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THE END OF OUR THIRD DECADE

PAPERS WRITTEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSTITUTE OF PREHISTORY, VOLUME I

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Editorial

In 1992 the Institute of Prehistory celebrated its 30th anniversary. Although a celebration of a 25th anniversary is more common, the Institute has a tradition of celebrating events every ten years. The survival of the first ten years after its foundation in 1962 was marked by special festivities. Ten years later, the second special occasion was the retirement of the founder, Professor Dr P.J.R. Modderman. The year 1992 marked the end of the third decade. In 1992 there was another event to commemorate. The first volume of Analecta Praehistorica Leidensia was published in 1964. The second followed in 1966 and the third in 1970. After that the volumes appeared every year – 1992 should bring number 25. Therefore the idea was born to bring out a jubilee volume to which all current researchers would contribute. As usual with this kind of enterprise, the collecting of the copy took some time, but in the end almost everybody produced a paper. Moreover, the volume will include the very last report on an excavation executed by the founder of both the Institute and the Analecta, Prof. Dr. P.J.R. Modderman. With the publication of "Meindling" all his excavations will have been made public, a rare feat.

The amount of pages offered was such, that it was decided to publish a double volume: Analecta Praehistorica Leidensia 25 and 26. The first mentioned contains the articles on Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic sites in Europe, although some of them reach further where methods and problems are concerned. Volume 26 will contain articles on later periods, non-European sites and all remaining subjects. The two volumes together provide a review of the kind of work that was done in the early nineties. They present the status quo at the time of the Institute's 30th anniversary. A comparison with the first volume of Analecta Praehistorica Leidensia shows that the Institute has grown, both in numbers of people using it as main base for their scientific work and in variety of subjects treated. The fourth decade awaits us.

Corrie Bakels