

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT

LOGBOOK

Year: 2006

Season: autumn

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

①
Subj: **News from Matienzo**
Date: 11/10/2006 17:55:30 GMT Standard Time
From: smith_peter2004@yahoo.es
To: uzueka@aol.com

Hi Juan and Penny,

We got back yesterday evening after a very pleasant six days in Spain.

The main thing you'll be interested in is the caving on Saturday. Chuchi took us to the entrance they'd seen and dug out in Llueva - very near to Santiago the caving plumber's house!

It went to a couple of very nicely decorated chambers, but no draught and little potential. After that we went to Hoyo Verde, where they found some prehistoric pottery on the eastern entrance slope. So in the end everybody was happy. 2580
943 ✓

We went back to the new cave on Monday to survey it - 81m.
More details, survey, photos, GPS coordinates etc will follow as we get organised.

+717 photo

21-10-06

Juan & Penny up Seldesuto track to Azpilicueta
2581 pt76 30T 0450021 4794727 Alt 388

~~2581~~
Crawling entrance behind tree below Tiano's childhood house. Hands and knees crawling for 10m over excavated badger holes with shit to a walled end. Passage continues with no draught but needs digging in sediment. There is glazed pottery on the floor.
Further along and up the valley bank to the north are more small badger holes. (photos)

Dig at corner on Seldesuto track (site 879) has been filled in by the track widening.

0059 Cueva del Agua has no water until the first lake - the cave river in the entrance chamber is not running and pools on the left are dry. The water sinks in the stream bed about 100m before the entrance.

South Vega - 21 October - Phil Papard walking with no caving gear.

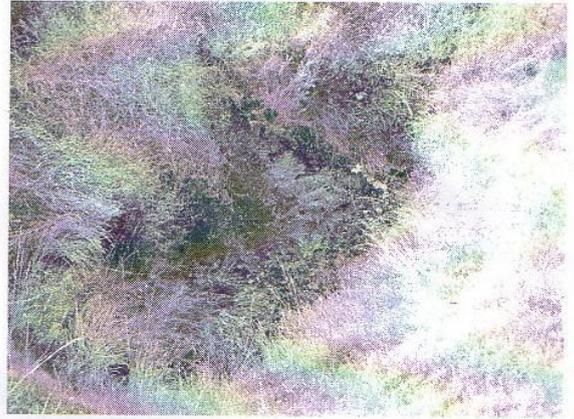
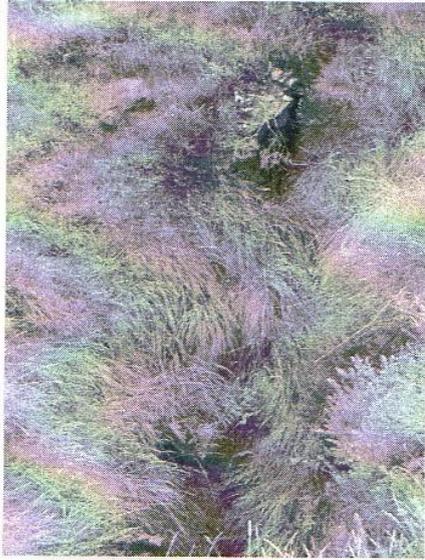
Site 2582 : Pp1 easy dig into hole with echo, stones drop 3m. prob covered by farmer. photo with bag on rock rhs.
Gps Alt ~~643~~m 0451294:4794215

644



~~Site 2583~~: Gps2 alt 644m 0451224:4794239

2353 (known)



2583 (but see 2354)

Pp3 poss known 2m deep shakehole to rift with slab in middle does not look open and rift at back of slab only 4inch wide, but site looks good for dig if it draughts in summer – none today in Oct (17 deg C) .43°17.866'N, 3°36.160'W - alt 648m 0451218:4794267



