

# REVIEWS

Gill Hey, Christopher Bell, Caroline Dennis and Mark Robinson, *Yarnton: Neolithic and Bronze Age Settlement and Landscape* (Thames Valley Landscapes Monographs, 39), Oxford University School of Archaeology for Oxford Archaeology (Oxford, 2016). Pp. xxxvi + 776. Approx. 450 illustrations, many in colour. £29.95. ISBN 978-1-905905-37-9.

This is the third and final volume of a major report on archaeological investigations of an area (140 hectares) of now-completed gravel extraction, lying south-west of Yarnton and east of Cassington, and bounded to the south by the A40. The fieldwork was undertaken mainly between 1989 and 1998 and was completed in 2005–6. This section of the report deals with the earliest material, from the Mesolithic to late Bronze Age. (The Anglo-Saxon to late-medieval and Iron-Age to Roman sections were published in 2004 and 2011 as volumes 20 and 35 in the same series.) By any standard the discoveries near Yarnton are of great significance, and while many of the results were well aired during a long post-excavation gestation period, this volume provides the full evidence. At 3.4 kilogrammes it is a weighty tome in more ways than one, and its production has been a major team effort under the leadership of Gill Hey, involving three other main authors, fourteen major contributors, fourteen other contributors, seven illustrators and two editors.

The area's archaeological potential was clearly displayed by cropmarks on the dry second gravel terrace, but most of the land reserved for gravel extraction was low-lying floodplain crossed by palaeo-channels, which experience indicated had high archaeological potential. Insights first gained at Farmoor in 1976, and subsequently reinforced by work at Mingies Ditch, Drayton and elsewhere, had shown that remains beneath alluvium can be much better preserved than those on dry gravel terraces; they also demonstrated that alluvial sites can reveal much about the interaction of human activity and floodplain development.

The investigations near Yarnton started before the full introduction of developer-funded archaeology in 1990: the only condition imposed on the extractors was to provide access for recording. (This was fully respected by ARC/Hanson.) English Heritage (as it was) took on the substantial burden of funding the project, sustaining it stage-by-stage as the archaeological potential unfolded. Evaluation trenching covered most of the 140 hectares, and fifteen geophysical surveys were undertaken, including eleven in challenging alluvial areas. Field-walking beyond the development area added contextual information. Areas totalling about 15.5 hectares were excavated with another 5 hectares covered by a watching brief. Additional insights were achieved through a variety of specialist initiatives. Overall the project became a testbed of techniques, producing a standard of research that far surpassed most developer-funded work.

Prehistoric human activity in the studied area was initially concentrated on the floodplain, which was much drier in earlier prehistory; as the water table rose and floods increased from the early Iron Age onwards, activity shifted to the higher, drier ground, where density of settlement became more intense. Activity then gradually migrated east and north towards the site of the present-day village. In focusing on earlier prehistory this volume thus principally concerns floodplain archaeology, although it also includes some important features on the drier ground. Publication of the work presented a significant challenge in the need to marshal effectively such a huge array of data, from over twenty discreet areas of excavation and spanning over 3,000 years. The task has been addressed sensibly: Part 1 is an introduction (chapter 1) explaining the project and its context; Part 2 consists of thematic overviews in five chapters; Part 3 presents six further chapters describing the results in more detail site-by-site;

Part 4 covers the scientific dating and how it relates to different sites and themes; and the fifteen appendices present detailed specialist results.

Space does not permit a blow-by-blow account of all the important revelations provided by this report: only a few tasters can be given. The deployment of 127 radiocarbon dates spanning 4460–4250 cal BC to 800–410 cal BC – by far the most significant sequence for the Neolithic and Bronze Age in the upper Thames valley, covering a continuous and substantial body of material – provides a firm basis for analysis of the excavations and baselines of wider application for pottery and artefact dating, and for the chronologies of individual types of monument and environmental indicators.

Evidence of a large, early Neolithic rectangular building, dating to 3800–3600 cal BC, is a major discovery, especially given its associations with cereal cultivation. Also unusual for the upper Thames valley are small early and middle Bronze-Age circular houses or structures, some occurring in pairs. The 300 or so pits, spanning the full range of periods, are unusually numerous and also important for the range, character and social implications of their contents. Analysis of lipid residues in pottery has provided exceptional insights into usage. Waterholes spanning the Bronze Age include one with a notched log ladder, and the waterlogged deposits (including palaeo-channels) reveal waterside activity. Preserved insects, pollen, seeds and snails demonstrate the gradual transformation of the landscape from damp woodland and scrub to grassland. Beetles now typical of southern France dated to c.1400 cal BC indicate a short climatic warm spell which was a balmy two degrees warmer than today.

Within the general sweep of prehistory in the upper Thames valley, the Yarnton story suggests that although crops were grown from 3880 BC onwards, the emergence of fully settled mixed farming was very gradual: only in the late Bronze Age did significant clusters of buildings and other structures emerge as a recognisable farming ‘settlement’ rather than as just a habitation area involved in animal husbandry and crop-growing. Even then, the processing of crops on a substantial scale is not really evident until the Iron Age. Most major excavations covering this period in the Thames valley have concerned ceremonial and funerary complexes (for example, Abingdon, Dorchester, Oxford, Stanton Harcourt), so this site is especially important for providing a continuous and rich record of largely domestic activity. Nonetheless its sequence of ceremonial enclosures, ring ditches, alignments, burials and ‘special deposits’ (including unusual features such as a possible sacred-tree site) are all the more interesting as components of the ‘living landscape’.

As usual with Oxford Archaeology’s ‘Thames Valley Landscapes Monographs’, production values are high, with colour throughout, clear typography, excellent reproduction of photographs and clear drawings. The text is generally well edited and largely error-free – though fifteen radiocarbon diagrams reproduced without labels in the text have had to be made available in full as additional loose items. The thirteen-page index coupled with comprehensive lists of contents, illustrations and tables provide generally sound navigational aids: only the cross-referencing is insufficient. The twenty-page bibliography is comprehensive. In numerous ways this volume will be a yardstick and interpretative framework for many years to come.

GEORGE LAMBRICK, Oxford

Mark McKerracher, *Farming Transformed in Anglo-Saxon England: Agriculture in the Long Eighth Century*, Oxbow Books/Windgather Press (Oxford, 2018). Pp. x + 154. 83 maps, plans and charts. Paperback, £34.99. ISBN 978-1-911188-31-5.

The mid Anglo-Saxon period – roughly the seventh to ninth centuries – has long been recognised as a time of exceptional growth and innovation within Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, and there is much we can now take as accepted in terms of the establishment of élite sites (both lay and ecclesiastical), settled and defined living spaces, trade and markets, and coinage.

