Contents

Preface vii

Introduction: Historical Anthropology and Its Vicissitudes | Brian Keith Axel 1

Part 1 Ethnography and the Archive

Annals of the Archive: Ethnographic Notes on the Sources of History | Nicholas B. Dirks 47

Ethnographic Representation, Statistics, and Modern Power | Talal Asad 66

Part 2 Colonial Anxieties

New Christians and New World Fears in Seventeenth-Century Peru | Irene Silverblatt 95

The Kabyle Myth: Colonization and the Production of Ethnicity | Paul A. Silverstein 122

Developing Historical Negatives: Race and the (Modernist) Visions of a Colonial State | Ann Laura Stoler 156
Part 3  Marginal Contexts

Culture on the Edges: Caribbean Creolization in Historical Context | Michel-Rolph Trouillot  189

Race, Gender, and Historical Narrative in the Reconstruction of a Nation: Remembering and Forgetting the American Civil War | Bernard S. Cohn and Teri Silvio  211

Part 4  Archaeologies of the Fantastic

Fantastic Community | Brian Keith Axel  233

Occult Economies and the Violence of Abstraction: Notes from the South African Postcolony | John L. Comaroff and Jean Comaroff  267

Contributors  303

Index  305