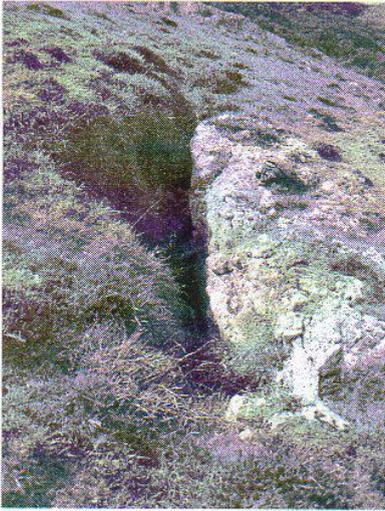
2584

— it is in area

Pp4 top of hill may not be in area, but just on our side of ridge. Field on top, slopes to north into limestone outcrop, eastern lowest point is easy dig, can see 2m to where rocks need moving, looks like farmer has put rock and rubbish in but no dead cows! gps 4 photo gear on rock bag above 43°17.818'N, 3°36.285'W - alt 660m 0451045:4794178

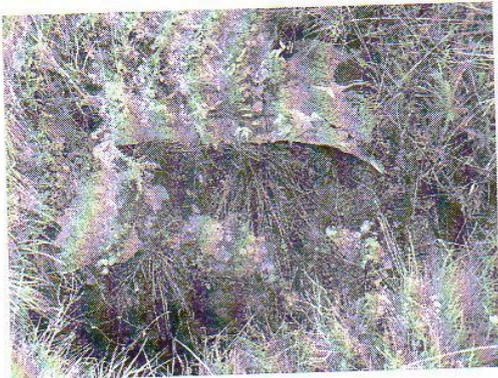


Pp5 rift running E_W 6m long and 5m deep dig but v.poor. 43°17.772'N, 3°36.796'W - alt657m 0450356:4794095



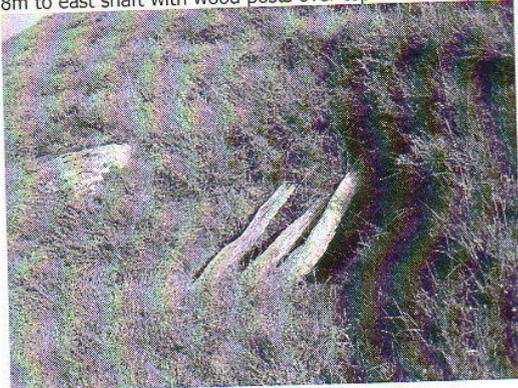
2585

prob 1120 -ent pic gps6. 43°17.895'N, 3°37.130'W alt 518m 0449911:4794335 fence fallen down one post only upright.



1120

8m to east shaft with wood posts over top. looks deep 15m?



1177

3

Pp7 is this 483? PICTURE GPS7 43°17.939'N, 3°37.043'W alt519m 0450020:4794420



483

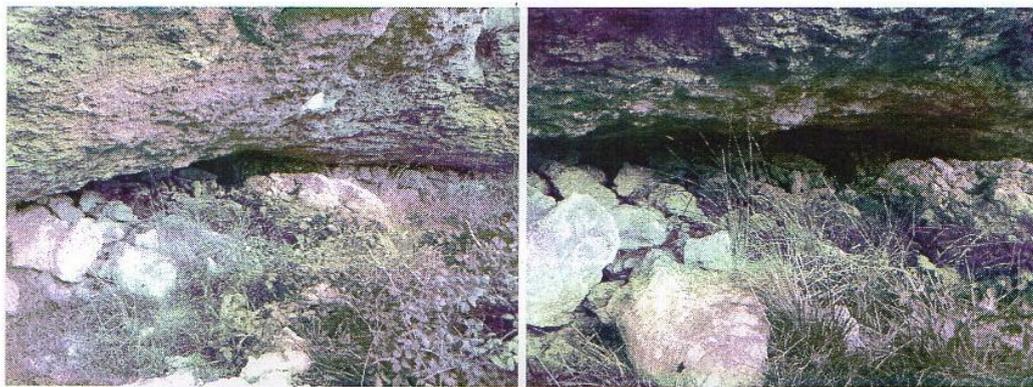
Pp8 small shaft, ent needs a little work to get in [bar and hammer] 6m deep. gps8 picture gps next to shaft. 43°17.960'N, 3°36.971'W - alt 500m 0450116:4794442



2586

2587

Pp9 walled up bedding cave .5m high gps9 picture. 43°18.214'N, 3°36.892'W 503m 0450235:4794911



22/10/06

Juan, Penny and Phil up the west side of Muela with 3 ladders to about 620m altitude. First to site 2570 discovered in the summer. Juan descended the 3m diameter pitch with the ladders just reaching the floor. Depth 24m to a rocky floor and surprisingly no bones.

