

auch jenseits des militärischen Kontexts. Dies gilt insbesondere, da der Originalbefund des Bades vor Ort in Bearsden weiterhin als Freilichtmuseum besucht werden kann (S. 381–384).

Besonders hervorzuheben, nicht nur an der Befunddiskussion der Badeanlage, sondern an dem gesamten vorliegenden Band, ist die extrem umfangreiche Bebilderung mit mehr als 300 Illustrationen von hochwertigen Scans alten Kartenmaterials über Farbfotografien bis hin zu Plänen und den üblichen Strichzeichnungen der Kleinfunde. Angesichts der durchgehend hohen Bildqualität ist allerdings besonders bedauernd, dass ausgerechnet die Keramikabbildungen diesen Standard teilweise nicht erreichen. Die Rekonstruktionszeichnungen weisen durchweg eine gewisse Unschärfe auf, welche allerdings einen eigenen Charme vermittelt und vielleicht sogar bewusst gewählt ist. Irritierend ist hier, dass auf S. xxiii zwar ein Plan von Bearsden mit rekonstruierten Gräben und Umwehrungen sowie untersuchten Flächen erscheint und wiederholt Pläne einzelner Befunde oder Grabungsareale abgebildet sind – an keiner Stelle jedoch ein vollständiger Idealplan des Kastells gezeigt wird. So bleibt einzig die Rekonstruktionszeichnung in Schrägansicht auf S. 345 des Schlusskapitels als Visualisierung der im Fließtext wiederholt diskutierten Innenbebauung und Ausrichtung der Anlage; ein Umstand, der den Umgang mit den diskutierten archäologischen Befunden nicht unbedingt vereinfacht.

Mit „Bearsden. A Roman Fort on the Antonine Wall“ schließt David Breeze eine Großbaustelle der römischen Archäologie in Schottland. Dabei legt er einen nicht immer handlichen Band vor, der in Aufbau, Anspruch und Umfang von den Idealen der naturwissenschaftlich geprägten britischen Archäologie der 1960er Jahre beeinflusst ist, diese aber durchaus effektiv in das 21. Jahrhundert transportiert. Der ausführliche Ausgrabungsbericht enthält viele wichtige und materialbe gründete Erkenntnisse, die weit über das Kastell Bearsden, die Interessen der Limesforschung und auch das Fachgebiet der provinzialrömischen Archäologie hinaus von Relevanz sind und hoffentlich entsprechend wahrgenommen werden. Somit entspricht der Band in keiner Weise den kontinentaleuropäischen Vorurteilen über die zeitgenössische römische Archäologie im angelsächsischen Raum. Die Bewährungsprobe dürfte dabei werden, wie weit diese Erkenntnisse von einer breiten Leserschaft aufgegriffen werden – oder ob der Versuchung, die Lektüre auf die zusammenfassenden und daher teils oberflächlichen Klammerkapitel zu reduzieren, nachgegeben wird.

60325 Frankfurt a. M.  
Palmengartenstr. 10-12  
E-Mail: christoph.rummel@dainst.de

Christoph Rummel  
Römisch-Germanische Kommission  
des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts

**RAYMUND GOTTSCHALK, Spätromische Gräber im Umland von Köln.** Rheinische Ausgrabungen Band 71. Philipp von Zabern, Darmstadt 2015. € 89.90. ISBN 978-3-8053-4956-7. XII + 402 pages, 174 figures, 5 tables, 157 plates.

This volume of the series Rheinische Ausgrabungen emerged from R. Gottschalk's PhD thesis with the title "Studien zu spätromischen Grabfunden in der südlichen Niederrheinischen Bucht", which was delivered in 2003 at the Philosophische Fakultät of the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität in Bonn. The research was supervised by Helmut Roth and Thomas Fischer (Universität zu Köln). 220 partly incomplete grave inventories from 69 burial sites, found outside the modern city limits of Cologne (*Colonia Claudia Ara Agrippinensium*) since 1663, formed the basis of the study. These grave inventories are presented in detail in a catalogue of 111 pages and 157 plates in the last part of the book. Finds that occurred after the start of R. Gottschalk's investigation around 1995 (the exact date is not mentioned in the text) are not included in the thesis. Also not included is the

catalogue of 45 late Roman graves from Hürth-Hermülheim, which emerged from his master thesis, completed in 1994 in Bonn. These are, however, published in the *Bonner Jahrbücher* (R. GOTTSCHALK, *Zur spätromischen Grabkultur im Kölner Umland. Zwei Bestattungsareale in Hürth-Hermülheim. Erster Teil: Die Gräber und ihre Befunde.* *Bonner Jahrb.* 207, 2007, 211–298; ID., *Zur spätromischen Grabkultur im Kölner Umland. Zwei Bestattungsareale in Hürth-Hermülheim. Zweiter Teil: Die Funde und ihre Deutung.* *Bonner Jahrb.* 208, 2008, 91–160). Furthermore, the catalogue of the cemetery of the *vicus Iuliacum* (Jülich) is missing, which is published by Heike PÖPPELMANN (*Das spätantik-frühmittelalterliche Gräberfeld von Jülich, Kr. Düren. Bonner Beitr. vor- u. frühgesch. Arch.* 11 [Bonn 2011]). While the author did not include these two cemeteries in full, he did use some of their data.

