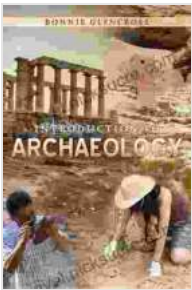


# In The Beginning: An Introduction to Archaeology

Archaeology is the study of human history and prehistory through the excavation and analysis of material remains. It is a multidisciplinary field that draws on the methods and techniques of anthropology, history, geology, and other disciplines.



## In the Beginning: An Introduction to Archaeology

by Brian M. Fagan

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 500 pages



Archaeologists study a wide range of material remains, including buildings, artifacts, and ecofacts. Buildings are structures that were constructed by humans for a variety of purposes, such as shelter, storage, or defense. Artifacts are objects that were made or used by humans, such as tools, weapons, and jewelry. Ecofacts are natural objects that have been modified by humans, such as animal bones or plant remains.

Archaeologists use a variety of methods to excavate and analyze material remains. These methods include:

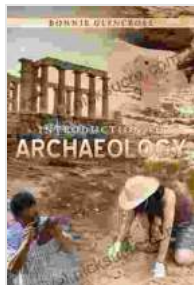
- **Surface survey:** This involves walking over a site and looking for artifacts and other evidence of human activity.
- **Test excavation:** This involves digging small holes in a site to determine the presence and extent of buried remains.
- **Full-scale excavation:** This involves excavating an entire site or a large portion of a site.
- **Analysis:** This involves studying the material remains that have been excavated and interpreting their significance.

Archaeological sites can be classified into a variety of types, including:

- **Habitation sites:** These are sites where people lived for a period of time. They may include houses, storage structures, and other features.
- **Burial sites:** These are sites where people were buried. They may include graves, cemeteries, and other features.
- **Industrial sites:** These are sites where people worked or produced goods. They may include workshops, factories, and other features.
- **Public sites:** These are sites that were used for public purposes, such as temples, plazas, and other features.

Archaeology has a long and rich history. The first archaeologists were antiquarians who collected and studied ancient artifacts. In the 19th century, archaeology began to develop into a more scientific discipline. Today, archaeology is a global field of study that is practiced by thousands of archaeologists from all over the world.

Archaeology is a valuable tool for understanding human history and prehistory. It can provide us with insights into the lives of our ancestors, the cultures they created, and the environments in which they lived.



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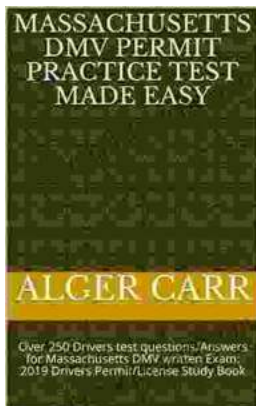
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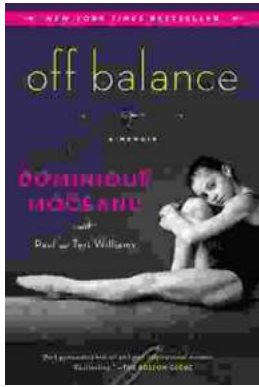
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