

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

In this book, Katina T. Lillios provides an up-to-date synthesis of the rich histories of the peoples who lived on the Iberian Peninsula between 1,400,000 (the Paleolithic) and 3,500 years ago (the Bronze Age) as revealed in their art, burials, tools, and monuments. She highlights the exciting new discoveries on the peninsula, including the evidence for some of the earliest hominins in Europe, Neanderthal art, interbreeding between Neanderthals and modern humans, and relationships to peoples living in North Africa, the Mediterranean, and Western Europe. This is the first book to relate the ancient history of the peninsula to broader debates in anthropology and archaeology. Amply illustrated and written in an accessible style, it will be of interest to archaeologists and students of prehistoric Spain and Portugal.

Katina T. Lillios is Professor of Anthropology at the University of Iowa. The recipient of grants and fellowships from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Wenner-Gren Foundation, she is the author of numerous books on Iberian archaeology, including *Heraldry for the Dead: The Engraved Stone Plaques of Neolithic Iberia*.

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THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE
IBERIAN PENINSULA

From the Paleolithic to the Bronze Age

KATINA T. LILLIOS

The University of Iowa



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PREFACE

One could say that this chronicle of one million years began with a glass of scotch. It was a Friday afternoon in the fall of 1981, my senior year at Boston University, and I was enjoying the company of fellow archaeology students and professors at the campus hangout, the Pub. Our chair, James Wiseman, was sharing news of his upcoming trip to Lisbon and plans for a new field school in northern Portugal that was to be directed by my advisor, Karl Petruso, the following summer. Not having plans after graduation other than participating in the field school, and possibly emboldened by the scotch, I asked Jim whether he could get me a job at the National Museum of Archaeology in Lisbon, then under the direction of Francisco Alves. Jim said he would try, and, a few weeks later, he informed me that I had a six-month position at the museum.

That first trip to Portugal, and particularly those six months at the museum, were tough. My Portuguese was ragged, I was lonely, and the museum was in the process of reorganization, so things were often chaotic. The museum was also cold. It had no central heating, and the winter rains produced a chill that penetrated the building's stone walls and all the layers of sweaters I was wearing. However, I had a lot of free time and spent much of it in the museum's library. Although my spoken Portuguese was poor, I could read Portuguese and Spanish well enough. In the library, I came across works that spoke of "colonial" connections between the Iberian Peninsula and eastern Mediterranean during the Copper and Bronze Ages (third and second millennia BCE). Having taken courses in the archaeology of the Aegean, the Near East, and Anatolia at Boston University, but knowing little about the western Mediterranean, I was intrigued by these accounts of far-flung travelers. The problem, I later learned, was that they were wrong. But it didn't matter. I wanted to know more, so I pursued graduate studies at Yale University, under the steady supervision of Andrew Moore and the guidance of Antonio Gilman, and wrote my dissertation on the Copper to Bronze Age transition in Portugal. Since then, I have devoted my career to the archaeology of the later

prehistory of the Iberian Peninsula through fieldwork, studies of museum collections, and analyses of large data sets.

Many of my Iberianist colleagues, however, worked in other time periods, and, over the years, they generously gave me reprints and books they had written. But, there never seemed to be enough time to read their work, although, in teaching a class at the University of Iowa on the archaeology of the Iberian Peninsula, I was able to take periodic ventures outside my areas of specialization. In 2014, I was kindly invited to present a paper summarizing recent research on late prehistoric Iberia for the *Archaeology of Iberia: State of the Field* conference at the Joukowsky Institute at Brown University. It was in preparing this paper, and confronting the difficulty of synthesizing a vast body of research, that the idea of writing a survey of Iberian archaeology came to mind as a serious idea, although, over the years, Norm Yoffee had encouraged me to write such a book for the Cambridge World Archaeology series. Such a book would be a much-needed resource, especially given the explosion of research in Spain and Portugal since the 1970s. Since the publication in 1968 of Hubert Savory's *Spain and Portugal: The Prehistory of the Iberian Peninsula*, there was nothing available for the Anglophone reader that brought together the rich archaeological record for both Portugal and Spain.

This book is also an expression of gratitude to all those archaeologists who spoke to me in that cold museum in 1982, who have invited me to lunch or dinner or opened up their homes to me, introduced me to other archaeologists, taken me on site visits, supported me and challenged me, and answered my myriad of questions for over nearly four decades. Many are now my dearest friends. Sadly, a few are no longer walking this earth.

In acknowledging my debts, I first wish to note that much of this book was written while on a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship during the 2017–18 academic year. Without this time to focus exclusively on this project, it surely would have taken many more years to complete. I also received financial support from the University of Iowa Office of International Programs, Department of Anthropology, and Office of the Vice President for Research. The staff of the German Archaeological Institute in Madrid, particularly Dirce Marzoli, Michael Kunst, and Thomas Schattner, made me feel at home during my numerous research stays. Annemarie Pearson helped to prepare the bibliography. Antonio Blanco-González, Angela Collins, Jacqueline O'Neill, and Rasmus Schlütter helped to prepare the maps.

I am enormously grateful to my friends and colleagues who made the task of chronicling one million years of history such a satisfying one. They responded to my email queries and read drafts, sometimes multiple times. They provided photographs that I could use in the book. They joined me on field trips to visit sites. To be part of such a community is a privilege beyond measure. I especially wish to express my gratitude to Ana Cristina Araújo, Ana Cristina Martins, Antonio Blanco-González, Antonio Gilman, João Carlos

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Finally, I wish to thank my family – my husband Morten Schlütter – and our son, Rasmus. They have been part of this journey, shared many of my joys and struggles, and encouraged me throughout it. Our cats Jack (2008–18), Clio, and Leo have done their best to remind me what is important in this short life.