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RAMPARTS, DITCHES AND WALLS AS A MEANS FOR UNDERSTANDING IRON AGE SOCIETIES IN NW IBERIA

Author(s): Álvarez, Samuel (Universidade de Santiago de Compostela)
Presentation Format: Oral

Although defensive systems are a usual focal point of Protohistory studies of the NW Iberia, few researchers have exploited their potential for the understanding of the behavioural patterns of the societies that built them. From our point of view, ramparts and ditches might have been undervalued as a pathway to achieve archaeological information. The defensive systems are a manifestation of many social decisions that could have shown different social situations, and it is possible that they could keep helpful information in terms of social and political organization. In this proposal, a methodological framework and its preliminary results applied to the north-western region of A Coruña (Galicia, Spain), will be shown.

This methodology starts with the study of the defensive systems with LiDAR data, identifying and quantifying all of these defensive elements. Calculations such as the waste of energy made in the fortification of each hillfort will be implemented. The analysis of the defensive systems will be combined with other available data (total dimensions of the hillfort, possible living space, productive agricultural potential of the surroundings), in the aim of exploring a possible relationship between these elements. We will try to put forward the possibility that these data will allow to infer regional or general patterns which might be useful for understanding some points about the social organization in the Iron Age of NW Iberia.

The main objective of this communication is, on the one hand, to assess the value of this proposal as a valid pathway to obtain archaeological data related to some aspects of social organization in Iron Age. On the other hand, we will explore how this information can be interpreted, and how it can be used in order to develop new archaeological hypothesis.

THE BIOARCHAEOLOGY OF LANDSCAPES

Theme: The archaeology of material culture, bodies and landscapes
Organisers: Orengo, Hector (McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge) - Livarda, Alexandra (Department of Classics and Archaeology, University of Nottingham) - Palet Martinez, Josep Maria (Catalan Institute of Classical Archaeology)
Format: Regular session

Landscape archaeology has become a well-established discipline during the last decade with the adoption of multidisciplinary approaches. Although landscape archaeology has played an important role in the analysis of ancient food production, the incorporation of data gathered by bioarchaeological analyses (archaeobotany and zooarchaeology) is still rare in landscape discourses, which tend to rely more on palaeoenvironmental and geoarchaeological data. This is mostly due to bioarchaeological studies being conducted at site level while landscape research usually restricts the use of site data to their location, distribution, chronology and function without fully exploring other lines of site-related evidence. Nevertheless, the integration of bioarchaeological and landscape data has enormous potential to open new avenues for the study of ancient food production, storage, distribution and consumption; human impact on the environment; the consequences of environmental change in terms of adaptation, change and resilience; the cultural value of traditional food derived from specific landscape settings; the reproduction of landscape settings beyond their original environment for the production of culturally valued food (transported landscapes) and the symbolic representation of particular landscapes embodied in food.

This session aims to start bridging the gap between landscape and bioarchaeological data by showcasing: (1) studies where both types of data have been meaningfully combined; (2) integrative workflows or methodological approaches involving the use of these datasets; and (3) theoretical perspectives on their integration. Papers addressing any of the abovementioned or related topics are welcomed.

ABSTRACTS

THE PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BRONZE AGE SETTLEMENTS OF THE PO PLAIN, ITALY (SUCCESSO-TERRA PROJECT)

Author(s): Mercuri, Anna Maria - Florenzano, Assunta - Torri, Paola - Montecchi, Maria Chiara - Rattighieri, Eleonora - Clò, Eleonora - Bosi, Giovanna - Rinaldi, Rossella (Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia) - Zerboni, Andrea - Cremaschi, Mauro (Università degli Studi di Milano)
Presentation Format: Oral

The national-funded Italian project SUCCESSO-TERRA aimed at elucidate the reasons, dynamics and timing of the collapse of the Terramare civilization (16th–12th century BC, Middle and Late Bronze Age). The results from archaeological, geoarchaeological, archeobotanical and archeozoological studies are interpreted in a multidisciplinary perspective, and point out that exploitation of natural resources and climatic factors strengthened the crisis of the Terramare system.

The poster shows the palynological research carried out on the three archaeological sites - Noceto, Santa Rosa di Poviglio and Valstra - at the centre of the project. In this research, the environmental and land-use changes have been investigated to understand their relationships over the last millennia. The terramara Santa Rosa di Poviglio was settled during the Middle/Recent Bronze ages
To a greater or lesser extent when people move from one place to another they tend to bring with them something from their home. This can be intentional; a certain herb, spice or cereal, or by accident; a weed hitching a ride, or this can be a cultural custom that has been passed on generation after generation. The agro-system rapidly decreased and showed significant changes towards pasturelands.

