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Lower stratigraphical sequence of Lezetxiki cave (Arrasate, Basque Country). A necessary reflection

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In this paper we show a synthesis of the information related to lower levels of Lezetxiki cave which was obtained during J. M. de Barandiaran's works. As a necessary reflection about the problems which posed this sequence of levels, not only for an archaeostratigraphical and geochronological point of view, but also in the Ancient Cantabrian Palaeolithic general context. Under the new excavations that have been conducted since 1996 in the cave, is appropriate to make this reflection about the information obtained by the old excavations, establishing a full stop between the two interventions.

Key words: Acheulean. Mousterian. OIS 5. Early Palaeolithic. Lower Palaeolithic. Middle Palaeolithic. Cantabrian Region.

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Technological organization of the first Neanderthal societies in the Cantabrian region. Interpreting the lithic industry and fauna from the lowermost levels (V, VI and VII) of Lezetxiki cave

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This article studies the technological organization of the first Neanderthal societies that inhabited the Cantabrian region. We use the information provided by the lithic industry excavated in the three lowermost levels (V, VI and VII) of Lezetxiki cave. We also explore the other related evidences, especially those inferred from faunal remains. The analysis and explanation of the technical activities fits in a general perspective centered in the production-management-function subsystem.

Key words: Ancient Middle Paleolithic. Lithic technology. Traceology. Hunting.

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The Neolithic in the Iberian Peninsula: an explanation from the perspective of the participation of Mesolithic communities

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An analysis of the documents on the late Mesolithic and early Neolithic groups would seem to confirm that the participation of the former was decisive in the formation of the Neolithic. The influence of the East on the Neolithisation of the Iberian Peninsula is plainly essential, as all that was necessary to set up a production economy originated there, including population. However, the very characteristics of the documentation (geographical and geological location of the sites), radio-chronological dating (showing a speedy arrival of Neolithic elements on the coast and inland) or the Mesolithic organization of the territory into networks, also active in the Neolithic, make sense of the thesis of participation that we put forward.

Key words: Mesolithic. Neolithic. Iberian Peninsula. Agriculture. Farming. Prehistoric navigation. Radiochronology.

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Exposure of corpses at the site of Tordillos (Aldeaseca de la Frontera, Salamanca). Bioarchaeological perspective and possible implications for the study of the Cogotas I funerary rituals

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Despite new findings of tombs (often with secondary remains) the funerary information about the Cogotas I archaeological group remains too scanty. Consequently, non-preserving burial rites, including the exposure of corpses, have been suggested at some point. The discovery of a number of skeletons in burial pits at the site of Tordillos encourages us to explore further the potential of that approach, since the bioarchaeological study has shown unambiguous evidence of that practice (canid teeth marks and other postdepositional alterations) in two of them dating in the Protocogotas I phase. Based on this, and considering ethnographic and anthropological references, it is hypothesized that corpse exposure has been the Cogotas I funerary standard. Therefore, human remains that have subsisted would belong to a small fraction of the population, those who died in unforeseen or anomalous circumstances ('bad death') and hence were relegated to burial pits. Thus, these tombs, that have been considered so far to be the Cogotas I standard funerary practice, would really be an exception.

Key words: Bronze Age. MBA. Iberian Peninsula. Central Meseta. Burial pits. Bioarchaeology. Postdepositional processes. Tooth marks. Bones chewed by canids. Bad death.

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About writing among the Vaccean people

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The Vaccean people, settled on central valley of river Duero before the Roman conquest, have been regarded as agraphos. There aren't important write evidences, but in last decades it has been identifies some of them. They have been produced during a short time, mainly in last years of 2nd century BC and the first half of 1st, and in general they can be considered just marks but not a work made by people who were taught to read and write.

Key words: Vacceos. Romanization. Writing. Iberian alphabet.

720. 323 (460) "626"

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The basilica of Santa Leocadia and the end of use of the Roman Circus of Toledo: a new interpretation

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Following the excavations of Prof. Pere Palol conducted in the early seventies in the Cristo de la Vega de Toledo, highlighted the existence of a late antique necropolis and a building in the area, which was associated with the location of the basilica of Santa Leocadia. The existence of this basilica and the construction process of it are fundamental aspects of this study to examine one of the milestones of early Christianity in the city and its relationship with the Vega Baja of Toledo.

Key words: Late Antiquity. Christian topography. Santa Leocadia. Architecture. Circus. Toledo.

903. 5 (460. 285) "07/08"

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Burials, social memory and landscape in Early Middle Ages: Proposals for an analysis of the graves dug into the rock in the Central-Western Iberia

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This paper is a proposal of new ways about the study of graves dug into the rock through the analysis of Central-Western Iberian areas. The integration of tombs as a part of landscape, in which they were important markers linked to the formation of social memory, is the main focus. An strategy for the study of graves, in order to understand them inside the landscape, is carried out and it is used to examine the case of the area of Ciudad Rodrigo (Salamanca, Spain). As a result there are some regional level conclusions which must be compared with the data of other particular zones.

Key words: Burials. Graves dug into the rock. Social memory. Landscape. Early Middle Ages. Iberia.

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New rock and portable art finds in La Cullalvera cave (Ramales de la Victoria, Cantabria)

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Archaeological activities carried out in the vestibule of La Cullalvera cave during the conditioning of the site for touristic use have lead to the discovery of a new cave painting, a figure of a horse in red traits.

Some pieces of portable art have been also found, including a fragment of a small bone *plaquette* with a series of engraved "claviform" signs that show a clear parallel with the signs of the same type painted in red in the inner gallery of the cave. The formal and stylistic characteristics of the findings point to a Magdalenian chronology.

Key words: La Cullalvera cave. Rock art. Portable art. Claviform signs. Magdalenian.

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A check on Iberian epigraphy from Teruel

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The aim of this paper is to revisit some Iberian inscriptions from three sites of Teruel: a graffiti from San Antonio (Calaceite) that was recovered in Juan Cabré's excavations and is preserved in the Archaeological Museum of Barcelona; a possible bilingual inscription from Azaila that was engraved on a pebble, wich is nowadays lost but presents a notable similarity with another inscribed pebble find in La Moleta dels Frares (Castellón); and, finally, two steles from La Iglesuela del Cid, where also are preserved a third Iberian inscription and a collection of Latin epigraphs.

Key words: San Antonio. Azaila. La Iglesuela del Cid. Iberian inscription. Graffiti.