McKerracher's book thus has a place in what is now an established and useful periodization. It focuses our attention on the basis of the economy: farming. He has approached the topic principally through pollen and burnt-grain evidence for cereal crops, although settlement evidence and animal bones are considered also. The study is based on evidence from just over one hundred sites lying within two regions in lowland southern England, both defined using modern boundaries. Part of each region falls within the 'Central Province' as defined by B.K. Roberts and S. Wrathmell (in *An Atlas of Rural Settlement*, published in 2000). One region comprises Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex and the city of Peterborough, the other Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire.

Readers of *Oxoniensia* may be particularly interested in the Oxfordshire sites to which the author refers, namely: Alchester, Barrow Hills, Barton Court Farm (near Abingdon), Benson, Berinsfield, Cogges, Cresswell Field, Didcot, Eynsham, Goring, Littlemore, Neptune Wood, New Wintles Farm, Rycote, Oxford (three sites, all in St Aldates), Sutton Courtenay, Wantage, Worton and Yarnton. An appendix summarises the published work on the archaeology of each settlement, noting causeways, ditches and tracks as well as buildings and ceramics, and indicating whether or not archaeobotanical evidence is available. Where this kind of evidence is unavailable, the settlement archaeology is used nonetheless to contribute to an overall picture of the location of sites and of their resources, particularly soil and land forms. (The reader interested in content about a particular site in the main text will be unable to find this via an index because one has not been provided.)

Like most work on the period, this is a largely 'arableist' approach: both the analysis of 'the lie of the land' (that is, soil resources) and the archaeology of individual sites are largely discussed from the perspective of arable farming. Two chapters on 'The Growth of Arable' and 'The Changing Harvest' are the vital core of the book. For these the evidence of both pollen and charred grains and weeds is considered from excavated settlement sites reported in both the 'grey' and the more widely published literature. Here the author takes the reader, with admirable clarity, through the characteristics of the major cereal grains: how they grow, how they behave when processed and stored, and how their presence may be detected. This detail makes the sections on the archaeology of storage particularly convincing and conveys a real sense of a working farm – something oddly rare in much work on the rural economy. So too does a section which brings together and illustrates the evidence of sorting pens, crushes, paddocks and routes for moving stock along causeways and droveways. McKerracher does not examine them much further, merely surmising that they supported stock management involving 'marginal land': the key factor in his approach is that a fairly high-cost and high-reward form of livestock management was associated with fairly intensive arable farming. (Two chapters on animal-bone evidence are less convincing, perhaps because broad issues are raised concerning which individual sites cannot alone provide answers.)

McKerracher's examination of the archaeobotanical evidence has led him to the conclusion that in their use of grains farmers diversified, that is, 'mixed and matched'. They worked, after all, in the smaller scale landscapes of which the larger regions, proposed early in the book, were composed. This speaks of local agency, of decisions made on the farm on the basis of intimate knowledge of the local terrain and resources – a conclusion that happens to be totally at odds with the large-scale remote factors suggested in a final chapter! The elephant in the room is the effect of climate and climate change: a critical account of whether this was a factor in 'transforming' farming would have been a welcome addition to this lucid and important book.

ROSAMOND FAITH, Finstock, Oxon.

John Blair, *Building Anglo-Saxon England*, Princeton University Press (Princeton and Oxford, 2018). Pp. xxiv + 471. 109 colour and 43 b&w illustrations (including maps and diagrams). £40. ISBN 978-0-69-116-298-0.

Many early medievalists aim at being interdisciplinary in their scholarship but few accomplish it as successfully as the former editor of *Oxoniensia* John Blair has done in *Building Anglo-Saxon England*, which is based on his 2013 Ford Lectures at Oxford University. Not just social and economic historians will need to read this book, but also archaeologists, students of the landscape, place-name specialists, literary scholars and ethnographers. All elements of the brief title need parsing. 'Building' is used both figuratively and literally: Blair deals not merely with the formation of Anglo-Saxon England but also with the buildings that characterised its culture. Dwellings were mostly wooden, and the challenges they present to archaeologists is a central theme.

Chronologically, John Blair's Anglo-Saxon England starts with the seventh century, partly because of the lack of substantial written sources before AD 600; he concludes at the end of the eleventh century, recognising that the Battle of Hastings did not immediately change the country's character. He finds the conventional two-stage chronology for England centred on King Alfred and the Vikings to be unsatisfactory. Instead he notes a transformative stage in the development of England during the seventh century and a similar transformative change from c.920 to 1000, a period of 'economic and commercial growth, Continental contacts, resurgent monasticism, [and] social change'. The period in between he sees as one of consolidation where, for instance, 'dispersed topographies of management, production, and exchange' moved towards nucleation (p. 73). Where other historians emphasise the Anglo-Saxons' ties with the Roman church and the influence of the Franks and their successors, he stresses continued links with Scandinavia.

The England portrayed in the book is deliberately circumscribed geographically. Blair focuses on what he regards as core Anglo-Saxon settlement areas surrounding the River Humber and the Wash; because these regions have poor written records, he also extends his gaze to the country's central belt. He deliberately spends little time discussing what he terms 'the British west'. Readers who are primarily interested in political history will find little to catch their attention except for chapter 6 on Mercia; Blair's identification of a period of consolidation between c.700 and 920 elevates Mercia to an importance that is usually held by Wessex in other historical surveys.

To form assessments of the archaeological evidence Blair has consulted some eighty archaeologists and historians. But he has gone further than this, much further: he has tackled the immense quantity of 'grey literature', that body of unpublished archaeological reports, often funded by property developers. Our great library repositories have not managed to keep up with this extremely valuable resource, a lacuna which the Archaeology Data Service is attempting to fill (see 'Library of Unpublished Fieldwork Reports' at [www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/index.cfm](http://www.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/index.cfm)).

Perhaps the greatest service of this book is the author's consideration of silences in the archaeological record. For example, this reviewer has always found it improbable that ties with Scandinavia had ceased by 600 but then revived suddenly and violently in 793 with the attack by Scandinavians on Lindisfarne. Blair suggests that the Scandinavian age never really ended: "'Viking England" had shaped its own Scandinavian identity long before' (p. 49). He daringly goes further to suggest that the lack of later Scandinavian impact on the built environment was because 'Scandinavian and English farming communities ... belonged to the same socioeconomic world' (p. 306). Another notable silence addressed by Blair is the seeming absence of habitations in eighth-century England, apart from a few hall sites. Here he draws on his personal knowledge of Finland, north-east of Scandinavia, which acts as a geographic counterpoint to England, south-west of Scandinavia. Finland retains a tradition of wooden domestic architecture but as the photographs in fig. 10 show its buildings do not

necessarily depend on foundations or on the post-holes that signal the existence of great halls in seventh-century England (for example, those at Yeavering, in modern Northumberland). Higher-status Anglo-Saxon buildings could have been of this latter kind while lower-status ones could have been of turf or cob which might leave no traces. There is another simple explanation for the absence of buildings at some Anglo-Saxon assembly sites: tents could have been used as temporary dwellings. Modern ethnological evidence shows how comfortable they can be (see Blair's fig. 19, a photograph of a Hungarian Kipchak yurt).

