

# pca

postclassicalarchaeologies

volume 1/2011

**SAP Società Archeologica s.r.l.**

Mantova 2011



#### EDITORS

**Gian Pietro Brogiolo** (chief editor)  
Università degli Studi di Padova  
gpbrogio@unipd.it

**Alexandra Chavarria** (executive editor)  
Università degli Studi di Padova  
chavarria@unipd.it

#### ADVISORY BOARD

**Giuliano Volpe** (Università degli Studi di Foggia)

**Marco Valenti** (Università degli Studi di Siena)

#### ASSISTANT EDITOR

**Francesca Benetti** (Università degli Studi di Padova)

#### EDITORIAL BOARD

**Andrea Breda** (Soprintendenza BB.AA. della Lombardia)

**Alessandro Canci** (Università degli Studi di Padova)

**Caterina Giostra** (Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano)

**Susanne Hakenbeck** (University of Southampton)

**Vasco La Salvia** (Università degli Studi G. D'Annunzio di Chieti e Pescara)

**Alberto Leon** (Universidad de Córdoba)

**Tamara Lewit** (Trinity College - University of Melbourne)

**Jose M. Martin Civantos** (Universidad de Granada)

**Andrew Reynolds** (University College London)

**Mauro Rottoli** (Laboratorio di archeobiologia dei Musei Civici di Como)

Post-Classical Archaeologies (PCA) is an independent, international, peer-reviewed journal devoted to the communication of post-classical research. PCA publishes a variety of manuscript types, including original research, discussions and review articles. Topics of interest include all subjects that relate to the science and practice of archaeology, particularly multidisciplinary research which use specialist methodologies, such as zooarchaeology, paleobotanics, archeometallurgy, archeometry, spatial analysis, as well as other experimental methodologies applied to the archaeology of post-classical Europe.

Submission of a manuscript implies that the work has not been published before, that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere and that it has been approved by all co-authors. Each author must clear reproduction rights for any photos or illustration, credited to a third party that he wishes to use (including content found on the Internet). Post-Classical Archaeologies is published once a year in May, starting in 2011. Manuscripts should be submitted to [editor@postclassical.it](mailto:editor@postclassical.it) accordance to the guidelines for contributors in the webpage <http://www.postclassical.it>

For subscription and all other information visit the web site <http://www.postclassical.it>

#### DESIGN

Paolo Vedovetto (Università degli Studi di Padova)

#### PUBLISHER

SAP Società Archeologica s.r.l.  
Viale Risorgimento 14 - 46100 Mantova  
[www.archeologica.it](http://www.archeologica.it)

#### PRINTED BY

La Serenissima, Contrà Santa Corona 5, Vicenza

Authorised by Mantua court no. 4/2011 of April 8, 2011

		<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGES</b>
<b>EDITORIAL</b>			5
<b>RESEARCH</b>			
<b>C. Giostra</b>	Goths and Lombards in Italy: the potential of archaeology with respect to ethnocultural identification		7
<b>S. Hakenbeck</b>	Roman or barbarian? Shifting identities in early medieval cemeteries in Bavaria		37
<b>V. La Salvia</b>	Tradizioni tecniche, strutture economiche e identità etniche e sociali fra <i>Barbaricum</i> e Mediterraneo nel periodo delle Grandi Migrazioni		67
<b>V. Fronza</b>	Edilizia in materiali deperibili nell'alto medioevo italiano: metodologie e casi di studio per un'agenda della ricerca		95
<b>C. Negrelli</b>	Potenzialità e limiti delle ricerche sugli indicatori ceramici nelle regioni altoadriatiche e padane tra tardo antico e alto medioevo		139
<b>F. Cantini</b>	Dall'economia complessa al complesso di economie (Tuscia V-X secolo)		159
<b>F. Salvadori</b>	Zooarcheologia e controllo delle risorse economiche locali nel medioevo		195
<b>A. Colecchia, L. Casagrande, F. Cavulli, L. Mura, M. Nebbia</b>	Paesaggi medievali del Trentino (progetto APSAT)		245
<b>V. Caracuta</b>	Ambiente naturale e strategie agroalimentari in Puglia settentrionale tra tardo antico e alto medioevo: l'esempio di Faragola (FG)		275
<b>A.M. Grasso</b>	Analisi archeobotaniche a Supersano (LE): una comunità autosufficiente?		297
<b>L. Spera</b>	Le forme della cristianizzazione nel quadro degli assetti topografico-funzionali di Roma tra V e IX secolo		309
<b>E. Destefanis</b>	Archeologia dei monasteri altomedievali tra acquisizioni raggiunte e nuove prospettive di ricerca		349
<b>C. Ebanista</b>	Le chiese tardoantiche e altomedievali della Campania: vecchi scavi, nuovi orientamenti		383

