



**AAA** [Ab] See AUSTRALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

**AAS** [Ab] See ATOMIC ABSORPTION SPECTROMETRY.

**abacus** [Ar] The uppermost member of a capital, set atop a pillar, and, on classical buildings, in contact with the bottom of the \*entablature. The abacus resembles in form the flat slab on which it was modelled.

**Abbasids** [CP] An Arab dynasty descended from Abbas, uncle of Muhammad, who supplanted the Umayyads in AD 750.

**Abbeville, France** [Si] A gravel pit in the 45 m gravel terrace of the Somme Valley, France, from which numerous handaxes were obtained by Boucher de Perthes and others from AD 1836 onwards and which in 1939 gave its name to the \*Abbevillian.

**Sum.:** F. Bordes, 1956, Some observations on the Pleistocene succession in the Somme Valley. *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*, 22, 1–5

**Abbevillian** [CP] Now obsolete, this term was originally proposed by Abbé Breuil in AD 1939 to describe the pre-\*Acheulian flint industries of western Europe on the basis of material from Abbeville in France. Also known as the Chellean.

**abbey 1.** [De] A community of monks or nuns ruled by an abbot or abbess. **2.** [MC] A general term used to describe the buildings inhabited by a community of monks or nuns. See MONASTERY.

**ABC Model** [De] A scheme for the cultural history of the British Iron Age first proposed by Christopher \*Hawkes in 1931, but expanded and elaborated in the late 1950s as the opening paper at a conference on the Southern British Iron Age organized by the CBA and held in London in December 1958, subsequently published in *Antiquity* (1959, 170–82). The ABC refers to cultures, each of which appears in each of three periods that

are designated 1, 2, and 3. Period 1 broadly equates to the late \*Hallstatt on the continent, period 2 to \*La Tène I, and period 3 to La Tène II and III. Hawkes's scheme is often recalled but rarely used.

**Abejas Phase** [CP] Fourth main phase of activity in the Tehuacán Valley of Mexico, dating to the period 4300–3000 BC, marked archaeologically by the appearance of semi-permanent villages of pit houses, new species of plant food, long obsidian blades, and possibly the cultivation of cotton. Agriculture supplies up to 25 per cent of food requirements during this phase.

**Abercromby, Lord John** (1841–1924) [Bi] Scottish antiquary who specialized in the pre-history of northwest Europe. Born the 5th Baron of Aboukir and Tullibody, he served in the army from 1858 to 1870 before devoting himself to scholarship and especially philology, archaeology, and folklore. He travelled widely and mastered several European languages, including Finnish. In 1904 he introduced the term \*Beaker pottery into the archaeological literature to refer to the late Neolithic decorated drinking vessels often associated with burials of the period. The term has remained in use ever since, although Abercromby's original subdivision into three types—A, B, and C—has since been modified. In 1912 he published in two volumes *A study of Bronze Age pottery in Great Britain and Ireland* (Oxford: Clarendon Press). Throughout his later life he had a turbulent relationship with the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, but was their President from 1913 to 1918. In his will he founded and endowed the Abercromby Chair of Archaeology in the University of Edinburgh, the first three incumbents being Gordon \*Childe, Stuart \*Piggott, and Dennis Harding.

**Obit.:** *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, 59, 4–6

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**Åberg, Nils** (1888–1957) [Bi] Swedish archaeologist and scholar with wide interests in European prehistory. A pupil of Oscar Montelius and Professor of Archaeology at Stockholm University, his typological studies of Bronze Age, Iron Age, and migration period metalwork are fundamental to modern interpretation of European chronology and cultural groupings. The results were published in his five-volume work *Bronzezeitliche u. früheisenzeitliche Chronologie* (1930–35, Stockholm: Kungl Vitterhets och Antikvitets Akademien).

**Obit.:** *Kuml*, 1957, 192–5

**Abingdon ware** [Ar] A type of middle Neolithic round-bottomed decorated pottery found in the upper Thames valley and central parts of England, one of the regional variations of the so-called Southern Decorated series. Dates mainly to the 4th millennium BC.

**aborigines** [Ge] Derived from the Latin *aborigine*, extended to mean the original inhabitants of a country. When used as a proper noun the term usually refers to the indigenous peoples of Australia.

**absolute dating** [De] General term applied to a range of techniques that provide estimates of the age of objects, materials, or sites in real calendar years either directly or through a process of calibration with material of known age. Such techniques rely on principles that lie outside the influence of the makers and users of the material being dated, for example \*radiocarbon dating. Various calendars are used to express absolute dates, some sciences preferring BP as 'before present', the scientific present being conventionally taken as AD 1950. In archaeology the use of BC and AD based on the Gregorian calendar is commonly used in Europe and America, although other calendars apply to specific cultures in other regions and these are used too where appropriate. *Compare* RELATIVE DATING.

