1. Record Nr. UNINA9910786220603321

Titolo The development of pre-state communities in the ancient Near East

[[electronic resource]]: studies in honour of Edgar Peltenburg //

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Pubbl/distr/stampa Oxford, : Oakville, Conn., : Oxbow Books, c2010

ISBN 1-84217-839-3

1-299-48512-X

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (235 p.)

Collana Themes from the ancient Near East BANEA publication series ; ; v. 2

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Disciplina 935

Soggetti Social archaeology - Middle East

Social archaeology - Cyprus Social archaeology - Turkey

Community life - Middle East - History Community life - Cyprus - History Community life - Turkey - History

Excavations (Archaeology) - Middle East

Middle East Antiquities Middle East History To 622 Middle East History, Local

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali "British Association for Near Eastern Archaeology (BANEA)."

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references.

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Sommario/riassunto

This book explores the dynamics of small-scale societies in the ancient Near East by examining the ways in which particular communities functioned and interacted and by moving beyond the broad neoevolutionary models of social change which have characterised many earlier approaches. By focusing on issues of diversity, scale, and context, it considers the ways in which economy, crafts, technology, and ritual were organised; the roles played by mortuary practices and households in the structure and development of ancient societies; and the importance of agency, identity, ethnicity, gender,