

## Short Reviews

*Iron Age Man in Denmark.* By Berit Sellevold, Ulla Lund Hansen and Jørgen Balslev Jørgensen. 21 × 30 cm. 370 pp., 56 figs. and ills. Copenhagen: Det Kongelige Nordiske Oldskriftselskab, 1986. Price not stated.

This volume is the third in the series *Prehistoric Man in Denmark*; the earlier two, published in 1956, dealt with the 'Stone Age' and Bronze Age respectively. The present volume, treating the material in a more up-to-date manner, is a well-produced and useful catalogue of all skeletal material securely dated to the Iron Age from within Denmark. It gathers together in one volume both archaeological and anthropological information on each skeleton, a total of 1,039 altogether. Cremations are, however, excluded. The catalogue lists skeletons in alphabetical order of place-names of the sites and gives basic archaeological and anthropological information for each skeleton; e.g. grave goods present, orientation of the grave, lie of the body, age, sex and presence of skeletal anomalies. As well as the catalogue itself, which obviously comprises a major part of the book, individual chapters discuss the Archaeology and Anthropology, and then chapters follow with analysis of the metrical data, the non-metrical data, the demographic data (i.e. age and sex) grave goods and the disposition of the bodies in the graves.

One major omission is a similar analysis of disease and dental status, which is generally a major interest of many of those people likely to consult this volume. Mention is made of the presence of certain abnormalities, diseases or dental anomalies where appropriate in the catalogue, but for detailed analysis and discussion it will be necessary to consult the proposed volume on palaeopathology (now published).

The cataloguing of information on skeletal material from archaeological sites is very timely; skeletal reports are notoriously difficult to find, scattered as they are in appendices to site reports in many different journals. A compilation of this type is much needed in this country.

JULIET ROGERS

*Viking-Age Coinage in the Northern Lands.* Edited by M. A. S. Blackburn and D. M. Metcalf. 21 × 30 cm. 568 pp., many figs. Oxford: Brit. Archaeol. Rep. Int. Ser. 122, 1981. Price £22.00.

The purpose of this brief notice is to ensure that all students of the Viking Age, and not just numismatists, have paid proper heed to the publication of the 1981 Oxford Symposium on Coinage and Monetary History, a meeting that was devoted to the coinage which circulated during the Viking Age in Scandinavia, the E. Baltic countries and European Russia. The two volumes contain twelve papers and seven supplementary notes, by American, British, Finnish, German and Scandinavian contributors (all but one in English), as well as their own built-in review in the form of a 'summing-up' by the late Michael Dolley at his most Dolleyesque. The authors provide wide-ranging, critical surveys of what has been found and why, most notably of all 931 finds of Anglo-Saxon or Anglo-Norman coins from northern Europe, as well as discussions of methodological problems and some more detailed studies. It is, however, the general surveys, embracing Oriental, Scandinavian and German coinages (as well as the Anglo-Saxon already mentioned), that must command the attention of *all* historians and archaeologists concerned with the economics and politics of northern Europe in the early medieval period, whilst the check-lists and statistics make this also an invaluable reference work for scholarly libraries.

JAMES GRAHAM-CAMPBELL

*Vikingatida dosspännen — teknisk stratigrafi och verkstadsgruppering* (Uppsala University Institute of North European Archaeology Archaeological Studies 4). By Lena Thunmark-Nylén. 19 × 26 cm. 146 pp., 122 figs. Uppsala: Institutionen för arkeologi, 1983. Price not stated.

This Uppsala doctoral thesis by Lena Thunmark-Nylén is concerned with the study of some 750 Viking-Age 'box-brooches' found on the Baltic island of Gotland. Her approach in the first instance is concerned with casting techniques, detailed analysis of the various stages in the manufacture of the patterns and wax brooches behind the finished products being based on fine measurement. The occurrence of pattern restoration and use of secondary patterns enables her to establish their 'technical stratigraphy' — that is their order of manufacture — an approach which is then extended to an examination of those features of brooch construction other than casting. Once an overall relative chronology has been established by comparing the technical stratigraphy of several brooch groups, Thunmark-Nylén is able to move on to a discussion of individual workshops and frequency of production.

