

**The
1981 & 1982
Matienzo
Expeditions**





THE 1981 & 1982 MATIENZO EXPEDITIONS

PRICE:

Compiled by Juan Corrin

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Both expeditions were supported by Sports Council Grants administered by the Ghar Parau Foundation. Apart from this money, the expeditions were completely self-sufficient, relying on the goodwill and generosity of its members to supply most of the tackle. Special mention must go to Manchester University Speleo Soc, Bolton Speleo Club, Derbyshire Caving Club, Portsmouth Polytechnic Caving Club and Frank Addis, who have lent/hired gear to the expeditions. Much of the tackle we had to buy was obtained from Alan Steele at Inglesport with a substantial discount.

The Spanish Authorities have given ready permission for our expeditions; Pete Smith (a MUSS member, living in Santander with a weekend house in Matienzo) has obtained the permits and his winter strolls on the hills has laid the groundwork for the following hordes of cavers expecting new cave.

Much of the material in this journal could not have been written were it not for all the expedition writing down their discoveries in the log books; a lot of the exploration accounts are lifted directly from the logs - a list of expedition members is over the page.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The bulk of the expeditions underground photography has been carried out by Frank Addis (colour slides) and Juan Corrin (B & W), with much help from uncomplaining flash-gun holders.

Front Cover: outside - top - Looking up the 2nd pitch in Azpilicueta
 bottom - Dambuster Series, Risco. Alan Williams
 inside - t/l - Edge of the World, Coteron.
 t/r - Looking down 2nd pitch in Azpilicueta.
 bottom - Worm, Carol, Phil, Juan Carlos, Penny,
 Pete at the dive site, Comediate.

Back cover: inside - entrance pitch of Coteron.
 outside - Dambuster series, Risco. Alan Williams.

APOLOGY

The scale on the South Vega System survey was reduced at the same time as the blurb. The scale is 1:2000 (1cm to 20m).

EXPEDITION MEMBERS

	1981 summer	1982 summer	1983 Easter
Juan Corrin (organiser)	*	*	
Penny Corrin	*	*	
Pete Smith (organiser)	*	*	*
Michael Wood (Squirrel)	*	*	*
John Palmer	*	*	*
Julie Bridgeman	*	*	
Phil Papard	*	*	
Hilary Papard	*	*	
Paul Taylor	*	*	
Nigel Dibben	*	*	
Frank Addis	*	*	
Paul Gelling	*	*	
Michael Hale (Slug)	*	*	
John Thorp (Lugger)	*	*	*
Steve Martin	*	*	*
Andrew Davison	*	*	
Lank Mills	*	*	
John Yeadon (Buddha)	*	*	
Dave Hartnup	*	*	
Ian Lloyd	*	*	
Tony Williams	*	*	
Roz	*	*	
Pat Devine	*	*	*
Andy Quin	*	*	*
Colin Marshall	*	*	*
Taddy Williams	*	*	*
Doug	*	*	*
Martin	*	*	*
Joe Turner	*	*	*
Andrew Jones (Worm)	*	*	*
Stan Brown	*	*	*
Ron Taylor (Obvious)	*	*	*
Fred Winstanley	*	*	*
Keith Plumb	*	*	*
Tony Fifield	*	*	*
Roy Mundy	*	*	*
Julie Mundy	*	*	*
Pete Asher	*	*	*
John Lally	*	*	*
Barry Davies	*	*	*
Graham Summers	*	*	*
Sue Summers	*	*	*
Colin Davison	*	*	*
Bob Cork	*	*	*
Graham Godwin (Brasso)	*	*	*
Derek Westwood	*	*	*
John Stett	*	*	*
Alan Rayner	*	*	*
Ian Montgomery	*	*	*
Portsmouth P.C.C.	*	*	*
C.P.C. (3)	*	*	*

The scale on the South Vega System survey was reduced at the same time as the dump. The scale is 1:2000 (1cm to 2m).

INTRODUCTION

British cavers have been summering in Matienzo since 1969; fourteen summers of extensive and extended explorations around a small Spanish village in the Cantrabrians. To date, over 73km of cave passage has been explored, none of world-shattering dimensions, but offering enough variety, interest and potential to ensure visits for a number of years to come.

Before 1981 the effort was concentrated in and above Cueva Uzueka the 12.8km system, starting in Riano, which almost grazes the surface of the depression as it picks up water sinking in the northern end of the valley. During 1981 and 1982 exploration centred on the southern end of the depression, in and above Cueva-Cubio de la Renada, the main passages behind the resurgence into the basin. The reward was the superb Torca del Coteron, now joined with Renada to form the 14.4km, 200m deep South Vega System, and Torca de Azpilicueta, the deepest pot in our area at -263m.

The potential for lengthy new caves and extensions is still a 'cert'. Both Azpilicueta and Coteron were entered from open holes stumbled upon while prospecting, and the digging phase of gaining entry is still the gross exception rather than the rule.

This volume is an update of the British Cave Research Association's Transactions, vol 8, no 2. That issue contains background information, science and cave descriptions; this continues with the cave descriptions (nos 252 to 427), with an updated area map and new cave surveys and photographs. Future exploration is almost certain to have an effect on our ideas for the evolution of the caves and so no discussion on 'levels of development', faults etc is included.

The bullshit account of most of the 1981 exploration has been published in MUSS Journal 10 (see bibliography) and a brief account of the '82 expedition appeared in Caves & Caving No.18 with a couple of photographs. So few racy exploration stories appear here, the bulk being about 190 cave descriptions, the sites discovered during the '81 and '82 Matienzo Expeditions.

THE SOUTH VEGA SYSTEM

Selected exploration accounts from the Log Books of 1981 & 1982. Readers unfamiliar with the System are advised to keep a copy of the SVS survey nearby!

Much of the water entering the Matienzo depression comes from Cueva de Comediante which sumps 200m inside the entrance. The water is next seen 300m into the hillside flowing along Squirrels Passage in Renada. In 1982 an exploratory dive was carried out in Comediante by Phil Papard and Squirrels Passage was finally surveyed by the finder and Pete Smith 7 years after entry...

...dropped down into Squirrels passage between the downstream lake and the cascade, unpacked two dingys and inflated them. Petes boat was wider than the canal passage in places.

Technique: throw inflatable into pool below cascade, climb down and dive for the boat. (By this time I was beginning to realise why so many continental caving incidents are associated with inflatables). At the second rapid Pete embarked by placing one foot in boat and the rest of his body in water. A stretch of walking passage follows to more canals. We set off and my boat started to fold up around my body, suggesting a deflation. Pete continued alone, surveying back. Shivering, we made our way upstream encountering numerous problems associated with Oxford and Cambridge rowing teams - climbing a cascade from standing position in an inflatable. The survey was not completed but boats will not be required for the next trip. The total active downstream passage should be in the region of $\frac{1}{2}$ a nautical mile... MW

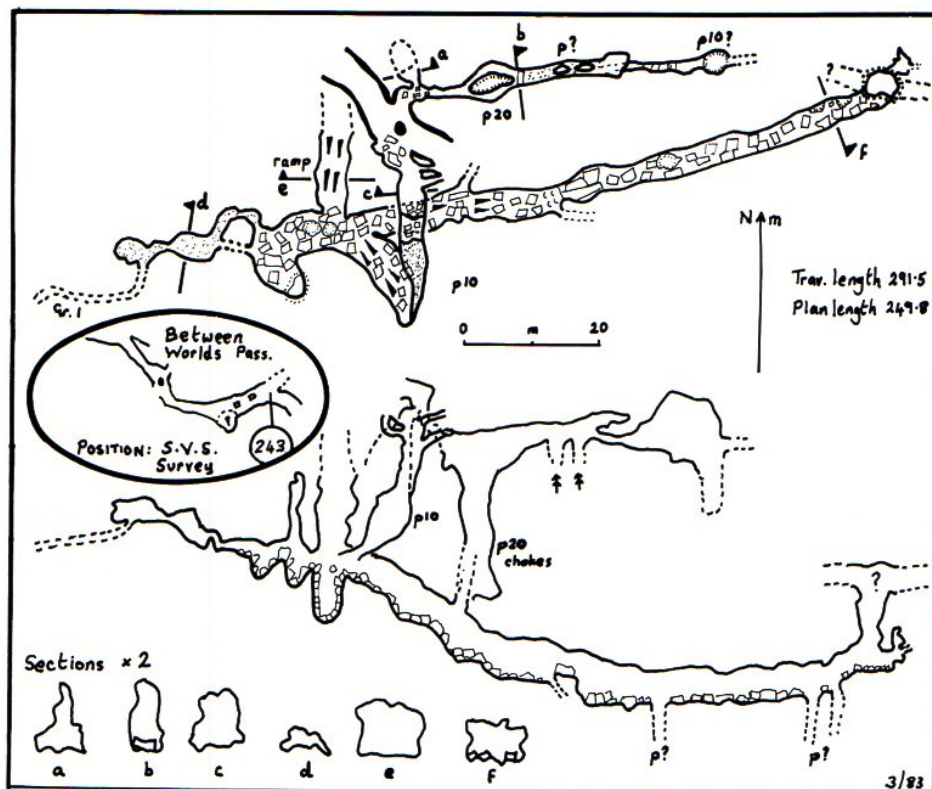
The next water of any significance seen in Renada is a small stream beyond Castle Hall rising from a sump which appears to be fed by water in the lower reaches of Coteron. The multi-pitched route down to the Coteron side of the sump took a number of days to forge, as the log book account recalls...

Fred and Luggier got approx $\frac{1}{2}$ km of big stuff from the chamber near the Edge of the Universe. Pitch at end was examined and led to about 200m of passage and 2 pitches about 100ft in a water washed rift and about 50ft where a stream can just be heard. Also everlasting GLORY was attained with the Matienzo depth record. Wonder where I'll go tomorrow...

...Found a little bit of streamway which got too tight, a bypass to the 3rd pitch and a few hundred feet of meandering canyon. Surveyed from bottom back to pitch...

... Left hand pitch at main junction descended 14m to slope down to further pitch; tight take off but opens out into large shaft with showerbath - not descended. At foot of pitch to left of ladder further pitch descended 10.7m to narrow descending rift followed by another pitch of 16m to chamber with holes in floor to right and left: both at least 12m deep but lack of tackle ended trip at this point. Fast trip out after surveying final section...

... Pitch on left descended to a junction, to left a 7m pitch and choke, to the right a small hole in the floor which Becomes too tight after 10m. A sandy passage carries straight

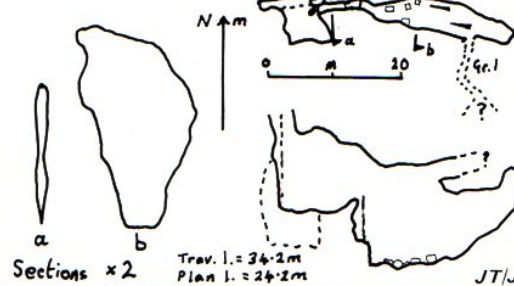
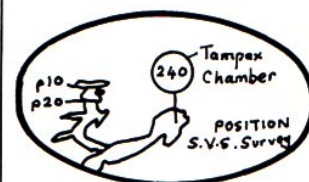
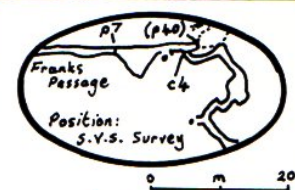
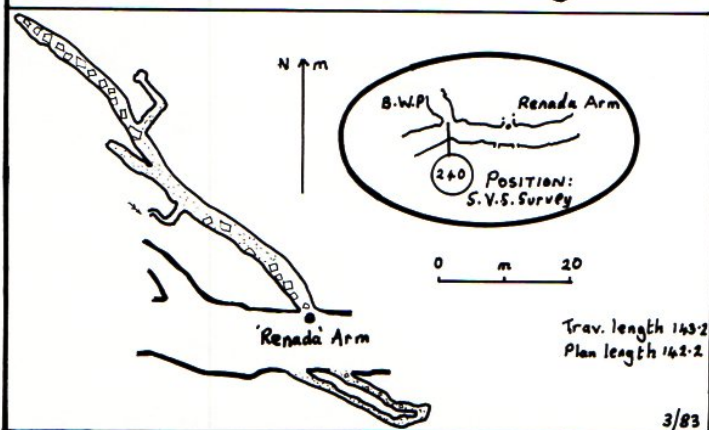
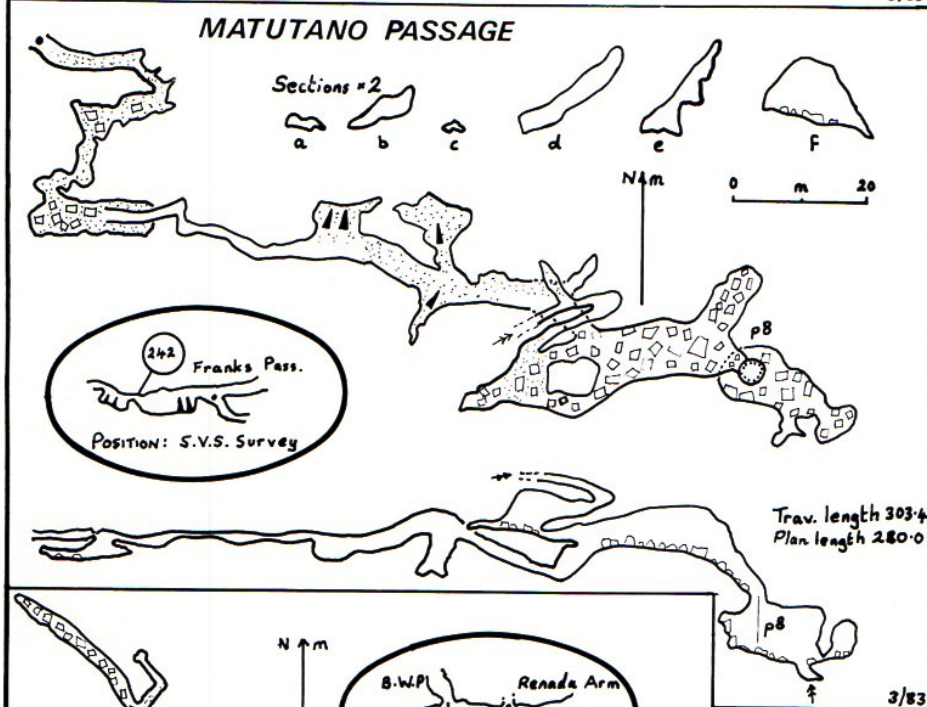


COTERON 264

EASTER '83

EXTENSIONS

S Vega System
Traverse length: 14432m
Plan length: 13610m
BCRA 5c



COTERON 204

EASTER 83

EXTENSIONS

2 Vega System
River length 14432 m
Polar length 13010 m
Area 50



on, trending around and finishing in a chamber below right hand pitch from station 1. An approx 10m pitch in floor observed from this chamber, also an ascending passage from 7 m before the previous pitch...
 ... Steve, Bob, Nigel, John. Pushing trip at end. Shaft left by Lugger was just a climb down in rifts to a small stream. Surveyed that and chamber off main passage. Steve pushed small side passage to 50ft pitch into streamway. Stream joins from right hand side then runs off down low passage on right hand side (to pools, waist deep). At end of passage is aven with stream entering. This coincides with the Edge of the Universe. Detackled all the lower series on way out and carried tackle up to Edge of the World.

That occurred in 1981: the following year the first priority in Coteron was to get down the deep drop at the Edge of the Universe. At first glance the pitch appears rather formidable as the Edge is a sloping bank of poorly consolidated sand and debris. A short traverse to the left bypassed the difficulty and led to a most convenient pair of alcoves - one for lining from and the other containing a belay hole for the 70m of ladders which now hung against solid rock. John Palmer, Steve Martin and Lugger were the pioneers. From the bottom of the pitch a hidden hole over the top of the aven in the '81 Depths leads to a couple of hundred metres of mainly walking passage which pops out in the wall at the start of Gallery of the Dead in Renada. The trio picked up an old diving flipper on their way out of Renada to confirm the connection and inevitably to drink champagne from later that night.
 The second connection was pushed from Renada, between Ghost Lake and Mega Hall. Again the groundwork was laid in '81 when Pete, Julie Mundy and Frank Addis entered Bootlace Passage and explored down into Two Sumps Chamber. A large black hole was noticed on the opposite wall of the pitch.

