
Reviewed by C. C. LAMBERG-KARLOVSKY, Harvard University

There are few books which immediately after publication can be said to be both a pioneering effort and a standard reference for subsequent research. This is such a book. As a regional study, incorporating the basic results of an archaeological survey and a wide range of additional sources from modern hydrological, demographic and agricultural to traditional history, the book traces the natural history of the Diyala Plains, at the northern end of the Mesopotamian lowlands in Iraq, from the earliest period of human occupation to the beginning of this century. The study focuses upon the remains of early settlements and irrigation practices and 'seeks to identify in that area some of the converging natural and human forces which shaped its successive phases of advance and decline over a total of perhaps six millenniums.' Professor Adams is correctly cautious in extrapolating from such a regional study of a microcosm the existence of broad patterns and general trends in Mesopotamian archaeology and history. Nevertheless, from such a study, viewed through a long time perspective, certain patterns of human adaptation to and exploitation of natural environment constitute evident trends in Mesopotamian, or even Near Eastern, prehistory and later history. Of central concern in the book are the changing eco-systems and their effects in the practice of irrigation agriculture. Thus, large-scale canal irrigation is seen as a highly unstable ecological system, a system whose practice, extent, and success are inextricably intertwined with environmental, political and economic factors.

Substantively the book is divided into two parts: (1) 'The Contemporary Setting' and (2) 'The changing Patterns of Ancient Occupance.' In the first part, basic patterns of agricultural subsistence are reviewed in conjunction with studies on the extent of present-day irrigated crop areas, seasonal labor requirements and related agricultural productivity, and distribution of various livestock. The major natural variations of present-day ecological phyogeography, together with trends in human settlement patterns, provide the reader with the first full microenvironmental study of the present-day setting in an area of the Near East. The importance of such data to the various disciplines of natural history in documenting the adaptation of man to land is clear. For archaeologists it provides fundamental background for an understanding of the environment and its manipulation (irrigation) in the prehistoric past.

Part Two is the section to which this reviewer found himself returning several times, each time carrying away more content, new ideas, and provocative suggestions. It is, in effect, a natural history of man's changing settlement patterns correlated with environmental, political and economic factors. Thus, in the Ubaid period (ca. 4000 B.C.), the first evidence for human settlement is sparse and little if any close political or economic bonds existed between communities. In the subsequent Warka and Proto-literate periods (ca. 3400 B.C.), the number of occupied sites increased. Changes in settlement were, however, a matter of degree, not of kind. The Early Dynastic period (ca. 3500 B.C.) witnessed a substantial increase in the number and size of settlements. The network of watercourses relied upon for irrigation had changed little, however, since the earliest times. A clearer distinction in the size of settlements may not be associated with possible differences in political function; clear evidence for the centralized control of irrigation systems is wholly lacking.

Only minor alterations of the pattern already established are evident in the Akkad (ca. 2300 B.C.), Ur III (ca. 2100 B.C.), and Isin Larsa (ca. 1900 B.C.) periods. The Old Babylonian period (ca. 1700 B.C.) saw a substantial disruption in the established settlement pattern, due, most likely, to the conquest of part of this area by Hammurabi. Towns were broken up as smaller villages increased in number and agricultural productivity was temporarily exchanged for nomadism. This differs from the evidence of increased settlement in the Central Akkad, thus implying an upsurge in this region and a decline in the Diyala during the period of the First Dynasty of Babylon. Sparse settlement during the last years of the First Dynasty of Babylon could well explain the successful incursion of Hittites and Cassites which brought the Dynasty to its end. Colonization of new areas and new canal construction
BOOK REVIEWS


Reviewed by Tom Harrison, Sarawak Museum and Cornell University

Dr. Kooijman, a distinguished Dutch Indonesianist at the Rijksmuseum, Leiden, has produced the first comprehensive account in English of a significant but neglected subject. Bark clothing was until historical times the everyday wear over a large part of the archipelago and in Southeast Asia generally. When I reached the then barely known interior Kelabit uplands of Borneo in 1945, it was still the standard dress of both sexes. But since bark is uncomfortable to wear in a hot climate, it is about the first thing to go in the impact of foreign trade: in the coastal areas, the passing of bark cloth began with the advent of cloth in trade with the mainland during the T'ang dynasty. Moreover, as Dr. Kooijman sadly points out (p. 5), 'The overwhelming majority of pieces (surviving in Museums) have not been documented in any way and could therefore only be submitted to research of a purely "impressionistic" and analytical character.' A basic item not only among their material goods but also in the cultural ethos of native peoples throughout the archipelago, bark clothing has been allowed to disappear into prehistory without effective documentation. Representing the whole of Sumatra and its adjacent islets, for instance, only one piece of bark clothing was available for this volume's analysis, and its origin was unsure! From Java, all that survives of bark cloth is a once universal handicraft are a few screens connected with the wayang performances (p. 3).

