1.4 Structure of the Thesis

This study is divided into seven chapters. Chapters 2 and 3 deal with the case studies of l’Amastuola and Muro Tenente, i.e. the interpretation on a micro- or site level. In Chapter 4, the focus will be widened to the meso level, putting the results from the case studies in a broader spatial context. This will result in an analysis of the rural economies and exploitation of the surrounding landscape at l’Amastuola and Muro Tenente. The macro level of research is discussed in Chapters 5 and 6. Chapter 5 includes the archaeobotanical research data from southeast Italy and their interpretation and focuses on the recurring research aspects which include the use of wood, diet and food preparation, the cultivation of grapes and olives, and the use of plants in ritual activities. In Chapter 6, I will review the research conducted on landscape and settlement dynamics in pre-Roman southeast Italy and compose an overview of long-term developments, i.e. the interpretation on a macro level. The last chapter (7) summarizes the results of this study and offers suggestions for further research. Finally, a catalogue of the archaeobotanical research data and a separate appendix with tables and figures is attached.