages, 1 map. 2009. New York: Penguin; 978-0-670-02112-3 paperback \$26.95.

MARTIN HAMMOND (trans.). *Thucydides: The Peloponnesian War* (Oxford World's Classics). lxiv+720 pages, 11 maps. 2009. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-282191-1 paperback £10.99.

PHILIP MATYSZAK. *Classical compendium: a miscellany of curious facts, bizarre beliefs & scandalous gossip from ancient Greece and Rome*. 192 pages, 120 illustrations. 2009. London: Thames & Hudson; 978-0-500-05162-7 hardback £9.99.

## The Roman world

ALWYN SCARTH. *Vesuvius: a biography*. x+342 pages, 101 illustrations. 2009. Harpenden: Terra; 978-1-903544-25-9 hardback £24.95

EMIDIO DE ALBENTIS, photographs by ALFREDO & PIA FOGLIA. *Secrets of Pompeii: everyday life in ancient Rome*. 200 pages, 170 colour illustrations. Los Angeles

(CA): J. Paul Getty Museum; 978-0-89236-941-6 hardback \$44.95 & £25.

UMBERTO PAPPALARDO. *The splendor of Roman wall painting*. 240 pages, 227 illustrations. First paperback edition 2009 (first published in 2008 by Arsenale Editrice). Los Angeles (CA): Getty Publications; 978-0-89236-958-4 hardback \$45.

ANDREA FABER & ADOLF HOFFMANN. *Die Casa del Fauno in Pompeji (VI 12) 1. Bauhistorische Analyse. Die stratigraphischen Befunde und Funde der Ausgrabungen in den Jahren 1961 bis 1963*. 334 pages, 509 b&w & colour illustrations, CD-ROM. 2009. Wiesbaden: Reichert; 978-3-89500-650-0 hardback €100.95.

ANDREAS FISCHER mit Beitrag von MARKUS PETER. *Vorsicht Glas! Die römischen Glasmanufakturen von Kaiseraugst* (Forschungen in Augst 37). 194 pages, 152 b&w & colour illustrations, tables. 2009. Augst: Augusta Raurica; 978-3-7151-0037-1 hardback CHFr.100 & €66.

BARRY HOBSON. *Latrinae et foricae: toilets in the Roman world*. x+190 pages, 142 illustrations. 2009. London: Duckworth; 978-0715638507 paperback £14.99.

BENEDICT LOWE. *Roman economy, society and culture in Iberia*. viii+230 pages, 34 illustrations. 2009. London: Duckworth; 978-0-715-63499-8 paperback £18.

PETER E. KNOX (ed.). *A companion to Ovid* (Blackwell Companion to the Ancient World). xviii+534 pages, 10 illustrations, 1 table. 2009. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell; 978-1-4051-4183-3 hardback £95.

MARIAN GRIFFIN (ed.). *A companion to Julius Caesar* (Blackwell Companion to the Ancient World). xx+512 pages, 32 illustrations. 2009. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell; 978-1-4051-4923-5 hardback £95.

FRANK MCLYNN. *Marcus Aurelius: a life*. xix+684 pages, 1 illustration. 2009. Cambridge (MA): Da Capo; 978-0-306-81830-1 hardback \$30.

MARTIN M. WINKLER (ed.). *The fall of the Roman Empire: film and history*. xviii+334 pages, 26 illustrations. 2009. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons; 978-1-4051-8223-2 hardback £60.

CAROLINE LAWRENCE. *The prophet from Ephesus (The Roman mysteries series 16)*. 212 pages, 2 maps. 2009. London: Orion; 978-1-84255-606-1 paperback £6.99.

CAROLINE LAWRENCE. *The man from Pomegranate Street (The Roman mysteries series 17)*. x+262 pages,



4 illustrations. 2009. London: Orion; 978-1-84255-193-6 hardback, £9.99.

## Black Sea, Anatolia, Levant, Middle East

PIA GULDAGER BILDE & JANE HJARL PETERSEN (ed.). *Meetings of cultures in the Black Sea region: between conflicts and coexistence* (Black Sea Studies 8). 422 pages, 143 illustrations. 2009. Aarhus: Aarhus University Press; 978-87-793-4419-8 hardback £38.

