Hunted or perhaps something completely else? About the after-impact" holes visible in the prehistoric scapula bones.

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Abstract

Animal scapulae bearing distinct holes (in some cases even more than one or two) come from several European prehistoric sites, mainly associated with the hunter-gatherer-fisher communities. The genesis of holes is usually interpreted unambiguously, i.e. it is associated with hunting and hitting the scapula with a point or harpoon. Artefacts of this type come also from the Subneolithic sites in Šventoji (coastal Lithuania). The presentation will discuss the results of the traceological studies they were subjected to, as well as the results of the experimental program implemented for their needs. The classification of impact traces creating on bones after hitting with various types of both bone and flint points will be presented. An alternative hypothesis for the genesis of holes visible on the Šventoji scapulae will be discussed.

Keywords: bone, traceology, hunting, use, wear, Šventoji

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