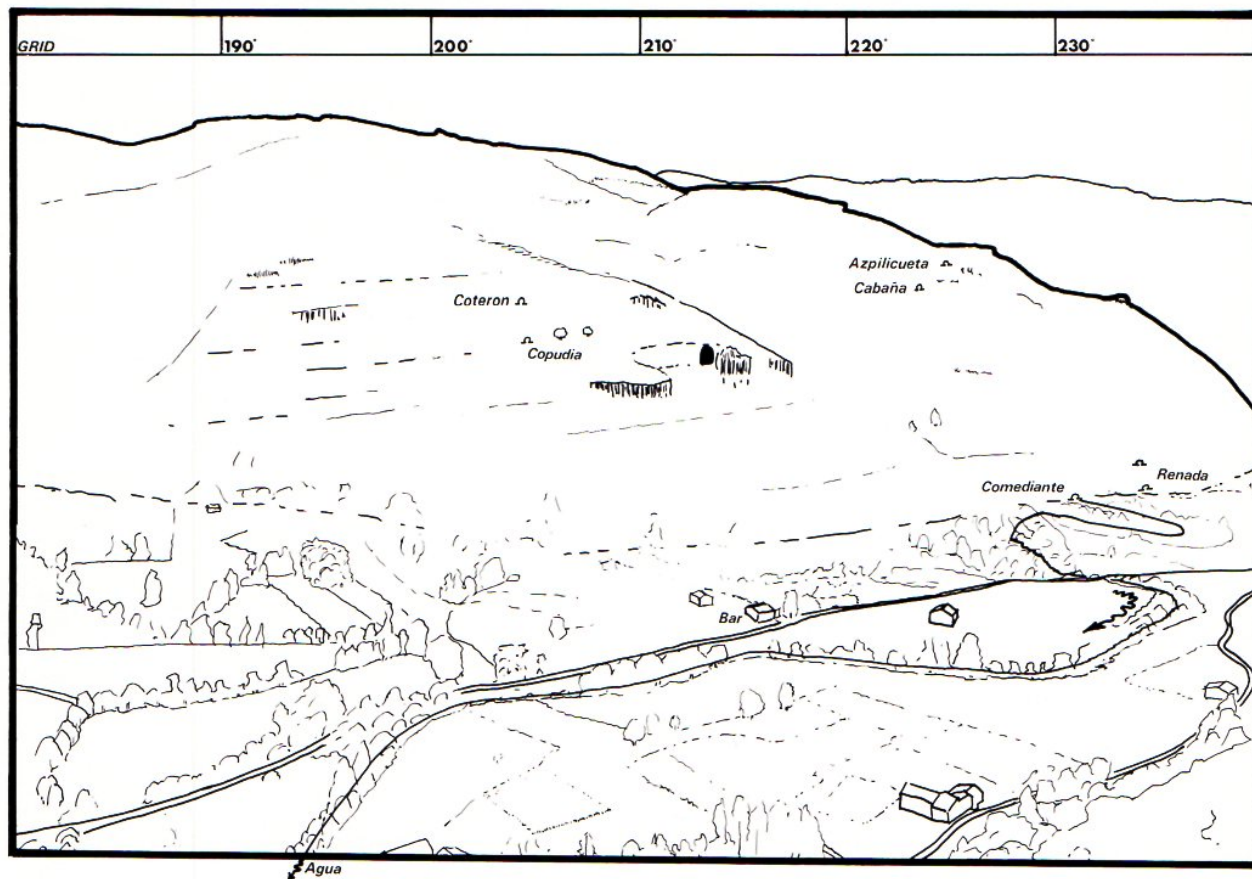
In 1982...

... Steve, Phil and Ian Lloyd returned to the traverse on Friday 13th -so much for superstition - and Steve freeclimbed up to the wide ledge on the right of the pitch. From here a bolt was put in to drop a ladder down to the slope of boulders on the other side. The passage begins in a typical breakdown style with a floor of choss and collapse boulders. Then it drops into a wide 'phreatic' passage, before dropping again in a dogleg to the left and rising to another loose and chossy chamber, 250m from the traverse. Various side passages to the right don't go very far. In the final chamber they were stopped by a draughting boulder choke, and this was dug out on the return trip, despite the threat of the dig collapsing in, or the wall or the roof falling in on top of it. On the other side of the dig the passage continues as a tube, reaching a junction after 80m. Straight ahead the tube continues to a chamber with a slope up to a large chossy passage on the right, which goes back almost over the top of the tube passage. From

the chamber some smaller passage leads up to another chossy route which then slopes down with a squeeze on the right entering a chossy end chamber. The passage on the left of the junction has led to the most interesting discoveries. The tube is soon lost in a collapse chamber and the main passage continues in a high and narrow vadose canyon, now very dry and dusty, where bits of the wall are liable to peel away at the slightest touch. At floor level the passage is more tortuous, therefore traversing halfway up is recommended. Just at the start of these meanders a slope leads up to some loose ramps. After 100m of these meanders an important junction is reached. On the right a passage leads to a slot down, a crawl and another short passage to a chamber where water comes in from the roof. A scramble up on the other side of the chamber leads to more narrow passage which then pops up in a chamber within the Candy Floss series in Coteron. This was the second Coteron-Renada link to be found and was the prompt of the first upwards Renada to Coteron through-trip. Carrying straight ahead at the junction a maze of passages is reached, but by continuing roughly straight on, one arrives at a chamber with water entering down an aven and dropping down a small pitch. The passage at the base of this is too tight to follow very far, but this chamber is very near to a similar active chamber in Coteron and presumably they have a connection. Another series of passages lies on the left of the maze. This contains the first stal to be seen since leaving the main passages in Renada and it's probably no coincidence that it's directly beneath the Codisera Arm in Coteron. The passage continues to the east, beyond Coteron, and exploration has stopped in a couple of chambers. Here the future leads could be an undescended pitch with water falling down it, two pitches with deep water at the bottom, or a one bolt climb to a continuation of the high level passages....

Exploration continued around the Edge of the World, an impressive sandy-floored chamber with a high aven and bouldery middle. At the western side the '82 explorers continued up into a superb boulder-floored ramp which climbed 120m above the Edge of the World. More passage to the NE remains unpushed.

Right at the beginning of the motorway to the Renada connections, Frank entered "100m of dusty stuff following a phreatically enlarged joint - still going". It was 11 days later that Pete and Ian Lloyd continued the exploration, being stopped by a 7m pitch. The following day Pat Devine and Julie M were stopped at a 120ft pitch which 24 hours later was found to be choked. Pat, John P and Andrew Davison climbed up at the head of the pitch and entered the smallish passage leading to Tampax Chamber, with its bed of sand on which rests the strange, teased-wool, gypsum formations. Up to the left the Easter '83 trip continued the pitch dropping started by Stan, Di and Juan in the summer and entered a large chamber with a couple of good possibilities. The Easter crew also entered Matutano Passage. This heads ESE from near the start of Franks Passage, is mainly low, but ends



La Vega - a view from Enaso

fig 1





La Vega - a view from Enaso



at a pitch into a large chamber close to Tampax Chamber.

At the start of the 1982 Expedition, Squirrel and Pete stumbled across the entrance to Azpilicueta, right between the two east-west arms of Renada. Exploration took a few days, the thousand foot climb to the entrance with mounds of tackle being one reason...

... Youngsters trip to Torca de Azpilicueta (John, Julie, Pete) From the entrance a loose slope to a looser short climb brings you out at the head of a pitch of 15ft into a largish chamber (20ftx30ft) with 3 shafts. The most promising was descended to a ledge after about 20ft at which point one of the other two shafts came in. The drop then became very large with the ladder running out after about 110ft with 10 or 20ft still to go to the floor...

... Team as above plus Squirrel. Add one ladder length to previous limit of exploration and hit floor. Inlet on left unexplored. Immediate pitch of 15ft, tight at top belay to previous ladder. Descent of three short climbs in clean washed limestone with trickle of water gives way to top of large open shaft - limit. Will require bolt belays. Another unexplored inlet at top of climbs. Verbal contact throughout...

... Team - Juan plus previous. Double life line on 'big pitch' and everyone down. Bolt belay placed for 15ft slot pitch. Two bolts placed for 'large open shaft'. Good pitch of 90ft, three guys descended. Immediately large stream passage with little water on this occasion. Upstream and inlets - little exploration. Downstream - wide passage gets bigger to 50ft damp pitch - natural belays - and three down. The passage at stream level again changes character - high meandering vadose trench to small cascade and undescended pitch - 100ft +; damp and requires bolt belays. So far there is little horizontal development downstream. The cave is unique, being an 'active' high altitude system although the initial section is dry and fairly typical...

... The 100ft pitch was rigged using 150ft ladder via a suspect bolt put in by Pete. We would have had a second bolt but John found out after fixing it with its wedge that the tommy bar on the tool would not let it unscrew. We tried to modify the wall but a blow hit the tool and snapped it off at the bolt. Phil descended the 150ft ladder to find it short. Came up and went down again on 225ft of ladder, it just reached the bottom, with a ledge at 160ft. Squirrel came down with a line to plumb the next pitch. It is at least 150ft. This means that the rift at the end is at least 400ft high! Juan and Julie surveyed to -115m and upstream...

... Juan, Paul Taylor, Julie, John, Nigel, Phil, Squirrel. Two parties, one to bottom and the other photographing and surveying down as far as top of 220ft pitch. Below 160ft was another approx 130ft pitch into huge chamber containing large boulders. Some holes in floor, one dropped down 40ft to where stream was joined. Holes in floor need investigating with ladder. Went through clean washed black rocks to ledge overlooking another pitch of about 50ft, undescended...

... John, Pedro, Phil, Frank, Paul G and Julie (deepest woman in Matienzo). We all went down to the bottom of the 130ft pitch. Paul went down a 40ft followed by a few others. He then descended a 50ft blind shaft. Other shafts were too tight or suicidal. No way on could be found so we got out and detackled. They hadn't even kept the bar open for us!

Lank and Buddha searched in Renada for a route which would start closing the Stuffed Monk - Azpilicueta - Renada II gap, and they found it in Sanatogen Passage. About 300m in from its start in Stuffed Monk Passage a 60ft pitch down the side of a large rift is encountered, followed immediately by an 8m climb into a large chamber floored by large rocks and shingle. A draught comes in through the left hand wall, which seems very close to Azpilicueta, while at the far end a promising dig is proceeding. A most useful extension would result if this could be joined through to Renada II beyond the upstream sump.

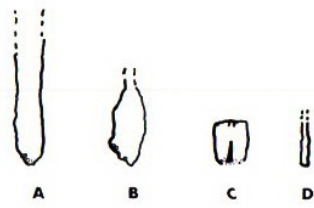
Another major effort on the South Vega System went in into an attempt to join Torca de la Cabana with Renada. The former lies over the top of the latter (making the survey rather confusing) with the main horizontal development being some 100m above Renada but with known pitches up to 60m deep. Exploration of these pitches took a couple of days, the anticlimax coming on the trip after Phil, Lügger, Andrew and Slug had entered a small passage 60m from the entrance pitches...

... Went up to entrance with great hopes of glory, hoping to come a good second place in the great Renada Race. Paul parked car at entrance to Renada he was so optimistic. Carried up six extra ladders and suitable ropes. Soon to bottom of entrance series and then moved off in pairs to move tackle through 300ft crawl to head of big pitch. Easily the worst passage in Matienzo. All down big 100ft pitch then 50ft to horrible muddy hole which Lügger forgot to tell us about. Then down another smallish broken rift to limit of previous exploration. Then nothing. No ways on. So Phil hit the cave lots of times - hard with a piton hammer but still nothing. Then we vame out. All sat at top of second pitch with mounds of tackle including 26 ladders. Paul got annoyed with John. Then we went home to mass adoration in Hermans and something a lot more use than a broken fin.

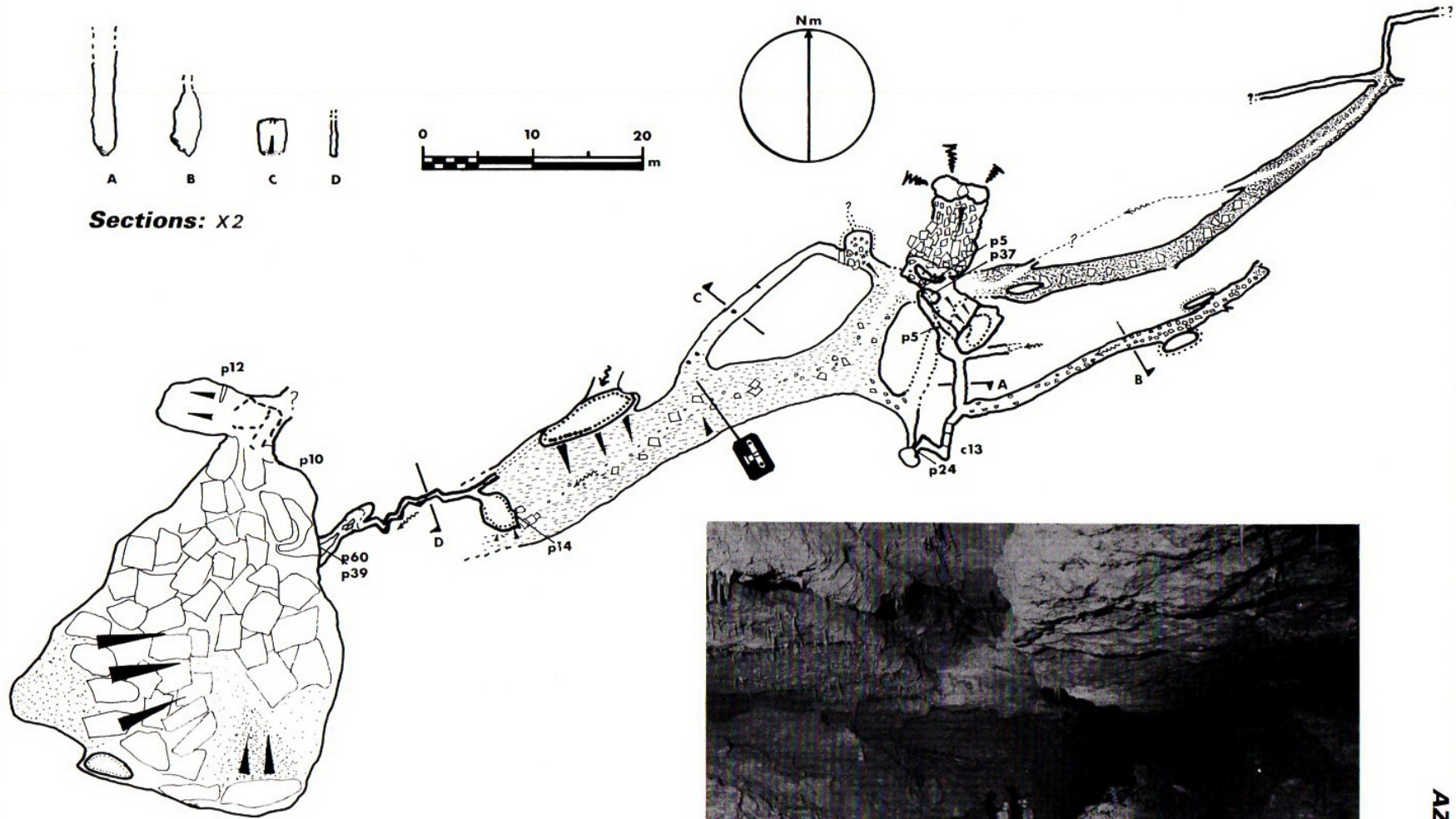
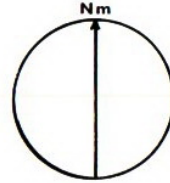
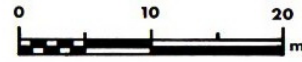
A major addition to the catalogue of caves on South Vega is Torca de Mega Mujer (Mega Moll Shaft). Log book accounts sum up the exploration which started in '82 and was almost completed at Easter '83...

... down near bottom of hill to east of mule track found small hole in grass sloping down to rock bridge with strong draught emerging from Shaft estimated to be 100ft deep...

... Taddy, Colin, Joe up to Mega Mujer. Sure enough a nicely draughting hole, easily missed in the clints (not a shakehole). Found a thread belay and put 50ft of ladder down. Felt to be free hanging and so put another 25ft on. Colin went down. The shaft is small but not uncomfortably so. After a couple of ledges opens into a clear drop not unlike Lancaster Hole but smaller. After 75ft Colin ran out of ladder but could see a sloping shaft foot below him, with a dark hole below. He came out and Taddy descended next, after a further 25ft of ladder was added. The sloping ledge gave access to two holes each being a downward continuation of the shaft. A further 2 ladders



Sections: X2

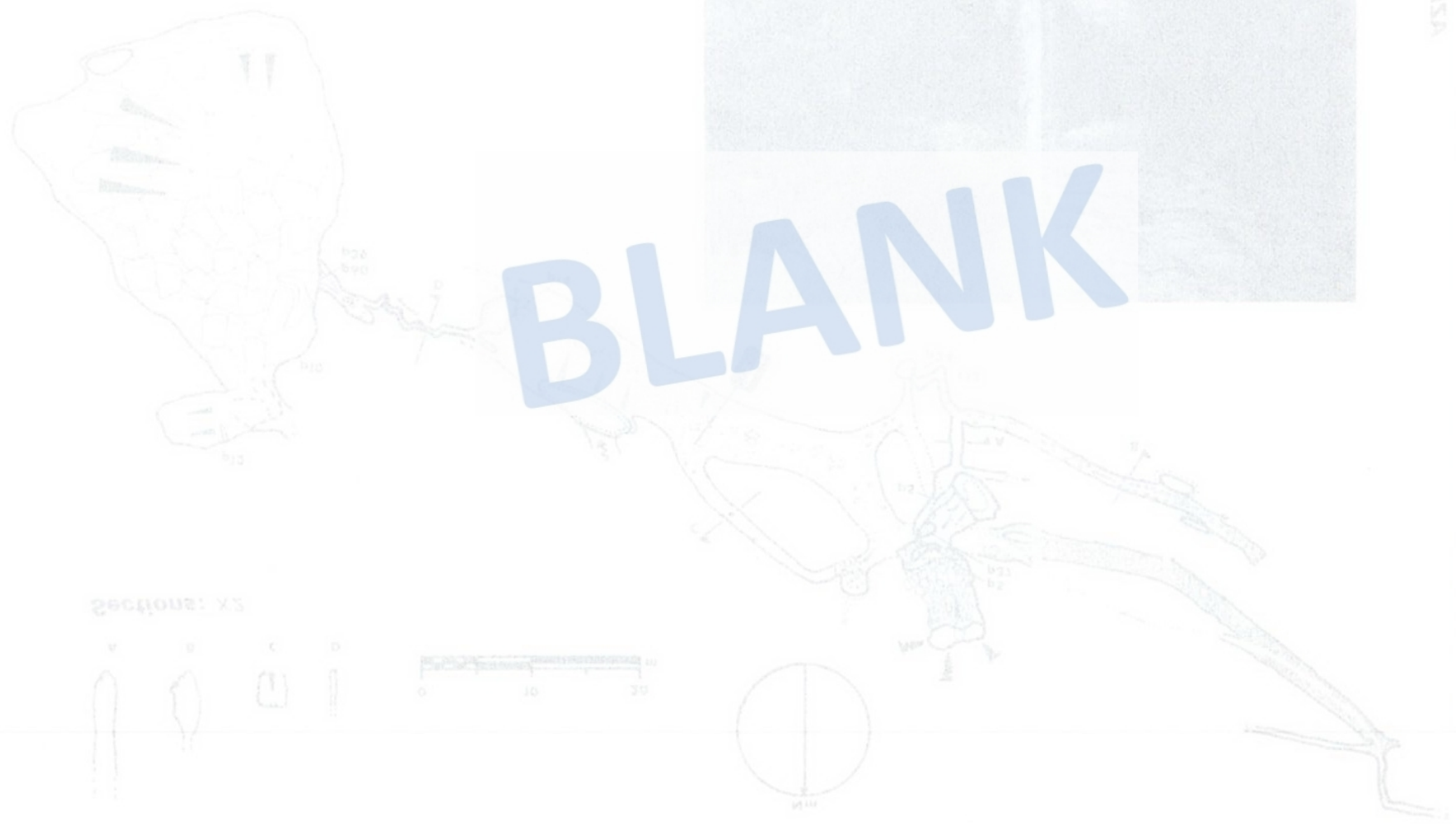


AZPILICUETA
PLAN

ATUUCIUSA
1919



BLANK



sections: x2



were lowered down and attached to the 100ft already in position. Descending these Taddy ran out of ladder about 20ft from the floor of boulders. The shaft here was 6ft in diameter. The walls did not appear to meet the floor but seemed to end with an overhang alround. A dropped stone sounded to roll for 2 to 3 seconds down a slope out of sight. So the shaft appears to be about 50m deep. Surely it must connect with Passages Measureless in Coteron? Due to the constricted size of the shaft communication problems were encountered....