Somewhat ironically (perhaps 'neolithically' is a more suitable term), what have survived best from this defunct aspect of Asian life are the bark beaters. They are necessarily durable, mostly of stone, but also of metal, horn, and hardwood. Excavations and surface finds have produced many examples in Southeast Asia. They are readily identified, of course, by the gridded and/or ridged ends on the side or base. Dr. Kooijman's eleven examples illustrated (Plates xvi-xvii) do not include some of the most widespread sorts in the area, e.g. the conical stone type with cross-hatching at a broad, flattened, wide basal end. His text deals with these essential tools of the craft in a rather perfunctory fashion (pp. 61-62, 65-66, 72, etc.).

Ten years ago, G. de G. Sieveking made a useful if brief and preliminary survey of stone beaters only (JMBRAS xxix (3), 1956: 79-85), but much remains to be done with the museum material in Leiden.

The bark beaters from Celebes are distinctive (Plate XVI). Finds of similar local-type tools elsewhere would illuminate contact trends. In another article in this issue, I have pointed out the possible application of the peculiar Celebes way of 'hafting' beaters for the making of what I have termed 'turtle ware' neolithic pottery (above, pp. 134-39). The evolutionary relationship between bark beaters and the paddle beaters for pot-making is another subject deserving of wider study. Such a study would help to clear the mists from our understanding of the early phases of two skills at the very core of development from neolithic times on into the metal age and the age of cotton and kettles.


Reviewed by BRUCE G. TRIGGER, McGill University

This book presents the opening chapters of a multi-volume history of Ancient Egypt that Hayes had begun but did not live to complete. The chapters deal with the geology of Egypt, the Paleolithic period, and the Predynastic cultures of Lower Egypt. Hayes’ scholarship was of a meticulous sort; had he lived to finish this history it undoubtedly would have been the best source book available of Ancient Egyptian history and culture. Considering that Hayes had comparatively little interest in prehistoric Egypt, the care with which the data concerning these periods are assembled is a tribute to his scholarship. The sections on geology and the Paleolithic period are thorough and well-balanced summaries of all the literature on these topics, although recent discoveries will soon render his syntheses of this material dated. The chapter on Predynastic Lower Egypt not only is the best discussion of this topic available in English but also it contains many original and stimulating observations. It will indeed serve to draw attention to this much neglected aspect of Egyptian prehistory. Reading this fragment, I can only join with others in the vain wish that Hayes had been able to finish the great task he had set for himself.


Reviewed by RICHARD PEARSON, University of Hawaii

This publication culminates three years of archaeological activity in the Kedah region of Malaya and the Takuapa area of southern Thailand. It contains twelve papers by Lamb on various aspects of historical archaeology in the region. He compares Chandi Bukit Batu Pahat, a temple site in Kedah, with Sumatran examples, pursuing the point that the major relationships of the Kedah examples are with Southeast Asia rather than India. His investigations included further exploration of a structure to the east of Chandi Bukit Batu Pahat, which may have housed priests attached to the temple.

Reporting on an excavation of March 1961, Lamb gives a preliminary description of a site known at Matang Pasir in Central Kedah, which dates from the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries A.D. In yet another article, he provides basic material from which to postulate a local architectural style of timber superstructures erected on a basement of stone, laterite or brick.

At Kampung Sireh, Lamb checked an entrepot site where ceramics, including celadons and Sawankhalok stoneware, and blue and white porcelain were transported. From the site of Pengkalan Rijang, the author describes another loading ground, actually the first area of dry ground in the Merbok estuary, which was probably the terminus of an overland river route. The sherds material is predominantly celadon—Southern Sung from Chekiang Province—which is roughly similar to sherds from the Santubong Site.

