

Celtiberian_Hut_Santa_Tecla_UAB



Description

The castro of Santa Tecla is an archaeological site located on the hillsides of Mount Santa Trega, in the southwestern Galician municipality of A Guarda, Spain.

It's a 'Castro-Roman' settlement, inhabited between 100 BC (or earlier) and 100 AD, in a period when the process of Romanisation of the northwest of the Iberian peninsula had already begun. Despite this, the construction system reflects techniques that respect the Castro tradition and has seen very little Roman influence. This style is dominated by the use of circular structures. Only a small percentage of the estimated size of the settlement has been excavated so far.

Considering the lack of recent archaeological interventions, this project aims to recreate one of the Celtic dwellings of this settlement taking into account the most recent discussions.

The hut that has been reconstructed is not based on any particular one at the site, mainly because we don't have reliable enough information on any of them to completely reconstruct it. The reconstruction, then, has tried to create an archetype of housing from well-documented and generalized parts of various houses on the site.

Link to 3D REPOSITORY: <https://3d-repository.hs-mainz.de/wiscki/navigate/3821/view>

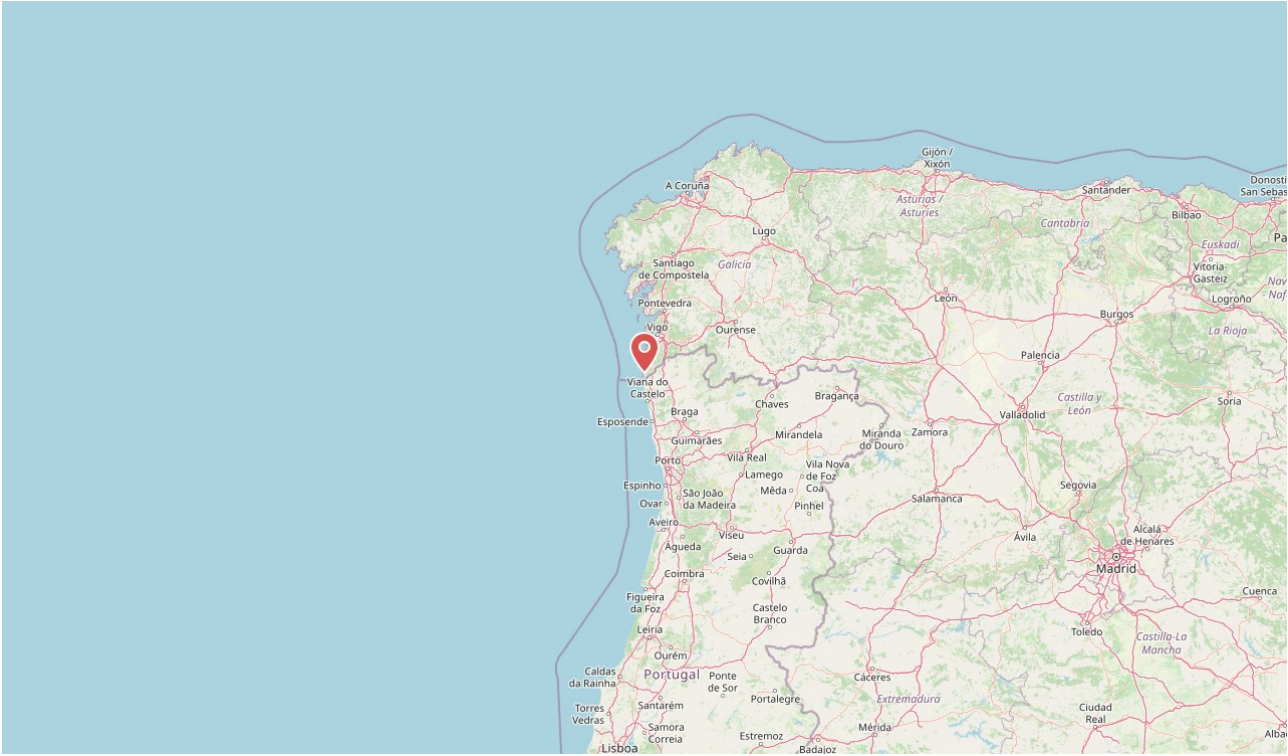
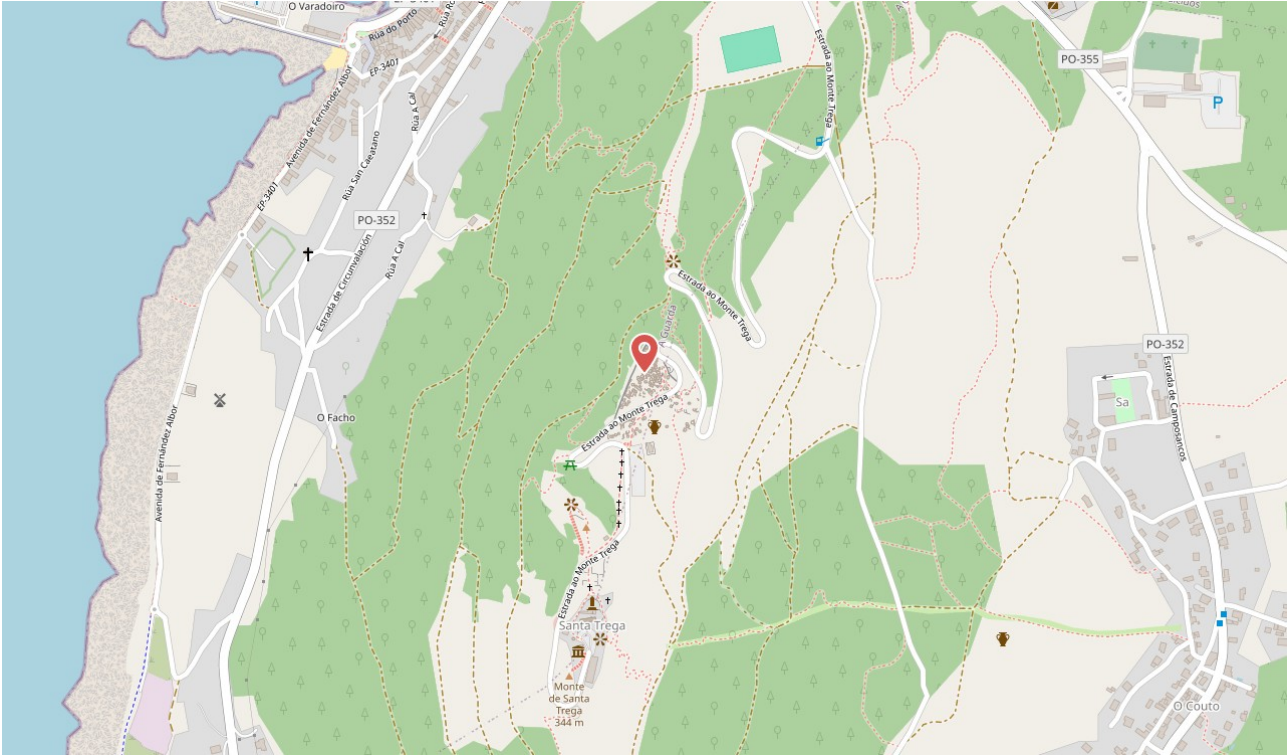
Building time

Used software

Blender 3.5.1

Geo-coordinates

Latitude 41.892750 Longitude -8.869808



The site and its houses

Layout and structure

The wall

The vestibule

The roof

The door (jambs and dintels)

Final renders

Sources

The site and its houses

: 100 BC to 100 AD

Working state

The reconstruction is mainly based on the different archaeological interventions that have been made on the site, and the numerous publications about it.


From 1914 to 1923, the firsts archaeological works were directed by Ignacio Calvo, who published the results of the works in several articles. Calvo attributed to the town an occupation from the beginning of the Bronze Age until the Roman era.

Between the years 1928 and 1933, the professor at the University of Valladolid, Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna, directed, using the most advanced methods of the time, a series of archaeological campaigns focused mainly on the eastern slope, uncovering a large number of houses and other buildings. In 1945 he published the result of his work in a study entitled "La citania de Santa Tecla. La Guardia (Pontevedra)".


From 1933 to 1979, the site was abandoned and seriously deteriorated. During these years there were few and brief interventions.

In 1983, the archaeologist Antonio de la Peña Santos led a team from the Museo de Pontevedra, beginning a new period of systematic excavations. This stage focused on the northern corner of the town. The structures discovered in these campaigns and in previous ones were consolidated in these same years by a team led by Montserrat García Lastra Merino.

Since 1988, no further archaeological work has been carried out. On the other hand, the site lacks surveillance and the number of unguided visitors causes the structures to suffer significant deterioration. Of the totality of what was excavated, a very low percentage of the estimated size of the settlement can currently only be visited in the northern area excavated in the 1980s and some buildings in the highest area of the mountain. The eastern zone or neighborhood excavated by Mergelina and the one excavated by other teams are covered by bushes and trees and are barely perceptible. This state of abandonment makes its study impossible. This, together with the non-existence of a planimetry of the site, makes the study of the town as a whole very complicated.

Evaluation Used in the result: 

-	-	-
Geometry	Surface structure	Coloring



Photograph

Reconstruction

Sources

No reconstructions assigned

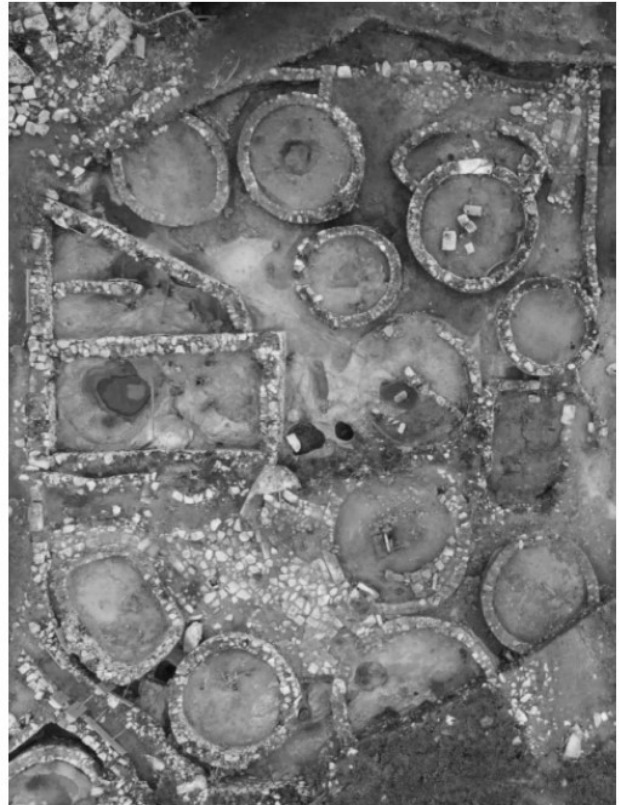


Fig. 28 Aerial photo of zone 2 of the deposit, by Rodríguez Martínez

The site and its houses
 Layout and structure

Variant: 100 BC to 100 AD

Working state

In order to have an archetype of a Celtic housing structure, we have relied mainly on the plans drawn by Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna (1944-1945) and those of Antonio de la Peña Santos (1984). In the same way, to understand what were the differential characteristics of the dwellings, we have also relied on the publications of these authors and others, such as Ferreira de Almeida (1986) or Xurxo et al. (2005-2006).

