

Konrad Spindler und Gretel Gallay, Kupferzeitliche Siedlung und Begräbnisstätten von Matacães in Portugal. Mit einem Beitrag von Angela von den Driesch. Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Madrid; Madrider Beiträge, Band 1. Verlag Philipp von Zabern, Mainz am Rhein 1973. 64 Seiten, 38 Tafeln, 10 Abbildungen und 12 Tabellen.

It is only within the last two decades that the richness of the Copper Age in Central Portugal has come into its own in the archaeological record. With the excavation of Vila Nova de São Pedro and Zambujal, it began to become apparent that this much neglected area had a number of important settlements, and in particular, fortified settlements which stood a healthy comparison with Los Millares in South Eastern Spain. Much of the credit for this exposition goes to the German Archaeological Institute in Madrid, both for its publications on the subject and for its excavating activity and now, with this volume, it has placed us further in its debt. But before this flow of publications on the subject appeared, local amateur archaeologists were in the field, doing valuable service in discovering important settlement and grave sites. One of these men was Dr. Ricardo Belo who carried out a number of small digs which brought to light a considerable amount of interesting finds, but his failure to publish these before his death made the publication of the monograph here under review necessary. Another local worker was Leonel Trindade who has done more than anyone in the Torres Vedras area, not only in discovering sites, but in bringing these to the attention of professional archaeologists who, as in the case of Zambujal, put their spades to work there to such advantage. It is only right and fitting that the authors of this monograph should pay tribute to Trindade's work and to the help which he gave them, and it is largely in the museum which is under his care in Torres Vedras that the material presented in the present volume is stored.

The book is a successful attempt at publishing material from a number of sites in the small Portuguese community of Matacães which lies only a short distance to the east of Torres Vedras and not very far from Vila Nova de São Pedro. The sites are of two different types, a fortified settlement at Fórnea and burial places in natural caves (Portuqueira I and II) or under a rock shelter (Carrasca). The small finds from each site are discussed in turn, with an indication of the results of Belo's excavations (if the digging of holes can be honoured by the name). The second half of the text concerns the human and animal bones, the latter commentary coming from the pen of A. von den Driesch. The finding of large deer as well as horse remains is important, though it is to be regretted that no attempt was made to define the wild or domesticated nature of the horses. The book is essentially a factual and highly useful presentation of material, and the description and illustration of all the small finds, together with the extensive bibliography, is highly praiseworthy. With this volume, another complex of finds can now be added to those which have already been treated in a similar way by the authors as well as by H. Schubart and various Portuguese authors.

The problem with Central Portuguese sites is that of correlating the settlements and cemeteries which belong to one another, as one is so often present without the other. This, of course, is a problem which is not confined to Portugal, and is encountered in areas further north along the Atlantic coast of Europe such as Brittany and Ireland. In the case of Zambujal, two tholoi are known 1 or 2 kilometers from the settlement, and other cases are cited of graves being a similar distance away from the settlement. It seemed to the authors that the sites which they set out to publish might provide an opportunity to tackle the problem of the relationship

between settlement and cemetery by taking under the microscope some fairly prolific sites in a confined geographical area, and this was why the sites near Matacães were chosen for detailed examination. No excavation was undertaken for the purpose of the publication, and the authors were forced to rely largely on what had already been recovered through Belo's limited investigations and what they themselves found on the ground. One of Belo's more important discoveries was what he took to be a round house which can no longer be located. The authors cast some doubt on Belo's interpretation of the structure, only the foundations of which remained, and they suggest instead that these formed the bottom of a round tower of the kind known from Zambujal. Their suggestion is ingenious, but until such time as these foundations can be re-located and can be related to a fortificatory system, it seems unwise to be quite so certain of the foundations belonging to a tower as the authors seem to think.

A number of pieces from the 'import' horizon were found at the settlement, including some 'import' pottery, showing the obvious connection of Fórnea to the other more important sites such as Zambujal and Vila Nova de São Pedro. But the fact that certain objects such as stone axes and a microlith also came to light suggest an older substratum among the population, and poses the problem – as yet unsatisfactorily solved – as to what element of the population was intrusive from the Eastern Mediterranean in search of copper deposits and how strong were the descendants of an older neolithic population. Some Beaker pottery of the less decorated variety as well as a bracer fragment show the same later occupation stratum known from Vila Nova de São Pedro and Zambujal. The excavations in the Matacães area were not sufficiently extensive to enable the authors to discuss the chronology of their sites in any detail, but it is a pity, nevertheless, that a more precise chronology of the material was not attempted by relating it to the stratified products of neighbouring and better excavated castros. This brought out all the more the difficulty in relating cemetery and settlement sites. The strong admixture of 'import' material and items belonging more properly to the Alentejo megalithic culture could possibly be thus better explained. It ought to be pointed out – as the authors did – that the amount of 'import' material at Carrasca was surprisingly large, and the high-walled vessel from Portuqueira II is one of the finest of the 'import' products known from the area. Of great interest is the small human face of bone from Carrasca; it is one of the few Atlantic chalcolithic attempts at a representation of the human shape, albeit in a stylised form, and appears to depend on Eastern Mediterranean models.