Considering the real difficulties, Ornamented Bark-Cloth in Indonesia remains an achievement of merit and distinction in its field. It is a thoroughly sensible, useful and intelligent book. In a later edition one might hope to see an extra page devoted to putting the theme in a wider Asian context; and perhaps another page touching on indicated sequences eastward out into the Pacific, no matter how conjectural. A close comparative study of bark-cloth design along the lines of Dr. Kooijman’s study might also throw light on technological movements through Southeast Asia at the level of one fundamental culture need: to cover, even in equatorial heat, some part of the genital flesh, albeit itchily. Indeed, may we hope that this author will put us further in his debt with a second volume? No one else is so qualified to make a companion study.
at the mouth of the Kuching River in Sarawak. In addition, the Pengkalan Site contains earthenware types, beads, and glass as yet unfound in Kedah. No sherds of blue and white were found at Pengkalan. Other finds from Pengkalan Bujang include a fishhook of gold and copper alloy, the possible base of a stone image, pieces of dammar gum, a terra cotta human face, small temmoku sherds, Middle Eastern ceramics (thought to be the property of traders rather than items of trade), and fragments of a bronze dagger.

Revisions of the dating of inscribed clay tablets from Kedah and three statues found along the Takuapa River are also proposed, and a surface reconnaissance of, and some extremely interesting artifacts from, Kakao Island, southern Thailand, are presented. The Kakao Site, thought from the ceramic evidence to be T'ang period, was in 1961 in danger of being destroyed by tin mining concerns. If it has not already succumbed, it should certainly be given high priority for intensive work in the near future. Lamb also suggests other sites which should be given priority in the Isthmus of Kra region. A final note suggests the possibility that Srivijaya was the origin of the tiger symbol on some local Avalokitesvara figures.

Chalcolithic Chandoli. Shantaram Bhalchandra Deo and Zainuddin Dawood Ansari. Poona: Deccan College Postgraduate & Research Institute, 1965. 206 pp., 83 illustrations, appendix. Rs. 35/–.

Reviewed by WALTER A. FAIRSERVIS, JR., American Museum of Natural History

This is a straightforward monograph on the excavations carried out at Chandoli on a small village mound of the so-called Chalcolithic of Peninsular India. The excavations were undertaken in March, 1961. Apparently, two main settlements were determined for the same period. Much of the settlement plan was obscured by later disturbances and because the houses were probably of the single pole and bamboo screen type set on rammed earth floors. Some mud plastering is also surmised. Among the habitations were burials of children characteristically placed in urns.

The bulk of the monograph is concerned with descriptions of what was found. The pottery includes such familiar types as Malwa painted wares, Jorwe wares, Cream-slipped wares, Lustrous red wares, and a variety of black and gray wares. In effect the ceramic evidence relates Chandoli to regions as far-ranging as Gujarat, Central India, and Andhra Pradesh, and accordingly places it in the same relative chronological context as Navdatoli, Nevada, and Jorwe. As such, Chandoli is clearly within the time range of 1700–1000 B.C. In general the other artifactual materials confirm this. Perhaps most intriguing is the discovery of an antennae dagger, which suggests ties farther to the northwest.

A valuable appendix is the study of the human remains made by K.C. Malhotra. He concludes that this material has some features in common with Mediterraneans. The work is well illustrated and organized, and makes a fine contribution to the study of early India.


Reviewed by RICHARD PEARSON, University of Hawaii

This monograph describes the excavation and partial reconstruction of a sanctuary built in the eighth or ninth century near the small town of Merbok in Kedah, Malaya. The book is important not only for its detailed explanation and illustration of the excavation, but also for the discussion of the steps taken in the reconstruction, in which authorities from Angkor participated. In the foundation were found eight reliquaries, each with nine subdivisions in the bottom section, containing a copper vessel, precious stones, gold dust, seeds of a plant used in the preparation of curry, and cutouts of silver and gold

Reviewed by Richard Pearson, University of Hawaii

The general field of trade ceramics in Southeast Asia needs desperately an anthropological-archaeological-historical approach to balance the treatment of the art historians, who initiated research into the topic. Nelson Spinks has taken a decisive step in this direction with his fine scholarly monograph on Thai ceramics. Accompanying his description of the various wares, which he divides generally into Monochrome, Painted, and Figurines, are abundant data about their historical setting in north-central Thailand, their trade to the archipelago and other areas in Asia, their status in early Japanese commerce and ritual, and the details of their manufacture. The small figurines are believed to have been used as included. It is hoped that future archaeologists might work on the flat area behind the sanctuary thought by Lamb to be a living area for the priests.

