

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT

LOGBOOK

Year: 1995

Season: Whit

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

Juan Corrin, January 2015

WHAT WEEK

25/5/95 and I (ste Paul Stacey, Tony Haigh, Hobbit were motored East of Fiel was one hour. Numerous Job flat as down

After a late start, following our 3am arrival, we visited Brandas cave in the Vega valley. Trip was nearly aborted after problems reaching the entrance from below. Found plenty of fossil stal and numerous bats lurking in various crevices (accounts for strange pong or ateony cave). Surveyed from entrance to total of 158m. ⁴²³

26/5/95 - Rosario - P. Stacey, T. Haigh, Hobbit

ENTERED CAVE AND RIGGED LINE INTO PIT NR. ENT-SHAFT IN RHS OF PASSAGE BEING LARGE 'AUG' SHAFT WINDING PASSAGE GOES ON AROUND A V. TIGHT CORNER (NEEDS LUMP HAMMER, ETC) TO CONTINUATION. NOT MUCH DRAUGHT SEEN TWO. CHECKED ALL Holes UP TO TRAVERSE BUT NOTHING LOOKED TOO PROMISING. DESCENDED TO PIT BOTTOM FOR QUICK LOOK. NO NEW PASSAGE/DRGS BUT SEVERAL BITS OF DROPPED KIT RETRIEVED. SURVEYED PARALLEL PIT ACCESSED BY WAY UP (UN-NECESSARILY AS IT TURNED OUT) AND THEN PUSHED CLOTHES HOME. DRAUGHTING CRAWL FOR ~10M BUT DRG REQUIRED TO MAKE PROGRESS (NORTH-EAST) DIRECTION SURVEYED 25m OFF 'BREAK THRU' DRG AND TOURIST GO TO END AND EXAMINED 2nd TRANSVERSE. BORE NEEDS REPLACING SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.

TU = 8 HRS



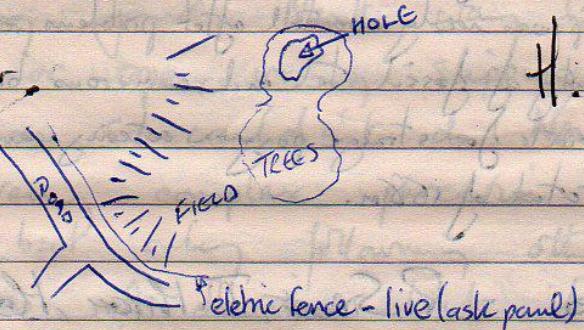
27/5/95 - Aquanaz + "Beef Surprise",
 Paul, Tony, Hobbits, (Julie + Rupert (Diving))

TERRA DE VACA SURPRESA
 SORTEADA
 NR. 936?
 (936)

Took diving kit + bottles down slant entrance down
 in aquanaz - left Rupert de swim out to dive site.

(936) Traveled back to "Lantis" pot. After some wandering
 around a number of fields found hole with cow skulls
 watching a TV! Then a ladder down but 18' from
 bottom smell from not so fresh cow (farm waste)? too
 much so left it summer. Hopefully less cow left by then?
 Cave name suggested "beef surprise". or Olla ~~pot~~ podrida (ROTEN
 POT)

Took 3/4 hour,



29/5/95 - Walk on N. Vega

P.S. Tracy, T. Hagan, I. Ross, J. Clegg + GPS

TOTALLY FAILED TO FIND LASTRIDA DESPITE GPS TELLING US WE
 HAD ARRIVED SEVEN TIMES! (THIS WAS LATER FOUND TO BE RANGE/SCALE
 SETTING + SHOULD BE ~30m NOT 25km!). FOLLOWING SITES . . .

4947 9567 (699?) DEPRESSION WITH TIGHT ENTRANCE IN ROCK FACE

NEEDS DIGGING WITH HAMMER/CHISEL - NO DRAUGHT NOTICE

4940 9576 (600?) 4+6m SHAFT - NIGHT (BE BLIND)

4955 9593 (492?) CAVE IN LARGE SHARKEYHOLE WITH TWO TREES (WILD PLUM
 + MULTHORN) - CHAMBER BELOW? ON GROUND

4929 9580 (1002) SHALLOW ENTRANCE WITH 3m DROP WITH SHEEP SKELETON
 WHAT ON THE BOTTOM?

4924 9573 (446?) 15m SHAFT WITH HORSE TREE AT ENT. NEXT TO SERVICES
 TRAIL ON RHS OF STEEP VALLEY. (MARSH (83A?))

