

span an impressive spectrum of material. It is pointless to list each contribution in a review of this kind, but turn to the index and even the first text column gives some flavour of the varied subjects, themes, periods and cultures discussed. There appear in it Aachen, 'Abd al-Malik, Adalbert, Aed, King of Uí Dróna, Agen (Lot-et-Garonne), Alberti, Alpirsbach (Germany), Alexander, Bishop of Lincoln, al-Jazuli, Amsoldigen, Amsterdam, Apelles and Yasir Arafat.

The contents of the book could also be read as a snapshot of the state of architectural history at the present moment. In this respect, a positive reading of the essays would emphasise the spectrum of methodological approaches reflected in the essays. The empirical study of buildings and their fabric is well represented here, for example, with the discussion of particular buildings and building types from barrel-vaulted churches in late medieval Scotland to the facades of baroque Roman churches. There is, however, also apparent in these essays a willingness to embrace more theoretical and interdisciplinary approaches. In these latter respects John Onions's essay on 'neuroarchaeology and the origins of architecture' is particularly intriguing. To a quite startling degree its fascinating analysis stands or falls on the reader's reception of its premises. Lastly, the geographical scope of the volume, spanning the Mediterranean and Europe, is impressive. Overall, it is inspiring to see the confident treatment of such disparate material in one volume.

There is to my mind, however, one niggling concern with the overarching picture of the discipline that this volume presents. It is the absence of the proselytising voice. Reading this volume, I find it impossible to forget that medieval architectural history is fighting for its survival as a university subject. It would be absurd to expect this festschrift to be aimed at a general audience, but I feel it is ultimately a volume that will find a professional and specialist readership that picks out individual essays according to their needs. That is ironic when so many of the contributors were themselves so impressed by Eric Fernie's inspiring teaching, and his ability to articulate complex ideas to a varied audience. But then, to my certain knowledge, many of the contributors themselves have passed on the flame to students of their own in the seminar room and lecture theatre. This book will not recruit a new generation of architectural historians, but it is to be hoped that its authors can.

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Money, Prices and Wages: essays in honour of Professor Nicholas Mayhew. Edited by MARTIN ALLEN and D'MARIS COFFMAN. Pp xiv + 284, b&w ills, tables and graphs. Palgrave Studies in the History of Finance, Basingstoke and New York, 2015. ISBN 9781137314019. £75 (hbk).

In the course of his long and distinguished career at the Ashmolean Museum and the University of Oxford, Nicholas Mayhew has established a reputation as one of the foremost authorities on medieval monetary history and numismatics. His numerous publications span a wide variety of topics and time periods, and include both specialist academic studies and works written for a more popular audience, such as his history of the British pound sterling, published by Penguin (Mayhew 1999). In particular, he is perhaps most celebrated for his pioneering work in the application of modern economic theory to historical data. It is therefore fitting that this essay collection honouring his work is published in the series Palgrave Studies in the History of Finance, which emphasises both the equal contribution of historians, economists and finance specialists to the analysis of past economies, and the relevance of this topic to the present day.

Mayhew's wide-ranging interests are reflected in the ambitious scope of this volume, which contains thirteen essays on subjects ranging from the Domesday Book to twentieth-century UK monetary policy, although the majority of contributions deal with the medieval period. The authors come from a variety of academic backgrounds, and consequently use a number of different methodological approaches drawn from the disciplines of history, economics, finance and numismatics. The various methodologies adopted by the contributors in part account for the varying scope of the essays, which include large-scale archaeological surveys and applications of economic theory as well as more detailed regional and archival studies. The inter-disciplinary nature of the collection means that, for most readers, some elements will be difficult to follow; many historians, for example, may have difficulty in understanding the full implications of the economic models. However, several of the essays serve as a useful illustration of the benefits of using economic theory in historical analysis.