ROGER MATTHEWS & CLAUDIA GLATZ (ed.). *At empires' edge. Project Paphlagonia: regional survey in north-central Turkey* (British Institute at Ankara Monograph 44). xiv+274 pages, 312 b&w & colour illustrations, 21 tables. 2009. London: British Institute at Ankara; 978-1-898249-23-8 hardback £50.

HARALD HAARMANN & JOAN MARLER. *Introducing the mythological crescent: ancient beliefs and imagery connecting Eurasia with Anatolia*. 172 pages, 73 illustrations. 2008. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz; 978-3-447-05832-2 paperback €39.80.

ANDREW FAIRBAIRN & EHUD WEISS (ed.). *From foragers to farmers: papers in honour of Gordon C. Hillman*. xx+276 pages, 134 illustrations, 70 tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-354-1 hardback £55.

CONSTANTINOS KOUTSADELIS. *Mortuary practices in the process of Levantine Neolithisation* (British Archaeological Reports International Series 1685). xviii+178 pages, 67 illustrations, 12 tables. 2007. Oxford: John & Erica Hedges; 978-1-4073-0072-6 paperback £41.

TREVOR BRYCE with HEATHER D. BAKER, DANIEL T. POTTS, JONATHAN N. TUBB, JENNIFER M. WEBB & PAUL ZIMANSKY. *The Routledge handbook of the peoples and places of ancient Western Asia*. lvi+888 pages, 160 illustrations. 2009. Abingdon & New York: Routledge; 978-0-415-39485-7 hardback £160 & \$260; 978-0-203-87550-6 ebook

BENJAMIN R. FOSTER & KAREN POLINGER FOSTER. *Civilizations of ancient Iraq*. xiv+298 pages, 24 illustrations. 2009. Princeton (NJ): Princeton University Press; 978-0-691-13722-3 hardback £18.95 & \$26.95.

CHRISTINE PRESTON. *The rise of man in the gardens of Sumeria: a biography of L.A. Waddell*. xvi+260 pages, 8 illustrations. 2009. Eastbourne: Sussex Academic Press; 978-1-84519-315-7 hardback £55.

JÉRÉMIE SCHIETTECATTE (ed.) with CHRISTIAN JULIEN ROBIN. *L'Arabie à la veille de l'Islam: bilan clinique* (Orient & Méditerranée 3). 316 pages, 93 illustrations. 2008. Paris: De Boccard; 978-2-7018-0256-5 paperback.

## Asia

EFEQ. *Bulletin de l'Ecole française d'Extrême Orient* 93 (2006). 560 pages, 175 illustrations, 15 tables. 2008. Paris: Ecole française d'Extrême Orient; 978-2-85539-673-6 paperback €50.

SIMON KANER (ed.). *The power of Dogu: ceramic figures from ancient Japan*. 176 pages, c. 150 colour & b&w illustrations. 2009. London: British Museum Press; 978-0-7141-2464-3 paperback £19.99.

## Africa and Egypt

JOEL E. TISHKEN, TÓYİN FÁLQLÁ & AKÍNTÚNDÉ AKÍNY ẸMÍ. *Sàngó in Africa and the African diaspora*. x+366 pages, 39 illustrations. 2009. Bloomington (IN): Indiana University Press; 978-0-253-35336-8 hardback \$75; 978-0-253-22094-3 paperback \$27.95.

LÁSZLÓ TÖRÖK. *Between two worlds: the frontier region between ancient Nubia and Egypt 3700 BC – 500 AD*. xxii+652 pages, 53 plates, 25 tables. 2009. Leiden: Brill; 978-90-04-17197-8 hardback €180 & \$281.

ROGER S. BAGNALL (ed.). *The Oxford handbook of papyrology*. xxii+688 pages, 115 illustrations, tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxford University Press; 978-0-19-517838-8 hardback £85.

GWENOLA GRAFF. *Les peintures sur vases de Nagada I – Nagada II: nouvelle approche sémiologique de l'iconographie prédynastique* (Egyptian Prehistory Monographs 6). 432 pages, 650 illustrations. 2009. Leuven: Leuven University Press; 978-90-5867-662-7 paperback €75.