Illustrative material is fundamental to this book. From a variety of plans, photographs, maps and line drawings, two examples must suffice. Blair uses several kinds of maps to depict the importance of topography in providing defence for a settlement, with a two-tone map revealing the areas visible from High Burton in Dorset being particularly striking (fig. 69). The map visually supports his argument that places whose names were derived from *burh-tun* functioned as surveillance sites to protect neighbouring settlements, in this case Dorchester. The second example stems from Blair's confirmation of the discovery by Peter Huggins that many excavated Anglo-Saxon buildings were not placed randomly but were shaped by a planned system based on a module of about 15 ft (4.5 m). Blair locates use of this 'short perch' in central and eastern England and in Kent; he also identifies a 'long perch' of 18 ft (5.5 m) which was used in Wessex (see pp. 70–1). Blair's plans of settlements such as Goltho (Lincolnshire) and Cheddar (Somerset) employ these two measures, with grids marked in blue (fig. 136). So far he has published his broader ideas on this matter only in an article, but a monograph with two co-authors is promised.

Like all good books, this volume will stimulate further investigation. Residents of Oxfordshire might ponder Blair's comments about Banbury, which he observes stands at 'the convergence of parallel road and river routes from southern Mercia and the East Midlands into the upper Thames region' (p. 211). He notes that excavations have revealed a ditched enclosure on the north-eastern edge of the town. Five kilometres to the north is Great Bourton, which offers views down the Cherwell valley. If its *burh-tun* name can be interpreted as denoting an outlying defensive surveillance site, it is hard to believe that another such site does not exist on the brow of the great hill to the south of Banbury, not to mention other hills that surround the town, which should also be investigated for their defensive potential.

Many will find that they need to read this book a second time. Its bibliography extends from p. 421 to p. 448, and includes over 250 books and articles published since the beginning of 2009 – readers will be sent scurrying to the library to catch up with publications they have overlooked. For instance, to appreciate fully Blair's discussion of the numinous nature of the landscape for the Anglo-Saxons (chapter 3), Sarah Semple's *Perception of the Prehistoric in Anglo-Saxon England* (2013) will be helpful. Any extra time spent in rereading *Building Anglo-Saxon England* will not be wasted because it is brimming with challenging ideas and insights.

DAVID A.E. PELTERET, Fazeley, Staffs.

Margaret Yates (ed.), *Berkshire Feet of Fines, 1307–1509*, two vols. (Berkshire Record Society, 23, 24, 2017). Pt I, *Fines, 1307–1399*, pp. xxxiv + 246, ISBN 978-0-9573937-4-5. Pt II, *Fines, 1400–1509 and Index*, pp. vi + 250, ISBN 978-0-9573937-5-2. Paperback, £25 per vol. (plus £2.50 per vol. p&p in UK). Available from: Berkshire Record Society, c/o Berkshire Record Office, 9 Coley Avenue, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 6AF.

For the period from the late twelfth century to the late sixteenth, 'feet of fines' constitute an important source for the study of manorial descents, the ownership and transfer of lands and rights, and the settlement of landed estates. The products of fictitious suits in the Court of Common Pleas, 'fines', as they are known for short, were a way of transferring or settling freehold property that provided a legally secure title to the rights acquired. Copies of the agreement that resulted from a suit were kept by the two parties themselves, and a third



and final part, the so-called 'foot', was retained by the court as a record. Surviving in their thousands in The National Archives (at Kew, London), fines have long attracted historical and antiquarian interest, and the publication of part of the Berkshire series represents a welcome initiative by the Berkshire Record Society.

Published here in calendar form and English translation are some 1,500 fines for Berkshire as defined by its pre-1974 boundaries, the majority of their number relating to land and rights in the countryside but a sizeable minority relating to urban property. Because of the highly formulaic nature of the fine, a consequence of its origins in fictitious suits, it is often difficult to tell exactly what sort of transaction lay behind any agreement. In some cases it is likely to be, as it looks, an actual sale, a conveyance by one person to another; equally, however, it could be a quitclaim (an admission of right) or a settlement of the kind used to create an entail. On the evidence presented in these volumes, and insofar as it is possible to tell without access to background information, there are reasonable grounds for supposing that there was a shift across the late medieval period in the uses to which fines were put. In the fourteenth century, when fines were generally short and the range of parties using them quite wide, the signs are that they were used mainly to transfer ownership. In the fifteenth century, however, when 'genuine-looking' transactions become fewer, and the range of parties narrows considerably, it seems that they were used principally to effect settlements of estates. One major consequence of the change is the frequent appearance of 'deforcians' who are clearly co-feoffees, that is to say, agents in the making of the settlement. To students of English noble society the listings of these men are of considerable value because among those named may be identified the retainers and hangers-on of the great lord effecting a settlement. For example, on the evidence of a fine made by Thomas Chaucer, we can tell that among his associates were such Berkshire men as John Golafre and Edward Hampden (fines 1224, 1225). On the evidence of a fine made a few years later by Richard, duke of York, we can pick out among his associates Ralph Boteler, Richard Dixon, William Wolston and John Merbury (fine 1327).

Because of the shift in the use of fines, it is disappointingly hard to say how far agreements can be used to measure changes in the land market across the medieval period. In the editor's view, what can be detected is a broad 'increase in the size and complexity of the properties being transferred, often as a result of consolidation, engrossing and rationalisation', some of this activity being at the expense of smaller properties, the representation of which decreases proportionately (p. xxii). This may indeed be so. It is important, however, to appreciate that the land market was a much larger phenomenon than the particular portion represented by fines, and that the lesser freeholding class – the franklins, yeomen and other untitled folk – were content to buy and sell land or rights using deeds which they kept themselves and which were never registered in Common Pleas. To identify the activities in the market of these sorts of people we need to turn to charter collections, where these survive. For Berkshire, it is fortunate that we have an excellent run of charters and deeds for the Hyde family of Denchworth (published in W.N. Clarke, *Parochial Topography of the Hundred of Wanting* (1824), pp. 98–9), and from these we can trace how the Hydes gradually built up their position in that village, rising in status as they did so, eventually becoming lords of a manor. Only a small part of this activity is captured in the fines, which it seems were increasingly used chiefly by the élite and then only as a form of official registration.