At the beginning of the Viking Age, it is postulated that only one workshop provided for the whole of Gotland, for the earlier brooches are spread all over the island and the estimated demand could have been satisfied by one specialized craftsman per generation manufacturing no more than one or two brooches a week. The later, simpler brooch groups display local distributions and seem to have been the products of more numerous and unspecialized workshops. There is thus much of interest in this work for the student of early medieval bronze casting and workshop practices, and hence it is a pity that it has been published in Swedish, with only a brief English summary.

JAMES GRAHAM-CAMPBELL

*English Cathedral and Monastic Carpentry*. By Cecil A. Hewett. 24 × 18 cm. 257 pp., 293 figs., 10 pls. Chichester, Sussex: Phillimore. Price £25.00.

This book adds to the corpus of Cecil Hewett's remarkable drawings of historic carpentry. That said, the reviewer's task is inevitably in part a bibliographical exercise. Of the figures, about two-thirds have appeared before, either in *English Cathedral Carpentry* (1974) or in *English Historic Carpentry* (1980) and some of them in both. Some of the plates have appeared before; one of them, a joint in Navestock church, is now reversed. *EHC* 1980 included secular buildings and parish churches; they are now excluded with one exception, Bisham Abbey, really a manor house. Some twenty buildings are illustrated for the first time or by drawings of parts not covered hitherto such as the western chapels of Lincoln Minster; there are drawings of several post-medieval roofs in several cathedrals, some of them very complex. The drawings are arranged by forms of roof and other constructions (doors, hoisting machinery), as in *ECC* 1974, rather than by period, as in *EHC* 1980. Each book is designed differently; the latest has the merit that the figures are identified in captions but they are not signalled typographically in the index, as they were in *EHC* 1980. Anyone possessing all three books needs a personal computer to locate all the drawings of a particular building and the comments on it.

The drawings are accompanied by comments on dating and on details of construction; they may be rephrased but are new only for new examples such as Gilbert Scott's roof for the choir of Ripon Minster. The roof of the south transept of Lincoln (*EHC* fig. 139; *ECMC* fig. 69) is now correctly said to be of pine but it was in fact built in the 1830s or 1840s, not earlier. Hewett's terminology is of course his own and he is very skilful at composing succinct descriptions of elaborate forms of construction. Most of us have felt obliged to adopt most of his terminology, whatever the effort required, but one wishes occasionally that in republishing he would take account of minor corrections, as in his comment on the roof of the Blackfriars, Gloucester (fig. 34; see *Medieval Archaeol.* xxii (1978), 107) or of others' terms. In Montagu's great chamber at Bisham Abbey, Berks., what others have called curved short

principals he calls eaves blades. He might have followed Munby *et al.* (*Medieval Archaeol.*, xxvii (1983), 123–35) and used king-strut instead of king-post where there is no ridge-piece.

The most elaborate comments are on the roofs of Lincoln Minster, the last building on which Hewett worked before his serious illness in 1981. His task in preparing this book was to use it as therapy, as is stated in the publisher's blurb; any reservations about the result must give way to recognition of his extraordinary will-power and congratulation on his conquest of disability.

M. W. BARLEY

The following publications have also been received:

*Learning and Literature in Anglo-Saxon England: Studies presented to Peter Clemoes.* Edited by Michael Lapidge and Helmut Gneuss. 15 × 23 cm. 459 pp., 16 pls., 8 figs. Cambridge: C.U.P., 1985. Price £45.00.

*The Annals of St Neots with Vita Prima Sancti Neoti* (The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, a Collaborative Edition, 17). Edited by David Dumville and Michael Lapidge. 15 × 23 cm. 155 pp., 1 pl. Cambridge: D. S. Brewer, 1985. Price £25.00.

*Anglo-Saxon Aptitudes.* By R. I. Page. 12 × 18 cm. 30 pp. Cambridge: C.U.P., 1985. Price £1.95.

*The Norman Conquest* (Documents of Medieval History, 5). By R. Allen Brown. 15 × 23 cm. 181 pp., 8 figs. London: Edward Arnold, 1984. Price £12.50.