**Abu Simbel, Egypt** [Si] A pair of rock-cut temples in Lower Nubia, now overlooking the artificially created Lake Nasser 230 km upriver from Aswan. Both temples were built by \*Ramesses II in the 13th century BC. The Great Temple is dedicated to him and has as

its façade two pairs of colossal seated figures of him (each about 22 m tall). The main part of the temple is cut into solid rock, 55 m deep, and the main walls are decorated with reliefs showing the king's military campaigns in Syria and Nubia. The Small Temple is more modest and is dedicated to his principal queen, Neferirkare (Nefertari). Both temples were sawn into blocks, dismantled, moved upslope, and re-erected in their present positions in 1968 as part of the Nubian Rescue Campaign to save important archaeological sites from the rising waters of Lake Nasser.

**Rep.:** T. Säve-Söderbergh (ed.), 1987, *Temples and tombs of ancient Nubia: the international rescue campaign at Abu Simbel, Philae, and other sites*. London: Thames & Hudson and UNESCO

**abutment** [Co] Masonry platform or earth embankment supporting the central structure of a bridge.

**accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS)**

[Te] A method for detecting atoms of specific elements according to their atomic weights. There are a number of archaeological applications, the most common being in \*radiocarbon dating. Here, the addition of a series of magnetic lenses and a high-voltage 'accelerator' to a mass spectrometer allows <sup>14</sup>C atoms to be detected in an ancient sample and the amount present determined in a matter of minutes. The technique provides an alternative to the conventional approach which relies on measuring the decay of <sup>14</sup>C in a sample over a defined period (usually weeks or months). In addition to being relatively quick, AMS determinations can be made on far smaller samples of carbon (1 mg), allowing, for example, the dating of individual cereal grains. AMS is also used for determining <sup>18</sup>O/<sup>16</sup>O ratios (*see* OXYGEN ISOTOPE ANALYSIS).

**acculturation** [Th] Transference of ideas, beliefs, traditions, and sometimes artefacts by long-term, personal contact and interaction between communities or societies. Adoption through assimilation by prolonged contact. *Compare* DIFFUSION.

**accuracy** [De] The closeness of an estimate to the true value. *Compare* PRECISION.

**aceramic** [De] A term applied to a culture, region, or period in which pottery was not made, used, or traded on a regular basis.

Instead, containers may have been made from leather, basketry, bark, gourds or other pliable materials. The **aceramic Neolithic** is taken to be the period when plant and animal domestication was already underway but ceramics were not used.

**Achaean** [CP] Name used by Homer to refer to the Greeks at \*Troy and other places. Perhaps applicable to Bronze Age communities in the region that are known archaeologically as the \*Mycenaeans.

**Achaemenids** [Na] A group of Persian communities that moved into western Iran during the early 1st millennium BC. The founding father of the ruling house was Achaemenes who lived in the 7th century BC, his descendants expanding the area of influence to create an empire that extended from central Asia and northern India to France and Egypt in the 6th century BC. Notable later rulers of the Achaemenids include Cyrus II (559–530 BC), Darius (522–486 BC), and Xerxes I (485–465 BC). The Achaemenid Period was an important one for Iranian civilization and was one of the richest in terms of contacts between the classical world and the Near East. It saw the appearance and spread of Zoroastrianism, and some spectacular architecture at, for example, Darius' capital at Persepolis. However, tensions between the Achaemenids and the Greeks were always in the background, and erupted into several key battles: Darius was defeated by the Greeks at Marathon in 490 BC and the same fate befell Xerxes ten years later. In 330 BC Alexander the Great conquered and destroyed the Achaemenid Empire.

**Acheulian (Acheulean)** [CP] Lower Palaeolithic tool-making tradition, found throughout Europe, western Asia, and Africa, which is closely associated with *Homo erectus*. The tradition was initially named, after the type-site assemblage from \*St Acheul, Amiens, France, as the *Epoque de St Acheul* by de Mortillet in 1872, and after 1925 as the Acheulian. The most distinctive stone tools were ovate and pear-shaped handaxes, but assemblages also include flake tools and waste flakes which show considerable regional variation. In Europe the Acheulian Tradition spans the period from about 1 million years ago down to about 100 000 years

ago. In Africa the Acheulian follows the \*Oldowian and spans the period 1.5 million years ago down to 150 000 years ago.

**achira** [Sp] Tropical plant with bright flowers (*Canna edulis*), native to the Caribbean and lower eastern slopes of the Andes. Domesticated from c.3000 BC and used as a food source.

