

# Ethnoarchaeology In Action

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Handbook of Archaeological Methods  
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Anthropology for Archaeology  
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ethnoarchaeology first developed as the study of ethnographic material culture from archaeological perspectives over the past half century it has expanded its scope especially to cultural and social anthropology both authors are leading practitioners and their theoretical perspective embraces both the processualism of the new archaeology and the post

processualism of the 1980s and 90s a case study approach enables a balanced global geographic and topical coverage including consideration of materials in french and german three introductory chapters discuss the subject and its history survey the theory and discuss field methods and ethics ten topical chapters consider formation processes subsistence the study of artefacts and style settlement systems site structure and architecture specialist craft production trade and exchange and mortuary practices and ideology ethnoarchaeology in action concludes with ethnoarchaeology s contributions actual and potential and with a look at its place within anthropology it is generously illustrated including many photographs of leading ethnoarchaeologists in action

ethnoarchaeology of shuwa arab settlements demonstrates the imperative need for ethnoarchaeology to include a deep sense of the history of the specific social group under analysis for its findings to truly impact archaeological thinking based on research from a long term archaeological and ethnoarchaeological project conducted in the northernmost part of cameroon augustin holl s new work probes the ethnic survival of the shuwa arab descendants of generations of pastoralists who migrated from arabia to the chad basin the book robustly engages macro issues connected to processes of sedentarization ethnic interaction in a multi ethnic setting and relations of power and dominion on the micro level the work deciphers clues for the cultural survival and later prosperity of the shuwa arab hidden in the material record of their daily settlement life this book will be of great interest to students of african history african studies archaeology ethnoarchaeology and ethnic and cultural studies seeking to understand how to successfully integrate history into the interpretation of the archaeological record

from two of the best known archaeological writers in the trade this outstanding resource provides a thorough survey of the key ideas in archaeology and how they impact on archaeological thinking and method clearly written and easy to follow archaeology the key concepts collates entries written specifically by field specialists and each entry offers a definition of the term its origins and development and all the major figures involved in the area the entries include thinking about landscape archaeology of cult and religion cultural evolution concepts of time urban societies the antiquity of humankind archaeology of gender feminist archaeology experimental archaeology multiregional evolution with guides to further reading extensive cross referencing and accessibly written for even beginner students this book is a superb guide for anyone studying teaching or with any interest in this fascinating subject

it has been clear for many years that the ways in which archaeology is practised have been a direct product of a particular set of social cultural and historical circumstances archaeology is always carried out in the present more recently however

many have begun to consider how archaeological techniques might be used to reflect more directly on the contemporary world itself how we might undertake archaeologies of as well as in the present this handbook is the first comprehensive survey of an exciting and rapidly expanding sub field and provides an authoritative overview of the newly emerging focus on the archaeology of the present and recent past in addition to detailed archaeological case studies it includes essays by scholars working on the relationships of different disciplines to the archaeology of the contemporary world including anthropology psychology philosophy historical geography science and technology studies communications and media ethnoarchaeology forensic archaeology sociology film performance and contemporary art this volume seeks to explore the boundaries of an emerging sub discipline to develop a tool kit of concepts and methods which are applicable to this new field and to suggest important future trajectories for research it makes a significant intervention by drawing together scholars working on a broad range of themes approaches methods and case studies from diverse contexts in different parts of the world which have not previously been considered collectively

in the evolution of ceramic production organization in a maya community dean e arnold continues his unique approach to ceramic ethnoarchaeology tracing the history of potters in ticul yucatán and their production space over a period of more than four decades this follow up to his 2008 work social change and the evolution of ceramic production and distribution uses narrative to trace the changes in production personnel and their spatial organization through the changes in production organization in ticul although several kinds of production units developed households were the most persistent units of production in spite of massive social change and the reorientation of pottery production to the tourist market entrepreneurial workshops government sponsored workshops and workshops attached to tourist hotels developed more recently but were short lived whereas pottery making households extended deep into the nineteenth century through this continuity and change intermittent crafting multi crafting and potters increased management of economic risk also factored into the development of the production organization in ticul illustrated with more than 100 images of production units the evolution of ceramic production organization in a maya community is an important contribution to the understanding of ceramic production scholars with interests in craft specialization craft production and demography as well as specialists in mesoamerican archaeology anthropology history and economy will find this volume especially useful

