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Cover. Newgrange in Ireland before, during and after excavation. The monument dates to the Irish later Neolithic and today comprises part of the Brú na Bóinne World Heritage Site. This passage tomb was rediscovered in 1699, visited by antiquarians during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and modern excavations took place in the 1960s. It has been studied for centuries but recent research—based on a temporal bone analysed for aDNA—has claimed and questioned the presence of a 'dynastic elite'. For more information, see 'The 'king' of Newgrange? A critical analysis of a Neolithic petrous fragment from the passage tomb chamber' by Jessica Smyth et al. in this issue. Images: top) © Photographic Archive, National Monuments Service, Government of Ireland; middle) Howard Goldbaum (voicesfromthedawn.com); bottom) Tjpp Finn CC BY-SA 4.0 commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=51765798.

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Robin Skeates

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