

SOME RECENT SHROUD PUBLICATIONS

William Meacham, "The Authentication of the Turin Shroud: An Issue in Archaeological Epistemology" *Current Anthropology*, vol 24, no. 3, June 1983

Meacham is editor of the journal and monograph series of the Hong Kong Archaeological Society, and has directed numerous excavations in the Far East. His article is a balanced and objective assessment of what has been learned from the Shroud to date, and takes a strongly pro-authenticity stance. The article is followed by the comments of fifteen reviewers, some congratulatory, some hostile. Dr. Robert Bucklin, Dr. Alan Whanger and Fr. Adam Otterbein are among the former; Dr. Walter McCrone, Joe Nickell and Steven Schafersman among the latter. For Schafersman the Shroud cannot be genuine because Jesus was a mythical personage.

William Meacham has kindly made a copy of his article available to the Society. This can be loaned on application to the Society Secretary, enclosing a large S.A.E. (postage 29p.), or photocopying can be arranged.

Robert M. Haralick *Analysis of Digital Images of the Shroud of Turin*, Spatial Data Analysis Laboratory, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg VA. 24061, U.S.A. 1983

This recently received monograph was inspired by the "coins over the eyes" hypotheses of Fr. Francis Filas of Chicago. Haralick reports on digital enhancements of Shroud images carried out using the specialised equipment at his laboratory. Although he suggests there is evidence of patterns resembling those of a Pontius Pilate lepton, and also observes the Shroud image to have "qualities similar to three dimensional range data", his conclusions are essentially tentative. The study also reports on the "loincloth" hypothesis.

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Editor Dorothy Crispino continues to maintain her high standards with this issue, which includes one of her own articles, on the De Charny castle of Montfort. Issue no. 10 due in Spring 1984 is expected to be specially devoted to proposals for an Autumn 1984 scientific testing. *Shroud Spectrum* has established a reputation as the English language Shroud journal, and a subscription is strongly recommended. Please note that ordered via Fr. Foley the cost is £14.10p p.a. at present exchange rates.