

## FOPPE DI NADRO – RECORDING ROCK-ART FIELDWORK REPORT OF THE 3 YEARS RESEARCH CONCESSION 2017-2019

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### SUMMARY

The paper displays the catalogue of the rocks which were traced during the Recording Rock-art Fieldworks during the years between 2017 and 2019 in Foppe di Nadro (“Riserva naturale delle incisioni rupestri di Ceto, Cimbergo e Paspardo”, Valcamonica - Italy), thanks to a research permit granted by the “Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle arti e Paesaggio”. The rocks in the eastern part of the area (26-27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 61, 63, 78, 79, 80, and 82) are presented and described in this preliminary study.

### RIASSUNTO

L'articolo presenta le rocce indagate durante il Recording Rock-art Fieldwork per gli anni 2017-2019, nel sito di Foppe di Nadro presso la Riserva naturale delle incisioni rupestri di Ceto, Cimbergo e Paspardo (Valcamonica - Italia), su concessione della Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle arti e Paesaggio. Nel seguente contributo verranno presentate e descritte le rocce appartenenti all'area orientale del sito: 26-27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 61, 63, 78, 79, 80, e 82.

In 2017 “L’arte rupestre di Foppe di Nadro”, vol 1<sup>1</sup>, has been published, in which were studied the engraved surfaces in the central area of the site. This area was also the first to be explored by scholars and was also the first to be seen by tourists. The newly edited Volume 2<sup>2</sup> covers the uphill area of the site<sup>3</sup>.

The aim of the new research plan was to produce a complete catalogue of the area and a consistent scientific documentation with a modern and uniform standard of tracing quality, but also to review historical data from the archives. The area, which starts from rock 54 and continues uphill until Copper age site, known as rock 30, spreads around and beyond the plateau where big rock 26-27 lies. It includes surfaces recorded as 26-27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 61, 63, 78, 79, 80, and 82.

This area has been investigated in three different phases, between 1970 and 1982, between 2004 and 2006, and eventually between 2017 and 2019. It was thus possible to trace an amazing journey through the history of 43 years of research.

First mention of a rock in Foppe di Nadro is due to Giovanni Marro<sup>4</sup> in 1935. He discovered a big boulder with a vertical surface on which he could recognize

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1 CITTADINI (ed.) 2017.

2 MEDICI, GAVALDO 2019.

3 A three years permission was granted by MiBACT (Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali e del Turismo) to Centro Camuno di Studi Preistorici and to the excavation director Dr. Paolo Medici, in order to continue the research in Foppe di Nadro and publish Volume I and II, with the collaboration of Cristina Gastaldi, Silvana Gavaldo and the technical staff of the CCSP.

4 MARRO 1935, pp. 15-16.

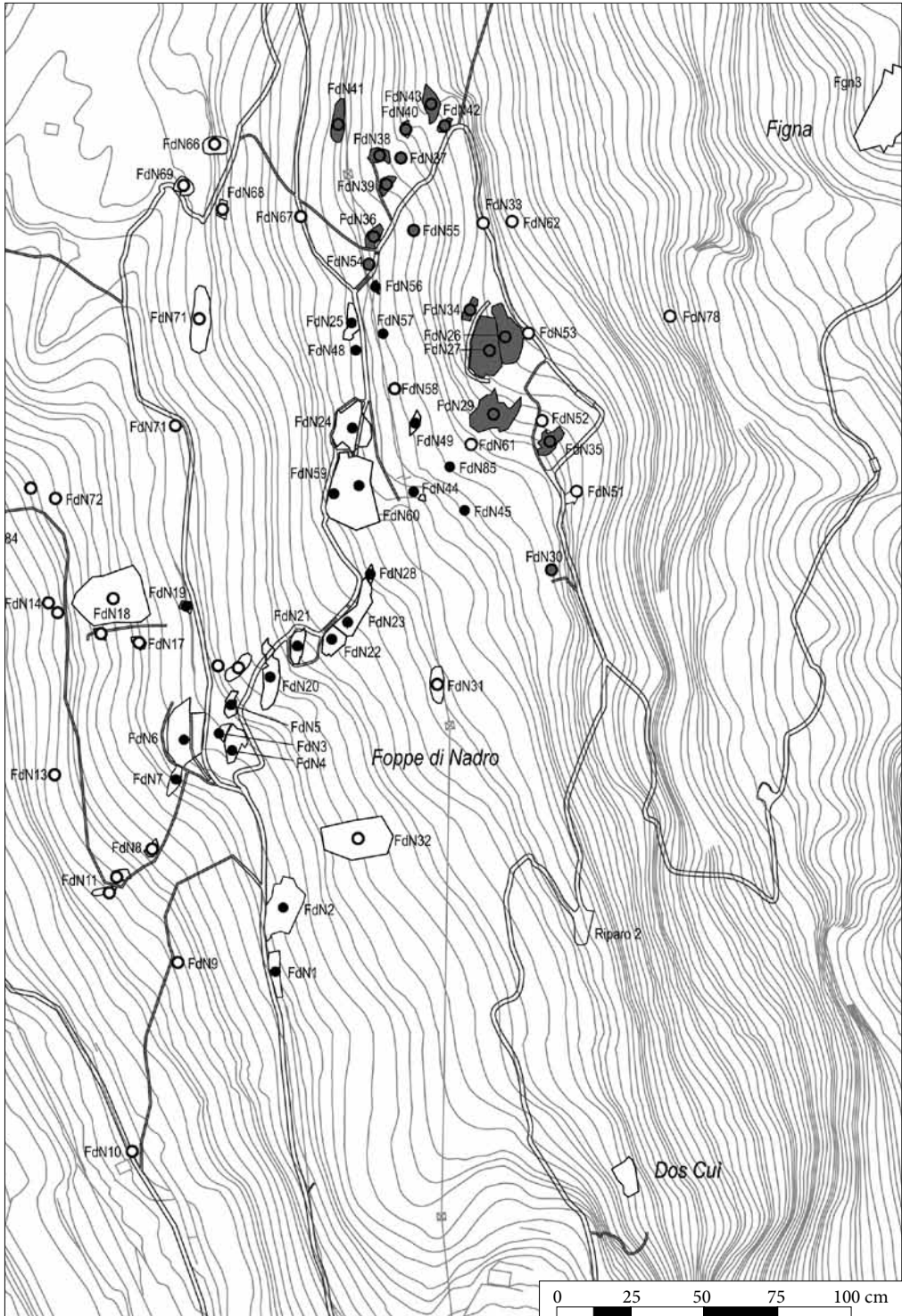




Fig. 1 - The sight, in the 1974, of the wide and plan grass field were the rocks 26-27, 35 and 29 are placed. At the centre is it possible to observe the small outcrop of the nowadays sector C of the rock 27 (EUR74:XXXV-5)



Fig. 2 a, b, c - Small portion of rock 26-27 (sector C) with engraved barns photographed in 1957. (CAM57:IIILIV-12; CAM57:III-LV-1; CAM57:III-LV-2)

*“effigi umane di cui gli estremi sono dati da prodotti semplicemente stilizzati a tratti”*, i.e. the schematic anthropomorphic figures engraved on rock 30. When Emmanuel Anati came to Valcamonica in 1957, he followed the trails of previous scholars, such as Giovanni Marro<sup>5</sup> and Raffaello Battaglia<sup>6</sup>. In Foppe di Nadro he discovered 12 surfaces with rock art. He traced also two of them and took photos of the other ones. Among this 1957 photographic material, it is possible to recognize a small portion of rock 26-27 (sector C) with engraved barns.

