

Der Sammelband liefert einen guten Einblick in die internationale Forschung in europäischen Gewässerlandschaften. Er präsentiert eine neue Datenbasis und internationale Perspektiven, die zur weiteren kritischen Beleuchtung von Feuchtbodensiedlungen und von Mensch-Umwelt-Beziehungen herangezogen werden können, und ist daher für die Ausweitung der Fragestellungen sehr wertvoll. Leider zeichnet der Band nur einen Teil der europäischen Raumschaften nach. So sind etwa Italien, die Iberische Halbinsel, Großbritannien und Skandinavien nicht Gegenstand der Betrachtungen, obwohl diese Regionen viel Neues zur Fragestellung beitragen könnten. Auch fehlt für das Verständnis für den Ursprung der Pfahlbauarchäologie in methodologischer Sicht eine Beleuchtung des Bodenseegebiets und der Landschaften Oberschwabens, Bayerns und Norddeutschlands. Eine zusammenhängende Betrachtung der Methodologie gerade in naturwissenschaftlicher Sicht oder im Bereich der Taucharchäologie für das 19. und die erste Hälfte des 20. Jahrhunderts sollte noch nachgetragen werden. Auch gibt es in diesem rein englischsprachigen Band keine Zusammenfassungen in anderen Sprachen. Derartige Shortcuts, z. B. in Französisch oder Deutsch, würden helfen, sprachliche Barrieren zu überwinden, den Gedanken eines Open Access zu stärken und zu einem schnellen Zugang zur jeweiligen Thematik zu gelangen. Vielleicht können diese Wünsche an die Autor*innen und die Herausgeber*innen des ansonsten gelungenen Werkes in den nächsten Bänden der Reihe, die schon avisiert sind und sich mit weiteren Stellen in Seen, Mooren und Flüssen auseinandersetzen möchten, nachgetragen und dort ergänzt werden.

D – 88690 Uhltingen-Mühlhofen
Strandpromenade 6
schoebelg@pfahlbauten.de

Gunter Schöbel
Pfahlbaumuseum

MARTIN BARTELHEIM / FRANCISCO CONTRERAS CORTÉS / ROLAND HARDENBERG (eds), *Landscapes and Resources in the Bronze Age of Southern Spain*. RessourcenKulturen volume 17. Tübingen University Press, Tübingen 2022. € 79.52. ISBN 978-3-947251-52-0 (Hardcover). Open Access. ISBN 978-3-947251-53-7 (PDF). doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15496/publikation-66226>. 359 pages.

The splendid volume under review here has been published within the series *RessourcenKulturen* (<https://publikationen.uni-tuebingen.de/xmlui/handle/10900/68814> [letzter Zugriff: 15.04.2024]) which is a key outcome of SFB 1070 *RessourcenKulturen*, an interdisciplinary investigation hub based at the University of Tübingen and funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). This prestigious and fully consolidated series has published intermittently over twenty titles from 2014 – mainly conference proceedings and a few research dissertations and monographs – predominantly in English to reach wide international audiences. The series meets high quality standards since all contributions are peer reviewed by international scholars and smartly combine the printing of colour hard copies with free access to all downloadable publications on its institutional website.

In keeping with the international-wide and interdisciplinary philosophy of the series' editorial line, this book deals with the sociocultural use of resources in the Bronze Age in a study area properly defined in its title as Southern Spain. However, since nation-state borders make no sense in such a prehistoric context, and since the Portuguese Algarve region fully participated in the same social dynamics, Southern Iberia would have been a more suitable regional definition. Indeed, the lack of contributions (by Portuguese or other scholars) covering southern Portugal is somehow strik-

ing. The volume aims at gathering a range of ongoing fieldwork and laboratory research avenues, from landscape archaeology to the technology of archaeological materials and their archaeometric characterisation. To do so, many of the chapters – mostly those written by staff from Tübingen University – draw on the conceptual toolkit of research hub SFB 1070: a multi-scalar and multi-temporal analysis of so-called *ResourceAssemblages*, *ResourceComplexes* and *ResourceCultures*. This way of thinking the sociocultural engagement of past communities with their material world is to be ultimately framed within actor network or assemblage social theories (HODDER 2012), which delves into concepts widely used throughout the volume: social patchwork mosaics, connectivity, human-environment relationships, social complexity, and fluidity, etc. This multi-authored volume is composed of a preface by the editors and sixteen chapters presenting case studies from diverse and complementary perspectives. They predominantly tackle the subject matter of the book's title: the Bronze Age. Nonetheless, some papers cover other periods – something reasonable from the diachronic perspective of phenomena like the *debesa* agrosystem (see below) – and even address topics hardly understandable in the context of this volume – such as water management and tourism. Due to lack of space, this review will concentrate only on the chapters dealing with the Bronze Age.