**EXPLORING CHANGES IN MOBILITY BETWEEN THE NEOLITHIC AND THE BRONZE AGE IN BRITAIN**

*Author(s):* Osborne, David (University of Nottingham)

*Presentation Format:* Oral

To study the mobility of people in the landscape is to focus on a fundamental part of human life and society. Mobility brings many social activities into view, including material exchange, trade networks, migration, cultural influence, and marital and kinship links (Sørensen, 2015). Sørensen argues that the challenge to archaeology is to recover, from ‘fossilised residues that are entirely stationary and static’, the traces of mobility in the past.

This paper explores whether a reduction in mobility of people and animals in Britain can be detected between the Neolithic and the Bronze Age. This is important because it would support the idea of a transition from Neolithic agriculture and pastoralism practised in the context of a mobile way of life, to the more sedentary way of life by the Middle–Late Bronze Age, suggested by the development of extensive field systems. Using Lincolnshire and the Fens in eastern England as a study area, stable isotope analysis of excavated faunal and human remains will be used as a proxy for mobility, with reference to the oxygen "isoscape" map (Pellegrini et al., 2016) and the strontium biosphere map of Britain (Evans et al., 2010). Analytical results will be combined with those from other studies, such as the Beaker People Project (Parker Pearson et al., 2016) and published data, to allow a synthesis and comparison between the study area and other areas of Britain.

**A LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE ON LANDSCAPE CHANGES IN THE SABOR VALLEY (NE PORTUGAL): A MULTI-SITE LOCAL-SCALE STUDY WITH WIDE-RANGING IMPLICATIONS**

*Author(s):* Tereso, João (CIBIO - Research Center in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources, Univ. of Porto; InBIO - Research Network in Biodiversity and Evolutionary Biology, Associate Laboratory; Center for Archaeology - UNIARQ, University of Lisbon; Natural History and Science Museum of the University of Porto) - Vaz, Filipê (CIBIO - Research Center in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources, Univ. of Porto; InBIO - Research Network in Biodiversity and Evolutionary Biology, Associate Laboratory) - Oliveira, Cláudia (CIBIO - Research Center in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources, Univ. of Porto; InBIO - Research Network in Biodiversity and Evolutionary Biology, Associate Laboratory; Archaeological Unit of the University of Minho, Landscape, Heritage and Territory Laboratory - Lab2PT) - Gaspar, Rita (Natural History and Science Museum of the University of Porto; GEPP-AAT / Grupo de Estudios para a Prehistoria do Noroeste Ibérico-Arqueologia; InBIO - Research Network in Biodiversity and Evolutionary Biology, Associate Laboratory; Archaeological Unit of the University of Minho, Landscape, Heritage and Territory Laboratory - Lab2PT)

*Presentation Format:* Oral

From 2010 to 2014, more than two hundred archaeological sites were excavated along the lower course of Sabor River valley (north-east of Portugal) within the framework of the construction of a hydroelectric dam. The archaeobotanical results obtained by this vast project provided the most extensive set of archaeological plant remains ever put together in Portugal. Site chronologies ranged from the Upper Palaeolithic to the 19th century AD but with particular emphasis to the period between the Middle Bronze Age and Roman times.

Data suggest changes in landscape that seem to be related to an increase of agricultural activities and changing patterns of human occupation. There is an expansion of flora related to (and benefiting from) regular disturbance and even soil depletion, such as Cistus ladanifer, which we tentatively relate with an expansion of agricultural fields into less favourable areas. In parallel we find direct and indirect evidence of large scale crop production, processing and storage, particularly cereals, from the Bronze Age onwards. Archaeological data, namely regarding settlement types, tally this perspective.

This presentation intends to exploit the complementarity between carpological and anthracological data in a multiple-site and local-scale approach, also taking into consideration settlement patterns and other archaeological data and framing it in the broader context of the Holocene.

**TOWN, COUNTRY AND A LITTLE TASTE OF HOME. HOW PEOPLE SHAPE THE LANDSCAPE WITH REFERENCE TO ROMAN AND MEDIEVAL BRITAIN**

*Author(s):* Francis, Robert (Nottingham University)

*Presentation Format:* Oral

To a greater or lesser extent when people move from one place to another they tend to bring with them something from their homeland. This can be intentional; a certain herb, spice or cereal, or by accident; a weed hitching a ride, or this can be a cultural custom that