

## THE ROCK SOURCES OF THE LINEARBANDKERAMIK

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An important aspect of the relation between men and their environment is the exploitation of the environment. This applies to the human groups which are hidden behind archaeological cultures as well. The exploitation of the environment can be split up into several components. There are at least three of them : 1) activities related to the procurement of food and water, 2) activities connected with fuel, and 3) activities which are directed towards obtaining raw materials. All three components can be studied by archaeological methods; this applies also to the Linearbandkeramik culture.

Because of the comprehensiveness of the subject only a part of the third component will be dealt with. Chosen is for the provision with raw materials for movables of imperishable nature. These are, in the case of the Linearbandkeramik : 1) loams and clays - for pottery, 2) medium grained, hard rocks such as quarzitic sandstones, quarzites and granites - for querns, 3) medium- to fine-grained (quarzitic) sandstones - for grindstones of all kinds; 4) flints and cherts - for cutting and scraping tools, 5) tough rocks such as amphibolite, basalt and lydite - for adzes, 6) soft, coloured rocks such as haematite and graphite and 7) diverse kinds of pebbles.

The first aim in a study of this nature is to trace the sources of these rocks. It is nowadays fairly well-known that people prefer to obtain their raw materials from their own land, the closer to their home the better. It is plausible to apply this principle to archaeological cultures as well. This results in a search for rocks in an ever wider circle around the settlement. In doing this, one may cross the boundary circle with a two hours going radius, that puts limits to the preferred area for obtaining and transporting goods. One may also cross the circle with a radius of half a day's journey and enter the area which requires the organisation of expeditions with over-night stops elsewhere, events which were possibly avoided. Rocks from this area are called imports. In the case of the Linearbandkeramik these are the materials for adzes and the easily powdered, coloured rocks.

The second aim is to study the place and the technology of extracting. These aspects have hardly been studied and are almost unknown.

The third aim is to describe the relation between the location of extraction and the settlement. It is more or less a study of social contacts. Settlements within one micro-region have had to share rock sources. The long-distance movement of goods asks for a study of models on exchange. This study has just begun.