Being the first comprehensive report ever published on an archaeological site in Malaya, this publication, in content, format, and illustrations, has established an extremely enviable standard.


Reviewed by Wilhelm G. Solheim II, University of Hawaii

This is the first volume of an occasional series published by the University of Madagascar under the direction of Dr. Pierre Vérin. The subject of this series is the archaeology of Madagascar, and thus the origins and culture history of its peoples.

This first volume presents primarily a review of the obviously multiple origins of the Malagasy, strongly inclining toward the Indonesian. Two kinds of articles are included in this volume. The first consists of summary articles concerned with Malagasy origins from differing viewpoints:

Hubert Deschamps—"Les tâches de l'archéologie à Madagascar"
Jean Valette—"De l'origine des Malgaches"
Wilhelm Solheim—"Indonesian culture and Malagasy origins"
Gérard Donque—"Le contexte océanique des migrations malgaches"
Jean Poirier—"Données écologiques et démographiques de la mise en place des Proto-malgaches"
Jean-Claude Hebert—"La cosmographie ancienne malgache sur le terrain des points cardinaux et l'importance du Nord-Est"
Jacques Dez—"Quelques hypothèses formulées par la linguistique comparée à l'usage de l'archéologie"
René Battistini—"L'importance de l'action de l'homme dans les transformations protohistoriques de milieu naturel à Madagascar."
The second set of articles comprises preliminary reports on research in progress, with two on archaeological excavations:

Claude Chippaux, with Guy Babin and Jean-Paul Karche—"Etudes des sépultures de la grotte de Bekopaka et de l'abri sous roche du Manambolo."

Pierre Vérin, with René Battistini and Daniel Cha-bouis—"L'ancienne civilisation de l'Isandra."
The final article is on a program of research on culture history: Simon Ayache—"Travaux d'histoire culturelle à l'Ecole Normale de Tananarive."

The articles in this volume furnish a broad foundation for the investigation of the Indonesian origins of the Malagasy and their culture history, with data from research underway on these problems. The volume demonstrates clearly the serious interest of Malagasy scholars in the origins and development of their country. It is a praiseworthy beginning. We wish this new publication the best of luck; it is important and needed for the healthy development of Malagasy studies.

Distributors of Taloha:
For Madagascar—Centre d'Archéologie de l'Université Box 907, Tananarive, or Librairie Hachette, Behoririka, Tananarive, Malagasy Republic
For France—Librairie Glauser, 105 Boulevard Jourdan, Paris xiv, France.
Librairie de l'Escalier, 12 Rue M. le Prince, Paris vi, France.
Editions maritimes et coloniales, 17 Rue Jacob, Paris, vi, France.
Orders addressed to Pierre Vérin, Centre d'Archéologie, will receive 30 per cent reduction. Checks should be made payable to Agent Comptable de l'Université de Madagascar.
Spinks states that the initial impulse for the Sukhodaya (Sukothai) and Svargaloka (Sawankhalok) kilns came from Tze Chou and Lung Ch'uan in China. He holds that their establishment near Sukothai in the thirteenth century reflected the desire of some Chinese craftsmen to relocate in a safer place after the disturbances of the late Sung, as well as the wish of the Thais to begin their own production of the profitable ceramics. In his enumeration of the forms and decorative motifs, the author segregates the Chinese and Indian influences, and points out the markers of a local tradition, such as in the Chaiang wares. His treatment includes the northern products of Kalong, Sankampaeng, and Pan, all of which appear to postdate the sites of Sukhodaya and Svargaloka (although absolute means of dating the sites, such as the use of thermoluminescence, radiocarbon, or archaeomagnetism have not yet been attempted).

From my own visit to the Svargaloka kilns in 1963, I obtained from local farmers ceramic weights, unglazed, identical to the glazed ‘net sinker’ specimens which Spinks states derive solely from the Pan Site (Plate 44). At that time I wondered if they might be plumb weights used either in kiln construction or in placing the objects to be fired so that the glaze might drip or spread vertically. At the same time I found the remains of several monochrome fruit stands (tou in Chinese) which to me would seem common enough to be included in Spinks’ list of forms, but which have been omitted, along with other rarer shapes.