Despite those two early documentations, the first extensive research started in Foppe di Nadro only in 1974, and started from rocks 1-6 and probably 7, a portion of which was visible from the trail; CCSP staff created a new method of research<sup>7</sup>

5 MARRO 1933.

6 BATTAGLIA 1934.

7 ANATI 1975, pp. 23-24.

Periodo archeologico		Fase istoriativa	Sequenza stilistica	Datazioni (non calibrate)
Neolitico	Neolitico Tardo	FASE I	II	IV millennio a.C.
Età del Rame	Rame 1			FASE II
	Rame 2	inizio III millennio a.C.		
	Rame 3	metà III millennio a.C.		
Età del Bronzo	Bronzo Antico	FASE II	IIIB	fine III millennio a.C.
	Bronzo Medio		IIIC	metà XVII secolo a.C.
	Bronzo Tardo		IIID	metà XIV secolo a.C.
	Bronzo Finale	Transizione III / IV	XII secolo a.C.	
Età del Ferro	Ferro Antico	FASE III	IV A - B	IX secolo a.C.
	Ferro Medio		IV C	VII secolo a.C.
			IV D - E	V secolo a.C.
			IV E	metà IV secolo a.C.
	Ferro Tardo		IV F	III secolo a.C.
Epoca Romana in Valcamonica	Romanizzazione	I secolo a.C.		
	Conquista Romana	I-II secolo d.C.		
Medioevo	Alto Medioevo	FASE IV	Fase Storica	V secolo d.C.
	Basso Medioevo			XIV secolo d.C.
				XV secolo d.C.
Epoca Moderna				XVI secolo d.C. - Oggi

Fig. 3 - Chronological table (elaboration of SG and PM)

which became a paradigm for future investigations. In 1976 the équipe of CCSP documented rock 30<sup>8</sup>. In 1977, the area surrounding the boulder was investigated by an archaeological excavation<sup>9</sup>. The big plateau around rock 26-27 was investigated simultaneously. The huge surface was at that time mostly covered by the ground and only a small portion of the sector 27C was visible. When brought to light, the panels showed a richness of patterns from Neolithic to Bronze Age. Between 1977 and 1978 were excavated and recorded rocks 26-27, 29, 34 35 and 61<sup>10</sup>. The following years were dedicated to record rocks in the central area of Foppe di Nadro (25, 24, 23, 22 and 21). Meanwhile, few smaller rocks were discovered and recorded between 1979 and 1983 (36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45). Despite the passionate work of scholars, no in-depth studies, besides the monography on rock 35<sup>11</sup>, were published during these years. After 1983 the research moved to other areas, such as Seradina and Sellero.

The second phase of research in the area took place during the years 2004-2006<sup>12</sup> and 2012-2015<sup>13</sup>, when Dipartimento Valcamonica of CCSP came back to Foppe di Nadro. The aim was to go through the previous documentation on rock 26-27 and to provide a new and up-to-date tracing. During those years, other surfaces were recorded *ex-novo*: 33 (2004), 51 (2006), 52 (2006), 53 (2006), 61 (2015). In addition, other rocks were discovered: 62<sup>14</sup> (now lost under a landslide), 63 (2004), 78 (2004), 79 (2004), 80 (2004) e 82 (2012).

The goal, nowadays, is to publish the entire area; due to its complexity, the work has been divided in three volumes. The first step, naturally, was to organize and compare all data and to provide equal quality standards for each surface. Due to this, all the surfaces were assigned a colour: green, for rocks ready to be published (30, 33, 51, 52, 53, 61, 63, 78, 79, 80, 82); yellow, for rocks requiring further controls (26-27, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42); red, for rocks to be documented *ex-novo* (29, 34, 35, 37, 54, 55); for rocks 31 and 32 it has not been possible to produce any documentation. Old photographs were classified, and old tracings were assembled and compared to new ones and, when necessary, were remade. The survey areas were first cleared out from vegetation and were cleaned. The tracing was carried out on standard sized transparent polyethylene sheets (cm.70 x 60), laid out to cover the entire engraved area<sup>15</sup>. Mirrors and artificial lights were used systematically to enhance visibility, as light conditions often make engravings less readable. Night-time photo shoots with artificial oblique lighting were also used for documentation. All the surfaces were recorded with a total station and inserted in the GIS of the CCSP. Catalogues were made and checked, to be put in a database. Furthermore, a complete analysis of themes and typologies has been conducted.

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8 MELLER PADOVANI 1977, pp. 57-66.

9 MELLER PADOVANI 1979; MEDICI, GAVALDO 2019, pp. 70.

10 Numbers are given according to the present state of research. During the '70s numbers were different (GASTALDI 2017, pp. 24, 25; MEDICI, GAVALDO 2019, pp 50, 119).

11 SANSONI 1981.

12 GAVALDO 2009.

13 GAVALDO, GASTALDI, MEDICI 2015;

14 MEDICI 2014.

15 MEDICI 2017.

Rock 26-27 is perhaps the richest and the most complex ensemble in Foppe di Nadro, comparable only with the Great Rock in Naquane. Located high, on the west rim of a flat area, under a steep ridge and close to the spring which flows near r. 78, the rock is a huge moutonnée surface, modelled by glaciers with gutters and cracks, mostly westbound and descending southbound. In the middle of the surface a wide fire fracture can be noticed.

A single panel of sector 27 C was discovered and photographed in 1957 by Anati Survey Campaign, amongst a huge pasture area, as well as sector 27 A, photographed in 1974. Only from 1976, the rock was excavated and sectors C, D and B (partially) were put in light. The peculiar relevance of the engravings and their overlaps (mostly of praying figures and weapons), in order to set a correct chronology, was pointed out by Anati himself. Between 1977 and 1978 a tracing fieldwork started. Due to the wide surface of the rock, four teams were on the field. Nevertheless, the project of a complete tracing remained uncompleted. It was only between 2000 and 2004 that rock 26 was joined to 27 and a complete tracing of the surface was carried on and eventually ended in 2012.

Rock 26-27 displays a full chronology, from late Neolithic to present era (two figures and a heart were scratched very recently). Layout and orientation of the engravings were accurately chosen. First phase (late Neolithic- early Copper age) is evident around a huge fire crack on the top centre of the surface. It includes some topographic figures, a horny schematic ox (as on r. 8 and r. 49 in Campanine di Cimbergo)<sup>16</sup>, praying figures, and big cup-marks.

