

# CONTENTS

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <i>List of illustrations</i>                    | page x |
| <i>Preface and acknowledgements</i>             | xvii   |
| <i>List of abbreviations</i>                    | xxi    |
| Introduction                                    | i      |
| <b>1 Terminology and chronology</b>             | 9      |
| <b>2 The natural environment and resources</b>  | 23     |
| <b>3 The first human populations</b>            | 30     |
| <b>4 Settlement and economy</b>                 | 45     |
| <b>5 Arts and crafts</b>                        | 95     |
| Introduction                                    | 95     |
| Pottery   | 101    |
| Non-ceramic vessels and furniture               | 130    |
| Architecture (a) buildings (b) other structures | 144    |
| Frescoes  | 164    |
| Figures   | 168    |
| Jewellery and ornaments                         | 179    |
| Seals   | 188    |
| Writing   | 193    |
| Weapons and armour                              | 197    |
| <b>6 Burial customs</b>                         | 208    |
| <b>7 Trade, exchange and overseas contact</b>   | 234    |
| <b>8 Religion</b>                               | 257    |
| <b>9 Conclusions</b>                            | 295    |
| <i>Bibliography</i>                             | 310    |
| <i>Index</i>                                    | 333    |