

history continues through the period of Persian and Arab raids in the seventh to ninth centuries and features again in the letters of John Mauropous (archbishop c. 1050–1075). Historical, political and economic research questions follow, reflecting Haldon and Elton's concerns to understand texts relating to, for example, Euchaita's relationship with the political-military frontier of the seventh to ninth centuries, and various shifts in administrative control between regional centres.

Newhard seeks to develop new ways to understand long-term transformations in the rural environment through quantitative methods. These complement intensive fieldwalking across 9.11km² of the 20km² survey area around Avkat. Newhard, Bikoulis and others employ GIS, and computer modelling with remote sensing and historical source material, as well as field data, to investigate changes in settlement and agriculture. Those familiar with fieldwalking will appreciate the difficulties faced by the intensive survey team whose official permit restricted them to collecting material only dating from the Roman period onwards. Meanwhile, Eastwood and Yiğitbaşoğlu's review of palaeoclimate and palaeoenvironmental work provides a context for anthropogenic and natural change in Anatolia during the Holocene. While their narrative is hampered by a lack of suitable proxy data in local lakes and caves, they provide important critical summaries and methodological context for the other chapters, and stress variability across Turkey.

More humanised ideas of landscape are to be found in the contributions of Craft and Vroom. Craft promises a refreshingly experiential approach to roads and pathways by stressing the importance of movement through the landscape at a micro scale. In the absence of local stratified excavated material, Vroom does not attempt a complete typo-chronological study of the coarse wares that dominate the assemblage. Instead, she provides an overview of certain groups, but primarily studies coarse wares alongside faunal, palaeobotanical and ethnographic studies to explore diet, food resources, food-preparation and consumption activities across Anatolia. Vroom's functional ceramic groups might very usefully have been integrated and explored in the GIS in a similar way to the landscape-based functional site types outlined in Appendix 3. Newhard maps datable finds and argues for a landscape of sustained stability and 'persistent places'. Importantly for the settlement history of Anatolia, he notes a decrease in activity up until the early seventh century,

with an increase from the seventh to eighth centuries linked to the use of the fortress (*kale*) above Avkat. This represents a striking pattern that contrasts with many studies in central and southern Anatolia, which are often explained by the impact of Arab incursions.

Bikoulis integrates many different sources, dating up to the twentieth century, to explore the agricultural potential of Euchaita's hinterland. Byzantine military units, he concludes, must have been supplemented by districts beyond the city's own catchment area. Some of the less well-attested periods might be approached through retrogressive analysis of the complex morphology of its surviving field systems. Field boundaries could be used to investigate landscape changes over time once it "sank into rural insignificance" (p. 24).

Elton brings together geophysical surveys of important building complexes and careful recording of inscriptions and *spolia* often carried to villages at some distance. These data can be examined online. A biographical approach might work well to trace a narrative of their stories. Nowakowski and the late Frank Trombley demonstrate the value of presenting epigraphic evidence clearly beside its interpretation, translation and commentary. The decision to reduce cost by omitting most figures from the volume (and its pdf version) and hosting them online, makes their scrutiny rather cumbersome. Nevertheless, it is excellent to see the detailed project data archived online at <http://opencontext.org/subjects/4d35ea5d-8d30-40a4-a12e-726e3d693d06>.

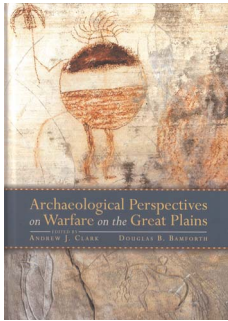
Haldon's conclusion brings together and builds on the other studies, integrating, for example, Euchaita's significant economic and social role as a pilgrimage centre with its situation in Anatolia during the Persian and Arab wars. The chapters in this book each serve as an important contribution to the history of Byzantine Anatolia and together have set a new standard for survey in the field.

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ANDREW J. CLARK & DOUGLAS B. BAMFORTH. 2018. *Archaeological perspectives on warfare on the Great Plains*. Louisville: University Press of Colorado; 987-1-60732-669-4 \$99.

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The Great Plains of North America offer an opportune case study to analyse warfare, as the area presents a remarkably different archaeological record compared to more socio-politically complex regions such as the American South-

west or Mesoamerica. The Great Plains were home to hunter-gatherer populations for more than 13000 years, from the earliest colonisation through to the violent conflicts between the U.S. military and equestrian foraging populations of the AD 1860s and 1870s. The region also hosted many farming populations, with horticultural societies settling into the well-watered valleys of the Eastern Plains beginning within the last 2000 years. With limited documentary sources at their disposal, archaeologists interested in past conflict can turn to the material record and explore evidence such as the visual arts, defensive structures and skeletal remains. This volume explores how scholars seek to identify evidence for conflict in the archaeological record, when and where warfare occurred within the Great Plains, the possible causes and consequences of such conflict, and the question of whether an absence of evidence for warfare necessarily implies peaceful conditions. The volume documents that both the foraging and the farming populations of the Great Plains were drawn into conflict at various times, with the best evidence for such events dating to the last millennium.

The editors divide the volume into four sections. In his Introduction, forming Part 1 of the book, Douglas Bamforth presents a thorough overview. The chapter is a well-written summary of warfare, addressing why warfare (or lack thereof) is central to the human experience, how archaeologists identify warfare in the archaeological record, and general patterns of pre- and post-contact warfare documented within the Plains. The paper frames the remainder of the volume, and in its detail goes beyond the scope of the typical Introduction and simple listing of the following chapters.