Martin Bartelheim's keynote chapter ("Societies and Resources in the Bronze Age of Southern Iberia", pp. 11–31) opens the volume focusing on analogical reasoning. It is one of the strongest and better supported criticisms on the Marxist view of the Argaric world – i. e. the Early and Middle Bronze Age in south-eastern Spain – as a class-based and state-like coercive hierarchical polity. M. Bartelheim's attack on this account is threefold: it puts the studied phenomenon into a pan-European scale – therefore comparing it to underlying commonalities with further societies; it widens the interpretive options of equifinality; and it highlights some of the habitual factual inconsistencies and theoretical weaknesses in literature, especially defying the alleged homogeneous materiality and social practices of Argaric communities – the so-called Argaric norm, a true scholarly artefact. Unfortunately, his essay does not discuss important recent findings from Murcia (Spain) that argue for a centralised polity – yet not necessarily and exclusively so –, such as the political meeting hall unearthed at La Almoloya or the silversmith's workshop at Tira del Lienzo (DELGADO-RAACK et al. 2016). Beyond the chosen case-study, this paper can contribute to challenge further narratives that uncritically assume pre-Roman states in Iberia and Europe at large.

The chapter by Döbereiner Chala-Aldana ("Beyond Culture Areas", pp. 33–88) stems from his PhD research (viva in 2020) and is a compelling endeavour that tackles the spatial dimension of social interaction at the whole Guadalquivir valley in the Bronze Age. It does so via typology of ceramic wares – as an index for shared know-how – and Geographic Information Systems. His analysis generates "archaeotopograms" and depicts nine principal corridors linking settlements based on cost-surface calculations from historical livestock routes and least cost paths. Its technical apparatus is impressive, and the only information missing in the methods section is the nature – whether isotropic or anisotropic – of the raster modelling. The Guadalquivir basin – commonly perceived as peripheral, thinly populated, and low ranked – is characterised in a fully alternative way, transcending culture areas, as a very interconnected territory. Drawing on the same methodology, the following chapter by Marta Díaz-Zorita Bonilla, Döbereiner Chala-Aldana, Javier Escudero Carrillo and Martin Bartelheim ("Connectivity, Interaction and Mobility during the Copper and Bronze Age in Southwestern Spain", pp. 89–108) explores a sample of Copper and Bronze Age sites from Sierra Morena and the low Guadalquivir and identifies a series of routes for every period. Beyond the concrete corridors modelled in both chapters – archaeology as a reconstructive endeavour would be a positivistic misconception – the important point of this method lies in its wide potential as an experiment replicable with diverse time-spaces and featuring a predictive dimension testable via archaeological surveys.

