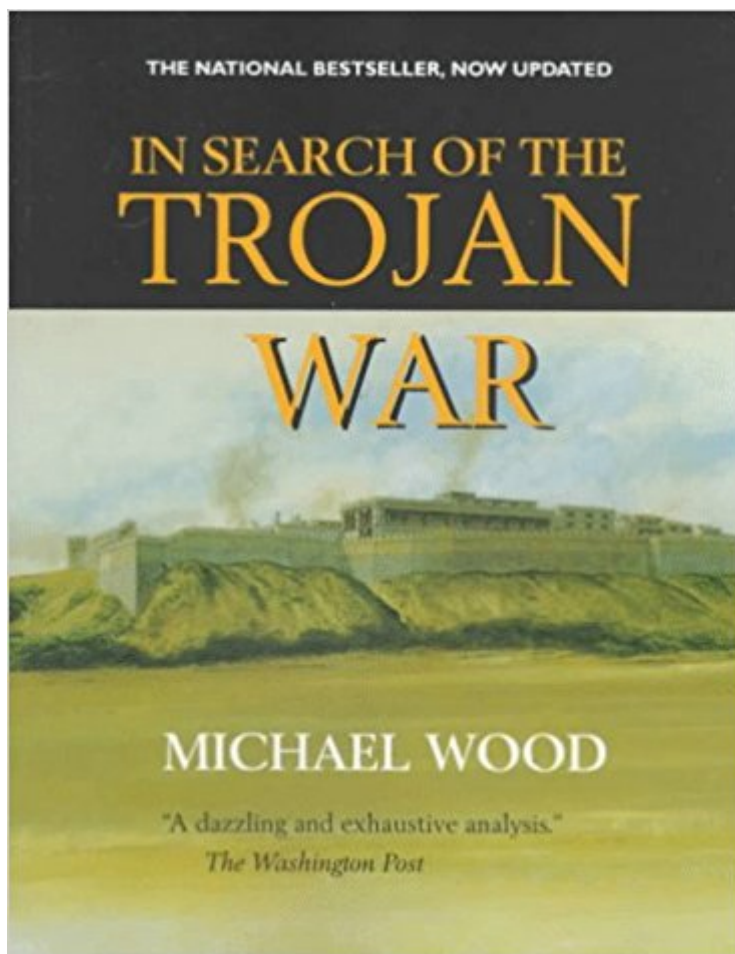


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In Search Of The Trojan War, Updated Edition



Synopsis

Tales of Troy and its heroes—Achilles and Hector, Paris and the legendary beauty Helen—have fired the human imagination for 3,000 years. With *In Search of the Trojan War*, Michael Wood brings vividly to life the legend and lore of the Heroic Age in an archaeological adventure that sifts through the myths and speculation to provide a fresh view of the riches and the reality of ancient Troy. This gripping story shows why the legend of Troy forms the bedrock of Western culture and why its past is a paradigm of human history. Wood's meticulous scholarly sleuthing yields fascinating evidence about the continuity and development of human civilization in the Aegean and Asia Minor. With its 50 feet of debris resulting from constant rebuilding, human destruction, earthquake, and abandonment, the mound of Troy contains the beginnings and ends of new races and civilizations. This edition includes a new preface, a new final chapter, and an addendum to the bibliography that take account of dramatic new developments in the search for Troy with the rediscovery, in Moscow, of the so-called Jewels of Helen and the re-excavation of the site of Troy, which began in 1988 and is yielding new evidence about the historical city.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this liberally illustrated volume written to accompany a forthcoming PBS series, BBC producer and series narrator Wood, author of *In Search of the Dark Ages*, etc., explores the origins of Homer's epics and efforts of archeologists to document the historic truth of the Bronze Age Trojan War as celebrated in the *Iliad*. Oral tradition and accounts by poets, he notes, have yet to be disproved by archeology. He cites the fascination which the Trojan story has exercised throughout

history and on travelers of all periods Byron among them. Despite archeologist Heinrich Schliemann's exaggerations, the author credits him with the development of modern archeology into a science. Schliemann's finds and those of other archeologists of Mycenaean, Minoan and Hittite civilizations are discussed in some detail. Troy, Wood speculates, may have been one of many cities sacked by the Greeks for economic reasons, and Helen one of the many women captured. 50,000 first printing; History Book Club main selection; BOMC and Macmillan's Natural Science alternates. Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Written to complement a BBC-TV series scheduled to begin on PBS this month, Wood's book is essentially an investigation of the historical reality, if any, behind the legend of Troy and the Trojan War. Though not a professional archaeologist, Wood shows a fine grasp of the various problems presented by the Homeric epics, and writes well about sometimes complicated archaeological, linguistic, and historical matters. At times his presentation is a bit repetitious, but those interested in the attempts of individuals such as Schliemann, Dörpfeld, Blegen, and Evans to explore sites thought to be those connected by Homer with the Trojan War will find a lively and sometimes speculative account based on current scholarship. A useful introduction for nonspecialists to areas of continuing scholarly debate. Jackson P. Hershbell, Classical Studies Dept., Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis Copyright 1986 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Michael Wood always does an outstanding job on his classical history books. This one should be on your list if you like this topic; a lot of archaeology and history woven together in the discovering the truth of the Trojan War. Wood does an excellent job putting it all together. Stories of the famous academics, professors, historians, and all look at fairly.

Michael Wood deserves praise for presenting detailed archaeological evidence of the existence and history of Troy in a highly readable and entertaining form. His prose style is a delight! The book is also very well-illustrated and the maps are excellent. I enjoyed reading it so much that I was sorry to reach the last page.

I have the original version as well as the PBS series shows. Michael Wood makes a powerful case for the Trojan War, and this book only reinforces that case. There really was a city called Troy, and it

was involved in a war give or take 1250 BC with the Greeks. The Iliad is a sort of record of the last year of that war, and is only one of several tales told about this conflict. Read this book and decide for yourselves.

This precursor of the movie version by Michael Wood traces not only the search for Troy but ties in so many other countries, culture, and history of the 20th century, it is a must read for serious history buffs. The reading level is college but don't think it's dry. Mr. Wood can make the stones speak.

Well researched, well written, and a very good read - he covers a lot of territory (literally), but it is not too dry at all. The story of the discovery of Troy, and tying it together with Homer, is fascinating.

I first purchased this book when it was first published, and to give you an idea how much I enjoyed it I also purchased the new edition. While I agree wholeheartedly with Mr. Kenny's review it should be noted that to the small royal citadel of only 5 or so acres described in the first edition there should be added a lower fortified town encompassing a further 45 acres. These new finds, showing Troy to be significantly larger in scale than even Mycenae and thus a major Anatolian citadel even more in keeping with Homer's descriptions are addressed in the new edition.

Excellent resource for the excavations of Troy. The pictures are very good. Was always interested where Troy was.

Excellent treatment of the subject.

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