(213)

1003
4966 9555 Possibly 364, 365??

TWO SINK HOLES IN OUTCROP LEAD TO 7m+ SALT
UNDESCENDED.

TWO LARGE TRUNCATED FOSSIL PASSAGES WERE ALSO ENTERED, FIRST
HAD OBSCURING RIFT THAT NEEDS ENT. DROUGHT - STONES DROPPED FOR A COAT.
SECOND HAD HOLE AT BACK WALL EXPOSED THRU' WHICH A RIFT COULD
BE SEEN. BOTH OF THE NECKS ARE LOCATED BEHIND TREES IN THE
EXPOSED LIMESTONE CLIFF FACE 100m DOWN FROM & DOWN THE
WALL FROM *



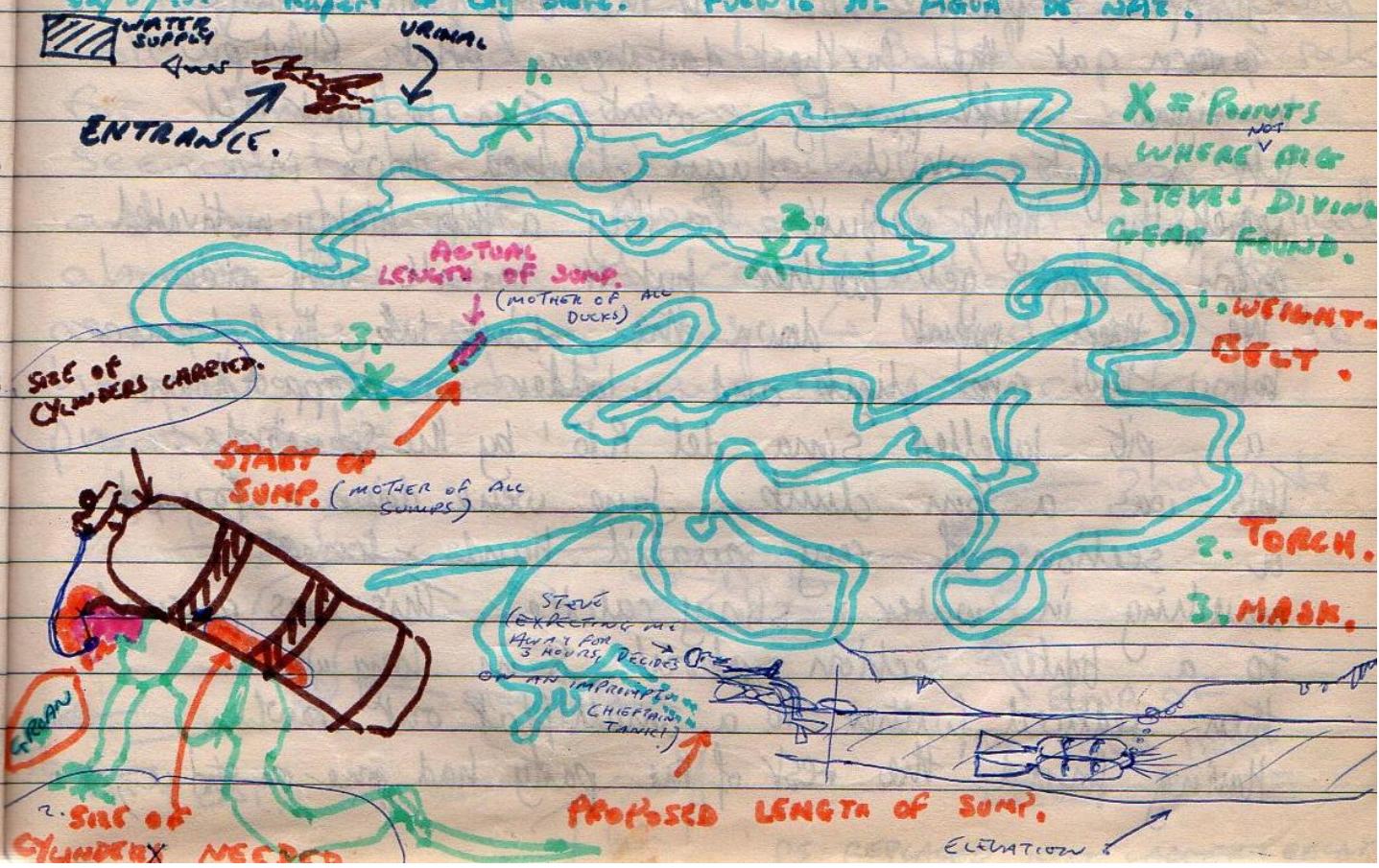
28/5/95

(RUPERT)
POT 1

Terry H and Hobbit

Tourist trip through Agua, went up inlet on RHS of first pool which was blowing strongly - must be worth another push sometime. Quick visit to Emboscados in the evening, poked about in dig at far end steady drought blowing on RHS wall, Hobbit reckons this is ripe for a DCC push. Followed passage below pit in floor and lost top to my battery case just in case anyone finds it.

32/5/95. Rupert + Big Steve. FUENTES DEL AGUA DE AGUA.



30/5/95 La Cueva de Seldesoto (370) Paul S. Jane Tony Hobbit

Relocated entrance and ran a line survey though caverns.
Entrance draughting out slightly on way in (Worment side) and
out on return (Raining outside). Had a good gravel runnel between
rocks & mud in main passage/chamber. Paul noticed a small
calcite window into another side chamber, No draught - broken
a bit of rock but still too tight. Found very old jaw bone and
large limb bone of a "bear like" animal on right hand side of
mud slope. - may have been washed in from even above? Interesting
little cave.

Thu 4 hours.

28/5/95.

P. Smith J. Corrin J. Chilton Regato surveying. 119.2m

Went into the bottom entrance of Regato to survey what
was left over from the downstream section from last year.
Dropped a pitch \approx 20m at the end of the sandy
cavern at the furthest downstream point. Blind pit
to right, left passage went \approx 50m to tight rift
left & right which Juan climbed down in a
regrettably light oversuit. Possibly a thin highly-motivated
person might get further but it wasn't very nice.
We then went down the climb into the chamber
below the rope climb and a ladder was dropped down
a pit labelled 'Sima del Rio' by the Spaniards.
This was a 8m climb. Jane went down & found
a section of very squalid hands & knees
crawling in water & slimy calcite. This was pursued
to a tighter section about 8 m long which
then reduced further to a small flat out crawl.
Having found the rest of the party had gone on strike,

(5)

Jane gladly returned - again not a conclusive push if you're younger/thinner/fitter/more lacking in the need for the comforts of middle age than the present party.

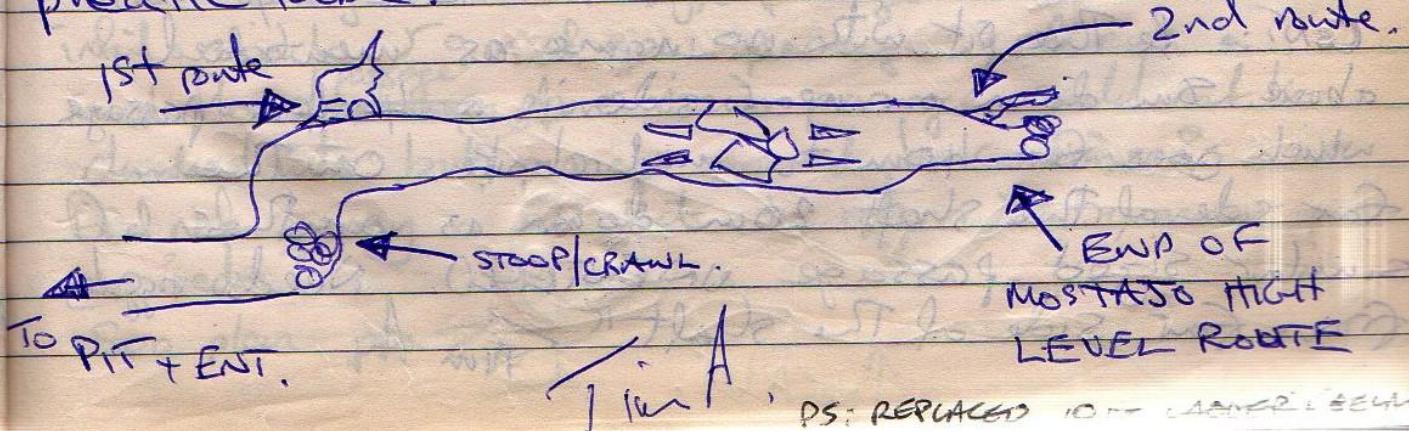
A final climb was negotiated into a narrow rift near the pitch next to the rope climb. This went about 20m to a choke. The whole thing was to be called the Whizzen series but we thought the Half Wit series might be more appropriate.

