Picking the Lock of Time

Developing Chronology in American Archaeology

Edited by James Truncer

Picking The Lock Of Time Developing Chronology In American Archaeology

A. Mark Pollard, Ruth Ann Armitage, Cheryl A. Makarewicz

Picking The Lock Of Time Developing Chronology In American Archaeology:

Picking the Lock of Time James Truncer, 2003 This collection of seven papers with an introduction originated at a symposium at the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology held at Philadelphia in 2000 which argued that it is essential for archaeologists to understand the history of their discipline in order to progress Written entirely from an American perspective with an emphasis on Americal archaeological strategies the papers discuss the development of chronological methods the development of American stratigraphic excavation methods Wissler's gyroscope Nels Nelson and the measure of time Leslie Spier George Langford at the Fisher site in the Mid West dendrochronology of the Eastern Woodlands David H. Dye, 2008 Patty Jo Watson's prolific career began in the early 1950s as an energetic graduate student at the University of Chicago and culminated with her induction into the National Academy of Sciences and subsequent retirement from Washington University in 2003 During that time her groundbreaking research impacted multiple fields within the discipline of archaeology but her astonishing research into the underground caves of the eastern United States recognizes her as one of the world's leading experts on cave archaeology In honor of Dr Watson and her monumental achievements in the field twenty two established scholars present in this volume new and insightful research into prehistoric and historic use of southeastern dark zones Cave Archaeology of the Eastern Woodlands edited by David H Dye explores how prehistoric and historic peoples utilized caves as a means to further their economic growth and represent cultural values within their societies The essays range in topics from early gypsum mining to rare American Indian cave art from historic saltpeter extraction to current archaeobotanical and paleofecal research Dye and the contributors contend that studies of deep zone caves reveal multiple insights into the values beliefs and cultural lifeways of ancient and historic peoples In addition to presenting new research in the field contributors also place particular emphasis on Dr Watson's influential cave research and how it has molded their own work The essays convey a sense of wonder at the unique and sometimes harrowing world of caves and readers will get a sense of why Native Americans regarded the Underworld or Beneathworld as a supernatural realm to be tread upon with great respect and caution This volume of uniformly excellent essays will no doubt be a lantern that sheds light onto the importance of studying and understanding the all too secret world of underground caves David H Dye is professor of archaeology in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Memphis and a former student of Patty Jo Watson's He is author of Cycles of Violence An Archaeology of Peace and War in Native Eastern North American coeditor with Richard J Chacon of The Taking and Displaying of Human Body Parts as Trophies by Amerindians and with Cheryl Anne Cox of Towns and Temples Along the Mississippi **Graphing Culture Change in** North American Archaeology R. Lee Lyman, 2021-06-10 Documentation analysis and explanation of culture change have long been goals of archaeology Scientific graphs facilitate the visual thinking that allow archaeologists to determine the relationship between variables and if well designed comprehend the processes implied by the relationship Different graph

types suggest different ontologies and theories of change and particular techniques of parsing temporally continuous morphological variation of artefacts into types influence graph form North American archaeologists have grappled with finding a graph that effectively and efficiently displays culture change over time Line graphs bar graphs and numerous one off graph types were used between 1910 and 1950 after which spindle graphs displaying temporal frequency distributions of specimens within each of multiple artefact types emerged as the most readily deciphered diagram The variety of graph types used over the twentieth century indicate archaeologists often mixed elements of both Darwinian variational evolutionary change and Midas touch like transformational change Today there is minimal discussion of graph theory or graph grammar in introductory archaeology textbooks or advanced texts and elements of the two theories of evolution are still mixed Culture has changed and archaeology provides unique access to the totality of humankind's cultural past It is therefore crucial that graph theory construction and decipherment are revived in archaeological discussion *Measuring Time with Artifacts* R. Lee Lyman, Michael John O'Brien, 2006-01-01 Combining historical research with a lucid explication of archaeological methodology and reasoning Measuring Time with Artifacts examines the origins and changing use of fundamental chronometric techniques and procedures and analyzes the different ways American archaeologists have studied changes in artifacts sites and peoples over time In highlighting the underpinning ontology and epistemology of artifact based chronometers cultural transmission and how to measure it archaeologically this volume covers issues such as why archaeologists used the cultural evolutionism of L H Morgan E B Tylor L A White and others instead of biological evolutionism why artifact classification played a critical role in the adoption of stratigraphic excavation how the direct historical approach accomplished three analytical tasks at once why cultural traits were important analytical units why paleontological and archaeological methods sometimes mirror one another how artifact classification influences chronometric method and how graphs illustrate change in artifacts over time An understanding of the history of artifact based chronometers enables us to understand how we know what we think we know about the past ensures against modern misapplication of the methods and sheds light on the reasoning behind archaeologists actions during the first half of the **Milestones in Archaeology** Tim Murray, 2007-04-13 This engaging work uses key discoveries events twentieth century people techniques and controversies to give the general reader a rich history of archaeology from its beginnings in the 16th century to the present The history of archaeology leads from the musty collections of dilettante antiquarians to high tech science The book identifies three major developmental periods Birth of Archaeology 16th 18th centuries Archaeology of Origins and Empires 19th century and World Archaeology 20th century An introductory essay acquaints the reader with the essence of the science for each period The short entries comprising the balance of the book expand on the themes introduced in the essays Organized around personalities techniques controversies and conflicts the encyclopedia brings to life the history of archaeology It broadens the general reader s knowledge by detailing the professional significance of widely known