Margaret Yates has given us an edition which will be of enormous value to students of Berkshire society and to historians of English medieval landownership more generally. The quality of editing is generally high. It should be noted, however, that on page xxi 'Grascelyn' should read 'Gascelyn', that on two occasions (pp. xxi, xxvi) the apostrophe in Queens' College, Cambridge, is misplaced, and that in fine 38 an error of transcription renders the meaning incomprehensible.

NIGEL SAUL, Royal Holloway, University of London

Judith Curthoys, *The Cardinal's College: Christ Church, Chapter and Verse*, Profile Books (London, 2012). Pp. xvi + 416. 65 b&w illustrations, 24 colour plates. £40. ISBN 978-1-84668-617-7.

Judith Curthoys, *The Stones of Christ Church: The Story of the Buildings of Christ Church, Oxford*, Profile Books (London, 2017). Pp. xvi + 286. 90 b&w illustrations, 26 colour plates. £35. ISBN 978-1-78125-812-5.

Oxford has recently enjoyed the publication of a spate of well-researched college histories – accounts of University College, Oriel, Magdalen and Brasenose come to mind – several of which were multi-author ventures. Christ Church has been the subject of two ground-breaking books, both by the same author, namely Judith Curthoys, who has been the college's archivist since 1994 and who has acquired an encyclopedic knowledge of the college's documents. One volume is largely about the institution and its community, the other about buildings.

The first thing that strikes one about the college as originally founded in 1525 by Thomas Wolsey (as 'Cardinal College') is its staggering size: it was physically larger than any previous foundation in Oxford, and the chapel intended by Wolsey was to have been larger than that of King's College, Cambridge. Curthoys believes that this reflected Wolsey's passion for education. However, Peter Gwyn, Wolsey's 1990 biographer, states that it is perfectly possible to believe that Wolsey had little interest in or knowledge of intellectual and religious matters (*The King's Cardinal*, pp. 345–6). As far as we know, he never visited Oxford during the building of his grand design. He certainly endowed Cardinal College richly, mainly with the possessions of small dissolved religious houses. In this he followed in the footsteps of Bishop William Waynflete, who had swallowed up a number of these (for example, Selborne Priory) to finance Magdalen, where Wolsey had been bursar. Unfortunately at Wolsey's fall (1530) Cardinal College was left unfinished. The 'second founder', Henry VIII, who established Christ Church in 1546 (replacing the short-lived ecclesiastical 'King Henry VIII College'), receives short shrift from Curthoys. The new college inherited a majestic hall and mighty kitchen from Wolsey's work, but the chapel, on the north side of the great quadrangle, was abandoned at foundation level, and there was no decent library until the eighteenth century. Curthoys also demonstrates that the new community's membership was strongly influenced by Wolsey's scheme.

One of the themes pursued in these books is the challenge of housing the college's large community – at least 150 members of various kinds. The dean and his confrères the canons, who governed both the cathedral and the college and could marry, lived in palatial splendour. The students (stipendiary academics) had to make do with accommodation of lesser quality, while undergraduates who were not on the foundation had to live in out-of-the-way places such as derelict inns, halls and cocklofts. As a result, when the great 'builder deans' – John Fell, Henry Aldrich, Henry Liddell – addressed shortages of accommodation, they almost accidentally created great architecture. In the seventeenth century, the north range of the main quadrangle was completed by Fell (1665), and the brilliantly original Tom Tower, designed by Christopher Wren, was added over the college gateway (1683). The college, furthermore, succeeded in attracting noble members with the provision of the classical splendours of Peckwater Quadrangle (1706–12) and Canterbury Quadrangle (1773–83). The former was the brainchild of the polymath and architectural amateur Henry Aldrich. It was paralleled at Magdalen College by the construction of the New Building (1733).

A distinctive feature of Christ Church was its retention of the priory church of St Frideswide, as truncated at its west end by Wolsey; it served the overlapping functions of diocesan cathedral and college chapel. In *The Cardinal's College* Curthoys notes that heating was not installed until 1821, when the treasurer was instructed to buy stoves. The verger, Richard Keys, was paid £10 per year for additional services in 'attending to the stoves'. Keys 'lived in a "cottage" constructed within the south transept of the cathedral, where a chimney from the bedroom fireplace poked unceremoniously through the tracery of one of the windows' (p. 90).

He also acted as a dog-whipper (the gentlemen members had pets), and was renowned for keeping beer in the chancel. The cathedral was restored by George Gilbert Scott later in the nineteenth century.

One of the noblest buildings of Christ Church is the New Library, which was begun in 1716 to complete Peckwater Quadrangle. Aldrich originally designed a residential block for the location, but numerous gifts of books and papers prompted a rethink. Fifty-five years later the fitting out of a grand library was completed and the books lodged. The ground floor, originally an open colonnade, had been walled in partly to provide space for displaying a large gift of paintings and drawings, though it also enabled more bookcases to be accommodated.

In the eighteenth century Christ Church developed a considerable reputation for teaching natural science, and this involved the building of an Anatomy School (1766–7). Here the cadavers of executed convicts from Oxford prison were used for dissection. Like many of Christ Church's buildings, the Anatomy School through the years served a multiplicity of purposes. In 1860 it became a chemistry laboratory and lecture room (anatomical specimens were moved to the new University Museum), and then in 1949 a refectory and art gallery, before conversion into facilities for the senior common room (1971).

Meanwhile Cardinal Wolsey's great kitchen continued to cook meals for the collegiate body. It is shown in *The Cardinal's College* in an aquatint of 1814 published by Rudolph Ackermann. Its Tudor fireplace was last used for cooking when a baron of beef was prepared to celebrate the end of meat rationing after World War II (shown on p. 68 of *Stones*).

A substantial section of *The Cardinal's College* deals with the problems encountered by Christ Church in the nineteenth century when there were external pressures for reform, affecting both the cathedral and the college. Thomas Gaisford, dean from 1831 to 1855, was inclined to extreme conservatism: he refused to have anything to do with reform of any sort and declined to answer questions from the royal commission established in 1850 to enquire into the 'state, discipline, studies, and revenues' of the universities and colleges. It took an immense effort by William Ewart Gladstone, an old member of Christ Church and former 'double first', to achieve the 1854 Oxford University Act. At Christ Church this legislation was considered unsatisfactory by all parties. The students were not granted any say in the administration of the college. As had long been customary, noblemen continued to dine on the dais in the hall, with the students and others on separate tables below them. (I recall some hints of the magnificence of life in the Great Hall from summer schools in the 1980s, involving mainly American students: we dined off gold plate.)

Curthoys provides guidance through the convoluted negotiations which subsequently sought to reform Christ Church. Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, better known as Lewis Carroll, took an active part in these proceedings, being curator of common room and a hard-pressed tutor (at one time having seventy pupils); he was also a loyal friend to colleagues. Reform was gradually imposed on the reluctant governing body (the chapter), culminating in new statutes in 1867 which created a governing body of dean, canons and senior students, and gave the students parity with the fellows of other colleges.

Curthoys is expert at telling a good story and at evoking notable personages. The latter include Canon Claude Jenkins, who was regius professor of ecclesiastical history from 1934 to 1959. His canonry was full of books and papers which overflowed along the passages and were also stuffed between the banisters of his staircase (shown on p. 38 of *Stones*). I recollect attending his lectures on Pope Innocent III in the early 1950s. They were terminated after the second because nobody else came. Much detailed information in these books is conveyed in 'boxes', so that the main text is not overloaded. When it comes to illustrations, Curthoys is not well-served by her publishers. Plates and other illustrations are not given numbers, making it hard to cross-reference them to the text. Moreover, many of the black-and-white ones are unevenly grey and blurry, partly the consequence of being printed on thin paper. Also, a number of them (for example, on pp. 161 and 267 of *The Cardinal's College*) are like postage stamps in size; that is, too small to convey their content. However, with these slight



reservations, the two books, when taken together, contribute an eloquent, elegant and reliable statement of the college's history and architecture which is likely to last unchallenged well into the twenty-first century.

JOHN STEANE, Oxford

Stewart J. Brown, Peter B. Knockles and James Pereiro (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of The Oxford Movement*, Oxford University Press (Oxford, 2017). Pp. xx + 646. £95. ISBN 978-0-19-958018-7.

The dust jacket of this handsome volume, showing an image of the church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford, will bring to mind for many the ministry there of John Henry Newman and the Movement named rather after the university than the city. The views Newman proclaimed as vicar 'burst upon the English Church with a passionate and disruptive force' (p. 1), but on analysis were not as revolutionary as some have believed. The Movement, launched in 1833 and ever to be associated with Newman, John Keble and Edward Bouverie Pusey, did not occur in isolation but arose against a background of social and economic revolution that saw contemporary revivals of Protestant Evangelicals and Roman Catholics. The purpose of this volume is to produce 'a more rounded and balanced portrait ... not merely in terms of abstract doctrinal and ecclesiological theory' but in much wider fields both of subject and location.

This is a hugely comprehensive work, or rather a collection of works, arranged in eight parts beginning with an important summary of High Church themes from the Caroline Divines down to the Lake Poets and the Oxford Noetics, each chapter (as in the rest of the volume) accompanied by a bibliography of references and further reading. Part II is a chronological group of studies of the early years of the Movement; Part III surveys its theology taught in the *Tracts for the Times* and with equal effect conveyed in sermon and verse; Part IV traces Newman's perhaps inevitable move to Rome in 1845. Part V, in eight disparate but significant chapters, looks at the social and political context of the Movement and its influence in parish development, architecture, music, the religious life, liturgy and the formation of the Pre-Raphaelite movement. Part VI traces the Oxford Movement well beyond Oxford, in developing churches and missions around the world; and Part VII brings the story into the twentieth century. A final part is a retrospective, with one chapter considering the wide reactions of the Movement's historians; and an 'Afterword' triumphantly rejoices that Newman's secession was not the end of the Catholic Revival but the beginning of a century 'during which the Catholic Movement that the Tractarians had initiated grew and blossomed' (p. 622).

This volume proclaims itself a Handbook. Its thirty-five authors, contributing forty-two chapters and the Afterword, inevitably 'represent a variety of points of view' (p. 3) and have deliberately offered pointers to further study and to new lines of enquiry as well as offering at times critical commentary on their predecessors. The many hundreds of titles cited are ample evidence that the Movement over the years has attracted theologians, church members, and also a general public whose interests may be primarily secular. Readers will discover that the index is one of ideas and of a strictly limited number of people – not one of place. That is, of course, a reflection of the internal balance of a book, one third of which is concerned with origins, ideas and events up to 1845, and a further third on the Movement beyond England and beyond the nineteenth century. Just one hundred pages cover such topics as parishes, architecture, music and ritual which are inevitably associated with particular places and particular people. Architecture and parish developments might be expected to have ideas as their foundation, but place provides a practical structure that general readers will seek.

Peter Doll's essay on the architectural impact of the Oxford Movement, following the pattern of the volume as a whole, cites examples of work for the Caroline Divines including Lincoln College chapel (pp. 365–6) and Christopher Wren's Tom Tower at Christ Church

(p. 366). His main concern centres on his own definition of ecclesiology, which he envisages as not simply the study of the form and decoration of church buildings (which might tend to romanticism and antiquarianism) but as a wider and deeper concern for the 'theology of the identity and working of the Church of God', a definition which leads him to sympathy with A.W.N. Pugin and Ninian Comper, as much for their writings as for their designs. The gradual emergence of Gothic as the characteristic style of the Catholic Revival was achieved after much struggle, notably by Newman himself against Pugin, and it eventually appeared most triumphantly in the work of the younger George Gilbert Scott.

Those Tractarian clergy who kept diaries, wrote novels and published sermons and theological treatises necessarily feature prominently for George Herring, and in his chapter entitled 'The Parishes' he cites detailed research (notably his own) establishing a reliable number of Tractarian parochial clergy. They increased significantly in the period between 1840 and 1870, perhaps surprisingly almost unaffected by the secessions to Rome. They still remained a modest total, but their significance lay in what they managed to achieve in their parishes liturgically and pastorally and then described in writing. Curiously such evidence has Oxford at its centre: Newman's weekly celebrations of Holy Communion at St Mary's, undergraduates going to Confession to Pusey at Christ Church, the intense pastoral care at Wantage, the robed choir at Bradfield, daily service at Clewer were all rays that emanated from the city and its region in a widening sunburst, reaching East Anglia, south-west England (inspired by assiduous visiting during a cholera outbreak at Plymouth), the Black Country and, perhaps with weakening evidence, the north. But all these references to both architecture and parochial development seem to be very meagre for the local historian as compared with the space given in the rest of the volume to Tractarian ideas and aspirations. The Handbook offers dense riches, characteristic of its fascinating subject. A better index would have made more of them available.