Reviewed by William G. Davis, University of Hawaii

Life in a Leyte Village is a refreshingly honest and remarkable book, for it is unusual to find a monograph in which the author has to such an extent permitted his readers intimate access to the assumptions, methodology with which he works, and the problems of collection and interpretation of the data upon which his conclusions are based. In this particular respect the title seems somewhat inappropriate, for the monograph actually deals little with ‘life’ and very greatly with the study of it. In fact, one is tempted waggishly to suggest that life in Guinhangdan (a pseudonym) during the period of Miss Nurge’s residence there (December 1955 through July 1956) must have consisted quite largely of a series of rigorously controlled interviews with Miss Nurge and her associates. However, the author’s emphasis upon careful literary exposition of methodology does not prevent her from raising many cogent points of broad interest to anthropologists in general and to Filipinos specialists in particular; and she is to be commended for the care with which she worked.

The unit of observation is the community—in this case a rural, agricultural-fishing Philippine barangio—but the monograph is certainly not a ‘community study’ in the strict sense of the term. The descriptive and analytical emphasis is clearly upon what we commonly refer to as ‘socialization’ (though the word does not appear in the index), especially upon the relationship between child-training and adult behavior, and the author employs a series of categories of dyadic interactions which she calls ‘behavioral systems (nurturance, succorance, etc.).’ Though use is made of the usual ‘community’ categories of description such as socio-economic structure and stratification, readers are obliged to keep Miss Nurge’s special interests in mind when comparing her organizational categories and results with those appearing in other literature on Philippine communities. Miss Nurge seems consistently more concerned with variation in the nature of socializing units than with the way the community as a whole functions or its constituent social groups interrelate. We must, therefore, interpret the author’s remarks in that light.

For example, most Philippines specialists, accustomed to viewing the gross rank-ordering of provincial Philippine society in terms of Lynch’s
two-class system of 'big people' and 'everyone else,' will be immediately interested to note that Miss Nurge recognizes a middle-class in her rural barrio (p. 42). One must undoubtedly acknowledge that even in terms of the orthodox two-class system, an incipient third (middle) class is emerging in some Philippine communities, largely the result of new economic alternatives. It seems evident, however, that Miss Nurge stresses that emergence because of her theoretical orientation. Lynch and others, employing the total community as a reference point, have sought to isolate socio-economic groups which had economic complementarity, and whose members shared obligations to, and rights over, members of other groups. Miss Nurge, on the other hand, is concerned with categories which reflect variant styles of life, and therefore variant styles of child-training. Since 'style of life' correlates closely with income, the latter becomes the chief criterion by which class is determined, in the author's point of view. 'Arbitrarily,' she remarks, 'I am placing these, whose earnings, occupation, and income do not show clear-cut placement either high or low, in the middle class.' (p. 43) This is a notion of class which may have operational utility, but it is not, strictly speaking, comparable to the 'community-oriented' view of social class structure.

Yet, Miss Nurge's approach yields some valuable results. Perhaps most significant is that by focusing upon mother and 'significant-other' (primary-kin) relationships, she has demonstrated the existence of a surprising variety of domestic groups. Using a sample of only 129 households, the author was able to isolate seven household types, and found the data so additionally complex that she was forced to create an eighth category for idiosyncratic elements. These efforts clearly indicate the great variety of socializing environments into which Filipino children may be born in these 'homogeneous' rural villages, especially when we realize that we could further amplify the author's classification by means of her own socio-economic variables. The information contained in these particular passages will be especially welcomed by anthropologists whose current interests include the nature of specific dyadic relationships in bilaterally organized societies.

On the whole, the final analytical chapters leave the reader with a great sense of abruptness, for the relationships between child-training and adult behavior, based on the author's data, are discussed very summarily. Undoubtedly this reaction owes partly to the fact that many of the operations through which the author takes the reader are not usually included in the text of a monograph. Still, one would expect the discussion of the author's major hypothesis (or 'assumption,' in her terms) to merit more than very brief concluding treatment. The book leaves the reviewer with the feeling that he has witnessed a lengthy and sophisticated working paper, a great pity after so auspicious a beginning. In the final analysis, the book's great strength is precisely what the author claimed for it: attention to methodology and the assumptions involved in collecting some kinds of anthropological data. As such, it is a very useful book for a student contemplating field work in any geographical area.