All the huts in Santa Tecla have circular or oval floors and are exempt, not sharing dividing walls with few exceptions. The few huts with a rectangular floor plan are also an exception, and these have, for the most part, arched corners.

As is logical, not all the cabins would have a residential use. The houses would be those of greater dimensions and with higher quality rigging, some with lintels and decorated elements.



Reconstruction

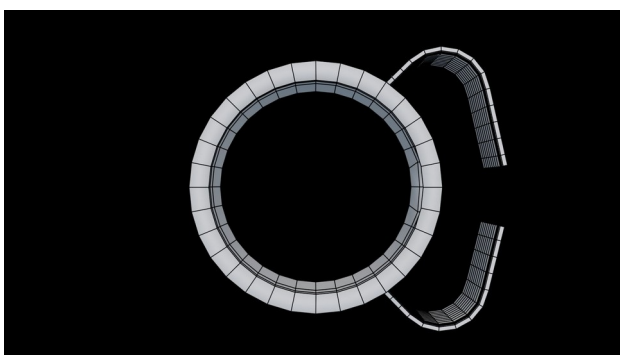


Fig. 18 Ground floor of the reconstructed house

Sources

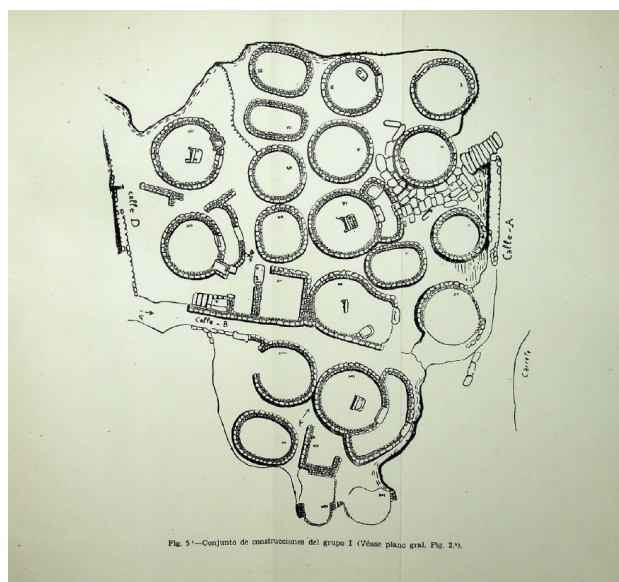


Fig. 3 Set of constructions of group I in La Citania de Santa Tecla

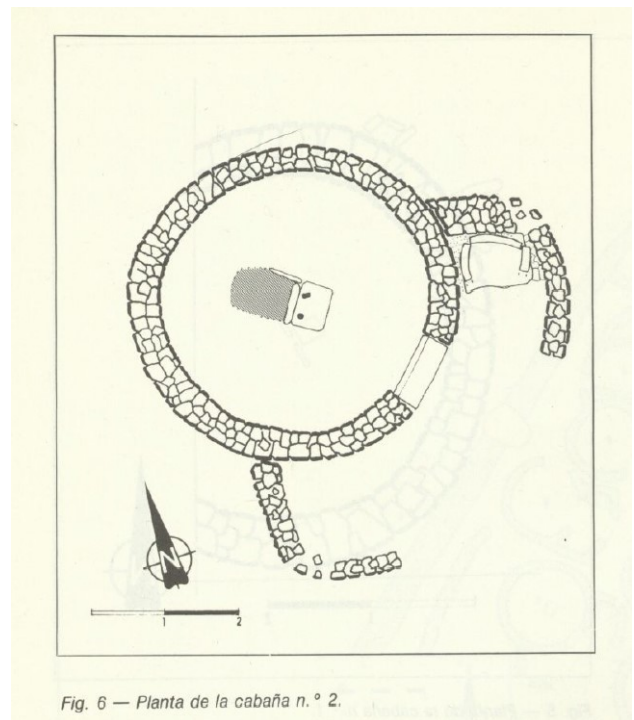


Fig. 4 One of the huts De la Peña Santos drew

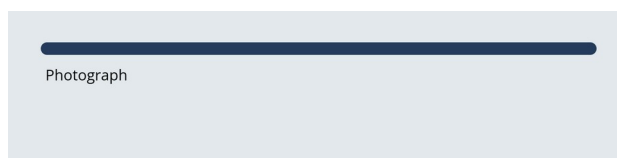
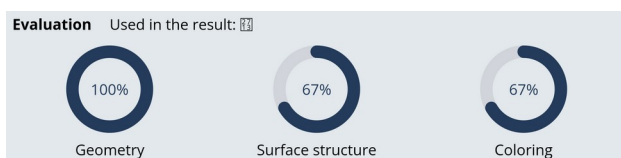
The site and its houses
The wall

Variant: 100 BC to 100 AD

Working state

The stone walls of the houses of Santa Clara's castro are one of the best preserved and, therefore, documented elements. To study it, we have taken into account the observations of the archaeologists who have carried out the surveys, added to the many existing photographs of the huts excavated in the castro. And we have also relied on the publication of Gómez et. al, where they analyze the earth mortars from the site.

The thickness of its walls is usually quite uniform, about 40 cm on average, and with a better finish on the outside. The vast majority are small. They sit directly on the bedrock and their walls would be covered with a lime and sand mortar, and Gómez et. refuse the ideas of sophisticated treatment of materials. Remains of pigmentation found would indicate that the topdresses could be tinted with different colors. We have tried to recreate all these characteristics through, mainly, the texturing of the model.



Reconstruction



Fig. 13 Render of the wall

Sources

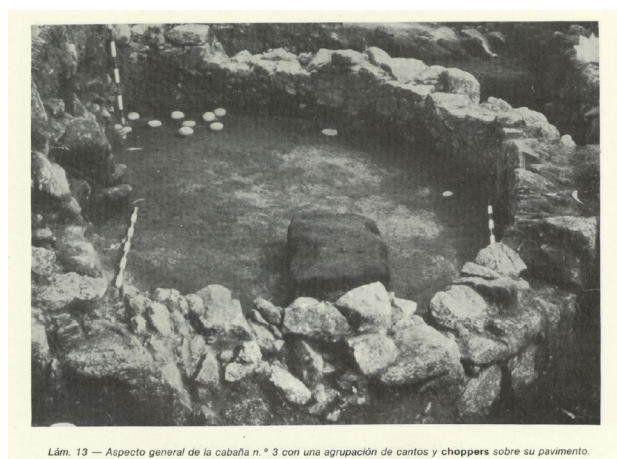


Fig. 7 One of the huts described by De La Peña Santos

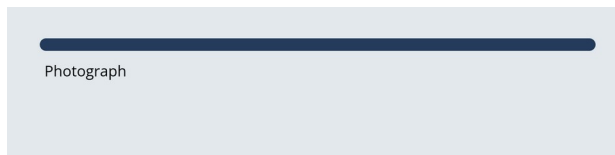
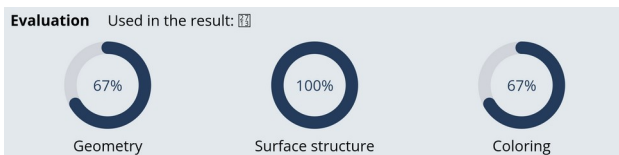
The site and its houses
The vestibule

Variant: 100 BC to 100 AD

Working state

As said, most of the houses have an entrance vestibule that many authors understand to be a Mediterranean influence adapted to the characteristics of indigenous constructions.

These halls have been registered by all the different excavations done. All archeologists writes about the circular enclosure beeing attached by an independent construction, a vestibule formed by two walls that, starting perpendicularly from the house, and at equal distances from its door, bend to form a concentric curve, interrupted by another door that faces and corresponds to the previous one. Ramon Patiño, besides, explain that the so-called ovens (that appear on rare houses) are usually installed in them. It is possible that they had a vegetable covering when there was an oven in them, which appears embedded in the walls.



Reconstruction



Fig. 14 Render of the vestibule

Sources



Lám. 10 — Aspecto general de la cabaña n.º 2 y enlosado exterior.

Fig. 8 One of the huts of De la Peña Santos with a preserved vestibule

The site and its houses
The roof

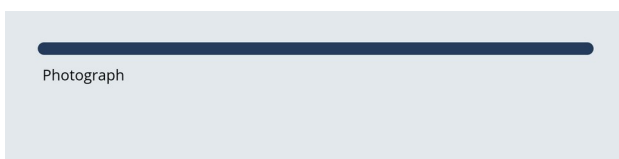
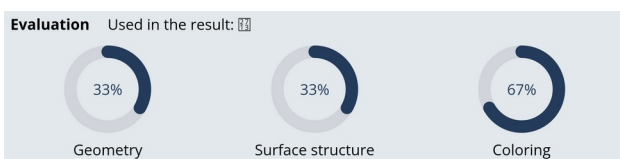
Variant: 100 BC to 100 AD

Working state

The roofing system is a matter of discussion among researchers. The traditional theory that defends a coverage with a conical roof supported by a central post is not fully endorsed by archaeological findings, since the hole to fix the central post has not been found and in that central place archaeologists usually find lareiras for combustion. Due to this lack of reference of the archaeological testimonies, it is possible to think of a covering system that discharges directly onto the walls. In the same way, there is no evidence to reject the possibility of a conical, flat or gabled roof. The use of plant materials for its covering, then, it's the only thing that has been verified.

More detailed studies may provide us with more data on this type of roof. In this recreation we have decided to stick with the traditional theory, not breaking with the imaginary about this type of huts until there is a firmer answer to that question.

