Historical Archaeology at the Cape

About this Publication:

This volume documents the analysis of excavated historical archaeological collections at the Cape of Good Hope, specifically The Castle in Cape Town and Oudepost in Saldanha Bay, over a period of 30 years. It provides a rich picture of life and times at this distant outpost of an immense Dutch seaborne empire in the late 17th and early 18th centuries – a vision of consumption, waste, taste, provisioning, identity and heritage.

The book examines ceramics, glass, metal and other material objects in their archaeological contexts. By revealing the source, uses and significance of some of the material residues of the VOC, this book seeks to create a rich, comparative picture of colonial material culture in an emerging capitalist world.
Contents Include:

Chapter 1  The Background of the Archaeology of the VOC at the Cape
Chapter 2  History, Architecture and Archaeology of Selected VOC Sites at the Cape
Chapter 3  Faunal Analysis and the Development of the Meat Industry at the VOC Cape in the 17th and 18th Centuries
Chapter 4  Asian Ceramic Collections from VOC Sites at the Cape
Chapter 5  Coarse Earthenware Collections from VOC sites at the Cape
Chapter 6  European Stoneware Collections from VOC sites at the Cape
Chapter 7  Tin-Glazed, Refined and Industrial Earthenwares from VOC Sites at the Cape
Chapter 8  Glass Collections from VOC Sites at the Cape
Chapter 9  Objects of Personal Adornment at VOC Sites at the Cape
Chapter 10 Metals and Associated Artifacts from Oudepost I, Cape
Chapter 11 Analysis of Gunflints from VOC Sites at the Cape
Chapter 12 Implications and Prospects of the Archaeology of the VOC at the Cape

Of Interest and Benefit to:

Archaeologists and historians of colonial South Africa, as well as the general interested reader.