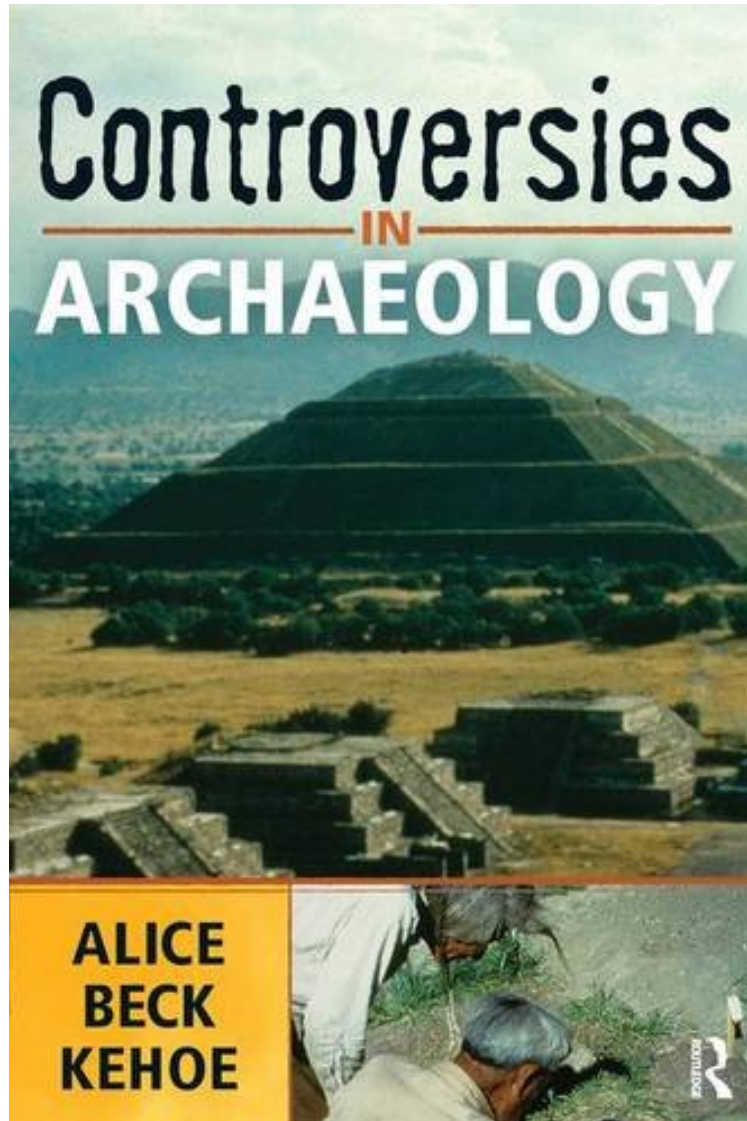


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Controversies in Archaeology

Alice Beck Kehoe

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Alice Beck Kehoe : Controversies in Archaeology before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Controversies in Archaeology:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Taking on the establishment from within the establishment By RepublicConstitution Great work which challenges many commonly held notions in both academia and by fringe/rogue archeologists. Shoots down Atlantean theories but does not hold onto the all too common misconceptions about diffusionism. This is definitely for those interested in a personal view of the field.

Atlantis, ancient astronauts, and pyramid power. Archaeologists are perennially bombarded with questions about the mysteries of the past. They are also constantly addressing more realistic controversies: origins of the First Americans, the ownership of antiquities, and national claims to historical territories. Alice Beck Kehoe offers to introductory students a method of evaluating and assessing these claims about the past in this reader-friendly, concise text. She shows how to use the methods of science to challenge the legitimacy of pseudoscientific proclamations and develop reasonable interpretations on controversial issues. Not one to shy away from controversy herself, Kehoe takes some stands on transpacific migration, shamanism, the Kensington Runestone which will challenge instructor and students alike, and foster class discussion.

Kehoe asserts that "archaeology is a science remarkably suited to illustrating how societal biases and conventional dogmas affect interpretation, and even discovery, of empirical facts." She then exposes how acceptance of scientific explanations about archaeological phenomena is earned within the discipline. She is interested in how unorthodox explanations for complex scientific phenomena are treated; where innovative explanations are likely to arise within the archaeological profession; and how the social construction of archaeological science directs, to some degree, its core paradigms. Throughout her narrative, Kehoe introduces memorable innovators of methods, theories, and explanations. Summing Up: Recommended. All levels/libraries. S. R. Martin, CHOICE