## RETROSPECT

- G.P. Brogiolo** Alle origini dell'archeologia medievale in Italia 419
- S. Gelichi** Fortunate coincidenze? 424
- G. Vannini** Elio Conti e l'archeologia medievale 431
- G.P. Brogiolo** Formazione di un archeologo medievista tra Veneto e Lombardia 441
- H. Blake** Professionalizzazione e frammentazione: ricordando l'archeologia medievale nel lungo decennio 1969-1981 452
- R. Hodges** Introducing medieval archaeology to Molise, 1977-1980 481
- D. Andrews** Remembering medieval archaeology in Italy in the 1970s 493
- B. Ward-Perkins** A personal (and very patchy) account of medieval archaeology in the early 1970s in northern Italy 496

## PROJECT

- J. Baker, S. Brookes, A. Reynolds** - Landscapes of Governance. Assembly sites in England 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> centuries 499

## REVIEWS

503

Carlo Citter, Antonia Arnoldus-Huyzendveld, *Usa del suolo e sfruttamento delle risorse nella pianura grossetana nel medioevo. Verso una storia del parcellario e del paesaggio agrario* - by **G. P. Brogiolo**

Miguel Angel Tabales Rodriguez, *El Alcázar de Sevilla. Reflexiones sobre su origen y transformación durante la Edad Media. Memoria de investigación arqueológica 2000-2005* - by **J. M<sup>e</sup> Martín Civantos**

Andrew Reynolds, *Anglo-Saxon deviant burial Customs* - by **P. Marcato**

Giuliano Volpe, Maria Turchiano (eds), *Faragola 1. Un insediamento rurale nella Valle del Carapelle. Ricerche e studi* - by **M. Valenti**

Armelle Alduc-Le Bagousse, *Inhumations de prestige ou prestige de l'inhumation? Expression du pouvoir dans l'au-delà (IV<sup>e</sup>-XV<sup>e</sup> siècle)* - by **A. Canci**

Juan Antonio Quirós Castillo (ed), *The Archaeology of early medieval villages in Europe* - by **A. Chavarria Arnau**

## REMEMBERING MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN ITALY IN THE 1970S

DAVID ANDREWS

The 1970s are now a long time ago. It is a *cliché* that the past is a foreign country. Memory becomes fragmented and deceptive, recall incomplete. I had always been interested in history. The Classics introduced me to archaeology, which I saw as an additional source for the historical period. I was interested in what material culture could tell us about the historical past, but also in the question of how we would interpret it if only the archaeological record survived. I was also from early on interested in architecture and the development of towns.

As an undergraduate studying history, I worked on Tim Potter's excavation at Narce, a Faliscan site in Lazio north of Rome. This brought me into contact with the British School at Rome, where a total landscape study, the South Etruria Survey, had been set up by the director, John Ward-Perkins. This included medieval sites in its scope as well as Roman and earlier ones, and had seen the involvement of David Whitehouse, who did a PhD on medieval pottery and directed several excavations for the South Etruria survey, notably Castel Porciano. To a medievalist, the wealth of towers, fortified villages and medieval buildings in the Lazio countryside was fascinating. It was also apparent that they were not very well understood. I was prompted by this into writing a PhD thesis on medieval fortifications. In 1972-73 I had a scholarship at the British School at Rome, and in 1973 directed an excavation at the earthquake damaged town of Tuscania, as well as carrying out a study of its walls. John Ward-Perkins had spotted the research potential of this evacuated walled city. The excavations focused on the '*pozzi*' or grain storage pits which had been infilled with rubbish, including large quantities of Renaissance ceramics and artefacts, and also rather inconclusively on a fortress known as the Rivellino (Andrews 1975). The work at Tuscania included recording of the more notable buildings, and was enlarged into a wider study of domestic architecture in central Italy (Andrews 1982).

In the course of my research, I became diverted into organising and running excavation projects. This was an exciting time in the development of archaeological practice. In England people were striving to improve recording systems, which were not standardised. There were three main developments in this process: the so-called Harris matrix, developed by Eduard Harris in the context of the Winchester excavations directed by Martin Biddle; the development of the single context recording system in the City of London by the Department of Urban Archaeology at the Museum of London; and the use of *pro forma* recording or context sheets, which were developed by several different archaeological units and which remain different today though following a similar general pattern. In both England and Italy,

