

and Antarctica included, *JGA* will present an exciting forum for this complex branch of archaeology. The close relationship between many of these frozen discoveries and the effects of global warming makes this new project current and relevant.

The Journal will include original multidisciplinary research papers, short reports and reviews including archaeology, anthropology, ethnography, glaciology, geography, palaeobotany, indigenous knowledge, conservation science and climatology.”

(<http://www.equinoxpub.com/journals/index.php/JGA/index>; last accessed 15.12.2014)

Currently, *JGA* will be published annually, and bi-annually from 2016. The first issue includes one Antarctic, a South American, a North American article, two European papers and a methodological contribution of special interest to European archaeologists, regarding Bronze Age arrows recovered from alpine settings in Norway (Callanan, 2014; full references for the European papers are below).

CALLANAN, M. E., 2014. Bronze Age arrows from Norwegian alpine snow patches. *JGA* 1, 25-49.

ROGERS, S. R., 2014. An overview of selected GIS methods for use in glacial archaeology. *JGA* 1, 99-115.

RYD, Y., 2014. Wild reindeer and Saami hunting with bow and arrow. *JGA* 1, 11-24.

Iberian Peninsula

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Research Projects

“Guidoiro Dixital”

An initiative to recover lost scientific information from private image archives

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Introduction

The vulnerability of coastal heritage is increasingly coming into focus. Hundreds of archaeological sites are threatened by destruction on the European Atlantic coast as the result of the combined effect of sea-level rise, coastal environment dynamics and human activity. Through the eSCOPES Project, we are using close-range photogrammetric techniques to monitor the erosion process and to provide a detailed three-dimensional record of at-risk archaeological sites (López-Romero et al. 2014). In the northwest of the Iberian Peninsula, the islet of Guidoiro Areoso (Illa de Arousa, Pontevedra, Galicia; Figure 1) is a good example of this situation (Rey García and Vilaseco Vázquez 2012). A number of sites, including several Neolithic funerary monuments and a Bronze Age paleosoil, are suffering from quick erosion. Two of them, a megalithic chamber (known as “Mound 5”) and a Bronze Age cist, have recently been destroyed. It then became obvious, pretty quickly, that our research scope was limited by the starting date of the project (May 2013).

The "Guidoiro Dixital" initiative: context and preliminary results

In an attempt to overcome this situation, to obtain a wider perspective on the erosion history of the sites and in order to generate a response from the local community interested in preserving their heritage, we recently launched the "Guidoiro Dixital" (Digital Guidoiro) initiative. This initiative aims at recovering private photographic and video archives of Guidoiro Areoso, to integrate them into the analysis, to engage in a dialogue with local communities and to regularly provide them with information on results of and advances made by the project. A series of tools have been created to achieve these objectives: a *HistoryPin* project (<http://www.historypin.com/channels/view/54782>), a blog and information website (<http://guidoirodixital.wordpress.com/>), a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/guidoirodixital), a Google+ page (<https://plus.google.com/118411261666364325005/>) and a dedicated contact email address (guidoirodixital@gmail.com).

