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Edited by Elizabeth M. Brumfiel and Timothy K. Earle
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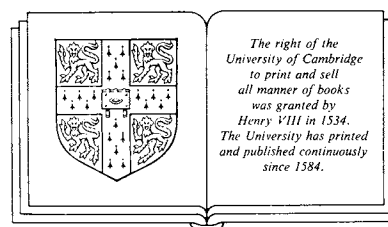
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EDITED BY
ELIZABETH M. BRUMFIEL
AND TIMOTHY K. EARLE



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PREFACE

Both of us have shared similar intellectual histories since being graduate students together at The University of Michigan. Although this volume is our first collaboration, we have found over the years that our intellectual developments have paralleled each other. Starting in Ann Arbor, home of some of the best adaptationist theory in American archaeology, we developed independently in our dissertation research on the Aztec state and Hawaiian chiefdoms an understanding of the critical role of political manipulation in the evolution of complex society. This present volume represents another parallel step; as we read each others papers, it was difficult to continue to separate out our personal intellectual contributions. Such collaboration is certainly unusual.

The present volume began in 1980, when Tim Earle was asked by the Program Committee of the XIth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences to organize a symposium “Specialization and

exchange in the development of complex society: archaeological evidence.” He organized nine speakers including the two co-editors of this volume, Jim Allen, Kathleen Galvin, Antonio Gilman, Kristian Kristiansen, Prudence Rice, Vincas Steponaitis, and Henry Wright. As final plans changed, Gilman, Steponaitis and Wright had to drop out and were sorely missed. The symposium took place in the Vancouver phase of the Congress, August 1983. All who participated in the session felt a common spirit and interest unusual to symposia, and we sensed the possibility of a tightly integrated treatment of the relationships between social and economic development. At this time Liz Brumfiel took over as the guiding hand of the volume. To increase the breadth of cases covered, four additional papers were solicited from Gina Barnes, Antonio Gilman, Jon Muller and Michael Rowlands. With the encouragement and support of the editorial staff of the Cambridge University Press we completed the editing of this volume in June 1985.