

connection of Christian centres of worship and ancient water cults The Emperor Justinian is the object of two separate studies that shed light on Justinian's religious legislation and church policy, and on the Christianization of the Empire in the age of Justinian.

*Arja Karivieri*

STEPHEN WASS: *The Amateur Archaeologist*. Batsford Ltd, London 1992. 160 pp. GBP 14.99.

Mainly the title of this book roused my interest. My suspicions were plentiful: Yet another Indiana-Jones-Wanna-Be writing to other Indiana-Jones-Wanna-Bes. Fortunately I was quickly proved wrong. Stephen Wass is a professional writer, there is no doubt about it.

Wass describes the field of archaeology as an open ground where everybody interested can and should make a contribution. He gives some flamboyant examples of highly respected amateurs including himself. In England the situation seems to be quite different from other countries. The abundance of ancient sites and the enormous amount of data no doubt leaves room for so called amateurs to become scholars, but the question rises, are they amateurs anymore? Archaeology as a discipline includes an enormous amount of different theories, models and philosophical constructions, e.g. in the system of classification, not to mention the overwhelming amount of artefactual material. It is very hard to master it as a hobby.

The best part of the book is no doubt the most professional depiction of different field survey methods. For a beginner they might cause some blur but for an experienced fieldworker they are essentially invaluable. Wass really knows his techniques.

The warnings that Wass offers for those who have never been on an archaeological dig are most useful and informative. Nevertheless the techniques of an excavation are not so highly refined in reality as Wass claims. I wish everything would be done as Wass describes.

As a whole *The Amateur Archaeologist* is a very entertaining, somewhat meticulous and highly recommendable book for all readers interested in or working with archaeology. The Further Reading appendix is very useful and the list of useful addresses is a blessing. Anyhow, anyone who adds *The Bluffers Guide to Archaeology* to his or her references really deserves some credit.

*Esa Mikkola*