

John Collis - Hill-forts

The two major studies of hill-fort development, those of Cunliffe and Bradley have both been regional in their approach and deal with the problem as part of a continuous process. I shall try to take a more general view, looking at a range of possibilities and try to demonstrate that too many assumptions are made about for instance who might be resident in a hill-fort. I will also argue against the gradualist theory of Cunliffe whereby certain centres in Hampshire/Dorset rise to dominance.

Nigel Mills - Settlement patterns - a null hypothesis
(the case for peasants in prehistory)

I wish to argue two points: 1) that we can take a normative view of spatial organisation and patterning of peasant communities which may be applied to agrarian societies in historic and prehistoric times. 2) that by taking such a view and thereby emphasising the lower ranks of settlement hierarchies, we will be better equipped to understand the nature and development of complex societies in prehistory.

Roger Cribb - Site Abandonment as Formation Process: a Model for seasonal pastoral Settlements

Site abandonment is considered as one kind of formation process affecting the state of the archaeological record. A distinction is drawn between terminal abandonment and regular abandonment which is routinized as part of an annual migratory cycle. It is suggested that the permanent, transportable material culture of a group of migratory pastoralists is less likely to appear in the archaeological record of a particular seasonal settlement than is the non-transportable material culture specific to that site. The model deals with this question in terms of three variables - value, portability and durability - which affect the disposition of items when a site is abandoned. The implications for the detection and analysis of pastoral settlements are examined and some examples from the Near East discussed.

Graeme Barker - Agricultural change in Molise

For the past five years I have been directing a multi-period study of the Biferno valley in Molise in southern Italy. For TAG, I propose to discuss explanations for changes in settlement patterns in the valley, taking as an example one area where we think we can observe a range of simple and complex forms of agricultural organisation during the prehistoric and historic periods.

Vicky Crosby - A Discussion of Population Growth

The paper was provoked by dissatisfaction with certain discussions of "population", which, by assuming a universal tendency of human populations to grow, exclude the question of why they grow. It is assumed that any useful model of population growth must make sense at the level of individual family decisions. Two aspects discussed are the labour demands of food production/procurement systems and the degrees of autonomy of the family as the basic productive and reproductive unit.

Sarah Colley - Seagull Soup and Puffin Pie
(Theoretical approaches to the exploitation of marine birds)

The exploitation of marine birds has been common in the Scottish islands throughout the historical period, and the remains of birds from archaeological sites make it clear that this resource was also exploited in prehistoric times.

In trying to understand the role of marine resources in prehistoric economies it is useful to ask what factors might govern the exploitation of one particular resource in preference to another.

One approach is to examine the structure of the resource (its abundance and distribution in time and space) and to postulate the way in which it could be exploited given various levels of technology and types of social organization.

This paper will examine the resource structure of marine birds and discuss various theoretical approaches to the question of their use.

Margaret Deith - Shells as seasonal indicators

Growth-ring analysis of shells as a means of assessing the season of occupation of shell middens; potentialities, problems and limitations.

A tentative model for the Morton site. Annual rings annulled by disturbance rings daily rings; dep. on relation to water level; using tide effects to determine where on-shore ecchle was

Mark Maltby - What did they do with Sheep?

The paper will take as its starting point Payne's models of the kill-off patterns for the various regimes of exploitation of sheep (Payne, S. 1973 "Kill-off patterns in sheep and goats: the mandibles from Asvan Kale", Anatolian Studies xxiii: 281-303).

It has been possible to test these models on several animal bone samples from central and southern England, of Iron Age to post-medieval date. The results are not always satisfactory and it can be shown that other factors played their part in the formation of the mortality data as represented on archaeological sites. With regard to some Iron Age samples from Wessex, an alternative model of "minimal exploitation" can be put forward.

Jennie Coy - Dogs

British archaeologists' view of dogs, as shown by interpretations of dog remains from archaeological sites, is much influenced by their times, class and (usually) urban background. It is probably so different from prehistoric man's view of dogs that our interpretations of such remains may be unreliable. The general principle here is often evoked in archaeology but do we pay it enough attention - especially in our interpretation of husbandry, hunting and technology.

Sue Stallibrass - Soils and Bones in West Yorkshire
(or should Taphonomists Get Stuffed?)

<u>methods in use for counteracting bias</u>	<u>bias</u>	<u>effective agencies</u>
MNIs, fragments, meatweights etc.	LOSS in analysis	cultural
sieving	LOSS in recovery	cultural & natural
?	LOSS in soil	natural
ethnoarchaeology	LOSS pre-deposition	cultural

Modern bone reports can only refer to bone present at the time of excavation. It is suspected that, whilst some bone elements preserve better than others due to intrinsic factors (vide Brain's work with Hottentot food remains), general rates of preservation are partially related to contextual soil conditions.

