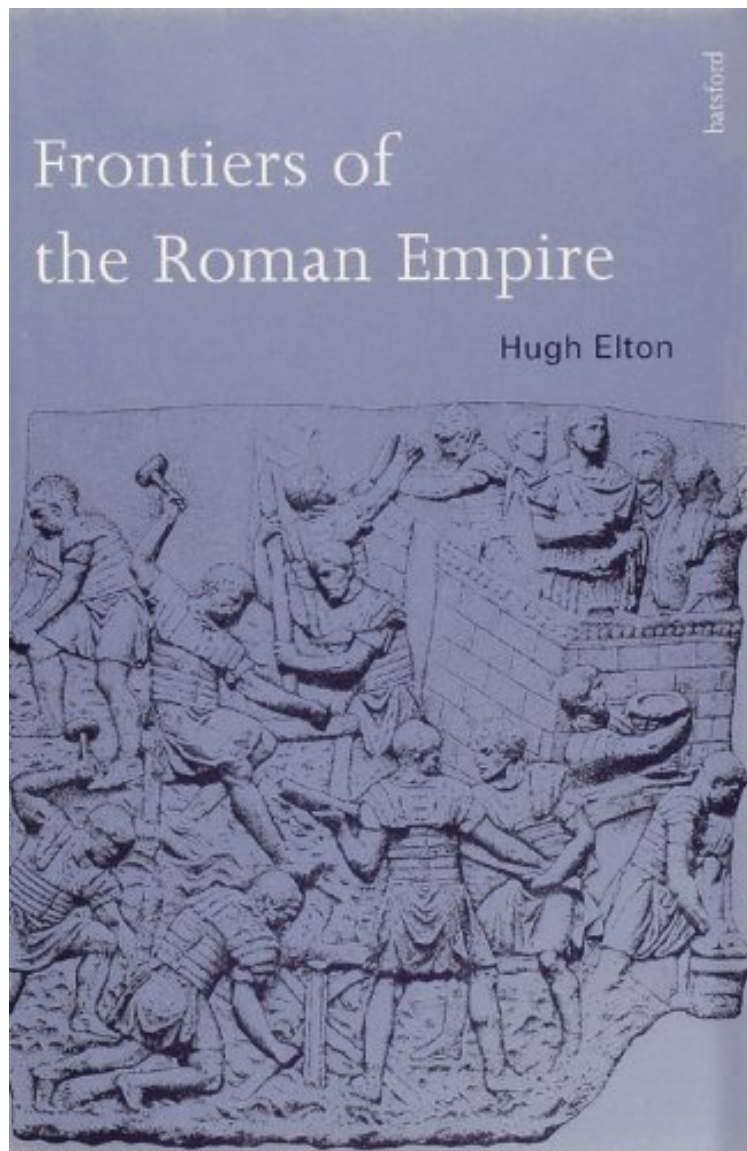


(Read and download) Frontiers of the Roman Empire (The Archaeology of the Roman Empire)

Frontiers of the Roman Empire (The Archaeology of the Roman Empire)

Von Hugh Elton

*Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks



 Download

 Read Online

Produktinformation Veröffentlicht am: 2013-04-15 Erscheinungsdatum: 2013-04-15 File Name: B00CDV18SM | File size: 27.Mb

Von Hugh Elton : Frontiers of the Roman Empire (The Archaeology of the Roman Empire) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Frontiers of the Roman Empire (The Archaeology of the Roman Empire):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Succint

yet Informative Von G. W. Thielman In this slim volume, Dr. Elton provides an informative overview of Roman administrative and commercial relations at the extremities of the empire. One of the author's themes concerns the treatment of "frontier" in the literature, particularly its emphasis on fortifications, with which the author takes issue. Dr. Elton contends, quite reasonably, that the frontier was composed, not of well-defined boundaries, but of overlapping zones of influence - some areas under direct Roman control, while other regions serving as conduits for trade. A natural border, such as a river or mountain range might provide a reference for demarcation, but apparently did not prevent exchange of people or material in any substantial manner. The might of the Roman army encouraged local kings to form alliances with Rome, and gradually these regions would be annexed into provinces. Legions could be concentrated on a region for conquest and later dispersed for engineering public works projects or pursue bandits. In the wake of the soldiers were traders who supplied the army's material needs. According to Dr. Elton, passage across regional borders were readily accessible to traders, who could acquire wealth, and consequently animosity from locals, possibly exacerbated by the economic distortions caused by the influx of large numbers of men not involved in agricultural production. Now and again, a revolt had to be suppressed, and Dr. Elton illustrates the example of Gaul in 69-70 taken from Tacitus' *Historiae*. Roman administration generally concentrated on levying taxes and collecting customs duties, rather than transformation of a local society. This policy may have benefitted from the multi-lingual fluency of the empire's inhabitants, at least in urban regions. Alexander's empire had spread the Greek language in the west (augmented by Latin), while Aramaic and Syriac were understood in the east, all serving as multiple forms of *lingua franca* in their respective areas. *Frontiers* challenges the narrow focus on many classical studies devoted to either political intrigues among the ruling classes in the capitals. By rendering an economic dimension to the relationships between Romans and the barbarians with whom they had contact, Dr. Elton provides a better understanding on the world in which people lived outside of Rome during the early centuries of imperial rule. A commendable work.

Kurzbeschreibung With its succinct analysis of the overriding issues and detailed case-studies based on the latest archaeological research, this social and economic study of Roman Imperial frontiers is essential reading. Too often the frontier has been represented as a simple linear boundary. The reality, argues Dr Elton, was rather a fuzzy set of interlocking zones - political, military, judicial and financial. After discussion of frontier theory and types of frontier, the author analyses the acquisition of an empire and the ways in which it was ruled. He addresses the vexed question of how to define the edges of provinces, and covers the relationship with allied kingdoms. Regional variation and different rates of change are seen as significant - as is illustrated by Civilis' revolt on the Rhine in AD 69. He uses another case-study - Dura-Europos - to exemplify the role of the army on the frontier, especially its relations with the population on both sides of the border. The central importance of trade is highlighted by special consideration of Palmyra. Pressestimmen "Prof. Elton make a valuable contribution to the unusual field of Roman frontier studies by reminding us that unlike a modern border, that is a sharply delineated line separating two states, the Roman frontier was a fuzzy zone between what was clearly Roman and what was clearly 'other.'" - Albert Nofi, The NYMAS Kurzbeschreibung With its succinct analysis of the overriding issues and detailed case-studies based on the latest archaeological research, this social and economic study of Roman Imperial frontiers is essential reading. Too often the frontier has been represented as a simple linear boundary. The reality, argues Dr Elton, was rather a fuzzy set of interlocking zones - political, military, judicial and financial. After discussion of frontier theory and types of frontier, the author analyses the acquisition of an empire and the ways in which it was ruled. He addresses the vexed question of how to define the edges of provinces, and covers the relationship with allied kingdoms. Regional variation and different rates of change are seen as significant - as is illustrated by Civilis' revolt on the Rhine in AD 69. He uses another case-study - Dura-Europos - to exemplify the role of the army on the frontier, especially its relations with the population on both sides of the border. The central importance of trade is highlighted by special consideration of Palmyra.