Then walked over to site 2572 which was discovered in the summer and appears to be above Alpine Chough. Three large rocks over the entrance removed and when a stone was thrown down it was obvious that 3 ladders weren't enough. Phil down 12m to a ledge. The Disto gave another 31m below this point.

Walked off to find the 70m entrance pitch to Alpine Chough. It definitely isn't at the stated grid reference. At that point is a long rift (with a boulder climb in at the downhill end) to a possible dig - site 2588. (Pt79 30T 0453972 4797239 557m). The entrance to Alpine Chough needs locating. Photos.

23-10-06

Ian, Phil & Juan into Agua to try out i-slaves and various cameras and techniques. Photographed bone breccia on way to second entrance - this must be ancient and should be dated. Then took photos amongst stal on right and across chamber. These were later merged in software.

6

... Penny and Phil up the west side of Mureta with 3 ladders to about 620m altitude.
First to site 2570 discovered in the summer. Juan descended the 3m diameter pitch with
the ladders just reaching the floor. Depth 7m to a rocky floor and surprisingly no bones.

Lugger, Wendy and Phil – South Vega area 12 Nov 2006

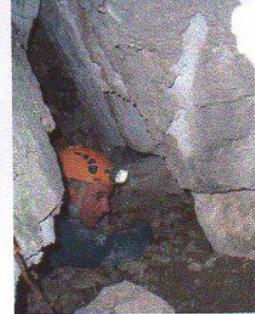
2589

Lugger's rift gps Elev 634m – 0450938/4794397
In clints above and east of wood. Small rift on north of small depression with 5m high oak
tree. 2m drop to narrow rift needing capping to 2to3m drop rift seems to continue bigger.
Good inward draught [Nov 15/16deg temp] worth a days digging.



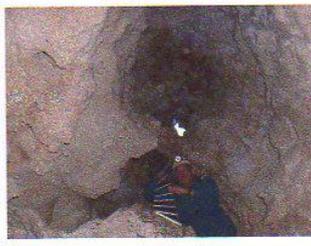
2590

White Chamber Cave gps Elev 654
0451019/4794351
Collapsed hole in clints to east of
closed depression. At back is dig
poss inward draught [pic] in middle
is crawl to calcite chamber towards
ent hole needs work to reach poss
way on - good to look at in better
draughting weather.



2591

Rock Covered Shaft gps Elev 646m 0451032/4794313
shaft 4x2 inside, 1x0.6 ent slot. SE side of depression 10m
to dig [caps] and second pitch of probably 10m, rocks
seem to bounce on slope?



Lugger, Wendy and Phil – South Vega area 12 Nov 2006

2592

2593

657m

Dig gps 0451121/4794290

Digs in double closed depression, smaller seems to have slope into cave, but needs brambles shifting first to get in. Second larger has a rift about 5m wide with trees growing on floor. In floor is further drop between boulders, needing some rock moving to get in (15 mins with crew bar and rope) looks roomy below, inward draught, prob outside area.



Wood Dig gps Elev 586m 0450824/4794348

2594

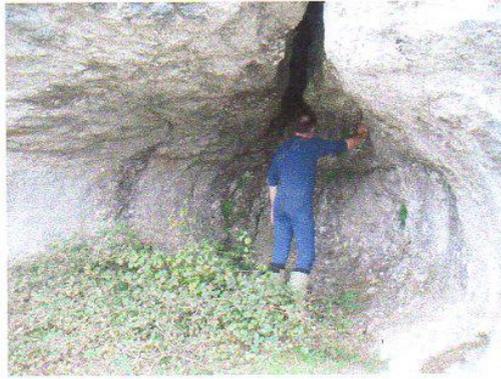
Dig in east of wood very good in draught



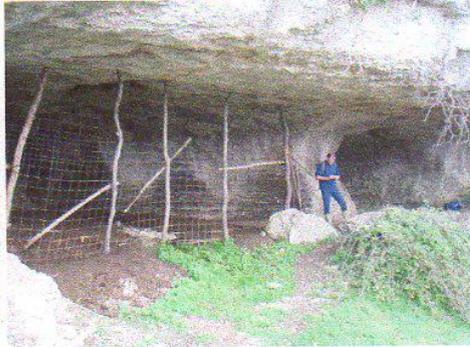
Phil, Lugger and Big Steve (name not due to his height)
Caves along base of Cliff below Alpine Chough

13/14/06?

