1. Record Nr. UNINA9910785942103321 Autore Olsen Bjørnar Titolo Archaeology [[electronic resource]]: the discipline of things // Bjørnar Olsen ... [et al.] Berkeley, : University of California Press, 2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-283-69593-6 0-520-95400-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (266 p.) Disciplina 930.1 Soggetti Archaeology Material culture Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Contents -- Preface -- 1. Introduction: Caring about Things -- 2. The Ambiguity of Things: Contempt and Desire -- 3. Engagements with Things: The Making of Archaeology -- 4. Digging Deep: Archaeology and Fieldwork -- 5. Things in Translation: Documents and Imagery -- 6. Futures for Things: Memory Practices and Digital Translation -- 7. Timely Things: From Argos to Mycenae and Beyond -- 8. Making and the Design of Things: Human Being and the Shape of History -- 9. Getting on with Things: A Material Metaphysics of Care -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto Archaeology has always been marked by its particular care, obligation, and loyalty to things. While archaeologists may not share similar perspectives or practices, they find common ground in their concern for objects monumental and mundane. This book considers the myriad ways that archaeologists engage with things in order to craft stories, both big and small, concerning our relations with materials and the nature of the past. Literally the "science of old things," archaeology does not discover the past as it was but must work with what remains.

Such work involves the tangible mediation of past and present, of people and their cultural fabric, for things cannot be separated from society. Things are us. This book does not set forth a sweeping new theory. It does not seek to transform the discipline of archaeology.

Rather, it aims to understand precisely what archaeologists do and to urge practitioners toward a renewed focus on and care for things.