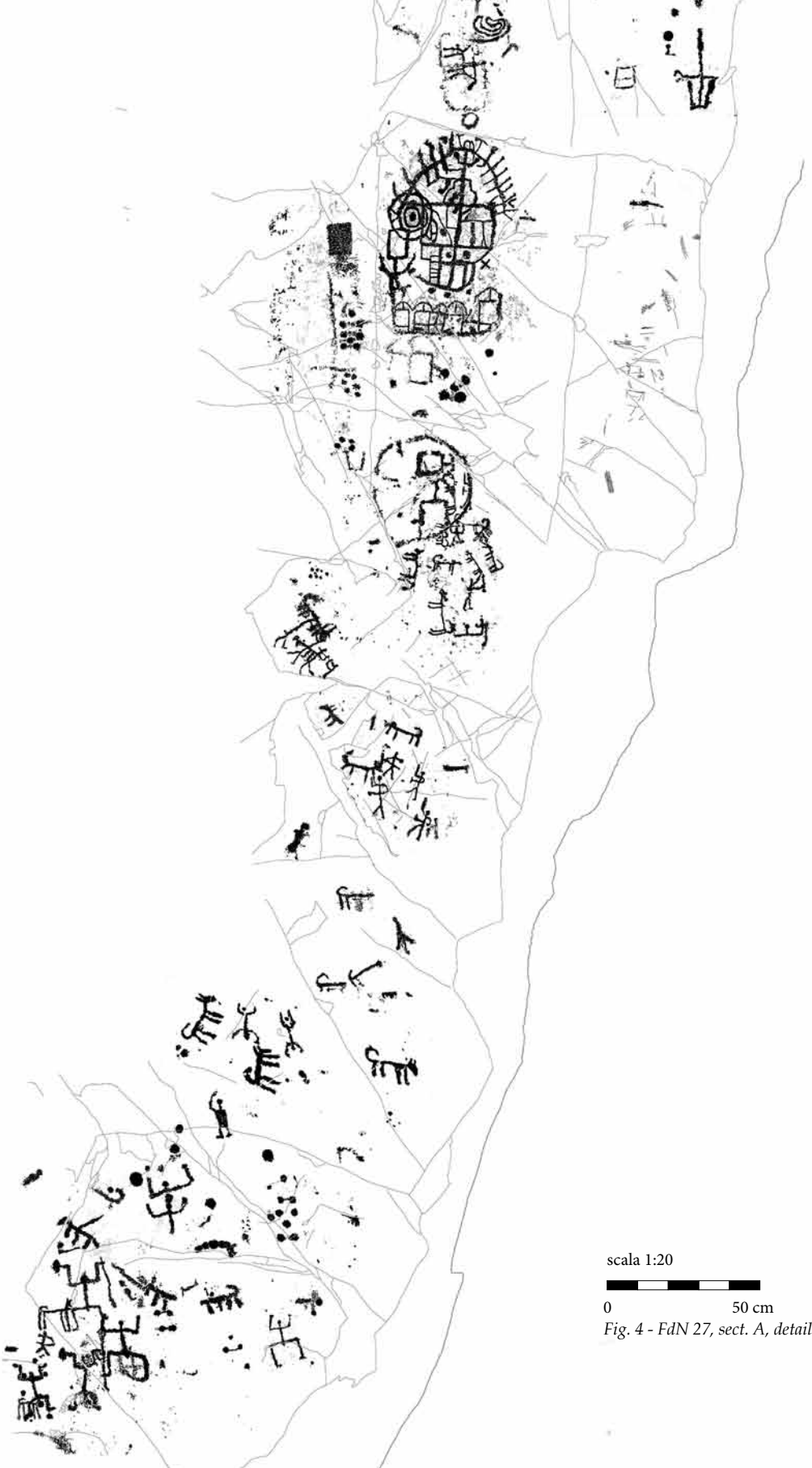
Southbound, three Copper age clusters can be seen. Besides three halberds, we find a unique scene with a warrior in armour, helmet and shield, grabbing a halberd in front of a praying figure and flanked by cup-marks and other symbols.

The whole south band (sectors C and D) was engraved during Bronze age, with a peculiar richness of depictions. A warrior with an enormous spear is flanked by a symbolic shield (as in Luine), a sexual scene is surrounded by symbols, many praying figures are flanked by dogs, like in the well known “dog worshipping” panel (Bronze IIIC). Dating both praying figures and dogs is a challenge, as dogs show a constant schematic pattern (and associate as well with late Bronze-Iron age warriors), whilst praying figures show different and various schemes of depiction. Amongst Bronze age engravings we find stags, shovels and cup-marks modules.

The same pattern of tiny warriors (as on rock 21) spans from late Bronze to early Iron age. Iron age occupies mostly the northern part of the rock, both east and west. Footprints display from early until late Iron age, as well as square blade axes on the east band, until r. 34. Northwest, we find a full imagery of aristocratic values, with duelling and mounted warriors, but also deer-hunting scenes. Middle Iron age displays Etruscan stylistic features, with peculiar images, as the “wounded doe”, the *desultores*, acrobat riders, an accurate *schnabelkanne* (V B.C.) and a semi lunate razor. Influences from Venetic culture are present too with the engraving of a paleo Venetic knife (VI-V B.C.). Footprints, birds, horses, some writings in Camunnian alphabet, barns and symbols, the usual middle Iron age set, is widely spread on the northern side of the rock.

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<sup>16</sup> SANSONI, GAVALDO 2009, p. 79, p. 171.



scala 1:20



0 50 cm

Fig. 4 - EdN 27, sect. A, detail



Fig. 5 - FdN 27, sect. B, detail

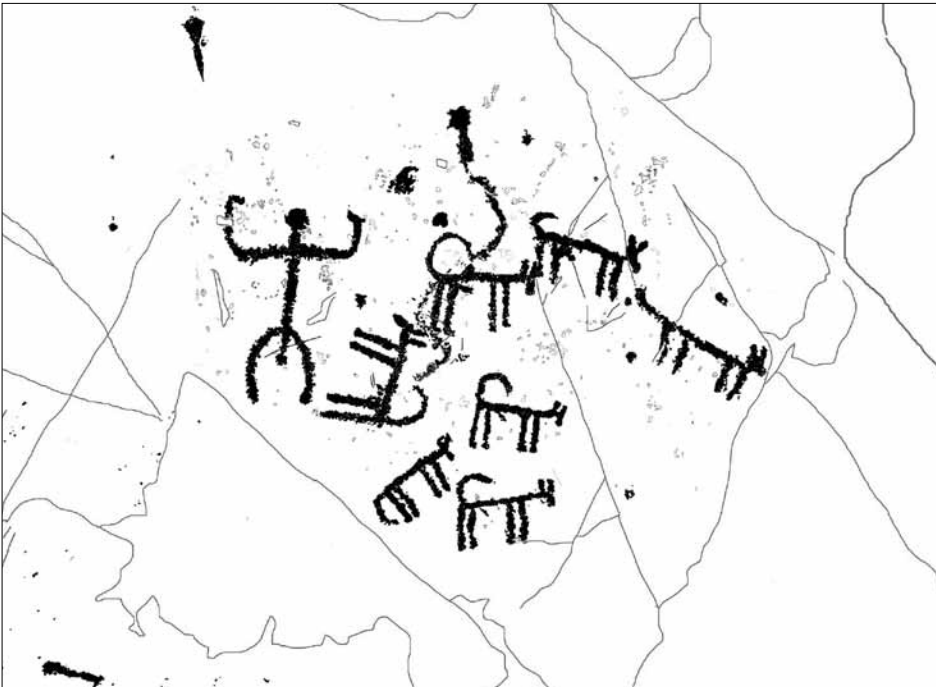


Fig. 6 - FdN 27, sect. D, detail

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Fig. 7 - FdN 27, sect. D, detail

Late Iron age, as usual, displays male aristocratic imagery of wealth and power, such as the big mounted horse, the “temple of Nadro” (a huge barn with Rhaetic huts below) and two warriors duelling with shield and a *mucro* knife. Birds, snakes, footprints, barns, animals, warriors and an unusual number of five-pointed stars are spread on the surfaces. To be reported is the Latin inscription, not readable anymore, which testifies again an imperial Roman presence.