Knowing, however, that it is an element of the recreation that is under discussion and very weakly supported, and hoping that this is clear from the uncertainty matrix.



Reconstruction



Fig. 15 Render of the roof

Sources

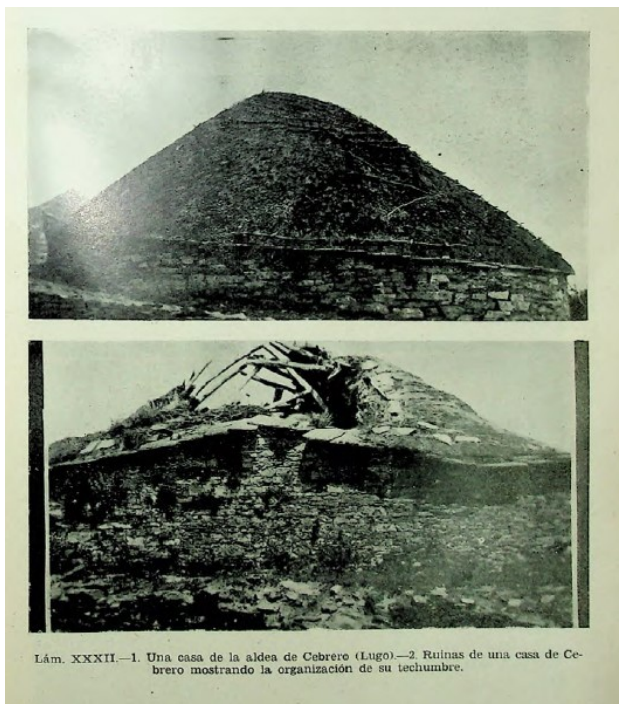


Fig. 11 One of the actual hut roofs Cayetano de Mergelina based his analogy on for the roofing

system.

The site and its houses
The door (jambs and dintels)



Variant: 100 BC to 100 AD

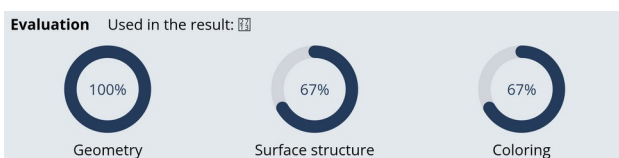
Working state

As said, one of the distinctive traits of most of the houses is that they had some with lintels and decorated elements. In this castro, a large number of monolithic jambs and lintels decorated with geometric shapes, roped, intertwined, have been found. They were also found, embedded in the walls, cylindrical monolithic blocks of not very large dimensions and with one of their faces decorated with geometric shapes such as spirals, trisquels, pinkish or pinwheels. Other elements, such as bases or the so-called moorings,¹⁴ have similar decorations and also representations of animals.

According to Antonio de la Peña Santos, this type of decoration highlights the existence of an own and peculiar plastic of the castreño world, product of the assimilation and re-elaboration of ornamental themes of Mediterranean affiliation. We have here recreated two of the decorated stones, one jamb and one dintel, drawn by Margalina in his findings.

Judging by the stones found, Margalina deduces, the dimensions of the doors in terms of their height could not exceed two meters, and even that must have been something exceptional. The doors must have been made of a single leaf, attached at the bottom to the threshold by a spike that would rest in a notch so that, at a given moment, it could be easily dismantled. The study of these arrangements becomes difficult, because the stones had to be used for the same function repeatedly, changing their position and consequently needing to open new notches in them. But the detail is always observed that they must have been made up of a single leaf.

We have recreated a door that could fit this description, but that's purely hypothetical.



Reconstruction



Fig. 16 Render of the entrance

Sources





Fig. 1 Recreated jamb



Fig. 2 Recreated lintel

Fig. 9 One of the lintels discovered

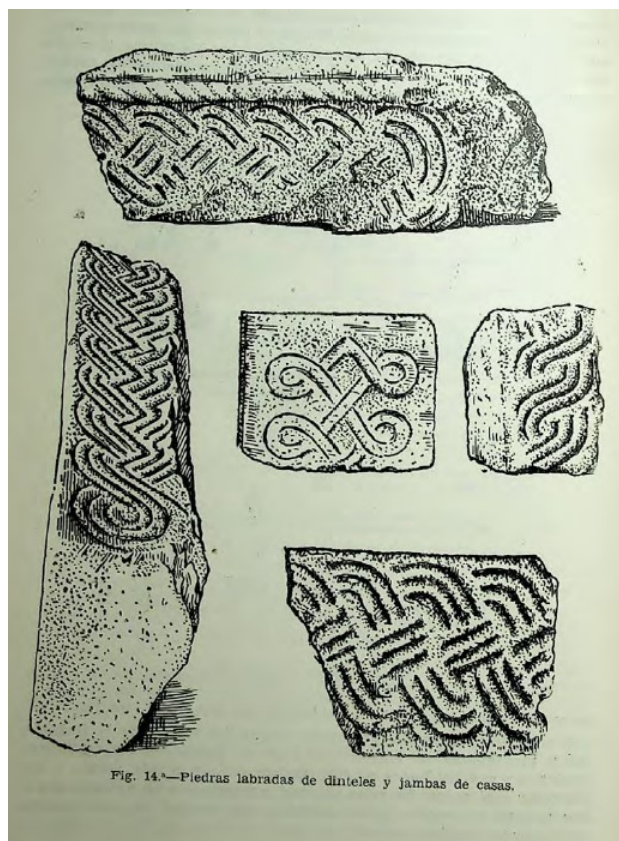


Fig. 14.^a—Piedras labradas de dinteles y jambas de casas.

Fig. 10 Jambes and lintels drawn by Cayetano de Mergelina



Fig. 1 Recreated jamb

Tags Reconstruction, Image

Used in:

The site and its houses – The door (jambs and dintels)



Fig. 2 Recreated dintel

Tags Reconstruction, Image

Used in:

The site and its houses – The door (jambs and dintels)



Fig. 13 Render of the wall

Tags Reconstruction, Image

Used in:

The site and its houses – The wall



Fig. 14 Render of the vestibule

Tags Reconstruction, Image

Used in:

The site and its houses – The vestibule



Fig. 15 Render of the roof

Tags Reconstruction, Image

Used in:

The site and its houses – The roof



Fig. 16 Render of the entrance

Tags Reconstruction, Image

Used in:

The site and its houses – The door (jambs and dintels)

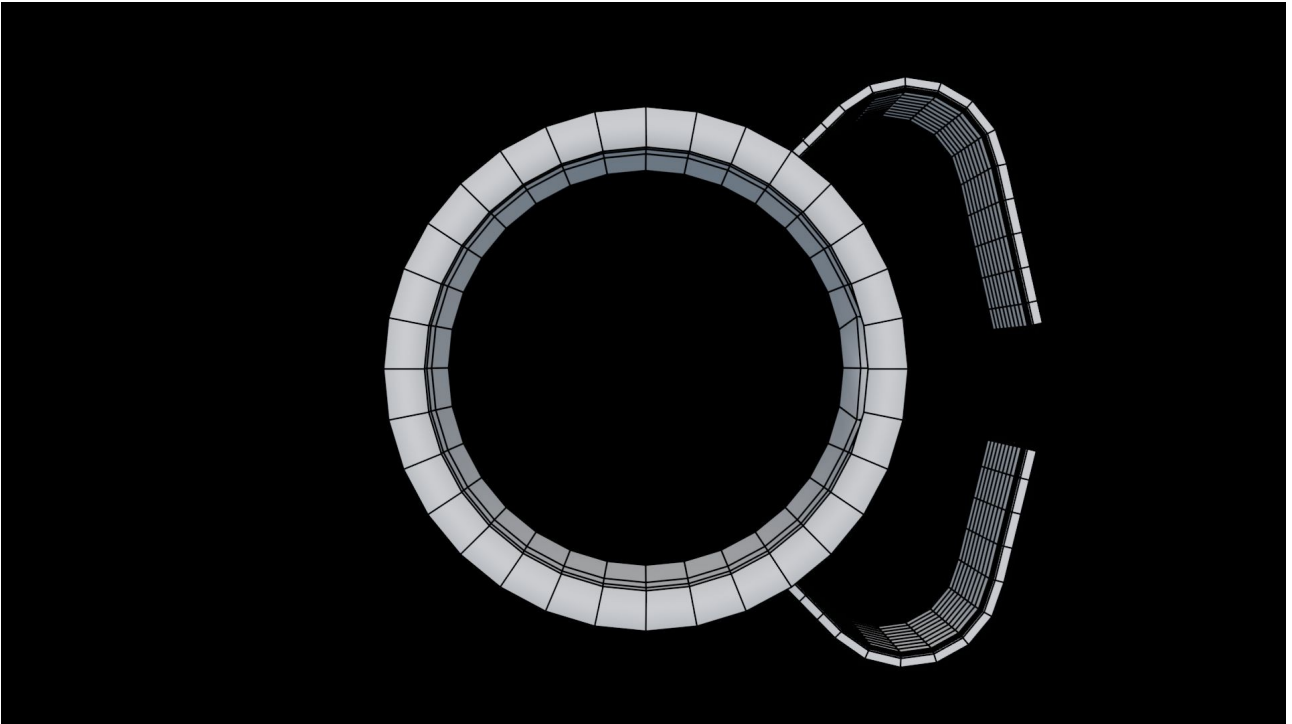


Fig. 18 Ground floor of the reconstructed house

Tags Reconstruction, Image

Used in:

The site and its houses – Layout and structure

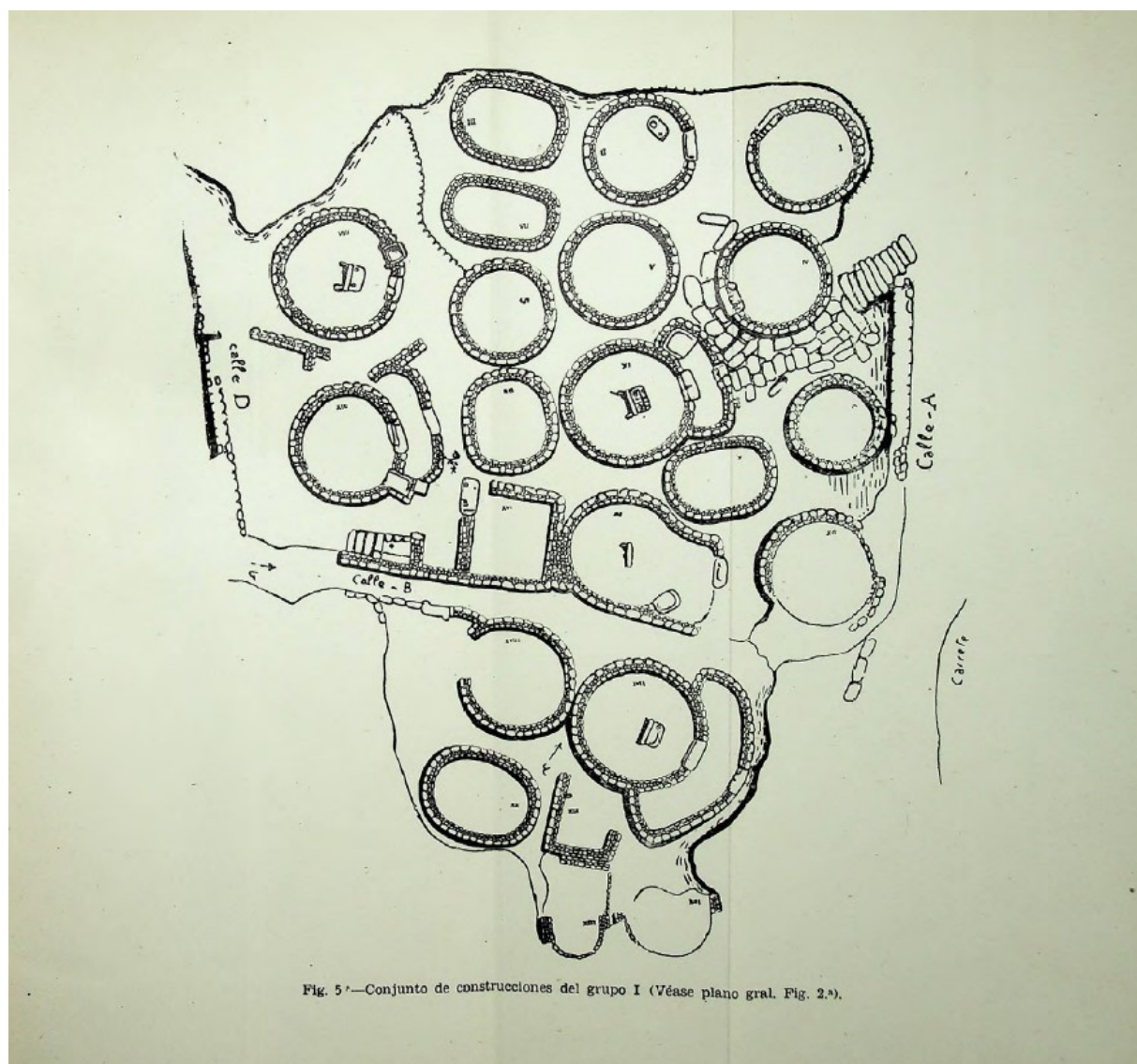


Fig. 3 Set of constructions of group I in La Citania de Santa Tecla

Type	Survey drawing	Used in:	
Description	Page 14	Used in:	The site and its houses – Layout and structure
Author	Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna		
Archive	Boletín del Seminario de Estudios de Arte y Arqueología: BSAA		
Signature	La Citania de Santa Tecla. La Guardia (Pontevedra)		
Publication	1944		
Tags	Source, Image		

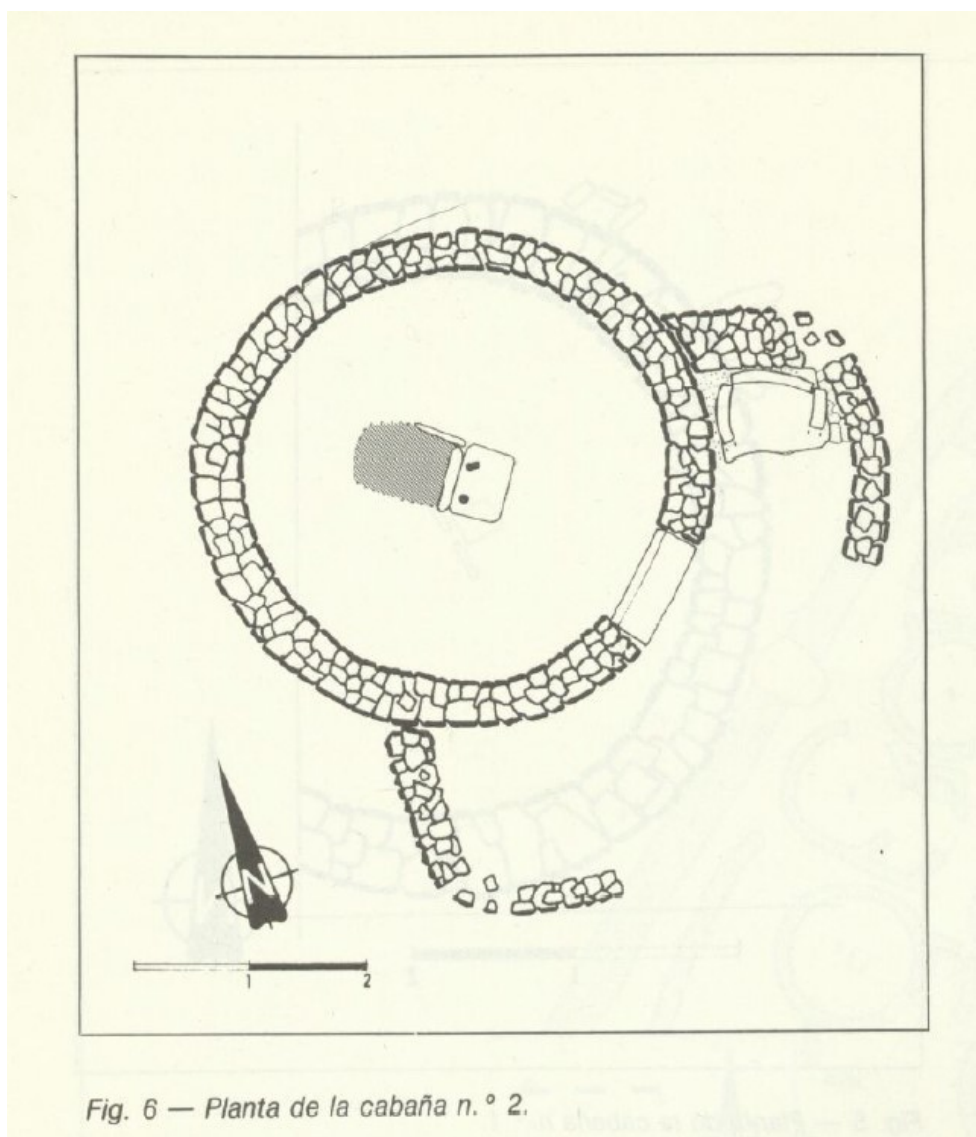


Fig. 4 One of the huts De la Peña Santos drew

Type Survey drawing

Used in:

Description Page 10

The site and its houses – Layout and structure

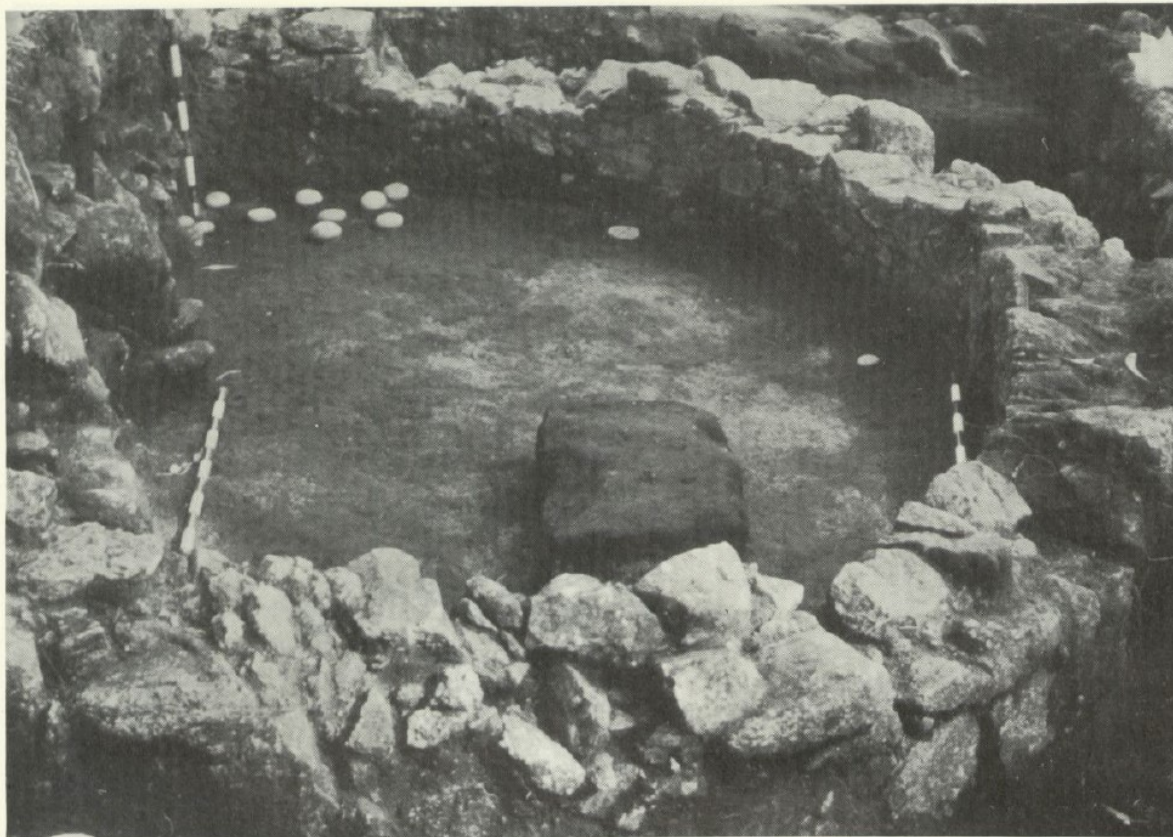
Author Antonio de la Peña Santos

Archive Arqueoloxía/memorias 5

Signature Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983

Publication 1986

Tags Source, Image



Lám. 13 — Aspecto general de la cabaña n.º 3 con una agrupación de cantos y choppers sobre su pavimento.

Fig. 7 One of the huts described by De La Peña Santos

Type	Photograph	Used in:
Description	Page 55	The site and its houses – The wall
Author	Antonio de la Peña Santos	
Archive	Arqueoloxía/memorias 5	
Signature	Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983	
Publication	1986	
Tags	Source, Image	



Lám. 10 — Aspecto general de la cabaña n.º 2 y enlosado exterior.