material culture the objects made by man provides the primary data from which archaeologists have to infer the economies technologies social organization and ritual practices of extinct societies the analysis and interpretation of material culture is therefore central to any concern with archaeological theory and methodology and in order to

understand better the relationship between material culture and human behaviour archaeologists need to draw upon models derived from the study of ethnographic societies first published in 1982 this book presents the results of a series of field investigations carried out in kenya zambia and the sudan into the archaeological remains and material culture of contemporary small scale societies and demonstrates the way in which objects are used as symbols within social action and within particular world views and ideologies

the publication in 1962 of lew binford s paper archaeology as anthropology is generally considered to mark the birth of processualism a critical turning point in american archaeology in the hands of binford and other young university of chicago graduates of the 1960s this new archaeology became the mainstream approach in the u s the realignment that the processualists proposed was so thorough that its effects are still being felt today predictably processualism also spun off a number of other isms several of which grew up to challenge its supremacy archaeology as a process traces the intellectual history of americanist archaeology in terms of the research groups that were at the forefront of these various approaches concentrating as much on the archaeologists as it does on method and theory thus setting it apart from other treatments published in the last fifteen years peppered with rare photographs of well known archaeologists in some interesting settings the book documents the swirl and excitement of archaeological controversy for the past forty years with over 1 600 references and an in depth treatment of all the major intellectual approaches the contributors examine how archaeology is conducted the ins and outs of how various groups work to promote themselves and how personal ambition and animosities can function to further rather than retard the development of the discipline

concentrates on the definition scope and methodological problems of the discipline of ethnoarchaeology with special reference to india written by a group of distinguished scholars this book includes essays which deal with crucial issues such as relevance of ethnohistoric accounts and the role of analogy as an explanatory tool

dean e arnold made ten visits to ticul yucatan mexico witnessing the changes in transportation infrastructure the use of piped water and the development of tourist resorts even in this context of social change and changes in the demand for pottery most of the potters in 1997 came from the families that had made pottery in 1965 this book traces changes and continuities in that population of potters in the demand and distribution of pottery and in the procurement of clay and temper paste composition forming and firing

the importance of context has been extensively discussed in recent years this volume attempts to address the

fragmentation and misconceptions that have developed around context in archaeology highlighting the common threads that link together varying contextual perspectives the first part of the book examines the concept of archaeological context by offering a critical assessment of its historical development the second section presents a number of case studies and the third section discusses the management of archaeological material finally part four takes the discussion on context further setting the content of the book in a wider perspective

this study is divided into two main parts part one presents the ethnoarchaeological study that has been conducted on late sixth to fifth millennium bc pottery production in northern jordan the ajlun mountain area it includes the location and environmental setting of the study area the context of pottery production with reference to potters socio economical contexts and their identity it also includes the context of pottery production and a description of the technological traditions that have been identified among the potters chapters 4 and 5 have been devoted to measuring and explaining the causes of technological similarities as well as differences in the potters output part 2 presents the archaeological study it includes a description of the site of abu hamid and its environmental setting moreover it presents the chronology and the sequence of occupation at the site as well as the spatial and temporal contexts of the sampled pottery sherds further it presents morphological and metric descriptions of the pottery assemblages chapters 8 and 9 are devoted to the identification of archaeological pottery forming techniques and the measuring of the technical variations among them the last chapter presents the explanations of these technical variations

the handbook of archaeological methods comprises 37 articles by leading archaeologists on the key methods used by archaeologists in the field in analysis in theory building and in managing cultural resources the book is destined to become the key reference work for archaeologists and their advanced students on contemporary archaeological methods

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