36th May. MOSTAJO - Tim A, Jane D, Pete O.

Tourist trip to end of high level. Noticed possible bolt route climb about 70m back from the final choke.

31st May. MOSTAJO - Tim A, Pete O, L, Jane C, Paul S.

Replaced rope on 2nd pit traverse. Reached bolt route noted yesterday. Bolted up crap rock for 15m to ascending chamber which seemed to be solution pocket. - No way on and no drought. Another prospect was noticed above the end choke. Mentioned in 1986 as needing scaling poles. L bolted up (our to horrible ascending mud ramp to choked practice tube).



28th May '93 Valline - Paul Stacey, Tim Allen
Pete O., etc

went to the traverse at the end
of the dry passages reached in '94.
(Boxheads traverse). The pit reached by A1
& C°, a pitch down a boulder with passage
visible, was dropped. The passage visible was
choiced at the furthest visible pit!. The pit
below the first traverse was dropped by T.A to
impenetrable passage (40-50m deep). On the
way out passage on right before
pit in floor (above shoulder force), was
partially explored in practical maze, one
passage rejoicing main dry passage beyond the
pit. Several small going leads left.

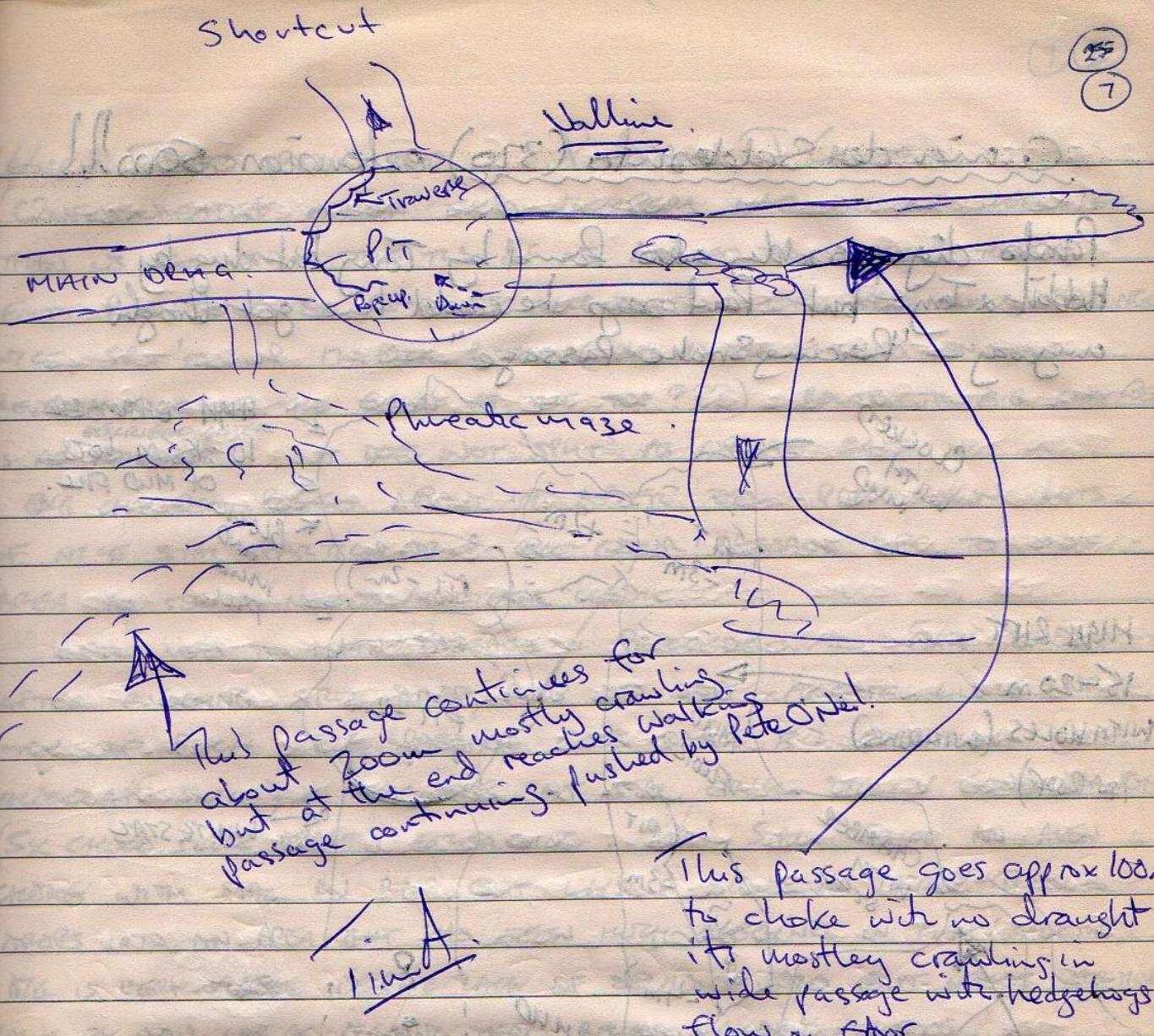
Tim spotted climbs up to blackness on the
way back in short cut passage. Will
need bolts. (near to ^(before) where short cut
intersects main stream passage at cascade
before continuing to Simons loop.