**ACRA** [Ab] See AMERICAN CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSOCIATION.

**acropolis (akropolis)** [MC] Hill-top enclosure found in classical Greek cities to give protection to the temple of the patron deity and, in early times, to the king's palace. The acropolis was the nucleus of a community living outside its walls, although it might provide refuge in times of danger. The most famous acropolis is the one in Athens, which was of ancient foundation as a fortified site. Through the influence of Pericles in the 5th century BC it was adorned with a number of exceptional buildings including the Erechtheum and the \*Parthenon.

**acroterion** [Co] The sculptured figure, tripod, disc, or urn, of bronze, marble, or terracotta, placed on the apex of the pediment of a Greek temple or other substantial building; sometimes also above the outer angles of the pediment triangle.

**activity area** [De] A patterning of artefacts in a site, indicating that a specific set of tasks or operations took place there, for example flint-knapping.

**activity set** [De] A set of artefacts that reveals the activities of an individual.

**Acton Park Industry** [CP] Industrial stage of the British early Bronze Age named after a hoard of bronze tools and weapons found at Acton Park, Clwyd, in c.1875 AD. Dating to the period around 1500 BC, the traditions of this stage fit within Colin Burgess's \*Bedd Branwen Period. The metalwork includes palstaves, half-flanged axes, socket-looped spearheads, dirks, rapiers, and daggers. In Scotland the Caverton Industry and the Auchterhouse Industry are concurrent with the Acton Park Industry.

**AD (ad)** [Ab] Anno Domini. The Christian era in the Gregorian calendar, starting from the

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year AD 1 as the calculated and back-projected year in which Christ was believed to have been born. Widely used in western societies. The use of lower-case initials is often taken to indicate that the date has been calculated from a radiocarbon determination by subtracting 1950 from the radiocarbon age. The use of upper-case letters denotes a historical date or a calibrated radiocarbon age in calendar years.

**adaptation** [Ge] The ability of a biological organism to survive within a given environment by changing its behaviour or physical attributes. Extended to include human adaptation to the environment in which communities find themselves and therefore a major explanatory tool in developing archaeological understandings of periods of change.

**Adena Complex** [CP] A group of related native American cultures of the early Woodland Period centred on the Ohio area of the USA and dating to the period 1000 BC to 100 BC. Named after the type-site of Adena, these communities lived in small villages, perhaps seasonally, supported by an essentially hunter-gatherer economy with limited small-scale horticultural use of sunflowers, marsh elder, squashes, and gourds. Distinctive material culture includes cord-decorated pottery, engraved stone tablets ('birdstones' and 'boatstones'), and ornamented smoking tubes. Copper bracelets, beads, crescents, axes and other items were imported from areas around Lake Superior. Drawing on earlier prototypes, the most impressive and distinctive Adena constructions after about 500 BC were the burial mounds, of which several types have been found. Important individuals were typically interred in log-lined tombs which were burnt and then covered by a conical earth mound up to 20 m high. In other cases corpses were cremated in a clay oven and the remains then buried under a mound. Elaborate grave goods were often placed with the dead. Adena earthworks also included large geometrically shaped ceremonial constructions and circles. One of the best known is the Great Serpent Mound, Ohio. Adena Complex groups were locally ancestral to the \*Hopewellian Culture.

**Adena Mound, Ohio, USA** [Si] Burial mound beside the Scioto River which gives

its name to the Adena Complex of early Woodland cultures. Excavated by William C. Mills in the early 20th century.

**Rep.:** W. C. Mills, 1902, *Excavations of the Adena Mound. Ohio Archaeological and Historical Publications*, 10, 452–79

**adit** [MC] An early style of mining in which a tunnel is driven into a hillside in order to follow or intercept seams of useful stone or veins of ore. Generally, adits are dug at a slight angle so that water naturally drains out of the tunnel.

**adobe** [Ar] American term for sun-dried, unfired, clay bricks used as a building material.

**ADS** [Ab] See ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA SERVICE.

**adze** [Ar] A woodworking tool which has its working edge perpendicular to the long axis of the haft. It therefore contrasts with an axe, the working edge of which is parallel with the plane of the haft. Adzes are generally used for trimming and shaping timbers, and for hollowing out large cavities such as in making a dugout canoe.

**aedes** [Co] Latin term for the shrine in a Roman military headquarters, centrally situated, usually at the rear of the *principia*, to house the standards and an image of the emperor.

**aeolian deposits (eolian deposits)** [De] Wind-blown sediments characteristic of relatively dry periods, e.g. interpluvials or glacials with low precipitation. Aeolian deposits can easily bury sites and create well-preserved archaeological deposits, like many sand-dune-covered sites.