...Colin, Pat, Julie, John to shaft visited yesterday by Joe et al. Pat descended and started to dig and by the time John had got down he was almost through. The draught here is excellent. A couple of flat out bits lead to a bigger passage into a yet bigger one. To the right traverses, chossy climbs and sharp calcite lead to nothing in particular. To the left a drop of about 50ft requiring ladders. All the draught seems to come from here. Needs revisiting. The entrance pitch is a bastard to climb. About 50 or 60m of passage so far. Forgot to mention the incomparable digging ability of MUSS-trained men. Pity Patrick is so bad at direction finding that he gets lost climbing Coteron entrance shaft....

... Easter. After arrival at Matienzo got this sudden urge to go and do something. Descended shaft with intention of pushing and surveying. Descended new shaft to a depth of 18m choked with large blocks. A second short shaft nearer the entrance also choked at -10m. A climb across the top of the 18m shaft led to a larger passage on fault. Holes in floor have an estimated depth of 30m. Small stream enters from aven near boulder-floored chamber. Some passages were not pushed and none of the shafts were descended. 50m of passage found. All the cave was surveyed....

... Loose pitch descended, didn't go, but 80ft deep...

... Mega Moll finished at last. Steve, Alan, Lugger, Andy and John P. Lugger and Alan finished the survey. Several shafts descended at 50 - 80ft none of them doing anything. Steve used up his 6th life by falling off a ladder above an 80ft pitch, without a line. Fortunately he got jammed and fell no further than 10ft. Three undescended shafts require a further trip in the summer.

Another longish cave to come to our notice was 388 in an interesting position above the western end of Stuffed Monk Passage...

... Draughting shaft, very interesting, just down valley from a few trees. Plumbed to 30ft first drop then stones fell another 30ft or so. Cold draught blowing out....

...Nigel, Paul T. Returned to 388 with tackle. Descended open shaft of 14m and used some 30m rope for next pitch of 6m into chamber. No signs of prior exploration. Floor all stal covered, sloping down large chamber to narrow point. After steep slope another slippery pitch follows to slippery chamber - like walking on ice. Narrow opening with draught leads to a circular chamber with high aven above. Four jawbones are stalled into the floor at this point. At far side of chamber, a narrow squeeze and 4m pitch lead to a pool of water in another aven. Outlet is a too tight rift leading to a clearly visible pitch of about 100ft or more. Needs hammer and chisel. Cave was surveyed on way out and all tackle removed....

... Lank and Paul G descended 388 on string and got shited up to the eyebrows. Soft calcite everywhere and getting very churned up. Hammered out a desparate calcite squeeze and

abseiled through only to find it was 7ft deep and with a big black hole above to fall through instead! Proceeded to the real constriction and hammered first one out with no problem. The second one at the top of the big drop did not look very promising at first; however after a couple of hours chiselling away we finally managed to enlarge the hole big enough to squeeze through. Enlarged the hole more from the other side. Now big enough for double decker buses. Did not descend as (i) run out of wire strops (ii) time getting on (iii) string looked too short (iv) knackered. Made exit, horrible and slippery. Suggest 1st bit should be done on ladders with string for the big pitch onwards.

... John and Paul G descended using ladders this time to the top of the big pitch. Shitty as ever. Belayed to decaying stal straws and descended. Thirty metres approx. Lands in stal covered chamber. Pitch off to one side is 15m approx. and narrows down to become choked with calcite. Detackled and made exit. Diverted on the way out by discovery of 150m approx of new passage with draught. For a change nice and dry with sandy floors etc. 25ft pitch at end lands in a low wide chamber which chokes in all directions. The draught appears to come from a small aven and various phreatic tubes in the roof. Needs surveying.

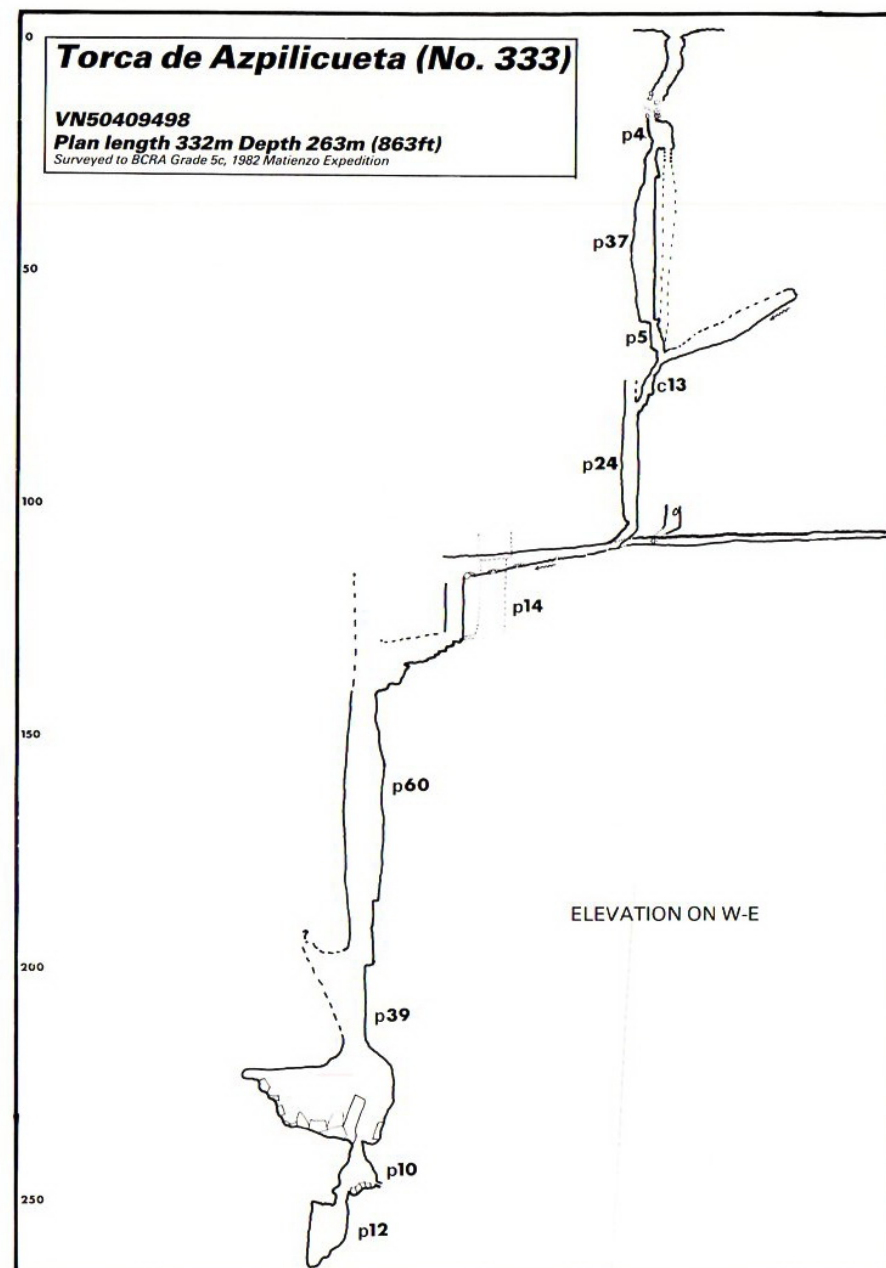
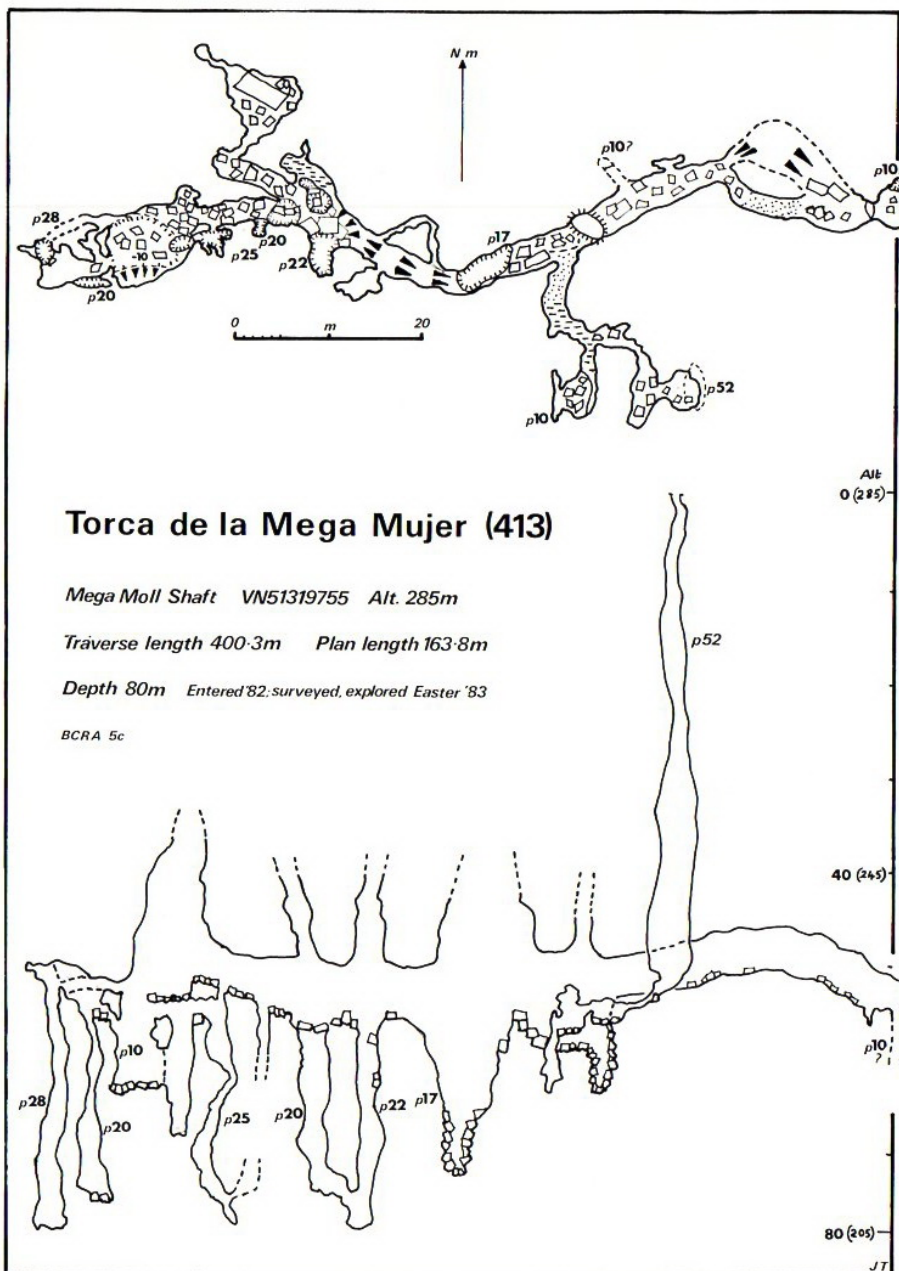
SOME OTHER EXPLORATIONS

To the NW of the Matienzo depression lies the much smaller enclosed basin of La Gatuna. With its north-south axis at more than a kilometre and a dimension of about 500m across, the base of La Gatuna is at a low altitude but pocked with hundreds of interesting depressions. At its southerly end a small watercourse drops down the steep hill behind and enters a shakehole containing the open entrance to Cueva Collada...

... A stooping stage soon gives way to a flat out crawl after a hundred feet of which a mud blockage was reached. This was dug out leaving a horrendous muddy, sludgy pit which has to be squeezed through. This leaves one at the head of a nasty tight take-off to a fifty foot pitch which was not descended as we had no tackle. A strong draught was present, so we departed...

... Slug, John P returned with ladders and bolting kit. Muddy squeeze is worse each time. Could do with being put somewhere else. No room to put a bolt in above pitch so one was put in before squeeze on left hand side. Needs new bolt putting in on head of pitch. Pitch length 35ft if new bolt is put in. Passage continues at bottom for 100ft + until junction of 3 (?) passages of similar size i.e. rift type, stooping size. At junction our passage appears to enter roof of much larger passage with pitch of 25ft still undescended. Still strong draught coming up the pitch...

... Juan, Slug, John. Got very muddy on the way in. Descended new pitch into a passage about 20ft high by 3ft wide which degenerated into sandy floored stoops and crawls until a 13m diameter boulder-floored chamber is encountered. Passage from this is followed for not very far at all to a draughting choke. Numerous short inlets and oxbows all over the place.



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Got more or less dry just in time to get very wet and muddy again on the way out, Much of the cave is in limestone common with Uzueka. Cave surveyed and detackled.

Other excursions into the area produced shafts up to 100ft deep on the eastern rim and a few short remnants at a low level. A significant amount of passage awaits discovery.

About 250m of new passage was discovered in Risco, which now has a length of 8250m but stays firmly in third place behind Uzueka....

Returned to climb at top of avens on the south side of the passage before the Tonto Series. Pete and Pat have seen (at Easter '82) the passage across the top of the aven often referred to by Juan Carlos. Slug to do the daring climb around the aven, Pete to hold the rope, Pat to go, "Hell! I'm buggered if I'm going over there." No problems for Slug and two bolts. Large passage running off with deep pits, some possibly to main passage floor. About 200m of stomper in two parallel trunks, terminating in breakdown with sandstone boulders; other end has a hairy traverse over muddy boulders/ledges which might go. Needs surveying. Some very, very fine formations need photographing. Getting back across the aven requires brown trousers.

The north side of La Vega is a desert compared with the south - the longest caves known before 1981 were Agua at 1900m and the much shorter Rascavieja and Mostajo. The north west corner of the arm was barren. Toad in the Hole was opened up mainly by Roy, Pat, Keith and Paul G in 1981 and the dig revealed over $\frac{1}{2}$ km of essentially level passage (documented in P3). At Easter '83, North Vega revealed Torca de Lastrilla...

... back down the valley to a clean shaft in nice, white limestone. Shaft about 30ft deep to descending rift with lots of loose boulders. Dropped into hading rift at right angles and straight to the top of a pitch. Looked very Dales-like and seemed deep - 60ft probably...

... Pete, Joe, Colin, John S, Ian Monty. The 60ft shaft turned out to be 35ft which was descended after two bolts had been put in at the top. (Rock very shattered on one side of the fault and no natural belays). Next was a 20ft pitch rigged as a continuation of the first, then steeply sloping boulder-filled rift to another rift requiring a short ladder descending further. Bottom of this yielded an estimated 100ft pitch. Lack of tackle halted progress at this point. On the

Note: The Easter expedition in 1983 was most successful. A handful of people surveyed over a kilometre of passage, leaving more open leads than when they started. This trip was organised by Steve Martin. Some of the new caves are now catalogued, others are being processed. The 800m surveyed in Coteron makes the SVS survey out of date, a week after publication.

way out, Joe noticed a passage above the 100ft pitch. Pete climbed up on a stal cascade and exclaimed that he couldn't see anything - his carbide light wouldn't light up the walls. Joe followed and a very large chamber was seen. Chucking stones revealed a deep hole in front of the edge of the boulder slope on which they were sitting, a boulder slope further into the chamber then, across the other side, a further shaft down to unknown depths. After staring in awe at this spectacle for at least 20 minutes the party retreated, leaving the place rigged for further investigation...