Valline passage need some bloody
names cos if you can understand
anything of what is written you
deserve a bad.

Came out tired and emotional.

(320m)

Con: Be the pit with no name as mentioned
above. 3m down on near side is a 4x4m passage and
which goes for 40m to mud choke. On the
far side of the shaft 20m down is another
similar sized passage UNENCHED. Needs riggs to
from far side of the shaft. Tim A.



8/5/93

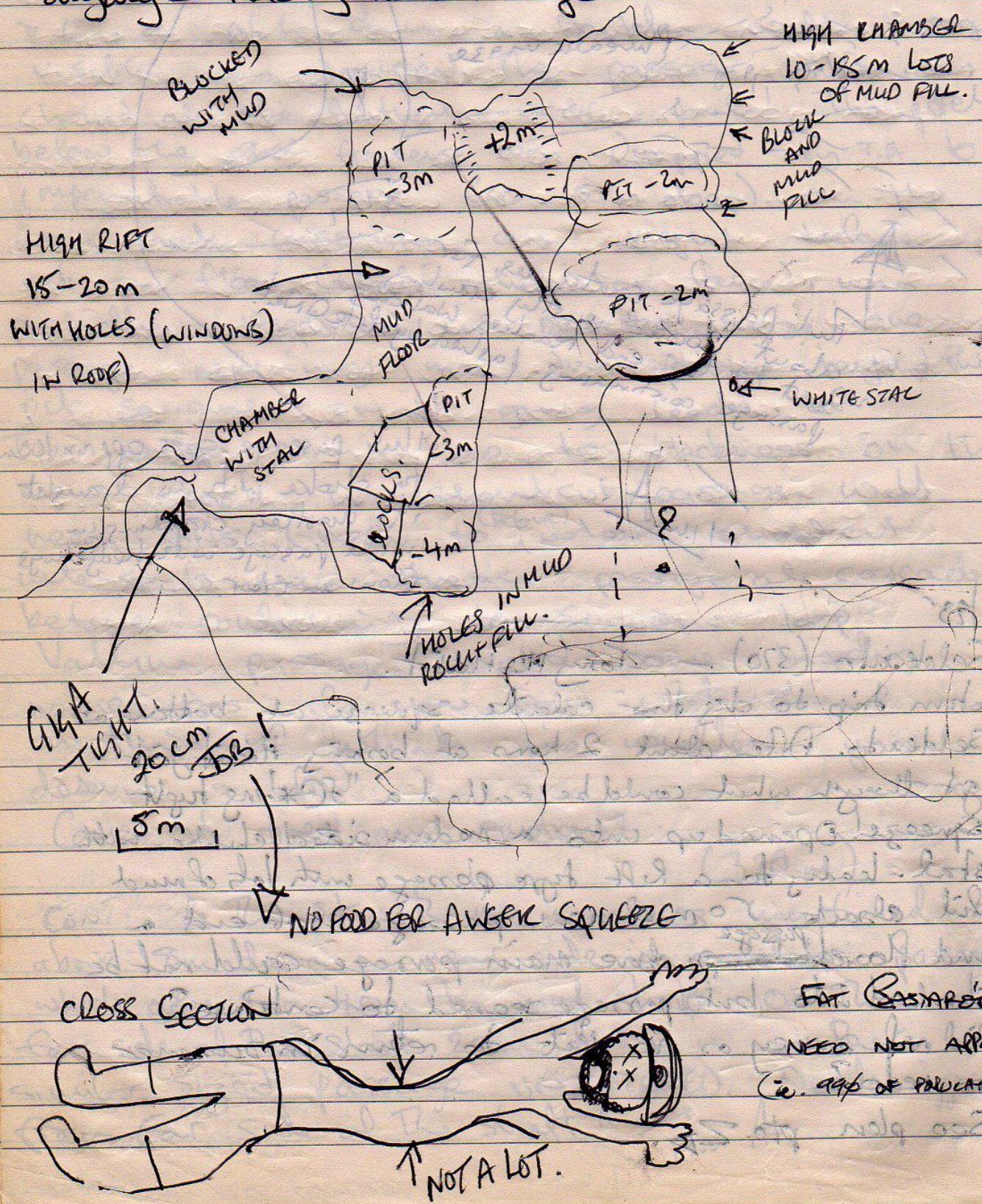
Selderito (370) — Tony H. Hass.

