

# Review

## Among the New Books

N. JAMES with SIMON STODDART

### Anthropology

CHRIS GOSDEN. *Anthropology and archaeology: a changing relationship*. xiv+228 pages, 29 figures, 3 tables. 1999. London & New York (NY): Routledge; 0-415-16250-5 paperback £15.99.

ALAN BARNARD. *History and theory in anthropology*. xii+243 pages, 12 figures, 9 tables. 2000. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 0-521-77432-2 paperback £12.95 & US\$19.95.

In the humanities, theory, during the past century and a half — if not much longer — has followed a spiralling history of concern with varying emphases among a more or less constant set of themes. That is why it is important for archaeologists to know about the history of their discipline. Its relation to anthropology has been fruitful but fitful. So it is reassuring to find that Drs GOSDEN and BARNARD cover much the same ground in much the same way. Their emphases differ, however: the former's concern for archaeology will appeal more to most readers of ANTIQUITY.

The core of both books is an account of the development of ideas in social and cultural anthropology from 19th-century evolutionism to the reactions in diffusionism, culture area studies, functionalism and structuralism, to the revival of evolutionism including neo-marxism, and then, in turn, the feminist, post-structuralist and post-modernist reactions. In common with most previous studies, Dr BARNARD's method is basically biographical, tracing the development of particular workers' theories and methods and their affects on contemporaries and successors. The approach works well because anthropology was long a small academic field. He covers British and US anthropology well but Continental *Völkerkunde*, diffusionism and structuralism a bit skimpily and Russian anthropology not at all. Because Dr GOSDEN covers both anthropology and archaeology, he treats solely anthropological concepts in less detail and pays less attention to particular workers. He shares something of the bias for anglophone research but, whether or not because it is more interdisciplinary, the scope of his book is broader too, touching on recent interests in cultural studies, philosophy and social theory. He brings conceptual and methodological features out very clearly. Yet, equally, he points out that both archaeology and anthropology are rooted in fieldwork: to

understand either, it is necessary to appreciate the respective methods. These features, his ability to weave lots of apt illustration into the text — drawn from an immense range of references — and his approachable style make the book a valuable resource for students. It is strongly recommended.

### Eastern Mediterranean

Diversity and innovation in the next two titles show that Greece is a thriving scene where the established strengths of economic archaeology are receiving injections of stimulating ideas on sociology and symbolism.

PAUL HALSTEAD (ed.). *Neolithic society in Greece* (Sheffield Studies in Aegean Archaeology 2). 163 pages, 50 figures, 4 tables. 1999. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press; 1-85075-824-7 paperback £14.95 & US\$19.95.

ANGELOS CHANIOTIS (ed.). *From Minoan farmers to Roman traders: sidelights on the economy of ancient Crete* (Heidelberger Althistorische Beiträge und Epigraphische Studien 29). x+394 pages, 27 figures, 19 tables. 1999. Stuttgart: Franz Steiner; 3-515-07621-2 paperback DM/SF148, Sch1080.

Dr HALSTEAD presents 13 papers on recent researches in regions of Greece and the Aegean basin. They range from assessments of survey to studies of caves and analyses of animal bones and seeds. C. Broodbank and K. Branigan consider colonization; Dr HALSTEAD and K. Kotsakis ruminate on the development of social distinctions among households and villages. M. Pappa & M. Besios report on rescue excavation which revealed sunken round housing. The 17 papers assembled by A. CHANIOTIS range equally widely: on the prepalatial period, K. Sbonias on sociology, economics and symbolism, and D.C. Haggis bringing ideas on finance from research in the Central Andes; on territorial divisions; on measures of weight and on early coins; a long and detailed paper by M. Baldwin Bowsky on evidence for Roman personal names gathered from a great variety of sources; and on relations with Egypt and imports of marble during the Roman period.

VASSOS KARAGEORGHIS with JOAN R. MERTENS & MARICE E. ROSE. *Ancient art from Cyprus: the Cesnola Collection in the Metropolitan Museum of Art*. xiv+305 pages, colour & b&w photographs, 2 maps. New York (NY): Metropolitan Museum of Art; 0-