ROBERT DUNNING, Taunton, Somerset

Sean Callery, *The Story of Hook Norton for Readers of All Ages*, Hook Norton Local History Group (Hook Norton, 2017). Pp. 48. About 120 illustrations (many in colour). Paperback, £8.99 (plus £2.50 p&p in UK). ISBN 978-1-9998256-0-7. Available from D. McGill, Sunnybank Farmhouse, Scotland End, Hook Norton, Oxon., OX15 5NR.

Murray Maclean, *From Arrowheads to Irrigators: A History of Frilford and Collins Farm* (Frilford, 2016). Pp. 88. 47 illustrations, most in colour. Paperback £9 (inc. p&p in UK). ISBN 978-1-5262-0575-9. Available from the author at Collins Farm, Frilford, Oxon., OX13 5NX.

Margaret Yates et al., *People, Places and Context: Essays in Local History in Honour of Joan Dils*, Goosecroft Publications for Berkshire Local History Association (Purley on Thames, 2016). Pp. 76. 36 b&w illustrations (inc. maps). Paperback, £5 (plus £3 p&p in UK). ISBN 978-0-9566341-8-4. Available from: 80 Reeds Ave, Earley, Reading, Berks., RG6 5SR (payment to M. Simons).

If the variety and originality of a region's historical publications are an indicator of a healthy interest in its past, the Oxfordshire area would seem to be in fine fettle. These three short books, all published locally in 2016–17, differ in almost every way: in the backgrounds of their authors, their aims, their intended audience, their subject matter, and their strengths and occasional shortcomings. All three will find appreciative readers, and each contributes in its own way to our understanding of local history.

The author of *The Story of Hook Norton*, Sean Callery, is a former teacher who now writes books for children (including a *Children's History of Oxford*, published in 2011). He and the book's designer, Sara Rafferty, have produced a lively and attractive introduction to the history

of Hook Norton, aimed primarily at children from about the age of nine upwards but in fact suitable, as the sub-title says, for 'readers of all ages'. Old and new photographs, street names, bite-sized pieces of information, statistics and quotations are deployed to catch the reader's interest. Starting with a dinosaur skeleton, the story proceeds chronologically, highlighting topics such as farming. Only when it reaches the sixteenth century does the author resort to tales of distant landowners such as Henry VIII instead of looking at life in the village, but the current project to transcribe local wills and probate inventories should provide plenty of social history in this period for the next edition.

Hook Norton was a large village with a diverse economy, and once the book reaches the nineteenth and twentieth centuries there is plenty of material to choose from. Ironstone quarries, the railway and the famous brewery are vividly described and illustrated. Callery does not romanticise the history, and brings out the dangers of work as a navvy and the hardships of daily life such as carrying water. The story continues into the twenty-first century with an annual rock festival and new housing estates in a living and evolving community. Much of the information in this book takes us into the everyday experiences of children in the past, such as earning money by killing vermin (2*d.* from the churchwarden for a dozen sparrows) or taking their gas masks to school during World War II. Readers are encouraged to reflect on the implications of change: the observation that 'children in Hooky were as used to horses as they are today to computers' (p. 23) might provoke discussion on either the necessity of horse-power in the past or the startling absence of IT. Other societies might consider following the example of the Hook Norton Local History Group to encourage children's interest in their local past.

The second work is a history of Collins Farm in the hamlet of Frilford in the Vale of White Horse, written by its owner, Murray Maclean. Instead of agricultural history researched by historians, *From Arrowheads to Irrigators* is an account written by a farmer who is deeply familiar with the land he has worked for most of his life. His narrative of Frilford's farming history from the Neolithic to the present draws on contributions from archaeologists, historical reading and documentary sources, keen observation and local memory. Maclean identifies ancient furlong headlands in the landscape, and seventeen former corn barns. Choices of crops and livestock, historically limited by the light sandy limestone soil, were transformed by developments in technology in the 1950s and there is a thoughtful account of experiments with different crops in the past fifty years (fruit trees, sweetcorn, hedge-plants for urban developers). Maps and photographs enhance the text.

*People, Places and Context* is a record of the Berkshire Local History Association's event in 2015 to honour Joan Dils as teacher, scholar and 'great encourager of others' (p. 7). Three longtime colleagues and friends were invited to give talks, which are published here. The foreword refers to the volume as a *Festschrift*, but that suggests a weightier tome; none of these essays addresses Joan Dils's interests in late-medieval and early modern history, or demography, or towns, or the family – but perhaps only her own *Historical Atlas of Berkshire* could do justice to the breadth of her historical interests and contributions!

The volume opens with an affectionate tribute by Margaret Yates, one of many distinguished historians whose lives were changed by enrolment in one of Joan Dils's classes, and ends with a bibliography of her published works. Gillian Clark builds on earlier published research to describe 'The Foundling Hospital and its Connections with Berkshire', using the hospital's ingenious system of tokens to find cases of foundlings fostered in the county, and even children originally from Berkshire who were successfully reclaimed years later. There must be similar information for other counties in this impressive eighteenth-century archive which awaits an Oxfordshire historian. In 'Priests and People: Changing Relationships in South Oxfordshire, 1780–1920', Kate Tiller selects Checkendon, Dorchester, Dunsden, Nettlebed and Kidmore End for an elegant exploration of the role of the Church of England in rural parishes, and relationships between clergy and community. The last and longest contribution is by Alan Crosby, whose essay 'A Disappearing Landscape: The Heathlands of the Berkshire, Hampshire

and Surrey Borders' charts the fate of that infertile sandy area from the late eighteenth to the mid twentieth century. This is a long way from *Oxoniensia's* home territory, but anyone interested in landscape change interwoven with economic, social and ecological history would enjoy this account. Indeed, this collection would be worth acquiring for any one of its essays.

ADRIENNE ROSEN, Kellogg College, Oxford

Barrie Trinder, *Junctions at Banbury: A Town and its Railways since 1850* (Banbury Historical Society, 35), 2017. Pp. x + 266. 118 b&w illustrations. £19.95. ISBN 978-0-900129-34-6.

Barrie Trinder was a founder member of the Banbury Historical Society and is a leading authority on industrial archaeology and on the history of the Banbury region. His latest book is introduced as a work of both railway history and local history, and indeed it contains much to engage and interest both railway enthusiasts and local historians.

*Junctions at Banbury* aims to explore the role of eight converging railways in shaping the economic and social history of a typical market town. Trinder examines the growth of the national railway network (including the 'Battle of the Gauges' in which Banbury was at the front line) and the development of the south Midlands network. He analyses the local and long-distance services offered by the railways: how they delivered coal and goods for sale in Banbury's shops; transported products from the town and its environs, including ironstone, agricultural implements and Banbury cakes; and how they allowed residents to travel for business and for leisure. In the early twentieth century railway workers formed the largest occupational group in the area, and the town's geographical location meant that such men were involved in the national distribution of goods, including fish from Grimsby and Hull, bananas imported via Avonmouth, and broccoli from Cornwall.

