

“Building upon the excellent biomedical baseline established by Drs. Arthur Aufderheide, Aidan Cockburn, Mike Zimmermann and colleagues, this volume adds a contextual, bioarchaeological perspective to mummy science. By considering theoretical perspectives on the body, along with ancient mummified bodies themselves, Nystrom presents a global stock-taking, as he also points to new and exciting future directions. This volume is a ‘must-read’ for all specialists and non-specialists alike who wish for a contemporary statement about these fascinating remnants of humankind’s past.”

Jane Buikstra, *Arizona State University, USA*

“What a great resource this will be to bioarchaeology students and researchers alike! This is the only book of its kind. It integrates studies of mummified human remains with bioarchaeological approaches in a seamless and convincing manner. Prior to this book, research using mummies has had its own separate trajectory. However, the creative use of many case studies and examples in this book provides a compelling call for continuing the integration of mummy studies into broader anthropological approaches. What is most unique in this history and review of mummy studies is the number of innovative ways that social theory, new methodologies and important questions are provided as examples for how to take mummy studies into new areas of research, and the importance of doing so.”

Debra L. Martin, *University of Nevada, Las Vegas, USA*

The modern manifestation of mummy studies began to take shape in the 1970s and has experienced significant growth during the last several decades, largely due to biomedical interest in soft tissue pathology. Although this points to a vibrant field, there are indications that we need to take stock of where it is today and how it may develop in the future, and this volume responds to those demands. In many ways, mummy studies and skeletal bioarchaeology are “sister-disciplines,” sharing data sources, methodologies, and practitioners. Given these close connections, this book considers whether paradigmatic shifts that influenced the development of the latter also impacted the former.

Whilst there are many available books discussing mummy research, most recent field-wide reviews adopt a biomedical perspective to explore a particular mummy or collection of mummies. *The Bioarchaeology of Mummies* is a unique attempt at a synthetic, state-of-the-field critical analysis which considers the field from an explicitly anthropological perspective.

This book is written for both skeletal bioarchaeologists that may not be familiar with the scope of mummy research, and mummy researchers from biomedical fields that may not be as acquainted with current research trends within bioarchaeology.

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ARCHAEOLOGY

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