

Contents

<i>Illustrations</i>	vii
<i>Preface</i>	ix
1 The Early History of Evolutionism	1
Herbert Spencer and the Concept of Evolution, 3	
The Evolutionary Views of Tylor and Morgan, 5	
2 The Reconstruction of Cultural Evolution	9
The Comparative Method, 10	
The Possibility of a Social Science, 11	
The Uniformity of Nature, 13	
The Principle of Continuity, 14	
From Simplicity to Complexity, 14	
The Objective Rating of Cultures, 15	
Evolution Not an Inherent Tendency, 16	
The Psychic Unity of Man, 17	
Differential Evolution, 18	
Contemporary Primitives and Ancestral Cultures, 19	
Modern Primitives Not Primeval, 22	
Primal Human Society, 23	
Survivals, 24	
3 The Characteristics of Cultural Evolution	27
Rectilinearity, 27	
Unilinearity, 28	
The Skipping of Stages, 31	
The Law of Evolutionary Potential, 32	
Rates of Evolution, 32	
Diffusion and Evolution, 33	

4	The Determinants of Cultural Evolution	39
	Inherent versus External Determinants, 40	
	Psychic Unity as an Active Agent, 42	
	Racial Determinism, 44	
	Human Perfectibility, 48	
	Individuals as Determinants, 49	
	The Influence of Great Men, 50	
	Ideas as Prime Movers, 53	
	Historical Materialism, 58	
	Environmental Factors, 61	
	Subsistence as a Determinant, 62	
	Economic Determinants, 64	
	Social Determinants, 65	
	War as a Determinant, 66	
	Natural Selection, 68	
	Conclusion, 73	
5	Anti-Evolutionism in the Ascendancy	75
	The Boasian Backlash, 75	
	Diffusionism in British Anthropology, 78	
	The Functionalist Reaction, 80	
	Malinowski, 81	
	Radcliffe-Brown, 82	
	Anti-Evolutionism in Later British Social Anthropology, 85	
	Remaining Islands of Cultural Evolutionism: James G. Frazer, 87	
	Hobhouse, Wheeler, and Ginsberg, 89	
	Sumner and Keller, 91	
	George P. Murdock, 94	
	The Barren Landscape, 96	
	Theorizing Disavowed, 97	
	Historical Particularism, 98	
6	Early Stages in the Reemergence of Evolutionism	99
	Leslie A. White, 99	
	Diffusion versus Evolution, 102	
	The Derivation of Evolutionary Formulas, 104	
	Cultural Relativism and the Rating of Cultures, 107	
	In Spite of Themselves, 108	
	Julian H. Steward, 110	

V. Gordon Childe, 115	
Evolutionism in Ethnology in the 1950s, 118	
The Darwin Centennial, 122	
7 Issues in Late Midcentury Evolutionism	127
New Steps Forward, 127	
General and Specific Evolution, 127	
History versus Evolution, 130	
Archaeology and Evolution, 132	
Service's Sequence of Stages, 137	
Processual Archaeology, 141	
Lewis Binford and Middle Range Theory, 142	
Ethnographic Analogy and Parallels, 144	
Ethnoarchaeology, 145	
General Systems Theory, 146	
Respectability Regained, 148	
"Neo-Evolutionism," 149	
8 Features of the Evolutionary Process	151
Developmental Stages, 151	
Process versus Stages, 155	
Scale Analysis and the Refinement of Sequences, 157	
Verifying Inferred Sequences of Development, 159	
Directionality in Evolution, 159	
Complexity as the Hallmark of Evolution, 161	
Is Evolution Irreversible? 163	
The Objective Rating of Cultures, 165	
Rates of Cultural Evolution, 169	
The Mechanisms of Cultural Evolution, 171	
The Darwinian Model, 173	
Adaptation Considered Further, 179	
Typological versus Populational Concepts, 181	
9 What Drives the Evolution of Culture?	185
Elman Service versus Marvin Harris, 185	
Cultural Causality Examined, 187	
Determinants: White and Steward Considered Separately, 191	
Steward and White Compared, 194	
Ecological Approaches: Limitations and Pitfalls, 196	

Functionalism and Evolutionism Join Forces, 198	
Population Pressure as a Determinant of Evolution, 200	
Warfare as a Determinant, 208	
Trade as a Determinant, 211	
10 Other Perspectives on Cultural Evolution	213
Ideology and Evolution, 213	
Marxist Anthropology and Cultural Evolution, 218	
Microevolution and Agency Theory, 223	
11 Elements of Evolutionary Formulations	229
Evolution: Unilinear or Multilinear? 229	
Laws of Cultural Development, 238	
British Social Anthropology and Cultural Laws, 242	
American Anthropologists and Cultural Laws, 243	
The Comparative Method and Its Application, 250	
The Problem of Sampling, 254	
12 Current Issues and Attitudes in the Study of Cultural Evolution	263
New and Lingering Opposition to Cultural Evolutionism, 263	
The Attitude of British Social Anthropologists, 266	
American Archaeologists Resist "Neo-Evolutionism," 273	
Archaeologists Accept and Apply Evolutionism, 276	
The Quantification of Cultural Evolution, 285	
Cultural Evolutionism and the Sociologists, 286	
Summary, 287	
<i>References Cited</i>	289
<i>Index</i>	313