

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910792660703321
Titolo	The archaeology of darkness // edited by Marion Dowd and Robert Hensey
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Oxford, [England] ; ; Philadelphia, [Pennsylvania] : , : Oxbow Books, , 2016 ©2016
ISBN	1-78570-192-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (169 pages, 15 unnumbered pages of plates) : illustrations, tables
Disciplina	304.209
Soggetti	Social archaeology Ethnoarchaeology Landscape archaeology Night - Social aspects - History Caves - Social aspects - History Light and darkness - Social aspects - History Passage Graves culture Human ecology - History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters.
Nota di contenuto	Past dark : a short introduction to the human relationship with darkness over time / Robert Hensey -- Darkness visible : shadows, art, and the ritual experience of caves in Upper Palaeolithic Europe / Paul B. Pettitt -- Between symbol and senses : the role of darkness in ritual in prehistoric Italy / Ruth D. Whitehouse -- Experiencing darkness and light in caves : later prehistoric examples from Seulo in central Sardinia / Robin Skeates -- The dark side of the sky : the orientations of earlier prehistoric monuments in Ireland and Britain / Richard Bradley -- In search of darkness : cave use in Late Bronze Age Ireland / Marion Dowd -- Digging into the darkness : the experience of copper mining in the Great Orme, North Wales / Sian James -- Between realms : entering the darkness of the Hare Paenga in ancient Rapa Nui (Easter Island) / Sue Hamilton and Colin Richards -- Dark places and supernatural light in

early Ireland / John Carey -- Enfolded by the long winter's night / Charlotte Damm -- "The outer darkness of madness" : the Edwardian Winter Garden at Purdysburn Public Asylum for the insane / Gillian Allmond -- Descent into darkness / Tim O'Connell -- Coming in and out of the dark / Gabriel Cooney.

Sommario/riassunto

"Through time people have lived with darkness. Archaeology shows us that over the whole human journey people have sought out dark places, for burials, for votive deposition and sometimes for retreat or religious ritual away from the wider community. Thirteen papers explore the Palaeolithic use of deep caves in Europe and the orientation of mortuary monuments in the Neolithic and Bronze Age. They examine how the senses are affected in caves and monuments that were used for ritual activities, from Bronze Age miners in Wales working in dangerous subterranean settings, to initiands in Italian caves, to a modern caver's experience of spending time in the one of the world's deepest caves in Russia. We see how darkness was and is viewed at northern latitudes where parts of the year are spent in eternal night, and in Easter Island where darkness provided communal refuge from the pervasive sun. We know that spending extended periods in darkness and silence can affect one physically, emotionally and spiritually. How did interactions between people and darkness affect individuals in the past and how were they regarded by their communities? And how did this interaction transform places in the landscape? As the ever-increasing electrification of the planet steadily minimises the amount of darkness in our lives, curiously, darkness is coming more into focus. This first collection of papers on the subject begins a conversation about the role of darkness in human experience through time"--From publisher's website.
