

social and economic variability in the past than scholars previously imagined, and that the history of particular regions or even the Southwest as a whole is only understandable in light of that variability. Indigenous perspectives on the ancient past, including those in this volume, reinforce that perspective.

The final chapter by current CCAC President and CEO Elizabeth Perry reckons with calls to move beyond incorporation (and potential further appropriation) of Indigenous voices in archaeology and toward a discipline that directly benefits Indigenous people living today. While most of the volume provides a look at CCAC's past, this chapter and others begin to outline a new path.

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The Boundaries of Ancient Trade: Kings, Commoners, and the Aksumite Salt Trade of Ethiopia. Helina Solomon Woldekiros. Denver: University Press of Colorado, 2023, 224 pp. \$68.00, cloth. ISBN 9781646424726.

The Boundaries of Ancient Trade represents a major contribution to the anthropological archaeology of trade, particularly trade associated with ancient states. Trade has been a long-standing topic of interest among archaeologists studying ancient societies; studies of trade often focus on staple foods and luxury goods and rather less commonly on aromatics, spices, and seasonings. The focus of the book on salt thus contributes important new insights about a seasoning, preservative, and essential mineral of considerable historical significance in many world regions. The book also conveys a wealth of important insights and information about caravan trade—in this case involving mostly camels but also mules and donkeys—as well as contributing to new understanding about the history and political economy of ancient Aksumite civilization.

The book is based on nineteen months of fieldwork conducted between 2009 and 2012, including ethnoarchaeological interviews, archaeological survey, and excavation. However, the fact that Woldekiros not only studied the salt trade but also rented camels and travelled with a massive caravan of up to 1,000 people and as many as 6,000 animals that camped together nightly is one of the most remarkable and important aspects of the book. She rightly emphasizes that one cannot transpose practices of the present to the ancient past, but the opportunity to take part in and document the logistics, material remains, costs, and socioeconomic interactions of modern salt caravan trade is nevertheless highly significant. At the time of her fieldwork, and even more so today, Ethiopia's camel caravan salt trade is rapidly being replaced by salt transported in trucks, making her work on this traditional trade network deeply important. She describes the material culture and detritus associated with salt extraction and animal

transport, quantifies the costs that accrue as distance from salt sources increases, and probably mostly meaningfully, clarifies the nature of social relationships related to salt caravan trade in the past and the present.

Archaeological analyses of ancient trade traditionally focus on the influence and leadership of elites in trade as a potential impetus of sociopolitical complexity and state formation, but her investigations indicate that salt caravan trade is orchestrated in large part by everyday people rather than by elites or state authorities. In modern Ethiopia, government institutions mostly seem to intervene by collecting taxes. Drovers, as entrepreneurs, rent animals and assume the central risk of the venture—namely, that valuable animals might die on long and arduous caravan trips from lowland salt sources to highland markets. Although the uncertainties of risk versus reward in the present are certainly not a precise match for conditions of the ancient past, her work does suggest that elites and state authorities are not the primary players in trade—at least in the salt trade—as traditional archaeological models are often inclined to claim. Certainly, as Woldekiros emphasizes, the Aksumite state was marked by inequality and hierarchical organization, but hierarchy coexisted with heterarchy in ways that are substantially more complicated than archaeologists often envision.

The Boundaries of Ancient Trade is a major contribution to the study of ancient trade, caravans, and salt as a commodity. Precisely how salt is and was used and consumed in ancient and modern Ethiopia is not directly discussed—perhaps a topic for future explication. One can also hope that the sites reported, including newly discovered ancient settlements, can be further investigated as Woldekiros's work gives us just a small taste of very important archaeological remains found along salt caravan routes. Even so, her work is deeply important in contributing new knowledge of a long-standing commodity trade network with wide relevance for archaeologists' understanding of ancient politics, economics, and trade.

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Hoarding New Guinea: Writing Colonial Ethnographic Collection Histories for Postcolonial Futures. Rainer Buschmann. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2023, 284 pp. \$75.00, cloth. ISBN 9781496234643.

If readers are initially perplexed by the title of this book, they only have to look at the cover illustration to see exactly why the term “hoarding” features so prominently. The photograph is of the jumble of unclassified objects spilling out across the room in the Hamburg Ethnographic Museum amassed from the Hamburg South Sea Expedition of 1908–1910. How could such a mess of undigested material have occurred? Rainer Buschmann's book explains the peculiar set of circumstances that brought this about.