

acknowledgments

The kind of research presented in this volume cannot be realized without the involvement of a large number of people, to whom I owe a great debt.

In the first place I would like to thank Messrs K. Groenendijk (Eckelrade), P. Hennekens (Maastricht), and J.P. de Warrimont (Geulle) for their constant assistance and stimulating discussions. Their help cannot be overemphasized.

To my colleagues of the Quaternary research group who have been studying the Belvédère sites with me I owe a great debt for their collaboration in 1980-1988, and for the use of their (partly published) results: M. Aitken and J. Huxtable (Oxford), T. van Kolfschoten (Utrecht), W. Kuijper (Leiden), T. Meijer (Haarlem), E. Meijs (Utrecht), H.J. Mûcher (Amsterdam), J. Vandenberghe (Amsterdam). And furthermore to: C.E.S. Arps (Leiden), R. Grün (Cologne), W. Heynen (Utrecht), O. Katzenberg (Cologne), L. Meijer (Maastricht), W. Schoch (Birmensdorf) and W. van de Westeringh (Wageningen).

The geological aspects of this thesis were supervised by Mr W.H. Zagwijn (Haarlem), whom I thank for his critical remarks and highly appreciated discussions.

Messrs P.W. Bosch, W.M. Felder and O.S. Kuyl introduced me to the geology of the working area during my 1980-1981 stay at the Geological Survey at Heerlen, of which I retain good memories.

Prof. Dr P.J.R. Modderman gave me the opportunity to initiate the Belvédère project. Prof. Dr G. Bosinski (Cologne) did not only critically read the manuscript, but also helped in getting the Belvédère project started. Prof. Dr L.P. Louwe Kooijmans (Leiden) read and made constructive comments on drafts of the various chapters in several stages of the work, and thus provided tremendous support in writing this thesis. He was also actively engaged in helping to solve practical problems in the running and financing of the fieldwork.

A large number of colleagues read parts of the thesis' manuscript, or engaged in discussions referred to in the text: N. Ashton (London), C.C. Bakels (Leiden), J. Beuker (Assen), L.R. Binford (Albuquerque), P. Callow (Cambridge), J.-M. Cordy (Liège), M. de Grooth (Maastricht), A. van Gijn (Leiden), J. Kolen (Utrecht), S. Loving (Amsterdam), J.E. Musch (Anloo), M. Newcomer (London), E.

Rensink (Utrecht), N. Schlanger (Jerusalem), D. Stapert (Groningen), P. van de Velde (Leiden) and A. Voorrips (Amsterdam).

Special thanks go to Mr A.M. Wouters (Lent), who inspired me to go into Palaeolithics. His stimulating role in the study of the Dutch Palaeolithic must be stressed here, especially in the context of our current debate on the artificial character of the Dutch 'CCC' finds (chapter 9). Messrs H.A. de Lorm and J. Nederlof (Leiden) prepared the drawings for this volume, and H.A. de Lorm was actively engaged in the final lay-out, J. Kolen (Leiden) prepared the drawings of the Site J flints. Mrs M. Wanders-Van der Sanden (Leiden) typed and retyped several versions of the text, and provided continuous assistance in the processing of the text. The English text was read and corrected by Mrs S. Mellor (Roermond). Some of the original field drawings were made by Mr J. Boogerd (Leiden), while Mr J. Pauptit (Leiden) took care of the photographic work. Mr R. Groenendijk (Groningen), gave some artist's impressions of the palaeoenvironment of the Unit IV sites, which initiated a stimulating discussion on this topic.

I owe a great debt to all the people who took part in the 1981-1985 excavations reported on in this volume, especially to F. Brounen, R. Hoek, M. Hoogland, T. Jacobs, E. Rensink, L. Verhart and C. Zijlstra. Further to: H. André de la Porte-Janss, A. Baljet-Peters, N. van Bodegraven, R. Brongers, A. Cuypers, P. Deunhouwer, A. van Deijck, B. Eggen, M. van Essen, R. Frank, E. van Ginkel, K. van der Graaf, R. Groenendijk, J.-K. Hagers, K. Hanninen, M. van Ieperen, M. Jansen, H. Jongepier, E. Jungerius, B. van der Kaay, M. Kamminga, M. Kersten, J. Kolen, F.C. Kraayenhagen, D. de Loecker, H. Luyten, I. Metz, D. van Meurs, G. Mols, J. Moree, M. Munnichs, T. Oudemans, R. Panhuysen, M. van de Plas, J. van der Roest, K. Rompen, T. Schaeppman, K. Schinkel, R. Schönlaui, J. Schreurs-Verwer, A. Sloos, L. Smits, G. Soeters, A. Spieksma, P. Spijker, R. Steenvoorden, F. Timmermans, A. Vastbinder, M. van Veen, A. Vermeer, M. Wansleebe and R. van Zweeden.

Important financial and logistical support came from the following institutions and persons: the Municipal Service for Archaeological Research at Maastricht (T. Panhuysen), the Province of Limburg, the Fonds voor Sociale Instellingen at Hoensbroek (F.C. Kraaijenhagen), Mrs W.F. van Beuningen (Rotterdam), the Rijks Gebouwen Dienst at 's Hertogenbosch (Mr P.A. Allerlieste) and at Maastricht. The research could not have been initiated without financial support from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO; ARCHON grant 123-21-007).

Finally, Mr G. Blom, the manager of the mining operations in the pit, is to be thanked for his cooperation and for giving us permission to excavate.

