

# LOGBOOK

Year: 2001

Season: Whit

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

*Juan Corrin, January 2015*



Whit 2001

Sunday 27th May

Pete S., Andy + Julie, Arthur, Larry and Jennifer + Joan up to 408 to survey and photo pithole, last descended in 1982 by Portier and Joe. Pete, Joan and Jenny photo + survey. Andy left live on p1.

Walk-down entrance to 2m climb up to head of pith. To the right is a lower passage over a hole in the floor to a smaller entrance.

A 2m climb down the side of stal reaches a ledge and a convenient belay point for an 8m (?) pitch over calcite, landing by a large calcited boulder. A short climb down leads to the head of the second pith. ~~Stal~~ Back in the other direction from the ladder, the drift is choked with a very small passage continuing.

Straight ahead, a greasy slope up ~~and~~ passes below roof meanders and enters a chamber with stal. To the right a climb down leads to a pitch into the lower chambers. ~~Don't~~ <sup>Don't</sup> left a crawl (into a pitch above) has not been pushed further than the 10m, 1982 limit.

\* A climb ~~down~~ up enters a low ~~pass~~ inlet with trench that meets a sandstone run-in after 15m.

The second pitch is a straight 8m pitch against sharp rock in a chamber on a fine rift with straight walls. Water sinks below the ladder and this was dug out ~~to~~ to reveal the passage turning left with more rocks to remove. (No brought)

To the east a black-floored passage rises to a cracked mud floor and ends a calcited 5m high area. There may be a passage 3m



up. A tiny meander is too small at the start of this passage and so is a climb into a chamber and with a choked inlet under the northern wall. The western end of the rift ends at the pitch from the stal chamber above.

There is a roof tube above the first pitch that needs a belt. This may give access to possible holes to the east. It may just drop into the stal chamber down the oven. (Surveyed length about 100m)

29-5-2001: Cave of the Mad Axe Woman! 1630

My first trip since January, on account of FMD in the UK, was to this potential alternative & less sordid way into Riaño, but currently only a dig. Pete, Dave & myself attending. Virtually the whole cave has been dug, being almost entirely full of sand. Now on the 3rd digging session, it was previously dug 30m to a calcite shelf blocking further progress. The Wimp Hammer saw off the most resistant calcite, and digging continued & yielded almost 10m more cave, for barely 2 hours work, really easy digging. There's a tremendous draught coming out, & it freezes your face if you're right at the sharp end. I concentrated on the spoil disposal end of the operation. Good trip, & well worth persevering with, such a good draught. Came out to see the farmer busy covering the nearby fields with slurry. That's going down Riaño if it rains in the next few days! Even more of an incentive to succeed....



Nick Powell  
MSRC

GPS <sup>42</sup> Defracles — 0450855, 4795519, 262m  
Hammered Hole — 0450881, 4795341, 321m  
Middler Hole — 0450886, 4795325, 335m  
Arenal — 0449290, 4795109, 202m



(3)

30.5.2001 The 3 Caballeros (Pete, Dave, Nick) in Hole #077.

Objective:- Take lots of photos & try & find the way on, where the draught in the "terminal" chamber disappears.

Andy told us that you can park nearly at the level of the entrance, leaving you a nearly level walk, & so it proved, with only 80 vertical metres to climb. The cave undulates up & down sandy clints & boulder piles to a lowering of the roof & a change of character, up a vertical "squeeze" (previously dug by Pete & others), through a slightly loose area to what is currently the terminal chamber. The "squeeze" draughts strongly, but the air movement cannot be detected anywhere after this. On the way out, we passed the top of a very strongly draughting boulder choke, this has got to be worth persevering with. We took about 60 photographs, representing situations throughout the known cave, unfortunately we couldn't produce any of new cave, since we didn't find any. There are a number of leads to follow up before declaring the cave complete, but we need a "loose rock" expert. Send for Tufty!

Nick Parcell  
MNRC

31-5-2001 ☆ VT 100, AKA VALLINAI

dramatic personae - Pete, Dave, "Santi" & Nick

A Tourist trip with a purpose, go to Swirl chamber & on the way seek out any right-hand ways on at the entrance, & take some piccys.

GFS got us to the entrance in good order & after an al fresco lunch, down to the 1st junction in search of the squeeze and the way on to the right. We couldn't find it. Now someone will have to look for it from the other end (via the Canyon). So we carried on our tourist trip, Entrance ruins, the Maze, Road to Nowhere & the Canyon (interesting climbs, those!) & finally the better box & swirl chamber. Awesome. Then a slow return with 85 photos taken in every part of the trip & one of the most good natured photo trips I've ever been on. A trip to be recommended!

