

Craft production and specialization during the third millennium in the southwest of Iberian Peninsula

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Abstract

Since Gordon Childe that economic and craft specialization has been analyzed within the historical process that led to the emergence of the so-called “complex” societies. In the Iberian Peninsula, this topic has been preferably debated by technological paradigm, emphasizing the lack of economic and craft specialization during the Third Millennium BCE. In recent years, an intense research about the first specialized mining and metallurgy in southwestern Iberia, highlighting the theoretical and empirical limitations of the postulates based on sophistication or complexity technological criteria. This is the opportunity to discuss the economic and social models of metallurgical and ceramic production during the Third Millennium BCE.

Keywords

Economic specialization; pottery production; metallurgy; mining, southwestern Iberian Peninsula, third millennium BCE.

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