In their introduction to the volume, the editors begin by asserting that 'Nick Mayhew's most important contribution to monetary history has been to apply the Fisher Equation to the

medieval economy to further the debate about the roles of population and monetary growth in driving prices and wages' (p 1). (For those readers less familiar with the theoretical background, it is worth mentioning a potential confusion over terminology here. The Fisher Equation is also known as the Quantity Theory of Money; the latter term is used elsewhere in the volume and by Mayhew himself in his lectures on the subject given to the Royal Numismatic Society between 2010 and 2013 (and which were subsequently published in the *Numismatic Chronicle*: Mayhew 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013). Quantity Theory, in a nutshell, suggests that in an economy there is a causal relationship between the money supply and its circulation on the one hand, and prices and output (usually measured by GDP) on the other; so, for example, if there is an increase in the supply of currency, prices will rise. This theory underpins the emphasis in Mayhew's work on the centrality of the money supply (its quantity, quality and distribution) to the medieval economy, and many of these essays are concerned with this idea and its implications. Martin Allen examines extensive new data on single coin finds from the tenth to the sixteenth centuries, suggesting a reinterpretation of the period following the Black Death as one of heightened monetary activity. Chapters by Phillipp Schofield, Pamela Nightingale and Chris Briggs reconsider the role of credit in the medieval economy, its relationship to the money supply, and the importance of regional variation in the way these interacted. Drawing on a range of literary and documentary material, James Davis places these developments in their social and cultural context by examining the moral values that governed the use of money and credit in the medieval period. The final chapters of the volume turn to later time periods, but display a strong thematic link with earlier contributions. The contemporary relevance of the issues discussed within the volume is underlined by Nicholas Dimsdale's use of Quantity Theory to examine monetary trends in the UK since 1870, in which he concludes that the expansion in credit since the 1980s was one of the driving forces behind the financial crisis of 2007–8.

One of the key themes to emerge from this collection concerns historical methodology. Several of the contributors discuss the inherent difficulties in attempting to establish meaningful relationships between historical variables within complex economic systems, and the potential for models derived from economic theory to provide a solution to this problem. In particular, Mark and Catherine Casson address this issue, suggesting

that econometric analysis can be a useful tool in determining the difference between correlation and causation in historical data. While not every historian might wish to apply these methods, publications such as this are to be applauded for drawing attention to the possibilities they open up.

Mayhew, N 1999. *Sterling: the rise and fall of a currency*, Penguin Press, London

Mayhew, N 2010. 'The President's Address, 15 June 2010. The Quantity Theory of Money: 1. The money supply', *Numismatic Chronicle*, **170**, 525–31

Mayhew, N 2011. 'The President's Address, 21 June 2011. The Quantity Theory of Money: 2. Prices', *Numismatic Chronicle*, **171**, 519–24

Mayhew, N 2012. 'The President's Address, 19 June 2012. The Quantity Theory of Money: 3. Velocity', *Numismatic Chronicle*, **172**, 397–403

Mayhew, N 2013. 'The President's Address, 18 June 2013. The Quantity Theory of Money: 4. Transactions', *Numismatic Chronicle*, **173**, 567–72

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The Oxford Dictionary of Architecture. Edited by JAMES STEVENS CURL and SUSAN WILSON, 3rd edn. 240mm. Pp xxiii + 1,017, more than 260 b&w ills. Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2015. ISBN 9780199674985. £45 (hbk).

Curl's *Dictionary* was first published in 1999: sixteen years on, the third edition is substantially enlarged and even more useful. Some of the credit must go to his co-author, Dr Susan Wilson, who has contributed new entries on landscape architecture. *Battle-gardens* and *snail-mounts* are now elucidated, alongside *Bengal cottage* and *zecca*.

The sheer quantity of entries is remarkable. They cover technical terms (often of a profound obscurity), stylistic handles, construction methods, building types, materials, symbols and a very wide range indeed of biographical entries. A random test of five middling or obscure seventeenth-century English architects and masons scored 100 per cent – each one was written up. Some Fellows may be familiar with most of the entries, but few will fail to make new discoveries. A *margin-draft* is the 'dressed band the width of a chisel all around the face of an