
Hill forts and pre-proto-historic enclosures. Problems and potencialities to an european Heritage.

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Résumé

In large parts of Europe, walls, fences, berms or ditches around settlements or ritual places became increasingly significant from the Chalcolithic to the Iron Age. Several features have been discovered, relieved and interpreted since the 19th century. These signs left in the landscape from more than 5000 years ago, mark not only the will of human groups to mark the territory, but also precise settlement and architectural choices on certain occasions. They are also, between the Late Bronze Age and the Iron Age a factor that unites many European regions: British Isles, Iberian Peninsula, Peninsular Italy, Balkans, Central Europe. It is an archaeological heritage that is fundamental for understanding the management of the territory in the first complex societies, but in the same time subject to a double problem: the difficulty, in many cases, of making it attractive and open to the public and, consequently, the risk of seeing it forgotten and abandoned to degradation in inaccessible mountain areas. The problem of the protection and enhancement of this type of pre and protohistoric archaeological heritage will be addressed in the work, with a focus on the case study of the hillfort in the middle valley of the Portuguese Tagus

Mots-Clés: Hillforts, Europe, Preservation, Valorization

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