

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT

LOGBOOK

Year: 1997
Season: Easter

Logbook pages scanned to jpg then combined into a pdf file using <http://smallpdf.com/>

Juan Corrin, January 2015

EASTER '97

(1)

23/3/97 Jane, Penny & Jennifer to Cuatribú.
Eventually found it in the place where Nigel suggested it really was, 2 years ago.
(Needs GPSing for accurate entrance position).
Took a couple of photos and found nothing while metal detecting.

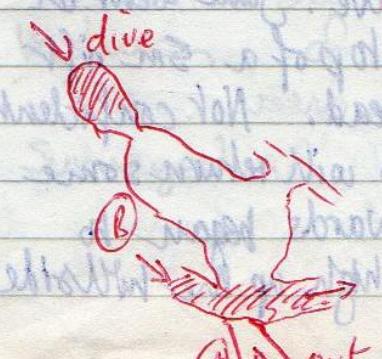
25/3/97

Toby, Jane, Ramon, Olga & Juan to Hoyaca.
Dropped pitch at end of 'Wandering Passage'. Slipping climbs led to open chamber with a survey station in it from 01/05/86. (No 15).
Juan remembers having been here before.

26/3/97

Toby, Jane, Ramon, Olga.
Walking on Enoso. Found nothing new. Got sunburnt.

27/3/97. Hypet, Pete O'Neill, Pete Sill, Steve M, Andy Q, Juan into Molino with bottles! Water very low. Pete O'Neill climbed up to holes at (B) ending at a dig with no draught. Passage at (A) which dropped down to a muddy swamp at Xamas was wide open and dry for ^{an extra} 2m to a mud slope and pool, still going.



① 28/3/97 John Palmer, Jane, Ramon, Olga - rigging Azpilicueta.

Pleasant trip from Azpilicueta out of Renada. Parked at TV mast - walk to Azpilicueta about 20 min easy going. Someone (Paco from Santander, possibly) has put in ring & twist hangers on the pitches for a pull through, so very few expedition hangers were used. Went as far as the Rubadub Dubs. The wagon rope on the Giga Hall traverse could do with replacing with Bliewater. Came out of Renada, trip took about 5½ hrs.

29 30/3/97

Germ, Toby, Jane - Lluera. (1223-1228)

Walked up to look for a hole Toby & Jane had seen at Easter a few years ago. Didn't find it but located 3 shafts (not descended) of about 10m each. Also a rock shelter which was small & dry with no way on (1225) and a cave (12236) with a lens shaped chamber with a cobbly floor. At the back of the chamber was a rift about 8m long but too high in the floor. One or two dagger heterites on the wall of the rift.

if too high

(yes this is a survey sketch
not wishful thinking!)

Higher up the hill in a more obvious shakehole with a hazel tree was a rift cave. Jane went in through a calcite squeeze to the top of a 5m rift which seemed to be getting larger ahead. Not confident enough to feel climb down this, so will return some time with a rope. A draught outwards began to blow as exiting the cave (as it is high up the hillside).

(3)
This might not be a good sign. Lovely day - easy going walk & probably lots more potential on this hillside.

28/3/97 - TOBY, ROY, BIG STEVE, PETE O', LO

TORCA XL

Went to open up tight pitch head from last year using tilt caps.

Loads of misfires, bent bars, cock ups & occasional impressive destruction. Left it requiring that ever elusive 'last bang' to get both. Toby got two of them down to red.

Noticed tight draughting (inwards) passage above.

Hilli vft. up 4 m climb. Inserted Pete O' into

& passage & he was soon stopped at stal choke

29

30/3/97. Pete O', LO. Torca XL.

That elusive last bang did it. Far got off there to where Toby + Pete were yesterday. Further ft of 40' dropped to --- choke. Dug it til it was too dangerous to continue. Easy digging of wet cobbles + gravel - draught

in

On way out went up to stal blockage in tight passage above hilli vft. Bashed thru' 2 stal barriers - stopped at 3rd. Worth a revisit due to good draught but flat out bashing of stal difficult.

