

New publications

Contrôle Économique et Administration à l'Époque des Palais Mycéniens (fin du IIe millénaire av. J.-C.),
by Françoise Rougemont (BEFAR Bibliothèque des Écoles Françaises d'Athènes et de Rome, 2009) in French

Ce livre étudie le contrôle économique et l'administration en Grèce à l'époque des palais mycéniens (textes datés entre ca 1450 et 1200 av. J.-C.). Il s'appuie principalement sur les tablettes inscrites découvertes dans ces palais et propose une synthèse sur les principaux aspects de la question : les scribes (qui tenaient la comptabilité) et l'organisation des archives, la géographie administrative, la fiscalité, la gestion du personnel, le contrôle des terres, les relations entre l'administration des palais et les sanctuaires, le degré d'implication des palais dans les échanges, ainsi que le recours aux fonctionnaires palatiaux ou à des notables locaux dans les procédures de contrôle économique. Chaque fois que cela a été possible, les données des tablettes ont été comparées soit avec les données de l'archéologie, soit avec certaines archives proche-orientales (principalement des textes de l'époque d'Ur III, ainsi que des textes de Mari, de Nuzi et d'Ougarit). La deuxième partie est consacrée aux problèmes de l'administration de l'élevage des ovins et à la question des « collecteurs ».

ISBN 978-2-86958-215-6
Price EUR 90.00

Roman Military Dress by Graham Sumner (History Press, 2009)

The Roman military was one of the most powerful forces of the ancient world. But what did its soldiers wear? This book presents an accurate and illuminating study of a popular yet understudied subject. Spanning 1000 years from the Late Republic to the Byzantine Empire, including every item from helmet linings to leg wrappings, Graham Sumner presents an original and detailed interpretation of wide-ranging evidence, drawing on recent textile finds, ancient artwork and original literary sources from across the Roman Empire.

With the help of informative illustrations, we understand how the garments were worn and by which soldiers, both on and off the battlefield. Materials used, methods of manufacture and dying, and the second-hand trade are also discussed. Including stunning colour images and reconstructions, this book

will be of great value to students and re-enactors of the Romans, as well as costume and fashion students.
ISBN: 9780752445762

Price: GB £17.99

<http://www.thehistorypress.co.uk/products/Roman-Military-Dress.aspx>

The Medieval Broadcloth: Changing Trends in Fashions, Manufacturing and Consumption, edited by Kathrine Vestergård Pedersen and Marie-Louise B. Nosch, Ancient Textiles Series 6 (Oxbow Books, 2009)

The eight papers presented here provide a useful introduction to medieval broadcloth, and an up-to-date synthesis of current research. The word *broadcloth* is nowadays used as an overall term for the woven textiles mass-produced and exported all over Europe. It was first produced in Flanders as a luxurious cloth from the 11th century and throughout the medieval period. Broadcloth is the English term, *Laken* in Flemish, *Tuch* in German, *Drap* in French, *Klæde* in the Scandinavian languages and *Verka* in Finnish. As the concept of broadcloth is derived from the written sources it cannot directly be identified in the archaeological textiles and therefore the topic of medieval broadcloth is very suitable as an interdisciplinary theme.

The first chapter (John Munro) presents an introduction to the subject and takes the reader through the manufacturing and economic importance of the medieval broadcloth as a luxury item. Chapter two (Carsten Jahnke) describes trade in the Baltic Sea area, detailing production standards, shipping and prices. Chapters three, four and five (Heini Kirjavainen, Riina Rammo and Jerzy Maik) deal with archaeological textiles excavated in Estonia, Finland and Poland. Chapters six and seven (Camilla Luise Dahl and Kathrine Vestergård Pedersen) concern the problems of combining the terminology from the written sources with archaeological textiles. The last chapter reports on an ongoing reconstruction project; at the open air museum in Eindhoven, Holland, Anton Reurink has tried to recreate a medieval broadcloth based on written and historical sources. During the last few years he has reconstructed the tool for preparing and spinning wool, and a group of spinners has produced a yarn of the right quality. He subsequently wove approximately 20 metres of cloth and conducted the first experiment with foot-fulling.



ISBN-13: 978-1-84217-381-7

Price GB £25.00

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/bookinfo.cfm/ID/86932>

From Minos to Midas: Ancient Cloth Production in the Aegean and in Anatolia

by **Brendan Burke**, **Ancient Textiles Series 7 (Oxbow Books, 2010)**

Textile production was of greater value and importance to people in the past than any other social craft activity: everyone depended on cloth. As with other craft goods, such as pottery, metal objects, or ivory carving, the large-scale production and exchange of textiles required specialization and some degree of centralization. This book takes an explicitly economic approach to textile production, focusing on regional centers, most often referred to as palaces, to understand the means by which states in the Aegean and Anatolia financed themselves through cloth industries. From this we can look for evidence of social stratification, inter-regional exchange, and organized bureaucracies. Spanning multiple millennia and various sources of evidence, Burke illustrates the complex nature of cloth production, exchange, and consumption and what this tells us about individual societies and prehistoric economies, as well as how developments in cloth industries reflect larger aspects of social organization.

ISBN-13: 978-1-84217-406-7

Price GB £30.00

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/bookinfo.cfm/ID/88281>

Textile Terminologies in the Ancient Near East and the Mediterranean Area from the 3rd to the 1st Millennium BC, edited by **C. Michel and M.L. Nosch**, **Ancient Textile Series (Oxbow Books, 2010)**

ISBN-13: 978-1-84217-975-8

Price GB £35.00

<http://www.oxbowbooks.com/bookinfo.cfm/ID/89224>

Sea of Silk: A Textile Geography of Women's Work in Medieval French Literature

by **E. Jane Burns** (UPenn Press, 2009)

The story of silk is an old and familiar one, a tale involving mercantile travel and commercial exchange along the broad land mass that connects ancient China to the west and extending eventually to sites on the eastern Mediterranean and along sea routes to India. But if we shift our focus from economic histories that chart the exchange of silk along Asian and Mediterranean trade routes to medieval literary depictions of silk, a strikingly different picture comes into view. In Old French literary texts from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, emphasis falls on

production rather than trade and on female protagonists who make, decorate, and handle silk.

