

ANT-309 Elements of Archaeology Lecture Outline, March 3, 2010

XIV History of Archaeological Thought

C The Power of Paradigms: A Recent Example in American Archaeology- The Case for Polynesian Contact

- 1 James Cook in the Pacific- Polynesian-speaking people everywhere- with good boats
- 2 The Pacific Islands, seem to have been settled by Polynesian peoples originally from Melanesia or Southeast Asia. There was a complex migration route that is known fairly thoroughly based on the combined findings from archaeology, linguistics, and genetic studies.
 - a Fiji by 3500 years ago (1500 B.C.).
 - b Marquesas by 2200 years ago (200 B.C.)
 - c Distant outposts
 - i Easter Island (Rapa Nui), (A.D. 800-1200).
 - ii Hawaii about (A.D. 1200),
 - iii New Zealand was settled about 1000 years ago (A.D. 1000).
 - d Why not the New World?
 - i Early Thinking
 - (i) Sweet Potato
 - (ii) California Scholars
 - (iii) Thor Heyerdahl
 - ii Change in Paradigm
 - iii Current argument
 - (a) North America-Sewn plank boats (*tomolo*) and linguistics in California
 - (b) South America- chicken DNA- AD 1300-1400, sweet potato.