

nyme, die über Jahrhunderte oder sogar noch länger unverändert blieben, auf römische Senatoren zurückgehen würden. Positiv wertet auch G. Alföldy die Tragweite der prosopographischen Forschung auf der sozialhistorischen Ebene, was nicht verwundern kann, denn Alföldy behandelt die Zeit von Mark Aurel, für welche unsere Quellen besonders ergiebig sind. P. Leunissen behandelt in seinem Beitrag die *homines novi* und die Ergänzungen des Senats, ohne die methodischen Probleme zu verschweigen.

"Last but not least" sei der abschließende Beitrag von Werner Eck genannt, wo in musterhafter Weise mit einigen Beispielen gezeigt wird, wie prosopographisches Material methodisch durchzuarbeiten ist, ehe es für die historische Forschung voll verwertbar ist.

Zusammenfassend kann festgestellt werden, daß der vorliegende Band für die prosopographische Forschung wegen der Vielfalt seines Inhalts zweifelsohne äußerst wertvoll sein wird. Aber wie dieser Band die Grenzen und Möglichkeiten der prosopographischen Methode zeigt, so zeigt er vielleicht auch die Grenzen der Möglichkeiten, die ein Veranstalter eines Kolloquiums hat, wenn es darum geht, die Teilnehmer auf ein bestimmtes Thema hin auszurichten.

*Christer Bruun*

RICHARD P. SALLER: *Patriarchy, property and death in the Roman family*. Cambridge Studies in Population, Economy and Society in Past Time 25. Cambridge UP 1994. ISBN 0-521-32603-6. 249 p. GBP 35.00.

This book integrates a number of studies on the Roman family which the author has during the past decade published in various periodicals and collections of essays. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that they provide a basis for most recent research done in this domain. The book perhaps does not offer radical novelties to those who are already familiar with Saller's work, but it is convenient to have the essays gathered together from dispersed sources, which may be difficult to obtain. Moreover, they have been brought up to date and more or less rewritten to answer criticisms. For anyone who is not yet acquainted with this field Saller's book will be an indispensable guide to ancient demography and the transmission of property within the Roman family.

The book begins with a very readable account of the use of model life tables to produce a computer simulation of the Roman population (or rather some alternative simulations, given the speculative character of the demographic parameters). The simulation suggests among other things that of all Romans aged twenty about one half would have had a living father and only one in a hundred a living paternal grandfather. All this had naturally far-reaching repercussions on Roman society as a whole. For example, the extensive powers of the Roman *paterfamilias* are seen in better perspective. Saller also points out that roughly one third of property-owning males would have been still under guardianship (*tutela* or *cura*), and much of the existing capital in the Roman empire would thus have been subject to laws which discouraged investment and dynamic economic activity. One might have liked to hear an enlightened guess about the proportion of property owned by females (a question neglected e.g. on p. 203), given the author's extensive and very useful discussion of inheritance practices and the size of dowries.

As usual, "the Roman family" is not taken beyond AD 235, and although the Digest has been much used the Justinian Code, with all its third century material, has not. This does not diminish the book's value, but it means that something remains to be done.

*Antti Arjava*

NIKOS KOKKINOS: *Antonia Augusta. Portrait of a great Roman lady.* Foreword by Fergus Millar with illustrations by F. Vartuca. Routledge, London and New York 1992. 254 p., ill. ISBN 0-415-08029-0.

Antonia Augusta surely ranks as one of the most remarkable among Roman women known to posterity. She was the niece of Augustus, sister-in-law of Tiberius, mother of Claudius, grandmother of Caligula, and greatgrandmother of Nero. What a subject for a magnificent biography would her life provide, were scholars to have the necessary sources for such an undertaking. But alas, the surviving material is not nearly sufficient to allow a real biography (as Fergus Millar points out in his foreword), and the present work is on purpose not attempting anything like a full-scale life of Antonia.

What is known about Antonia's life is set out on pp. 6-33 (Antonia in history), while the following chapters deal at length with the various sources that refer to Antonia (except for the literary ones): Inscriptions, Papyri, Coins, Sculpture, Minor Arts, and finally Architecture (namely her house in Rome and villas, of which only the one at Bauli is thought to have been identified with any certainty, on which see below). The evidence is conveniently listed in 14 registers at the end of the book.

No sources are listed *in extenso*; instead references to standard publications are given, and in the cases of inscriptions, the portion providing Antonia's name and/or title is cited. It is a pleasant surprise to find the book so lavishly illustrated (through the efforts of Franco Vartuca), but few of the illustrations refer directly to the sources that are discussed, and indeed no attempt has been made to fully cover all the items in the six registers labelled H - M (Sculpture, Minor Arts). More important, as Kokkinos states (p. 108f.), no securely identified portrait of Antonia Augusta has come down to us. Something can be worked out with the help of her coin portraits, but doubts remain in many cases. This also means that many attempts have been made (and are still being made) at linking various portraits to Antonia. It was probably a wise decision, if one was to keep the size of the book manageable, to abstain from attempting a complete coverage of all portraits (and minor arts objects) that at some point have been referred to as Antonia.

The treatment provides much more than a mere listing of the sources: Kokkinos also discusses and interprets his material. Since Antonia was a public figure and a wealthy woman, and traces of her activities can be found in many places, this book is highly relevant for scholars in many ways.

It is no mean feat to master such a variable collection of sources, and precisely because so many skills are involved, it would be too much to ask for impeccable analysis in every case. The following comments on some epigraphic matters are intended to further a fuller understanding of the material.

The inscriptional evidence is divided in two groups: Direct sources (19 inscriptions that expressly mention Antonia), and Indirect ones (42 inscriptions that