The next multi-authored essay (Martin Bartelheim, María Antonia Carmona Ruiz, Döbereiner Chala-Aldana, Marta Díaz-Zorita Bonilla, Jesús García Díaz, Roland Hardenberg and Maike Melles) (“Landscape Use and Transhumance in the Sierra Morena through the Ages”, pp. 109–134) consists of a diachronic overview of agropastoral and forest practices in Sierra Morena from the Chalcolithic to modern times. This valuable contribution deals with transhumance/transsterminance dynamics and the formation of the *dehesa* – i. e. a zooanthropogenic landscape, made up of oak woodland and pasture or scrubland shaped by livestock farming – as a resource. In the same vein, in the following contribution, María Antonia Carmona Ruiz (“Origin, Typology and Evolution of the Dehesas in the South of the Iberian Peninsula during the Late Middle Ages”, pp. 135–144) delves into the *dehesa* agrosystem in Andalusia during the late Middle Ages, in a short chapter with excessive and unnecessary self-quotation. Luis Benítez de Lugo Enrich and Miguel Mejías Moreno (“Climatic Crisis, Socio-Cultural Dynamics and Landscape Monumentalisation during the Bronze Age of La Mancha”, pp. 165–178) are the authors of a chapter on the Bronze Age Motilla culture of La Mancha (Spain) regarded by them as the oldest case of large-scale groundwater management in Europe to cope with the 4.2 ka BP event of aridification. The piece concentrates on the *motilla* (artificial mound) of El Retamar (Ciudad Real, Spain) and discusses its likely location to benefit the local aquifer through the drilling of a well, like the one discovered at *motilla* of El Azuer. The reference to the “arrival of eastern Europeans” (p. 173), drawing on genomic (aDNA) evidence – a few Iberian individuals carrying the Y chromosome R1b – may be deceiving if not adequately explained. In their chapter, Luis Arboledas Martínez, Auxilio Moreno Onorato and Francisco Contreras Cortés (“Exploitation of Copper Mining Resources during the Bronze Age in the Eastern Sierra Morena”, pp. 179–200) tackle the exploitation of metallic – copper and silver – resources in Bronze Age eastern Sierra Morena in an important contribution which synthesises recent findings from ongoing fieldwork. After reclaiming the role of mining activities in current debates on El Argar culture which were too focused on metal end-products the authors present the evidence of extractive activities in this hotspot, totalling some 26 mining operations. Their interpretation, in terms of intensive, large scale and full-time specialised production of copper to supply an external demand within a centralised and strongly hierarchical regional polity that ultimately led to its over-exploitation and collapse, is bold yet highly contentious. Interestingly, it collides with the vision sketched by Bartelheim’s opening chapter. The observations made by these authors from the University of Granada might be better accounted for from a deescalated narrative. Actually, this is the theoretical tone of the analytical chapter by Ignacio Montero Ruiz and Mercedes Murillo-Barroso (“The First Bronzes in El Argar”, pp. 201–220) on the earliest tin bronzes in south-eastern Iberia. These scholars frame the Argaric adoption of copper-tin alloys in the context of western Europe and suggest a convincing strategy to identify probable tin bronze imports and the first local Cu-Sn alloyed products using lead isotope analyses. Their paper validates the method and offers preliminary worthwhile observations, such as discriminating tin bronze artifacts in the Argaric region from the Pyrenees and the western Alps and local alloys using metals from Murcia or Los Pedroches (Córdoba). These products are envisaged as resulting from social exchange of prestige items rather than compulsory supply of raw materials – i. e., commodity or tribute – as riskily contended by Luis Arboledas and colleagues in the previous chapter. The paper by Francisco Javier Jover Maestre, María Pastor Quiles, Ricardo E. Basso Rial and Juan Antonio López Padilla (“Natural Resources, Peasant Rationality and Social Spaces in the Border between El Argar and the Valencian Bronze Age Societies”, pp. 259–274) draws on the literature of Peasant Studies to characterise two adjoining Bronze Age societies: the Valencian and the Argaric in what is regarded as a contact zone in the province of Alicante. In their account, both are peasant societies, yet the northernmost Argaric communities are distinctive in the ability of some aristocrats to appropriate surplus and have access to metal and luxury items.

The chapter by Leonardo García Sanjuán and Coronada Mora Molina (“The Bronze Age in the Lands of Antequera”, pp. 221–258) discusses funerary and domestic evidence for Bronze Age Antequera (province of Málaga), a large study area comprising 181 sites. Their unsystematic and non-quantitative survey – due to the habitual limitations of available documentation – is very effective in attaining important insights. Thus, the onset of the Bronze Age is marked by a strong discontinuity from Copper Age settlement dynamics, and can be regarded as “a major demographic, social and cultural shift” (p. 241). But this account is complemented by the local burial record, whose cists and hypogea evoke and emulate the superb megalithic past and convey a potent message of ideological continuity. This picture of funerary conservatism is further nuanced by the science-based stable isotope study presented by Gonzalo Aranda Jiménez, Marta Díaz-Zorita Bonilla, Margarita Sánchez Romero, Lara Milesi, Javier Escudero Carrillo, and Miriam Vílchez Suárez (“Culture-Based Dietary Patterns in Megalithic and Argaric Bronze Age Societies in Southeastern Iberia”, pp. 275–288) on dietary patterns in south-eastern Iberia. The chapter draws on a representative sample of individuals (n= 194) from coetaneous megalithic and Argaric graves subjected to carbon and nitrogen composition and gains important preliminary insights. Thus, both Bronze Age populations shared a diet based on terrestrial resources. The groups interred in megalithic tombs exhibit a conservative and homogeneous dietary pattern fully in keeping with their isonomic lifestyle and more relational identities. By contrast, people inhumated according to Argaric customs feature wider dietary variability and an increased and asymmetrical consumption of high-quality foodstuffs – meat and dairy products. The paper challenges again the assumed cultural uniformity of Argaric communities and adds new evidence to the link of correlation between dietary patterns and social categories established by archaeologists based on burial furnishings.