Retin trip to dig thru calcrete squeeze at bottom of Selderito. After about 2 hours of bashing Hobbit just got through what could be called a "f@*!ng tight squeeze". Opened up into a medium sized chuse with stal - leading to a Rift type passage with lots of mud in it about 50 m of new passage - at end a mud floor ^{passage} on above main passage could not be climbed into but passage seemed to continue? Did not survey as no kit to return in summer to redo?

See plan pto. ZD

Cueva de Seldesunto (370) extension 50m

Pauls dig possibly also found by Terry but dug by Hobbit & Terry - but Paul says he could have got through anyway - "Racing Snake Passage"



(1) (2)

1/6/95 - TDAD REVISITED P. Street, J. Chilton

UNFORTUNATELY OTHER EXPO MEMBERS HAD BETTER MEMORIES THAN US SO ONLY THE TWO OF US AGREED TO DESCEND TDAD.

ENT. PITCH NOT SO BAD AS THOUGHT & BIG PASSAGE SURPRISINGLY NICE. SRT'S & MAJOR PITCH (WHY IS THE Y-HANG ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THE BEAM AT THE TOP ???) - ROUTE TO BIG CHAMBER DESCRIBED LATER IS AS FOLLOWS ... IT DOES NOT 'SPLIT' AS CREATE SAYS.

BIG CHAMBER ROLLED AHEAD IN AFTER 20m PITCH DOWN. LOTS OF NICE STAR. PARTICULARLY BIG GEAR PASSAGE OFF TO SIDE. AREA TO SOUTH NEEDS ANOTHER LOOK.

RETURNED TO MAIN PASSAGE & PROCEEDED TO GAZ CUEDE AFTER ROLLING SRT DRAFT/RUG TO SOFT CALCITE LUMP NR. TOP OF PITCH. BIG PASSAGE GOES EAST 8' EXTENSIONS (VIA CALCITE SLICE) & TERMINATES AT STAR. GRILL DIG. V. GOOD DRAUGHT (SIX CHOCO SLICE DRAFT) EMERGING. THRU' STAR. GRILL AN AVEN CHECKS WITH STAR ON RHS BUT LHS A SQUEEZE THRU' ROCKS DROPS INTO AN AREA THAT HAS BEEN MUCH DREDGED IN GAZ/CALCITE.

BIG IS VERY VISIBLE DESPITE LACK OF DEVIUS VOID BUT NEEDS DETERMINED PACE BY NON-LARGE DIGGING TEAM. REWARD + GLORY = LOTS.

TRIP THRU' CHOCO SLICE TO BEYOND TRAVERSE (RE-RIG NEEDED?) TO POINT WHERE ROUTE IS CONFUSED AND RETURNED.

CONCLUSION: GAZ CUEDE = LOADSA' CHOCO

CHOCO SLICE = SMALL SIDE PASSAGE TERMINATING IN BISHOPAGE + 8' EXTENSIONS (3m) FASHION AND NOT STOPPING WITHIN 50m

MEMORY OF TEAM = %

QUALITY OF CAVE = "WORSE THAN FRESNEDO" - FRESNEDO (GOT (J. CHILTON)) TU = 6hrs



NE: ROUTE TO BIG CHAMBER. (DELETE UPDATE: "THE PASSAGE AT THE TOP SPLITS")

"A SMALL SIDE PASSAGE LEADS TO A STEEPLY DESCENDING TUBE WHICH EVENTUALLY GAINS A STEEPLY DESCENDING 20m PHRATIC TUBE ^{PITCH} WHICH ^{RHS} ~~LEADS~~ INTO THE BIG CHAMBER. CHAMBERING VIA SIDE RIFT AT THE BOTTOM THE BIG CHAMBER IS GAINED.

