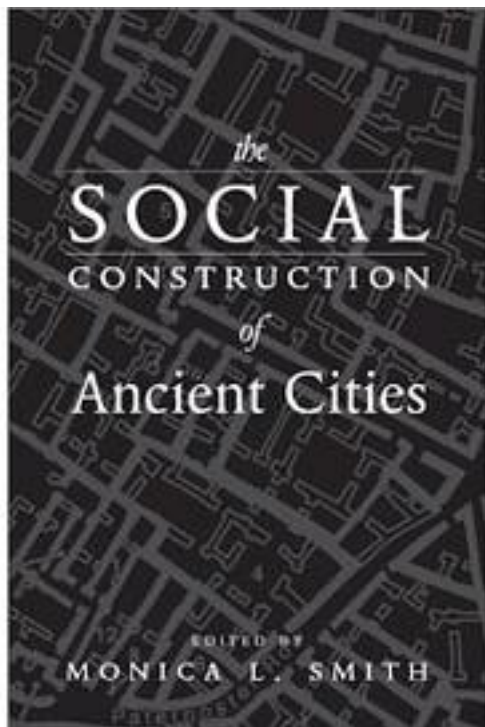


The Social Construction of Ancient Cities



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A fresh new perspective on ancient cities and the social networks and relations that built and sustained them

This book marks a dramatic change in direction for the archaeology of ancient cities. Previous investigations have tended to focus largely on either monuments, palaces, and other large structures or on cities' hinterlands and territories, and were preoccupied with topics such as settlement patterns and long-distance exchanges of material goods and cultural practices. The archaeologists who contributed to this book return their attention to the heart of ancient cities, examining urban centers in

countries around the world, including Mexico, Africa, India, and China. Their research and analysis demonstrate how complex networks of social relations and structures gave rise to the formation of ancient cities, contributed to their cohesion, and sustained their growth, much as they do in modern urban centers.

作者介绍:

Monica L. Smith is a California native who grew up in the greater Los Angeles area. She currently teaches at UCLA, and conducts research on ancient urbanism through archaeological surveys and excavations. She has written on food and culture, objects and their role in creating personal identity, and the long history of humans as the "consuming primate."

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