

# The Archaeology of Mendip: 500,000 years of change and continuity

Reviews

today (wild boar and red deer), b) wild species that were once hunted but are now extinct in Britain (such as wild horse, aurochs, elk, brown bear, wolf, lynx and beaver), c) domestic mammals (horse, cattle, cat and donkey) and d) deliberately or unconsciously introduced mammals that now live in Britain as wild species (fallow deer, feral cat, rabbit, house mouse and black rat). Extinct large birds and deliberately introduced birds, of which the pheasant became feral, are discussed in the next two chapters. Freshwater fish, land and terrestrial molluscs and insects are considered in the last three chapters.

The chapters on the wild mammals, birds and fishes that disappeared from Britain make clear that the main cause of extinction was (and is) the destruction of the habitat by humans, though hunting was a factor in the extinction of a few species, such as the beaver. Most of the country came into use as meadows, arable fields, cities, roads and dams, and became polluted. The introduction of rabbit, pheasant and carp into Britain was anthropogenic as well, as these species were introduced as food for humans. The rise in temperature in the last decades, at least partly caused by human action, resulted in the introduction of various new mollusc and insect species from the south.

Improvements in air and water quality, reintroduction programmes and the establishment of nature reserves—especially when closely connected to each other on a European scale in the Pan-European Ecological Network (PEEN)—has already resulted in the return of wild boar, cranes, spoonbills and white-tailed sea eagles in Britain. In this respect it is a pity that the Dutch government wishes to postpone the implementation of their part of the PEEN programme.

Derek Walden mentions in his concluding chapter that the overviews in this book were largely owed to increased research and better dating methods. He predicts that a combination of archaeological, ancient DNA and historical studies will reveal much more about animal populations and the role humans played in interacting with them in the past.

The book ends with a most useful index. Two small criticisms are offered here: first, some paragraphs are far too long, and the editors should have cut them. Secondly, a table of geological and archaeological periods, with start and end dates would have been useful to readers not familiar with archaeological terminology. The book is highly recommended to all people interested in both the history and the future

of wildlife in Britain, which is highly dependent on humans.

WIETSKE PRUMMEL  
Groningen Institute of Archaeology, University of Groningen, The Netherlands  
(Email: w.prummel@rug.nl)

JODIE LEWIS (ed.), *The archaeology of Mendip: 500,000 years of continuity and change*, xv+324 pages, 254 b&w & colour illustrations, 22 tables, 2011. Oxford: Heritage (imprint of Oxbow); 978-1-905223-28-2 hardback £35.



Compared to many other parts of Europe, students of the British Isles can draw upon a wealth of local and regional studies, which draw together evidence from across the range of human occupation of the landscape. The volume under review is another welcome addition to the literature, which joins other detailed multi-period studies of the south-western peninsula, for example of Dartmoor, Exmoor and the Somerset Levels. There is not space in the context of this review to discuss the findings of each of the 18 chapters and thus a few highlights are considered.

The Mendip region, south of Bristol in England, comprises a distinctive topography characterised mainly by Carboniferous limestone, which supports a rich biodiversity. Human settlement is represented by substantial archaeological evidence, including some of the most extensive finds of Late Pleistocene fauna and material culture from the British Isles. Roger Jacobi and Andrew Currant's detailed review of these finds reveals a largely poorly recovered archaeological record for this period, but one which is nevertheless of outstanding importance.

There is also important Mesolithic archaeology in the form of burials and material culture, which have seen renewed interest in recent years and the paper by Jodie Lewis reviews this work. Her contribution also covers the Neolithic period in the region and highlights a series of monuments of varying form, many of which lack precise dating, not least the well-known Priddy Circles, a group of four circular

1500

The Archaeology of Mendip: , years of change and continuity Hardcover The Mendip Hills in Somerset, south-west England, have an archaeological. Destined to become a standard reference on the subject and highly likely to be consulted by cavers That this is an academic book is almost hidden by its., English, Conference Proceedings edition: The archaeology of Mendip: , years of change and continuity / edited by Jodie Lewis. Lewis, Jodie. Lewis, Jodie () Introduction to "The Archaeology of Mendip: , Years of Continuity and Change". In: The archaeology of Mendip. The Archaeology of Mendip: Years of Continuity and Change. Front Cover. Jodie Lewis. Heritage, - Excavations (Archaeology) / England / Mendip. Author: Lewis, Jodie [Browse]; Format: Book; Language: English; Published/ Created: Oxford, UK: Heritage, Description: xvi, p.: ill., maps ; 27 cm. The archaeology of Mendip: years of continuity and change. xvi+ pages, b&w & colour illustrations, 22 tables. Oxford. Type: Article. Title: The archaeology of Mendip: , years of continuity and change. DOI: /SX Keywords: Science & Technology. Free Online Library: The archaeology of Mendip; years of change and continuity. (Brief article, Book review) by "Reference & Research Book News";. Find great deals for The Archaeology of Mendip: years of change and continuity by Heritage Marketing & Publications Ltd (Hardback, ). Shop with . THE Archaeology of Mendip, subtitled , years of continuity and change, takes a broad look across the region through the eyes of twenty contributors who . The Archaeology of Mendip: , Years of continuity and Change. ed. / Jodie Lewis. Oxford: Oxbow Books, p. Research output: Chapter. The Archaeology of Mendip: Years of Continuity and Change by Jodie Lewis (Editor) starting at \$ The Archaeology of Mendip: Years of. The archaeology of Mendip: , years of continuity and change, xvi-f pages, b&w & colour illustrations, 22 rabies. Oxford: Heritage (imprint. More recently the publication, The Archaeology of Mendip: , years of continuity and change (Lewis a) was the first to consider the archaeology of the. Mullan, G. J., Review: The Archaeology of Mendip: , Years of Continuity and Change edited by Jodie Lewis. UBSS Proceedings, 25(2), pp Shop our inventory for The Archaeology of Mendip by Jodie Lewis with fast free The Archaeology of Mendip: , Years of Continuity and Change. bastelfischlein.com The Archaeology of Mendip: Years of Continuity and Change by Jodie Lewis [] - Condition: Brand New: A new. The Archaeology of Mendip: , Years of Continuity and Change. The four-year Caldecote archaeological project emerged during a massive salvage. Archaeological rock art finds have been made at Long Hole in Cheddar Gorge, the title The Archaeology of Mendip: , Years of Change and Continuity. Costen, MD, , 'Early Settlement around the Mendips: Place-Names and ( eds) The Archaeology of Mendip: , Years of continuity and Change. Lewis, J. () Excavations east of Blackmoor, Charterhouse, Mendip Hills, Somerset. The Archaeology of Mendip: , years of continuity and change . Davies, P () Snails: archaeology and landscape change. Oxbow Books The archaeology of Mendip: , years of continuity and change. Heritage.

[\[PDF\] Hand Luggage: A Memoir in Verse](#)

[\[PDF\] The First Twenty Quarter Horses: Their Lives and Legacies](#)

[\[PDF\] Empire and Beyond](#)

[\[PDF\] Hide and Seek \(Mystery Club\)](#)

[\[PDF\] Pushing the Limits: New Adventures in Engineering](#)

[\[PDF\] Measure, Shape and Space: Entry Level 1 \(Skillbuilders\)](#)

[\[PDF\] Mirror Gazing: Predict the future. Look into the past. Unlock your creativity](#)