Part 2 is titled 'Emic views: warfare in Plains rock art' and contains three chapters by well-known rock art experts. Rock art provides excellent evidence for warfare and raiding. Chapters by Greer and Greer, Keyser, and Sundstrom provide abundant examples of

common imagery from the Northern Plains. Much of the visual imagery depicts battle scenes, raids and warrior gear, including shields, a variety of weapons and types of body decoration. While the majority of the description focuses on rock art, authors also discuss other media, such as hide paintings depicting winter counts, that is, graphics containing a visual inventory of the year's most significant events as experienced or recalled by the craftsman. The majority of the rock art discussed in these chapters relates to the hunter-gatherer populations of the Western Plains, due in part to the greater exposure of rock surfaces within the uplifted terrain of the Western compared with the Eastern Plains. The frequent depiction of warfare in these panels clearly documents violence within hunter-gatherer populations, which otherwise can be difficult to identify given the comparatively limited material records.

Part 3 is titled 'Fortification as evidence for violence'. The geographic coverage spans the Southern Plains, Wyoming, the Northern Plains along the Missouri River, and the eastern USA. Chapters by Dye, LeBeau III, Vehick, Drass *et al.* and Schroeder describe the various ways defensive structures were built and used. This includes wooden palisades, ditches and other earthworks, and simple rock-walled structures related both to farming villages and hunter-gatherer groups. The authors provide abundant examples of fortifications from the Great Plains and surrounding regions, but also ponder how properly to identify them archaeologically and differentiate potentially similar-looking features such as irrigation ditches from defensive ditches. Ultimately, the inhabitants of such sites had to decide whether erecting fortifications was worth the investment in construction and maintenance, or whether moving on to another location was a more pragmatic choice for self-preservation.

Part 4 is titled 'Warfare in society and Plains history'. Chapters by Hollinger, Mitchell, Clark, Kendell, Bleed and Scott, and Bamforth and Clark provide case studies of warfare, mostly from the pre-contact farming villages of the Missouri River. This section of the book is the most thematically diverse, as the authors explore strategies of warfare during late nineteenth-century battles and catalysts for warfare in the region, including ethnic conflict, disputes over competition for resources and the control of trade.

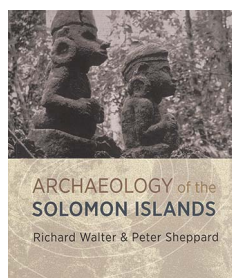
The volume presents a rich compilation of warfare research and is of great value to scholars researching

violence, farming populations, rock art and grassland archaeology. This reviewer enjoyed the diversity of topics, and the contextualisation of case studies through the lens of warfare studies. I have two minor comments regarding the overall work. The volume is rather uneven in terms of the distribution of illustrations. The three rock art chapters contain over 45 illustrations of rock art panels, glyphs and maps, greatly adding to the text in terms of visual data. The five chapters on fortifications vary considerably, however, with several chapters well illustrated while others contain only one or two images. Another notable issue is the volume's lack of osteological scholarship on warfare, here represented by only Kendall's chapter on scalping at the Crow Creek Massacre (early AD 1300s to mid 1400s). The editors rightfully acknowledge the effect of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) on skeletal research within the USA. While this law mandated skeletal inventory, it is difficult to understand, nearly 30 years after its enactment, to what degree this work has been completed and is awaiting dissemination. It is to be hoped that this present volume will inspire the publication of additional osteological scholarship related to violence and warfare on the Great Plains as revealed via NAGPRA research and compliance.

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RICHARD WALTER & PETER SHEPPARD. *Archaeology of the Solomon Islands*. 2017. Dunedin: University of Otago Press; 978-0-947522-53-7 NZ \$50.



This volume is beautifully presented with clear and informative colour maps by Les O'Neill, and equally clear colour illustrations of key sites and artefact types. There is no doubt that Pacific archaeology needs more

of this kind of book, which includes comprehensive summaries of the archaeology of particular archipelagos, providing easy reference to a wide range of published and unpublished (usually doctoral theses)

information. Across the wider Island Melanesian region, one can only find comparison in New Caledonia where Christophe Sand and his colleagues have produced similar summaries, synthesising vast amounts of data, which are tremendously valuable as general reference volumes.

Walter and Sheppard have been involved in much of the significant archaeological research that has occurred in the Solomon Islands in recent years, taking up the baton from the late Roger Green, but all research on the Solomons, including my own very modest contribution at its northern end, gets fair coverage. It provides quite a comprehensive summary of research up to around 2015. The volume begins with a short introductory chapter, summarising the initial Pleistocene settlement of the region (discussion of the settlement of Sahul—Australia and New Guinea—has been updated by subsequent work). Chapter 2 offers a reasonable survey of the 'Cultural geography of the Solomon Islands', but reveals the problems of writing archipelagic histories where a single modern nation state takes up much of the word count. The decision to include Bougainville, the largest of the geographic Solomons, despite its current status as the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (not the North Solomons Province as the authors have it), within the state of Papua New Guinea is entirely justifiable. But on similar grounds of propinquity and cultural connection, the eastern Solomons, separated from the main Solomons by over 350km of open ocean, could arguably be more appropriately included in a volume on the archipelago of Vanuatu, of which it forms a northern extension. It is included here, of course, because it is part of the modern nation state of the Solomon Islands and the subject of much of Sheppard's own research. Boundaries are always tricky to justify.

Chapter 3 is the least impressive part of the work. We are presented merely with a chronology of who worked where, but get no sense of hypotheses regarding settlement of the Solomons or its wider cultural connections. Western speculations on the origins of the Solomon Islanders began with sixteenth-century Spanish explorers. With the growth of ethnology in the nineteenth century, ideas were promulgated about peoples and cultures that clearly affected the later development of the more strictly archaeological research agendas—which Walter and Sheppard would date to 1964 onwards. These older ideas still have echoes in debates today and need to be unpicked

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