Nick Powell  
MNRC



1-6-2001 Hidden Hole, (the same old crew)

Objective, to make the entrance series a bit more passable - Pete can do the 1st squeeze but it was doubtful if anyone else could do it both ways. I had a look & was not impressed. Santi had a look & ummed & ahed. So Pete decided to widen the top bit with Hilti capping. Pete & Santi worked, me & Dave reined. The script ran "DRILL DRILL", "READY?" "THUMP THUMP" "BOOM!" A piece of rock flaked off & Pete said "Now Santi sized?" And Santi ummed & ahed, so the process was repeated.

2 hours later the drill battery was flat, but enough rock had now been removed to make the squeeze a whole lot easier. Even I think I could do it (with a little foot positioning assistance on the way up). This is now wide open for the summer, and the glory....

Nick Lowett  
MNRc

1/6/2001 Joan, Penny, Jenny walked up from Seldento to wooded shaleholes noted 18 years ago. On way came across a shaft covered with old logs (site 1660). At top edge of wooded valley and appears to be choked.

Shaleholes were useless except for rift filled with leaves. (1661)  
Scramble down to base of other entrance (5m pitch). 2 rifts carry a down very narrow and appear to choke.

Walked across to valley to the east and found wide shaft ~~1660~~ about 8m deep unobscured. Tree in entrance.

This must be 55 - Torca del Avellano?

### Photos

519 - Dug in Mad Axe Wanso Cave    521 - Entrance to MAW/C  
525, 526, 527 - In Vallona    530, 531 - Defracles Entrance  
534, 535 - Hammered Hole    536, 537, 538, 539,  
540, 541\*, 542\*, 543, 544, 545 - Hidden Hole

\* These shots are artistic.



Juan Don't Forget

(5)

Sent photos to Nick Powell + Pete E.

\* 1 yellow compass + clin + 1 double compass + clin in Spain. - 1  
\* Valline, 077, Pappa Noel Bar Peter \*

2/6/2001. Pete, Andy, Juan. To site 408 to bolt across  
to hole across top of pitch. Andy placed bolt in rift  
and then scampered across floor-less passage over 40ft  
drop. Unfortunately, passage closed after 15m. Next  
project in this cave involves 2 ladders and a scaling pole  
to reach hole down to the right.

Pete explored site 1662 below barn on route back to  
track. Drop down below limestone face enters a 4m long passage  
closed in both directions. 2m wide, 3m deep.

2-6-2001. Arenah, Starting the Crew again.

We'd visited the Arenah entrance the day before, when Pete described it as having the Strangest  
draught in the whole valley. As it happened, on the day, it didn't, but that doesn't detract  
from the splendid location. So we came back, to survey the "Left Hand" route & try to find  
a way on.

Today the cold of the draught was more noticeable, and it chilled our aqua bottles. So, to the  
end of the surveyed portion of the left hand route, through one of the most squalid crawls I've  
ever had to do. Surveyed 100+ m of passage, mostly in scary loose boulders! Pete went  
ahead & found evidence of carbide lamps & very extensive digging. This led him to believe  
that he was in the foam Dome, a feature of the right hand route blasted by the Catalan  
cavers a while ago. This would have meant an end, for now, to the known cave.

However, on speaking to others, it seems that just that level of digging had been undertaken  
on the left hand route, although why it was never surveyed we'll never know. So, instead  
of being temporarily finished, the way forward has been left wide open. Now all  
pete needs is a beam to accompany him through that squalid crawl....

Nick Powell  
MNRC

SURVEY NOTES FOLLOW →



2007-06-01

|                 |     |     |      |
|-----------------|-----|-----|------|
| 1-1A            | 148 | +10 | 2.50 |
| 1-1B            | 332 | +20 | 2.50 |
| 1-1C            | 000 | +90 | 4.00 |
| 1-2             | 243 | -48 | 7.30 |
| <del>2A-2</del> |     |     |      |
| 2A-2            | 293 | -23 | 3.10 |
| 2A-2B           | 048 | +68 | 5.50 |
| 2-3             | 000 | +90 | 1.85 |
| 3-4             | 218 | -1  | 7.10 |
| 4-5             | 169 | +9  | 4.20 |
| 5-6             | 215 | -8  | 5.00 |
| 5-7             | 070 | +18 | 5.00 |
| 5-8             | 330 | +85 | 6.00 |
| 2-9             | 215 | -30 | 7.60 |
| 9-10            | 213 | -26 | 5.60 |
| 10-11           | 203 | +36 | 9.20 |
| 11-12           | 233 | +21 | 1.60 |
| 12-13           | 82  | +47 | 3.25 |
| 13-14           | 237 | +17 | 4.80 |
| 14-15           | 334 | +32 | 5.85 |
| 16-15           | 350 | -32 | 5.80 |
| 17-16           | 030 | -56 | 1.50 |
| 18-17           | 068 | +34 | 3.80 |
| 19-18           | 195 | +17 | 2.20 |
| 20-19           | 354 | +20 | 5.40 |
| 13-13A          | 025 | 0   | 8.00 |