**aerial photography (AP)** [Te] A form of remote sensing that involves the detection and photographic recording of sites from satellites, aircraft, or balloons. Amongst other things such studies can help to understand the shape of large sites which are not clear at ground level. \*Vertical aerial photographs, taken from greater heights, are useful for surveys of large areas especially for crop marks and similar phenomena. \*Oblique aerial photographs, from lower altitudes, and normally of specific areas, detect shadows created by slight 'earthworks' and permit more detailed interpretations of known sites.

**aerobic** [De] A term to describe environments in which oxygen is present and in which microbial decay of organic materials takes place. *Compare* ANAEROBIC.

**aestiva** [MC] Latin term for the summer quarters of a military force on manoeuvres in the field.

**Aethelbert** [Na] Anglo-Saxon king of Kent from c.AD 560. Defeated by Ceawlin of Wessex in 568. Married to Bertha, daughter of Charibert, king of Paris, as a result of which he accepted the Catholic faith from St Augustine c.AD 597; the first of the Anglo-Saxon kings to be baptized a Christian. A code of laws based on Roman law is attributed to him.

**Aethelred II** [Na] King of England from AD 978 to 1016. Nicknamed 'Unready' because of his vacillating policy towards the Danish Vikings. Married Emma, daughter of Richard, duke of Normandy, to whom he fled during the invasion of King Svein of Denmark. After Svein's death (AD 1014) he returned to his throne until his own death in AD 1016.

**Aethelweard** [Na] Chronicler, who called himself an \*ealdorman, and may have been the ealdorman who arranged a treaty for Aethelred II in 994. His chronicle (from the Creation to AD 973) contains some otherwise unknown material in 10th-century history. He died c.AD 998.

**Aetius, Flavius** [Na] Roman general who was effective ruler of the west from about AD 430 until his assassination in AD 454. His 'realm' lay in Gaul, whose boundaries he maintained with the aid of Hunnic and other barbarian mercenaries, and in alliance with the Visigoths he defeated Attila's invasion of Gaul in AD 451.

**Afanasievo Culture** [CP] Late Neolithic communities in southern Siberia living around the headwaters of the Ob and Yenisei rivers during the early 3rd millennium BC. Reliant on breeding cattle, sheep, and horses, these communities also engaged in hunting; they do not appear to have used agriculture. The culture is best known through its burials which typically comprise groups of round barrows (kurgans), each up to 12 m in diameter with a stone kerb and covering a central pit grave containing multiple inhumations.

Pottery suggests contacts with the slightly earlier \*Keltaminar Culture of the Aral and Caspian Sea area. The Afanasievo Culture was succeeded by the \*Andronovo Culture in the mid 2nd millennium BC.

**Afontova Culture** [CP] Upper Palaeolithic communities in south-central Siberia in the period 20000 to 10000 years ago. Distinguished on the basis of their worked stone industries which includes wedge-shaped microcores, microblades, and scrapers. The culture was defined by E. A. Abramova in 1979, drawing on material recovered in the early 20th century from a series of sites at Afontova Gora on the Yenisei River.

**African Red Slip ware** [Ar] Mould-made fine table ware, derivative style of \*Samian ware, manufactured in central northern Africa (mainly modern Tunisia) from the 3rd century through to the 5th century AD. It was widely exported to many parts of the Roman Empire, especially around the Mediterranean.

**African Replacement Model** [Th] *See* HOMO SAPIENS.

**agency** [Th] The proposition that human beings think about the intentional actions they perform and the resources they need to achieve their ends. Trying to apply such thinking to archaeology has led John Barrett to suggest that archaeologists should seek to understand how people may once have lived out their lives rather than restricting their enquiries to simply interpreting the archaeological record.

**agger** [Co] **1.** Latin name for a cambered, artificially raised causeway or ridge of consolidated earth or stone carrying a Roman road. **2.** The rampart of a Roman camp.

**aggregate** [Ge] A collection of people present in a public setting, all going their separate ways rather than composing a homogeneous group.

**Agilulf** [Na] King of the Lombards, a nobleman selected by Queen Theudelinda as her second husband in AD 590. After threatening the Byzantine states he agreed to a truce, and after 605 was at peace with his neighbours in Italy. During his reign Catholics in northern Italy were re-established. He died c.AD 615.

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**agora** [MC] The market-place or centre of a Greek town with shopping and commercial facilities, the main public buildings, and open space where the citizens would gather for markets and sporting events. Many *agoras* were delimited by boundary stones. *See also* FORUM.

**agrarian societies** [Ge] Societies whose means of subsistence is based on agricultural production, crop-growing, and the husbandry of animals.

