

## Editorial

We are pleased to present Volume 9, Issue 1 of the *Japanese Journal of Archaeology*, the official English language journal of the Japanese Archaeological Association. This issue includes one original article, an English summary of a book awarded the Japanese Archaeological Association Prize, and the reproduction of the English summaries of the current issue of *Archaeologia Japonica*.

The article by James LOFTUS, entitled ‘Micro-Regional Complexities in Yayoi Pottery Form as Seen through Morphometric Statistical Analysis,’ is an important contribution to Japanese archaeology. While Japanese archaeology heavily depends on intuitive classifications of pottery, LOFTUS boldly applies statistical analysis for the identification of regional differences in the Yayoi pottery of northern Kyushu.

The article by SHINZATO Akito, entitled ‘Archaeology on the Eve of the Establishment of the Ryukyu State’ is a translated summary of his book, *Ryūkyū Koku Seiritsu Zen’ya no Kōkōgaku*, published by Dōseisha, Tokyo (2018). He reconstructs temporal change in the patterns of the production and distribution of various kinds of pottery, such as Haji earthenware, Sue stoneware, and imported porcelain, from the ninth to early thirteenth centuries, AD. Owing to his thorough ceramic analysis, he convincingly presents the cultural dynamics of the Ryukyu Islands.

Unfortunately, we could not include a special section on the Japanese archaeology of gender in this issue. Manuscripts written by native Japanese authors had to be edited by native speakers of English, which were then reviewed. Once the authors revised the manuscripts, the manuscripts had to be edited once again. Owing to this time-consuming process, the special section will appear in the next issue.

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