\* Valine 0.55 gms  
2/10/01

Marked Coin = J. 114

2007-06-01

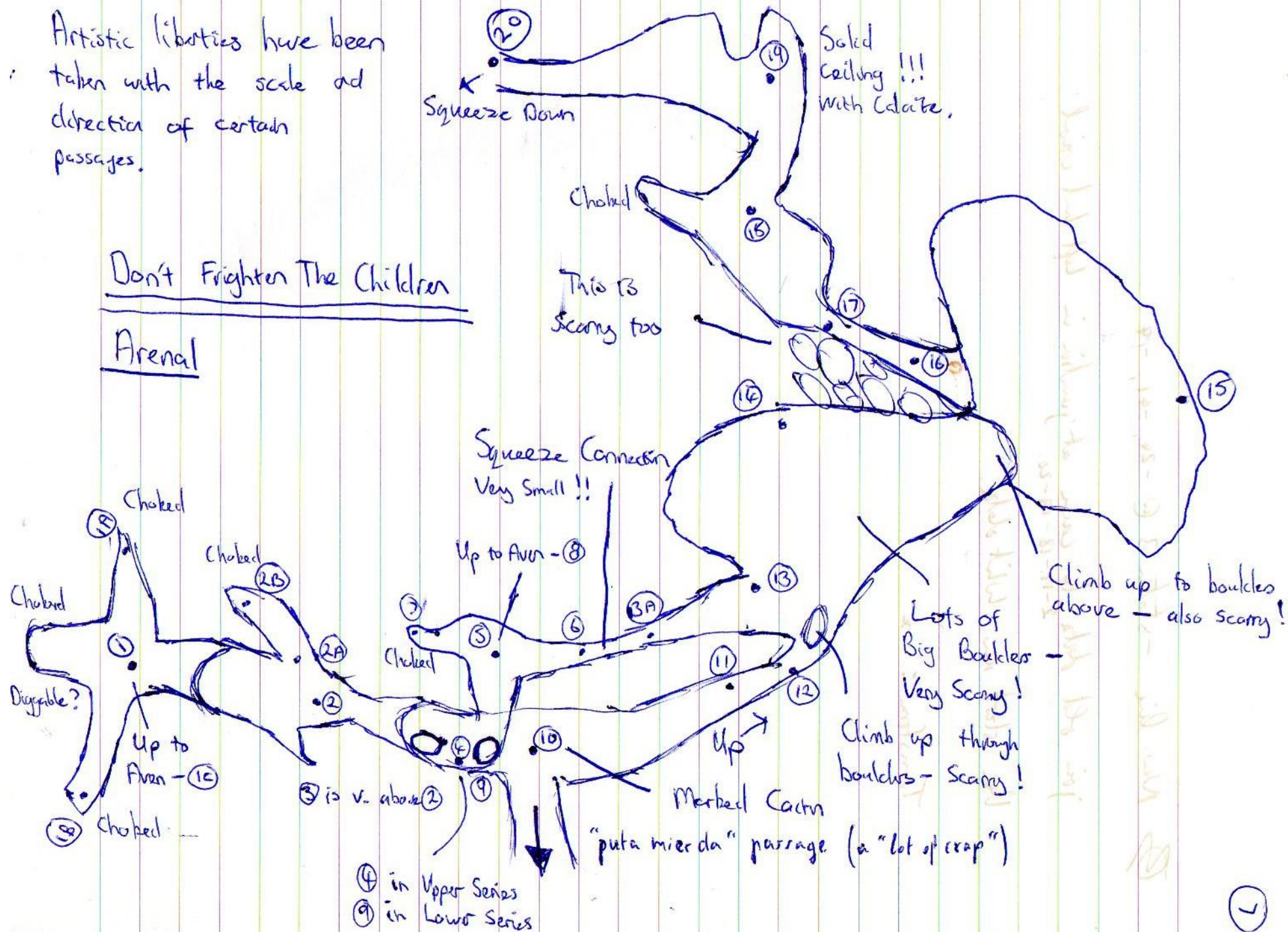
← 2007-06-01



Artistic liberties have been  
 taken with the scale and  
 direction of certain  
 passages.