**Agricola** [Na] Gnaeus Julius Agricola was governor of Britain between AD 78 and AD 84. Thanks to the biography by his son-in-law \*Tacitus, we know a good deal about his life. He was born in the *colonia* of Forum Iulii, now Fréjus, in France and served in Britain on two occasions before succeeding Frontinus as governor. During his period of office he campaigned extensively in North Wales, northern England, and Scotland where he inflicted a crushing defeat on the Caledonian tribes at Mons Graupius, probably near Aberdeen. Plans for the total conquest of Scotland were unfulfilled.

**Aguada Culture** [CP] A South American culture found around the Valliserrana region of northwest Argentina of the period AD 700–1000, characterized by finely made ceramics and ceremonial objects of bronze and copper, some perhaps made under the influence of craftsmen working at Tiahuanco, Bolivia. Incised and polychrome decoration is common on pottery vessels, as too are feline and dragon motifs, depictions of warriors and weaponry, and images of trophy heads. Warfare was endemic, and many burials contain the remains of decapitated individuals. The disappearance of the Aguada Culture, apparently rather sudden, may have been the result of an invasion from the east.

**AH** [Ab] Anno Hegirae. Years according to the Islamic calendar starting in 1 AH when Muhammad was banished from Mecca. Year 1 AH is equivalent to AD 622 in the Christian calendar.

**AHM** [Ab] Archaeological heritage management. *See* ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

**Ahmoese (Ahmosis)** [Na] Prince of Thebes and first Pharaoh of the 18th Dynasty and the

New Kingdom who reigned in the period c.1550–1525 BC. During this time the \*Hyksos were expelled from Egypt and territorial gains made in Nubia and Palestine.

**Ahrensburgian** [CP] An early post-glacial culture of north Germany and the Low Countries dating to the period around 8500 BC. The stone-tool industries include scrapers, burins, and tanged points probably used as arrow tips. More than 50 wooden arrow shafts of this culture were found at the type-site of Ahrensburg near Hamburg in Schleswig-Holstein, together with clubs that were possibly used in hunting reindeer.

**ahu** [MC] A kind of ceremonial platform constructed on Easter Island and the Society Islands in the period c.AD 600 through to AD 1500. Rectangular in plan, the platforms were built of stone slabs covering a rubble core. Stone statues (\**moai*) were sometimes set on the ahu. Ahu are probably related to the \*marae found in ceremonial contexts in Polynesia.

**AIA** [Ab] *See* ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA.

**aisle** [Co] The part of a church on either side of the nave or chancel.

**aisled hall** [MC] A timber structure in which the weight of the roof is borne on rows of internal posts which divide the interior into a 'nave' and flanking 'aisles'. The regular plan for north German and Scandinavian houses in the migration period, the type has an ancestry which runs back to the 4th or 5th millennium BC.

**aisled house (aisled building, aisled villa)** [MC] A class of Roman villa in which a simple rectangular building was divided into a nave and two flanking aisles by lines of timber roof supports. Sometimes divided by internal partitions, these houses seem to have belonged to the poorer families. Some aisled houses had specific agricultural or industrial functions rather than a domestic use.

**Ajalpan Phase** [CP] Sixth main phase of settlement recognized in the Tehuacán Valley of Mexico, broadly dating to the period 1500–830 BC. Agriculture is believed to have provided about 40 per cent of the food

consumed, the remainder being derived in roughly equal parts from hunting and gathering. Settlements took the form of hamlets and were occupied all the year round, although by this time the Tehuacán Valley was already becoming marginal to the more complex societies developing in other parts of Mexico.

**Ajanta, India** [Si] A Buddhist shrine in central India where a series of 28 rock-cut temples were constructed along the northern shore of the Waghora River between the 1st century BC and the 5th century AD. On the walls are scenes from the Jatakas, stories about the lives of the Buddha in earlier incarnations. At its height, Ajanta was home to more than 200 monks.

**Sum.:** R. Gupte and B. D. Mahajan, 1962, *Ajanta, Elora and Aurangabad caves*. Bombay: Taraporevala

**Ajuereado Phase** [CP] Earliest main phase of settlement in the \*Tehuacán Valley of Mexico, dating to 9500–7000 BC. This phase was characterized by Palaeo-Indian communities using spears with leaf-shaped points to hunt horse, antelope, and deer. The tool kit is dominated by butchering and hide-working equipment. In the early part of the phase there is little evidence for the use of plant resources; the exploitation of the valley seems to have involved small mobile hunting groups. About 8000 BC, horse, antelope, and several other animal species became extinct, perhaps because of over-hunting, forcing the population to greater reliance on plant food.

**Akerman, John Yonge** (1806–73) [Bi] English antiquary, who worked as secretary to William Cobbett. Akerman had a lifelong interest in the study of coins and helped found the Numismatic Society of London in 1836. Soon afterwards he began editing the *Numismatic Journal*. He was influential as the secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London (1848–60), and in 1855 published *Remains of Pagon Saxondum*, a synthesis of recent discoveries.