Certain differences are clearly brought out between the settlements and the cemeteries – the more noticeable occurrence of Palmela and highly decorated maritime Beakers in the graves, and the channelled ware, the sieves and the more simple Beaker types in the settlements. The authors have wisely drawn the tentative conclusion that their effort to bring out a relationship between cemetery and settlement has not succeeded, and they have left further discussion of the subject to another publication on the Cova da Moura. But even if they did not succeed, it was certainly worth the try. Not only at Matacães but elsewhere as well, the distance of one or more kilometers separating settlement and cemetery must still, therefore, leave the question open as to whether the two did really belong together. If the castro dwellers were 'invaders' who had to build walls to defend themselves against the local inhabitants, surely they would scarcely have buried their dead so far away from the settlements where, even if the cemeteries were visible from the castros, the inhabitants would have been powerless to stop spoliation at a distance and where they could be attacked by straying too far from their own fold. The question

remains as to whether other cemeteries still remain to be discovered nearer to the settlements. But if further work succeeds in correlating settlement and cemetery sites, possibly a stronger local population element may help to explain the connection and at the same time the distance between the two—a population which, at least as far as the sites further inland are concerned, may have only had connections with the Eastern Mediterranean through trade, or through trade with those living in the castros nearer the coast which may have been in closer contact with the Eastern Mediterranean. Not all of the much later and unconnected nuraghi of Sardinia need be ascribed to intrusive population groups, and the same may well apply to some of the castros of Central Portugal, although it must be admitted that such fortifications form a relatively uniform defensive picture and are otherwise unknown from the other Atlantic provinces with strong aeneolithic cultures.

The appearance of this, the first volume of the 'Madriider Beiträge' is to be welcomed as a harbinger of a further series of monographs dealing with the problems of archaeology in the Iberian Peninsula. But it is hoped that these Contributions will not just confine themselves to what is to all intents and purposes a highly useful presentation of material but will also include a much more wide-ranging discussion of the material presented, for which such a splendidly produced series offers the opportunity.

Malahide.

Peter Harbison.

Angel Montenegro Duque, Historia de España. Edad antigua I. España prerromana. Editorial Gredos, Madrid 1972. 615 Seiten, 172 Abbildungen und 2 Tabellen.

Eine Geschichte der Iberischen Halbinsel in vorrömischer Zeit ist in den letzten Jahren immer mehr zum Desiderat geworden, zumal sich das Erscheinen der seit langem angekündigten Neubearbeitung der entsprechenden, längst vergriffenen Bände von R. Menéndez Pidal's ausführlicher „Historia de España“ (bei Espasa-Calpe) unangemessen verzögert. Der bei Gredos herausgebrachte 1. Band einer offenbar weit bescheidener angelegten neuen „Historia de España“ will hier Abhilfe schaffen. In gewissem Umfang ist dies gelungen: Mit Montenegros Arbeit liegt ein konzentriert geschriebener, verständlich formulierter Überblick vor, ein Buch ohne wissenschaftlichen Apparat, aber mit guten, im großen und ganzen vollständigen Literaturangaben. Die spanische und außerspanische Forschung ist bis etwa 1970 zur Kenntnis genommen, St. Piggotts „Ancient Europe“ sucht man freilich vergebens. Beginnend mit den „Ursprüngen der Erde“ wird die Entwicklung der Halbinsel bis zum Vorabend der römischen Intervention dargestellt; alle Sparten der Wissenschaft, die diese Entwicklung berührt, sind berücksichtigt. Wie schwierig angesichts der Fülle des Materials und der kaum noch zu überblickenden Forschung ein solches Unterfangen für einen Autor allein ist, braucht kaum betont zu werden: Montenegros Mut erheischt Respekt; gleichzeitig macht die Arbeit aber unmißverständlich klar, daß ein einzelner mit einem solchen Programm schlechterdings überfordert ist. Was bedauerlich ist: Der Verlag hat in unverständlicher Weise gespart. Das Buch ist unbefriedigend redigiert und ohne Register, enthält kein Foto, und nur das notwendigste archäologische Material ist gezeichnet präsentiert, dabei von sehr unterschiedlicher Qualität; gleiches gilt für die Karten. Das sollte man einem „manual universitario“ nicht antun, auch nicht, wenn man sich wie Monte-