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Poststructuralism and Postprocessual Archaeologies; A Brief History of Postprocessual Archaeologies; From Structure to Practice; Reading Material Culture; Material Culture and Text; Material Metaphors; Summary; 7 Cognitive Science and Cognitive Archaeology A Brief History of Cognitive Archaeology Evolutionary Studies; Cognitive Processual Studies; Summary; Part III Archaeological Case Studies; 8 Brook Farm and the Architecture of Utopia; Utopian Architecture; The Brook Farm Historical Site; Semiotic Ideologies of Social Reform; Finding Utopia; House Agency; Representing Brook Farm; Conclusions; 9 In the Aftermath of the Pueblo Revolt; The New Mexico Colony; The Pueblo Revitalization Movement; Living in Accord with the Laws of the Ancestors; Koyiti Archaeology; Social Dynamics at Koyiti Pueblo; Ceramics, social groups, and ideology Regional Settlement Signs of the Times; Conclusions; 10 Material Meanings in Practice; On Chains and Cables; Integrating Words and Things; Semiotic Ideologies; Toward a Pragmatic Archaeology; Notes; Bibliography; Index

Sommario/riassunto

This book explores the multiple ways in which archaeologists give meaning to the past, highlighting debates over the ontological and epistemological status of the discipline and evaluating current responses to these issues. Explains why absolute foundations in archaeology are inadequate and looks at the alternatives. Highlights debates over the ontological and epistemological status of the discipline and evaluates current responses to these issues. Defines a new space for archaeological discourse and dialogue.

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