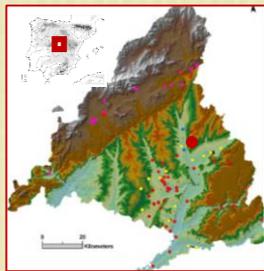
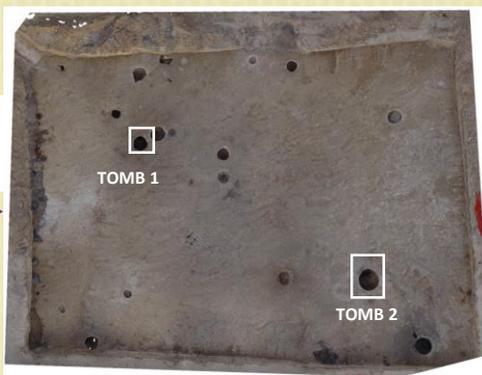
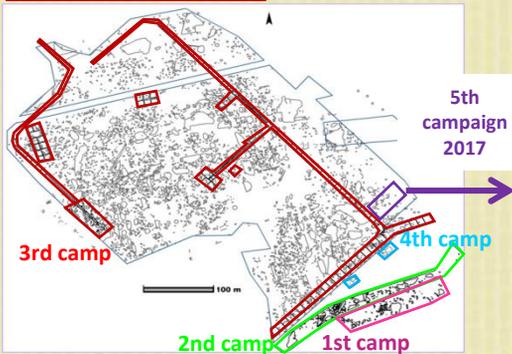


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- Camino de las Yeseras is one of the greatest Chalcolithic ditched enclosure located Northeast of the town of Madrid. The site, strategically placed on a river terrace at the confluence of two important rivers and close to several resource catchment areas, has an extension of ca. 22 hectares and was occupied from the end of the fourth- millennium until the beginning of the second-millennium cal BC.
- Pre-Bell Beaker burials, Bell Beaker tombs and funerary areas and other coetaneous chalcolithic burials reveal essential changes on the consolidation of social inequalities among the first metallurgical societies of Central Iberia.



- 5 excavation campaigns: 22 ha surface survey, ca 3 ha and 1400 excavated structures: pits, ditches, huts, tombs in pits and in funerary areas (Bell Beakers).
- The aim of this poster is to present two new chalcolithic collective burials in pits excavated in 2017. They present several unique characteristics.

## TOMB 1: MULTIPLE BURIAL OF ALMOST 7 INDIVIDUALS

C14 : 2853 ± 29 BP; 2460-2270 CAL BC (INDIV.1)



### TAPHONOMY

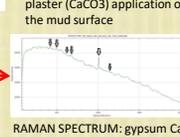
- 1.No filling with sediment, but with thousands of burnt mud wall/soil fragments.
- 2.The embedded bodies/skeletons in this context suffered extremely on surface tension, splintering all the bones in small fragments.
- 3.The intensive black ashy sediment on the ground, probably indicates, that the pit was filled with a burned roof made of wooden elements.



INTENTION TO "HIDE" THE FACE

### GRAVE GOODS:

- Incomplete chalcolithic vessels.
- 3 tablets made of gypsum



Many mud fragments with vegetal imprints

## TOMB 2: PIT 110: MULTIPLE BURIAL OF 3 INDIVIDUALS

C14:3703± 30 BP; 2200-2020 BP CAL BC (INDIV.3)

Tomb in a small oval pit, excavated in the filling of another large pit.



The 3 individuals were not accompanied by grave goods, although one flint arrowhead was found among the remains of the individual 1. A bed of ceramic fragments and a perimeter of pebbles and delimited the bodies on the base and edges of the tomb.



### TAPHONOMY

1. Two burial levels: on the base, the individual 3 was placed in the supine position with flexed arms and legs; immediately the individual 2, was buried: lateral decubitus and with flexed arms and legs bent over the pit wall, almost in contact with the upper level and in close contact to individual 1. Individual 1, the last buried one, was in prone position and with hyper-flexed arms and legs.
2. The 3 different orientations are outstanding: N-S, S-N y E-O.
3. Highlighting is the sealing of the tomb by covering it, in this case, with a layer of burnt mud fragments .

## CONCLUDING REMARKS

These two new modalities of tombs and burials are added to the great variability documented in Camino de las Yeseras, where from ca. 2500 cal BC onwards, collective graves in pits share the same site and space with the first Bell Beaker groups. Belonging to the oldest tombs documented in this site, however, it is remarkable the recycling of a half filled pit for a burial for tomb 2; their taphonomical peculiarities, and the unique association of the dead and with thousands of architectural remains of the tomb 1 as the covering of Tomb 2 with similar burnt mud fragments as a sealing act.