

In conclusion, the results of modern studies on Egyptian mummies, collected and clearly set out in this work, represent an invaluable point of reference for specialists and students alike.

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Thomas Rütten, *Geschichten vom Hippokratischen Eid*, Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz, 2008, CD-ROM, €20.00 (978-3-447-05679-3).

It is difficult to think of a medical text historically more significant than the Hippocratic Oath. With this CD-ROM, Rütten retraces some of the “histories” (*Geschichten*) of this document. Rather than concentrating on issues of authorship and dating, so prominent in existing scholarship, Rütten focuses on the reception of the Oath through six historical periods: ancient (until c.AD 500), medieval (until c.1450), Renaissance (until c.1580), early modern (until c.1650), modern (until c.1850) and contemporary (to 2008). For each period the CD-ROM presents an outline of the reception of the Oath, a text of the Oath representative of that period, as well as information divided into three thematic categories: ‘Justice and Injustice’ (*Recht und Unrecht*), which deals with ethics and law; ‘Text and Understanding’ (*Text und Verständnis*), which deals with philological questions; and ‘Kitsch and Art’ (*Kitsch und Kunst*), which deals with aesthetical questions.

The text chosen for each period (for example, the text of papyrus Oxyrhynchus xxxi 2547v for the ancient period, and the text edited by Jacques Jouanna for the contemporary period) is reproduced, transcribed, translated into German, and can be read in parallel with the introductory paragraphs. The thematic sections focus in more detail on aspects of the reception history of the Oath. For instance, the ‘Justice and Injustice’ section tells the story of the

late-nineteenth-century French doctor Watelet who was condemned for violating patient confidentiality (article 378 of the French penal code) by writing in the newspaper *Le Matin* how the painter Jules Bastien-Lepage had died from testicular cancer rather than the speculated syphilis. The ‘Text and Understanding’ section contains, *inter alia*, a discussion of François Tissard’s first printed edition of the Oath in Greek (1508), which was accompanied by a Latin interlinear translation; and the ‘Kitsch and Art’ section presents poetic Latin translations of the Oath as well as an extremely kitsch T-shirt adorned with the text of the Oath, sold as a souvenir in Greece.

The CD-ROM is lavishly illustrated: in addition to reproductions of texts found in manuscripts, rare books, and modern editions, one will find paintings (e.g., Eustache, Alexander and his doctor, 1648/9), portraits (e.g. that of Jules Bastien-Lepage), photos (e.g., Jane Roe a.k.a. Norma Mc Corvey, and Ludwig Edelstein), sculptures (e.g., a second-century statue of Hygeia), and manuscript illuminations (for instance, the delightful drawing of foetuses in the womb found in a Brussels manuscript). By right-clicking on the reproduction, the reader will be redirected to a detailed caption. The user of this CD-ROM will also be able to listen to a musical rendering of the Oath by Mauricio Kagel (1894).

The aim of this CD-ROM is to be an educational tool, and certainly, a multi-layered approach to the Oath has a substantial teaching potential. However, one is not sure who exactly Rütten’s intended audience is: law and medicine students may not be able to deal with abbreviated references to ancient texts, and classics students may not be familiar with legal and medical concepts. A high-quality website, with links to further material—and there is a lot of information regarding some aspects of the Oath’s history on the web—might have been more successful than the CD-ROM format. In the absence of such a website, this CD-ROM offers a German-speaking audience a didactic introduction to

the multi-faceted history of the Hippocratic Oath through the ages.

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John Magilton, Frances Lee and Anthea Boylston (eds), *'Lepers outside the gate': excavations at the cemetery of the Hospital of St James and St Mary Magdalene, Chichester, 1986–87 and 1993*, Chichester Excavations vol. 10, CBA Research Report 158, York, Council for British Archaeology, 2008, pp. xxiii, 294, illus., and CD-ROM, £40.00 (paperback 978-1-9-0277-1-74-8).

Though a long time in the making, a volume on the leprosy hospital of St James and St Mary Magdalene in Chichester has finally arrived. This book is an interim account and claims to be the largest published sample of an English leprosarium and almshouse. The cemetery dates from the twelfth to the seventeenth century with two distinct phases of use. The leprosarium phase (area A) dates from the twelfth to the late fifteenth century with 126 mainly male individuals. The second phase (area B) is the almshouse phase and dates from the late fifteenth to the seventeenth century with 258 individuals showing a typical demographic profile.

The work is divided into four sections to allow readers of different backgrounds to access their topic of particular interest with ease. The main chapters deal with: leprosy hospitals in general, the history and archaeology of the hospital in Chichester, the human skeletal remains, and, finally, an overview of the results. Magilton places the archaeological findings in their social context thus allowing an appreciation of the implications of the disease in society and the attitudes held by the clergy, physicians and the population in general. He successfully links the history to osteology by drawing on the results of the skeletal analysis discussed in later chapters. I expected the book to be somewhat fragmentary given the large number

of authors involved (ten in all), but this is not the case; there are connections between the chapters so that they form a largely coherent volume. It does not matter that some topics are repeated as this allows the reader to select specific chapters. I was somewhat confused about the extent of the osteological analysis carried out by each researcher but assume that all research was based on the demographic profiles generated on the enclosed CD, while each author carried out his or her own analysis of the individual topics discussed in the various chapters.

Two chapters (Donald Ortner, and Frances Lee and Keith Manchester) in particular address the topic of leprosy and its diagnosis. Ortner provides a well considered account of previous diagnosis of leprosy and the problems of differential diagnosis. He also discusses the terminology that should be used for describing signs of the disease in skeletal material. This chapter is an excellent guideline for osteologists who wish to learn more about how to recognize leprosy and the pitfalls in doing so. Lee and Manchester provide a more general account of the condition, including the effects on the soft tissue followed by a discussion of the cases in the Chichester sample.

Some chapters are perhaps less relevant to the topic of leprosy, but none the less provide an insight into the work carried out on the skeletal collection in general. Some discussions on other diseases such as trauma, joint disease and cranial asymmetry attempt to link their findings to the overarching topic of leprosy. Unfortunately the chapters fail to explain if the analyses were made with leprosy as the prime consideration from the outset or whether these are retrospective considerations.

The book is aimed at a general readership, with the bonus of a CD for those particularly interested in the archaeology and osteology of the site. A comprehensive glossary of medical terms has been provided for the reader, less familiar with the terminology of skeletal analysis. The CD provides an individual breakdown of all the skeletons included in the book and is the way forward for any