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Abstract

This book examines the role of images in the discourse of prehistoric archaeology in Greece. Special emphasis is given to the architectural illustrations in final prehistoric site reports and, specifically, to the importance of linear drawings (ground plans, sections, isometric drawings), free perspectives and reconstructions, and also to the special category of digital images. The following questions are of central importance: how much emphasis is given to the descriptive presentation and hown much to the synthesis and interpretation of architectural remains? How much detailed or abstract are the related images? How many are the technical drawings and how many are free reconstructions? How much emphasis is given to the vertical axis and the third dimension? What changes do digital applications bring to the archaeological research process? The book also examines the participation of specialised personnel (architects,

topographers, draughtspersons, graphics specialists etc.) to the study and illustration of architecture, the available technical means and, finally, the number and the relation of images to the texts of their respective publications. Thus, it is possible to pinpoint the epistemological choices of different researchers. The book comprises the first part of the overall examination of this topic. It covers the history of research, deals with the theory of the relation between image and language and presents the main types of drawings and digital images in archaeological publications. Then, it examines the role of such images in the publications of the travellers of the 18th and 19th century; in the work of four research pioneers, namely Heinrich Schliemann, Wilhelm Dörpfeld, Christos Tsountas and Arthur Evans; and finally, in the prehistoric site reports in the Aegean from the end of the 19th century to the 1950s.



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