in the “Preface” that this three-volume work “is intended to fill a gap in current reference works. It meets the need for a standard reference work on Greek and Roman military history and related institutions that is accessible to nonspecialists” (xxiii). Just what criteria the editors used in framing this statement is unknown; however, a literature search reveals many well-regarded titles covering this subject matter. From the topic-specific, such as John Warry’s Warfare in the Classical World: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Weapons, Warriors, and Warfare in the Ancient Civilizations of Greece and Rome (University of Oklahoma Press 1995) to the more general, such as the venerable Oxford Classical Dictionary (Oxford University Press 2012), now in its fourth edition, there is certainly no shortage of print reference materials concerning warfare during the time of the Greek and Roman empires.

Be that as it may, the current work under review is well researched, clearly written, and designed for a wide audience, including senior high school/undergraduate college students and inquiring literate adults who wish to know more regarding this subject. As the subtitle suggests, there is more between these covers than a mere description of battles. Entries on “alcohol,” “bribery and corruption,” “coinage,” “diplomacy,” and many other ideas, issues, and influences that helped to shape armed conflict may be found here. The text is supplemented with black and white illustrations of arms, armor, battle sites, fortifications, and so on. As expected, entries are alphabetically arranged. Unexpected is the fact that the work is composed of two halves. All of volume 1 and the first half of volume 2 is dedicated to conflict in ancient Greece, with the remainder of the work devoted to conflict in ancient Rome. For those researchers concentrating on just one aspect of classical warfare, this eliminates a lot of unnecessary page flipping. Special features include a chronology, bibliography, maps, glossary, excerpts from primary documents, and a selection of quotations from those who did the fighting.

To keep this review to a reasonable length, it will suffice to say that all of the editors are well versed in their respective fields of classical studies and ancient military history. The contributors that wrote the individual articles are academics and independent scholars.

It is the considered opinion of this reviewer that Conflict in Ancient Greece and Rome would be an appropriate purchase for all public and academic libraries, especially those of the latter with a curriculum supporting classical studies or military history.—Michael F. Bemis, Independent Reference Book Reviewer


This volume details the important items in the development of the concept of endangered species, from John Locke to the current problems of the twenty-first century. Excerpts from more than fifty different significant documents appear, in roughly chronological order. The scope covers more than just endangered animals and plants, with related discussions on such items as water rights, utilitarianism, outdoor recreation, and climate change. Each chapter consists of the relevant sections of an essential document in the development of endangered species policy. Quotations from essays, actual congressional bills, speeches to Congress, executive orders and Supreme Court cases are among the featured items. Not all are easy to understand, especially the court cases, with their many case references. Each quoted item is followed by a one-page analysis explaining why the selection is considered noteworthy, as well as a brief list of further reading. Occasional “Did You Know” sidebars, briefly summarizing a particular problem that pertains to the subject of the chapter, provide clarifying information and/or examples. A small number of unindexed black and white illustrations seem to have been added as an afterthought, almost at random.

The first part examines early American ideas about conservation and wildlife extermination, up to approximately 1900, with the last selection covering Theodore Roosevelt and the conservation movement. The next discusses species protection from 1916 to 1970, with sections on Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring, and the Wilderness Act of 1964. The third section, covering 1970–81, describes turning point in the way endangered species were treated, this section highlights many cases, such as the protection of marine mammals, and the Clean Water Act. The following chapter provides selected “flashpoints” since 1981, such as spotted owls, gray wolves, and old growth forests.

The last two parts cover important international documents that address species lost around the world, and then new laws and problems of the current century. A comprehensive bibliography and index provide ease of use, as well as a reader’s guide to related documents and sidebars. The introductory essay gives a comprehensive overview of the problem.

A badly chosen cover illustration misleads, as 90 percent of the book discusses American responses to endangered species, while the cover depicts African elephant tusks in Zambia, which subject appeared only in a short sidebar.

Recommended for undergraduate college libraries, suitable for high school libraries also but the high price may be a deterrent.—Marion S. Muskiewicz, Science Librarian Emerita, University of Massachusetts Lowell


Buckley and Nokes have brought together a thoughtful selection of primary sources from the early explorers of...