Reviewed by RICHARD PEARSON, University of Hawaii

Professor Komatsu of the University of the Sacred Heart in Tokyo deals with the linguistic and cultural origins of the modern Japanese people. Beginning with the Pleistocene, he traces their development, using a few physical anthropological traits and scattered artifacts. As a general introduction to these aspects of Japan, the book is not without merit, though some of the archaeological material and his entire linguistic-philological approach are out of date. The publication, which has only one bona fide footnote and no bibliography, contains several points which could be very misleading. The preface mentions a 'Southern Tibeto-Polynesian language stock' which, to my knowledge, is not recognized by most linguists. Pebble tools from Kyushu, which are thought by some archaeologists to be Jōmon, are equated with chopper tools from 'the Peking Cave' (p. 10) with no reservations stated, and the Jōmon is placed entirely within the Neolithic on the basis of the antiquated criteria of polished stone artifacts and pottery (p. 12), although in the same paragraph the writer states that 'Jōmon man was primarily a hunter and gatherer.' The rouletting technique of pottery decoration does not consist of 'rolling a carved stick on wet clay' (p. 13), but rather, rocking the stick back and forth. The cultivation of rice is said to have its origin 'around Babylonia and India' (p. 22), although Southeast Asia is just as likely a hearth. Despite these shortcomings, the discussions are rather comprehensive in their exploration of possible alternatives and the introduction of data, but no clear conclusions are presented by the author himself.
Book Reviews

Indian Prehistory: 1964. V.N. Misra and M.S. Mate (eds.). Poona: Deccan College Post-graduate & Research Institute, 1965. 264 pp. Rs. 15/-.

Reviewed by WALTER A. FAIRSERVIS, JR., American Museum of Natural History

This work is an account of the Seminar on Pre-history and Protohistory of India which was held at Poona University for a week in May 1964. The prerequisite for attendance by an Indian scholar was general recognition that he had first-hand information on current problems of Indian archaeology within the scope of the seminar. As a result there were gathered from all over India about fifty delegates and special students. Eleven general problems were postulated and used as a means of dividing the seminar into effective discussion groups. Each group had as its 'convenor,' an individual who was regarded as particularly expert on the problem involved. He or one or two others then presented the problem in some detail, after which the members of the group expressed their separate opinions in a creative atmosphere. The results are most inspiring: while, as could be expected, no definitive answers were found, the discussants made considerable progress toward the development of a multi-disciplinary and varied approach to the problems. Some tired theories bit the dust.

All the problems or topics are important: 'Is Soan a separate culture?,' 'Pleistocene stratigraphy,' 'Neolithic problems in India,' 'Relationship of the Indian Chalcolithic Cultures with West Asia,' etc. The book makes fascinating, instructive, and stimulating reading and is a tribute to Indian scholarship, which is surely without peer in Asia at this time.


Reviewed by WILHELM G. SOLHEIM II, University of Hawaii

These two volumes conclude the series of four volumes on the archaeology of the Mekong Delta. The first two volumes were reviewed earlier in this journal (Vol. i in AP iv (1960): 63-65; and Vol. ii in AP vi (1962): 31-32). Volume i includes a description of the sites discovered in the Transbassac and description and illustration of architectural remains and statuary recovered through the test excavations made at some of the sites. Volume ii presents the stone, pottery, bronze, iron, and tin artifacts recovered from the sites described in Volume i.

In Volume iii Malleret completes the presentation of the artifacts recovered in the 'Transbassac and summarizes the resulting data in terms of the culture of Funan and its relationships with other areas. The book is divided into four major parts. The first is concerned with the gold and silver artifacts (including coins) discovered. Relatively little silver work was recovered, but many varied gold artifacts were found. These included rings, chains, beads, pendants, and decorations for clothing and hair. Some of the objects illustrated reminded me so much of gold chains, beads, and earrings from the Philippines that I purposely delayed reviewing this volume in the hope of discussing it together with the Leonard Locsin's book on their collection from Santa Anna in Manila. The comparison will have to be postponed until the latter is published.

Part Two deals with the use of stone and glass in jewelry. The use of precious and semi-precious stone is as common and as varied as is the use of gold. This material is presented according to the kind of stone, while the description of the forms within each kind of stone is based on the natural shape of crystals. Malleret elaborated upon this logical technique of description in an article, 'Notes archéologiques—III: Classification et nomenclature des "Perles" archéologiques en fonction de la symétrie minérale' (BEFEO lii (1963): 117-154). Glass was commonly found in the form of beads and, less commonly bracelets. Six good color plates illustrating the glass beads are included in the separate volume of plates.