Fig. 8 One of the huts of De la Peña Santos with a preserved vestibule

Type	Photograph	Used in:
Description	Page 73	The site and its houses – The vestibule
Author	Antonio de la Peña Santos	
Archive	Arqueoloxía/memorias 5	
Signature	Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983	
Publication	1986	
Tags	Source, Image	

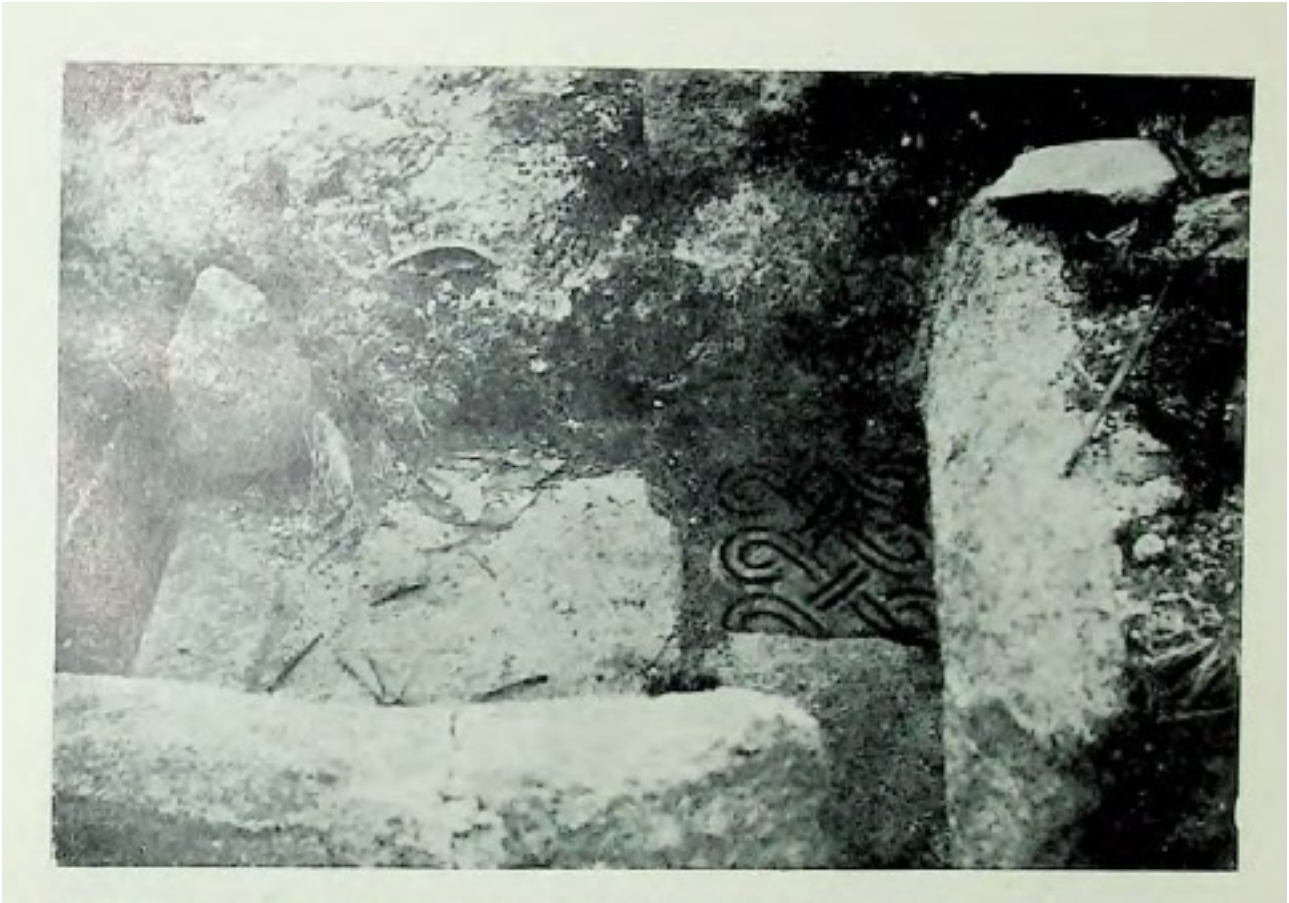


Fig. 9 One of the dintel discovered

Type	Photograph	Used in:
Description	Page 73	The site and its houses – The door (jambs and dintel)
Author	Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna	
Archive	Boletín del Seminario de Estudios de Arte y Arqueología: BSAA	
Signature	La Citania de Santa Tecla. La Guardia (Pontevedra)	
Publication	1944	
Tags	Source, Image	

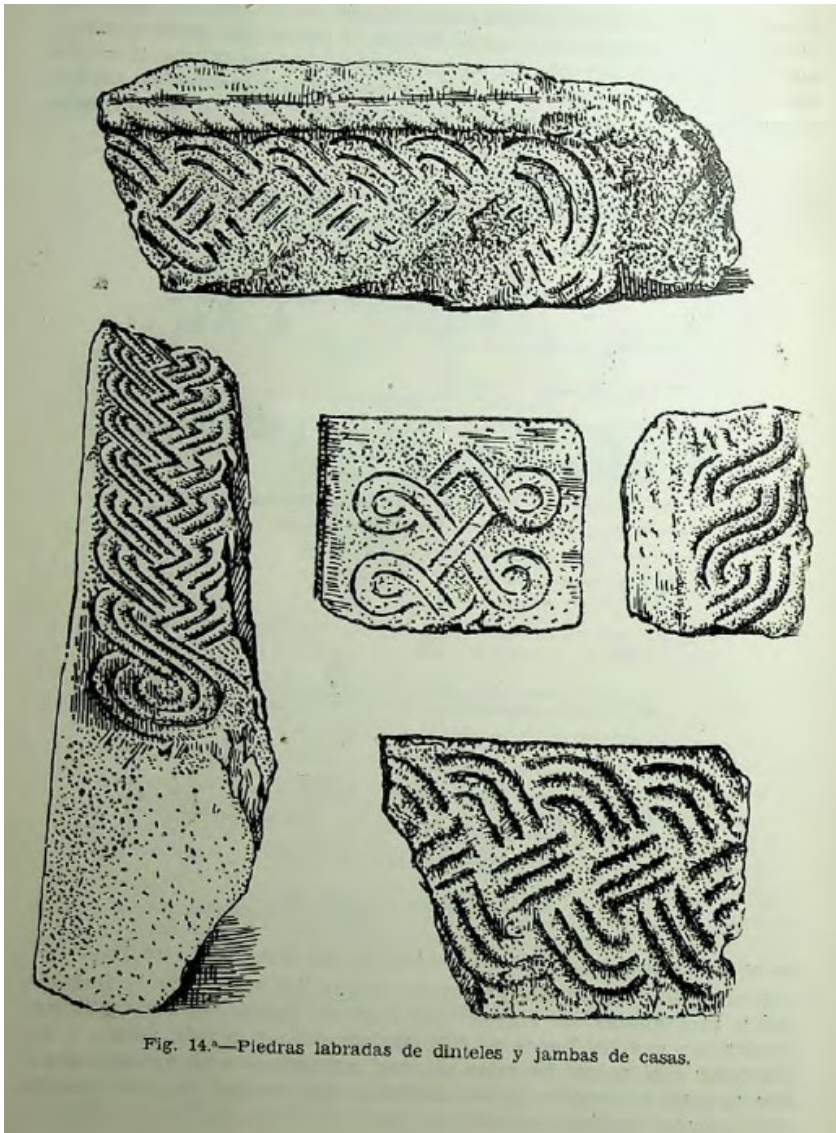


Fig. 10 Jambes and dinteles drew by Cayetano de Mergelina

Type	Survey drawing	Used in:
Description	Page 26	The site and its houses – The door (jambes and dinteles)
Author	Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna	
Archive	Boletín del Seminario de Estudios de Arte y Arqueología: BSAA	
Signature	La Citania de Santa Tecla. La Guardia (Pontevedra)	
Publication	1944	
Tags	Source, Image	

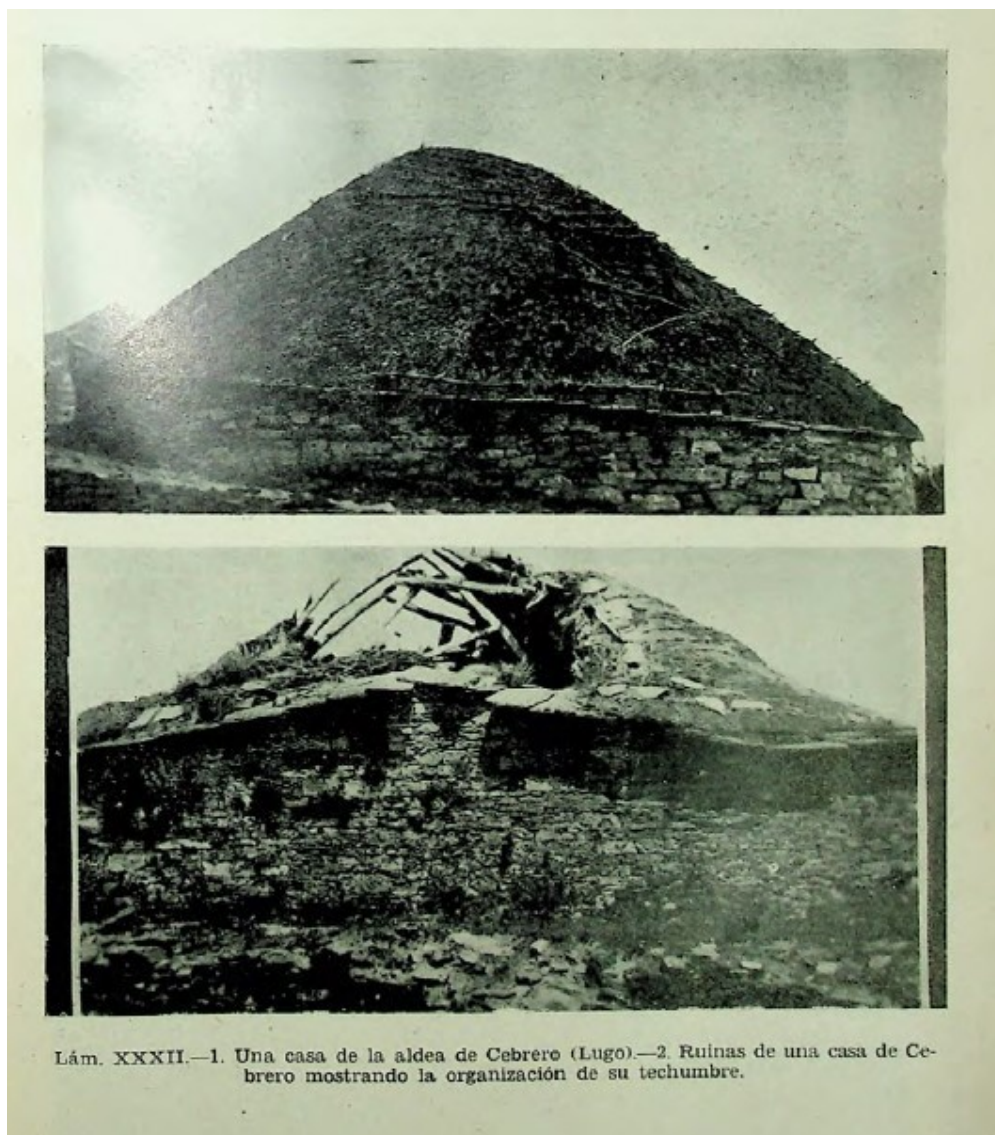


Fig. 11 One of the actual hut roofs Cayetano de Mergelina based his analogy on for the roofing system.

