
The Palaeolithic sequence of El Olivo cave (Llanera, Asturias, Northern Spain)

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Abstract

El Olivo cave (Llanera, Asturias), has a complex archaeological sequence discovered in 2012, comprising Magdalenian levels overlapped on a Middle Paleolithic horizon. The cave infill has been excavated in five archaeological campaigns, between 2012 and 2017. The interest of this cave is its proximity to other important Magdalenian sites in the Nalón river basin, but with distinctly different characteristics, which has served to hypothesize that El Olivo cave represents a different type of settlement, which we called "secondary camp". On the other hand, the identification of a new Mousterian human occupation in this cave, located in the central coastal region, where only open-air sites were documented, is also an aspect of great interest. In this work we present the results of five years of excavations which revealed an interesting site.

Keywords: Catchment area, Magdalenian, Middle Palaeolithic, Cantabrian Spain

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