Part Three is about the glyptics found on stone and glass. These artifacts, plus the coins presented in the sections on gold and silver, furnish many clues for the reconstruction of foreign contacts between Funan and countries to the west. Malleret notes in the final paragraph of this part (p. 287) that these objects '...affirm the preponderance of Indian importations associated with Iranian and Mediterranean elements. The importance of these latter appear considerable and certainly larger than we had at first thought' [my translation]. He has written a separate article on glyptics and similar artifacts from Southeast Asia, entitled 'Notes archéologiques—II. Pierres gravées á cahets de divers pays du Sud-est l'Asie' (BEFEO lii (1963): 99-116).

The fourth part, 'La Civilisation d'Oc-Eo et la Culture du Fou-nan' (pp. 307-454), is divided into seven chapters, each of which deserves individual treatment. The first of these (Chapter xix, pp. 307-321), 'The Chronology of Oc-Eo,' is based on epigraphical and stylistic data. On the basis of epigraphy, Malleret believes that Oc-Eo began early in the second century A.D. and lasted through the
fifth century. He judges that the third century was a good one for Oc-Eo and Funan and the last half of the fifth and first of the sixth was the wealthiest period for Oc-Eo. There is nothing to indicate that Oc-Eo lasted for any time beyond the fall of Funan and thus had probably come to an end during the eighth century or slightly later. The first Indian influence in Oc-Eo is not known, but sufficient traces of the area's pre-Funan culture have been found in the early Funan levels of some sites to cause Malleret to assume that Indian influence did not predate the beginning of Oc-Eo by very long. He agrees with Paul Pelliot that the beginning of Funan could not have occurred before the first century A.D. (p. 312).

Chapter xx (pp. 323-329) is concerned with the geographic location of Funan. Malleret feels that the best interpretation of those contemporary accounts which present any information on the whereabouts of Funan fits the Mekong Delta.

Chapter xxi (pp. 331-362) concerns the background of the population indigenous to the Mekong Delta. Bits of interesting information in this chapter are as follows: The common people apparently wore no clothing and many were tattooed. Judging from the little skeletal material recovered, there was great variety in physical type. Apparently on the basis of a very thick skull, Mme Genet-Varcin states (p. 337) that there was in this region a very primitive human type. Malleret does not mention whether Genet-Varcin considered the possibility that the hereditary diseases, thalassemia or Hemoglobin E, were responsible for this very thick skull. Considering the present-day differential distribution of these diseases in Southeast Asia, it would be very interesting to know something of their early historic distribution (see Gebhard Flatz, 'Hemoglobin E in South-East Asia,' *Filiation: Volumes of Southeast-Asian Studies*, Vol. 1 [1965]: pp. 91-106; Bangkok, The Siam Society). Seafood of all kinds was an important source of protein in the diet (pp. 344-46). Houses were made of wood, rested on piles, and were often decorated with carving (pp. 348-49). Finally, the position of women in early Funan society was higher than or at least equal to that of men (pp. 350-52). In closing this chapter, Malleret brings together the many similarities between artifacts found in the early levels of the Transbassac and those from all over Southeast Asia, indicating the wide contacts, both genetic and commercial, that prevailed at the time of the beginning of Funan.

Indian and Indo-Scythian impact on Funan is the subject of Chapter xxii. The subject of this and the following chapters is more recent than prehistoric times for this area, but since neighboring areas remained prehistoric for some time, the contacts between Funan and countries outside Southeast Asia are pertinent. Malleret submits that the original influence that generated Funan was Indian. He suggests that a line of Scythian royalty began to take over in Funan around 350 but was overthrown around 430 and Indian traditions were reinstituted (p. 367).