... A big team: Colin, Joe, Pete, Alan, Andy, Lugger, Ian and John. Went down 100ft pitch (actually 120ft) - leads to tight series of rifts descending a further 80ft but getting too tight. Back in the big chamber a ladder was dropped from the ledge to the floor, about 60ft but sloping. Pete started off down a ramp about 30ft square which got a bit steep. Seems very promising...

... Joe, Colin, Lugger, Pete, Steve, Andy, John. Aforementioned ramp was descended, ending in a pitch to a mud-floored chamber with no obvious way on. Draught seems to be coming down an aven and going up the ramp. This is strange 'cos at the top of the ramp the draught is going down. A good look round and a couple of hairy traverses produced no signs of where the draught goes. There are still a couple of possibilities for the Minstrals Gallery. Bolts and a lack of Brain Cells are needed here. Detackled.

Compiled by Juan Corrin from Log Book accounts by Michael Wood, Fred Winstanley, John Thorp, Nigel Dibben, Phil Papard, Steve Martin, Pete Smith, John Palmer, Michael Hale, Paul Gelling, Frank Addis and Pat Devine.

IRON AGE FINDS IN MATIENZO

The archaeological prospections in summer 1982 were extremely fortunate in finding Iron Age remains in two caves. These, added to other discoveries during the previous winter, give a totally new picture of this period in Matienzo, and the region in general. They rate amongst the most important finds of this period in any cave in the North of Spain. In fact, lack of Iron Age finds in the Basque Country has led to the supposition that a Bronze Age culture survived during a period chronologically in the Iron Age (from 900 or 800 BC to the Roman conquest).

The first finds were in Cueva Cofresnedo, where pottery and human remains were discovered by Santander cavers in the 1960s. They then thought that the pottery would belong to the late Neolithic or early Bronze Age. Then in October 1981, a type of black paintings were found in the same cave. These, drawn with charcoal, are of the style known as "schematic-abstract", which is found in the North of Spain. They can be difficult to describe, and understand, precisely because the majority of them are abstract designs of dots and lines.

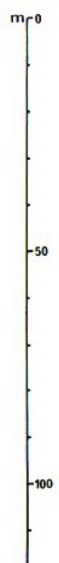
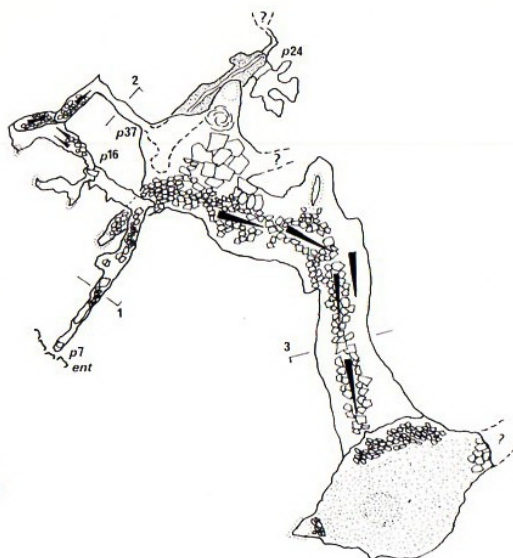
Torca de la Lastrilla

LA VEGA

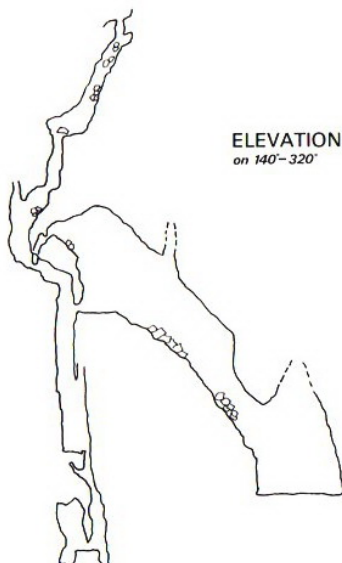
Depth 118m

Length 251m

Abril 83

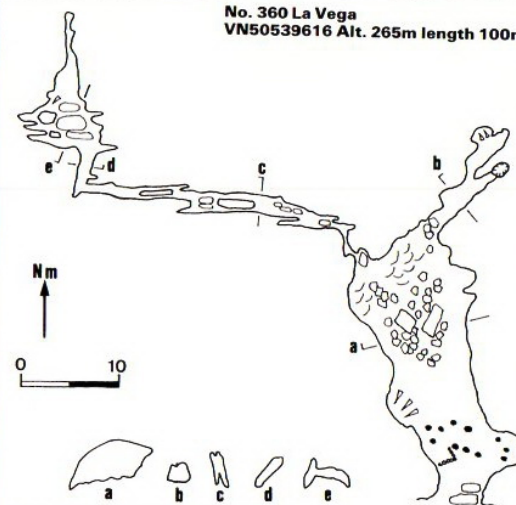


ELEVATION
on 140°-320°

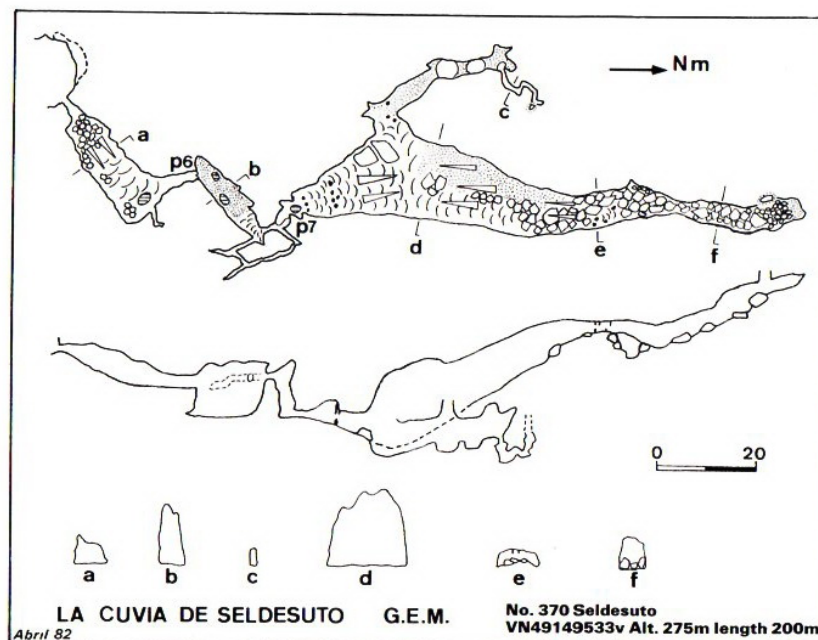


JT

No. 360 La Vega
VN50539616 Alt. 265m length 100m



LA CUVIA DE LA VEGA
July 1982 Grade 4



LA CUVIA DE SELDESUTO G.E.M.

No. 370 Seldesuto
VN49149533v Alt. 275m length 200m

Abril 82



Others may be thought of as schematic human figures, which may be as simple as a vertical line with a dot at the top. In other parts of North Spain, especially Alava, they have been dated in a period running from the Late Bronze Age to the Roman conquest.

On the 12th August '82, Dave Hartnup and Lank Mills found some pieces of iron in a chamber of the cave. Ten pieces altogether, which could belong to just four artifacts. The first of these is a dagger 184mm long. Despite the rust a ridge can still be seen down the centre of the blade, although there are no rivets or any other visible means of attaching it to the handle, which wasn't found. Similar daggers had been discovered in Iron Age hillforts to the south of Santander, yet this was the first time one was found in a cave.

The second artifact is apparently a javelin-head, although it is now bent. It is 74mm long, hollow, with a circular cross-section and a small hole near the base. It was found next to some fragments of pottery, broken but lying in position so that it was easy to make a note of their order and stick them together later.

The third artifact is a kind of adze, or curved axe, 95mm long and 77mm wide. Another piece, about the same width and thickness, could form a sort of elongation to which the handle was attached. Again a small fragment of pottery was found next to this piece.

The remaining pieces could belong to the same object, although it is not known what this might be. One of the pieces is 77mm long, with a "V" cross-section, and another forms a kind of ring or hook. The others are small pieces of roughly the same thickness as these.

The pottery mentioned before is the rim and top of a fairly large pot. The diameter of the mouth would be about 270mm. It is similar, although the rim is higher, to the majority of pots found in Cofresnedo previously. So the late Neolithic or early Bronze date given to them is now seriously in question. What's more, the walls of the chamber are decorated with the black paintings and, in the main passage, we have found various human teeth. Thus, it appears that the cave was used for human burials, with pottery and iron tools left as grave goods, and the paintings as a further part of the rituals.

Partial confirmation of this theory came unexpectedly soon. In Cueva de Barandas, a new cave in the north side of La Vega, Julie Brigeman and myself found more pottery, bones and a copper strip. This may have adorned a belt or shield etc. It is 52mm long, decorated with a zig-zag pattern of dots and, in one end, it has a tiny rivet. By checking with a magnet this was proved to be made of iron. The pottery was very similar to the most common type in Cofresnedo (i.e. with the rim turned outwards and without any decorative marks). In total four different pots could be identified. The human bones were part of the left femur, the sacrum (from the base of the spine) and perhaps some vertebrae. The only item lacking in the cave was the black paintings, as none have been found, otherwise it seems to be the same kind of burial cave as Cofresnedo, and can again be dated in the Iron Age.

These then have added to other recent finds (more paintings in Cueva Cuatribu, an iron axe in the entrance of the same cave, plus pottery and a copper arrow head in Cueva Codisera) to give a broad, and fairly consistent, picture of Iron Age activity in the area.

Pete Smith

A full paper on these finds is to be published shortly in the British Cave Research Associations Transactions - see bibliography
A summary of previous finds can be found in Trans 8.2

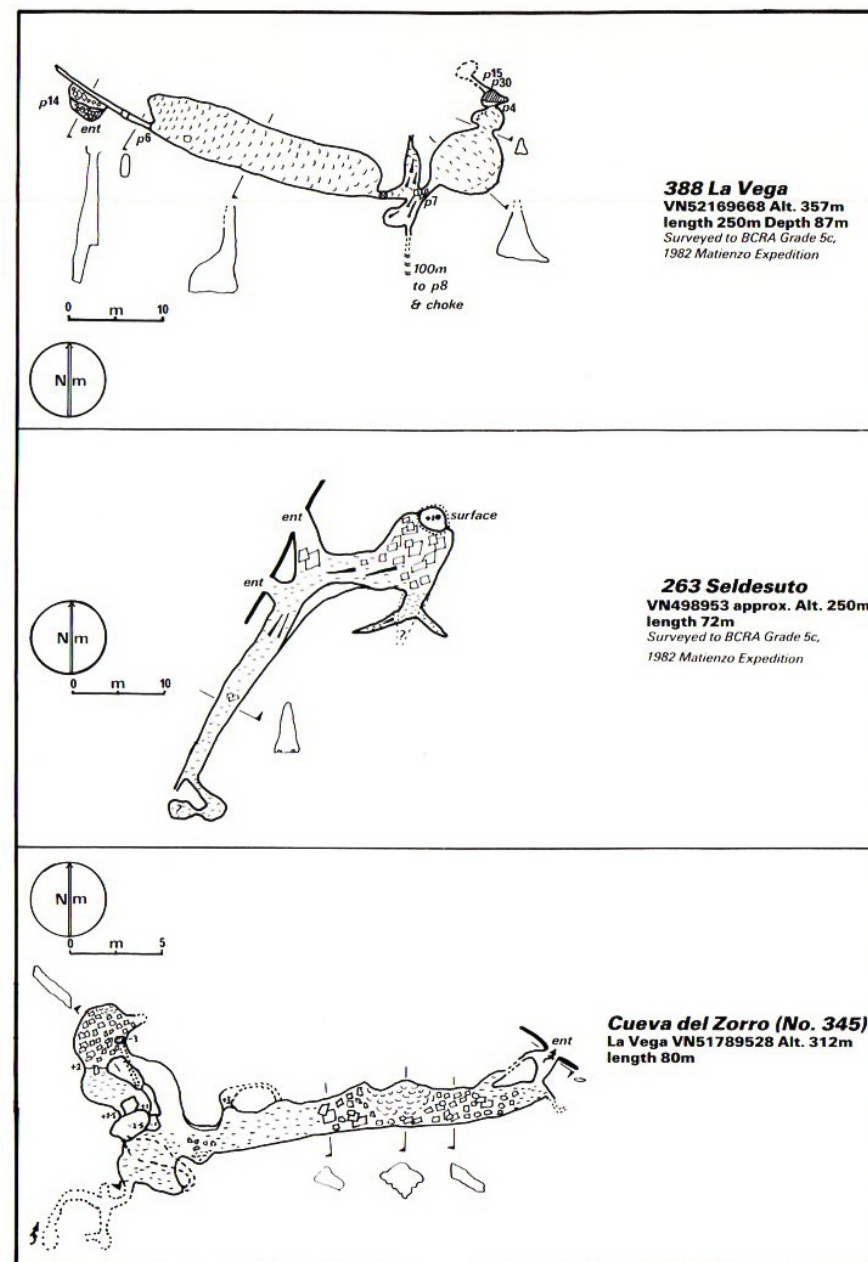
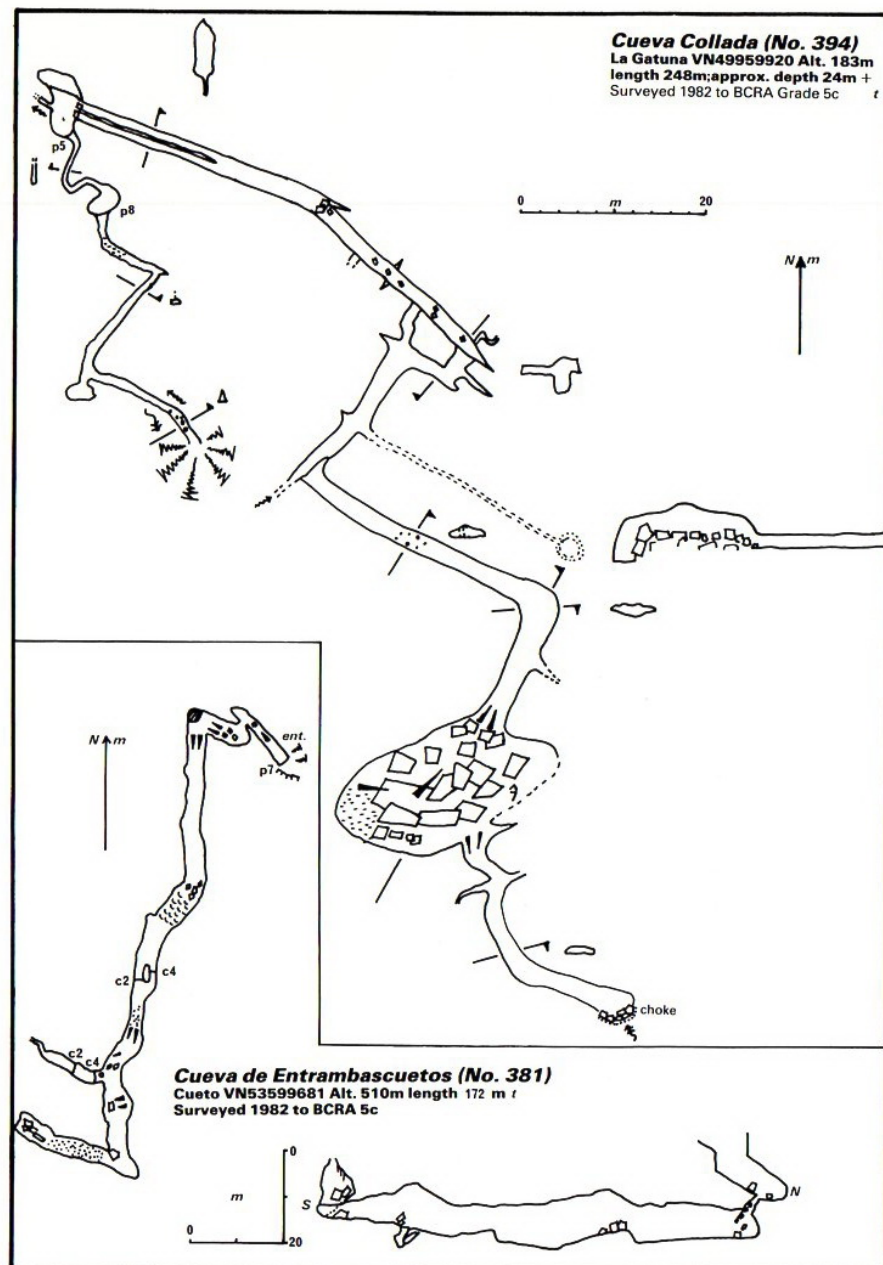
WHAT THE PAPERS SAID.....

An article by Jesus Aja Barquin in the Cantabrian newspaper 'Diario de Montagnes', dated 10th September 1981.

English potholers and scientists have just proven that Matienzo, in the south east of our region, is an area riddled with caves and potholes. Three hundred and thirteen caves is the outcome achieved by this group of experts after pains-taking studies of the zone. One of these caves stands out; it is over 17km in length and comes out in Riano.

As a result of this scientific labour, the English team (which has been coming to work in Matienzo for several years) has published an extensive volume entirely dedicated to the topography of the Matienzo area, a fact which highlights the geological importance of the finds. One need look no further than the 17km cave discovered during the recent studies, which turns out to be the third longest in our area.

The work of the English scientists is clearly beneficial to our region which can only stand back and observe how a group of





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foreigners bring the natural beauty of our land to the public's attention.

A GROUP OF SPELEOLOGISTS STUDY THE MATIENZO REGION

Just as in previous years, during the present summer about 50 English potholers have again chosen Matienzo as a centre of operations for their investigations of caves and potholes. Their work over several years in this area is beginning to bear fruit and it is now possible to speak of a series of positive results with regard to our knowledge of our underground world.

We must point out straightaway that their investigations spring from an initial study carried out by the party of cavers from the 'Seminario Santuola' from Santander who, in 1966, published, under the title 'La depresion cerrada de Matienzo', a thorough account of more than 70 caves and potholes. It is however in recent years, with the arrival of the English potholers, that these operations have begun to pay real dividends culminating at the present moment with the publication titled 'Matienzo', published by the British Cave Research Association, which contains a full study of no less than 313 caves and potholes of this district - a figure we must consider to be of genuine importance. The aforementioned study is divided into four chapters: 'Caves and Speleology', 'Geomorphology', 'Prehistoric Remains' and 'Underground Matienzo'.

Among this summer's activities we must give special mention to those carried out in the 'Uzueka' cave with its dual access via Riano and Lluvea which link (1), giving a total of 17km of galleries and passages, all thoroughly surveyed. It turns out to be the third longest in the region. We must also mention the discovery of the Coteron pothole with 200m depth and 4km of galleries, inside which appears an ample supply of water which, from its geographical location, is reckoned to be connected with the river Clarin whose source at the foot of Mount Limon is nearby.

As you can see, all of these discoveries seem on the face of it to have sufficient importance for the knowledge of our past, for the water resources of the region, that we think they should be deserving of greater attention from bodies of experts.

The English potholers do not only limit themselves to the discovery of caves and potholes, they also have a strong community awareness and their integration with the villagers is total. In the midst of this climate of good relations, a football match was organised on the field of 'La Secada' between the youngsters of the village and an English team. The final score was 13-7 to the local side despite the fact that the foreigners put on a good display during the first half which ended with a six goal draw. The magnificent performance by local player Jesus Gonzalez (on military service at Ramales) stands out. He scored 8 out of the 13 goals scored by the home side.

Editorial comment by "J.E.F" footnoting the previous article

Genuine Don Quixotes

Our disease seems to be severe and difficult to avoid. The English, the English scientists, have got up to their old tricks again to teach us all a lesson. Matienzo - which belongs to our region by the way - is written about nowadays in a foreign language thanks to its natural features. There exist near Ramales, at Matienzo, 313 caves and potholes and we know nothing of even half of them.

As always we are perpetuators of the work of Cervantes. We are true

1. Link is only proven by smoke and dye tests.

Don Quixotes, some say it openly and others under their breath. One grows tired of repeating a thousand times that we do not know what we have and that we do not look after what is ours. From the era of the brain-drain (where have Spanish science and scientists been for so many - too many - years?) we have passed into an era where there exists a total disregard, an incredible lethargy, concerning anything belonging to us. The foreigners, once again, give us a lesson and teach us the 'A B C' of our idiosyncrasy.

At Matienzo nobody can deny that there is culture enough to spare. There exists caves and potholes which, properly studied, could serve to enrich our history and even enhance the beauty of Cantabria. But it had to be foreigners who discovered the secret.

They, without shouting about it, on the quiet, have concocted a whole volume on this part of our region, on Matienzo and its environs.

Three hundred and thirteen caves and potholes are to blame. Three hundred and thirteen discoveries which, however you look at it, were most likely made by inhabitants of our region. But nobody seemed to remember that such beauty, such a find, was ours, belonged to our geography and as such should have been shouted about from the hilltops.

The group of potholers and English scientists who come and stay in Matienzo year after year know full well what they have found there. However much it may grieve us, they have once again shown us to be genuine Don Quixotes.

BITS & PIECES from the logs

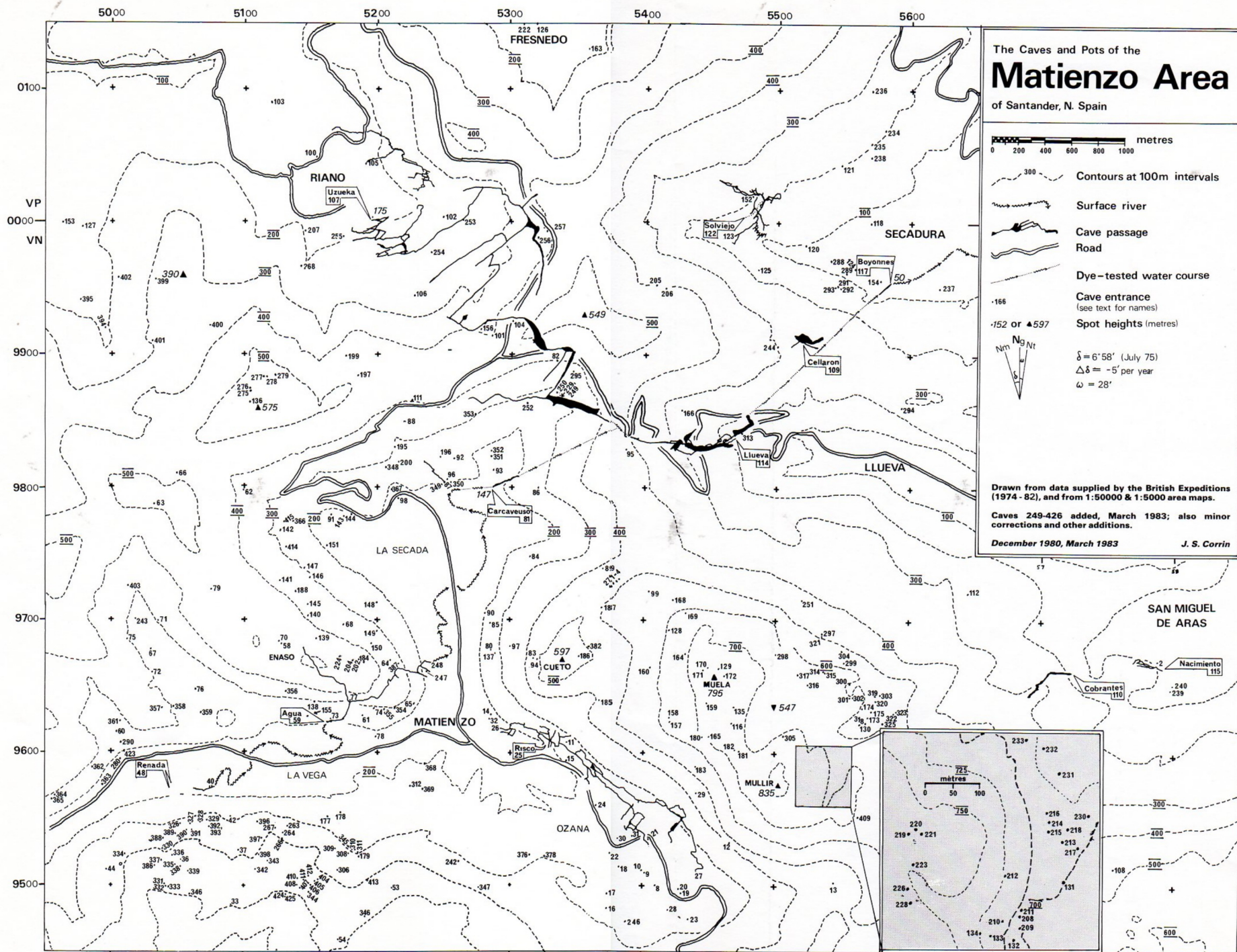
25 minutes to touchdown. Smoke bomb is prepared and we pass the remaining time fettling carbides. Very soon 1814hrs comes around and Pedro scrambles down a slope and waits for the countdown ..9..8..7..6..5..4..3..2..1.. clip..Fzzz..WHANG..Whoosh - Yeaghh. Pedro just fails to get out of the way fast enough and quickly realises the underlying logic behind the instruction on the bomb "Pull tab and throw overboard", Clouds of red smoke go billowing off into the choke carried by the draught but very quickly three minutes pass and bomb stops. "Bet that will make their eyes water", says Paul. Second bomb is let off lower down in the choke, and when this is finished, Pedro dives off following horrid pong and red stains, followed by Tobo. Point is reached where rumbling of stream is heard but where it is impossible to get any further. Tobo pushes to the left through two squeezes into phreatic tube and chamber. Pat follows. Excitement as carbide mark is found on the wall, but it turns out that Pedro was here last year. Leave choke at 8-30 and make Riano bar by 12-30. Bar closed despite promises.

AF

"..... and everything smells of sardines."
"Sounds like a night out with X!"

Andy and Big Nose push on while Pete and Phil survey. - slow progress along meanders - meet wide-eyed explorers on way back. They found the stal! Footprints! Big chambers! Cascades! Even 'decent-sized passage'. Where can it be? we wonder as we start crawling, then pop out in chamber with climbable even and pitch down. Side passage in maze leads to the stal and another chamber with water at the bottom. John follows other side passage to more water. Still going in all directions.

Diverted on the way out by discovery of 150m of new passage with roaring draught.....



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Additions to the list of caves published in BCRA Transactions Vol 8.2, June 1981. All caves are on the updated area map in this journal, apart from those marked with *. The key to the references is at the end of this catalogue. All lengths are plan lengths unless indicated otherwise.

- 111 La Secada
VN52269867 Alt 405m depth 35m
A few metres up from the road. A 28m, tree-belayed pitch lands on a boulder slope which descends to a choke.
Ref. -
- 136 Secada/Riano ridge
Torca de Coteron de las Llanas
VN51049863 Alt 555m length 20m depth 45m
A grassy slope down to head of a 20ft pitch landing on a muddy ledge. The second rift pitch of 80ft follows immediately with a loose ledge halfway down. An area of collapse can be climbed down through to a 15ft pitch which lands in a choked chamber. The whole pot is rather loose and muddy.
Ref. P_s
- 153 La Gatuna
Tree Root Cave
VN49639999 Alt 135m length c.80m depth 5m
A tight, flat-out slot above a choked stream sink enters a well decorated chamber with a number of short passages and holes in the floor. All choke or become too tight.
Ref. -
- 155 Enaso
Cueva de la Lara-Lennon
VN51489628 Alt 233m length c.70m
Entrance at the base of a small limestone scar under Cueva Coberruyo. A slope leads down into a well decorated chamber with short lengths of passage to left and right. To the right a body-sized squeeze enters a small chamber full of flowstone and columns.
Ref. P_s
- 184 Enaso
VN51909668 Alt 422m length 10m depth 5m
A 1m diameter entrance with a climb down into two small chambers.
Ref. -
- 202 Enaso
VN51879670 Alt 430
Narrow take-off to an undescended pitch of about 10m depth.
- 204 Enaso
VN51829670 Alt 431m
A steep slope in a shakehole leads to the head of a rift in dark, shiny limestone. Undescended.
- 224 Enaso
VN51729672 Alt 435m
Low opening leads to an undescended 5m drop into a chamber. There is another small cave lower down in the doline.

- 225* Muela
VN5670-80, 9495-9500 Alt c.340m
Large depression with many shakeholes, 3 of which have undescended shafts.
- 227* Ogarrío
VN56079411 Alt 322m
A line of depressions, one of which is surrounded by thorn bushes and barbed wire. Undescended.
- 229 La Secada
VN53389867 Alt 304m depth 20m
Small hole gives entry to a roomy 20m shaft. Landing is on boulders, with a slight draught. Its position puts it directly above Rocky Horror in Cueva Uzueka.
Ref. -
- 249 La Secada La Secada
VN53369868 Alt 303m length 5m depth 5m
A hole under a blackberry bush drops into a small chamber.
Ref. -
- 250 La Secada
VN53369872 Alt 308m
Branch covered shaft which is probably too tight. Undescended.
- 252 La Secada
VN53129865 Alt 250m depth 7m
Entrance in a tree-lined depression. A drop through boulders ends in a boulder filled chamber.
Ref. -
- 253 Riano
VB2650002 Alt 228m depths 5 & 6m
Two holes found above the radio location point in the Gorilla Walk, Cueva Uzueka. Both draught strongly. One is a sloping rift which becomes too tight after 5m; the other chokes at a depth of 6m.
Ref. P
- 254 Riano
VN52409977 Alt 242m length 30m depth 23m
Shaft in a tree-lined depression. The entrance pitch of 12m is broken by a ledge and the landing is on boulders jammed in a large rift. A bolt in the wall of the rift holds the ladder for the 10m second pitch to a choked floor. Various grovels at the head of the entrance pitch close down.
Ref. P 3
- 255 Riano
VN51759989 Alt 195m length 7m
A resurgence crawl which becomes too low but could be dug.
Ref. -
- 256 Riano
VN53209989 Alt 362m depth 9m
A small hole leads into a circular, 9m deep shaft. Choked.
Ref. -

257

Riano

VN53279993 Alt 378m depth 9m length 10m
 A shaft capped with boulders. The 9m pitch is broken by a bouldery ledge; the continuation lands on a choked floor. A short length of passage at the bottom chokes.
 Ref. -

258

Toad in the Hole

Seldesuto

VN48899527 Alt 295m length 459m+ vert range 35m
 Entrance is located in a rather sloppy shakehole and a rope is useful for the grassy descent. A tight pitch of 6m down through loose boulders enters a small chamber. The passage to the right descends to a large calcite-floored chamber which slopes down past 2 blind holes on the right. Walking between mud banks ends at the Maypole Pitch of 6m up. The passage at the top splits. The left hand branch meets an 8m rope and ladder pitch into a passage which, to the left ends at an aven, and to the right finishes at a draughting boulder choke. The right hand branch leads to a 20m pitch to a small passage which suddenly enters a large chamber, 50m across. This contains some excellent helictites and, at its southern end, a complex phreatic maze (not shown on the survey in P3) which has not been pushed to a conclusion. A chamber to the east of the hall contains a massive stalagmite boss and some impressive gour pools. Back at the entrance, the passage to left joins the main route at the blind holes.
 Ref. P3_s

259*

Seldesuto

VN49059532 Alt 298m length 10m
 A slope down into a stooping height passage which leads to two other entrances.
 Ref. -

260*

Seldesuto

VNc.497956 Alt c.250m length 20m
 A number of holes are found along this cliff face, 261 being another. Walking size passage which soon closes down.
 Ref. -

261*

Seldesuto

VNc.497956 Alt c. 250m length 13m
 See 260. A crawl to a chamber with formations. A squeeze enters a smaller, second chamber.
 Ref. -

262*

Seldesuto

VNc.498953 Alt 250m length 40m depth 15m
 Another set of holes on the same cliff line as 260,261.
 A well decorated, descending phreatic tube becomes too low.
 Ref. -

263*

Seldesuto

VNc.498953 Alt c.250m length 72m
 See 262. A prominent entrance, easily seen from the road. A large 'half tube' entrance enters a tall rift. To the left an ascending passage reaches the base of a surface shaft and a climb up near here detects a draught from a rift. To the right of the entrance, 30m of walking leads to a blowhole into a small chamber, with a tight squeeze to the right entering another with a possible calcite dig.
 Ref. - Survey in this volume.

VN51259539 Alt 370m l. 13.61km trav. l. 14.43km
depth 200m. Lengths are Coteron + Renada.

The top entrance to the South Vega System. The combined lengths of Rendda and Coteron make the system the longest in our area and a through-trip is certainly the most entertaining excursion in the valley. The South Vega System appears to have developed on 3 main levels. Coteron is basically two of these levels; an entrance shaft meets level 1 and a steep ramp leads down to level 2 at 230m altitude. Shafts then connect level 2 with the Renada 'level' and the water a short distance below. Coteron is a complicated cave and nowhere near finished.

Entrance and level one

The shaft emits clouds of water vapour along with a strong draught on a hot day. A slippery 10m slope ends on a large, wobbling boulder jammed in the rift; the ladder hangs from two bolts in the left hand wall away from this. The 45m entrance pitch breaks into a chamber 10m above its breccia floor. A decorated slope rises up to within 10.5m of the surface with a strange roaring sound but no draught.

The slope down out of the chamber flattens to a junction. To the right an 8m square passage goes for 200 m to a massive boulder choke, pushed to no avail. On the left, at the start of this passage, is a 50ft pitch which is choked with a large boulder. A tirfor might help; the drop appears to get substantially larger below. On the left hand bend of this level 1 passage, another pitch chokes at 100ft with a ledge halfway down. To the left of the terminal boulder choke a 200ft pitch is blocked at the bottom, again with a ledge halfway down.

Back at the junction, a boulder floored passage to the left descends to a small dripping chamber with a pop-up on the right into a hading rift. After a short walk this enters, via a greasy slope, a large passage which descends over boulders, past a choked 15m pitch, to the head of the second pitch. Belayed to a massive boulder, the three ladders slope down over sloppy debris to a 13m vertical climb down against the wall of the rift. The landing is on a steep slope of boulders with the route onwards being downslope to a short drop between boulders. A gentle stroll then enters the chamber at the Edge of the World and the focal point for level 2.

Level 2

The sandy floor at the Edge of the World ends abruptly with a jumble of boulders 5m down with the far wall of the chamber being just discernible 30m away. Some exploration has been carried out down between the boulders; a depth of 30m was reached, still amongst the rocks. The routes down to Renada lie along the obvious tunnel to the left - description of this is left for the moment. Over to the right is the entry point to Marvin's Marvels. A short scramble between boulders joins a large passage which continues for 400m to a calcite choke. The large tunnel is essentially horizontal though in places magnificent calcite formations and flows have conspired to force the odd clamber, slither or climb. Best after rainfall, when the pools fill up, this passage is a photographers paradise with the full range of glistening calcite deposits; the best 'ooh-ah' passage in Coteron.