Climbed into various holes on way out - now Surveyed

31/3/97 - High St. L - La Secada.

Wander around 415 area, three new sites located:

1229 - in side valley above & right of 1017/1018. Fist sized hole enlarged to see into descending r/r with floor, approx length 10m, no draught.

1230 - hole in side of vegetated depression, below and E of 1229. short choked cave, length 5m. No draught.

1231 - hole in field above barn and 20m below road. Grassy hole to r/r, stones fall down 5-10m. Might be worth de-netting for closer look.

Also may have relocated site 1100 - a less than man-size hole just above road, can look down sloping earth floor, slight outward draught

1/4/97 MOLINO

C° - Dalek - Pupor : - High.

Bottling in the terminal song chamber finished bottling the solution tube started by Dalek a couple of days ago (blind) \approx 10m

Botted obvious big hole in ceiling. Traversed out \leftarrow up from ~~other~~ ledge reached by Pete on 27/3/97 (B).

9 spots reached draughting out boulder choke - desir. look reasonable to dig. Sharene helped carry out big bottles for mildly famous cave diver.

Crawl on right coming out pushed to descending bedding plane & having r/r onto (desire) to pop out in side of large passage. NR followed as boulders needed to descend into passage. H.R.

1/4/97 Rushed up hill above Volvo behind Pablo as Pied Pigeon and 6 bid Cueva de German is a cow shed with a draughting dig. Will return. Ivan + Pete.

(1232)

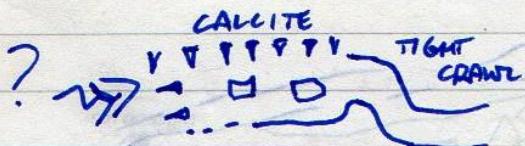
1.4.97 Phil Papard, Jane C.

(5)

Went back to holes above Urua valley. First three shafts drop down about 15 to 20 foot's choice. The more promising entrance higher up the valley (1228) was a rift about 30' long & 50' deep which nipped in & closed down.

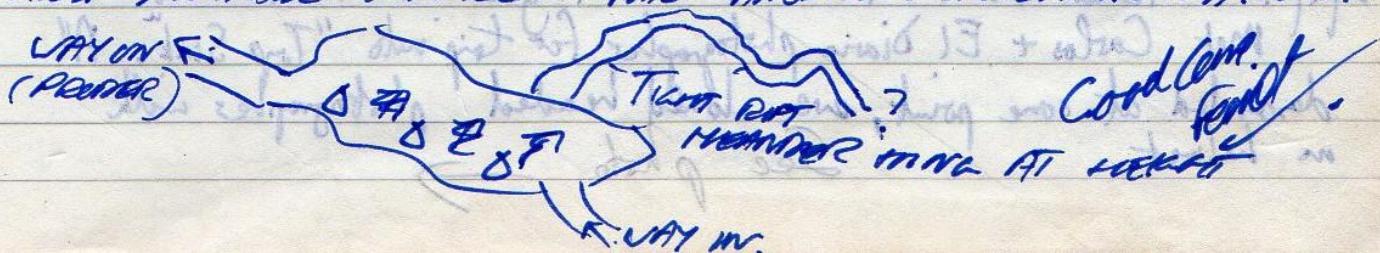
1
2/4/97 Paul, Pete, Liz + Lark.

WALKED UP TOAD VALLEY & EXAMINED SEVERAL SMALL SITES IN LHS WHICH ALL APPEAR TO BE FLOOR SURFACES FOR ARENAL?? ONE OR TWO STRAIGHT BUT NONE PUSHABLE WITHOUT CHEMICALS. VISITED 763 & DESCENDED 7M PIT - ALL PASSAGES AT LOWER LEVEL APPEAR TO CLOSE WITH SAND/TWO OR ARE TOO SMALL. DIG BEYOND PIT SW V.DRAUGHTY & AFTER A BIT OF WORK TWO PENDENTS BLOW WAY ON TO OBVIOUS CONTINUATION - BANG OR OTHER MEANS NEEDED FOR PROGRESS (HILTI CAPS ??) NOT MUCH TWO'



2/4/97 Lark, Toby, Jane, Petet,

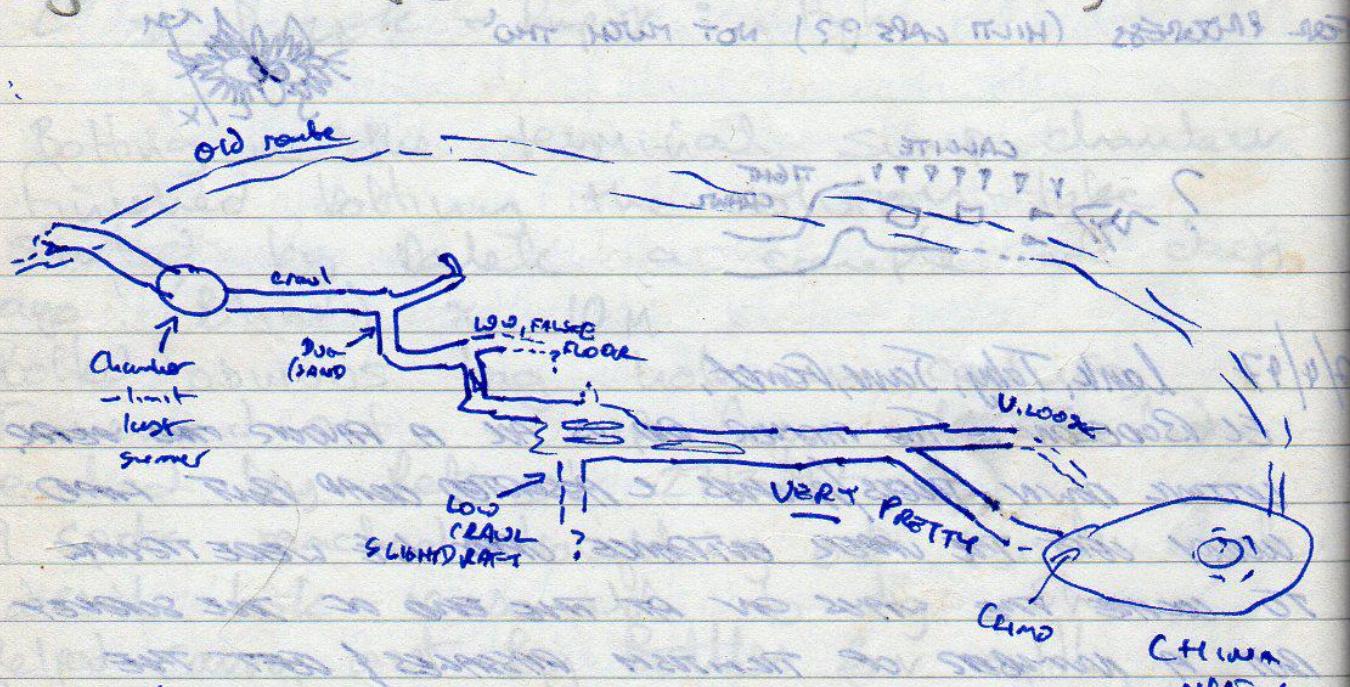
EL BODEON :- THE FARMER DID US ALL A FAVOUR THIS YEAR, CUTTING DOWN TREES/BRANCHES & ASSOCIATED CHAP BUT HAD UNLUCKY LEFT THE OTHER ENTRANCE OPEN. WE WERE TRYING TO CLEAR THE WAYS ON AT THE END OF THE SURVEY BUT A NUMBER OF THEMISH PASSAGES & LEFT THE 'LARK' PERSON WHO HAD BEEN THERE BEFORE THE WIDENING OF THINNS. TOBY & PETET ARRANGED FOR PLES BUT DUE TO LACK OF SURVEY/BRANCHES NOT PUSHED TO PUSH. 'FIRST MISTAKE' CHAMBER HAS ANOTHER. WIDEN IT WAY ON.



2/4/97 - Peñada 3.
Ali, Dalek, L.

Went to look at the chamber at the end, found last summer. Surveyed easier route into the final chamber. Nice stal.