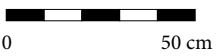
On rock 26-27 the last phase is widespread. Pecked crosses are surrounded by scratchings, as circles, nine men’s Morris, nine-in-a-row, grids, *polissoires*, schematic anthropomorphs, Solomon’s knots. Amongst remarkable scenes, we have a scratched standing hunter with deer and dog and a Solomon’s knot associated with an anthropomorphic figure with huge raised hands and big feet.



Fig. 8 - FdN 27, sect. A, detail (photo V. Damioli)



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Figs. 9 and 10 - FdN 27, sect. A, details



Fig. 11 a, b - FdN 27, sect. B, photo and detail (EUR78:VII-6)

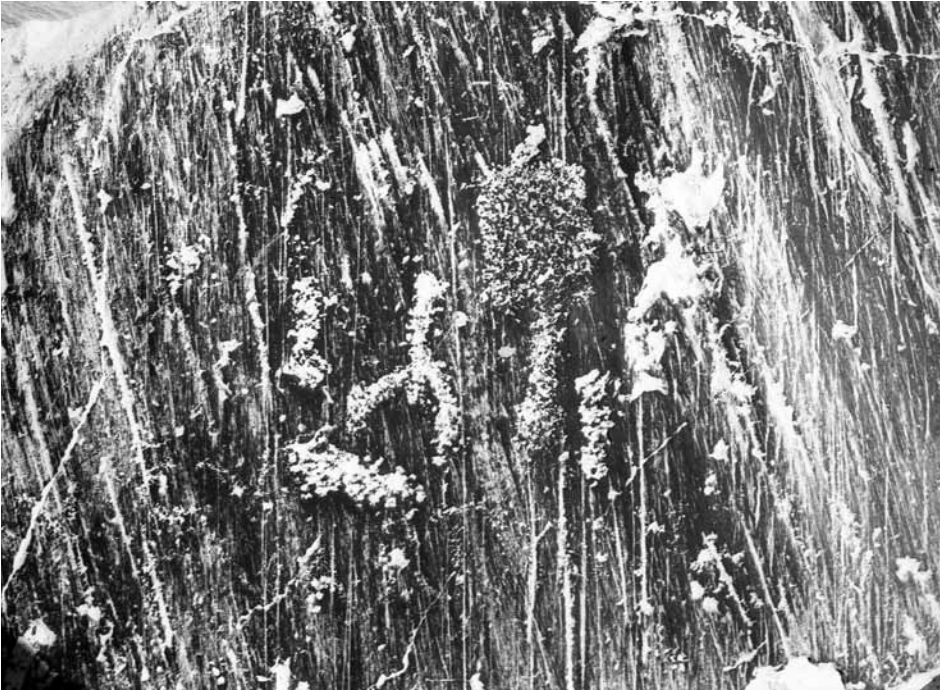
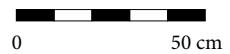


Fig. 12 a, b - FdN 27, sect. C, photo and detail (EUR78:IX-5)

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Rock 29 is a large sheepback rocky outcrop with a constant slope, Southeast/Northwest oriented. Its irregular surface, modelled by glaciers, is interrupted by natural steps and a deep transverse fracture. No signs of the surface were visible until 1977, given the fact that the entire area (which hosts rocks 26-27, 29, 35) was then a huge pasture plain. During 1977 surveys, the surface was brought to light and recorded as rock 26. Its number was changed to 29 during the following years. In the 2000s, rock 29 was retraced, studied, and published (2005) by Elena Mailland. A new tracing was eventually made by the équipe of CCSP between 2017 and 2019, with Mibact and SBA Lombardia permissions.

Rock 29 can be divided into four sectors. Sector A, Northeast bound, and visible from the trail to the first natural step, displays both pecked and scratched (historical) engravings. First phase dates to late Neolithic-early Copper age and includes two topographic elements. Most of the engravings, though, were made between late Bronze-early Iron age (IIIC-IVA). Dogs are the most represented subject, with ten adults and two cubs. An interest ploughing scene shows a schematic anthropomorphic figure with raised arms. While its left hand holds a whip, with its right the figure holds the plough driven by horses. Pairs of warriors duelling, a spear superimposed to a dog, three late Iron age footprints and some cup-marks are located near the ploughing scene. Southbound, we find a barn and four warriors belonging to early and middle Iron age. Some historical scratchings, like grids, nine men's Morris, and lines complete the sector.

Downstream from sector A and separated by a rock step, sector B spreads until the west end of the rock surrounded by a thick bush. On this sector, engravings start during Copper age and last until early Bronze, with topographic ensembles, two praying figures and three schematic anthropomorphic figures. A sort of circular emblem surrounded by schematic anthropomorphic figures and symbols can be dated back to early and middle Bronze age. To late Bronze or early Iron age belong the engravings of two dogs and two couples of duelling warriors with a characteristic twisted arm. A knight, a bird, two barns, three footprints and various symbols well represent middle and late Iron age imagery. Sector B displays also historical pecking, such as one key, maybe a key bit and a four-spoke wheel.

Sector C lays on the middle of rock 29. It holds both pecked and scratched engravings, dating back from the middle - late Iron age to recent era. *SCRIB LUCIUS*, a well-known Latin inscription, is partially overlapping on an older Camunnian writing, no longer readable except for an "A". Other letters scratched in the local alphabet can be noticed around. Just below there are two footprints, under one of which a warrior (IVD) shows a rich and accurate helmet. On the right, a warrior with a square shield and a weapon (an axe?) is duelling with a torso with a huge raised hand. Below again, a complex superimposition of three barns, amongst which one with pitched roof and discs as protome. The set ends with a swastika overlapping the structures. Remarkably interesting indeed is the VII-VI century B.C. square axe blade with well-marked shoulder and straight sides. As usual, historical engravings are scratched and show the classical set of circles, nine men's Morris, grids, and lines.