In general, the grave inventories studied are dated between AD 250 and 450. From 58 burial sites at least one grave inventory is known, from the others only stray finds are included in the catalogue. The grave inventories can be attributed to the inhabitants of the fortress in Bonn, the fortified *vici* in Aachen, Jülich and Zülpich, villas and rural settlements near already deserted villas. Of the 220 graves, only 40 % were undisturbed and well documented, of which 67 delivered grave goods and 22 did not. The remaining bones (including children's) of 41 women and 45 men were determined by physical anthropological research or by specific grave goods. The average mortality age of women was 46 years and of males 47 years (see table p. 265–271). Good living conditions in the Rhineland are, according to the author, a plausible explanation for the relatively high mortality age. Furthermore, R. Gottschalk notes that the number of burial sites studied (69) seems disproportionate to the number of known settlement sites from the research period.

The short introductory chapters are followed by a larger contribution on grave forms and burial customs, which is limited in scope due to the limitations in the documentation that has been handed down since the discovery of most of the graves in the 19<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. From the late 2<sup>nd</sup> century onwards, the number of inhumation graves has been steadily increasing, at the expense of the number of cremation graves. The background of this change is unknown. Cremation graves from the 4<sup>th</sup> century are rare in the study area and are associated with Germanic immigrants. Most of the deceased in the inhumation graves have been buried in wooden coffins. In addition, human remains, both burned and unburned, have been found in 33 graves in stone containers and sarcophagi, which have sometimes been transported to the cemetery over longer distances via water and country roads. In nine graves the remains of the deceased were buried in lead-lined wooden coffins and in four other cases in tile graves. Burying a body in a shroud is not mentioned by the author, presumably due to the soil conditions and limited documentation.

Typical of the Lower Rhine area are the niches dug into the wall of inhumation graves, into which grave goods could be placed. Other grave goods were placed on, next to or in the wooden coffins or sarcophagi. Four other funerary practices are limited to the Cologne region: 1) glass platters placed upside down on the upper part of the body; 2) plates or dishes with tableware for food, drinking service or unguent flasks. Such sets go back to antique table customs that, according to written sources and images, were spread over a much larger area of the Roman Empire. In a number of cases, the contents of the jugs and bottles were adjusted to the volume of corresponding drinking cups and bowls. 3) Sets of three (or two) pieces of crockery. The most common combination consists of small jugs of the type Gellep 112, in three cases flagons of the type Gellep 84 were deposited in the graves. 4) In a number of graves of girls and women miniature tools (scales, ladder, yoke, harrow, etc.) and animals (toad, frog, lizard) were found. These may be seen as a collection of objects belonging to the deceased. They could be either interpreted as a reflection on the ideal of land ownership (tools, animals) or as objects for witchcraft or curing people (animals).

According to the author (pp. 32, 86–98, and 243–252), the construction of niches, the giving of the sets of jugs, and the placing of glass platters on the upper body have been adopted from Germanic immigrants living in the Lower Rhine area.

The next chapter on the grave goods forms the most extensive part of the book. The author's extensive knowledge of late Roman burials clearly emerges here. This, however, results in a text that occasionally is dense with information. The use of tables and fewer enumerations certainly would have increased the readability. The chapter starts with the different forms of pottery and glass vessels, which have served as containers for beverage and food for the dead. Poultry remains have been found on various plates and dishes, but remains of sheep, pig and rabbit were identified as well. In one grave a pine cone was found. Additionally, spoons, knives, scissors, *stili*, candlesticks, fire strikers and fire stones, distaffs and spindle whorls, cosmetic and medical devices, scales, glass board game pieces (*calculi*), small chests, weapons, coins, jewellery and metal clothing accessories are described.

The custom of placing grave goods in the graves comes to an end in Cologne around the middle of the 4<sup>th</sup> century, in Krefeld-Gellep and Jülich in the beginning of the 5<sup>th</sup> century. The reduction from a range of grave goods to coins only has also been observed in other late antique cemeteries. This reduction is associated with the Roman part of the population in the region. In the 5<sup>th</sup> century, graves of the Roman or romanised population are almost void of grave goods. However, objects have been found in adjacent graves (*fibulae*, belt fittings, silver objects), pointing to the Germanic part of the population.

