

CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <i>List of figures</i> | <i>page</i> x |
| <i>List of tables</i> | xviii |
| <i>Acknowledgements</i> | xix |
| Introduction: the idea of prehistory in the Middle East and North-East Africa | 1 |
| PART I TRANSFORMATIONS IN PREHISTORY | |
| 1 Egypt and the outside world I, c.10,000–3300 BC | 13 |
| 2 Neolithic economy and society | 41 |
| 3 Domestication and embodiment in the Nile valley | 63 |
| 4 The urbanisation of the dead: Naqada I–II | 72 |
| 5 Image, ritual and the construction of identity in late prehistory | 99 |
| PART II THE MAKING OF KINGSHIP | |
| 6 Opening considerations: <i>la mémoire monarchique</i> | 127 |
| 7 Egypt and the outside world II, c.3300–2500 BC | 135 |
| 8 The evolution of simplicity: Naqada III | 151 |
| 9 Extraordinary bodies and binding truths: early writing in context | 176 |
| 10 Theatres of sacrifice: dynastic constructions of death | 218 |
| 11 Conclusion: subterranean histories of power | 259 |
| <i>Appendix: Chronological note and tables</i> | 270 |
| <i>References</i> | 277 |
| <i>Index</i> | 326 |