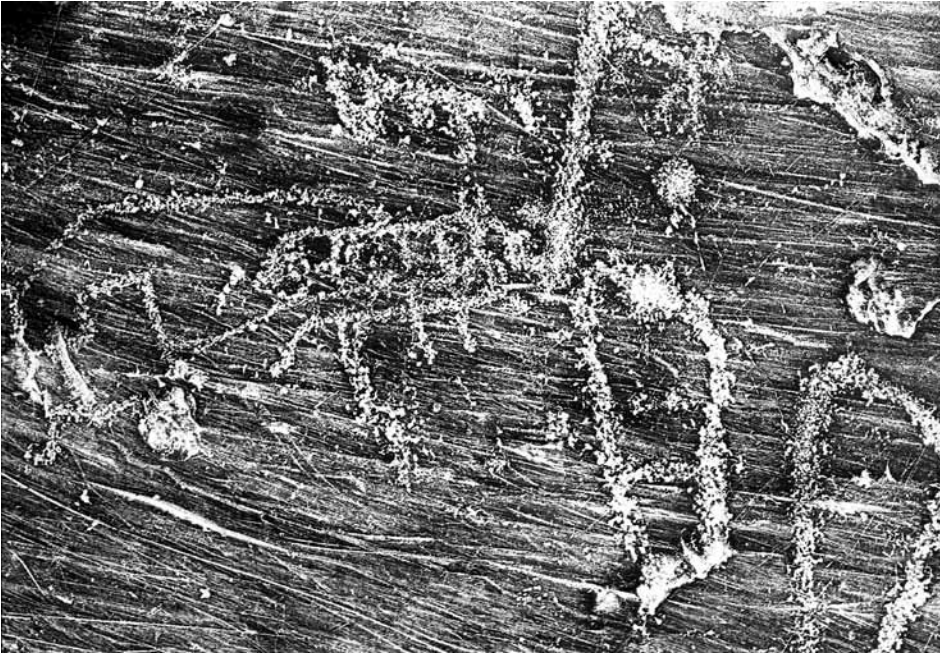
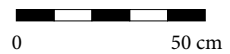


Fig. 13 a, b - FdN 29, sect. A, photo and detail (EUR77:XVI-1)

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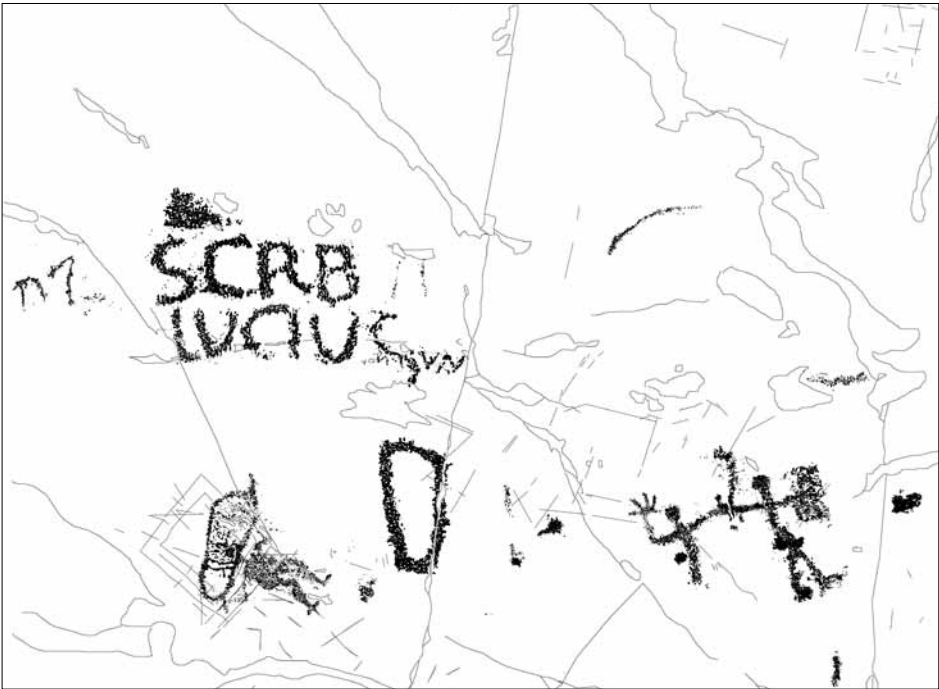
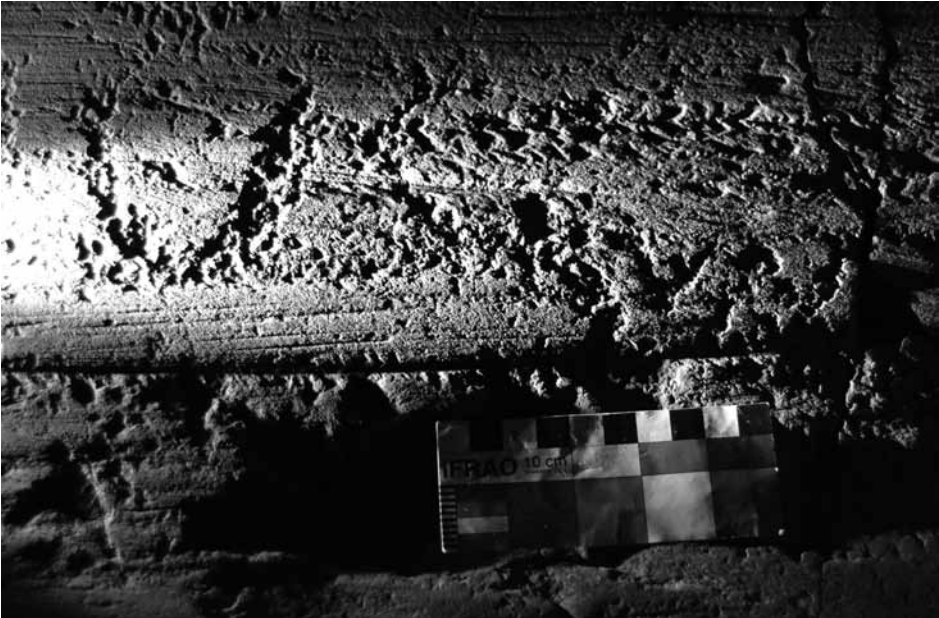


Fig. 14 a, b - FdN 29, sect. C, photo and detail (photo P. Medici, 2017)

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Fig. 15 a, b - FdN 29, sect. E, photo and detail (EUR77:XIV-19)

Tiny sector D, on the Northeast side of the rock, has three panels. Eastbound, topographic ensembles date back to late Neolithic-Copper age. Early Bronze dogs are superimposed on the largest map. Early bronze age is well represented on the surface, with a schematic praying figure surrounded by three dogs (as on rock 27D) and a shovel. Middle Iron age eventually displays a praying figure, a warrior and two unidentifiable animals. As on sector B, a key belonging to historical phase is partially superimposed on another unclear figure.

