Contents

List of Figures vii
List of Tables ix
Preface xi
Acknowledgements xiii
Abbreviations xiv

Chapter 1
Geoarchaeological exploration of submerged sites in Aboukir Bay, Egypt: an introduction by Jean-Daniel Stanley 1
  1 Geology integrated with submarine archaeology 1
  2 Among the major findings 2
  3 Palaeogeographic interpretation of settlement areas 2
  4 Questions remain, studies continue 3

Chapter 2
Nile delta geography at the time of Heracleion and East Canopus by Jean-Daniel Stanley and Andrew G. Warne 5
  1 The Nile delta setting 5
  2 The recent north-western delta 6
  3 Processes that shaped the north-west delta margin 10
  4 North-west delta evolution: historical documentation 11
  5 North-west delta evolution from the Greek to the Byzantine period: the geological record 11
  6 Aboukir Bay evolution from the Arabic period to the present 14
  7 Summary and conclusions 21

Chapter 3
Submergence of archaeological sites in Aboukir Bay, the result of gradual long-term processes plus catastrophic events by Jean-Daniel Stanley, Gérard Schneppe and Thomas Jorstad 23
  1 Introduction 23
  2 The problem of site submergence 23
  3 Geological setting of the study area 24
  4 Recent displacement of surficial strata 28
  5 Disturbed stratification and anomalous radiocarbon dates in surficial sediment 39
  6 Submergence by gradual processes: causes and effects 46
Contents

7 Physical conditions leading to rapid substrate failure 51
8 Triggering of sudden failure and subsidence at the Canopic mouth 54

Chapter 4

Faunal analyses in the interpretation of the submergence of substrates beneath Heracleion and East Canopus by Maria Pia Bernasconi, Romana Melis, Nevio Pugliese, Jean-Daniel Stanley and Alessio Bandelli 59

1 Introduction 59
2 Methodology 59
3 Observations 77
4 Discussion 82
5 Conclusions 85

Chapter 5

Vibracores in Aboukir Bay: description and analyses by Thomas Jorstad and Jean-Daniel Stanley 87

1 Core recovery and accession 87
2 Core log description 88
3 Perspectives 92

Appendix 1

Logs of Vibracores in Aboukir Bay 93

Appendix 2

AMS dates from Aboukir Bay vibracores 118

Bibliography 119

Index 127