The author further elaborates on the decorated glass drinking platters and bowls from the graves, on which, in addition to themes relating to hunting and fishing, also mythological and Christian scenes are depicted. This description is a harbinger of an extensive contribution to objects with Christian motifs in a later part of the book. In this excursus, the author provides a thorough explanation of the iconography and dating of these objects by approaching them from different cultural-historical points of view. According to the author, the Christian symbols and texts on glass drinking utensils, silver spoons and a *fibula* are especially telling and teach us more about Christianity in the Cologne region in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. These objects fit well with written sources from that time which mention bishops who resided in Cologne. According to the author, the possession and the fundamentally imputable knowledge of the pictorial motifs and the forms of use refer to the knowledge of cultural norms of higher social groups, and are therefore evidence of participation of the deceased in the Christian social structures in Cologne and the urban surroundings in the 4<sup>th</sup> century. However, these grave goods with Christian motifs do not reveal anything of the concrete status of the faith or religion of the buried persons.

Although also other objects with Christian motifs (finger rings, metal fittings of wooden chests, an oil lamp and coins) seem to be indicators for the social and religious position of the deceased, further evidence is needed to corroborate this idea. Remarkably missing in the overview of the objects with Christian motifs is a bowl type Gellep 34 with horizontal bands of impressed geometric patterns with Christian motifs executed with roller stamp (pp. 34 and 291), especially because such tableware (*terra sigillata* and *terra nigra*) is frequently found in the Lower Rhine area. In addition, the orientation of the graves is discussed. Graves oriented west to east traditionally have been associated with Christianity. However, as the author rightly argues, this direct association is becoming vastly unacceptable.

In the next two contributions, the development of the cemeteries is monitored over time. First R. Gottschalk stresses that due to the limited number of graves seriation was not possible. The chronological development of these burial sites is largely unravelled on the basis of the grave goods,

the dating of the coins and the sequence of intercutting graves. This development supports in a few cases the already mentioned reduction in the number of grave goods during the course of the 4<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 5<sup>th</sup> century. At the same time it shows that graves with Roman and Germanic characteristics appeared simultaneously in the cemeteries.

In the second half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, a group of girls and women were buried in sarcophagi in the hinterland of Cologne. These graves stand out by their rich grave goods. Gold ornaments, objects of amber, silver and gold decorated knives, a silver dish and decorated glass *cyphi* are expressions of a distinctive table culture and an upscale lifestyle. Such graves have been found in the cemetery of Bonn and close to villas and other rural settlements. These graves date to the time of the residence of the Emperor Gallienus in Cologne and the brief period when this town was the capital of the Gallic Empire under Postumus. Presumably these graves belong to members of the urban elite who had possessions in the countryside. After Cologne had lost its special position at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, such graves disappeared.

Following H. Pöppelmann, the author categorises the graves of men and women of the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries on the basis of grave goods into four categories. Whereas three categories can be attributed to the Roman part of the population, one refers to graves that stand out through Germanic *fibulae* and belt fittings. However, several graves from the hinterland of Cologne do not fit into the scheme proposed by H. Pöppelmann. R. Gottschalk notes that the categorisation therefore needs to be adjusted.

In the next chapter, the author describes the development of the typical Rhenish villa cemeteries of Hürth-Hermülheim, Hambach 132 (see M. BRÜGGLER, *Villa rustica, Glashütte und Gräberfeld. Die kaiserzeitliche und spätantike Siedlungsstelle Ha 132 im Hambacher Forst. Rhein. Ausgr. 63* [Mainz 2009]) and Eschweiler-Lohn. The acculturation of Germanic people buried in these cemeteries in the hinterland of Cologne is not limited to the simple assumption of Roman customs; rather, the grave goods show a multi-layered adaptation to the cultural conditions in the region. It is conceivable that the Germanic people could easily adopt a provincial-Roman way of life and regional grave customs of the contemporary Roman part of the population. An argument for this is the layout of a few cemeteries, where Roman and Germanic graves are separated from each other.

This overview of the late Roman graves provides a good impression of the burial customs in the hinterland of Cologne. At the same time it is a treasure trove of information for all those who are engaged in late antique burials in the north-western provinces of the Roman Empire. Especially the contributions on the regional grave customs, grave goods with Christian symbols and the development of the typical Rhenish villa cemeteries, with graves with both Roman and Germanic characteristics, are important parts of the book. These three themes are good starting points for further discussion. This book also reveals the necessity of a large-scale investigation into cemeteries in the Lower Rhine area, in order to gain a better understanding of the changing burial customs and population in the late Roman period. The use of radiocarbon dating, isotope research and an adequate description of the graves and coffins, the human remains and the grave goods from the cemeteries in Cologne, Krefeld-Gellep, Nijmegen and Tongeren, as well as from the smaller burial sites in the province, will provide new insights on the dynamic developments in *Germania inferior / secunda* between AD 250–450.

NL-6500 HG Nijmegen  
P.O. Box 9500  
E-Mail: h.van.enckevort@nijmegen.nl

Harry van Enckevort  
Bureau Leefomgevingskwaliteit /  
Archeologie (Pk40)  
Gemeente Nijmegen