Chapter xxiii summarizes the evidence of contact with Greek and Roman sources and points out that this contact is much more apparent than in contact with China, even though Oc-Eo appears to have been a way-station in the trade between China and the Mediterranean. Oc-Eo and Funan, however, were more than passive recipients of wealth. Chapter xxiv presents the positive side, showing that Funan was a maritime and commercial power and Oc-Eo a craft center producing jewelry of gold and silver with precious and semi-precious stone (p. 410) and possibly also manufacturing glass beads. In seeking the sources of some of the decorative elements of this jewelry, Malleret mentions the swastika with its probable distant origin (p. 412) and notes that Oc-Eo shares this symbol with Arikmaidu (p. 414). While the swastika may have originated far to the west, its appearance in Southeast Asia probably occurred before the foundation of Funan. Indeed, I have seen a swastika incised on the lid of a burial jar from a site on the west coast of Palawan in the Philippines (excavated by Robert B. Fox of the National Museum of the Philippines). Unpublished, tentative dating would place this lid at two to three centuries B.C. While it is almost certain that Oc-Eo was one of the important ports in the east-west trade, nothing definitive has been found to demonstrate any regular exchange between Oc-Eo and Arikmaidu, another of the important trade ports (p. 415). Elements of design such as the swastika, beads, and jewelry found at Oc-Eo occur in several other locations in Southeast Asia (pp. 416-17), and several times Malleret mentions specific similarities between Oc-Eo and Kuala Selinsing on the west coast of Malaya. A further source for the wealth of Oc-Eo and Funan is the exceptional fertility of the land, which produced not only quantities of rice, but also, as mentioned in Chinese sources, fruits such as the banana and sugar cane.

The final chapter (xxv) is a long discussion which attempts to equate some of the names found in the early sources with present-day locations. The main argument is that Kattigara is probably present-day Cent Rues in the Transbassac. To me, the considerable energy spent in such research is largely wasted and academic at best. The data that must be derived from further excavation, clarifying the culture of Funan and its relationships, are much more important than the possible equating of an ancient name with a present-day location. Completing the book are nine appendices with technical details on some of the recovered artifacts, including both a quantitative chemical analysis and a spectrographic analysis of some of the glass beads. Most of the plates in Part II of this volume, like those in the other volumes, are excellent.

Volume IV does for the Cisbassac (the delta area east of the main stream of the Mekong) what the first three volumes did for the Transbassac. Following it is a 61-page index of the four volumes. Consulting the index for Volume IV, I found that it was not completely trustworthy for my purposes. Looking up 'préhistoire, préhistorique' I found that only a few of the prehistoric artifacts and/or sites referred to in Volume IV were listed. The same is true for 'haches.
à tenon’ which did not list a single shouldered ax/ 
adze from Volume IV, while many had been referred 
to in the text, and several pictured in the plates. The 
item ‘haches’ included several, but not all, of the 
shouldered adzes presented. From the index it 
would appear that the Cisbassac revealed little of 
prehistoric interest. Subjectively I had the feeling 
that more prehistoric (neolithic?) sites were reported 
for this considerably smaller area, where much less 
of the excavation and exploration were done by 
Malleret, than for the Transbassac.

The importance of these four volumes for the 
time span and area covered, and for Southeast Asia 
as a whole, cannot be overemphasized. It amazes me 
what Malleret was able to do under extremely difficult 
conditions during the Second World War. My 
strongest impression is a sense of excitement in 
anticipating the excavation to be done in the Mekong 
Delta once the present troubles are over. The treasure 
of data has been shown us; now we must examine this 
treasury as soon as possible.


Reviewed by RICHARD PEARSON, University of Hawaii

This popular bi-monthly journal published in 
Paris first appeared in 1964, and has now reached the 
eleventh volume [as of August, 1966]. A caption above 
the Table of Contents states that it embraces world 
arachology and all that concerns historical, artistic, 
and scientific research in the ground or in the sea. 
While the majority of articles pertain to classical 
arachology, the scope is indeed extensive and rather 
sophisticated. Of particular interest to readers of 
Asian Perspectives are the following articles: by 
George Coedes, ‘A La Recherche du Royaume de 
Dvaravati’ (No. 1, 1964); Otto Badrerg, ‘Nouvelles 
Sépultures Paléolithiques en USSR’ (No. 4, 1965); 
Edgar Knoblauch, ‘L'Architecture Islamique en 
Asie Centrale’ (No. 6, 1965); Jean Boisselier, 
‘Fouilles en Thaïlande’ (No. 7, 1965); and F.A. 
Khan, ‘Une Grande Aventure Humaine: Dans les 
Cites Morts de la Vaillée de l’Indus’ (No. 8, 1966). 
Number 10 (May-June, 1966) contains seven articles 
on the topic of medicine and archæology bearing 
highly original titles.

Well selected photographs and diagrams enhance 
the journal’s importance for reference and introducto­ 
ry teaching. While the word ‘treasures’ in the 
title emphasizes the popular appeal of the journal, 
the editors are careful to reiterate that treasures 
include objects of scientific interest as well as artistic 
value, and the contents manifest their intentions.