Southern part on rock 29 bears sector E, made of separated scenes or single engravings. Late Neolithic-early Copper age offers interesting panels. On Southern-east ridge, where an ancient stream probably flew, two circles with a cup-mark and a "fringed mat", a Copper age significant iconography, are flanked by many topographic elements both with regular and irregular shape. On the edge of South-east sector, right opposite to the previous panel, are engraved two praying figures, eight cup-marks in a module, other topographic ensembles, a bucranium, an ox yoked to another bucranium. Between these two scenes, other Iron age panels show various patterns, such as anthropomorphic figures with huge raised hands, warriors, a bird, six barns, a shield symbol, a sort of a blade, an elaborated Camunnian rose (a solar symbol) with nine cup-marks encircled by a linear perimeter and a stalk (maybe an alphabetic sign, as on rocks 24C and 25B), a large armed torso (like on Campanine di Cimbergo, rock 61E), footprints, circles, discs. Simple scratchings, as grid and lines, belong to the historical phase.



Fig. 16 - FdN 30



Fig. 17 - The rock 30 in a shot of G. Marro. It is visible the massive presence of lichens, now absent from the rock surface (da Marro 1935, fig. 3)

*FdN - Rock 30 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.030) - 2019*

Rock 30 was discovered and photographed in the 1930s by Giovanni Marro<sup>17</sup>, and since then is one of the best-known monuments in Foppe di Nadro. It was documented and surveyed in 1976<sup>18</sup> by CCSP. In 1977, the area surrounding the boulder was investigated by an archaeological excavation led by Paola Meller Padovani<sup>19</sup>.

Three distinct incisory phases can be recognized. During Copper age, some female symbols (two circles and a vaulted sign) were engraved and soon flanked by elements of male iconography (an anthropomorphic figure, two swine and two circles). During Iron age two circles were added, one of which superimposed by a footprint (IVF). Historical phase is characterized by a praying figure and two Latin crosses, one of which insists on a circle.

*FdN - Rock 31 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.031) - 2019*

Rock 31 is known thanks to cartography in the CCSP archives, but during the survey for "Progetto di Monitoraggio 2012-2013 (L. 77/06, E.F. 2010)", the rock was not found, presumably due to its lying under thick and large bramble bushes. Moreover, as it is located in a private property, it was impossible to reach. Even during 2017-19 research campaign, no survey was possible; therefore, the rock remains undocumented.

*FdN - Rock 32 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.032) - 2019*

Rock 32 is a large surface among the trees, upstream of rock 2. Discovered and labelled during the 70s, it was never documented. The rock was extensively investigated by the CCSP team in 2019, but no visible engravings were found on it.

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17 MARRO 1935, pp. 15-16.

18 MELLER PADOVANI 1977, pp. 57-66.

19 MELLER PADOVANI 1979.

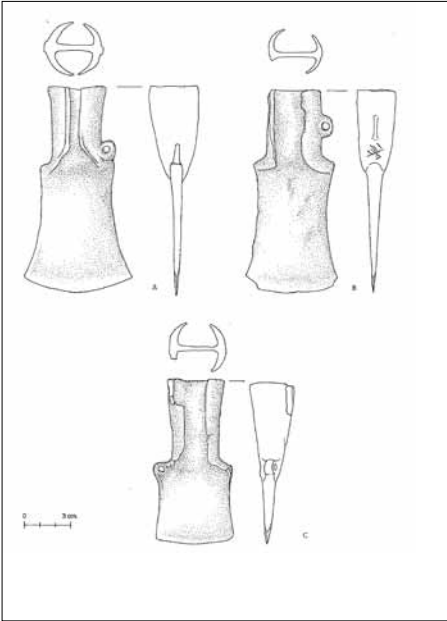


Fig. 18 a, b - Iron axes with eyelet from "Doss Castel" (Fai de la Paganella, Tn); c - iron axe from Borgo S. Pietro (Valsugana, Tn). (illustration from Marzatico F. 1997, p. 406)



Fig. 19 - Details of the Iron Age axes from the tracing of the rock 34

#### FdN - Rock 34 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.034) - 2018

The surface is located underneath r. 26-27, as its natural prosecution. It is almost flat, with a slight downstream slope, ending in a rock ledge, 4 to 15 meters high. Rock 34 was documented for the first time in 1977 by CCSP, but the tracings don't accomplish present quality standards. So, in 2018, the rock was newly recorded; the team also discovered a new small, engraved panel.

The range of subjects is quite limited. The oldest phase was engraved between the end of Neolithic and the beginning of Copper Age: two circles with a cup-mark and a topographical figure. Two dogs on the new panel are dating to Bronze Age. All the other engravings are from Iron Age, weapons and footprints, anthropomorphic and zoomorphic figures, barns, all engraved with accuracy and abundance of details. Axes on top and knives at the bottom of the panel are the most significant patterns, flanked by barns and footprints and mixed with warriors. At the bottom, a sitting warrior wearing a suit of armour wields a sword and a little shield (as on r. 27A). The interesting ensemble of 15 Iron age axes (VII-V century B.C.: IV C - IV D/E) show five square blade items, with straight and well-marked shoulders and straight sides; five other axes have a less defined blade and a direct handle without any detachment. One is incomplete, although probably with a square blade; another displays a foliate blade, two have bell-shaped blade, and, finally, one shows a sub-trapezoidal blade, wide and marked shoulder



Fig. 20 - "Paleoveneti" knives from the excavation of the "Casa di Ricovero" necropolis (Este, Pd), Tomb 236, VIII sec. BC. (in Malnati 2003, p. 42).

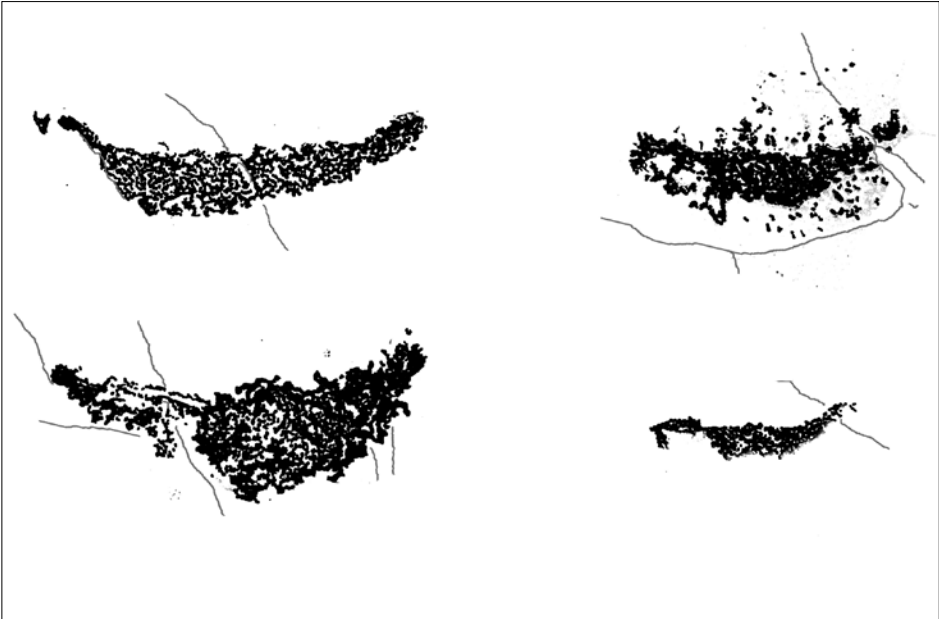


Fig. 21 - Details of the knives from the tracing of the rock 34



Fig. 22 - FdN 29, sect. A

and sides diverging towards the cut<sup>20</sup>. Four of the five knives can be compared to paleo-Venetian or Rhaetian knives, found also on Naquane r.50<sup>21</sup> (VIII century B.C.<sup>22</sup>: IV B/C).