Don't Frighten The Children

Arenal



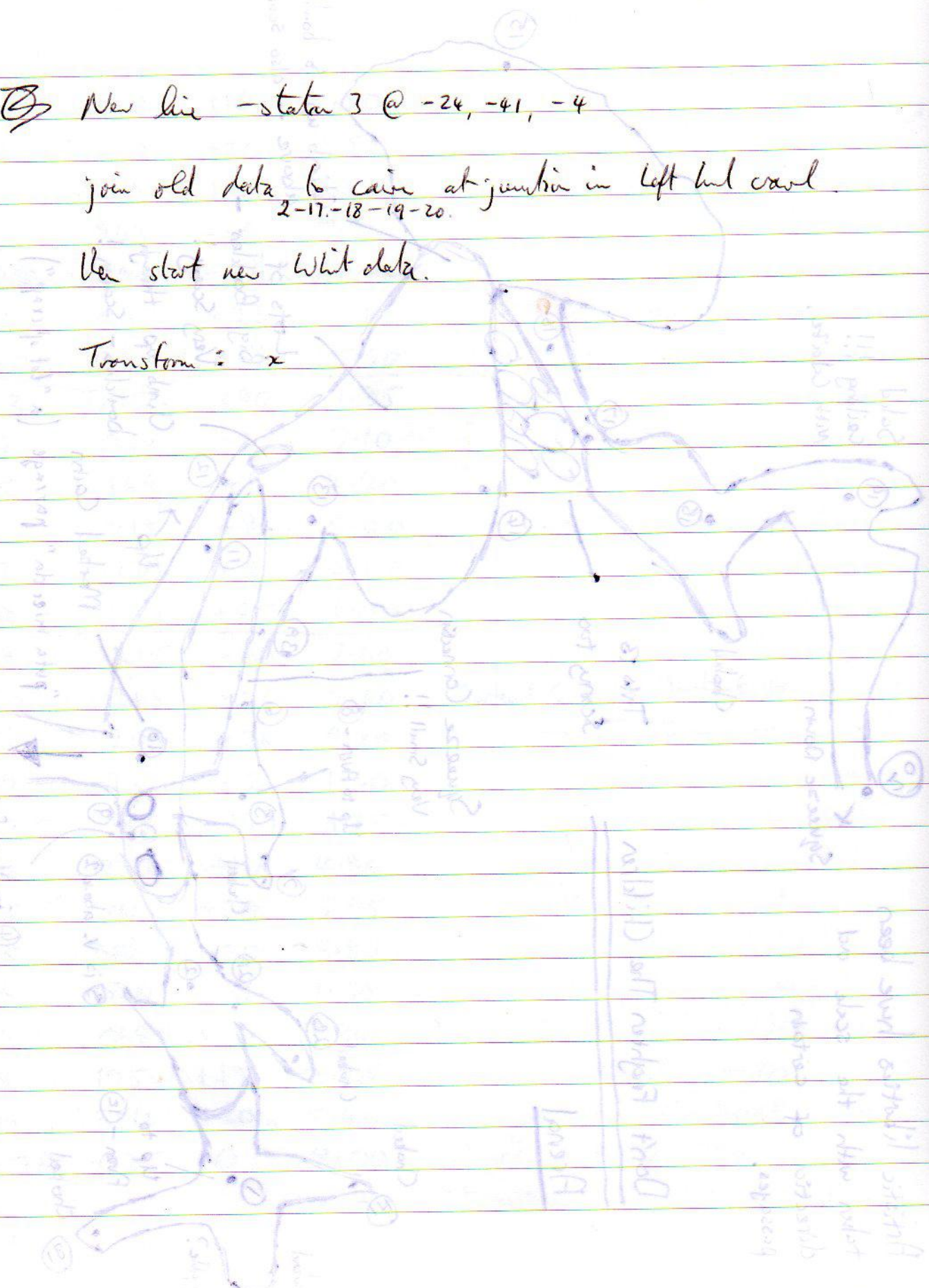


⊗ New line - station 3 @ -24, -41, -4

join old data to curve at junction in left hand cowl  
2-17-18-19-20.

then start new Whit data.

Transform: x









## **MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT**