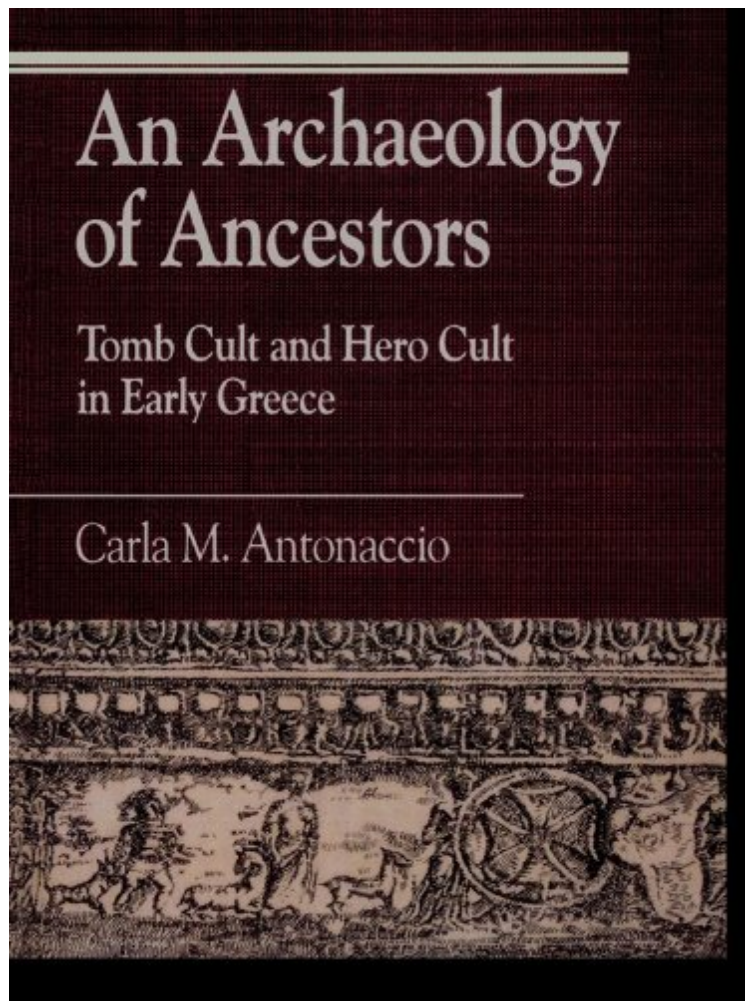


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An Archaeology of Ancestors: Tomb Cult and Hero Cult in Early Greece (Greek Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches)

Carla M. Antonaccio

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Carla M. Antonaccio : An Archaeology of Ancestors: Tomb Cult and Hero Cult in Early Greece (Greek Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An Archaeology of Ancestors: Tomb Cult and Hero Cult in Early Greece (Greek Studies: Interdisciplinary Approaches):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By troyt This is a great book that does exactly as it promises. It gives an over-view of the hero cults and ancestor worship up until the Iron Age (sometimes going a bit further to prove her point). It's thorough, explaining all of the research done in each grave site. It's obviously a very scholarly, very dry book. It's not for beginners, although manageable if you have google open and are willing to search every other word...and I speak from experience. The only issue I had with this book is that the index is off by a few

pages, making it completely useless. Note to people who own the book: If the index is being difficult, google books has the preview. Just go to the book preview, search the key term you're looking for, and even if the page isn't available for preview it will tell you which page the term is actually on. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Don't buy: you will just get a photocopy, not the real book. By Ipsaruinadocet Don't buy this book: it's NOT the 1995 paperback edition as advertised on , but a cheap print-on-demand copy of that edition (my copy was actually printed in Lexington, KY, the same day I submitted my order through): the book - and particularly the misprinted cover - looks like a cheap photocopy and is by far not worth the \$46 they will charge you for it.

In this fresh consideration of the origins of the ancient Greeks' ideas and practices concerning their own past, Carla M. Antonaccio demonstrates that hero cult and ancestor cult persisted, throughout the Iron Age, long before epic poetry's heroic narratives were widely disseminated. Although it was not until the dissolution of Iron Age societies that epic poetry and organized hero cult developed to aid claims to legitimacy, practices such as visiting tombs to make offerings were common, and contradict the usual picture of Iron Age religious conservatism.

The book is a mine of documentation, presented with skill and knowledge; an extensive bibliography and a brief index complete this fascinating volume. (Journal Of Indoeuropean Studies) This is a scholarly work which must be read by anyone teaching Greek religion, Greek civilization, or Homer, and would also be enjoyed by the well-informed lay reader. (Religious Studies) There is much of value in the present work, especially her discussions of individual sites. Since Antonaccio is consistently critical and properly cautious in her analysis of her accumulative evidence, her eventual synthesis will be sound. (Ian Begg) Based on careful examination of archaeological data, this study of ancient practices is motivated by a desire to understand and explain the social values and interests that produced the burial practices. Libraries will want this book, and so will all interested in Greek archaeology. (Choice) About the Author Carla M. Antonaccio is assistant professor of classics at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut.