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Piotr WOJTAL. 2007. **Zooarchaeological studies of the Late Pleistocene sites in Poland**. Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals, Polish Academy of Sciences, Kraków, 189 pp, hardback. ISBN: 978-83-919407-6-1.

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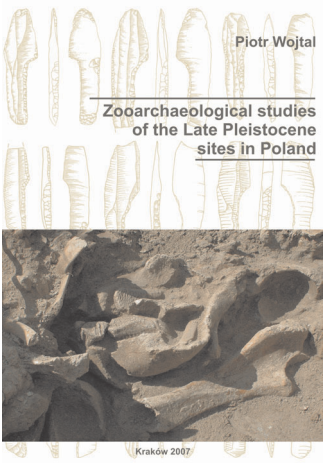
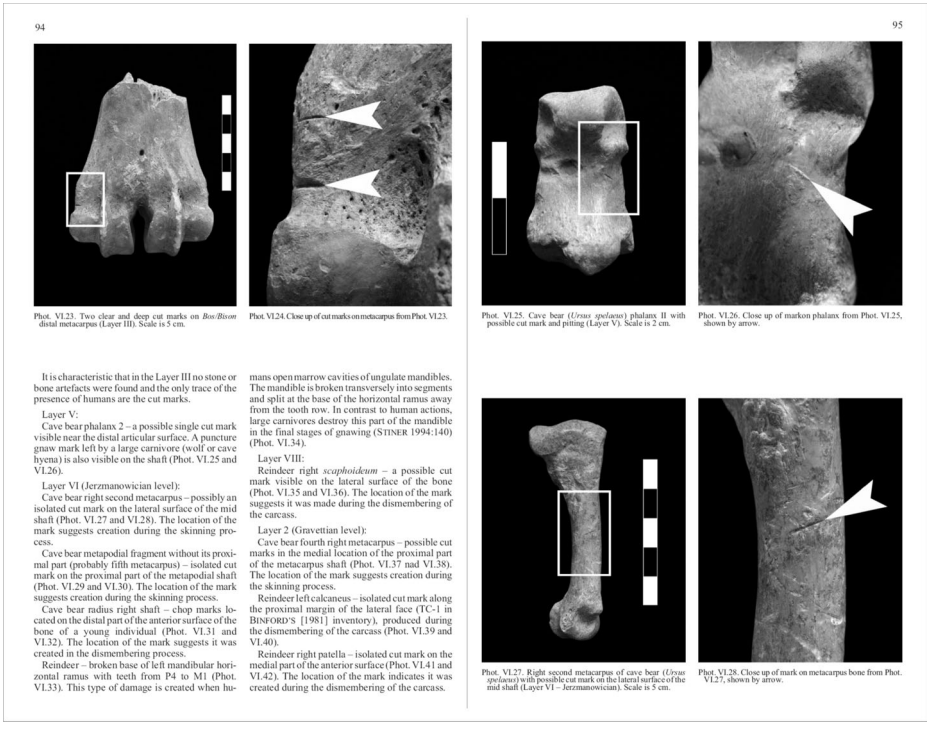


The book's detailed zooarchaeological descriptions of Polish sites, from the least known to the most widely known such as Kraków Spadzista Street. This study of faunal assemblages in Polish archaeological sites is an important reference for researchers who wish to learn the most up-to-date interpretations of Palaeolithic human economic relationships with animals.

A central contribution made by this book is a discussion of the places of different species in human subsistence and technology, such as cave bear, reindeer, and woolly mammoth.

This book is well illustrated, fully referenced, and thoughtful in presentation.

Sample pages below:



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Phot. VI.23. Two clear and deep cut marks on *Bos/Bison* distal metacarpus (Layer III). Scale is 5 cm.

Phot. VI.24. Close up of cut marks on metacarpus from Phot. VI.23.

It is characteristic that in the Layer III no stone or bone artefacts were found and the only trace of the presence of humans are the cut marks.

Layer V:

Cave bear phalanx 2 – a possible single cut mark visible near the distal articular surface. A puncture gnaw mark left by a large carnivore (wolf or cave hyena) is also visible on the shaft (Phot. VI.25 and VI.26).

Layer VI (Jerzmanowician level):

Cave bear right second metacarpus – possibly an isolated cut mark on the lateral surface of the mid shaft (Phot. VI.27 and VI.28). The location of the mark suggests creation during the skinning process.

Cave bear metapodial fragment without its proximal part (probably fifth metacarpus) – isolated cut mark on the proximal part of the metapodial shaft (Phot. VI.29 and VI.30). The location of the mark suggests creation during the skinning process.

Cave bear radius right shaft – chop marks located on the distal part of the anterior surface of the bone of a young individual (Phot. VI.31 and VI.32). The location of the mark suggests it was created in the dismembering process.

Reindeer – broken base of left mandibular horizontal ramus with teeth from P4 to M1 (Phot. VI.33). This type of damage is created when humans open marrow cavities of ungulate mandibles. The mandible is broken transversely into segments and split at the base of the horizontal ramus away from the tooth row. In contrast to human actions, large carnivores destroy this part of the mandible in the final stages of gnawing (STINER 1994:140) (Phot. VI.34).

Layer VIII:

Reindeer right *scaphoideum* – a possible cut mark visible on the lateral surface of the bone (Phot. VI.35 and VI.36). The location of the mark suggests it was made during the dismembering of the carcass.

Layer 2 (Gravettian level):

Cave bear fourth right metacarpus – possible cut marks in the medial location of the proximal part of the metacarpus shaft (Phot. VI.37 nad VI.38). The location of the mark suggests creation during the skinning process.

Reindeer left calcaneus – isolated cut mark along the proximal margin of the lateral face (TC-1 in BINFORD'S [1981] inventory), produced during the dismembering of the carcass (Phot. VI.39 and VI.40).

Reindeer right patella – isolated cut mark on the medial part of the anterior surface (Phot. VI.41 and VI.42). The location of the mark indicates it was created during the dismembering of the carcass.

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Phot. VI.25. Cave bear (*Ursus spelaeus*) phalanx II with possible cut mark and pitting (Layer V). Scale is 2 cm.

Phot. VI.26. Close up of markon phalanx from Phot. VI.25, shown by arrow.

Phot. VI.27. Right second metacarpus of cave bear (*Ursus spelaeus*) with possible cut mark on the lateral surface of the mid shaft (Layer VI – Jerzmanowician). Scale is 5 cm.

Phot. VI.28. Close up of mark on metacarpus bone from Phot. VI.27, shown by arrow.