
New data for the late Upper Paleolithic in Cantabrian Spain: Arangas cave (Cabrales, Asturias, Spain)

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Abstract

The Arangas karstic system is located in Asturias, North of Spain. The different caves located in this system (Arangas, Los Canes and Tiu Llines) were excavated from 1985 to 1998, allowing us to record different archaeological sequences from the Solutrean to the Bronze Age. During 2007, a new field season was developed in Arangas Cave with the aim to record the lower layers of the archaeological sequence in a very specific area (named Area E). Levels E, F and G were recorded during the archaeological excavation. Levels E and F are characterized by a high abundance of fauna remains (macro and micro-mammals) and, in less affluence, lithic and charcoal remains, showing an intense anthropic activity. The only radiocarbon date available reflects that the formation of Level F took place during the Lower Magdalenian (14840±65 BP; 18258-17863 cal BP). The lower part of the stratigraphy, level G, shows less abundance of remains, which a decrease from the top to the bottom of the archaeological level. In this contribution we present all the archaeological information related to the occupations dated in the Late Upper Paleolithic in the sector E of the cave.

Keywords: Arangas Cave, Lower Magdalenian, Upper Pleistocene, Cantabrian Spain

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