**Bio.:** *Dictionary of National Biography*, 1, 211

**Akhenaten (Ikhnaton, Amenophis IV)** [Na] Pharaoh of Egypt in the period c.1349–1333 BC, towards the end of the 18th Dynasty of the New Kingdom. Together with his queen Nefertiti, he rejected the traditional pantheon of Egyptian gods, preferring instead the monotheistic worship of \*Aten as the

state religion. During his reign he moved the capital of Egypt from \*Thebes to El-Amarna. On Akhenaten's death there was a rapid return to the worship of \*Amen in Thebes.

**Akkadian Period** [CP] A cultural grouping named after an archaeologically unlocated site in the northern part of \*Sumer (possibly \*Babylon) that became the capital city of the Akkadian state founded by Sargon in c.2370 BC. Under Sargon and his grandson Naram-Sin the dynasty extended the city-state into a larger empire covering northern and southern Mesopotamia as well as the neighbouring area of Elam. The Semitic language that was associated with the Akkadian Empire is also called Akkadian and replaced Sumerian as the official language of the region. It was also written in \*cuneiform script which had originally been devised to record the unrelated and quite different Sumerian language. Through the later 3rd millennium BC the Akkadian language became extensively used throughout the Near East and into Anatolia and Egypt, in the 2nd and 1st millennia BC becoming Assyrian and Babylonian.

**ala** (pl. *alae*) [De] **1.** Latin term for an auxiliary cavalry unit of either 500 or, more rarely, 1000 men. **2.** An open room or rooms (*alae*) within a Roman house on either side of the \*atrium.

**alabaster** [Ma] See GYPSUM.

**Alaca Hüyük, Turkey** [Si] Multi-period settlement site covering more than 7 ha near Alaca to the east of Ankara on the Anatolian Plateau. Extensive excavations by Hamit Kosay during the period 1935–49 established the long and complicated history of the site spanning the Chalcolithic through to the late Roman period. Related to the early Bronze Age II Phase (early 3rd millennium BC) of the settlement is a group of 13 'royal graves' situated just outside the town. These tombs comprise rectangular stone or timber-lined pits containing single or double inhumations accompanied by extremely rich grave goods. These include royal standards in the form of animal figures plated in precious metals, and a range of weapons, jewellery, and vessels in precious metal. Notable is the very early occurrence of two daggers made of iron with gold-plated handles. As a final act animal

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skins had been spread over the top of the grave pits, the skulls and hooves being found upon excavation.

From the 2nd millennium BC is an extensive \*Hittite occupation consisting of a walled town containing several temples, residential areas, and a monumental gateway known as the Sphinx Gate. There was an iron foundry within the town, the whole complex perhaps being identified with the Old Hittite period cult centre known as Arinna.

**Rep.:** H. Z. Kosay, 1973, *Alaca Hoyuk Kazisi: 1963–1967 calismalari ve kesiflere ait ilk rapor*. Ankara: Turk Tarih Kuruma yayinlarindan

**Alamanni** [CP] A confederation of several Germanic tribes who amalgamated in the 3rd century AD. In c.AD 260 they conquered the Roman frontier lands between the Rhine and the Danube, and remained there, despite their defeat by the Romans in AD 357, until the Frankish expansions of the 6th century AD incorporated their territory into Francia.

**Alans** [CP] Nomadic people of southeastern Russia, who migrated eastwards as their lands were taken over by the Goths during the 3rd century AD. The advance of the \*Huns caused a movement westwards. Some Alans joined the Huns in the 370s AD. A tribe of Alans crossed into Spain in AD 409, where they joined forces with the \*Vandals.

**Alaric** [Na] \*Visigoth leader who in AD 395 led a migration of his people into Greece and devastated the Balkans. The eastern government encouraged him to turn his attention westwards and he invaded Italy in 401. In an attempt to find lands for his people he marched south but failed to cross to Sicily, and died in southern Italy c.AD 410.

**Alaric II** [Na] King of the \*Visigoths, who succeeded his father Euric in AD 484 and ruled the Catholics with toleration. In 506 he issued a code of laws abstracted from Roman practice for the use of his Roman subjects. He was defeated and killed by Clovis in AD 507 at Vuillé.

**Albany** [CP] A late Stone Age industry of southern and eastern Cape Province, South Africa, dating to the period 10 000 to 6000 BC. Also known as the Oakhurst, this industry has few distinctive tool types except large scrapers more than 20 mm long. The Albany

industries directly precede the appearance of \*Wilton industries.

**albarello** [Ar] A type of late medieval drug-jar, made in Spain, with a particularly fine thin tin glaze over blue designs that draw heavily on contemporary forms of Arabic script. Albarello ware were traded and have been found in the Netherlands and Britain.

