



Istituto Italiano di Preistoria e Protostoria
III IAPP - ANNUAL MEETING OF PREHISTORY AND PROTOHISTORY
Florence, May 8th-9th, 2017

“Small pits, digs, holes, silos...”
Neolithic small dug-out structures: research methods and interpretative issues

I CIRCULAR



Courtesy M. Bernabò Brea

In the past, several meetings have been devoted to the tricky evidence of Neolithic dwelling structures, since, due to their intensive use and abandonment, they are frequently ephemeral and prone to significant transformation processes. Despite this, a dense cloud of uncertainty still envelops our understanding of the function of some small dug-out structures: they seem to fall outside the behavioural sphere linked to everyday-life tasks and, equally, do not present any evidence of explicitly belonging to specific craft activities. As components of the multi-faceted and tenuous range of socially and/or symbolically invested activities, resulting from both their high morpho-dimensional variability and the heterogeneity of their respective backfilling, this category of archaeological structures mostly retains its enigmatic and mainly anecdotal nature. Certainly, among archaeologists it still lacks a fully agreed-upon interpretation, and this is reflected by the absence of any univocal designation.

This specific Annual Meeting aims to promote an up-to-date discussion of the state-of-the-art regarding this problematic category of the archaeological record. Scholars with expertise on this specific topic, from different geographical regions and methodological backgrounds, are invited to join and exchange their experience and interpretative pathways.

Scientific committee: Carlo Lugliè, Alain Beeching, Italo Maria Muntoni.

Venue: IIPP, The National Archaeological Museum, Via della Pergola 65

Date and timetable: May, Monday 8th 2017, h. 16.00-19.00; May, Tuesday 9th 2017, h. 9.00-13.00 (provisional timetable).

The meeting objective is to stimulate a debate between researchers working on Neolithic Italy and the immediately surrounding regions. The programme of the two-day workshop may be divided into sessions: this aspect will be established in the near future by the scientific committee.

The following are scheduled:

- Short (15 minute) talks, selected by the scientific committee from the proposals submitted;
- Posters, including a concise (5 minutes) presentation followed by a brief discussion.

The deadline for the submission of both talks and posters proposals is **March 31st, 2017**. Submissions have to be e-mailed to luglie@unica.it and must contain: two short abstracts in English and Italian, with a minimum length of 3000 characters each; Author(s) name(s), affiliation(s), address and e-mail address; a short reference list. The final meeting schedule and timetable will be published before April 14th, 2017. A digital version of the book of abstracts will be published in the Incontri Annuali series: <http://www.iipp.it/le-nostre-pubblicazioni/incontri-annuali-di-preistoria-e-protostoria/>

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