Comparing bones from 2 IA wells w Yorks, 1 with alk, the other acid, both waterlogged conditions. As way estimating losses. Also effects bones type (spongy etc) and butchery.

Clive Gamble - Mycenaean butter mountains and Minoan wine lakes

An ethnoarchaeological approach to the study of prehistoric economy is discussed using as a model the common agricultural policy of the European community.

Nicholas Ralph - Soil science: just an appendix?

Some of the special considerations that arise when studying a part living, part fossil artifact will be presented.

Neil Campling - Reconstructing the Ecosystem: Soil Phosphorus Systems of the Past

Early investigations by Arrhenius (1931), Lorch (1940), and Cook and Heizer (1965), and later works by Provan (1971), Sjoberg (1976), Woods (1977) and Eidt (1977) have established the hypothesis that the concentration of soil phosphorus or its forms in the soil profile varies directly with the type, intensity and duration of human activity over an area. Due to technical and methodological limitations, this hypothesis has not been tested adequately.

Failure to specify the structural relations of the analytical system under study has been a major methodological problem (cf. Hill 1977). Since human activity is an important pedogenic factor, studies of soil phosphorus must explicitly state the causal relations between various cultural and natural factors that lead to particular forms or concentrations of phosphorus. Soil phosphorus abnormalities can be viewed as alterations in the rate of accumulation or loss of phosphorus in the system, and thus, as an indication of the restructuring of the soil-human ecosystem.

Andrew Fleming - Behaviourism and materialism

There seems to be something of a dichotomy between the views of Binford and Schiffer on the one hand, and of David Clarke in Analytical

Archaeology, on the other. Do we treat culture as an information system in which material culture itself can be said to behave, and only as a second stage try to see what is going on in human terms? Or do we try to go straight from material culture to human group behaviour? For the archaeologist, is culture best treated as an information system or a behavioural system? This short talk considers this question.

Colin Renfrew - Systems and Systems Thinking, a Clarification

Vague pronouncements about "systems theory" have sometimes served to obscure the various strengths of a systematic approach to the past. By distinguishing between (a) systems thinking, (b) General Systems Theory, (c) the mathematical theory of control systems, and (d) systems dynamics modelling, it is hoped that an answer can be given to the confusions of some would-be philosophers of science (Salmon; Watson, Redman and LeBlanc), and the pretensions of those who claim to set themselves above 'vulgar materialism'.

Stephen Shennan - Hocus Pocus again?

In the last couple of years there has been an increasing use of Marxist frameworks in archaeology which parallels, or rather follows, their adoption in other social sciences. The paper looks at these approaches and raises the question of whether they have substantive insights to offer or merely provide us with a newly fashionable terminology.

Pat Phillips - Way Stations in Modelling among European Prehistorians

In the course of preparing a book on Europe from the Palaeolithic to the Iron Age, it became obvious that European prehistorians are reacting at different speeds to the 'new archaeology'. I will be looking at some of the variety, both on a geographical basis and amongst those studying different archaeological periods.

Stephen Pierpoint - High pressure advertising and the Bronze Age

This paper makes an attempt to look at archaeological entities such as 'types' and 'cultures' in terms of the concepts of the people who produced them - a cognitive archaeology as it were. One key aspect 'separating' entities we may call advertising (more than Clarke's ideas of culture being communicated - more positive). Examples (they are rare) are drawn from the British Neolithic and Bronze Age.

Bradley-quoted Hodder work on pottery producing different styles for different community tastes

Food vessel distinct groups at top end of market, less distinction lower, other expl's possible
Visual cues at communal centres (eg visibility barrow from Rudston Monolith).
Artifact packages + distributions. Avoiding others - ie avoiding identity confusion

Referring market aimed at (Koger C.)

John Riley - Aspects of Roman Mediterranean Commerce: the Contribution of Coarse Pottery

Emphasis will be placed on the value and limitations of using coarse pottery evidence to unravel marketing mechanisms and trading patterns in a historic period. These will be illustrated by a brief examination of certain economic and social trends suggested by a quantitative study of stratified Hellenistic and Roman coarse pottery from Cyrenaica, Libya.

Neil Loughlin - Shoot-Outs and Social Contact

Thinking on the European Iron Age, perhaps on archaeology generally, has now focused on internal development as perhaps the prime feature of culture change. Urbanization and central places are seen as major elements in this system. How far does evidence from Ireland support currently fashionable ideas on Iron Age communities and inter-group contact?

Raiding - expanding wealth but not territorial

Howlands - ? why acc cattle

? why not raids → exp: political area as more efficient than 1 off up off

cattle redistrib to maintain status.

Internal circulation governs social reproduction.

Distrib. cattle external, circulation internal.

Jenne - ~~cattle~~ prime meat source + grain

R: acquires social status

ans

?

until Anglo/Norma
app - no desire for
overall kingship
Not in Celtic socia
(kn) system.