

## REVIEW

THE PREPARATION OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL REPORTS. By L. Grinsell, P. Rahtz and A. Warhurst. John Baker, 1966. 71 pp. 10s. 6d.

This useful small book originated in a course of lectures at Bristol City Museum in 1962 under the auspices of the University of Bristol Department of Extra-Mural Studies. Published as a duplicated booklet in the same year, enlarged and re-issued the following year, it has now been further revised, enlarged, illustrated and printed. Its purpose is well described in the Preface: "In most regions, not only in the United Kingdom but also elsewhere, the zest for archæological digging is so often greater than the desire or the ability to prepare for publication a written report on the work done and the results achieved".

It ought to narrow the gap between the "dig" and the report. Every aspect in the drawing up of reports, the technicalities of presentation and illustration, and the correct form of supplying references, is covered. There is a useful guide to further reading. For longer reports it is suggested sensibly that they should start with a brief summary of the results.

The editors estimate that at the moment more than a thousand papers on British archæology alone are printed annually. This total is likely to increase considerably as more and more local societies and groups become active. The general comment of editors of local society *Transactions* at the appearance of this useful book will be that it is "an answer to the editors' prayer". Local excavation groups should make copies of this book available for their members.

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