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in the early 1880 s dissension arose among the muslim and christian inhabitants of al karak east of the dead sea up to that time the believers of both religions had lived peacefully together in the city problems arose and the christians decided to move they were allowed to settle at madaba the government gave permission to build churches but exclusively on those spots where churches had existed in antiquity the immigrants removed the debris from still partially visible foundation walls

of the ancient churches during this work they discovered in 1884 a marvelous mosaic map it had been part of the floor of a large cathedral the surviving fragments were roughly repaired and incorporated in the floor of the new st george s church it took nearly a hundred years and many admirers to have the map finally restored this book is an introductory guide and can be a help to different kinds of people such as visitors students and professors teaching first level archaeology bible and umwelt numbers on the sketch included in the guide refer the reader to appropriate information in the booklet a colour reproduction of the map and a black white sketch is included

this book provides a comprehensive account of mosaics in the ancient world from the early pebble mosaics of greece to the pavements of christian churches in the east separate chapters in part i cover the principal regions of the roman empire in turn in order to bring out the distinctive characteristics of their mosaic workshops questions of technique and production of the role of mosaics in architecture and of their social functions and implications are treated in part ii the book discusses both well known works and recent finds and balances consideration of exceptional masterpieces against standard workshop production two main lines of approach are followed throughout first the role of mosaics as a significant art form which over an unbroken span illuminates the evolution of pictorial style better than any comparable surviving medium and secondly their character as works of artisan production closely linked to their architectural context

this book examines the rich corpus of mosaics created in crete during the roman and late antique eras it provides essential information on the style iconography and chronology of the material as well as discussion of the craftspeople who created them and the technologies they used the contextualized mosaic evidence also reveals a new understanding of roman and late antique crete it helps shed light on the processes by which crete became part of the roman empire its subsequent christianization and the pivotal role the island played in the mediterranean network of societies during these periods this book provides an original approach to the study of mosaics and an innovative method of presenting a diachronic view of provincial cretan society

in recent years funding for the conservation of cultural heritage has become increasingly difficult to obtain and this trend shows no sign of changing significantly in the foreseeable future the twelfth triennial meeting of the international committee for the conservation of mosaics held in sardinia in october 2014 focused on the theme of cost broadly considered relating specifically to the preservation and presentation of the world s mosaic heritage this handsome abundantly illustrated volume provides a comprehensive record of the conference the volume s sixty seven papers and posters comprising contributions from more than one hundred leading experts in the field reflect the conference s principal themes cost methods of survey and documentation conservation and management education and training backing materials and techniques presentation and display and case studies papers are presented either in english french or italian there are abstracts in english and either french or italian for all entries the volume will be of interest to conservators site managers and others responsible for conserving the mosaic heritage especially in these challenging times

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