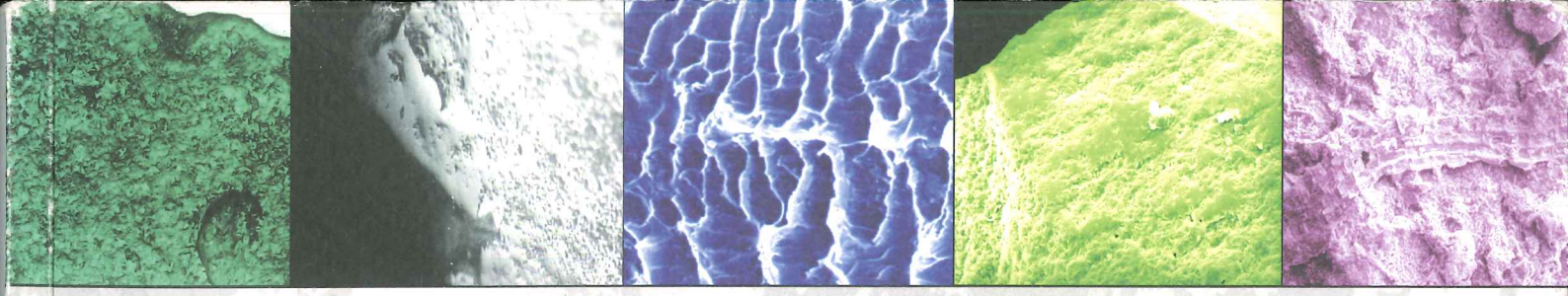


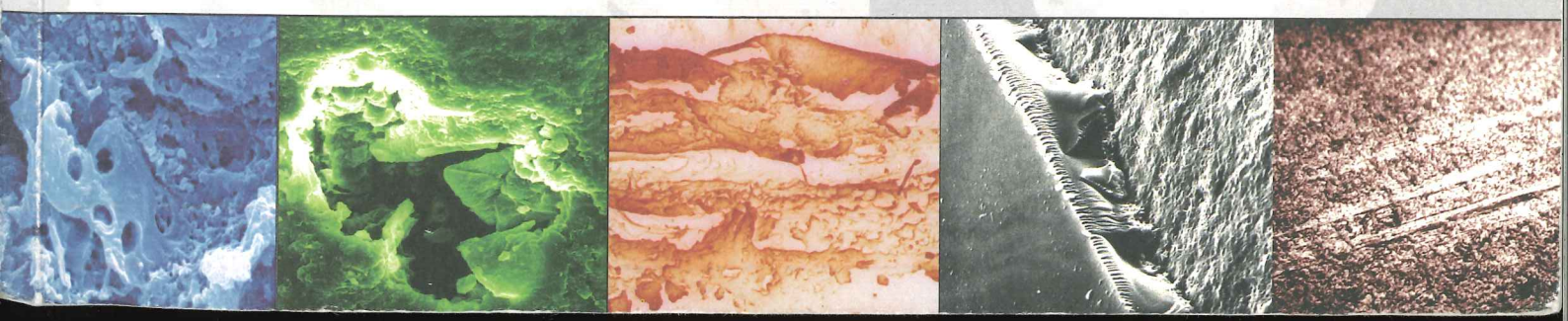
MUSEO CIVICO DI STORIA NATURALE DI VERONA

UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI VERONA

"PREHISTORIC TECHNOLOGY" 40 YEARS LATER: FUNCTIONAL STUDIES AND THE RUSSIAN LEGACY

Verona, 20 - 23 April 2005

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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Use wear analysis: the application on Ripatetta lithic industry. Preliminary results

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Key words: Ripatetta, use wear, Neolithic, southern Italy.

The earliest phase that has come to light during excavations at the site of Ripatetta can be attributed to an advanced phase of the Impressed Ware culture that spread throughout central-southern Italy during the Early Neolithic period.
The chipped stone assemblage coming from this

site has been already studied and classified following typological and typometrical methods and the results have permitted to assume an exotic origin for this assemblage.
In order to identify the function of an 80-90 sq.m. area, where a cobbled pavement was found, a microwear analysis has been undertaken. The absence of stake-holes or plaster led us to suggest that this was an open working area.
The microwear analysis – in progress as we speak – is being carried out on a sample of retouched and unretouched pieces, in order to preserve the quantitative relations between the different groups. The assemblage has been examined with stereoscopic binocular microscope at magnifications up to 400x and with the Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). The results have been compared to experimental wears obtained through an intense experimental activity organised by a research group of the Archaeological Science Department of Pisa University.

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Lithic economy during the Proto-Aurignacian: the case-study of Isturitz, layer C4III (Saint-Marin-d'Arberoue, Pyrénées Atlantiques)

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Key words: Use-wear, Proto-Aurignacian, Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition, raw material technology.

We present here the preliminary results of the functional analysis carried out on the material coming from layer C4III, at Isturitz, along with raw material provenance and technological analyses, in order to understand the management of lithic instruments recovered from the site. On the basis of these results we will discuss the modality of occupation and the role it played during the Middle to Upper Paleolithic transition in western Europe.

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