Minoan Crete is rightly famous for its idiosyncratic architecture, as well as its palaces and towns such as Knossos, Malia, Gournia, and Palaikastro. Indeed, these are often described as the first urban settlements of Bronze Age Europe. However, we still know relatively little about the dynamics of these early urban centres. How did they work? What role did the palaces have in their towns, and the towns in their landscapes?

It might seem that with such richly documented architectural remains these questions would have been answered long ago. Yet, analysis has mostly found itself confined to building materials and techniques, basic formal descriptions, and functional evaluations. Critical evaluation of these data as constituting a dynamic built environment has thus been slow in coming.

This volume aims to provide a first step in this direction. It brings together international scholars whose research focuses on Minoan architecture and urbanism as well as on theory and methods in spatial analyses. By combining methodological contributions with detailed case studies across the different scales of buildings, settlements and regions, the volume proposes a new analytical and interpretive framework for addressing the complex dynamics of the Minoan built environment.

Table of Contents

1: Introduction: Minoan Built Environment: Past Studies, Recent Perspectives, and Future Challenges, Quentin Letesson and Carl Knappett

Part I
2: Architecture: Building Dynamics at the Micro-Scale, Quentin Letesson and Carl Knappett
3: Best Laid Plans: An Archaeology of Architectural Anomalies in Bronze Age Crete, Tim Cunningham
4: Architectural Energetics and Late Bronze Age Cretan Architecture: Measuring the Scale of Minoan Building Projects, Maud Devolder
5: Understanding Minoan in-House Relationships on Late Bronze Age Crete, Jan Driessen

Part II
6: Urbanism: Built Space and Communities at the Meso-scale, Quentin Letesson and Carl Knappett
7: The Development and Character of Urban Communities in Prehistoric Crete in their Regional Context: A Preliminary Study, Todd Whitelaw
8: Minoan Group Design: The 'View from the Bridge', Clairy Palyvou
9: Community Building/Building Community at Gournia, D. Matthew Buell and John McEnroe
10: The Middle Minoan Slipway for Ships at the Kommos Harbour, and Harbour Development in Prehistoric Crete, Joseph W. Shaw

Part III
11: Processes And Patterns at the Macro-Scale: Crete and Beyond, Quentin Letesson and Carl Knappett
12: Computational Approaches to Minoan Settlement Interaction and Growth, Eleftheria Paliou and Andrew Bevan
Carl Knappett teaches in the Department of Art at the University of Toronto, where he holds the Walter Graham/Homer Thompson Chair in Aegean Prehistory. He is an archaeologist interested in how things generate meaning through their creation and use. While the things of the Aegean Bronze Age are his main focus, particularly the pottery of Minoan Crete, he attempts to integrate insights from the study of things in ethnographic, ethnoarchaeological and sociological contexts with a view to developing a broad-based approach to materiality in society. His publications include Thinking Through Material Culture (Penn Press), An Archaeology of Interaction, and Network Analysis in Archaeology (both with Oxford University Press). He conducts fieldwork at various Bronze Age sites across the Aegean, and directs the new excavations at the Minoan town of Palaikastro in east Crete.

Contributors:

Andrew Bevan is a Professor of Spatial and Comparative Archaeology at University College London
D. Matthew Buell is an Assistant Professor of Classics at Concordia University
Tim Cunningham is a scientific collaborator with the Université catholique de Louvain
Maud Devolder is Post-doctoral Researcher of the Gerda Henkel Foundation at UCLouvain
Jan Driessen is Professor of Greek Archaeology at the Université catholique de Louvain
Rodney D. Fitzsimons is Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Trent University
Evi Gorogianni is Associate Professor of Instruction at the University of Akron
Louise Hitchcock is Associate Professor of Aegean Bronze Age Archaeology in the Classics and Archaeology Program at the University of Melbourne
Carl Knappett is the Walter Graham/Homer Thompson Chair in Aegean Prehistory in the Department of Art at the University of Toronto
Quentin Letesson is Marie Sklodowska-Curie postdoctoral fellow at the Department of Art, University of Toronto
Aren Maier is Professor of Archaeology in the Martin (Szusz) Department of Land of Israel Studies and Archaeology at Bar-Ilan University in Ramat-Gan
John C. McEnroe is the John and Anne Fischer Professor of Fine Arts at Hamilton College
Eleftheria Palyvou is a W2 Professor in Computational Archaeology at the University of Cologne
Clairy Palyvou is Professor Emerita of the Department of Architecture at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Joseph Winterbotham Shaw, Professor Emeritus of the University of Toronto
Michael E. Smith is an archaeologist with two research themes: The Aztecs, Teotihuacan, and other societies in ancient central Mexico
Todd Whitelaw is Professor of Aegean Archaeology at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London

Share:

Related Categories

Arts & Humanities > Classical Studies > Classical History > Ancient Greek History
Arts & Humanities > Archaeology > Archaeology by Region > European Archaeology
Arts & Humanities > Classical Studies > Greek & Roman Archaeology
Arts & Humanities > History > History by Period > Ancient History (Non-Classical To 500 CE)
Minerva Access is the Institutional Repository of The University of Melbourne

Author/s:
Hitchcock, LA; Maeir, AM

Title:
Lost in Translation: Settlement Organization in Postpalatial Crete—A View from the East

Date:
2017-07-13

Citation:

Persistent Link:
http://hdl.handle.net/11343/194157

File Description:
Supplementary files