*FdN - Rock 35 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.035) - 2019*

Rock 35 is located on the same plateau of rocks 26-27 and a little upstream from rock 29. The surface was lapped by the stream, now diverted, springing up from rock 78. As the other rocks touched by water (rocks 29, 61, 85, 30, 60, 45, 28, 23, 22), also rock 35 shows a peculiar set of engravings. The elongated and moutonée trapezoid surface with two fractures is fissured and cracked in several places, which makes it difficult to read the engravings.

Rock 35 was first surveyed in 1977 by a CCSP team lead by U. Sansoni in the context of a wider research about anthropomorphic figures with huge high raised hands. Only in 1981, though, Sansoni published a first and accurate analysis of the surface. This study is still a model for cataloguing an engraved rock, even if the richness of iconography and chronological extent of carvings on rock 35 led to further research in two different degree thesis. Between 2017 and 2019 a

<sup>20</sup> BOSSONI 2007, p. 112.

<sup>21</sup> RONCORONI 2015, p. 240.

<sup>22</sup> MALNATI 2003.



Fig. 23 - (EUR77:XXXI-8)



Fig. 24 - EUR77:XXXI-7



scala 1:25



Fig. 25 - FdN 29, sect. B

further tracing was made by the CCSP team, with MiBACT SBA permission, to satisfy modern quality standard. This new documentation project permitted the discovery of a new panel, entirely covered by scratchings, reorganized the sector numbers, and increased the count of the engravings (from 283 to 555).

As usual, late Neolithic and early Copper age sets are located mostly near the stream, precisely on sector B, with ten topographic areas, four schematic praying figures, among which a male with big feet, sex and huge high raised hands, two females with a cup-mark sex and big feet, cup marks, and other six irregular pecked areas; other topographic areas belonging to the same chronologic horizon cover some spots in sector A.

Early bronze age on sector B displays one (maybe two) schematic praying figures and three dogs. It is sector A, though, where Bronze age iconography is mostly represented. Five "mantled" praying figures are in a V shaped group. The biggest praying figure is surrounded by symbols. An enigmatic subcircular shape with internal elements is above its head and a halfmoon sign lies underneath its feet. A dog, a shovel and a line overlap three of these figures, confirming their antiquity. Bronze age is represented also by two axes and a stick with a ceremo-





Fig. 26 - (EUR77:X-11)

niel emblem (as the one held by an anthropomorphic figure on rock 38 and engraved on rock 78). Five masked warriors, with plumed helmet, a peculiar tunic and holding a little round shield belong to middle Bronze age and are carved underneath other engravings, among which fifteen shovels (IIIC-III/IV). Thirty-one dogs belong to two different chronological horizons, between middle (IIIC/D: shovels are superimposed to some dogs) and late Bronze age. Two warriors belong to Late Bronze or early Iron age. It is still impossible to give a chronology to the one hundred and nineteen cup-marks, often in modules, spread all over the surface. Peculiar is the so-called "comet", a module made by a big and deep cup-mark with a double "trail" of five and seven little cup-marks.

Iron age is scarcely present on rock 35, with an early phase displaying three schematic praying figures (one with a triangle as sex and flanked by two dogs) and three warriors (two belonging to IVA, one to IVAB).

Recently discovered sector C is entirely scratched in historical times, with circles, arcs of circle, a shield, grids, a nine-men's Morris scheme, almond shaped figures, triangles, lines also in groups (sector A displays two nine-men's Morris, while arcs of circles and groups of lines are on sector B).



*FdN - Rock 36 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.036) - 2017*

The surface was moulded in an elongated shape by the glacier with a NE-SW orientation. It is divided by a large and shallow glacial canal. It was discovered since the first surveys and documented in 1978<sup>23</sup>.

In 2017, the staff of CCSP went through the old tracings and found some of them unfitting modern standards; it was thus decided to trace some panels anew.

Three panels are displayed. Northbound, mainly warriors (IVD/F) and cup-marks can be seen. Among them, a fight scene where a standing warrior impends on a lying one and a cripple with a crutch (a *unicum*). On the central panel, two topographical figures belong to the most ancient phase (II/IIIA) and are surrounded by Iron age footprints, warriors, a spearhead, and a barn. A well-defined and remarkable archer catches the eye. A third set, a little further down, fe-

<sup>23</sup> In 2008, Marta Civilini realized a new tracing for her degree thesis, focusing on the figure of the archer (CIVILINI 2008-2009).



Fig. 27 - (EUR78:VIII-20)

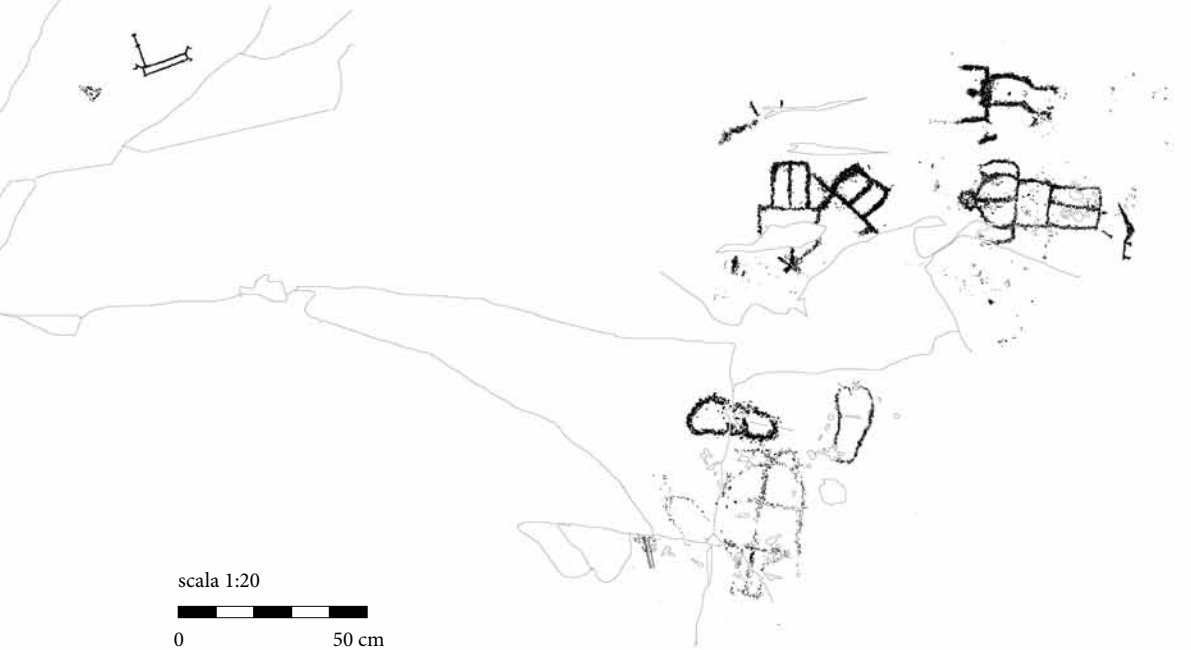


Fig. 28 - FdN 36

atures a dog and a boat with ornithomorphic protomes (IVD/F). Scratchings of nine men's Morris and parallel lines are spread around. A third panel, towards the trail, shows barns, footprints, and a praying figure (IVD/F). Interesting is a paleo-venetian knife, below a barn.



