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From the Fabricae of Augustus and the Workshops of Charlemagne: A compositional study of corroded copper-alloy artifacts using hand-held portable XRF

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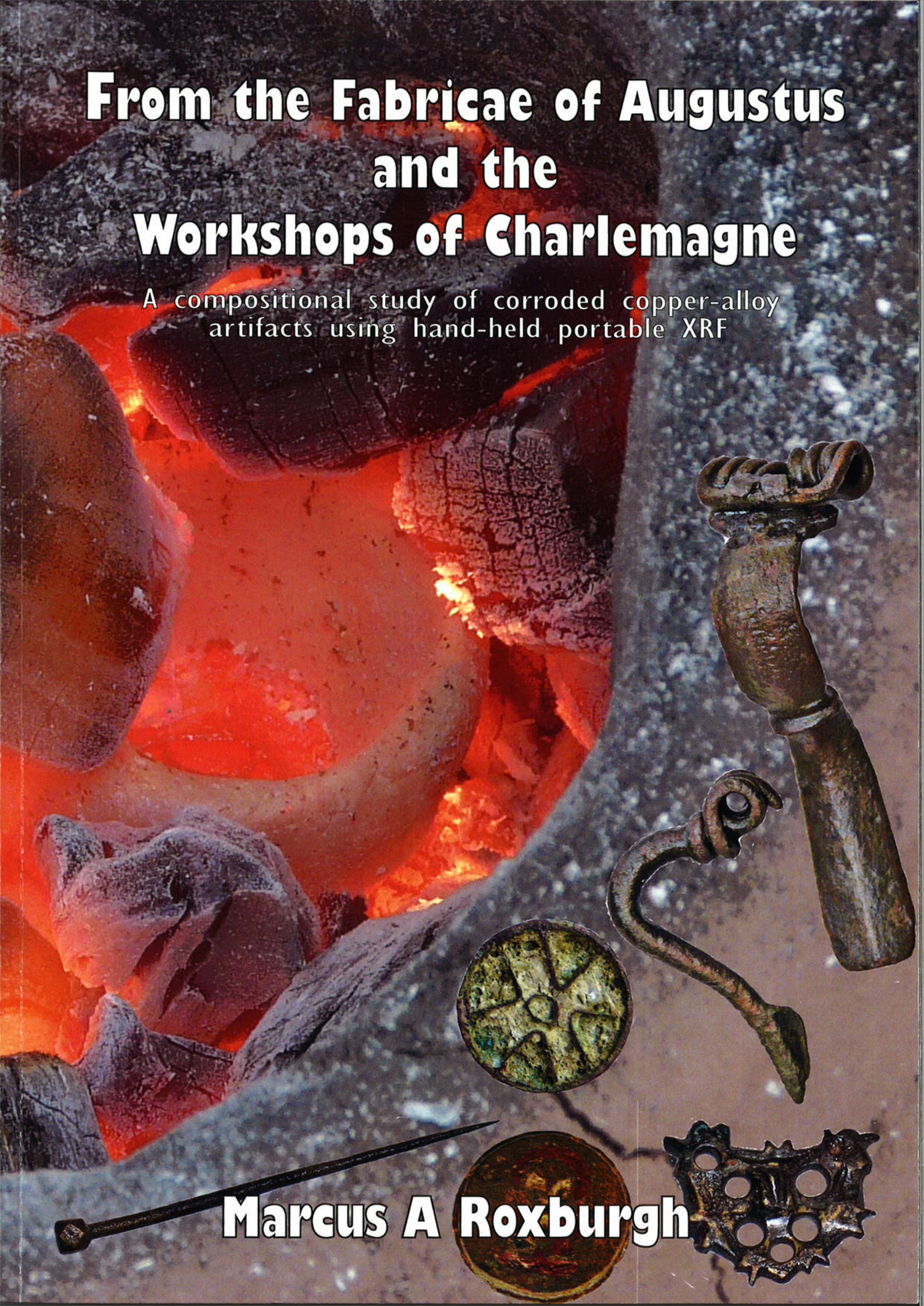
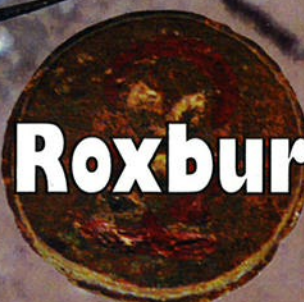
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From the Fabricae of Augustus and the Workshops of Charlemagne

A compositional study of corroded copper-alloy
artifacts using hand-held portable XRF



Marcus A Roxburgh



Summary

This thesis, presents six peer reviewed articles and an editor reviewed book chapter that discuss the relationship between the composition and typology of a large number of brooches and other personal items, dating between the end of the Iron-Age and the end of the early middle ages.

The main study area is The Netherlands, but for comparative purposes, objects are also drawn from the Baltic states of Estonia and Latvia, and also from the east coast of England. The compositional focus explores the use of portable X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (HHpXRF) as a surface measurement tool, on corroded objects. This socially embedded approach explores the relationship through the intentional actions of the crafts people who made them. This approach is more meaningful than traditional provenance studies because it explores the socio-technological context of production. As well as identifying indicators for social complexity and economic change, personal artefacts from this period also play a role in the study of human mobility and identity construction.