medieval archaeology was a new discipline, though much newer in Italy. The Society for Medieval Archaeology was founded in 1959. "*Archeologia Medievale*" was first published in 1974. Since the 1950s and the 1960s, excavations in England had been largely staffed by volunteers, often students, rather than workmen, a system which made archaeology more inclusive and democratic and gave the potential for better recording. This has ultimately led to the emergence of a professional class of excavators, in England at times almost to the exclusion of volunteers. It seemed important to conduct excavations in this way in Italy if standards were to be raised and the new methods adopted, particularly as the remains of the medieval period would often be more ephemeral than those typically associated with classical archaeology. This could only be done by working with Italians, rather than remaining within the ambit of the British School. Hugo Blake, who had been researching in Italy longer than me put me in contact with Italian medievalists, notably Tiziano Mannoni and the *Gruppo Ricerche Ligure*, and Sergio Nepoti in Bologna. Hugo asked if I would help complete the excavation he had begun with Tiziano Mannoni on the Colle di San Silvestro in Genova. Denys Pringle (now professor at Cardiff University, and also introduced to Italian archaeology through the British School) and I undertook four seasons of excavation there from 1974-77, excavating a well defined sequence important for the bishop's palace and the ceramic finds published by Denys (Andrews, Pringle 1977).

In 1975, I spent a few weeks working with Nando Bonora helping Sergio Nepoti with the excavation at San Giorgio in Poggiale in Bologna. In 1976, Bryan Ward-Perkins and I directed a season of excavations there with Sergio Nepoti, an operation that was genuinely Anglo-Italian. This site was important for the Renaissance burials which were found, accompanied by dress fittings and jewellery. Bryan Ward-Perkins was of course also active in medieval archaeology, another historian brought to it through classical archaeology and the British School, and part of the same network, working at the Torre Civica in Pavia, and then at Luni. The Genova and Pavia excavations were important contributions to the early volumes of "*Archeologia Medievale*".

As well as this small group of medievalists, important cross-fertilisation of archaeological techniques was taking place across the Mediterranean at Carthage where the Italian team led by Carandini and the English team by Henry Hurst had close relations. This situation is an example of how cultural diffusion can occur in ways that might not be at all predictable.

At the London Institute of Archaeology, I met the prehistorian Francesco Fedele, whose approach to archaeological technique was much influenced by contact with Americans. Through him I became involved in the Orco Valley Project in Piedmont and in encouraging this to take on a medieval dimen-

sion. Here in a collaborative project we investigated an abandoned hillside hamlet which proved to be more recent in date than it looked, and were also able to propose a model for upland settlement in the valley (Andrews, Cima 1984). We went on to work with Fedele at the castle site at Breno in the Valcamonica, discovering a church which belonged to an earlier phase of the castle.

In the early 1980s, I worked with the *Soprintendenza Archeologica della Lombardia* and the *Cooperativa Archeologica Lombarda* on the piazza del Duomo excavations in Milan (Andrews 1991, 1993). The excavation team was genuinely multinational. Many of the English had worked at the Museum of London's Department of Urban Archaeology. The site was excavated using single context recording, and was I believe important in disseminating these methods in Italy.

From the middle of the 1980s I returned to England. I now feel too remote from developments in Italy to be able to evaluate whether this work achieved anything, a judgement which anyway should be left to others.

- D. ANDREWS 1975, *Gli scavi a Tuscania (1973)*, "Archeologia Medievale", II, pp. 352-359.
- D. ANDREWS 1982, *Medieval domestic architecture in Northern Lazio; Underground grain storage in Central Italy; The walls of Tuscania. A study in medieval urban topography and defence*, in D. ANDREWS, J. OSBORNE, D. WHITEHOUSE, *Medieval Lazio. Studies in architecture, painting and ceramics. Papers in Italian Archaeology III* (BAR S125), Oxford, pp. 1-235.
- D. ANDREWS 1984, *Castelli e incastellamento nell'Italia centrale: la problematica archeologica*, in R. COMBA, A. SETTIA (eds), *Castelli. Storia e archeologia*, Torino, pp. 123-136.
- D. ANDREWS 1991, *Lo scavo di piazza Duomo: età medioevale e moderna*, in D. CAPORUSSO (ed), *Scavi MM3. Ricerche di archeologia urbana a Milano durante la costruzione della Linea 3 della Metropolitana, 1982-90*, 1991, Milano, pp. 163-209.
- D. ANDREWS 1993, *Aspetti urbanistici e cultura materiale, secoli XI-XIII*, in *Milano e la Lombardia in età comunale*, Milano, pp. 202-205.
- D. ANDREWS, M. CIMA 1984, *Dal villaggio alla malga. Primo contributo per un'archeologia degli insediamenti storici in valle Orco (scavi a Uvera e Pian Cravere)*, Cuornè.
- D. ANDREWS, D. PRINGLE 1977, *Lo scavo dell'area sud del convento di San Silvestro a Genova*, "Archeologia Medievale", IV, pp. 47-99.