Seems to be 271 (not 274 but des not fit - looks like the line of caves have been marked W to E instead of E to W!)
Cave shelter 5m x2m high rift in roof at back Lugger climbed up to tight spot needing bolt for ladder for foot hold etc. draughts out, bigger above and 1x2m passage going off into hill. pics 110 to 112. Grid ref 0453913/4797379



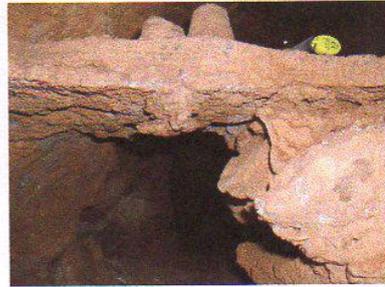
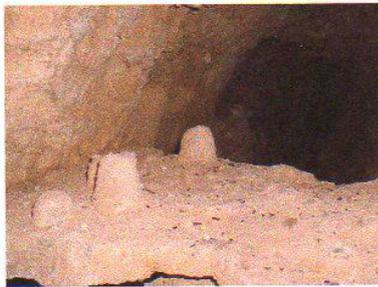
272 Abrigo de los Cubillones
Grid ref 0453880/4797357



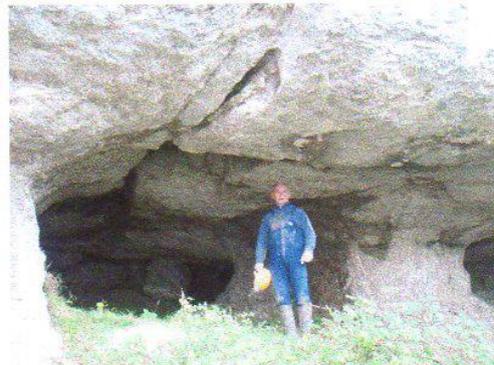
273
1m sq ent 7m to east is second cave 2mx1m cave 6m long aven in roof could go draught. pic shows the two caves (far is 273). surveyed 80m+ to 3 squeezes last to tight for fat Lugger. it has been through before. most of cave easy crawl, ladder useful for climb up. 40m in is easy dig into bigger section. This dig draught in, prob to hillside?
Grid ref 0453822/4797324



Survey	length	Mag	clino
1-2	6.0	285	3, start of 3 squeezes last needs digging or small person - Lugger 8m more than survey
2-3	3.8	271	-1
3-4	4.5	241	-2
4-5	5.9	315	-4
5-6	3.3	335	-3, dig on left on way in, easy good draught out, prob to surface
6-7	3.8	258	-2
7-8	4.6	292	-8
8-9	4.1	328	-7
9-10	8.6	337	-16
10-11	2.8	253	-6
11-12	3.8	318	-6
12-13	4.5	down	-90, climb up after crawl through under boulder
13-14	15.2	302	-8, ent some 4m above track- survey point is M5 mark on wall



274
mix-up on map this seems to be 274 but some pics are of 272. bedding with boulders past is aven small draught down. main way on is bedding on left (up step or climb in from right) spent a little time digging, needs more digging good cold draught.
Grid ref 0453801/4797313



Subj: **Riaño**
 Date: 12/12/2006 20:07:33 GMT Standard Time
 From: artcaves@yahoo.es
 To: uzueka@aol.com

Hallo Juan, just a quick note to say that the boys did well in Riaño. On the first day surveyed that found in the summer, bolted and climbed up the aven into new stuff. Next day, yesterday surveyed this and looked at other leads. it is trending towards Torno but is about 25 m above, with a large boulder choke spewing water. It was a over 13 hours and they took plenty of food with them, not getting back until past midnight after a very early start. 200 m from the summer and 470m this time, not bad eh! I am sure Footleg will contact you, with piccys as well as line survey done etc, sse you, Ian

Subj: **Re: Matienzo Dec06**
 Date: 14/12/2006 13:30:55 GMT Standard Time
 From: paul.fretwell@accelrys.com
 To: Uzueka@aol.com

Hi Juan,

We had an excellent time, and surveyed around 670m of new passage. I've attached the data, which includes passage dimensions, so if you process it using the current development release of Survex, then you can view the passages as solid 3D in Aven by clicking on the 'Show passage tubes' button on the toolbar.

