

pers comm

Year: 1980

Muela / Mullir early  
explorations



PL

66 Selsmore Rd.  
Hayling Island.  
Hants.  
PO11 9LE  
15th September 1980

Dear Juan,

Just letting you know what we managed to accomplish since you left Matienzo.

Overall we spent 228 man hours on the plateau above Matienzo, and as you can see on the accompanying map, looked at 33 depressions.

On the map we have marked in 'blue' those that have been descended and surveyed. In 'red' those that have been looked at from the surface, which if they look worth it can be descended in following years.

As can be seen we concentrated in the gully containing 134, 133, and 132, but also looked at 136 area quickly.

The gully has been looked at intensively, but no shafts seem to go.

We started numbering at 200 finishing on 233. The following is a list of the shafts bottomed. All the shafts are either marked with red oxide paint or thick marker pen.

START MARKING 200.

200, 201, 202, 203 - Depressions looked at don't go.  
204 - Draughting cave, dug to bigger draught, (could go)

205, 206, 207 - Depressions looked at don't go.

✓ 208 - 180' depth arete separated two sinks, sloping boulder floor, small hole right of rope 15' deep (chokes). 30'-40' down side passages in shaft.

Explored to small aven and other shafts all choke.

✓ 209 - 180' depth, calcite wall at bottom, prevents climb into possible passage beyond (needs artificial climbing aids)

✓ 210 - 70' entrance shaft. 2 side passages choke on South side. Leads to very large ledge floor then 60'-70' pitch. Rift leads off from lower shaft 15' above lip, bottom chokes with calcite flow mostly mud covered.



- ✓ 211 - Small cave entrance rift pitch 25' to calcite floor, small chamber no ways on, except small 4" bedding place.
- ✓ 212 - Bottomed at approx. 500', straight shaft chokes. Climb of 15' to aven, followed by another 15' climb impassable.
- ✓ 213 - 2 small holes, upper hole 22' pitch to shattered abandoned streamway, system chokes, downstream goes to tight squeeze pitch approx. 20' (wants pushing) // lower hole, climb down sharp bare rocks approx 25' to choke. Choke dug to 1' drahole 10' drop leads to visible continuation.
- ✓ 214 - 100' depth, boulder slope floor leads down to 5' climb old stream passage, 45' meanders. 50' - 60' high calcite wall blocked further progress.
- ✓ 215 - 140' depth, two climbs leads to parallel shafts, all choke, generally pretty huge.
- ✓ 216 - 150' depth straight shaft finishing with calcite choke.
- 217 - Approx. 50' pitch, first 20' in small shaft, then opens into domed chamber, approx. 50' at base. One significant route off leads to calcited aven.
- ✓ Top of aven dwindles to nothing, after 40' climb, bottom chokes after 10'.
- ✓ 218 - Small approx 30' shaft, no obvious continuation.
- ✓ 219, 220, 221 - Small caves in (136 area) ~~Not done~~
- ~~✓ 222, 224, 225, 227, 229, Depressions don't go.~~
- ~~✓ 223, 226, 228, Small shafts could go. Not done.~~
- ✓ 230 - Small 40' shaft, ends in boulder floor in lower corner a small squeeze showed further continuation, rocks were removed by persuasion, and the squeeze was pushable the passage was a tightish vertical shaft of a further 40', which choked with calcite at its extreme end.
- ✓ 231 - Small resurgence cave, tends upwards south beneath hillside, finishes after 12'.
- ✓ 232 - Shaft of 150' chokes immediately at bottom.
- 233 - No time to descend on last day due to stolen gear, approx. 150' shaft.