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Rural settlement dynamic during Iron Age in Central Gaul: the excavation and fieldwalking data head to head

Pierre Nouvel, Philippe Barral

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Pierre Nouvel, Philippe Barral. Rural settlement dynamic during Iron Age in Central Gaul: the excavation and fieldwalking data head to head. *Archaeodyn: 7 millennia of territorial dynamics. Settlement pattern, production and trades from Neolithic to Middle Ages*, Jun 2008, Dijon, France. halshs-00429795

HAL Id: halshs-00429795

<https://shs.hal.science/halshs-00429795v1>

Submitted on 4 Nov 2009

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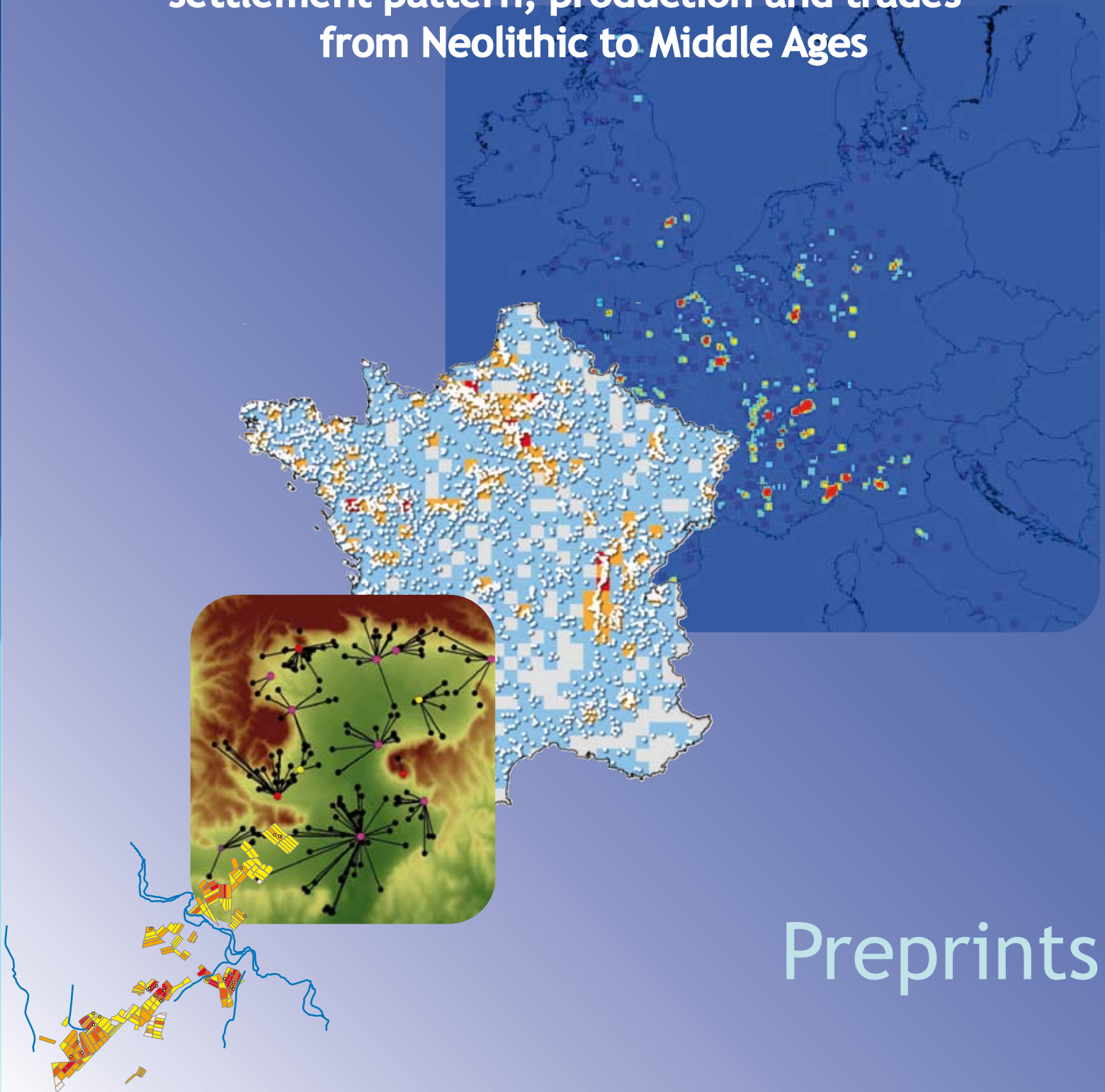
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ACI "Spaces and territories" 2005-2007
Final conference - Dijon, 23-25 june 2008

ARCHAEDYN

7 millennia of territorial dynamics

**settlement pattern, production and trades
from Neolithic to Middle Ages**



Preprints

Pre-proceedings directed by

Cristina GANDINI (*UMR 8546 AOROC, ENS Ulm Paris*)

François FAVORY*

Laure NUNINGER*

Organisation committee

Cristina GANDINI,

Laure SALIGNY***

Laëtitia BASSEREAU**

Jean-Marc BOURGEON***

Brigitte COLAS**

Marion LANDRÉ****

Isabelle MOURET****

Sophie BUI****

Sylvie COSTILLE-VAREY*

Nathalie PUILLET*

Scientific committee co-chairs

François FAVORY*

Claude MORDANT**

Laure NUNINGER*

* *UMR 6249 ChronoEnvironnement*

** *UMR 5594 ARTeHIS*

*** *MSH Dijon UMS 2739*

**** *MSH C. N. Ledoux, Besançon USR 3124*

ACI « Spaces and territories » 2005-2007

Contract ET 28

**Spatial dynamics of settlement and natural resources :
toward an integrated analysis over the long term
from Prehistory to Middle Ages**

Final Conference – University of Burgundy, Dijon, 23-25 June 2008

ARCHÆDYN

7 millennia of territorial dynamics

*settlement pattern, production and trades
from Neolithic to Middle Ages*

Preprints

REMERCIEMENTS

Le collectif Archædyn remercie les institutions qui ont bien voulu accepter d'accueillir les réunions de son groupe de pilotage, de ses séminaires, de ses ateliers et son colloque final.

Groupe de pilotage :

Université Paris IV Sorbonne, Paris
INHA, Paris
UMR 8546 ENS Ulm-CNRS, Paris

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UMR 5594 - ArteHis Dijon
MSHE Besançon
MSH Clermont Ferrand
MSH Tours
UMR 6130 CEPAM, Sophia Antipolis

Colloque final :

Université de Bourgogne

Le collectif Archædyn tient également à remercier individuellement tous les personnels chercheurs et administratifs qui ont fortement contribué à l'organisation de toutes ces rencontres et assurer le recrutement des vacataires.

Sylvie COSTILLE-VAREY, Nathalie PUILLET *UMR 6249, Besançon*
Monique SEGURA *UMR 6173, Tours*
Laëtitia BASSEREAU, Brigitte COLAS *UMR 5594, Dijon*
Isabelle MOURET, Marion LANDRE, Soizic VIAOUËT, Sophie BUI *USR 3124, Besançon*
Jean-Marc BOURGEON *UMS 2739, Dijon*
Sasa CAVAL, IAPS ZRC SAZU *Ljubljana*
Béatrice FIXOIS *UMR 7041 Nanterre*
Martine JOLY, M. MASSE, M^{me} FERNOUX *Univ. Paris IV / INHA, Paris*

Pour le colloque final, les organisateurs remercient également chaleureusement :

- les personnels de l'Université et du Crous de Bourgogne pour leur soutien logistique et administratif et les vacataires recrutés pour cette manifestation ;
- la ville de Dijon pour la réception du 23 juin ;
- Patricia ALEXANDRE pour les traductions en anglais et les relectures des textes anglais de l'équipe ArchæDyn, réalisée dans des délais extrêmement courts ;
- Bertrand TURINA pour la mise en page des pré-actes, également réalisée dans des conditions extrêmes ;
- Christian VERNOU, conservateur du Musée archéologique et ses collaborateurs pour l'organisation de la soirée inaugurale du colloque ;
- L'ensemble vocal « Le Laostic » et son chef de chœur, François TAINURIER ainsi que la paroisse Saint Bénigne qui a bien voulu accueillir leur concert.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The ArchaeDyn collective thanks the institutions which have kindly agreed to receive the meetings of his supervisory committee, seminars, workshops and final conference.

Supervisory committee:

Université Paris IV Sorbonne, Paris
 INHA, Paris
 UMR 8546 ENS Ulm-CNRS, Paris

Round-tables:

DRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon
 ZRC SAZU, Ljubljana (Slovenia)
 MSH Clermont-Ferrand

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 MSHE Besançon
 MSH Clermont-Ferrand
 MSH Tours
 UMR 6130 CEPAM, Sophia Antipolis

Final conference:

University of Bourgogne

The Archaeodyn collective would also like individually to thank all the researchers and administrative staff who greatly contributed to the organisation of all these meetings and to assure the recruitment of the temp staff.

Sylvie COSTILLE-VAREY, Nathalie PUILLET *UMR 6249, Besançon*
 Monique SEGURA *UMR 6173, Tours*
 Laëtitia BASSEREAU, Brigitte COLAS *UMR 5594, Dijon*
 Isabelle MOURET, Marion LANDRE, Soizic VIAOUËT, Sophie BUI *USR 3124, Besançon*
 Jean-Marc BOURGEON *UMS 2739, Dijon*
 Sasa CAVAL, IAPS ZRC SAZU *Ljubljana*
 Béatrice FIXOIS *UMR 7041 Nanterre*
 Martine JOLY, M. MASSE, M^{me} FERNOUX *Univ. Paris IV / INHA, Paris*

Regarding the final conference, the organizers also warmly thank :

- the University staff and the Crous of Burgundy for their logistical and administrative support and recruited temps for this event ;
- the city of Dijon for the reception of the June 23 ;
- Patricia ALEXANDRE for english translations and corrections of the texts of the ArchaeDyn's team which have been done according to extremely short delays ;
- Bertrand TURINA for the layout of the preprints which have been done according to extreme conditions too ;
- Christian VERNOU, Curator of the archaeological Museum and his collaborators for the organisation of the inaugural evening of the conference ;
- The vocal ensemble "Laostic" and his choral leader, François TAINURIER as well as the Saint Bénigne parish who agreed to host their concert.

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RURAL SETTLEMENT DYNAMIC DURING IRON AGE IN CENTRAL GAUL : THE EXCAVATION AND FIELDWALKING DATA HEAD TO HEAD.

NOUVEL Pierre

MCF, UMR 6249 Chrono-Environnement, Besançon
pierre.nouvel@univ-fcomte.fr

BARRAL Philippe

IR, UMR 6249 Chrono-Environnement, Besançon
philippe.barral@univ-fcomte.fr

Measurement of human occupation evolution is contained by many connected problems, in particular data heterogeneity. Surface survey and preventive excavation generally give opposed information on occupation stability. The first method privileges the long time and resilience of occupation. Whereas, excavations, often strained by reduced study windows and flush structures, gives a more parcelled vision.

Using methods developed in Archaeodyn workshop 2, we wanted to measure more finely these shifts between survey and preventive excavations data.

Therefore, we choice, for the first corpus, survey data from Burgundy (Plateaux de Basse-Bourgogne), Central France (Berry and Limagne) and South France (Languedoc oriental). These data were study with similar process and appear as representative.

On the other hand, we could work on proto-historical farm's corpus build for AFEAF (Association Française pour l'étude de l'Age du Fer) congress in Chauvigny (2007). This corpus was increase by preventives teams as INRAP (Institut National de Recherche Archéologique Préventive) and Antéa. 350 excavated settlements were documented in this study, mainly from North-est France (Burgundy, South-east Parisian area, Champagne, Lorraine, Alsace, and Franche-Comte). This study extends on to the period between La Tène B and augustean period (4th century B.C. and the beginning of 1st century A.C.).

All these settlements could be seen, for organisational and functional criteria, as agricultural establishments.

So, this confrontation could be done on these restricted corpuses: rural settlements occupied during second Iron Age. These two populations were set in the similar recording tables, founded on common description criteria.

Scientific exploitation was also limited by data quality. We had bad information on occupied surface for excavation settlements: this information was none on less than 10% of sites. It was so impossible to compare occupied surfaces evolution. The studies windows, limited by destructing projects, are too partial to allow an adequate comparison. It was thus impossible to explore settlement hierarchy-system and the evolution of territory organisation.

For better correlation, we made some modification in the occupation periodization. For statistic using, it was necessary to transform usual datation (La Tène C1 for exemple) in regular periods (50 years intervals). It was so possible to built curves of desertion and creation evolution, and occupancy rhythms for these two corpuses. The confrontation on these graphics allows expected result.

The discussion will relate on specific characters to each population witch can explain these apparent opposite evolution.

ACI "Spaces and territories" 2005-2007 Archaedyn (contract ET28)

Spatial dynamics of settlement and natural resources :
toward an integrated analysis over the long term from Prehistory to Middle-Ages

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