**Albion** [Ge] Name for Britain used by \*Avienus.

**Alboin** [Na] King of the \*Lombards, succeeding his father c.AD 565. With Avar assistance he destroyed the Gepids and withdrew into Italy with his people, where he overthrew the new Byzantine state. He was murdered in AD 572.

**Alcuin** [Na] Theologian born at York in c.AD 735 and educated in the cathedral school. In AD 778, when master of the school, he was chosen by Charlemagne to found the Palace School at Aachen. He settled in Francia and from AD 796 to his death he was abbot of Tours. He wrote theological and philosophical works and his influence was widespread in court circles. He died c.AD 804.

#### **Aldborough, North Yorkshire, England**

[Si] Roman and later settlement beside the River Ouse in the Vale of York known mainly through antiquarian excavations. Extensive Flavian occupation suggests a fort of the Roman IXth Legion and a \*vicus lasting through the later 1st century AD. The settlement became the \*civitas capital *Isurium Brigantum* in the early 2nd century. Earthwork defences were built in the late 2nd century enclosing a rectangular area of 22.3 ha. There were four main gates, one in the centre of each side, with baths to the west. The defences were strengthened with the addition of a stone wall in the mid 3rd century. Several houses have been excavated within the town, one with a fine mosaic pavement carrying a Greek inscription beside the figure of a man reading from a scroll. Another depicts the legend of Romulus and Remus. Occupation continued down into Anglian and Viking times on a small scale. The modern village of Aldborough lies within the southern part of the former Roman town and has a fine medieval church and market cross.

**Rep.:** M. Snape, P. Bidwell, and A. Croom, 2002, Aldborough Roman town: excavations by Miss

D. Charlesworth 1961–73 and RCHME 1959–60.  
*Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, 74, 29–111

**Aldboune cup** [Ar] Type of miniature cup or accessory vessel found in early Bronze Age (\*Wessex Culture) graves in southern England. Generally less than 15 cm across, Aldboune cups are characterized by a wide mouth and straight-sided body decorated with geometric incised and *pointillé* decoration.

**Aldboune–Edmonsham group** [CP] Term for a group of distinctive burials of the Wessex Culture in southern Britain, named after two typical examples: Aldboune, Wiltshire, and Edmonsham, Dorset. Burials of this tradition are mainly cremations. Both males and females are represented and grave goods typically include \*Camerton–Snowhill daggers, bone tweezers, \*Aldboune cups, bronze or bone pins, and shaft-hole battle-axes. The few dates available cluster in the 15th century BC.

**alembic** [Ar] The upper part of a two-piece round container used in distillation. A downward-sloping spout allows a condensed distillate to run into another vessel.

**Aleutian Tradition** [CP] Hunter-gatherer tradition found in western Alaska and the Aleutian Islands from about 3000 BC down to AD 1800. Characterized by a distinctive core and flake stone industry and an elaborate bone-working tradition. Most distinctive are the bifacially trimmed projectile points, tanged and untanged knives, and adzes. Among the bone artefacts special note may be made of the finely worked harpoon heads and figurines. The subsistence base was marine mammals and sea fish such as cod and halibut. Houses were elliptical or rectangular in plan, dug about 0.5 m into the ground, roofed with driftwood and sod, and probably entered through an opening in the roof.

**Alexander I (The Fierce)** [Na] King of Scotland. Born c.1077, fifth son of Malcolm III and Margaret. Married Sybilla, illegitimate daughter of Henry I of England. He died in AD 1124 aged 47, having reigned seventeen years.

**Alexander II** [Na] King of Scotland. Born 1198, son of William I. Married: (1) Joan,

daughter of John, king of England; (2) Marie, daughter of Ingelram de Coucy. He died in 1249 aged 50, having reigned 34 years.

**Alexander III** [Na] King of Scotland. Born 1241, son of Alexander II and Marie. Married: (1) Margaret, daughter of Henry III of England; (2) Yoland, daughter of the count of Dreux. He was killed accidentally in AD 1285 aged 44, having reigned 36 years.

**Alexander the Great** [Na] Leader of the Macedonians. Born in 356 BC, Alexander was tutored in his early years by Aristotle before succeeding his father Philip as king of Macedonia and the mainland of Greece in 336 BC. Early in his reign he set about releasing the Greeks from Persian domination, but continued his campaigns into a programme of imperialist aggrandizement that eventually created a massive, albeit short-lived, empire from India to Egypt. After his death from fever in 323 BC his hastily constructed dominion fell apart, the most lasting tribute to his achievement being the town of Alexandria, which he founded in Egypt in 331 BC.