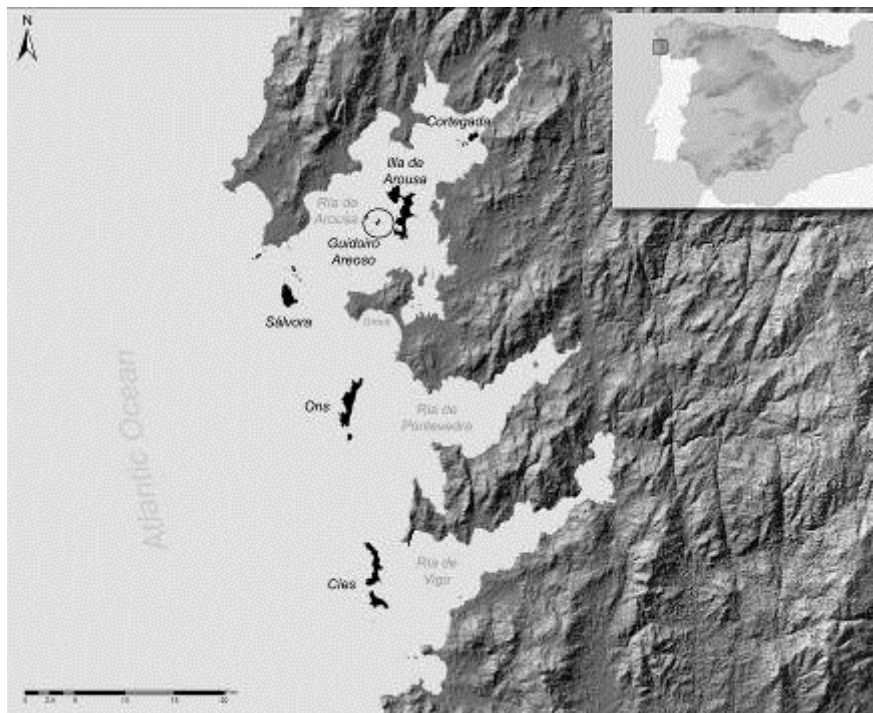


Figure 1. Location map of Guidoiro Areoso in the context of the southern Galician islands.

The initiative has already received very positive feedback and media coverage. We have collected more than 240 images so far from members of the local community and from colleagues from Galician universities. All contributors were requested to complete a form with some basic information and copyright requirements. We have also integrated our own photographs taken before 2013 and without a photogrammetric purpose into the dataset.

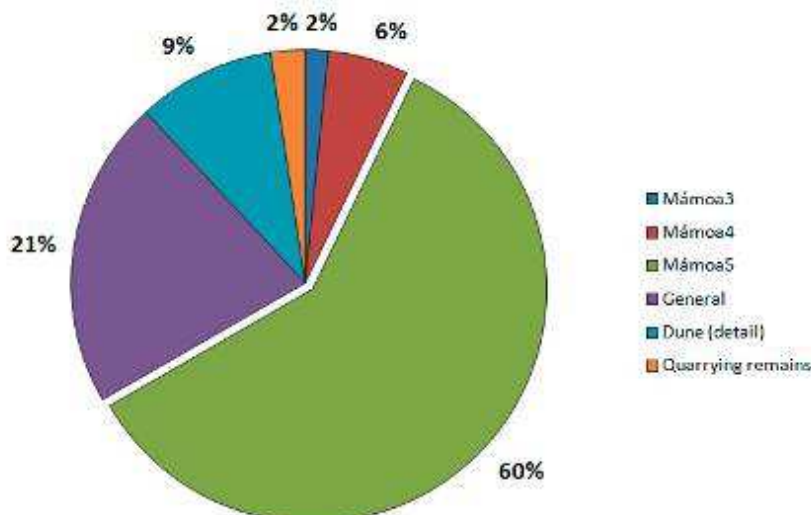


Figure 2. "Guidoiro Dixital". Percentage frequency distribution of the main elements photographed in Guidoiro Areoso (n=246).

Half of the dataset covers the year 2011; the earliest images date from 1990; so far, we have no record for the years 1991 to 2005 and 2008 to 2010. The frequency of the sites and elements photographed are shown in Figure 2.

