

Aristotle

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*Prior analytics*. Translated from the Greek, with introduction, notes, and commentary by Robin Smith. Indianapolis, IN etc.: Hackett Publishing Co. (ISBN 0-87220-064-7). xxxi, 262 p. £ 9.95/pbk; £ 17.50/hbk (1989).

At the beginning of the 1970s, most experts believed that the history and philosophy of Greek mathematics, as an area of scholarly research, had already been over-worked. But only five or six years, due to the works of Wilbur Knorr and Sabetai Unguru, among others, it was clear that there was "still controversy over some of the main features" [J. L. Berggren, *Hist. Math.* 11, 394 – 410 (1984; Zbl. 554.01004)] and where fundamental historical questions were still open.

Most primary sources – the raw material for historical research – had been translated prior to these years and they are unaware of this recent revolution and, therefore, they have become obsolete. Fortunately, the situation has started to change. Robin Smith has recently presented a new translation of one of Aristotle's most basic works, the *Prior analytics*. This treatise is regarded as the cornerstone of traditional logic and proportionates an account of deductions in general. Smith's new translation incorporates new advances in logic and philosophy. He also provides a very useful introduction to the beginner.

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