

JOINT PREHISTORIC PROJECT

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The unhappy tension in southeastern Turkey, where Robert and Linda Braidwood's old site Çayönü lies, still prevails. This means that excavation on the site is still impossible. We are fortunate that it was possible to bring the great bulk of excavated material up to Istanbul for study and publication.

Work does go slowly but steadily forward towards publication. Although the animal bones and chipped stone are in the charge of foreigners (Hitomi Hongo and Richard Meadow for the bone; Isabella Caneva and her Italian colleagues for the stone), we are pleased that Turkish graduate students are working with them and learning. Gülçin and Banu, who worked with Berrin until her sudden death and are now working on animal bones with Hitomi, are at the same time specializing, Gülçin on the Çayönü red deer, Banu on the cattle. Çiler and Güner, who have been working with Isabella and her colleagues on the flint and obsidian artifacts, will give a paper at a chipped stone symposium being held in Venice in November.

On Monday 22 June 1998, a large gathering took place in Istanbul in honor of our colleague Halet Çambel. With it appeared an overwhelmingly large but very impressive and attractive volume, *Light on Top of the Black Hill/Karatepe deki Isik*, with eighty-three contributions by an impressive variety of professionals, including of course archaeologists and Çayönü staff members from over the years. The volume is a highly significant sign of Prof. Çambel's high place in archaeology generally. We are greatly indebted to Prof. Güven Arsebük, who initially proposed the Festschrift. He is happy that it turned out so well, but, of course would have thought twice about starting it had he known how much work would be involved.

We are grateful to old friends who insisted for some years that we should have a fax machine, and that they devilled us until they managed to have a fax machine installed. We haven't been in Turkey for four years, but between the telephone and the fax, we stay in fairly close touch with our Turkish colleagues. Our warm thanks to you for your continued interest in the Joint Prehistoric Project.