



**RESILIENCE AND ARCHAEOLOGY: HUMAN RESPONSE TO PAST HARDSHIP**

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Over the last decades, the concept of resilience has become central within the archaeological agenda, particularly as to the study of change and transformation. Two main characterizations have been emphasised: the first one dealing with the short-term ability of a system to quickly regain an equilibrium state (*engineering* or *political resilience*); the other one focusing on the long-term capacity to adapt and transform (*ecosystem* or *cultural resilience*). In both cases, complex systems and their response to hardship are the objects of study. Those can, through the lens of resilience, intersect with and inform on other aspects such as sustainability, connectedness, agency, scalarity, flexibility, vulnerability, and adaptability.

In general, we understand resilience as a dynamic process within a given system that links a set of adaptive capacities to a trajectory of functioning and adaptation after a disturbance. It is also a neutral interdisciplinary framework useful to explore social, cultural, economic, and ecological changes at different magnitudes, and at different systemic and spatial scales. It allows us to grasp the complexity of those systems rather than to attempt to determine only the causes of disturbance.

For this volume, we welcome papers that discuss, either from a short- or long-term perspective, how communities or individuals engaged with past hardship; the strategies implemented to overcome these difficulties and changes; and how the nature and consequences of these hardships impacted human society. Possible questions to be explored may include, though are not limited to:

- ❖ How does the choice of different systemic, temporal or spatial scales affect the archaeological investigation of past resilience?
- ❖ How can archaeologists detect resilience in the archaeological record? And which are the limitations of its exploration?
- ❖ What are the systemic proxies to be considered in the investigation of past adaptive strategies?
- ❖ How can resilience theory, adaptive cycle modelling, or complexity theory (particularly in conjugation with agent-based modelling) contribute to the archaeological investigation of past resilience?
- ❖ How can short-term adaptive strategies be linked to long-term ones?
- ❖ How can interdisciplinary approaches (e.g. computational) be applied to the study of past resilience?

Potential contributors are encouraged to register interest early by submitting an abstract of up to 250 words or contacting the editors directly to discuss their ideas to [arc.resilience@gmail.com](mailto:arc.resilience@gmail.com) by **July 10<sup>th</sup> 2020**. Papers of no more than 4000 words should be submitted before **August 24<sup>th</sup> 2020** for publication in April 2021. More information about the Archaeological Review from Cambridge, including past issues and submission guidelines may be found online at <http://arc.soc.srcf.net>.