

Matériel Culture

The archaeology of twentieth century conflict



Edited by John Schofield, William Gray Johnson and Colleen M. Beck

ONE
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44

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MATÉRIEL CULTURE

The twentieth century probably saw no more conflict than in previous centuries; increased global communication and media coverage have, however, heightened our awareness of it. The scale and intensity of war was greater than anything before and the human cost reached unprecedented and previously unimaginable levels. Following the end of the century the materiality of these many conflicts – from local skirmishes to world wars – is becoming accepted on to the heritage agenda as a valid form of cultural resource for the benefit of future generations. *Matériel Culture* describes these recent developments, and documents why the study of conflict is important – and to whom.

The term ‘matériel culture’ encompasses the material remains of conflict, from buildings and monuments to artefacts and militaria, as well as human remains. This collection of essays, from an international range of contributors, illustrates the diversity in this material record, highlights the difficulties and challenges in preserving, presenting and interpreting it, and above all demonstrates the significant role matériel culture can play in contemporary society. Archaeologists have led the way in understanding these remains, as the fantastic selection of case studies in this volume suggests. Among the many studies are: the ‘culture of shells’, the archaeology of nuclear testing grounds, Cambodia’s ‘killing fields’, the Berlin Wall, the biography of a medal, the reappearance of Argentina’s ‘disappeared’ and Second World War concentration camps.

In presenting this collection the editors challenge our perception of what constitutes cultural heritage, what is significant about it, and what is worthy of record and preservation. This new and exciting field of archaeology has a wide relevance for academics and professionals in many disciplines, most certainly in archaeology, heritage management, history and anthropology.

John Schofield is an Inspector for English Heritage’s Monuments Protection Programme. **William Gray Johnson** and **Colleen M. Beck** are Associate Research Professor and Research Professor respectively at the Desert Research Institute in Nevada, USA.

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MATÉRIEL CULTURE

The archaeology of
twentieth-century conflict

Edited by

John Schofield, William Gray Johnson
and Colleen M. Beck



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Dedication

During the course of this project we have become increasingly aware of the degree to which our interest and enthusiasm for matériel culture have been shaped by our own lives, and by the experiences of close friends and family. It is almost as though the very act of studying modern military archaeology has become an encounter with our lives; our own pasts. No doubt this will also be the case for numerous of our contributors: it clearly is for Jody Joy and Gabi Dolff-Bonekämper, whose contributions are arguably the most intimate of this collection. It is for this reason that we dedicate this volume to those whose experience has contributed in a significant way to shaping our own interest in the past:

For JS, Group Captain Arthur Schofield (1920–2001); for WGJ, PFC W.M. Johnson (1924–) and Capt O.G. Rucker, Jr (1928–); for CMB, Lt Col, USAF, W.R. Beck (1919–), W.R. Beck (1924–) and MM2, USN, W.K. Kolb (1944–).

Without them our enthusiasm for and commitment to this subject would never have materialized, and this book, and other related articles, would not have been written.

JS, WGJ and CMB
July 2001

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At the most basic level, material culture is important because it is our buffer against the environment. For example, we create shelter to protect ourselves from the weather and give ourselves privacy (Kendall 2006:45-46). Additional Information. Cite the Definition of Material Culture. ASA American Sociological Association (5th edition). Bell, Kenton, ed. 2013. material culture. In Open Education Sociology Dictionary. Retrieved December 9, 2020 (<https://sociologydictionary.org/material-culture/>). Material vs Non-material Culture Have you ever thought about the difference between Material and Non-material Culture? In this article, we are going to look at these two terms in detail. Culture is a way of symbolizing the way that people live, their lifestyles and creativity, etc. Material Culture - Coin Silver Tea Spoons - This set of six beautiful coin silver tea spoons from Butler & McCarty, made in Philadelphia, PA between 1850-1868 Material culture is the aspect of social reality grounded in the objects and architecture that surround people. It includes the usage, Plate - Oyster Plate - Haviland Limoges Oyster Plates - S/2 - Material Culture. Each are stamped in green "CFH over GDM". Material Culture: Haviland Oyster Plates from the 1880's Made in France - Set of 2 matching plates. Material Culture DESCRIPTION [1] TECHNOLOGY AND FUNCTION [2] DIFFUSION AND DISTRIBUTION [3] PROCESS [4] HISTORY, ART HISTORY, ARCHITECTURE, AND AMERICAN STUDIES [5] MATERIAL CULTURE AS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM [6] MATERIAL CULTURE AS MEANING AND COGNITION SYSTEM [7] MATERIAL CULTURE AS COMMODITY SYSTEM. Material culture past and present, partial and entire, in situ at an archaeological dig, on

American folklore studies of material culture typically address how objects are designed, made, and used, and what they mean (on various levels) to those who make and use them. Folklorists are also interested in the objects themselves, and in such matters as their shapes and dimensions, the materials from which they are made, their decorative elements, and the variations between different makers and groups, as well as variations over time and place. Material Culture. Posted on June 3, 2019 August 23, 2019 by IHH Uncategorized. Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier, January 8, 1974. Historians have not always invested significantly in studying material culture. Earlier generations of historians concentrated largely on politics, war, and economics, predominantly relying on written primary sources, mostly created by elites (and often elite men) who had the time and resources to create a documentary record. Material Culture's auctions offer a broad and exciting range of Antiques, Asian Arts, Fine Art, Folk Art, Ethnographic Arts, Decorative Arts, Modern Design, Couture, Jewelry, Timepieces, Silver, Objets de Vertu, Fine Books & Manuscripts. Auction Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm Hours for Drop Offs & Pick Ups, 10am-2pm, Appointments Required. Store Hours: Open 7 Days a Week, From 10am-5pm. Museum Volkenkunde is a museum about people, located in a monumental building on the Singel. Wereldmuseum in Rotterdam is a museum about cultures in the present and the past. RCMC social menu. Facebook. Postdoc Vacancies | Pressing Matter Ownership, Value and the Question of Colonial Heritage in Museums. Link. Worlding Public Cultures: The Arts and Social Innovation. Link. Illustrations to Shahnama manuscripts in the National Museum of World Cultures, Netherlands. Loose pages and lacquer covers. Link.