Aven in chamber looks a serious bottleneck. Route one for the future. Chalked up stal also opposite end of 2nd chamber attempted. Gained ~ 12 m. cut so it looks like it needs a bolt or 3 to get past transverse then a short climb to recover main passage over whatever left rigged within. Big blossoms rope well worth finishing ASAP.

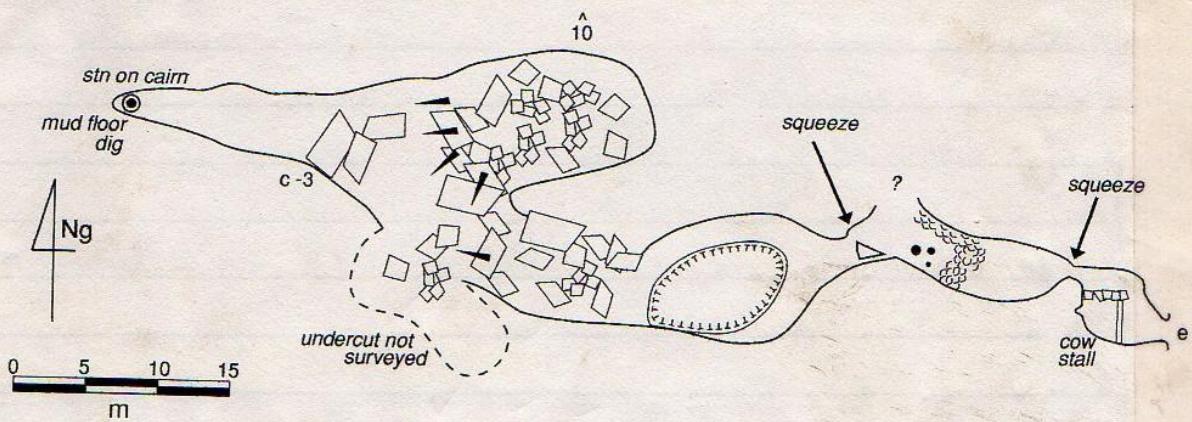


Evidence of water backing up c 10 m at upstream end of dead end Pools & Lake in Peñada III

2/4/97 Peña Torao. PP JC Pete Hugh Pete Liz Paul St. Met Carlos + El Diario photographer for trip into "Top Sink". All descended at some point, even bald headed photographer with no helmet. See photo →

3/4/97 · Cueva de German (1232)

After the burning hillside episode, Pete and Ivan returned to Cueva de German with Carle and Pete Gagnon. Dig took just over an hour and then into new, big passage! Nicely decorated rooms to start with. A crawl at the rear enters a chamber with a pit in the floor. A wall round to the right enters a bouldery area. Walking under and over the blocks leads to a chamber where a large alcove up to the right is full of boulders and the passage appears to choke at a possible dig. Other areas of interest shown below. Draught is soon lost in a cave. Pottery found next to dig.



Site 1232: Cueva de German

La Secada VN52029801 Alt: 223m

~~Surveyed 1975 to CRG 4b, 1988 to PCPA 5c; others details from ref. AZ~~

PLAN

Length: 109m

Drawn by JC

Sat - 29 March - Phil, Hugh, Dalek and Pete S.

1st - Went to Phil's Dig (Bar View) ¹²³³ and got past the obstruction, but it didn't go. All returned to bar, except Dalek who carried on up the hill.

2nd - Phil, Hugh and Dalek went to Codisera shaft entrance while Pete went through cave to blow the whistle. At last, this entrance and its connection with the cave has been surveyed.

3rd - Dalek and Pete surveyed Cueva del Pino. It heads west, and so is probably not related with Codisera.

Sun 30 March: Juan, Andy, Bobby, Penny, Julie and Julie, Pete S.

All went to Entrambasaguas to see the Mayor and ask if he knew of caves or shafts above Fuente Aguanaz. He wasn't very knowledgeable, but we were taken to see a man who might know. This man promptly took us to Toca de Fuentecil - really called Sima El Hondo. So it wasn't a very useful exercise, but the man did point out a shaft further up the hill, and mentioned two others on the other side - Toca del Avellano and Toca del Hombre. ← 3115
So the area needs returning to.

Mon 31 March: Juan, Bobby, Pete S.

Motino surveying side passages. 1 - Passage to downstream sump from near end chamber 2 - passage leading back to perched sump from top of climb down 3 - loop from top of rope climb. Here Bobby spotted a draughting rift which Juan and Pete followed until it got a little tight - someone had been through before. Needs pushing 4 - stream passage near entrance, until it involved swimming.

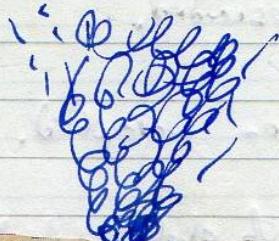
3/4/97

(9)

SHOCK HORROR

WILDLIFE WIPE OUT IN
CANTABRIA AS ECENTRIC, GENIUSIC
CAVER SETS FIRE TO FOREST

MR. MILLS SAID: "I WAS ONLY TRYING TO SEE IF THERE WAS
A DRAUGHT. I LIT SOME LEAVES AND IT ALL WENT WOOSH AROUND
ME."



WEATHER FORECAST SAYS. "SCORCHIO".

3rd April Paul Stacey, Ali, Ferret, Hyl, Rupet.

MOLINO - FOOL'S PARADISE

We set up the diver in the downstream sump and then returned to Hyl's passage of 1st April. Rope tied off to sandy bulk and all descended into handsome sized passages, pursued in various directions for 150m or so. Regrettably, no stamping off into the distance though still one or two leads to look at, notably best route to what looks like passage at top of main passage. Two further ways in to extension discovered, one of which had been looked at from main route but not pursued. Surveyed. Got out to find diver had 'gone for a lie down'.

4.4.97 P.Stacey, P.Eugen 112 Ali: Long.

14k - tight leading rift leads to small boulder dry.

707 - dead corals & drums in it.

New sites:

- A 0.5 m diameter tube in roadside. 3526 5173 9779
- B 10' deep collapse, boulder over it, ? joint draft out 3527 5168 9782
- C Unexplored rift in bottom end of elongated depression with trees 3528 5146 9770 9-
- D Dig - good draft in. 3529 5137 9764
- E Dig 3530 5141 9761
- F Speleocorson hole. Tight tube drafting in, fire lit in it to try to shatter rock - all cracked into hole. 3531 5146 9765
- G Steeply dipping 0.8 x 0.5 m tube to phreatic rift, length c 20 m. 3532 5145 9760
- H Shaft 10 m + deep not fully descended. 3533 5147 9760
- I Shaft c 8 m, tight, unexplored 3534 5150 9758
- J Small entrance above depression unexplored. 3535 5147 9757
- K Roadside tube - rods checking 3536 5207 9786
- L Tube 1.5 m diameter, 5 m to earth choke, slight draft out. 3537 5232 9785
- M Very obvious roadside entrance, 10 m x 3 m chamber, digs to right & at back - v. slight draft at back. 1292? 5233 9787

Ali

5.4.97. Ali, Ferret. Cave 415.

Found dig in final chamber - fair draft.

6.4.97 Valline. Ali, P.Stacey, K.Jackson.

Explored Hall Bop Trail - first off Toc Gallery. Passed tight stal squeeze - limit of exploration by one of the Tortosa or original exploration by Britzki (Spanish team). Surveyed to junction, explored to chamber - not entered.

7.4.97 415 - Ali, Fer, P.Stacey.

Dig found on 5.4.97 found to link back into known passage so not pursued.

8.4.97 1a Cavia de Sel (Deserto 370. Ali, P.Stacey, P.Eugen.

but with (see Paul) up. Lateral following the slot more west. mob sit is not enough

(11)

1770 9.4.97 Shaft in top of Dibdina wds above Codiera -
legots 15m deep 15m. 7 m per, to slow down in
winding rift, back up to choked rift with Goat skull.

5266 9448

3538

(Not catalogued?) July 2011

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT