H Hungary

H 1 Miskolc, Avas-hill
H 2 Sümeg-Mogyorósdomb
H 3 Tata
H 4 Korlát-Ravasglyuktető
H 5 Erdőbénye-Sás patak
H 6 Boldogkövaralja
H 7 Bakonycsernye-Tőzkövesarok
H 8 Szentgal-Tőzköveshegy
H 9 Hárskút-Édesvízmajor
H 10 Dunaszentmiklós-Hosszúvontató
H 11 Lábatlan-Margittető
H 12 Lábatlan-Pisznicető
H 7 BAKONYCSERNYE-TŰZKÖVESÁROK,
FEJER COUNTY

Erzsébet Bácskay

The site is located at 18°03’ E, 47°19’ N, longitude and latitude, respectively, on the NE fringe of Mt. Bakony, part of Transdanubian Mid-Mountains. Tűzkövesárok is a ravine 4 km to the S of Bakonycsernye. The steep slopes of the ravine are covered in places by radiolarite fragments, part of them from exposures, part of them indicating some form of mining activity. The name of the site “Tűzkövesárok” means “Flint ditch”.

Tűzkövesárok is also a well known geological section. In 1967 Lajos Kocsis surveying for the Hungarian Geological Institute found traces of mining activity on the slope of the Tűzkövesárok; he found radiolarite layers disturbed by quarrying, small pits, a lot of extraction debris and also a few antler implements. According to his manuscript reports the phenomena mentioned above were observed at five places within the Tűzkövesárok over a section of 200 m in his trial trenches. In 1975 the Hungarian Geological Institute made small-scale excavations when Erzsébet Bácskay made two trial trenches in the ravine, one of them was an extension of Kocsis’ trench. Similar phenomena were observed as before.

Bakonycsernye-Tűzkövesárok contains a key sequence of Mesozoic formations, mostly of Jurassic date. The material mined by prehistoric man is Bath-Kallovian radiolarite, its colour is usually red or reddish, though there are pieces with blackish manganese tint as well.

The archaeological research of the site included small-scale trial excavations only. Most probably, exposures on the slopes were extracted. Also, shallow pits were dug into the radiolarite layer of the walls of the ravine, filled in with extraction debris and antler tools. The depth of the pits varied between 1.0 and 2.5 m.

Most probably, heaps of waste materials existed near the pits, though by now they were eroded. No visible traces of chipping floors or workshops exist today and remains of miners’ camps were not observed.

8 tools made of deer antlers (Cervus elaphus L.) were found. They are the usual characteristic mining tools. No other finds came to light.

We have no positive data for dating the mine.
REFERENCES


H 8 SZENTGÁL-TŰZKÖVESHEGY, VESZPRÉM COUNTY

Katalin T. Biró

Szentgál is located in West-Central Hungary, North of the lake Balaton, along the international main road no. 8 connecting Veszprém (Székesfehérvár) with Graz, Austria. The village is at 17°44′ E, 47°07′ N longitude and latitude, respectively. The site is located in the Southern parts of the Bakony Mts., part of the Transdanubian Mid-Mountain Range, covering the hilltop till the flanks of the Tűzkőveshegy ("Flint Mountain"). The area covered with worked flint debris extends over about 0.5 km², the site where traces of prehistoric flint mining were excavated is on the plateau of the hill (Fig. 1). Historical data exists on the use of the silex (radiolarite) even in the 20th century.

The raw material from the Szentgál area was mentioned by scholars of the last century (Lipp 1876). The Szentgál-Tűzkőveshegy area was mentioned as a prehistoric site at the beginning of the 20th century (anon. 1912). Geological surveys of the region identified the presence of radiolarite debris without acknowledging its artificial character (Mészáros 1980). Petroarchaeological surveys conducted by József Konda, Erzsébet Bácskay and Katalin Biró in 1982 revealed its importance as a prehistoric raw material source (Biró 1984, 1986). Archaeological excavations were conducted here from 1983–1985 and in 1993–1994 (see annual reports in the series Régészeti Füzetek). Satellite settlements attached to the exploitation site were studied and excavated by Judit Regenyé and Katalin Biró (Biró and Regenyé 1991; Regenyé