Significantly, as it has been mentioned above, "Mound 5" was destroyed in 2013. The image record of this monument is especially abundant for the year 2011 (63 images). With an awareness of the potential of modern imaging techniques and software (De Reu et al. 2013: 1114-1116; Aparicio Resco et al. 2014; López-Romero 2014), we worked on the hypothesis that this dataset could be used to reconstruct a metric 3D model of the site that would allow us – together with further metric information recovered by one of us (X.I. Vilaseco) before its destruction – to gain a better understanding of its architecture. After careful selection, 56 out of the 63 images of "Mound 5" were loaded in Agisoft Photoscan Professional 0.9.1. software. The digital processing of the files was performed using an Acer Aspire V3-771G computer, equipped with an Intel® Core™ i7-3632QM 2.2GHz processor and NVIDIA® GeForce® GTX 730M graphics. In order to create the 3D model, the usual Photoscan workflow was followed (<http://www.agisoft.ru/tutorials/photoscan>). Automatic alignment of 50 images was successful, and a 3D surface was obtained (Figure 3). The detailed analysis of this model is still ongoing.

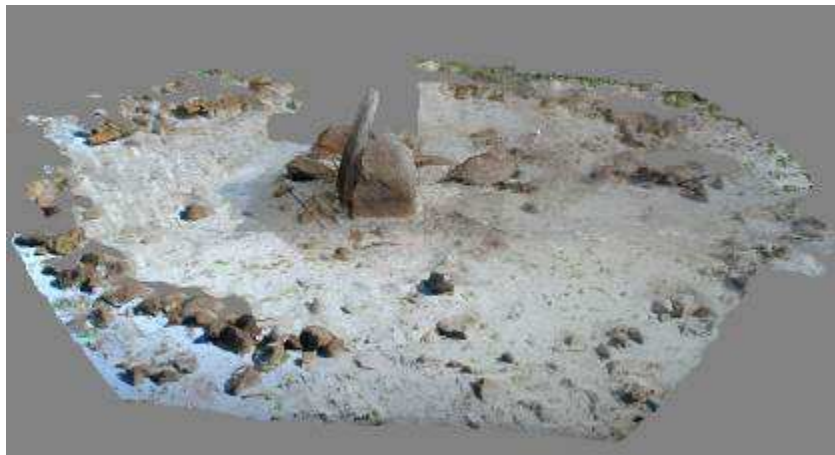


Figure 3. 3D model of "Mound 5" obtained from photographs taken in 2011.

Conclusion

"Guidoiro Dixital" is an ongoing initiative and we keep on receiving image datasets. We expect to increase our database and, hopefully, to fill in the chronological gaps for the years listed above from the 1990s and 2000s. In complement to their inherent value as visual records of the past, building metric 3D models from these images allows to extract fresh scientific information from archaeological sites and structures that have been destroyed, seriously damaged or are no longer accessible. This initiative is also contributing to establishing a better dialogue with the local communities and the wider public, engaging them into part of the research process.

"Guidoiro Dixital" wouldn't be possible without the support of all the people who are contributing their images, and without the support of Ana Bellón (Unidad de Comunicación, CSIC, Galicia), who has promoted this initiative through the local and regional media.

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Conference News

“Other Archaeologies” International Conference

This conference was held in Madrid from 12 to 14 November, organized by Rey Juan Carlos University. The aim was to give voice to unusual archaeological disciplines (such as industrial archaeology or the archaeology of conflict), to other sciences and techniques that help archaeology to develop hypotheses and get results, and to other disciplines aimed at disseminating these results to the general public (such as digital technologies).

Therefore, the conference was divided into six sessions:

- Industrial archaeology
- Conflict archaeology
- Archaeobiology
- Other sciences and techniques in archaeology
- New technologies applied to archaeology
- Teaching archaeology

The conference has been a success! We hope to see you next year!

For more information: <http://cotarg2014.jimdo.com/>

Recent Publications

“MEMORIAS SUJETADAS” IN GASTEIZ @ WAR

by Jaime Almansa-Sánchez

Vitoria-Gasteiz, in Spain, was the venue for the I. International Conference on the Archaeology of the Spanish Civil War. It was an amazing meeting in which dozens of professionals in interaction with local groups explored the multiple perspectives included in the archaeological approach to the war (in the next TEA, we will present a summary of the congress).

A new book edited by JAS Arqueología was presented at the conference.