Type	Photograph	Used in:
Description	Page 81	The site and its houses – The roof
Author	Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna	
Archive	Boletín del Seminario de Estudios de Arte y Arqueología: BSAA	
Signature	La Citania de Santa Tecla. La Guardia (Pontevedra)	
Publication	1944	
Tags	Source, Image	

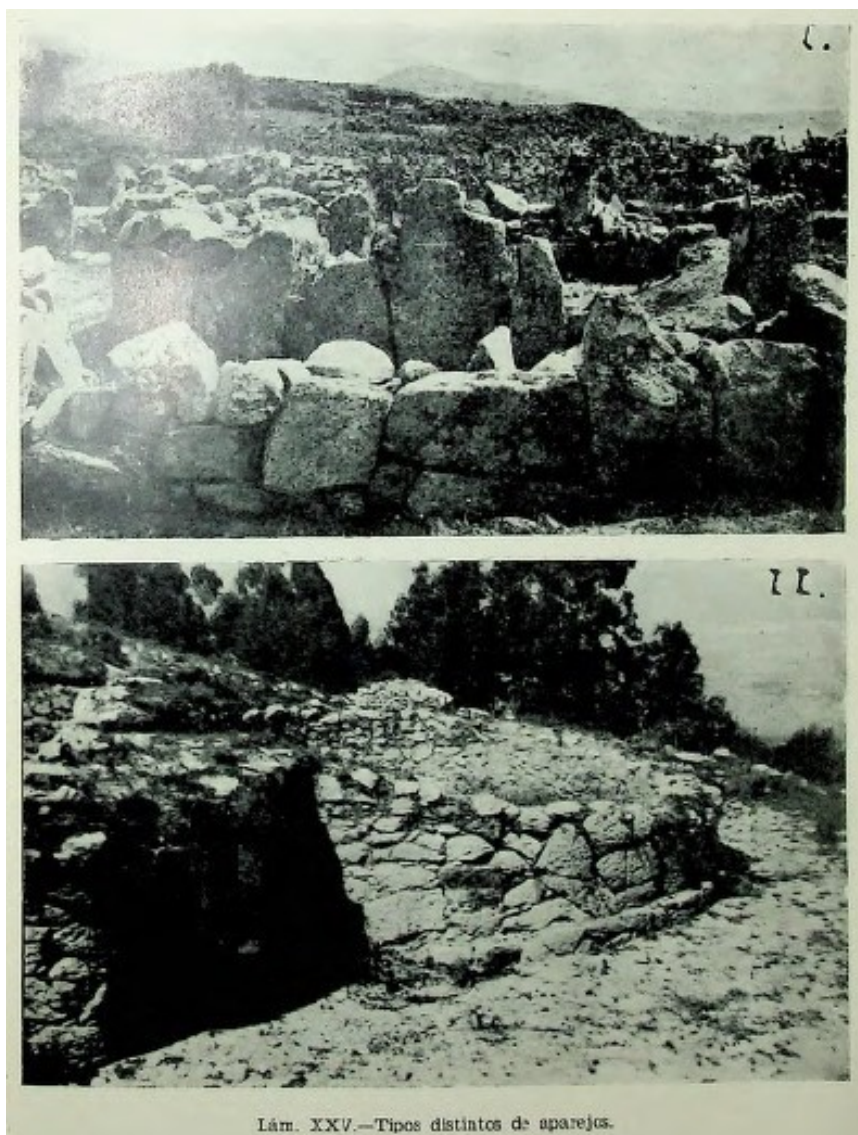


Fig. 19 Set of constructions of group I in La Citania de Santa Tecla

Type Photograph

Description Page 74

Author Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna

Archive Boletín del Seminario de
Estudios de Arte y Arqueología:
BSAA

Signature La Citania de Santa Tecla. La
Guardia (Pontevedra)

Publication 1944

Tags Source, Image

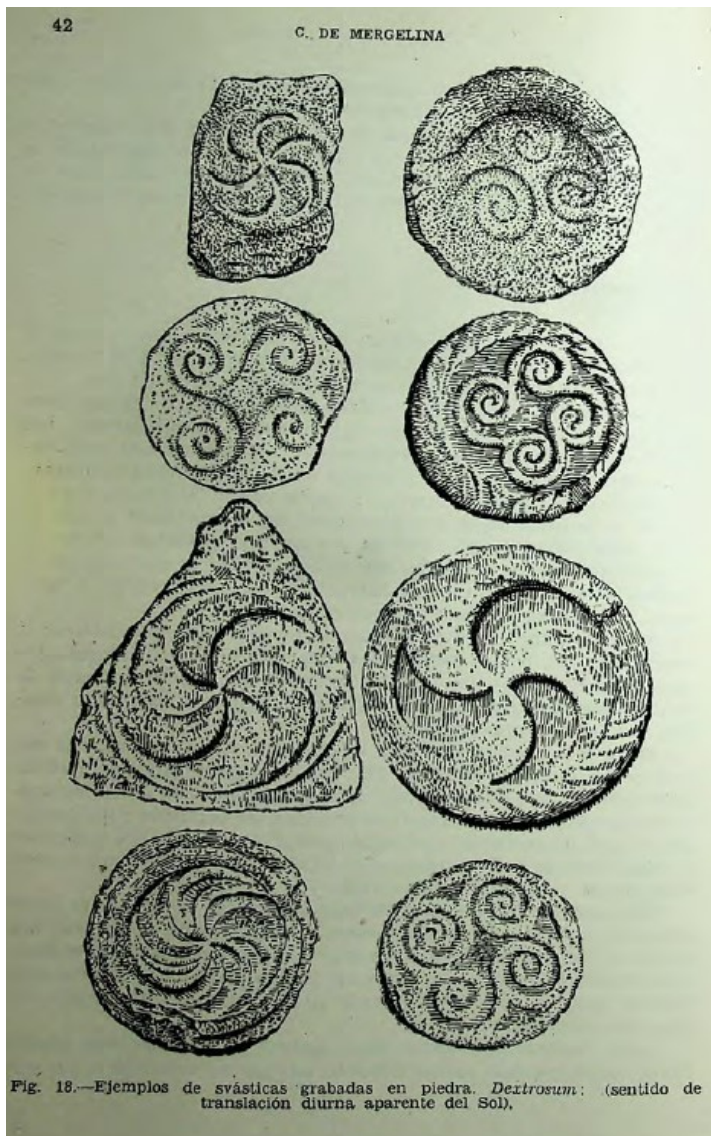


Fig. 20 Set of constructions of group I in La Citania de Santa Tecla

Type Drawing

Description Page 42

Author Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna

Archive Boletín del Seminario de Estudios de Arte y Arqueología: BSAA

Signature La Citania de Santa Tecla. La Guardia (Pontevedra)

Publication 1944

Tags Source, Image

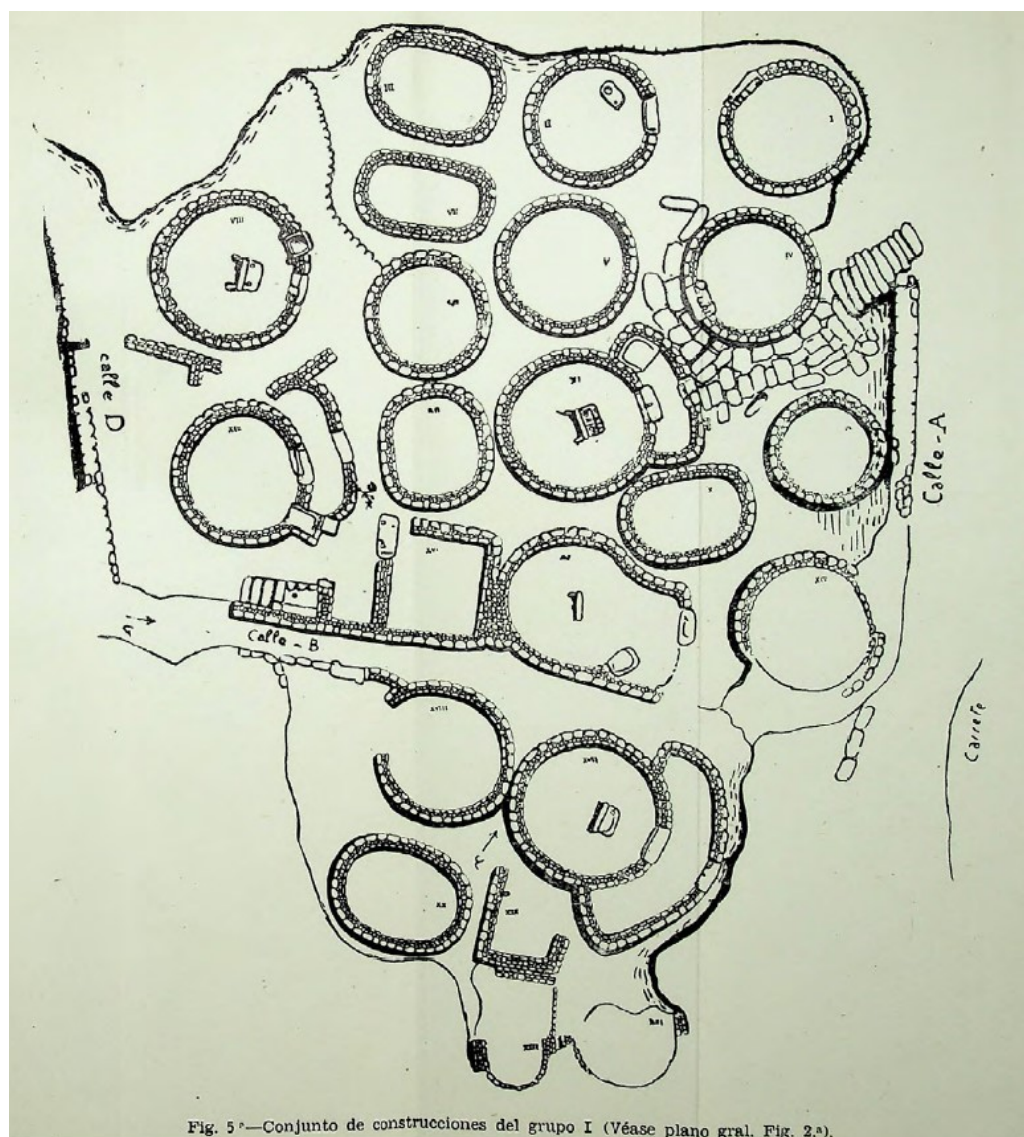


Fig. 5.º—Conjunto de construcciones del grupo I (Véase plano gral. Fig. 2.º).