2/3/95. COEVA LLUEVA - P. Stacett, T. Hinch + J. Gilton, ~~Hegart~~

Cave location for the NAVIGATIONAL INCOMPETANT: NO-14A
"ROCKSTATION" 'COEVA LLUEVA'

FEEL OF BEING SCRATCHED TO DEATH, STUNG TO BURGERS,
LAUGHED AT BY OTHER EXPEDITION MEMBERS, HAVING TOTALY FAILED
TO FIND ONE OF MATENZO'S LARGEST ENTRANCES?
THEN TRY THE NEW (CONTRIVED) SRT ROUTE THAT ^{ONLY} TAKES 20 YARDS
OF HAD WALKING ACROSS A GREEN FIELD & A 100 FT ABSEIL
STRAIGHT INTO THE CAVE OF YOUR DREAMS.

LOOK FOR SMALL MEADOW ON RHS WHILST ON LLUEVA ROAD
GOING DOWNHILL. PARK ON SIDE. USE ^{THE} LARGEST OAK TREE (HAS
BIG BLOCK ON RHS) OVER THE WALL. SWING RIGHT TO FIRST
LEDGE AND ABSEIL OFF CRUICER'S GREENISH TRUNK. ABSEIL DOWN
1/2 LEDGES GOING RIGHT UNTIL A CLUMP OF TREES PROVIDE
A PERFECT FREE HANG STRAIGHT INTO LLUEVA SRT. PIT.

TACKLE: 40m SRT, 3 SLINGS, 2 CRABS/MARLINS? NO AIR HIRE POSS?

P.S: P. STACET, T. HINCH DID A QUICKE TO THE 1ST PITCH - WELL IMPRESSIVE

TIME UNDERGROUND = $\frac{1}{2}$ HR

(TIME IN JUNGLE = 3 YEARS (OR SO IT SEEMED))

Obtained one marmoset as was broken and taken off
Island to Isla = 1993 SRT. No number
SWIMMING IN CHOCO RIVER FOR WATER = 1992 1993
BOTTLED TROPICAL DRINKS
COQUILLES CANDY FROM OLD VILLAGE

- MAST TO HIGHST

TOOK COCONUTS, COCONUT HAD BEEN "DRIED IN THE SUN"

REMOVED COCONUT SHELLS & COCONUT EATEN
HAD COCONUT IN TROPICAL STATE A LOT COULD EAT COCONUTS & COCONUTS
NOTED OUT THAT COCONUTS ARE AN EXCELLENT SOURCE OF ENERGY
PROBABLY COULD EAT COCONUTS ALL DAY

Other trips.

Molino resurgence dived to French line by
Vallie - bit surveyed.
Peter Plummet dived to about -⁶⁰₈₅m still
going (needs helium/oxygen?)

Andy & Iribi, Matthew Meek, Tony H, H. H. Hilt, Tim
Peary, Jennifer to Escabajo.⁽⁴³⁾ Re located entrance

behind 2 buildings - now properly on map.
1004 Short cave found 50m before. To crawl on
mud. length ~ 20m? See Tony Haigh for description.

Most people into Escabajo to watch AQ banner a
pole in for sediment sample. Saw bone of bear(?)
found near mud formations.

Dive reports over

The diver swam in a continuation of the big tube previously described. The diver was followed when the depth increased until at bottom base, an air bubble was visible.

The diver surfaced in a continuation of the big tube previously described.

The tube was continued followed and the diver came up. The air bubble was followed until it reached the surface.

The continuing passage has massive potential for being a long way above water.

PETER PLUMMET San Miguel de Ihuva,
(Spanish name unknown)

This is an old flood overflow cave which is rarely filled but is connected with two nearby active resurgence. The salinity of the water is unknown.

The tube, after a short carry, was dived by F. Vinogradov and P. aboard in the boat. They passed a constriction at -12m to enter a descending bedding plane at the top of a set of steps. These probably Spanish divers visited the site and were unable to pass the constriction.

30.8 The tube from the end of the set of steps to the day and night entrance is back-filled. It ends with a large accumulation at this site.

(1)

16 Aug 2018 - Page 16 - 3000m
Spotted down to bird community. Mainly coniferous
trees with some deciduous trees. Some small
trees and shrubs (e.g. alder) are common.
There are also some small shrubs and grasses.
The vegetation is dominated by tall coniferous
trees, with some smaller deciduous trees like
birch and aspen. There are also some small
shrub patches and grassy areas. The soil is
mostly brownish-red and appears to be well-drained.
There are some rocks and boulders scattered
throughout the area. The overall impression
is that of a boreal forest ecosystem.