The 2006-12-10 file is a survey of the two passages which Caroline and I found in August, which I was surprised added up to 200m of new passage. The 2006-12-11 file is a survey of the new extension we broke into at the top of the aven at the most Northerly point on the survey, adding another 470m of new passage.

The two sets of data align in a very satisfying way, showing a clear continuous development of older passages which intersect the active inlet in two places. I've added it all onto the master Riano data in the file Riano_All

What Ian won't have told you is that after we left his place yesterday (on our enforced extra day stay due to flight cancellation) was that we went surface bashing above Riano and found 2 excellent new prospects, both drafting (when even Riano entrance was hardly doing so). Both were dug open to reveal 6m vertical shafts which lead to rifts, and will be pushed further at Easter when the lads from Horsham can get back out there (we were in t-shirts and shorts, on our way to the airport, so exploration was limited). I've entered these as single leg 6m vertical surveys in the file Riano_with_digs to show where they are located. You can comment out the include for the surface terrain if you want (or make sure you have the surface data file I sent you previously in the same folder as the other files before processing). We have GPS locations and entrance pictures for another 10 sites around the Riano/Hoyuca area too.

I'll send you all the photos and write-ups for the logbook in due course. I also have a couple of video clips of the breakthrough into one of the digs. The attached photo shows the breakthrough point at the top of the aven at the end of the inlet at the previous most Northerly point in Riano.

Footleg

See larger account further on after Xmas

2595
2596

*choke 12m large
y entrance. At one of
the larger choke)
with side of the*

Unfortunately the plan to survey the dig in Torno Chamber had to be abandoned due to an table booking as Casa Thomas and a significant rise in water levels which would have made the already flat out wet crawl in the dig rather too interesting. The crawl out of the chamber had 3 streams flowing into it when we left, one being an overflow down the normally dry flat out section of crawling which is the way out. Not too wet to pass, but it could have got that way if it has risen much more. I'm sure Paul will be happy to complete the survey at Easter. He estimated 30m to the sump, which he described as about 0.4m high water filled plus another 0.4m depth of silt, all about 1.0m wide. I don't think there were good prospects anywhere else in the chamber. The dig where the main stream in the chamber sinks appears to be solid fill with the water flowing under it. Possibly a longer term project, but not likely a quick days digging. At the lowest point of the chamber just before Paul's extension to the sump there is a bedding off on the right (facing into the dig). We dug this a short way, but it became apparent it is an active inlet and not an outlet. Still a prospect for breaking into a sump bypass possibly? No drafts anywhere while we were down there. Maybe some airflow at Easter will give more of a clue.

Elsewhere in Torno we thought there was good potential for a dig to connect to the bones area. This is in the section of passage between a climb up and a climb down (see stations 06_02.21 - 06_02.25). It was not clear where this might emerge in the bones passage though. We had a dig near the bones and excavated a 4m deep hole, but it appears to be just a rift in the floor filled with boulders and crossing the floor of the main passage just past the bones next to the stals. A major digging project would be needed to clear all this out to see where the water which sinks here goes to.

The stream which we explored in Riano is now higher than the sinks in Torno chamber, so must come from elsewhere. There are still some potential inlets in Riano which could be the same water, but it is just a likely to head North into the same valley as Fresnado. However the higher level chokes in Torno look to be on the same level as the new stuff we found in Riano, so a link is still a possibility.

Footleg

Subj: **Re: Matienzo Dec06**
Date: 15/12/2006 15:26:43 GMT Standard Time
From: paul.fretwell@accelrys.com
To: Uzueka@aol.com

I tried to rephotograph the skull in 3D without the piece of jaw bone (I've placed it on a clean bit of rock next to the skull now), but I'm not sure if I got a good stereo pair yet due to camera problems (the battery died unexpectedly, despite being full charged). I'll let you know when I have tried to pair them up. Failing that I at least have some normal stills looking face on to the skull. I can confirm the skull is at the bottom of a slope, heading up away from the passage you arrive at it via.

Footleg

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT