New insights from the Gravettian open air site of Feldberg „Steinacker“, Müllheim/Baden (Germany)

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While research has been conducted by several scientists since its discovery in the late 1960’s by W. Mähling, the open air site Feldberg “Steinacker” has only recently been introduced to a broader international scientific audience during the first “World of Gravettian Hunters” – conference in 2013 by Ingmar M. Braun. The site is best known from its well defined lithic assemblage, encompassing typical Gravettian projectiles like Font Robert points and Microgravettes. The locally available good quality Bohnerzjaspis and the high amount of cores and debris seems to reflect a workshop functionality, similar to other Gravettian sites like Prado (Spain) or Le Prissé (France).

Nonetheless, due to the supposed palimpsest of several occupations, a high variety of local human activities is most likely. In doing so, preliminary data from a lithic analysis of a spatially limited concentration of findings (Concentration A, ~10 m in diameter) will be presented. This location was discovered by F. Grötteke and G. Lang during their surface surveys in the last years and possibly presents a knapping spot, disturbed and elevated by the plough. Together with the data from the previous lithic analysis by C. Pasda (1998) and S. Holdemann (1996) it can provide further information about the width of Pleistocene human activities.

References


Figure 1: Gravettian sites in the Danube Corridor (AsterDEM).

Figure 2: Location of the site Feldberg "Steinacker". Red dotted line: possible site distribution, White area: Former study area, Yellow area: Location of Concentration A.