*The Normans and the Norman Conquest.* By R. Allen Brown. 16 × 24 cm. xii + 259 pp., 2 maps, table. Woodbridge: The Boydell Press, 1985. Price £19.50.  
Revised edition of a work that first appeared in 1969.

*Architecture in Norman Britain.* By Bryan Little. 19 × 26 cm. 191 pp., 106 pls. and figs. London: B. T. Batsford Ltd., 1985. Price £20.00.

*Medieval Framlingham* (Sussex Records Society vol. XXVII). Edited by John Ridgard. 24 × 16 cm. x + 165 pp., 2 maps. Woodbridge: The Boydell Press, 1985. Price £15.00.

*Grangia and Orreum: the medieval barn: a nomenclature: an interim study with related commentaries: the origins and use of the grangia.* By John Weller. 21 × 29 cm. 44 pp., many figs. Bildeston, Suffolk: Bildeston Booklets, n.d. Price £5.00.

*Hulton Abbey: a century of excavations* (*Staffordshire Archaeological Studies* N.S. ii). Compiled by Philip J. Wise. 21 × 29 cm. viii + 142 pp., 46 pls. Price not stated.

*The Iron Industry of the Weald.* By Henry Cleere and David Crossley. 15 × 23 cm. 395 pp., 74 figs. Leicester: Leicester University Press, 1985. Price £47.50.

Includes a chapter on the form, chronology and location of the medieval industry and another on the introduction of the blast furnace.

*The Stained Glass of the Church of St Mary, Fairford, Gloucestershire* (Society of Antiquaries Occasional Paper (n.s.), V). By Hilary Wayment. 19 × 24 cm. 115 pp., 62 pls. (8 colour), 5 figs. London: Society of Antiquaries of London, 1984. Distributed by Thames & Hudson. Price £15.00.

*Argyll and the Western Isles.* By Graham Ritchie and Mary Harman. 25 × 19 cm. 176 pp., many pls. and figs., some in colour. *Lothian and the Borders.* By John Baldwin. 25 × 19 cm. 200 pp., many pls. and figs., some in colour. Edinburgh: H.M.S.O. for R.C.A.H.M.S., 1985. Price £6.95 each.

The first two titles in the Exploring Scotland's Heritage series, edited by Anna Ritchie, to provide a series of regional guides to historic buildings and archaeological remains, sponsored by the Royal Commission.

- Post-medieval Sites and their Pottery* (Chelmsford Archaeological Trust Report, 5. C.B.A. Research Report, 54). By C. M. Cunningham and P. J. Drury. 21 × 29 cm. 96 pp., 7 pls., 52 figs., 6 tables, 1 microfiche. London: Council for British Archaeology, 1985. Price £11.75.
- Federico II e Fiorentino. Atti del Primo Convegno di Studi Medioevali della Capitanata, Torremaggiore, 23-24 giugno 1984* (Quaderni di Archeologia e Storia dell'Arte in Capitanata no. 2). Edited by M. S. Calò Mariani. 19 × 29 cm. xii + 116 pp., 26 pp. of pls. Galatina: Congedo Editore, 1985. Price not stated.
- Pierre et Métal dans le bâtiment au Moyen Age (Recherches d'histoire et de sciences sociales, 11)*. Edited by Odette Chapelot and Paul Benoit. 14 × 22 cm. 370 pp., pls., figs. Paris: École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, 1985. Price not stated.
- Sewn Plank Boats: archaeological and ethnographic papers based on those presented to a conference at Greenwich in November, 1984* (Oxford: Brit. Archaeol. Rep. Int. Ser. 276, 1985; National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, Archaeological Series, 10). Edited by Sean McGrail and Eric Kentley. 21 × 29 cm. xii + 399 pp., numerous figs. and pls. Price £26.00.
- Climate and History: Studies in past climates and their impact on Man*. Edited by T. M. L. Wigley, M. J. Ingram and G. Farmer. 15 × 23 cm. 530 pp., figs., tables. Cambridge: C.U.P., 1985. Price £15.00.
- Wordprocessing, a Writer's Guide*. By Edmond McGovern. 15 × 21 cm. 32 pp. Exeter: Globefield Press, 1985. Price £1.90 (plus 20p postage) from Globefield Press, Globefield, Exeter EX3 0HA.