At the back wall of the EOW chamber is a steep sand slope which is the start of the 92m Ramp series. Access to the slope

is best gained by walking south into the hill and then doubling back along small 3m high passage. At the top of the slope, a short duck under the wall enters a roomy ramp which rises to the left, over boulders, past a choked drop on the left, to a scramble over boulders into another boulder-floored chamber. At its far end are two ways on: up to the right, a short phreatic tube descends steeply to a small chamber and the start of a complicated series of smallish phreatic passages containing a number of holes that have yet to be descended; down to the left is a short hands-and-knees crawl (on sand) around a dog-leg and standing to traverse over two holes in the floor to reach yet another large, boulder-floored chamber. A walk along the right hand wall leads to a small hole which joins the passage just described, while a climb down into the chamber and a short walk meets the chamber wall. Down to the left is a series of crawls between boulders that lead nowhere; up a steep calcite slope to the right and a short chimney up between boulders pops into the base of the ramp. The 20m wide passage rears up at 30° and is floored initially with monster rocks and finally with calcite. A group of thick stal bosses give an excuse for stopping halfway up and a damp pitch in an alcove on the left at a slightly higher level has been descended for 50ft to a very tight stream passage. The ramp ends with tricky climbs on calcite, having risen up to within 15m of the entrance altitude (although still 70m below the surface at this point).

Back at the Edge of the World, a short walk along the obvious tunnel meets a floor collapse which is walked around on the right. On the left hand side can now be seen the twin entrances to Frank's Passage. Of claustrophobic dimensions, the route starts as a walk on sand and rocks. A short traverse over a rift in the floor ends at a 7m pitch into a sandy floored chamber. A chimney up the continuation of the rift at the far side enters a boulder floored passage which ends at the constricted head of a 40m pitch, choked at its base. By negotiating a chossy climb on the right hand wall just before this pitch, the main way on is entered. A stooping height tunnel meanders about before entering larger passage and a short climb up into a tunnel which ends at a short crawl into Tampax Chamber. Cotton wool-like formations lying on the sandy floor of this low chamber have been analysed and are gypsum. Back above the climb is a further climb up the left hand wall, at the top of which a tunnel slopes down to the head of a 20m pitch. (Just back from here, and on the right in an alcove, is another short pitch which chokes). At the base of the drop are two pitches both dropping about 40ft to a short crawl to a 25ft pitch. Another ladder shaft drops into a large chamber which is at about 197m altitude. A couple of leads (one a hammer and chisel job into a bigger passage) still need attacking. Further back in Frank's Passage, to the west of the 7m pitch is the small entry to Matutano Passage. The smallish, sandy-floored passage ends after 250m at an 8m pitch into a blind chamber with a draught emerging from the floor.

Popping back out of Franks Passage and turning left, the main segment of level 2 looms ahead. (Floor deposits are rather interesting along the whole of this level: sand, sandstone cobbles, limestone breccia, with gypsum needles buried underneath, with occasionally some spongy gypsum). A 70m walk in a 8 by 4m high passage drops

down through a blowhole to the right and more walking to a junction. To the right: mostly walking progress ends at a 5m drop with an up and down bypass on the right; at the base a complex series of smallish tubes and rifts are almost joined with the middle chamber in the 92m Ramp series; pushing is still needed here. To the left of the junction a slope of breccia is reached and the divergence of the Renada routes. At the top of the slope is the start of the 'Codisera' Arm (which in fact goes nowhere near Codisera, rather it connects with Bootlace in Renada) while to the right, halfway up the slope is the draughting entrance to the 'Renada' Arm, heading off to the west.

The whole of the 400m length of the Renada Arm could be done at a trot; spacious sandy-floored tunnels lure the explorer on, tempting him to forget about the smaller ones off to the sides. But taken in order from its start, these are a) on the right after 50m in a large cross joint, 2 tight slots unite in a flat out crawl, joining the tubes and rifts passage just before the 5m pitch, b) on the right after a further 50m, a tight grovel at floor level, c) after another 30m, again on the right, a short walk to a roof collapse which should be easy to clear, d) Station 62, where a small, grovelly, loop lies at the bottom of the left hand wall and the opening on the right is Between Worlds Passage. The end of the Renada Arm is heralded by a pleasant group of white and orange stal and the passage becomes somewhat smaller, ending in an incompletely explored collapse area. By sticking to the right the passage appears to bypass the choke, but ends, after a 5m pitch, in a choked, funnel-floored chamber (apparently not far above the Ramp beyond Castle Hall in Renada). Back in the choke, a 50ft pitch drops into 170ft of passage ending at the head of an undescended 120ft pitch - the base of which should be at about 180m, Renada level. A number of other dripping pitches are known in this area; the choke itself needs pushing over, and a maze of passage off to the right is known but not fully explored.

Between Worlds Passage starts in the normal way, reaching a pit on the right which has been 'looked at and ends in two draughting, undescended pitches of about 80ft'. Thirty metres on and passage goes off on both sides: the right hand arm splits immediately as it comes into a rift, the northerly pitch being unexplored (about 10m deep) and the easterly pit choking 60ft down (by traversing over the top 2 draughting holes are passed over to another undescended 10m pitch with passage carrying on on the other side); the left hand branch is the '200m of unsurveyed passage' marked on the SVS survey. A steep climb down levels out at the head of a 10m pitch into a large passage. Another steep slope down ends at a three way junction. Straight on is a steep, unfinished ramp; to the left peters out after 40m, while to the right, the bouldery floor conceals a couple of undescended pitches. This passage seems rather out of place, being perched between Renada and the 2nd level of Coteron.

Between Worlds Passage continues for 10m to a large step over or tight squeeze round a hole in the floor. Immediately on the right is the pitch entry to the 1981 depths, while ahead the passage enlarges and rears up to the Edge of the Universe. A pleasant spot, away from the edge, the top of the pitch is guarded by a semicircular balcony of sand and loose rocks. Luckily, a short and narrow 'path' exists along the left hand wall to take the explorer beyond this mess and to solid rock where convenient belay and lifeline anchor points are to be found in a couple of small alcoves. The 220ft pitch

is straightforward, though rather damp. Initial landing is on a pile of large rocks jammed 70ft off the floor; final landing on water worn cobbles. The obvious passage from the base of the pitch chokes in dank phreatic tunnels. The route through is over a hole in the floor to the right and stepping into the body sized passage. After a short squeeze down through boulders the route is obvious and ends, 30m or so from the ladder, on a veranda looking out into the start of Gallery of the Dead in Renada.

The 1981 depths is the technical route down to the same level, although, frustratingly, not to Renada. The entrance pit of about 90ft is broken by a large ledge half way down and the passage then degenerates into a meandering, narrow canyon until a 16m pitch is met. From the foot of this, a large chamber is walked into with a pitch at each end. Descending the westerly, 50ft, sloping pitch leads to a sandy passage ending below the right hand pitch. A climb down through boulders enters a small inlet and a choked way on. From the foot of the sloping pitch, 10m forward, there is a blind 25ft shaft under a boulder on the right and immediately forward of this is a low, short crawl under the left hand wall with a 50ft pitch in the floor. At the base, a scramble over boulders enters a large passage containing a small stream between large mud banks. The water sinks about 30m further on, under the right hand wall, into a small phreatic passage with deep pools and an unpushed duck. Beyond the water sink is an inlet which can be followed over boulders to an aven. This aven is the one passed over at the base of the Edge of the Universe.

The Codisera Arm is another trunk route and this way becomes small after only 300m. At this point the shattered limestone roof has collapsed and a flatout crawl is necessary, but for only a few metres. An enlarging passage is entered on the other side which swings to the right and rises dramatically on a sandy floor to a 20m pitch down the side of a rift with a high dripping aven above. This pitch can be bypassed by entering a hole on the right half way up the slope. At the base of the rift

there are several blind pots and other short passages; one of the longer passages ends at a 12m pitch with a short length of stream passage at the bottom, ending at an altitude of about 186m. The rift pitch bypass also connects with a smaller meandering passage with some superb gypsum formations, like candy floss, on the walls. A difficult steep slope remains unclimbed and is one of the best possibilities for extension in this 300m long series. In a small chamber near the middle of these passages lies the small entrance to Bootlace Passage and its kilometre traipse into Renada. This passage is described in the extensions to Renada, detailed below.

Refs. P₃ R_s S_s W₂ X_s Z

- 265 Cuevas de Copudia La Vega
VN51319544 Alt 325m Length 164m
Two of the entrances are large and cannot be missed, the smallest easterly entrance requires a stooping. A large remnant, choked at the back, which was presumably connected with Coteron in the dim past.
Ref. Z

- 266 La Vega
VN51239536 Alt 398m length 84m
Small, walking-sized phreatic passage.
Ref. Z

- 267 Overhang Cave La Vega
VN51209542 Alt 375m length c.20m
The most obvious entrance on the southern side of La Vega.
The right hand passage soon chokes. The left hand passage rises
to a draughting climb up.
Ref. -
- 268 Riano
VN51429967 Alt 205m
A resurgence with a low bedding leading off into blackness.
Permission needed as it is a water supply.
Ref. -
- 271 Cueto
VN53769727 Alt 500m length 10m
Entrance is a 5 x 3m slot. Short length of passage to draught-
ing rift above.
Ref. -
- 272 Cueto
VN53789729 Alt 500m length 18m
Large (18m x 3m high) entrance is just the opening to a blind
cave containing lots of bull excreta. Water trickle enters
from shaft in the roof.
Ref. -
- 273 Cueto
VN53809730 Alt 500m length 120m
A strong draught blows from the 1m² entrance. A boulder heap
inside has an aven above which has been climbed to about
100m of crawling.
Ref. -
- 274 Cueto
VN53829731 Alt 500m length 10m
Strongly draughting bedding entrance with boulders. At the
back of the cave is an aven with a strong draught.
Ref. -
- 275 Riano/Secada ridge
VN51049872 Alt 539m
An undescended shaft of about 10m depth. Contains water for the
nearby farm.
- 276 Riano/Secada ridge
VN51039873 Alt 535m
A shaft of about 10m. Undescended as it is part of the water
supply to the neighbouring farm.
- 277 Riano/Secada ridge
VN51149882 Alt 530m depth 8m
A shaft amongst trees; choked at its base.
Ref. -
- 278 Torca de Balcabosa Riano/Secada Ridge
VN51179882 Alt 530m length 30m depth 66m
A fairly loose and nasty series of pitches. Grassy shakehole
enters a 10m pitch onto boulders in a rift. A climb up over
rocks leads to an 8m drop and a further 8m descent to boulders.
A chossy 35m pitch then lands on boulders and the pot chokes.
Ref. P_s

- 279 VN51239884 Alt 515m depth 8m Riano/Secada ridge
A shaft in trees which chokes.
Ref. -

280 Penny's Cave La Vega
VN50069594 Alt 183m length c.100m
Cave associated with small resurgence at side of the road in trees. Crawling leads to a small chamber and a duck. A calcite climb on the left bypasses this and leads to a deep pool which bends to the right and 'sumps'. There appears to be airspace on the other side.
Ref. -

281 VN58299449 Alt 564m depth 75m Muela/Ogarrio
Sloping rift descends for 20m to the head of a 60m pitch. Landing is on a boulder slope in a 10 x 10m passage which quickly chokes.
Ref. -

282* VN58319449 Alt 564m Muela/Ogarrio
Undescended shaft of about 10m depth

283* VN59379386 Alt 745m depth up to 30m Muela/Ogarrio
A series of daylight shafts. The deepest is about 100ft, with a draught.
Ref. -

284* VN56259343 Alt 135m length 10m + Ogarrio
Wet weather resurgence. Still going, but more suitable clothing needed.
Ref. -

285* VN56559323 Alt 140m Ogarrio
Phreatic tube at side of track.
Ref. -

286* VN56579321 Alt 125m Ogarrio
A resurgence at side of the river bed. A gloopy passage appears to head upstream towards the wet weather resurgence.

287* VN56559320 Alt 127m Ogarrio
The wet weather resurgence at the base of a cliff. There is a draughting hole that could be dug to the right hand side.

288 La Bodega Secadura
VN55409971 Alt 55m length 12m
A draughting hole with a door frame around the entrance. The passage quickly leads to a stream which becomes too wet and narrow upstream.
Ref. -

- 289 VN55519962 Alt 60m length 30m Secadura
A low entrance at the top of a field. A crawl leads to a wide chamber with one small side passage.
Ref. -
- 290 VN50089608 Alt 234m La Vega
Undescended shaft of about 5m depth.
- 291 VN55459953 Alt 99m length 15m Secadura
Interesting cold hole at the lower end of a blind valley above the main resurgence. A small rift in the floor is choked; a small chamber above this also appears to be choked.
Ref. -
- 292 VN55479951 Alt 101m length 20m Secadura
Further up the depression from 291 and 293. A short climb down leads to a flat out crawl entering a mud filled chamber with no exit.
Ref. -
- 293 VN55449952 Alt 101m length 15m depth 10m Secadura
Entrance on the side of the depression. A flat out crawl to a short pitch which drops into a narrow streamway. This chokes almost immediately.
Ref. -
- 294 Cueva de Palomar Llaveva
VN55939861 Alt 275m length 30m
Large entrance under limestone overhang. A slope down leads in into a 20m wide, 15m high chamber.
Ref. -
- 295 VN53469888 Alt 356m length 12m Secada
One hundred feet below the road in some trees. A crawl leads to a standing height chamber with two choked rifts.
Ref. -
- 296* VN58599428 Alt 615m length 50m Muela
A 4ft diameter entrance with 50m of passage leading to a 10ft high calcite choke. The highest phreatic remnant yet found.
Ref. -
- 297 VN55359691 Alt 485m length 70m Muela/Llaveva
The 20m wide by 2.5m high entrance is at the side of the track. A huge chamber is immediately entered with a short choked passage on the left and a low crawl over calcite at the back of the cave.
Ref. -
- 298 VN55009676 Alt 623m length 10m Muela/Llaveva
A short jungle bash up the cliff to a short, choked cave.
Ref. -

- 299 Muela/Llueva
VN55519670 Alt 570m length 20m depth 10m
A collapse chamber is marked by a tree. A climb down to a
choke at floor level.
Ref. -
- 300 Muela
VN55579654 Alt 599m depth 50m
Choked Shaft.
Ref. -
- 301 Muela
VN55569644 Alt 606m
Unimpressive shaft top in a flat area of clints/grass. The
first 50m have been descended; about 100m remain.
Ref. -
- 302 Muela
VN55599644 Alt 605m depth 20m length 10m
A 50ft pitch lands on a boulder slope with 30ft of passage
to a choke.
Ref. -
- 303 Muela
VN55809645 Alt 523m depth 20m
Choked shaft.
Ref. -
- 304 Muela
VN55509678 Alt 525m
An undescended hole with a 3ft diameter entrance. About 100ft
deep.
Ref. -
- 305 Muela
VN55079713 Alt 470m
An undescended shaft of about 50ft depth
- 306 Torca de la Llana del Cueto La Vega
VN51679512 Alt 370m length 20m depth 25m
A pitch into a large chamber with a smaller one off to
one side corresponding to a small shaft on the surface.
Ref. -
- 307 La Vega
VN ? Alt length 8m
Small, easily missed entrance leads to a 1.5m high chamber.
Floor area 'same as German's Bar' and is crazy paved.
Ref. -
- 308 La Vega
VN51759523 Alt 318m depth 15m length 10m
A squeeze and pitch down under a large boulder ends at a 4m
pitch to a gravel floor where the draught is lost.
Ref. -
- 309 La Vega
VN51639528 Alt 352m depth 5m
A 10m diameter pit, undercut all the way round at the base,
but with no outlet.
Ref. -

- 310 La Vega
VN51809527 Alt 283m depth 15m
Choked Shaft.
Ref. -
- 311 La Vega
VN51829525 Alt 288m depth 3m
A strongly draughting tight hole with the wind blowing up through boulders. Would make an awkward dig.
Ref. -
- 312 Cueva del Mazo La Vega
VN52249575 Alt 227m length 180m depth 15m
A small cave which carries a small stream through the limestone knoll at the bottom of La Vega. A tight rift intersects a low stream passage. The remainder of the stream passage is hands-and-knees or flat out crawling on a bed of black sandstone. The passage becomes too low although it could be tackled with a lumphammer. A couple of side passages on the right are fairly grotty with sloppy mud and dangling roots. Downstream the cave should connect with 368.
Ref. P_s
- 313 Llaveva
VN54739842 Alt 150m length 100m depth 25m
Wooded shakehole on the downstream side of the entrance to Cueva Llaveva. A recent collapse of an old dig that emits a howling gale. The short entrance crawl leads to a 1m diameter 5m deep pitch ending at a squeeze and a further 4m pitch. Another short descent enters a small stream passage ending far too tight, though emitting a strong draught.
Ref. -
- 314 Muela
VN55379662 Alt 627m depth 12m
A boulder covered shaft which chokes.
Ref. -
- 315 Muela
VN55389661 Alt 628m
Hole in ferns. Undescended shaft of about 60ft depth.
- 316 Muela
VN55249652 Alt 644m depth 15m
Choked shaft.
Ref. -
- 317 Muela
VN55189660 Alt 636m
Undescended shaft of about 300ft depth.
- 318 Muela
VN55699623 Alt 553m depth 20m
Choked shaft.
Ref. -
- 319 Muela
VN55769644 Alt 527m
Undescended shaft of about 200ft depth.

