

regard to the raw material collecting and the flaking rules? There are other types of industries belonging to the Acheulian, Micoquian and Mousterian complexes which are contemporary.

A genetic link with older sites: Vértesszőlős in Hungary

This site is located in the same geographical area, in Hungary, and has been mainly excavated by L. Vértés from 1963 to 1968. Several travertine layers yielded artefacts, faunal remains, plant remains, fire places and human remains. The human remains could belong to *Homo erectus*.⁵⁰ The palaeoenvironmental data and the radiometric dating suggest that the human occupation took place during the isotopic stage 9, around 350,000 BP. The mammal species are numerous. However, most of them are *Bison priscus suessenbornensis*, *Bison schoetensacki*, *Cervus elaphus ssp.* and *Stephanorhinus etruscus*.

The raw materials are varied and most of them could be collected in the alluvial deposits of the Által-ér or on the Pleistocene terraces nearby the site.⁵¹ The rock types belong to sedimentary stones (radiolarites, jasper, opal, flint, chert, lydites, spongilites, marl, limestone) and to metamorphic stones (quartz, quartzite). The stone acquisition are consequently very close to what it is observed in the "Taubachian" sites. Otherwise, a great number of small pebbles have been brought to the site. The pebble average size is between 15 and 40 mm.

Almost 6000 artefacts were discovered in the different levels.⁵² Most of them seem to belong to a flaking activity on very small pebbles. However, a lot of pebbles with a few removals lead to discuss about the border between flaking and shaping, especially in ancient collections. This one could not exist for the tool-makers.

The comparison of the technological behaviours between the Vértesszőlős assemblages and the three sites previously studied show numerous common points. It is also the case for Bilzingleben.⁵³ Do we have evidence of a "genetic link" between ancient and later microlithic assemblages, between human groups who lived in the same area. They are perhaps evidence of a same tradition which is not only related to the work of very small pebbles. These similar trends are: presence of cores with two opposite debitage surfaces (pyramidal section), polyedric cores, pebble shape used for flaking, frequent crossed removals on debitage surfaces, flaking on flake surfaces, cores with a cortical back which cannot just be explained by a technical reason (fig. 10.).

On the other hand, the artefacts analysis give evidence of specific treatments and a more diversified debitage system: abundant broken pebbles (pebble quarter, half pebble, pebble slice), numerous cores with just one debitage surface on the smallest edge or the largest surface of the pebble. The most frequent kind of flaking is organ-

⁵⁰ KRETZOÏ-DOBOSI 1990.

⁵¹ KRETZOÏ-DOBOSI 1990.

⁵² DOBOSI 1983b., 1988.; KRETZOÏ-DOBOSI 1990.

⁵³ VALOCH 2000.