

Contents

| | |
|---|---------|
| Preface | page ix |
| Key to Abbreviations | xiii |
| Introduction | I |
| 1. A Disruption of Sensibility | 13 |
| <i>A Last Millennial Variant</i> | 17 |
| <i>A Long-Distance Affair</i> | 24 |
| <i>An End to Ideology</i> | 31 |
| 2. The Transition to Post-Modernism: Norman Mailer and a New Frontier in Fiction | 36 |
| <i>From Liberalism to New Historicism</i> | 39 |
| <i>The Process on Display</i> | 45 |
| <i>The Process on Record</i> | 55 |
| <i>The End of an Era</i> | 64 |
| 3. Thomas Pynchon: An Interface of History and Science | 72 |
| <i>The Puritan Heritage</i> | 74 |
| <i>An Entropic Theory of History</i> | 85 |
| <i>Mediating Between the Strands</i> | 94 |
| 4. John Barth: Clio as Kin to Calliope | 106 |
| <i>Eden Revisited</i> | 109 |
| <i>The Literary Legacy</i> | 115 |
| <i>A Nonrevolutionary Novel</i> | 125 |
| | vii |

viii CONTENTS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Conclusion: "Subjective Historicism" | 137 |
| Notes | 153 |
| Bibliography | 172 |
| Index | 203 |