Trinder's authoritative text is densely packed with facts and figures and he utilises a wide range of primary and secondary sources. He sets the scene by describing Banbury in the pre-railway era, when it was linked to the Warwickshire coalfield by canal, and was one of the busiest nodes in an extensive and complex network of carriers' carts. Chapters 2 and 3 are a whistle-stop tour through the early physical development of the rail network (beginning with Banbury's connection to Oxford in September 1850); this section is probably of most interest to the railway enthusiast. Chapters 4 and 5 continue the theme. Here an annotated map and a timeline would have been invaluable in helping to clarify the description of a somewhat bewildering array of routes and changing railway companies.

Chapter 6 is more likely to engage the non-specialist reader, exploring as it does the economic and social impact of the railways on Banbury and its surroundings. We learn, for example, that when a new town hall was constructed in 1854, it was positioned so that its frontage greeted visitors arriving from the station. In September 1856 seven hundred Banburians joined an excursion train to St Giles' Fair in Oxford. By the following year trips to Boulogne and Calais were being offered. Trinder provides interesting analysis of navvies, who lived in shanties provided by the railway companies, and of Banbury's growing population of railwaymen and their families, many of whom settled in newly built estates such as at Grimsbury.

Chapters 7 and 8 return to a more technical discussion of the physical development of the network and of train services. The use of short sections, which do not always follow either a strictly chronological or a thematic order, proves somewhat confusing here. The remaining chapters however – 9 to 16 – take us smoothly from 1914 through to the twenty-first century (with a diversion, in chapter 14, into the importance of the local ironstone industry). Local historians will be most interested by the chapters on Banbury's key role during the two world wars. Between 1914 and 1918, for example, the town was a stopping point for trains carrying troops, guns and ammunition to the Channel ports, and for ambulance trains transporting injured soldiers. Sidney Mawle – ironmonger and town

councillor – organised a canteen which provided refreshments to over two million troops, including 20,000 wounded. Banbury station also served the wartime National Filling Factory at nearby Warkworth, from which up to thirty wagon-loads of shells were dispatched by rail every day.

Other chapters telling the story of Banbury's railways during the twentieth century contain meticulous detail about locomotives, routes and timetables which will be of particular interest to the railway enthusiast. There are also intriguing snippets of social history, though these are not always explored as much as the more general reader might like. For example, during World War II Banbury women took on jobs as passenger guards, porters and signal-box operators, but nothing is related of their experiences or of the consequences. Elsewhere Trinder gives satisfying accounts of the huge popularity of railway excursions during the inter-war period, and of the 1950s heyday of the British seaside holiday, which was facilitated largely by the railways. In the 1920s and '30s Banbury continued as a hub for both local distribution – of newspapers, parcels, mail and provisions – and for longer-distance transport – of freight to and from the Morris car works and Pressed Steel at Cowley, of racing pigeons, and of freshly caught Cornish rabbits *en route* to butchers in Sheffield.

Like all good publications on local history, the book illuminates not only the local scene but also the national. On the opening page Trinder writes that he aims to address the challenge issued to railway historians in 1993 by Sir Neil Cossons (a leading authority on industrial heritage), to communicate effectively to wider audiences. To a large extent this has been achieved, though the breadth and depth of material here could have happily supplied two books, one perhaps aimed specifically at the railway enthusiast and another at readers more interested in the social impact of Banbury's railways.

LIZ WOOLLEY, Oxford

Marilyn Yurdan (ed.), *Records of Holton Park Girls' Grammar School (1948–1972)* (Oxfordshire Record Society, 71, 2017). Pp. ii + 270. 41 b&w illustrations. £25 (plus £3.50 p&p in UK). ISBN 978-0-902509-87-0. Available from: The Hon. General Secretary, Oxfordshire Record Society, 28 Bulan Road, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7HT; or by online ordering via the Society's website.

The experiences of the upwardly mobile 'scholarship boy' in twentieth-century England have become a well-worn trope: they could be transformative and enlarging; they could be deracinating; sometimes they were both. Much less has been written about scholarship girls. Yet arguably their experiences were even more important. Far fewer girls than boys had access to structured educational provision in the early decades of the century, but the expansion of secondary school provision after World War II, as Local Education Authorities struggled to comply with the requirements of the 'Butler Education Act' of 1944, at last began to make a difference. As Liz Heron has written in her introduction to the excellent collection of memoirs *Truth, Dare or Promise: Girls Growing Up in the Fifties* (1985), 'those of us born around the end of the war were the first children truly to benefit from the Act's provisions'.

This recent volume from the Oxfordshire Record Society makes a significant addition to resources for the investigation of post-war girls' education, showing us how staff, governors and one LEA approached the challenge of implementing the 1944 Act. Excavating the story from uneven sources must have taken much time and required skill and sensitivity. The result is a model of its kind.

The Holton Park estate and its early nineteenth-century house were bought by the Oxfordshire County Council Education Committee in 1948 to create a new girls' grammar school. The site was a rural one, some 10 km from Oxford, and over 80 per cent of the girls travelled to the school by bus. Some had complicated journeys of over 20 km each way. Nor was it easy to make a once-stately home into a functioning school building. Heating was a problem: paraffin heaters were preferred because they were cheaper to run than electric



heaters but were more dangerous. Floors were uneven and a regular source of accidents. The park with its moat and island may have been grand, but it was a safety and maintenance nightmare, despite the moat's usefulness as a source of leeches for application when a girl cut herself on laboratory glassware. The journey between the surrounding road system and the buildings could be a further hazard in bad weather. Miss Davis, the first headmistress, had a flat on site; and while this meant she was always on hand, it did make it hard for her to 'switch off'. There are times when she and the valiant caretaker appear in the records looking like penurious gentry in a nineteenth-century novel.

One of the major educational issues faced by such a school was the low expectations of many parents, which were sometimes shared by their daughters. Through the 1950s many girls left as soon as was legally possible. Sometimes a family economy could no longer cope with the opportunity cost of a non-working teenager; sometimes the explicit calculation was that as a girl would shortly get married, she needed no further schooling. Building a sixth form proved a slow business, but staff and head persevered. In 1956 they reported with pride the graduation of the first pupil who had gone on to university; and by 1961 there was a sixth form of a size proportionate to the lower school. Some girls now regularly expected to go to university, as well as to colleges of education and into nursing. Slowly employment horizons were widening.

Against such difficulties must be set a determination from the outset, supported by the Education Committee, to complement formal teaching with sport and with access to music and drama, not only in school but more widely. Despite transport problems there were regular visits to theatres and museums, not only in nearby Oxford but in London and elsewhere. There was participation in county-wide musical competitions and in musical events involving other schools. And when the sixth form invited the boys of Lord Williams's Grammar School at Thame to a dance, the head boy had the wit to ask if there could be some preliminary dancing classes at Holton Park, so that the boys would not make fools of themselves on the dance floor.

In the late 1960s the Oxfordshire Education Committee, like all other LEAs, geared itself up to respond to Circular 10/65, the Education Department Circular of 1965 which invited all LEAs to submit plans for the reorganisation of their secondary school provision along comprehensive lines. It planned for Holton Park to merge with Shotover School to form a new comprehensive, Wheatley Park School. The negotiations sound amicable and constructive, and the new institution came into being in autumn 1972, with a Lower School on the Shotover site and an Upper School on the Holton Park site. In the early 1980s the school was consolidated at Holton Park. It is now an academy.

The school has attracted attention recently because a pupil at Holton Park in 1970–2 and thereafter at Wheatley Park was one Theresa Brasier, later May, at the time of writing prime minister of the UK. It is hard to construe her experience as the source of her obsession with selective secondary schools, particularly as a newly comprehensive sixth form gave her the tools to secure a place at Oxford. Another powerful impression conveyed by the short life of Holton Park Girls' Grammar School is the determination shown by those in charge to enlarge the cultural horizons and ambitions of every pupil they encountered. It sits uncomfortably with the impoverished, narrowly instrumental nature of current education policy.

GILLIAN SUTHERLAND, Newnham College, Cambridge

#### *Other Publications Received:*

Paul Booth and Andrew Simmonds, *Gill Mill: Later Prehistoric Landscape and a Roman Nucleated Settlement in the Lower Windrush Valley near Witney, Oxfordshire*, two vols. (Thames Valley Landscapes Monographs, 42), Oxford University School of Archaeology for Oxford Archaeology (Oxford, 2018). Pp. xxxii + 396, x + 488. 410 figs. (many in colour), 165 tables. £35 (Parts 1 and 2 together). ISBN 978-1-905905-42-3.

Trevor Coombs, Janet Ridout Sharpe, Hugh Davies, Anne Harrison and Anni Byard, *Land of the Atrebatas: In and Around Roman Berkshire* (*Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, vol. 83), 2018. Pp. 200. 100 b&w figs. (including maps), 15 colour plates, 13 tables. Paperback, £20 (plus £2.20 p&p in UK). Available from: Berkshire Archaeological Society, 19 Challenor Close, Wokingham, Berks., RG40 4UJ. Journal ISSN 0309-3093.

Alex Davies, *Creating Society and Constructing the Past: Social Change in the Thames Valley from the Late Bronze Age to the Middle Iron Age* (BAR BS, 637), BAR Publishing (Oxford, 2018). Pp. xviii + 276 (appendices available online). 151 figures (46 in colour), 76 graphs, 35 tables, 18 colour maps. Paperback, £53. ISBN 978-1-4073-1606-2.

Stuart Hall (with Bill Schwarz), *Familiar Stranger: A Life Between Two Islands*, Penguin Books (London, 2018). Pp. xviii + 302. 10 b&w illustrations. Paperback, £9.99. ISBN 978-0-141-98475-9.

Stanley C. Jenkins, *Oxford at Work: People and Industries through the Years*, Amberley Publishing (Stroud, 2018). Pp. 96. 165 illustrations (many in colour). Paperback, £14.99. ISBN 978-1-4456-8045-3.

Brian Kemp (ed.), *Reading Abbey Records: A New Miscellany* (Berkshire Record Society, 25), 2018. Pp. xii + 142. Paperback, £12.50 (plus £2.50 p&p in UK). ISBN 978-0-9573937-6-9. Available from: Berkshire Record Society, c/o Berkshire Record Office, 9 Coley Avenue, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 6AF.

Patricia and Robert Malcolmson (eds.), *A Vicar's Wife in Oxford, 1938–1943: The Diary of Madge Martin* (ORS, 72). The Boydell Press for ORS (Woodbridge, 2018). Pp. xiv + 270. 16 b&w plates, 4 maps. £25. ISBN 978-0-902509-74-0.

Raymond and Joan Moody, *Burford Papers*, vol. 1, *Hindsight of Burford* (Burford, 2018). Pp. iv + 204. 19 b&w illustrations. Paperback, £8.99 (plus £3 p&p in UK). ISBN 978-1-901010-20-6. Available from: The Madhatter Bookshop, 122 High Street, Burford, OX18 4JQ. Includes essays on: The Burford Device; Parish, Manor and Town; The Smallpox Outbreak of 1758; The Book for 'Vicaridge Rights'; Plymouth Brethren Meeting; The Tucker Enigma (Tudor Burford).

Geoffrey Neate (ed.), *Memoirs of the City and University of Oxford in 1738, together with Poems, Odd Lines, Fragments and Small Scraps, by 'Shepilinda'* (Elizabeth Sheppard), (OHS, ns 47), The Boydell Press for OHS (Woodbridge, 2018). Pp. xxxii + 132, and map of Oxford. £25. ISBN 978-0-904107-29-6.

David Radford, *The Archaeology of Oxford in 20 Digs*, Amberley Publishing (Stroud, 2017). Pp. 96. 94 illustrations (most in colour). Paperback, £14.99. ISBN 978-1-4456-8085-9.

Stephen Rippon, *Kingdom, Civitas, and County: The Evolution of Territorial Identity in the English Landscape*, Oxford University Press (Oxford, 2018). Pp. xxii + 438. 122 figs., 33 tables. £85.00. ISBN 978-0-19-875937-9.

Stephen Rippon, Chris Smart and Ben Pears, *The Fields of Britannia: Continuity and Change in the Late Roman and Early Medieval Landscape*, Oxford University Press (Oxford, 2015). Pp. xvi + 446. 99 figs., 33 tables. £112.50. ISBN 978-0-19-964582-4.

Andrew Simmonds and Steve Lawrence, *Footprints from the Past: The South-Eastern Extramural Settlement of Roman Alchester and Rural Occupation in its Hinterland: The*

*Archaeology of East West Rail Phase 1* (Oxford Archaeology Monographs, 28), Oxford Archaeology (Oxford, 2018). Pp. xvi + 282. 107 figures (many in colour), 72 tables. £20.00. ISBN 978-0-904220-82-7.

R.M. Thomson, *The Fox and the Bees: The Early Library of Corpus Christi College, Oxford*, D.S. Brewer (Woodbridge, 2018). Pp. viii + 96. 23 colour plates. £60. ISBN 978-1-84384-485-3.