- 320 Muela
VN55779640 Alt 531
Undescended shaft with a loose entrance. About 300ft deep.
- 321 Muela
VN55359690 Alt 489m length 10m
Single choked chamber.
Ref. -
- 322 Muela
VN55909631 Alt 554m depth 10m
Choked shaft.
Ref. -
- 323 Muela
VN55919633 Alt 554m depth 10m
Choked shaft
Ref. -
- 324* Muela
VN55969617 (questionable) Alt 540m
A 60ft diameter pit with a ramp in one corner. Undescended
but looks promising.
- 325 Muela
VN55829624 Alt 588m length 5m x 2
Two small horizontal passages about 1.5m diameter.
Ref. -
- 326 La Vega
VN50489545 Alt 330m length 45m
Obvious entrance to a short series of passages.
Ref. -
- 327 La Vega
VN50559545 Alt 335m length 20m
Cave which contains a small drop. This may or may not have
been descended.
Ref. -
- 328 La Vega
VN50639547 Alt 350m length 50m
Entrance in a steep sided depression. Crawl to a small series
of chambers.
Ref. -
- 329 La Vega
VN50689548 Alt 350m length 15m
Small entrance to cave which contains rubbish and could have
been used during the Civil War.
Ref. -
- 330 La Vega
VN50349527 Alt 395m length 50m
5 entrances lead into a short remnant system.
Ref. -
- 331 La Vega
VN50369500 Alt 470m depth 23m
Impressive shaft top in the first shakehole to the northwest
of Azpilicueta. The 23m pitch is broken 5m down by a large

ledge. The shaft narrows to about 2m diameter and the couple of rifts leading off are far too tight.
Ref. -

332

La Vega

VN50379497 Alt 478m

Undescended bouldery hole into a bouldery chamber. About 20ft deep.

333

Torca de Azpilicueta

La Vega

VN50409498 Alt 475m length 332m (tr. l= 573m) depth 263m

A high altitude vadose system which is unique for the Matienzo depression. At -863ft it is also the deepest in our area. The massive chamber at the bottom has not been properly pushed down between the enormous blocks and a connection with Sanatogen Passage in Renada could well be proved.

The entrance shakehole contains a small tree and below, a short climb drops into a low and sloping rubble-floored chamber. At the base a 30ft climb down through loose blocks ends at a 15ft pitch into a 20ft high chamber containing three holes. Pitch 1 ladder hangs over one of these holes and the five ladders required for pitch 2 are belayed to it. Twenty feet down pitch 2 is a ledge with a short length of passage, one part of which rises up to the highest hole in the chamber above and another length goes for 40ft as a scramble to a choke. One hundred feet further down the ladder and a landing is made on a level floor of cobbles.

The only exit is a narrow slot in the floor requiring one ladder. A series of cascades in a high rift now start, with 2 inlets bringing in water from the left - both of these choke. The climbs down end at the lip of a 90ft pitch. This roomy shaft, lined with calcite, takes a steady dribble of water which make it fairly wet. The only outlet at the bottom slopes down into a complete passage change. - the high rift is left and a 4m high by 10m wide stream passage passes from right to left. Upstream splits up into a number of small passages, none of which have been pushed to any real conclusion. Downstream, the rubble-floored stream has cut a 3m deep trench between banks of mud and gravel but after 30m the floor ends abruptly at the head of a 50ft pitch. A traverse on mud over the head of the pitch ends at another drop, while up on the right a deep hole, lined with mud, accepts water from an inlet in the far wall.

Passage character changes back to high and narrow at the base of the 50ft pitch. A short section of tight, meandering steps are descended, ending at an awkward step down to a wet and windy head of the main pitch. The drop is tackled from either wall (on the left the ladder; the right, SRT) and either descent ensures a wetting. After 160ft both routes land on a roomy ledge which is peppered by falling debris. The drop continues immediately as a 50ft pit down to a large ledge containing a pool and then a 130ft wet pitch, the top 50ft of which hangs irritably close to the wall, funnelling water onto carbide jets. After passing a ledge the last 80ft is a superb but wet hang into blackness through the roof of a large chamber. What at first appears to be the floor is a jumble of house-sized blocks, the ladder landing in a calcited pit from which the water sinks and is not seen again. The most obvious gap in the boulders is a 40ft pitch into more closely packed chaos, followed by a further descent of 50ft from which the only way on is by burrowing amongst loose boulders. A

disappointing end to a deep pot which should not be regarded as fully explored.
Refs S_s Z also survey in this journal.

- 334 VN50079522 Alt 385m depth 5m La Vega
Choked shaft
Ref. -
- 335 VN50449514 Alt 445m length 5m La Vega
Slope down to a choke.
Ref. -
- 336 VN50429521 Alt 418m La Vega
Undescended pitch of about 40ft.
- 337 VN50339518 Alt 418m length 30m depth 8m La Vega
A walk-down shakehole to a shelter with shaft entering through hole in the wall. A 4m pit drops into a small chamber with 3 descending rifts about 1m wide which all choke.
Ref. -
- 338 VN50489513 Alt 455m La Vega
Hole in middle of grass. Undescended.
- 339 VN50539510 Alt 469m La Vega
A covered pit about 30ft deep. Undescended.
- 340 VN50439496 Alt 483m length 10m La Vega
Meandering passage in the bottom of a shakehole.
Ref. -
- 341 VN50569492 Alt 498m La Vega
Hole with a continuing slope. Not pushed.
- 342 VN51059511 Alt 445m depth 13m length 8m La Vega
A 13m pitch in a wide shaft. About 20ft of narrow passage at the base becomes too tight.
Ref. -
- 343 VN51149518 Alt 448m depth 25m+ La Vega
Clamber down into a small chamber with the pitch in floor belayed from the roof. This ends with 75ft ladder dangling 12ft off the floor. A narrow rift leads out.
Ref. -
- 344 VN51459495 Alt 475m depth 12m La Vega
A fenced shaft which is a pitch of 5m landing on boulders. These have been dug to yield a 6m pitch to a final choke.
Ref. -

- 345 Cueva del Zorro La Vega
VN51789528 Alt 320m Length 80m
Low, draughting entrance slopes down to a tight squeeze into a 5 x 5m, well decorated passage. The main route swings around to the right and chokes. To the left, a low crawl emits a draught; this has been dug to a 3" wide rift. Ref. Survey in this journal.
- 346 La Vega
VN51889477 Alt 480m
Descended only by a dog. About 10m deep. Two other possible sites to the north east.
- 347 La Vega
VN52749499 Alt 388m
Undescended pit of about 7m depth.
- 348 La Secada
VN52069815 Alt 275m length 10m
Three sites which are all small caves. The eastern one holds an undescended pitch of about 5m depth. Ref. -
- 349 La Secada
VN52489802 Alt 193m depth 10m
Small entrance to a well decorated chamber. Ref. -
- 350 La Secada
VN52549803 Alt 190m length 20m
Short cave with twin entrances. Ref. -
- 351 La Secada
VN52869823 Alt 175m depth up to 7m
A series of four shafts along a wooded depression. All choked. Ref. -
- 352 La Secada
VN52869828 Alt 192m
Undescended rift in the clints. About 20ft deep.
- 353 La Secada
VN52739855 Alt 305m
Undescended shaft with a possible draught. About 50ft deep.
- 354 Enaso
VN52129634 Alt 290m length 80m depth 26m
Small entrance to a slope leading into a chamber. Further inclines lead to a mud choke. Contains some good formations. Ref. Surveyed
- 355 Enaso
VN52059633 Alt 285m length 15m
A slope into a small chamber. Ref. -
- 356 Enaso
VN51319647 Alt 360m length 25m
A low entrance to slope with a larger passage on the left. Ref. -

- 357 VN50389633 Alt 310m length 10m Cubija
A 4m climb down to a small, muddy passage.
Ref. -
- 358 VN50479634 Alt 295m depth 8m Cubija
Small, choked pit.
Ref. -
- 359 VN50689630 Alt 255m length 10m Cubija
A 10m long rift which ends in a choke.
Ref. -
- 360 La Cuvia de la Vega Enaso
VN50539616 Alt 265m length 100m
Large entrance and chamber with a small passage on right.
A squeeze into a rift passage on the left which chokes.
Ref. Survey in this journal.
- 361 VN50079622 Alt 257m Enaso
Undescended 50ft pitch
- 362 VN49869589 Alt 275m Enaso
Undescended twin shafts of about 30ft depth.
- 363 VN49939576 Alt 180m length 25m + La Vega
A resurgence in wet weather. Ends in a low crawl with a
possible continuation.
Ref. -
- 364 VN49589568 Alt 300m length 40m La Vega
A small opening in a rock shelter leads to a cave with form-
ations.
Ref. -
- 365 VN49559565 Alt 290m length 10m La Vega
Obvious entrance but with very little passage.
Ref. -
- 366 Torca de JR • La Secada
VN51379773 Alt 235m Depth 20m
A tight, rough 50ft pitch to a tight rift at its base.
Ref. -
- 367 VN52109798 Alt 190m La Secada
Entrance above Volvo on the uphill side of the track. An
undescended 25ft pitch.
- 368 VN52379591 Alt 205m length c.40m La Vega
The resurgence for Cueva del Mazo. The passage is still going
but is tight.
Ref. -

369

La Vega

VN52349572 Alt 230m length 3m
The grovelly, choked sink for Cueva del Mazo.
Ref. -

370*

La Cuvia de Seldesuto

Seldesuto

VN49149533 Alt 275m length 200m
Probably associated with Toad in the Hole (No 258). Entrance is obviously placed when viewed from a distance, although actual location is less easy due to uphill jungle-bash. A walk down in a large passage leads to the roomy head of a 6m pitch on the left. The drop lands in a roomy, sandy-floored rift at the NE end of which is a 6m climb up the left hand wall. A rope is useful here on the return. A short gravel at the top ends at a 7m pitch into a calcite-floored passage which enlarges to its lowest point (20m wide). From here a branch to the left chokes after 50m while the main route rises to a roomy, boulder and mud-floored passage with holes. The cave finishes in solid rock and apparent holes high up on both sides have been checked out with a pole.
Ref. Survey in this volume.

371*

Seldesuto

VN48849452 Alt 435m length 25m
Entrance above a water trough. Low passage ends in a draughting crawl.
Ref. -

372*

Seldesuto

VN48809468 Alt 395m length 40m
Entrance, in a depression, is large and contains a small barn.
Ref. -

373

Cueva del Bosque

Seldesuto

VN49349619 Alt 407m length c.80m depth 30m
A stream sink in an obvious valley high up on the north side of La Vega. Best approached via Alisas. A climb down through entrance choss lands on boulders and an obvious short climb down enters a fine 2m wide by 5m high stream passage which ends at an 8m pitch. An easy traverse over the top leads to a choked chamber and a slope down which drops to the chamber at the base of the pitch. The outlet is a short crawl to a loose chamber stretching across the passage above, and a further short crawl at floor level meets a collapse. A devious crawl up and to the left, over boulders, enters a tall, dank chamber about 10m long. The far end carries a minute streamway which chokes, while a hole down through the boulders at the near end regains the crawl which chokes after about 50ft.
Ref.

374

Seldesuto

VN49259628 Alt 440m depth 10m
A 10m pitch to a diggable choke.
Ref. -

375

Ozana

VN53199508 Alt 318m depth 6m
Small shaft discovered by farmer who fell down it one night. A ledge at 4m after which it becomes very narrow.
Ref. -

- 376 Ozana
VN53159522 Alt 247m length 20m
Small cave next to water trough on left hand side of the road.
Ref. -
- 377* Ozana
VN53119426 (?) Alt 470m length 17m
A rift cave in a depression.
Ref. -
- 378 Ozana
VN53269421 Alt 462m
Undescended shaft in clints. About 60ft deep.
Ref. -
- 379 La Vega
VN52969425 Alt 445m
Undescended pit of about 70ft depth.
- 380 Cueto
Cave of the Beauties
VN53739721 Alt 500m length 50m
A slope leads down into a nicely decorated chamber.
Ref. -
- 381 Cueto
Cueva de Entrambascuetos
VN53599681 Alt 510m length 172m depth 10m
7m entrance pitch lands in a walk down to a rift and then crawl into a large passage.
Ref. Survey in this journal. "
- 382 Cueto
Sima de Entrambascuetos
VN53609680 Alt 508m length 25m depth 8m
A shaft drops into 25m of rift passage, ending at a choke.
Ref. -
- 383 Riano
Fuente de Escobar
VP c.511004 Alt 160m length 60m
Cave entrance in trees below the road, entered 5m above the trough at the rising. A squeeze enters a situp chamber and then a tight tube pops into the roof of a 3m high chamber where the stream is met. Both upstream and downstream become too low. Roof passage continues as a crawl until the water is met again emerging from a gour-pooled slot. A small chamber on the other side has the water and draught issuing from another slit over a gour pool - this time, too tight.
Ref. -
- 384 La Vega
VN50439571 Alt 176m length 8m
Next to Renada lower entrance. Small excavated entrance to a stand up chamber with formations and tree roots. Fifty metres to the west is another similar grot with bones.
Ref. -
- 385* Seldesuto
G.R. uncertain Alt c.600m
About 30m back from the end of the new logging track that rises to the southwest of Seldesuto. An undescended shaft of about 40ft depth. Other holes in the karst below the track also need looking at.

386

La Vega

VN50299514 Alt 428m depth 15m
 Surface crack which drops to 15m depth and widens to 2m.
 A small passage on the right is too tight but a further drop
 lies beyond and this could yield with a lump hammer.
 Ref. -

387

Enaso

VN52169668 Alt 305m length 30m
 The entrance, difficult to find, is in a bed of sandy limestone.
 Ten metres of stoops leads to 4m of tight, flat-out crawling
 into the top of a 7m high chamber, about 15m in diameter.
 Climb down into the base reveals a bouldery left hand wall.
 Other slopes up have no passage at the top: the good draught
 is inexplicably lost.
 Ref -

388

La Vega

VN50359535 Alt 357m length 250m depth 87m
 Entrance pitch of 14m is followed by an up-and-down climb
 of 2m in a rift to a 6m pitch, landing at the top of a
 slippery, 5m wide, calcite slope. This ends after 30m at the
 head of a narrow 7m pitch, at the bottom of which is a circular
 chamber with a high aven above. Some jaw bones are calcited
 to the floor at this point with the exit at the far end being
 another narrow squeeze onto a 4m pitch which drops into a pool.
 A 30m shaft follows and finally one of 15m which narrows down
 in calcite. From the aven chamber a draughting, sandy-floored
 passage, 150m long, ends at an 8m pitch into a low, wide
 chamber which chokes in all directions. The draught appears
 to come from a small aven and various tubes in the roof.
 Ref. Z also Survey in this journal.

389

La Vega

VN50439539 Alt 354m length 30m
 An old cave remnant with three entrances. Passage on the right
 of the main entrance ends at a narrow squeeze in rotting
 calcite.
 Ref. -

390

La Vega

VN50529542 Alt 357m depth 5m
 An open rift choked at the bottom.
 Ref. -

391

La Vega

VN50559543 Alt 352m length 10m
 Short cave with a small phreas at the back containing a mis-
 leading echo.
 Ref. -

392

La Vega

VN50699544 Alt 363m
 An undescended shaft of about 50m depth in bare limestone.
 Beechtree over the shaft.

393

La Vega

VN50689543 Alt 365m
 Undescended shaft in the middle of pillar karst. Clean,
 fluted shaft just next to a tree-filled hollow. About 40ft
 deep.

- 394 Cueva Collada La Gatuna
VN49959920 Alt 183m length 248m+ depth 24m+
The entrance is in the most south easterly depression at the head of the Gatuna bowl. Stooping, vadose stream passage passes a small chamber on the left and degenerates into a flatout crawl to a squeeze through a revolting mud-floored hole. Immediately is the tight take-off for pitch one. This has been bolted but the bolt site is probably under a thick layer of mud. The drop is of 8m and the only exit is a meandering rift that leads to the tight head of the second pitch after 50ft. At the bottom, the vadose continuation is about 100ft long with some awkward contortions in a meandering rift - it still continues with excellent potential as the nearest surface water would seem to be over a kilometre away. What draws the attention immediately at the base of the second pitch is a superb tunnel, about 7m high and 2 wide heading into the hill. This eventually splits up into numerous passages, all of which soon choke. The main route enters a 7m high boulder-floored chamber where a continuation on the opposite wall ends at a draughting boulder choke with no immediate prospects. Ref. Survey in this volume.
- 395 La Gatuna
VN49779941 Alt 143 Length 5m
Flat out crawl under limestone outcrop enters a small chamber with a slight draught coming from between boulders. Ref. -
- 396 Cueva Graciento La Vega
VN51069546 Alt 337m length c.20m
The entrance is in a line of clints opposite Dofrades. A slope down to an old chamber with lots of dripping stal. Burrowing about leads to a second small chamber with a passage on the left left ending at an undescended 15ft dribbling shaft. Ref. -
- 397 La Vega
VN51109534 Alt 388m depth 15m length 20m
Straight 15m shaft into a 12m high and 5m wide rift that chokes in both directions. Immediately below the ladder at the far side of the passage, through a small hole in false floor, a chamber can be seen - only a little effort is needed with a lumphammer. A few feet up the slope a second shaft of 8m can descended with a further pitch of 8m, undescended, needing a bar + lump hammer to open. At the base of the second pitch a rift can be followed for 5m under calcite grills to where it becomes too tight. A large chamber can be seen in front - the required dig again appears straightforward. Ref. -
- 398 La Vega
VN51089522 Alt 420m length 10m
Twin entrances unite in a short, bouldery grovel. Ref. -
- 399 Gatuna/Riano ridge
VN50329957 Alt 313m
At the side of the road, a shaft covered with eucalyptus logs. Undescended pitch of about 20ft depth.

- 400 Gatuna/Riano ridge
 VN50749921 Alt 362m depth 20m
 Large, open pot surrounded by a wall and barbed wire. Alternate limestone and sandstone beds on the straight descent to a sandy choked floor.
 Ref. -
- 401 Gatuna
 VN50309910 Alt 300m depth 18m
 Entrance just up from the track. A large, open shaft which is choked with sandy and organic debris.
 Ref. -
- 402 Gatuna
 VN50059958 Alt 222m depth 26m
 Short jungle-bash to vegetated depression with a small hole. The loose entrance funnels down to a nice drop through alternate sandstone and limestone beds. At the base is a 5m high chamber with the odd formation but no outlet.
 Ref. -
- 403 Cubija
 VN50129725 Alt 325m length 3m
 A draughting dig in a collapse area.
- 404 La Vega
 VN51529504 Alt 428m depth 6m
 A small fissure with a trickle of water heard through the too tight outlet.
 Ref. -
- 405 La Vega
 VN51509503 Alt 438m depth 5m
 A fenced, fluted shaft to very low inlet and outlet beddings.
 Ref. -
- 406 La Vega
 VN51479499 Alt 460m depth 5m
 A fenced shaft choked at the base. Near the top, a squeeze enters a chamber with a calcited skeleton.
 Ref. -
- 407 La Vega
 VN51399497 Alt 477m depth 5m
 Twin entrances unite in a network of boulder-filled fissures that close in.
 Ref. -
- 408 La Vega
 VN51379500 Alt 465m length 50m+ depth 30m
 Twin entrances lead to the head of a 40ft pitch which lands in a fine chamber with calcite coated walls. Up to the left is a greasy flowstone slope into a chamber with a descending crawl which has been pursued for some 30ft. To the right from the ladder a calcite choke is met. Immediately below the ladder a further 25ft pitch lands in a chamber which connects with a passage below the chamber reached via the greasy slope. A calcite ramp at the pot bottom closes off while, under the ladder, a trickle of water enters a low bedding with a boulder fill.
 Ref. -

- 409 Muela
VN55639553 Alt 678m depth 110m
A 100m shaft drops from a 20 x 50m tree-filled depression.
The width of the shaft varies between 3 and 10m with the
landing on a sloping boulder pile. Downhill leads to a tight
10ft climb down to a mud and boulder floor with no way on.
Ref. -
- 410 La Vega
VN51389504 Alt 452m depth 10m
A 1 x 4m entrance gives access to a 1m diameter shaft with
no way on at the bottom.
Ref. -
- 411 La Vega
VN51429503 Alt 450m depth 10m
Straight shaft to a boulder floor.
Ref. -
- 412 La Vega
VN51459507 Alt 434m
Undescended shaft in the middle of a field. About 40ft deep.
- 413 Torca de la Mega Mujer (Mega Moll Shaft) La Vega
VN51909531 Alt 285m length c. 150m depth 77m
Entrance is small and easily missed. An 85ft pitch drops to
a parallel shaft, 10ft offset, and another drop of 85ft.
An excavated crawl at the base enters a major level with
numerous bouldery shafts. Three of these are undescended.
The main tunnel is at the same altitude as the main one in
Coteron.
Ref. Survey in this volume
- 414 La Secada
VN51319755 Alt 274m length 20m depth 15m
Entrance on the upside of the depression. A tight squeeze leads
to the top of a 30ft pitch. A ten foot hole in the floor enters
an adjacent shaft via a squeeze in debris. At the base of
the second shaft, a tight passage meets a boulder choke which
can be passed on the right where the draught issues from a
small hole and through the choked floor.
Ref. -
- 415 La Secada
VN51309773 Alt 265m length 50m depth 10m
A small entrance leads to a vertical squeeze which opens out
into a large passage, 3m wide by 4m high, ending after 20m at
a 10 wide x 8 high by 20m long chamber. This contains a large,
loose boulder choke. A 4m pitch on the left enters a tight
passage while a small passage on the left, near the entrance,
leads to an aven. The entrance draughts very strongly.
Ref. -
- 416* Muela
VN55989553 Alt 602m
Undescended shaft, about 12m deep.
- 417* Muela
VN56119552 Alt 562m
Undescended shaft, about 8m deep.

- 418* Muela
VN56149555 Alt 571m
Entrance to this undescended pot of about 25m depth is on an open limestone exposure.
- 419* Muela
VN56139557 Alt 571m
Undescended shaft of about 17m. Entrance in a depression.
- 420* Muela
VN56159558 Alt 571m
Entrance on open limestone exposure. About 60ft deep. Undescended.
- 421* Entrambascuevas I San Miguel
VN58279872 Alt 210m length 70m
Prehistoric deposits in the entrance. A single passage ends in a mud and calcite choke.
Ref. -
- 422 Entrambascuevas II San Miguel
VN58219864 Alt 228m length 100m
An entrance slope leads to a large passage and some good formations.
Ref. -
- 423* La Vega
VN50109600 Alt 208m length 140m
The main passage is about 100m long with a short side passage and chamber to the left. The cave contains prehistoric remains.
Ref. -
- 424 La Vega
VN51289442 Alt 546m length 25m
Steep, 10m long slope to 2 drops into a 5m high, 5m wide and 10m long chamber. At the far end, a steep collapse leads to a choke 8m up. A passage on the right has been closed off with blocks and has a draught coming through.
Ref. -
- 425 La Vega
VN51299441 Alt 546m length 5m
Very low tube over mud with no draught.
Ref. -
- 426 La Vega
VN ? Alt length 5m
Rock shelter with small fissure passage that becomes too tight.
Ref. -
- 427 Torca de Lastrilla
Survey in this volume; see also the exploration account.
- 428 et seq Easter 1983 Grid References not yet available.

Compiled by Juan Corrin and Pete Smith.

Amendments to the list of caves published in BCRA Transactions Vol 8.2, June 1981. All caves are on the updated area map in this journal, apart from those marked with *. The key to the references is at end of catalogue. All lengths are plan lengths unless indicated otherwise.

- 25 Sima-Cueva del Risco Ozana
VN53309604 Alt 196m Length now 8250m incl. Onite & Tiva
The Dambuster series is reached by climbing across the top of avens on the south side of the passage before the Tonto Series. Large parallel passages with deep holes end at sandstone breakdown.
Ref. - A_s B_s C_s T_s
- 33 Cueva del Abono La Vega
VN50879484 Alt 497m (Amended grid ref. & altitude)
- 35 Cueva del Arenal Seldesuto
VN49309513 Alt 220m length c.200m (Amended GR & Alt.)
Pushing along the low draughting passage on the left of the entrance water leads through low crawls to a draught between boulders with good prospects.
Ref. A C T
- 36 Torca de la Cabana La Vega
VN50499518 Alt 433m length c.1.25km depth c.160m
(Amended GR, Alt., length)
Pot also called Torca de la Vera Negra; No 153 in Trans has been changed.
During 1982 an extensive push down shafts and odd corners, mainly in the West Wanders failed to connect with Renada. In the eastern arm, 50m N of the final entrance pitch, small crawls and narrow traverses lead to a point where the water collected pours down a large pitch. This excellent free-hanger is followed at once by a 50ft pitch. The stream disappears down a tiny hole but by carrying on over the top through a muddy passage, another short pitch is reached which chokes at the base. Other leads remain to be pushed.
Ref. B_s T_s Z
- 37 Sima de la Cabritilla La Vega
VN50929525 Alt 385m (Amended GR & Alt.)
Enough new passage has been discovered to survey. Also a draughting dig.
Ref. A_s T
- 38 Cueva de Calleja Rebollo Seldesuto
VN49029518 Alt 250m (Amended GR)
- 40 Cueva del Comediante La Vega
VN50799575 Alt 170m length 300m
The sump has been dived in a large descending passage and is still going.
Ref. A_s B_s T_s Z
- 42 Cueva de Dofrades La Vega
VN50859551 Alt 315m (Amended GR & Alt.)
Ref. H_s Z

44 Simas de Hoyo de las Puchas Seldesuto
 VN45979512 Alt 350m (Amended GR & Alt.)
 More covered pits could exist around this depression.
 Ref. T

45 Cueva del Humo Seldesuto
 VN49129531 Alt 265m (Amended GR & Alt.)
 Ref. T

46 Sima de Reguilon Seldesuto
 VN48389477 Alt 400m (Amended GR & Alt.)
 Ref. A_s T

48 Cueva-Cubio de la Renada La Vega
 VN50459577 Alt 180m Length incl in Coteron (No 264)
 During 81 and 82 increased activity in the La Vega arm of the depression resulted in the discovery of Torca de Coteron and the linking of this with Renada to form the South Vega System. Extensions in Coteron during Easter 1983 give to the SVS a traverse length of 14.43km. It is convenient at present to keep separate descriptions of Renada and Coteron: the Coteron-Renada link is via a 220ft pitch at the end of Between Worlds Passage; the Renada-Coteron link was forged through Bootlace Passage, now described.
Bootlace Passage is entered via a 15ft pitch and starts as a high rift passage on the left of the main route between Ghost Lake and Mega Hall. A climb through boulders enters a large chamber with bouldery climbs of 200ft vertical which are still 'going'. The rift passage ends at a 17m pitch into 2 Sumps Chamber with water rising in the west and sinking in the east. Opposite the pitch head is a black hole and this is the route to Coteron. A tricky traverse on the right ends at a bolt where a ladder can be dropped down onto boulders. The route is then straightforward in typical breakdown style with the odd short side passage. Two hundred and fifty metres from the traverse a dangerous dig enters a more complex area. To the right, chossy passages and chambers close in under 1000ft of limestone; to the left, dusty passage heads north to a junction, then east to a narrow passage rising up to join the Candy Floss Series in Coteron. By continuing north at the junction, an incompletely explored maze and more dry passages lead to a chamber with an undescended pitch and a one bolt climb to the continuation of the high level passages.
Sanatogen Passage Much speculation and effort has gone into finding passage to fill the gap between Stuffed Monk Passage and Renada II. A start was made with Azpilicueta but the cave did not go deep enough to meet the beds on which the levels of Renada are developed. Sanatogen Passage heads south from Stuffed Monk Passage and almost connects with Azpilicueta. It could continue in any direction with a push. Entry to the series is made under the eastern wall of the small passage leading leading to the most westerly avens in this area. About 200m of incompletely explored passage end at a 10m pitch into a large cross joint with a climb up on the opposite wall and down into a large chamber with draught pouring in through the southern wall. A dig at the end is well worth pursuing.
 Ref. For Renada: A_s B_s C_s P_s R_s S_s T_s X_s Z

For Bootlace & Sanatogen: Z

50 Torca del Serruco La Vega
 VN50609491 Alt 495 (Amended GR & Alt)
 Ref. F T

- 53 Sima de la Roca La Vega
VN 52089498 Alt 467m (Amended GR & Alt.)
- 54 Cueva del Prado La Vega
VN51689459 Alt 479m (Amended GR & Alt.)
Ref. T
- 60 Torca de Arnilla Enaso
VN50039616 Alt 243m (Amended GR & Alt.)
Ref. C T
- 67 Torcan de Cubija Enaso
VN50309678 Alt 260m length 400m
Refs. C_s E_s P_s T
- 73 Cueva del Patatal Enaso
VN51659625 Alt 225m length now c. 120m
Two small side chambers and a second entrance were discovered in 1981.
Ref. A C_s P_s T
- 75 Simas del Picon Enaso
VN50129686 Alt 300m length 450m depth 60m
Refs. E_s P_s T
- 76 Cueva del Porton Enaso
VN50639648 Alt 236m (Amended GR & Alt.)
Ref. A T
- 86 La Cuvia La Secada
VN53229800 Alt 285 length 200m (Amended Alt.)
Ref. C_s T
- 87 Cueva de los Emboscados La Secada
VN52509805 Alt 220m length now c. 185m
Choke at end dug through to flat out crawl under roof choke.
Ref. A_s C_s H P T
- 94 Cueva del Triangulo La Secada
VNC.532967 Alt c. 450m length 5m
Also called Cueva de las Bardalones.
Ref. A T
- 104 Cueva de Fuente las Varas Fuente las Varas
VN53009925 Alt 440m length 200m depth 30m
The downstream dig has been pushed for another 5ft. It has a good draught and is still a possibility.
Ref. F_s H T
- 107 Cueva de la Uzueka Riano
VP51950002 Alt 175m length 12800m depth c. 40m
On the right of Rocky Horror, just after the 'Inlet', steep climbs lead to black holes into a large passage. A surface connection is also suspected.
Ref. B_s C_s D_s F H_s P_s T_s
- 110 Cueva de Cobrantes San Miguel
VN57239662 Alt 155m length 472m
Climbing, bolting and conventional scaling techniques have

been tried on the end wall. All ways have failed due to thick alternating layers of mud and rotten calcite.
 Ref. A F_s H P T

- 114 Cueva Llueva Llueva
 VN54689839 Alt 147m length 2800m + depth 44m
 Divers have extended the bouldery mess beyond the upstream sump. Smoke tests and draughts indicate that an entered passage may well join with Carcaveuso. More exploration is needed in this most confusing area. Llueva and Uzueka appear to be about 70m apart.
 Opposite the bottom of the entrance pitch ladder, a climb up enters a passage similar in nature to the entrance grovel. After 50ft a tight rift drops into a 2ft high bedding. Slim-line cavers are needed for this manoeuvre.
 Ref. D_s F H_s P_s T
- 124 Surgencia de las Crecidas Secadura
 VN55589965 Alt 50m length 150m (Amended GR & Alt.)
 Ref. Kendal Caving Club Journal 9 pp19,20.(1977) T
- 177 La Cueva La Vega
 VN51599551 Alt 250m Length 441m depth 84m (extended)
 A squeeze at the end of the entrance chamber enters a well decorated room with a nice gour floor. A climb of 4m up flow-stone leads to a large chamber with a loose hole in the centre. By scrambling around a large passage is entered. To the NE, a large, well decorated passage passes a blind 10m pitch and ends after 120m very close to the surface. To the SW, a decorated passage becomes smaller until a squeeze onto the head of a greasy, sloping 50mm pitch. This is broken by ledges, ends on boulders which slopes down to a dismal sump at valley level.
 Refs. P_s W1
- 178 Cueva del Haya La Vega
 VN51699553 Alt 240m length 40m (Amended GR)
 Ref. T
- 179 La Vega
 VN51839521 Alt 315 (Amended GR & Alt.)
 Ref. T
- 239 Peter Plummet San Miguel
 VN57989650 Alt 60m length 100m depth 35m+
 Cave has been redived. Descend a boulder slope into a rift and then a sideways swim down into a halfmoon passage descending at 30°. At -35m a lip is met and the passage plummets. A ledge can be seen about 10m down.
 Ref.
- 242 Cueva de Tablons Ozana
 VN52629519 Alt 307 length c.30m (Amended GR & Alt.)
- 243 Cubio de Cubija (also called El Cubio) Cubija
 VN50189701 Alt 268m length 50m depth 15m
 The draughting tight passage has been pushed to a 4m pitch into a chamber with no exit.
 Ref. T P_s
- 249 & 250 were found to be caves already catalogued and the numbers have been re-assigned.

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56	Salamander Pot	116	Torca de Yusa
57	Torca del Omoplato	117	Los Boyonnes
58	Cueva de ABI	118	Cueva de Churro
59	Cueva del Agua	119	Cueva del Otero
60	Torca de Arnilla	120	Cueva del Sifon Claro

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122	Cueva de Solviejo	194	Horses Head Cave
123	Torca del Rayo de Sol	195	Dig
124	Surgencia de las Crecidas	196	Unnamed shaft
125	Unnamed cave	197	Unnamed shaft
126	Cueva de Fresnedo	198	Digs
127	Cubio de la Gatuna	199	Unnamed shaft
128	Torca de la Espina	200	Dig
129	Torca de Muela	201	Unnamed cave
130	Unexplored shaft	202	Unexplored shaft
131	Unexplored shaft	203	Unnamed shaft
132	Unexplored cave	204	Unexplored shaft
133	Unexplored shaft	205	Unnamed shaft
134	Unexplored shaft	206	Unnamed shaft
135	Unnamed shaft	207	Fuente de la Cuvia
136	Torca de Coteron de las Llanas	208 - 210	Unnamed shafts
137	Cueva de Coreano	211	Unnamed cave
138	Cueva de Coberruyo	212	Unnamed shaft
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151	Cueva de Anio	219	Unnamed cave
152	Unexplored shaft	220	Unexplored cave
153	Tree Root Cave	221	Unexplored cave
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155	Cueva de Lara-Lennon	223 - 224	Unexplored shafts
156	Cueva Nonimportante	225	Unexplored shafts
157	Unexplored shaft	226 - 228	Unnamed shafts
158	Unexplored shaft	229	Unnamed shaft
159	Unnamed shafts (3)	230	Unnamed shaft
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163	Cueva de las Tejas	234	Cueva de Sierra Salces
164	Dig	235	Unnamed cave
165	Unexplored shaft	236	Cueva del Mortiro
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| 340 | Unnamed cave | | |
| 341 | Unexplored cave | | |

The next 150.....

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The best overall account of Matienzo's caves is to be found in T, the Transactions. Available (as with all Trans. & Caves and Caving from B.Ellis, 30 Main Rd, Westonzoyland, Bridgwater, Somerset. The South Vega System survey (Z) is available from Juan Corrin, 55 Osborne Terrace, Bacup, Lancs. (0706 874669). Price about 50p depending on whether posted, folded, rolled etc.

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