2018 Dogay 16/1

(13)

RP SKORUPKA
178 HALIFAX ROAD
RIPPONDEN
HALIFAX
WEST YORKS HX6 4AH

TEL. (01422) 824000

7th June 1995

Dear Juan,

Please find enclosed dive reports and surveys.

MATIENZO, CANTABRIA, 1995

Several sites were examined during a one week recce trip in May/ June,

FUENTE DEL AGUA DE NAZ San Antonio, Nr. Riano,

This large resurgence cave issues several cumecs, a proportion of the water being diverted to a pumping station to feed Santander. About one km of mainly swimming in a big tube leads to an impressive sump pool that gives the impression of a long, deep sump. This was dived for a short way by P. Papard and s. Martin in the 80's,

28-5-95

Anticipating a long dive, 2 x 15l backmounts and a drysuit were swum to the final sump. This was in a massive passage, at least 10 x 5m which descended to -5m. Expecting further downwards progress, the diver was surprised when the depth began to decrease, until at 60m from base, an air surface was visible overhead.

The diver surfaced in a continuation of the big tube preceding the sump. The line was cut and belayed, and further swim of 100m or so confirmed that the passage did not sump again imminently. The sump was surveyed on the return.

The continuing passage has massive potential for going a long way above water.

PETER PLUMMET San Miquel, Nr. Llueva,
(Spanish name unknown)

This is an old flood overflow cave which is rarely active nowadays, but is connected with two nearby active resurgences. The source of the water is unknown.

The sump, after a short carry, was dived by F. Winstanley and P. Papard in the 80's. They passed a constriction at -12m to enter a descending bedding plane to the lip of a pot at -35m. More recently, Spanish divers visited the site but were unable to pass the constriction.

30-5-95

J. Simms swam to the top of the pot earlier in the day, and confirmed that back mounted cylinders were out of the question at this site.

RPS dived on side mounted 151 tanks, and still had difficulty passing several areas, mainly due to the ridiculous route taken by the line. Slack was introduced from the surface, and this was repositioned, enabling the vertical thrutch at -12m to be easily passed. A brief enlargement leads to a shuffle through boulders, and a further drop to -23m. A final slot enters a clean washed descending bedding plane where the vis increases dramatically (we probably hit the main flow here). This is followed to the lip of a 3m diameter pot at -35m. The line was surveyed out from here.

31-5-95

The pot was descended in perfect visibility, to a depth of 50m (dimensions now 3 x 4m) where it could be seen to carry on down. Not expecting such dramatic downwards progress, no decompression stages had been left in the sump, so the diver returned.

2-6-95

The aim of this dive was to descend to -60m, and if the floor was visible, to descend up to -70m to check for the continuation. It was intended to breathe a nitrox stage cylinder to the lip of the shaft, but this proved very awkward as it had to be continually hand held so it was dumped at -12m. The shaft was descended to -60m where a convenient eyehole made a tasty belay. Peering downwards, the shaft could be seen to plunge vertically into the blueness for at least another 20m, no bottom in sight, so the line was belayed and the reel removed. Decompression was carried out on nitrox at -9m and pure O2 at -6 and -3m. Dive time 77 mins.

CUEVA DE MOLINO, Bustablado, Nr. Arredondo,

This cave is the resurgence for the Valline System and consequently carries a large flow and offers major potential for further discovery. A 1 km long cave contains many bypassable sumps, until a final, undived upstream sump is reached. The water flows into a downstream sump, and is finally seen on the surface at a beautiful resurgence pool c,100m away.

1-6-95

RPS and John Palmer entered the cave without gear to find the upstream sump and assess the carry. Eventually, this was found, but a thin nylon line, probably French, was already in place. It being impractical to reach this point without a large team, it was decided to salvage something by diving the surface resurgence.

A pot type sump leads off from a rock shelf, over which the water spills into a crystal clear plunge pool. Diving on 2 x 71 tanks, the pot bottomed out at -3m, and a lovely clean washed passage led through sculpted rock eyeholes and tubes in crystal visibility. At 50m from base, a pot dropped down to -10m and shortly afterwards, a tangle of the thin white (French?) line was met, almost definitely laid from the downstream sump in Molino. Disappointed, the diver swam out surveying the line laid en route.

MATIENZO CAVES PROJECT