Sea of Silk maps a textile geography of silk work done by these fictional women. Situated in northern France and across the medieval Mediterranean, from Saint-Denis to Constantinople, from North Africa to Muslim Spain, and even from the fantasy realm of Arthurian romance to the historical silkworms of the Norman kings in Palermo, these medieval heroines provide important glimpses of distant economic and cultural geographies. E. Jane Burns argues, in brief, that literary portraits of medieval heroines who produce and decorate silk cloth or otherwise manipulate items of silk outline a metaphorical geography that includes France as an important cultural player in the silk economics of the Mediterranean.

Within this literary sea of silk, female protagonists who "work" silk in a variety of ways often deploy it successfully as a social and cultural currency that enables them to traverse religious and political barriers while also crossing lines of gender and class.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8122-4154-9

Price US \$59.95 / GB £39.00

<http://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/14597.html>

I reperti tessili, le fusaiole e i pesi da telaio dalla palafitta di Molino di Ledro by **Marta Bazzanella and Anna Mayr** (Trento, 2009) in Italian

The pile-dwelling (*palafitta*) site of Molina di Ledro with its 297 finds relevant to textile archaeology (83 textile fragments, 2 balls of yarn, 195 yarn fragments, 12 cord remains and 2 worked raw fibre finds) is one of few Italian sites with such a consistent corpus of material. The volume is a detailed study of these finds in relation to the textile production at Ledro and in comparison to other contemporary sites. Besides the numerous textile and yarn fragments, the site yielded two almost complete items in linen: a decorated band and a belt with a loop. Regrettably, the majority of the objects lack precise stratigraphic and special distribution information. The volume also includes a detailed catalogue of textile tools found on the site. Together, the textiles and the tools provide a glimpse of the textile production in Bronze Age Italy.

Price EUR 25.00

ISBN: 9788877022257

<http://www.edigiglio.it/scheda.asp?ctg=4&keyw=816>

Textile History and the Military, Textile History Volume 41, Number 1, Supplement, May 2010.

Textiles are key components of much military equipment, and the organization of the armed forces as well as their operations are unthinkable without them. Textiles are used for uniforms, tents, sails,



saddle pouches, caparisons, parachutes, early model aeroplanes, camouflage nets, dinghies, body armour and more besides. This volume presents and discusses the role of the textile culture within the military organization: the use, the distribution, the production, provision and consumption of raw materials, and the organization of the production processes. Moreover, aspects such as symbols and badges, the development of technologies, political and national agendas, and the interaction between military and the civil society will be addressed. Thus, in this volume specialists from various fields of study have joined forces to provide a truly interdisciplinary collection. These 'happy few' comprise historians, archaeologists, museum curators and conservators, social

scientists and textile researchers as well as military experts. The volume is the result of an international and interdisciplinary conference held 21–22 May 2009 at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark (see ATN 46). The conference were organized by Dr Kjeld Hald Galster, the Royal Danish Defence College, and Professor Marie-Louise Nosch, Director of the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Textile Research.

ISBN: 978-1-907625-02-2

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/maney>

Ulla Mannering

CTR 2010-2015

The Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Textile Research (CTR), University of Copenhagen, has received a five year prolongation (2010-2015) and is happy to continue textile research with new and exciting projects. CTR looks forward to five more intensive and challenging years in collaboration with Danish and international research colleagues. The overarching theme to be explored in the period between 2010 and 2015 is the connection between textile, environment and society. This question will be explored via two research programs with subprojects and affiliated PhD projects.

TEXTILE ECONOMIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA (TEMA) is based on a collaboration between CTR, international research centres, universities and museums. The program is headed by CTR director Marie-Louise Nosch and is hosted by the SAXO Institute, University of Copenhagen. The program investigates Mediterranean textile cultures in the Bronze Age and Iron Age with particular focus on the production and management of textile resources in agriculture and trade, and the interaction between environment and textile production. Further topics are the development of flax fibres into a resource for both food and textile production and its impact on agriculture and agrarian praxis; the terminology of textile in Greek; the economic and cultural history of textile production in non-domestic

contexts is investigated, and an international team surveys the economy of wool, both the Bronze Age palace cultures and in the classical Greek and Roman world; finally the textile production in sanctuaries will receive particular attention. The program is solidly placed on the research results obtained at CTR 2005-2010 on textile tools, textile technology and textile terminology, but takes textile research into a new domain: the placement of textile production within economy and within society.

An important subproject within this program will combine traditional craft knowledge of textile techniques and tools with experimental textile archaeology, in a dialogue with ethnographic investigations. The aim is to render textile craft visible in areas and periods where the archaeological evidence is scarce or missing, thereby illuminating the lost or invisible aspects and processes of textile production. Jordan, Turkey, and Syria will be the areas of investigation because of their varied craft traditions. This subproject is directed by Eva Andersson Strand.

TEXTILE CRAFTS AND CULTURES (TECC) is a joint national endeavour of CTR, the Heritage Agency of Denmark and the National Museum of Denmark. Textile research is a national focus area in Danish archaeology between 2010 and 2015.

The program is headed by Ulla Mannering in collaboration with Eva Andersson Strand and is hosted by