MARIAM F. AYAD. *God's wife, god's servant: the god's wife of Amun (c. 740-525 BC)*. xviii+204 pages, 51 illustrations. 2009. Abingdon: Routledge; 978-0-415-41170-7 hardback £65.

## Americas

RICHARD W. JEFFERIES. *Holocene hunter-gatherers of the Lower Ohio River Valley*. xiv+346 pages,

41 illustrations, 4 tables. 2009. Tuscaloosa (AL): University of Alabama Press; 978-0-8173-1658-7 hardback; 978-0-8173-5541-8 paperback \$36.95.

STEPHEN H. LEKSON. *A history of the ancient Southwest*. xii+440 pages, 69 illustrations. 2009. Santa Fe (NM): School for Advanced Research; 978-1-934691-10-6 paperback \$39.95.

BRENDA J. BOWSER & MARÍA NIEVES ZEDEÑO (ed.). *The archaeology of meaningful places*. x+222 pages, 58 illustrations, 7 tables. 2009. Salt Lake City (UT): University of Utah Press; 978-0-87480-882-7 paperback \$30.

JOHN EDWARD STALLER (ed.). *Pre-Columbian landscapes of creation and origin*. xii+390 pages, 110 illustrations. 2009. Heidelberg: Springer; 978-0-387-76909-7 hardback & CD-ROM £69.99, \$99 & €76.95.

MICHELE H. HAYWARD, LESLEY-GAIL ATKINSON & MICHAEL A. CINQUINO (ed.). *Rock art of the Caribbean*. xiv+286 pages, 55 illustrations, 17 tables. 2009. Tuscaloosa (AL): University of Alabama Press; 978-0-8173-1650-1 hardback \$51.75; 978-0-8173-5530-2 paperback \$30.95.

BASIL A. REID. *Myths and realities of Caribbean history*. xiv+154 pages, 74 illustrations. 2009. Tuscaloosa (AL): University of Alabama Press; 978-0-8173-5534-0 paperback \$28.95.

GABRIELLE VAIL & ANTHONY AVENI (ed.). *The Madrid Codex: new approaches to understanding an ancient Maya manuscript*. xxx+426 pages, 117 colour & b&w illustrations, 43 tables. 2009. Boulder (CO): University Press of Colorado; 978-8-87081-939-1 paperback £29.50.

CHRISTINA T. HALPERIN, KATHERINE A. FAUST, RHONDA TAUBE & AUREORE GIGUET (ed.). *Mesoamerican figurines*. xiv+440 pages, 152 illustrations, 20 tables. 2009. Florida (FL): University Press of Florida; 978-0-8130-3330-3 hardback \$75.00.

## Australia

ALISTAIR G. PATERSON. *The lost legions: culture contact in colonial Australia*. xx+268 pages, 37 illustrations, 11 tables. 2008. Lanham (MD): AltaMira; 978-0-7591-0683-3 hardback £51.95; 978-0-7591-0684-0 paperback £21.95.

## Britain and Ireland

PAUL EVERILL. *The invisible diggers: a study of British commercial archaeology* (Heritage Research Series 1). viii+216 pages, 48 illustrations, 32 tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-905933-10-5 paperback £24.95.

GILLIAN HOVELL. *Visiting the past: a guide to finding and understanding Britain's archaeology*. 160 pages, 107 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Stroud: History Press; 978-0-7534-4833-6 paperback £12.99.

PETER MURPHY. *The English coast: a history and a prospect*. xiv+282 pages, 15 illustrations, 2 tables. 2009. London & New York: Continuum; 978-1-84725-143-5 hardback £60.

DAVID G. PASSMORE & CLIVE WADDINGTON. *Managing archaeological landscapes in Northumberland* (Till-Tweed Studies Volume 1). xxiv+400 pages, 260 illustrations, 57 tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-84217-345-9 hardback £45.

KENNETH BROPHY & GORDON BARCLAY (ed.). *Defining a regional Neolithic: the evidence from Britain and Ireland* (Neolithic Studies Group Seminar Papers 9). viii+128 pages, 54 illustrations, 2 tables. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-333-6 paperback £28.

STEPHEN J. YEATES. *A dreaming for the witches: a recreation of the Dobunni primal myth*. xii+244 pages, 84 illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-84217-358-9 paperback £19.95.