The papers by Leonor Peña-Chocarro and Guillem Pérez-Jordà (“Second Millennium BC Plant Resources in Southern Iberia”, pp. 289–300) on Bronze Age carpology in Andalucía and by Laura Vico Triguero, Alberto Dorado Alejos, and Francisco Contreras Cortés (“Pottery Production Strategies in the Upper Guadalquivir Valley during the Middle and Late Bronze Ages of Southern Iberia”, pp. 325–338) on the ceramics from the sites of Peñalosa and Cerro de los Cabezuelos (Jaén) synthesise already published datasets and provide the reader with complementary useful information. Thomas X. Schuhmacher’s chapter (“Ivory in the Early Bronze Age of the Southeastern Iberian Peninsula”, pp. 301–324) addresses Asian/Levantine and North African/Maghrebian ivory as a key luxury material in Early Bronze Age Iberia. Finally, the chapter by Juan Jesús Padilla Fernández, Eva Alarcón García, Alejandra García García, Luis Arboledas Martínez, Auxilio Moreno Onorato, and Francisco Contreras Cortés (“What can Technology do for Us?”, pp. 339–359) offers an anthropologically informed enquiry on pottery craftwork at the Argaric settlement of Peñalosa (Jaén). The paper proposes a technological assessment of ceramics and uses the *chaîne opératoire* concept to characterise three pottery assemblages – cooking vessels, storage wares, and fine tableware – focusing on clay preparation, manufacture, and firing. Technological choices and craftspeople’s – especially women’s – gestures are interpreted as the somatisation and performance of know-how that convey different degrees of expertise, empowerment, distinction, and individuality.

In sum, this is a most recommendable reading, thoroughly illustrated and edited – despite the occurrence of a few English typos – that gathers insightful contributions. If we collate this book with the panorama a decade ago (as exemplified by M. CRUZ BERROCAL et al. 2013) some trends are apparent: the recent thematic, empirical, and theoretical expansion, and geographic decentering beyond El Argar. Thus, regarding the ways of approaching Bronze Age Southern Spain, landscape, household, and burial archaeologies keep being key research avenues. However, the range of bodies of evidence has expanded significantly, in a zooming strategy that covers from the science-based micro to the macro scale and entails fresh topics – technology, climate change and water management, diet, cultural identity, strategies of distinction, etc. In interpretive terms, El Argar culture – featuring a

century-old research tradition – keeps attracting discussions between competing standpoints. Nevertheless, academic debate has become more balanced and decentred, and narratives are becoming more nuanced and finer-grained. Indeed, contrary to the previous predominance of deterministic and historical materialist accounts, the number of rebuttals and alternative accounts has significantly increased. Thus, the minimalist theoretical underpinning set by the first editor in his opening chapter is also embraced by several contributors, and they do so from more eclectic, anti-positivistic, and non-deterministic inspirational backgrounds, positing more horizontally distributed or heterarchical social organisations. The volume does include some Marxist based voices envisaging the Argaric as a tributary state, yet they are under-represented and the reader may get the impression of a unilateral “monologue”, as with the above-mentioned 2013 book. As for the geographic decentring, El Argar is no more the hotspot of discussion in socio-political and economic terms. Further Iberian foci are being debated in the book – e. g., the Valencian, La Mancha, and the south-western Bronze Age societies – and they are to be crucial to understanding the Bronze Age in Iberia. After all, social power cannot be understood without the counterpowers, as part and parcel of the same past realities.

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- ES–37002 Salamanca
ablancoglez@usal.es
<https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4502-9651>
- Antonio Blanco-González
University of Salamanca
Faculty of Geography and History
Department of Prehistory, Ancient History
and Archaeology

JOSÉ EDUARDO M. DE MEDEIROS, Hortfunde der Spätbronze- und Früheisenzeit. Ein prozesslogischer Paradigmawechsel. Sidestone Press Dissertations, Leiden 2021. € 40,00. ISBN 978-94-6428-006-7 (Softcover). € 120,00. ISBN 978-94-6428-007-4 (Hardcover). ISBN 978-94-6428-008-1 (E-Book). 210 Seiten mit 53 Abbildungen.

Bei dem zu rezensierenden Werk handelt es sich um die Druckfassung einer 2019 an der Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg eingereichten Dissertationsschrift. Sie schlägt eine Neuausrichtung und damit einen Paradigmenwechsel in der Auslegung urgeschichtlicher Quellen vor. Das Buch von José Eduardo M. de Medeiros ist in sechs inhaltliche Kapitel gegliedert und wird mit einem Literaturverzeichnis beschlossen.

In der Einleitung (S. 11–17) erfahren die Leser*innen von der Entstehungsgeschichte der Arbeit, die ursprünglich als eine Untersuchung von Schmuckhorten der späten Bronze- und frühen Eisenzeit Frankreichs konzipiert war. Hort- oder Depotfunde werden seit langem danach befragt, was es denn mit dieser Praxis auf sich habe, und in der Folge auch, welche sozialgeschichtlichen Aussagen