

The final chapter discusses economic revival and the coming of Roman armies to northwestern Europe, and summarises much of the work to which Collis has been a major contributor. The vexed question of 'oppida' is handled boldly as the 'deliberate founding of large urban centres' (p. 140), although the claim that Caesar's use of the term is being followed may be disputed.

This book, with its notes and select bibliography, can be confidently recommended even if a different book with the same title still remains to be written.

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L. G. FREEMAN (ED.), Views of the Past. Essays in Old World Pre history and Paleoanthropology. Mouton, The Hague, 1978. 445 pp., 3 plates. £19.95 (estimated) ISBN 90-279-7670-8.

Reviewed by Tim Reynolds

The result of a session entitled 'Paleoanthropology: Behavior' at the IXth ICAES in Chicago, 1973, this volume of thirteen papers is another in the Mouton series covering 'World Anthropology'. As with others of this series it is well presented and clear, however, it contrasts these others in a striking imbalance between length of papers and the lack of a definite focus. Aimed at Old World palaeo-behaviour, it shows a curious lack of contributions by workers based in the Old World, a bias towards Spain (papers by Freeman (2), Clark and Richards), and, despite usage of the terminology of the 'New Archaeology' (Freeman, Fedele, Hassan) its contents remain rather traditional (see especially Singer and Wymer). This latter point is somewhat of a disappointment for behavioural archaeology could, at this time, easily pack the volume with controversial topics for debate. This problem surely lies in

the length of time taken to publish the book, some five years, during which period method, theory and database have all altered. The volume, therefore, contains many anachronisms such as Freeman's spatial-functional analysis which, in the early seventies, would have been rather more topical. The paper by Clark and Richards is a fine initial site report of the La Riera cave, and includes useful illustrations of Asturian lithics. The paper by Straus and Walker is important historically as the first published use of casts in microwear studies, and the amino-acid dating of bone from Olduvai (Hare, Turnbull and Taylor) is similarly interesting. The paper by Singer and Wymer on population movement between Africa and Asia returns to old classification problems which lead to artefacts moving about, representing populations. This seems more a reflection of the behaviour of archaeologists than of palaeobehaviour!

Wide coverage within the old world is admirable. Papers by Hassan, Gonzalez Echegary and Saxon cover, between them, the late Pleistocene and early Holocene industries of the Levant and North Africa. Saxon adopts an environmental approach for the Mesolithic of these areas. Fedele adopts a similar perspective in his discussion of human occupation in the Italian Alps.

Two of the papers are particularly lengthy, and cover areas into which Western archaeologists rarely delve. Shimkin presents a review of the Upper Palaeolithic of North Central Eurasia and Luchterhand takes a sideways step into the adaptive niches of Homo erectus in eastern Asia following a relatively lengthy examination of Late Cenozoic climatic change and mammalian evolution. Both papers present useful data and area summaries for reference but neither will provide great enlightenment

for behaviouralists. Klein (1969, 1973) has adequately covered much of Shimkin's material and archaeologists will hardly be surprised to read that they must consider humans in their environmental setting before they may understand the archaeological database (Luchterhand). This latter work takes on an ambitious aim (i.e.: to place humans in local environmental settings and discuss evolutionary and ecological relevance) but, given the wide area investigated, the paucity and unreliability of much of the data are fated to remain uninformatively general. There is too great a concentration on North China where Choukoutien still seems to dominate despite the inadequacies of that site's data. In both papers the presentation of more illustrations and of reliable archaeological data would have been useful. The appendix to Shimkin's paper being a case for this point.

Experimental archaeology is surprisingly absent from this volume, and much more could have been made of functional analysis. The volume is adventurous in attempting such a wide brief. It succeeds in gaining good areal coverage of the Old World, but is lacking in method and theory. Each of the papers is of interest to specialists, but the lack of coherent focus to the book, and the degree to which it has become dated would tend to relegate it to reference shelves, a victim of delayed publication, and the increased tempo of research into palaeobehaviour.

#### References

- Klein, R.G., 1969. Man and Culture in the Late Pleistocene. San Francisco, Chandler.
- Klein, R.G., 1973. Ice-age Hunters of the Ukraine. University of Chicago, Chicago Press.
- COLIN RENFREW, MICHAEL ROWLANDS and BARBARA ABBOTT SEGRAVES (EDS), Theory and Explanation in Archaeology: The Southampton Conference. Academic Press, New York, 1982. 480pp. £42.00 (Hard) ISBN 0-12-586960-6.

Reviewed by Valerie Pinsky

This book is the product of three separate but conceptually related symposia held at the Southampton conference of the Theoretical Archaeology Group (TAG) in 1980. It is remarkable for its unity of focus on the problems of archaeological explanation and the study of sociocultural process and change -- two issues central to the theoretical concerns of the new archaeology which have been the subject of extensive and often heated debate since the early 1960s. What might appear to some readers as an inherent contradiction of the volume -- that to a large extent its individual thematic sections are theoretically out of step with each other -- is in fact its major strength, and reinforces the view that processual archaeology, far from being a monolithic epistemological edifice, is a much looser and more diverse association of ideas and approaches to the study of the human past.

The three separate symposia form the basis of the book's thematic section divisions. Section I, 'Explanation Revisited', contains ten papers and two commentary pieces, and addresses itself to the efforts of archaeologists to formulate specific explanatory models on the inspiration of the philosophy of science. Renfrew's introductory paper provides an overview of the development of 'theory' during the last hundred years, and associates the emergence of the new archaeology with what he calls "The Great Awakening" (David Clarke's "loss of innocence"), in which the demand for scientific explanation became a central concern. He reviews common