Fig. 21 Set of constructions of group I in La Citania de Santa Tecla

Type Survey drawing

Description Page 18

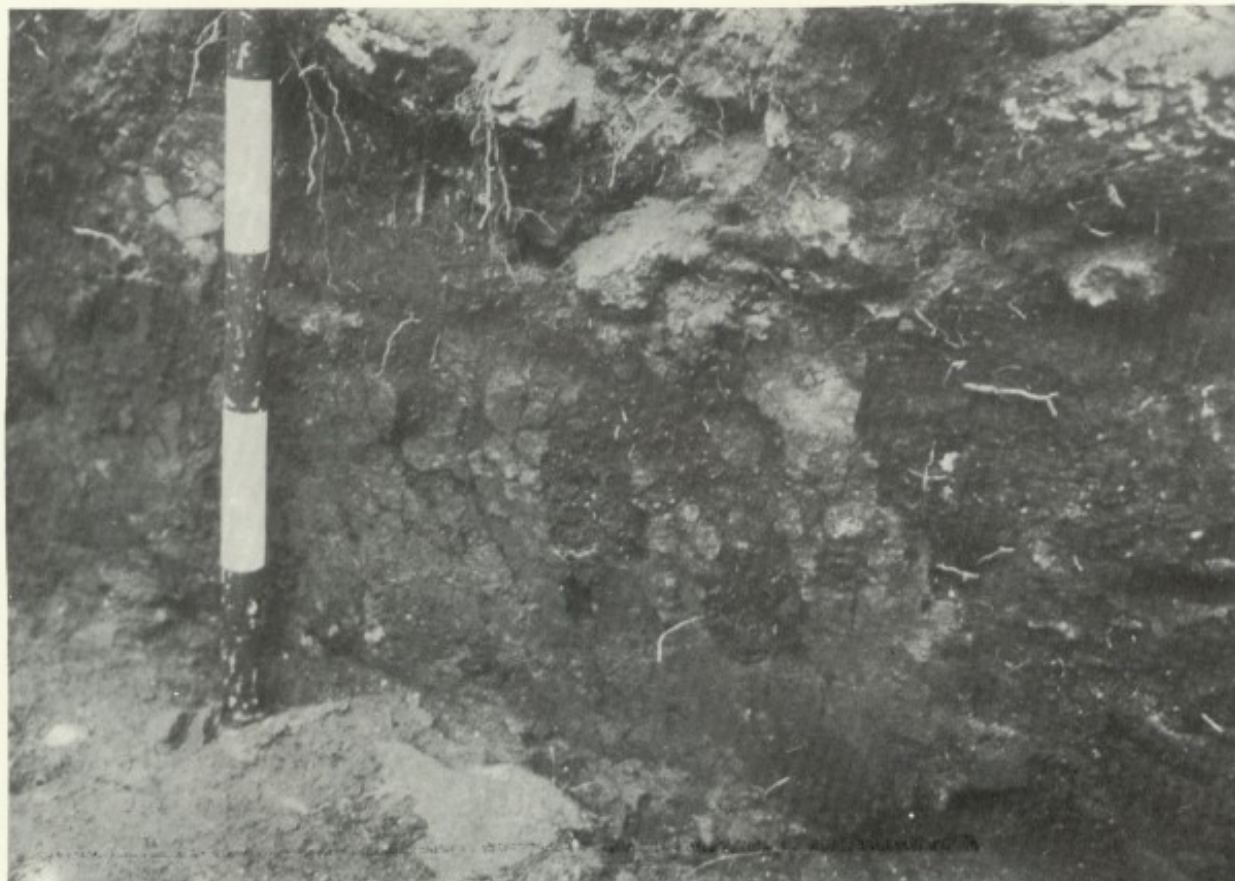
Author Cayetano de Mergelina y Luna

Archive Boletín del Seminario de
Estudios de Arte y Arqueología:
BSAA

Signature La Citania de Santa Tecla. La
Guardia (Pontevedra)

Publication 1944

Tags Source, Image



Lám. 14 — Detalle del enlucido exterior de la cabaña n.º 3.

Fig. 22 One of the huts of De la Peña Santos with a preserved vestibule

Type Photograph

Description Page 56

Author Antonio de la Peña Santos

Archive Arqueoloxía/memorias 5

Signature Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983

Publication 1986

Tags Source, Image



Lám. 3 — Aspecto general de la excavación desde el Sur.