**Alexandria, Egypt** [Si] Coastal city and Hellenistic capital in the northwestern area of the Nile Delta, established by Alexander the Great in 331 BC. It soon replaced Memphis as the capital of Egypt, establishing itself as a hub of eastern Mediterranean trade with its famous double harbour and favourable position at the natural intersection of shipping routes. Important buildings within this trading port included the tomb of Alexander, the temple of Serapis, the great library, and the Pharos which rates as one of the \*Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Built of white limestone, the Pharos had three tiers and is estimated to have been 110 m high. It was destroyed by an earthquake in the 14th century AD.

**Sum.:** G. L. Sheen (ed.), 1993, *Alexandria: the site and its history*. New York: New York University Press

**Alfred the Great** [Na] King of Wessex whose exploits are known from the \**Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* and the biography written by his friend Asser. Born in Wantage, Oxfordshire, in AD 849, he succeeded to the throne of Wessex in AD 871. After numerous encounters with Viking raiders and a period in hiding in the remote area of Athelney, Somerset, he

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drove the invaders out of Wessex and forced the \*Danelaw upon them. In consolidating his victory he established stronger links with the Carolingian Empire, created an English fleet, and developed a series of fortified towns, known as *burhs*, across central southern England. He died in AD 899.

**Alice Holt ware** [Ar] Major Romano-British pottery industry based around Farnham in Surrey, England, producing a wide range of wares between the mid 1st century AD and the 4th century AD. Grey and cream-coloured fabrics predominate.

**alidade** [Eq] At its most simple, a flat wooden or metal strip with a scaled straight edge on one side and sighting mounts at each end so that it can be aligned on specific target points when used in conjunction with a plane table. More sophisticated alidades are equipped with telescopic sights and a series of levels and scales to measure vertical angles. *See* PLANE TABLE.

**alien** [De] An ecclesiastical establishment which was directly dependent on a foreign monastery. *See* MONASTERY.

**alienation** [Th] The sense that our own abilities, as human beings, are taken over by other entities. The term was originally used by Karl Marx to refer to the projection of human powers on to gods. Subsequently he employed the term to refer to the loss of control on the part of workers over the nature of the labour task, and over the products of their labour. Archaeologically it provides a useful set of concepts for dealing with the development of state-based societies and early industrialization.

**alignment** [De] A straight line formed by connecting three or more significant or related points. *Compare* ORIENTATION.

**Ali Kosh, Iran** [Si] Early Neolithic \*tell on the Deh Luran plain in lowland Khuzistan, western Iran, excavated by Frank Hole and Kent Flannery in the 1960s. The work was innovative in successfully using a \*flotation unit to sample deposits for carbonized plant remains. The cultural sequence begins at about 8000 BC and runs through for about two millennia, spanning the period when farming developed in the region. In the earliest, Bus Mordeh, phase (c.8000–7000 BC) the

settlement comprised simple rectangular houses built of mud brick. The occupants lived through a combination of simple farming, hunting, and gathering. Domesticates included herded sheep and goats together with hulled barley, and emmer and einkorn wheat. The inhabitants collected a wide range of plants and also fished. In the succeeding Ali Kosh Phase (c.7000–6200 BC) the same range of domesticates were found and some hunting and fishing still occurred, but the contribution made by wild plants decreased dramatically as the use of cultivated plants increased. The settlement was larger, with more substantial buildings. In the third, Muhammad Jaffar, phase (c.6200–5800 BC) there were further innovations, including the introduction of pottery, and farming had become firmly established. The site appears to have been abandoned in the mid 6th millennium BC.

**Rep.:** F. Hole, K. V. Flannery, and J. A. Neely, 1969. *Prehistory and human ecology of the Deh Luran Plain*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press

**Allectus** [Na] Roman finance minister to the usurper Carausius and his murderer in AD 293. Allectus was defeated and deposed by Constantius Chlorus, in AD 296.

**allée couverte** [MC] Class of Neolithic chambered tomb found in central and northern France. It comprises long rectangular chambers with little or no evidence of differentiation within them, although some have antechambers at the entrance and a small inaccessible cell beyond the back wall of the main chamber. This end-cell sometimes has pairs of raised lumps carved on to the faces of the wall stones that are interpreted as female breasts. Low stone and earth mounds cover the chambers, and in some cases there are kerbs around the outer edge of the mound. They date to the 3rd millennium BC and are especially common in Brittany and the Paris basin (\*Seine–Oise–Marne Culture). Where excavated, the chambers are found to contain the remains of several hundred individuals.

**Allen, Derek Fortrose** (1910–75) [Bi] British numismatist and archaeologist well known for his work on early coinage in Britain and Gaul. From 1935 until 1939 he was Assistant Keeper in the Department of Coins