discoveries while introducing to wider knowledge obscure but important moments in archaeology Archaeology is replete with the visionaries and swashbucklers of popular myth it is also filled with careful and dedicated scientists Handbook of Archaeological Sciences A. Mark Pollard, Ruth Ann Armitage, Cheryl A. Makarewicz, 2023-02-09 HANDBOOK OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES A modern and comprehensive introduction to methods and techniques in archaeology In the newly revised Second Edition of the Handbook of Archaeological Sciences a team of more than 100 researchers delivers a comprehensive and accessible overview of modern methods used in the archaeological sciences. The book covers all relevant approaches to obtaining and analyzing archaeological data including dating methods quaternary paleoenvironments human bioarchaeology biomolecular archaeology and archaeogenetics resource exploitation archaeological prospection and assessing the decay and conservation of specimens Overview chapters introduce readers to the relevance of each area followed by contributions from leading experts that provide detailed technical knowledge and application examples Readers will also find A thorough introduction to human bioarchaeology including hominin evolution and paleopathology The use of biomolecular analysis to characterize past environments Novel approaches to the analysis of archaeological materials that shed new light on early human lifestyles and societies In depth explorations of the statistical and computational methods relevant to archaeology Perfect for graduate and advanced undergraduate students of archaeology the Handbook of Archaeological Sciences will also earn a prominent place in the libraries of researchers and professionals with an interest in the geological biological and genetic basis of archaeological studies The Great Paleolithic War David I. Meltzer, 2015-11-03 Following the discovery in Europe in the late 1850s that humanity had roots predating known history and reaching deep into the Pleistocene era scientists wondered whether North American prehistory might be just as ancient And why not The geological strata seemed exactly analogous between America and Europe which would lead one to believe that North American humanity ought to be as old as the European variety This idea set off an eager race for evidence of the people who might have occupied North America during the Ice Age a long and as it turned out bitter and controversial search In The Great Paleolithic War David J Meltzer tells the story of a scientific quest that set off one of the longest running feuds in the history of American anthropology one so vicious at times that anthropologists were deliberately frightened away from investigating potential sites Through his book we come to understand how and why this controversy developed and stubbornly persisted for as long as it did and how in the process it revolutionized American archaeology Hannah Cobb, Kevin Greene, Tom Moore, 2024-03-19 This fully updated sixth edition of a classic classroom text is essential reading for core courses in archaeology Archaeology An Introduction explains how the subject emerged from an amateur pursuit in the eighteenth century into a serious discipline and explores changing trends in interpretation in recent decades The authors convey the excitement of archaeology while helping readers to evaluate new discoveries by explaining the methods and theories that lie behind them In addition to drawing upon examples and case studies from many regions of the

world and periods of the past the book incorporates the authors own fieldwork research and teaching It continues to include key reference and further reading sections to help new readers find their way through the ever expanding range of archaeological publications and online sources as well as colour illustrations and boxed topic sections to increase comprehension Serving as an accessible and lucid textbook and engaging students with contemporary issues this book is designed to support students studying Archaeology at an introductory level New to the sixth edition Inclusion of the latest survey and imaging techniques such as the use of drones and eXtended reality Updated material on developments in dating DNA analysis isotopes and population movement including consideration of the ethical considerations of these techniques Coverage of new developments in archaeological theory such as the material turn ontological turn and work on issues of equality diversity and inclusion A whole new chapter covering archaeology in the present including new sections on heritage and public archaeology and an updated consideration of archaeology s relationship with the climate crisis A revised glossary with over 200 new additions or updates **Archaeology** Kevin Greene, Tom Moore, 2010-06-17 This book details modern archaeologists methods of studying the past describing basic practical procedures as well as complex scientific techniques used in analysis It also examines traditional methodology fieldwork and excavation Glory, Trouble, and Renaissance at the Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology Malinda Stafford Blustain, Ryan Wheeler, 2018-04-01 Chronicles the seminal contributions tumultuous history and recent renaissance of the Robert S Peabody Museum of Archaeology Provided by publisher

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