PAMELA JANE SMITH. *A 'splendid idiosyncrasy': prehistory at Cambridge 1915-50*. vi+220 pages, 48 illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Archaeopress; 978-1-4073-034-4 paperback £41.

JOHN BARNATT & NICOLA BANNISTER. *The archaeology of a great estate: Chatsworth and beyond*. xiv+218 pages, 93 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Oxford: Oxbow; 978-1-905119-27-1 £20.

MARK BOWDEN, GRAHAM BROWN & NICKY SMITH. *An archaeology of town commons in England: A very fair field indeed*. x+102 pages, 72 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Swindon: English Heritage; 978-1-84802-035-1 paperback £17.99.

## Early medieval and medieval

DIETER QUAST (ed.). *Foreigners in early medieval Europe: thirteen international studies on early medieval mobility* (Monographien des Römisch-Germanischen

Zentralmuseums 78). viii+296 pages, 147 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Mainz: Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum; 978-3-88467-131-3 hardback €98.

DAGFINN SKRE (ed.). *Means of exchange* (Kaupang Excavation Project Publication, Volume 2, Norske Oldfunn XXIII). 378 pages, 141 b&w & colour illustrations. 2008. Aarhus: Aarhus University Press & Kaupang Excavation Project, University of Oslo; 978-87-7934-308-5 hardback £34.

CARLO CITTER. *Dieci anni di ricerche a Castel Di Pietra: edizione degli scavi 1997-2007*. 229 pages, 103 illustrations. 2009. Firenze: All'Insegna del Giglio; 978-99-7814-458-3 paperback €30.

LAWRENCE JAMES. *Aristocrats: power, grace and decadence. Britain's great ruling classes from 1066 to the present*. x+438 pages, 38 b&w & colour plates. 2009. London: Little Brown; 978-0-316-73189-8 hardback £25.

## Maritime archaeology

GEORGE F. BASS, ROBERT H. BRILL, BERTA LLEDÓ & SHEILA D. MATTHEWS. *Serçe Limani Volume II: the glass of an eleventh-century shipwreck*. xiv+520 pages, 2102 b&w & colour illustrations, 12 tables. 2009. College Station (TX): Texas A&M University Press; 978-1-60344-064-6 paperback \$150.

PETER MARSDEN (ed.). *Mary Rose, your noblest shippe: anatomy of a Tudor warship* (The Archaeology of the *Mary Rose* Volume 2). xxvi+434 pages, 300 illustrations, 32 tables. 2009. Portsmouth: Mary Rose Trust; 978-0-9544029-2-1 hardback (casebound) £45.

## Later historic periods

J.H. ANDREWS. *Maps in those days*. xviii+549 pages, 250 illustrations. 2009. Dublin: Four Courts; 978-1-84682-188-2 hardback £50.

NEIL FORBES, ROBIN PAGE & GUILLERMO PÉREZ (ed.). *Europe's deadly century: perspectives on 20th century conflict heritage*. x+158 pages, 93 b&w & colour illustrations. 2009. Swindon: English Heritage; 978-1-84802-039-9 paperback £20.

NICHOLAS J. SAUNDERS & PAUL CORNISH (ed.). *Contested objects: material memories of the Great War*. xx+311 pages, 87 illustrations. 2009. London: Routledge; 978-0-415-45070-6 hardback £70.

## Paperback, second and subsequent editions

PHILIP L. KOHL. *The making of Bronze Age Eurasia*. xxiii+296 pages, 113 illustrations. First paperback edition 2009 (first published in 2007, reviewed in *Antiquity* 82 (2008): 1113-8). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 978-0-521-13015-8 paperback £18.99 & \$29.99; 978-0-521-84780-3 hardback £50 & \$100.

W.B. BARTLETT. *Assassins: the story of Medieval Islam's secret sect*. 316 pages. 2009 (first published by Sutton in 2001). Stroud: History Press; 978-0-7524-5205-0 paperback £12.99.

JAMES KEMBLE. *Prehistoric and Roman Essex*. 221 pages, 59 b&w illustrations, 32 colour plates. Second edition 2009 (first published in 2001). Stroud: History Press; 978-0-7524-5032-2 paperback £16.99.