

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-10843-0 - Pattern of the Past: Studies in Honour of David Clarke

Edited by Ian Hodder, Glynn Isaac and Norman Hammond

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EDITED BY

IAN HODDER

Assistant Lecturer in Archaeology, University of Cambridge

GLYNN ISAAC

Professor of Anthropology, University of California at Berkeley

NORMAN HAMMOND

Professor of Archaeology, Rutgers University

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Editors and contributors

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| ROBERT CHAPMAN | Department of Archaeology, Reading University |
| GEORGE DALTON | Department of Economics, Northwestern University, Illinois |
| ANN ELLISON | Wessex Archaeological Committee, Salisbury |
| ROLAND FLETCHER | Department of Anthropology, University of Sydney |
| ROBERT FOLEY | Department of Anthropology, Durham University |
| LES GROUBE | Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Papua–New Guinea |
| PAUL HALSTEAD | King's College, Cambridge |
| NORMAN HAMMOND | Department of Classics, Rutgers University |
| FRED HAMOND | Clare College, Cambridge |
| IAN HODDER | Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge |
| GLYNN ISAAC | Department of Anthropology, University of California at Berkeley |
| WILLIAM LONGACRE | Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona |
| JOHN PARKINGTON | Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town |
| ANDREW SHERRATT | Ashmolean Museum, Oxford |
| CHRISTOPHER TILLEY | Peterhouse, Cambridge |
| PAUL WILKINSON | Naskapi Band Council, Montreal |

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Preface

David Clarke was an archaeologist with extraordinary abilities. In particular he was a leader in the movement to establish the importance of explicit theory and logic in archaeological method. The originality and incisiveness of his own thinking on this matter inspired many to think more effectively in their own work. This was accomplished in part through his writings and also through the vigour of his interaction with colleagues and students. His untimely death left unfinished David Clarke's own potential contribution in this sphere. Those who recognised the impetus to thought given them by David determined to show some of the avenues of archaeological inquiry that David had inspired. This book is the outcome of that determination.

A plan for the tribute volume evolved in collective discussions and was submitted to Cambridge University Press, with Stella Clarke kindly agreeing to help. Contributors decided in advance to prepare essays that followed David Clarke's lead in searching for ways of discovering and interpreting pattern in the archaeological record of past human life. It is this theme that gives the book its title. The patterns explored include spatial, economic and social patterns. The editors and contributors trust that this collection is of value as a contribution to the evolution of archaeological logic. Because David Clarke provided major initiating stimuli to all of the contributors we also trust that the book serves as a fitting follow up on his leadership.

The editors and authors offer this volume in memory of and in tribute to a man we held in great respect and affection.

Norman Hammond
Ian Hodder
Glynn Isaac