

Preface

Man Bac is a prehistoric site dated to 3,500-3,800 years BP in Ninh Binh Province, Vietnam, that has revealed a large number of human burials in an excellent state of preservation as well as an enormous assemblage of diverse domestic artefacts. Man Bac represents a large cemetery population of the neolithic period, unprecedented among contemporaneous sites in Vietnam. Biological analysis of the remains provides crucial insights into past demography, life style and behaviour, health, food resources and subsistence as well as mortuary practices. This volume is a product of multi-disciplinary and multi-national efforts over the past several years. We hope that this book will provide an invaluable source of information concerning prehistoric peoples in Southeast Asia. The editors would like to thank all of the authors for their contributions to this volume.

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