MAKING ANCIENT CITIES

This volume investigates how the structure and use of space developed and changed in cities and examines the role of different societal groups in shaping urbanism. Culturally and chronologically diverse case studies provide a basis for examining recent theoretical and methodological shifts in the archaeology of ancient cities. The book's primary goal is to examine how ancient cities were made by the people who lived in them. The authors argue that there is a mutually constituting relationship between urban form and the actions and interactions of a plurality of individuals, groups, and institutions, each with its own motivations and identities. Space is therefore socially produced as these agents operate in multiple spheres.

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Making Ancient Cities

SPACE AND PLACE IN EARLY URBAN SOCIETIES

Edited by

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Andrew Creekmore dedicates this volume to his parents, Ted and Carol Creekmore; his grandmother Sarah Roberts; and his wife Eleanor Moseman. Their love, support, and self-sacrifice made possible his career in archaeology.

Kevin Fisher dedicates this volume to the memory of Todd Michael Fisher (1973–2010), his little brother.
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Preface

This volume owes its origins to a round-table discussion on ancient cities organized by Michael Smith at the 2008 Society for American Archaeology (SAA) annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia. The round table was attended by both editors of this volume and a number of other archaeologists interested in furthering the analysis of urban form across ancient cultures. The stimulating discussions that arose during the round table prompted us to organize a more formal symposium that would explore how urban space was produced through social action and interaction, using case studies from around the world. The chapters in this volume are expanded and updated versions of papers presented at the “Studies of the Production of Space in Ancient Cities” symposium at the 2009 SAA annual meeting held in Atlanta, Georgia. George Cowgill, who kindly served as discussant for the symposium, was unable to participate in this volume, and we are fortunate that Norman Yoffee was able to assume this role. Our work as editors was made easier by the patience and hard work of the volume contributors, and we thank them profusely for all their efforts. We are grateful to Michael Smith and an anonymous reviewer for their thoughtful comments on both the individual chapters and the volume as a whole. We also thank Virginia Ogg, who served as Assistant Editor, for her attention to detail through the final stages of the volume. As editors, we bear responsibility for any remaining errors or omissions.

Andrew T. Creekmore III and Kevin D. Fisher, June 2013