

domain-specific abilities). I regretted the absence of references to Terry Deacon's elegant work on human brain evolution (Deacon 1988a; 1988b), which would have been relevant here.

What are the implications for Palaeolithic archaeology? This book is not designed to supply off-the-shelf models to Palaeolithic archaeologists: it is up to us to develop our own interpretative paradigms in dialogue with other behavioural scientists. Issues in primate tool use are well covered by Visalberghi, McGrew and Boesch. These scientists are clearly eager to hear what we have to say about the archaeology of human behavioural and cognitive evolution, and to prompt us if they sense a paradigm is lacking (McGrew). However, overall the archaeological contributions to this book are weakly integrated. Acheulian hand-axes are interpreted variously as aerodynamically efficient projectiles for waterhole predation (Calvin); as a non-verbalized tradition reproduced by default in *Homo erectus* groups for as long as the raw materials were available for the tradition to be handed down (Toth & Schick); as core tools curated for their use as sources of flakes (Davidson & Noble); or as indexical symbols of some community standard relating to the original tool and its context of use (Wynn). For archaeologists, this book is likely to serve best as a stimulus to future development of a more coherent behavioural paradigm.

Among possible future research directions, most promising are those which raise the issues of hominid social organization and cultural transmission. It is no use having the capacity for language if you cannot share new information, and little use having the ability to make novel and complex tools if you cannot transmit what you have learned to

others. The primate evidence raises the issue of imitation and teaching as modes of transmission. Ingold notes the importance of trust in the social and ecological relationships of modern hunter-gatherers. Wynn talks of community standards and the semiotics of tools; Reynolds theorizes a relationship between complementarity of roles in a task group and the combination of elements into a composite tool. Toth & Schick discuss the need for models of hominid foraging and range-use patterns. However, none of this amounts to the systematic replacement of the Home Base model which Palaeolithic archaeology urgently needs.

So the issues are clarified, but the conceptual models of hominid behavioural evolution remain to be built. This is a welcome collaboration, a very useful primer which amply covers many of the topics which archaeologists need to be familiar with if they are to get up to speed in researching human evolution. It is recommended to anyone interested in the Big Questions in anthropology. Best of all, it sets a precedent for bringing archaeologists into constructive dialogue with other behavioural scientists.

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