Fig. 23 One of the huts of De la Peña Santos with a preserved vestibule

Type Photograph

Description Page 50

Author Antonio de la Peña Santos

Archive Arqueoloxía/memorias 5

Signature Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983

Publication 1986

Tags Source, Image

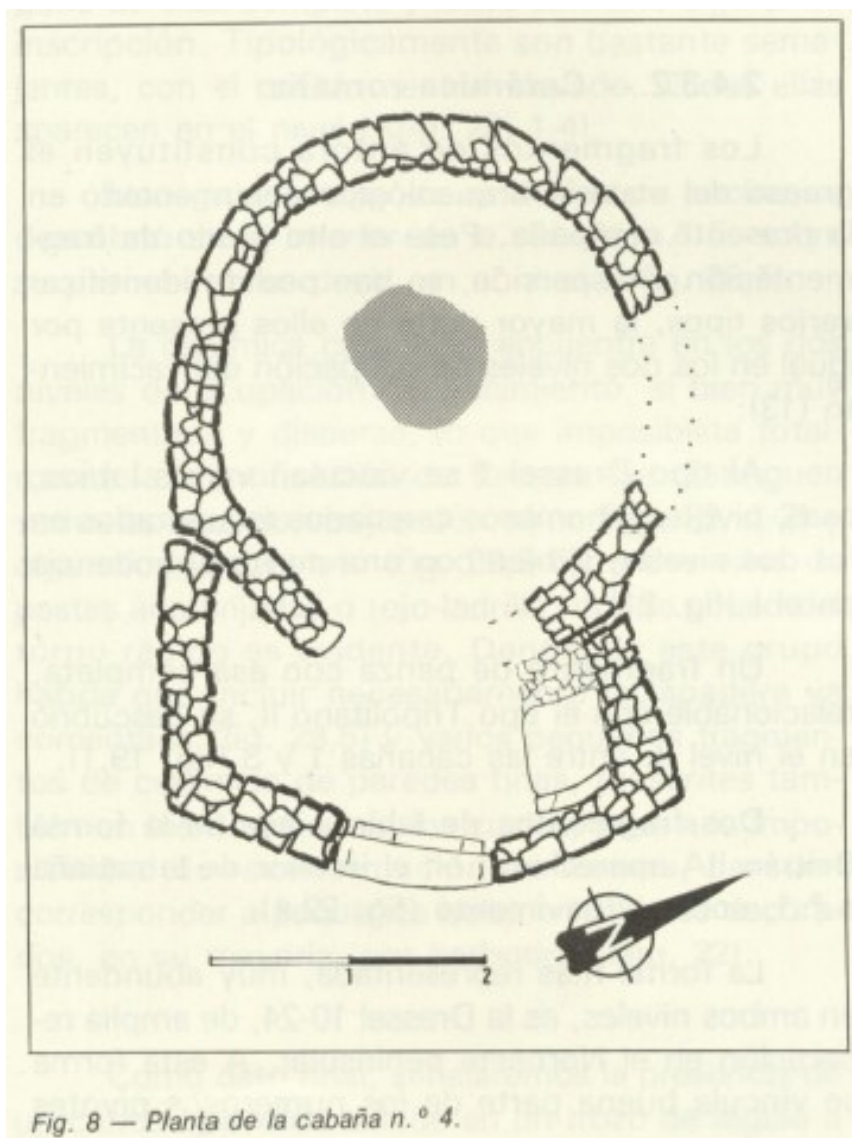


Fig. 24 One of the huts of De la Peña Santos with a preserved vestibule

Type Survey drawing

Description Page 11

Author Antonio de la Peña Santos

Archive Arqueoloxía/memorias 5

Signature Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983

Publication 1986

Tags Source, Image

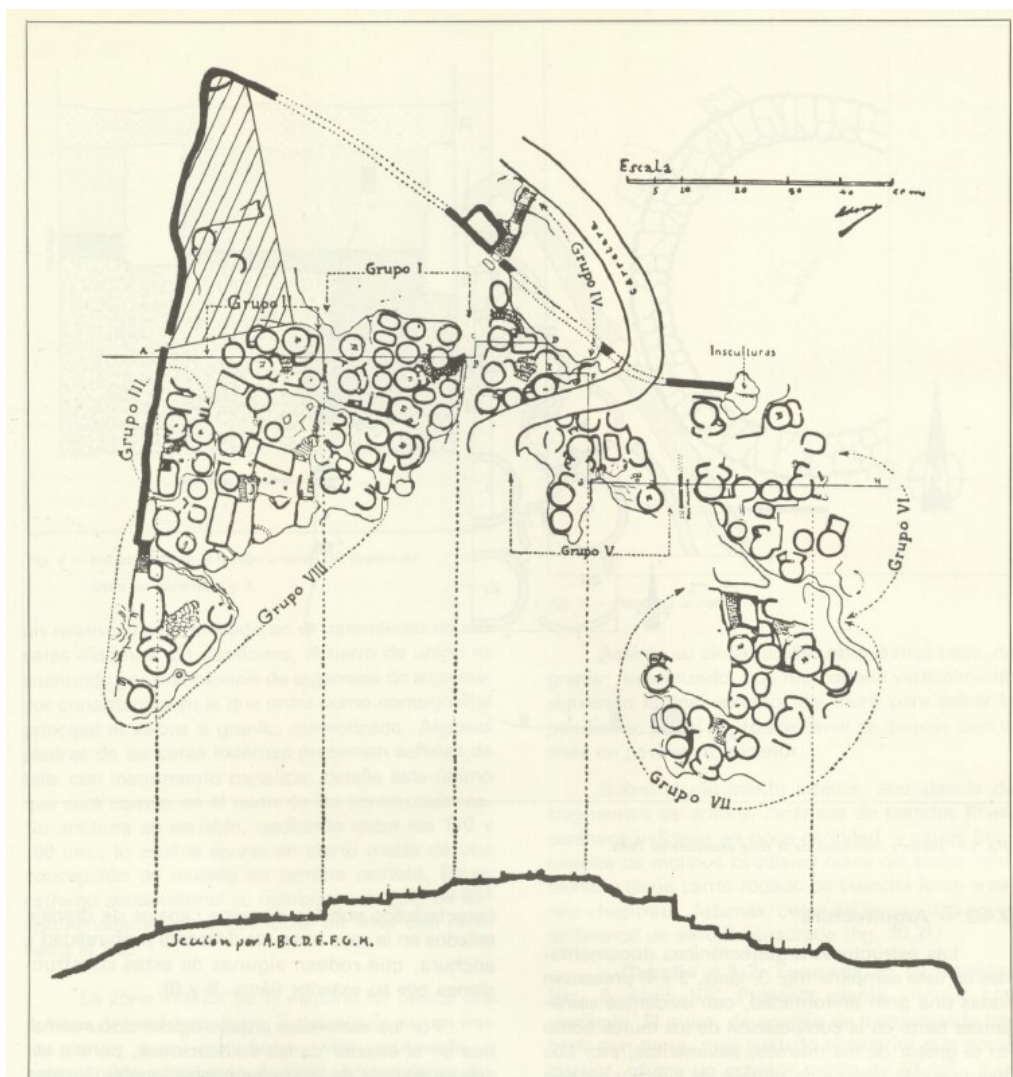


Fig. 2 — Plano del sector medio del castro de Santa Trega publicado por Mergelina. Se indica la zona objeto de excavación en la campaña 1983.

Fig. 25 One of the huts of De la Peña Santos with a preserved vestibule

Type Survey drawing

Description Page 7

Author Antonio de la Peña Santos

Archive Arqueoloxía/memorias 5

Signature Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983

Publication 1986

Tags Source, Image

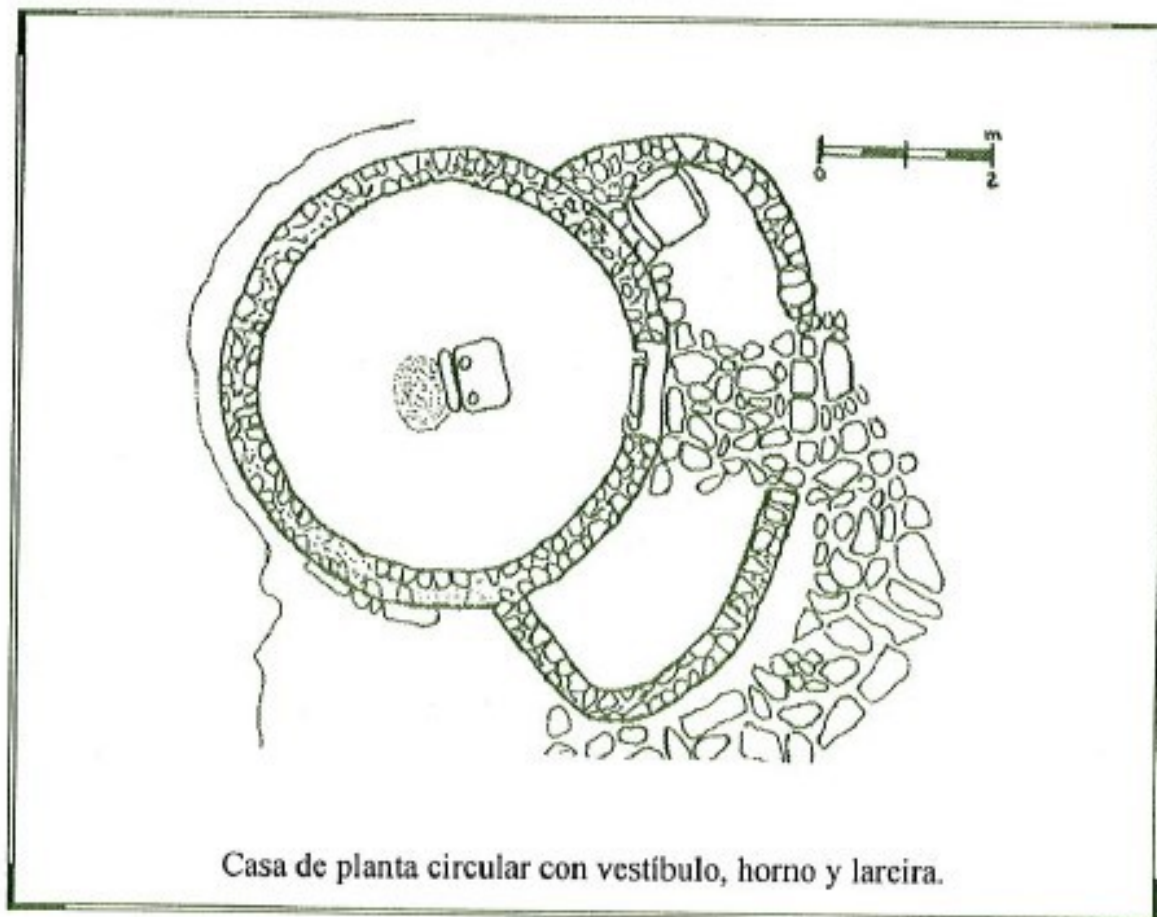


Fig. 26 One of the huts of De la Peña Santos with a preserved vestibule

Type Photograph

Description Page 8

Author Antonio de la Peña Santos

Archive Arqueoloxía/memorias 5

Signature Yacimiento Galaico-Romano de Santa Trega (A Guardia - Pontevedra). Campaña 1983

Publication 1986

Tags Source, Image



Fig.: 7. Depósito fundacional.

Fig. 27 Foundational deposit of the site

Type Photograph

Description Page 112

Author Rafael María Rodríguez Martínez

Archive Férvedes N° 9

Signature Re-excavando Santa Trega (A Guarda, Pontevedra). Nuevos datos y conclusiones del Barrio Mergelina.

Publication 2018

Tags Source, Image

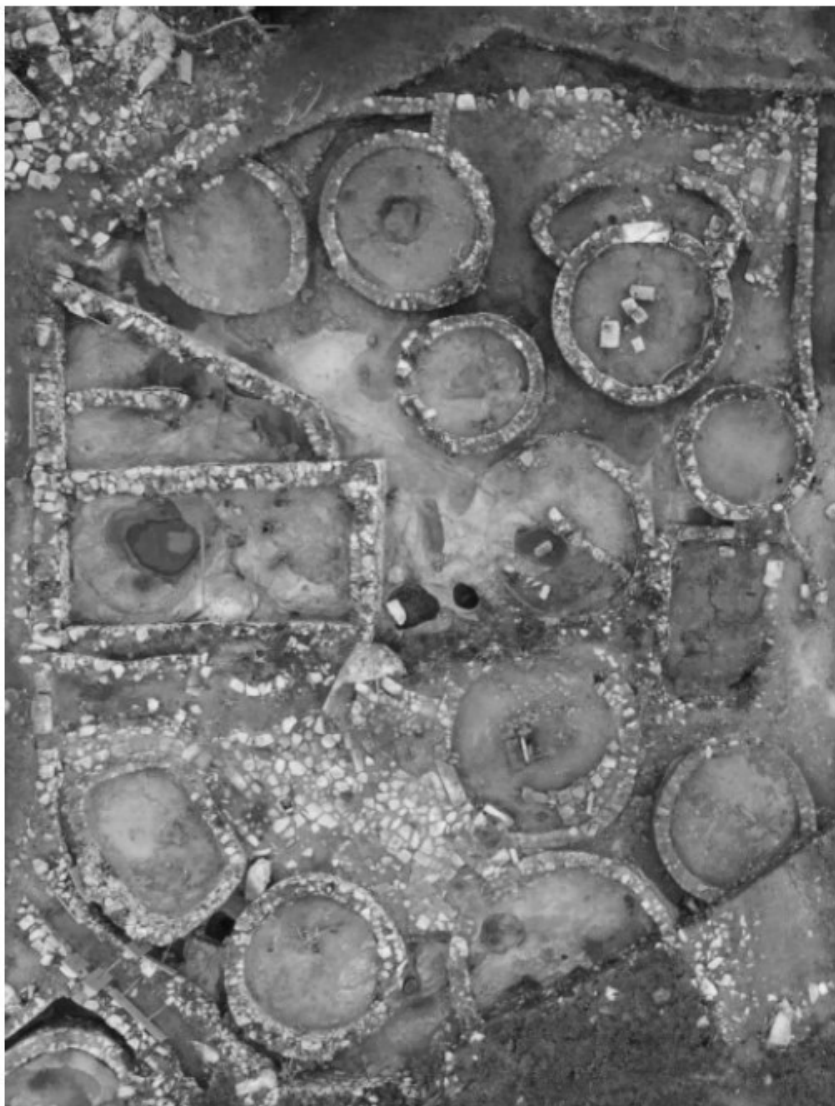


Fig. 28 Aerial photo of zone 2 of the deposit, by Rodríguez Martínez

Type	Photograph	Used in:
Description	Page 113	The site and its houses
Author	Rafael María Rodríguez Martínez	
Archive	Férvedes N° 9	
Signature	Re-excavando Santa Trega (A Guarda, Pontevedra). Nuevos datos y conclusiones del Barrio Mergelina.	
Publication	2018	
Tags	Source, Image	