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BOOK NOTICES, 2005

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Clive Waddington, *The Joy of Flint: An Introduction to Stone Tools and a Guide to the Museum of Antiquities Collection* (Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne, 2004), pp. ix + 101, 84 ills. ISBN 0 7017 0165 X. £11.99

Our Society's Joint Museum takes justifiable pride in making its rich collections available to scholars and the general public through printed catalogues and the electronic Web. Even those members who know the collection well will be surprised at the strength of our holdings of chipped stone and flint tools which are the subject of this latest gazetteer. But this book is more than a valuable catalogue. Its splendid illustrations and lively text provide an authoritative introduction to the study of stone tools; there are engaging discussions of materials and the practicalities of manufacture together with indications of the research potential of the finds. Students, amateurs and professional archaeologists will find this a most accessible starting point for study of this hitherto unjustly-neglected material. And the extensive bibliography will carry them far into the subject. Clive Waddington and Lindsay Allason-Jones are to be congratulated on bringing this project to fruition.

Clive Waddington and Dave Passmore, *Ancient Northumberland* (Country Store, Milfield, 2004), pp viii + 120, 121 ills (mainly in colour). ISBN 0 9530163 6 6. £12.00.

This book is worth buying for its illustrations alone: evocative landscape views; extraordinary close up shots of microliths; careful

excavations; the sweaty processes of reconstruction; beautiful aerial photographs. Its text however offers even more. Here we have an authoritative overview of Northumberland's prehistoric archaeology interspersed with detailed case studies – and all buttressed by a full guide to further reading. Northumberland's landscape is a multi-layered historical palimpsest and this book does much to alert us to alert us to our rich heritage. Profits from the sales go to the maintenance of the 'Maelmin Heritage Trail' – the location of a 'Neolithic henge' reconstruction and ancillary trails to local archaeological sites.

James Crow, *Housesteads; A Fort and Garrison on Hadrian's Wall* (Tempus, Stroud, 2004), pp. 160, 75 ills. ISBN 0 7524 2890 X. £17.99.

This is the second edition of a book which was first published in 1995 and then reviewed by Dr Brian Dobson in this journal (*AA*⁵, 24, 221–2). That review rightly recognised that it would prove a valuable and stimulating contribution to Wall studies but hoped that it would receive regular up-dating. This book is the first such revision and includes (alongside various corrections) new colour reconstructions, extensive new text on the history of the site over the last two centuries and an expanded bibliography. Further work elsewhere on the Wall has now strengthened some of the tentative suggestions put forward in the earlier book, notably on the nature of 'Frisian ware' and the seeming presence of a Christian church. No one interested in the Wall can afford to be without this new edition on their shelves.