Fig. 29 – Knife, *kopis* type, inv. 2001.1346 (photo Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY)



Fig. 30 – Detail, scale 1:2

*FdN - Rock 37 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.037) - 2017*

It is a small and irregular rock, with a deep crack lying NE-SW, immediately North to rock 39. The rock is delimited to the north-east by a little stone wall. A small stone wall and ground overlap the north-eastern part of the surface. The rock was discovered in 1936 by the team led by Franz Altheim (expedition n° 18) and a photograph of a barn with a sort of a ladder was taken<sup>24</sup>. Recorded by CCSP in 1980, some of the tracing was remade in 2017.

The central crack on the rock divides the surface into two panels. The main panel spans to late Neolithic-early Copper to Bronze age. The oldest engravings are thirteen topographical figures of style II/IIIA. To Bronze age belongs a scene with two praying figures and two warriors (IIIB/C), to which are added a crossed circle and, eventually, twenty dogs. The second panel lies below, holding Iron age engravings (IVF): two barns and a sort of a ladder<sup>25</sup>. Scratchings are visible on the whole surface, including a five-pointed star, an almond, arches, and lines.

*FdN - Rock 38 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.038) - 2017*

The surface, huge and sloping E/W, lies between rocks 37 and 39. Fractured in many sectors, the rock also displays distinct clusters of engravings. CCSP staff discovered the rock in 1979 and traced it in 1980 and 1981. Although never com-

<sup>24</sup> Frobenius archive, catalogue n. FoA18-57 (unknown author): GASTALDI 2017, p. 22.

<sup>25</sup> Interpreted also as a boat: FOSSATI 2006, p. 36

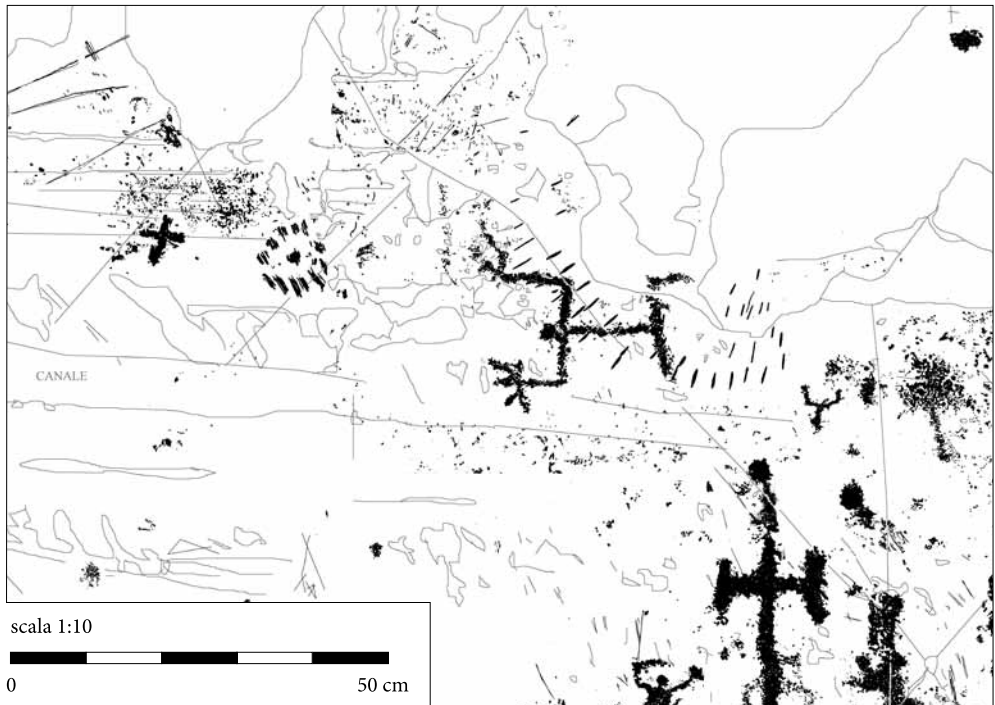


Fig. 31 - FdN 39, detail

pleted, the tracing achieved good quality standards. During 2017, the staff focused on completing and refining the documentation.

At the top of the rock, there is a small warrior with raised spear and shield, engraved with excellent skill (IVC late). Below, are two anthropomorphic figures dating to Ancient Bronze age (IIIB), one of which holds an interesting stick ending in a crossed circle<sup>26</sup>. On other panels are engraved praying figures, warriors (Bronze age to late Iron age), animals, such as horses and dogs, footprints, and barns. Three weapons belong to VII-V century B.C. (IVC-IVD/E). They are two axes (one with square blade, straight and well-marked shoulder and straight sides, and one with a sub-trapezoidal blade, broad and marked shoulder, and shorter sides diverging towards the cut<sup>27</sup>) and a knife comparable to a *kopis*<sup>28</sup>. Besides, there are also geometric symbols spread around, among which a six-pointed star.

#### FdN - Rock 39 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.039) - 2017

Rock 39 lies on the trail between rocks 36 and 37. Moulded by the glacier, its three sectors are divided by deep cracks and glacial canals.

The rock was investigated and traced in 1980 by a CCSF team led by Umberto Sansoni and Lucia Bellaspi. In 2017, only a few parts of the original tracing

26 See rocks 35 and 78 (MEDICI, GAVALDO 2019, p. 83, p. 122)

27 BOSSONI 2007, p. 112.

28 RONCORONI 2015, p. 237.

needed to be corrected. A wide chronological range is displayed on the rock, from late Neolithic to present era.

Around a large fire fracture on top of the rock, late Neolithic-Early Copper praying figures (II/IIIa) are located, surrounded by short and deep scratched rays; on the left, a circle with a cup-mark was made with the same technique. Near these older figures, a huge number of warriors is engraved, from Bronze age (a duelling couple) to middle and late Iron Age. Southbound, a scene with six anthropomorphic figures with outstretched arms belongs to Bronze age (IIIC/D). Deeply engraved crosses are added and superimposed in recent times.

Below, towards the west edge of the rock, is a Bronze age scene with dogs. To Iron age belong a barn, an animal, and a star. On the same panel we can find a lot of historical scratchings, such as grids, lines, and bundles of lines. Above, in the further East sector, there are ancient and middle Iron age engravings, with several warriors, a barn, and a bird.

#### *FdN - Rock 40 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.040) - 2017*

The surface, located a few meters north of rock 37, is surrounded by chestnut trees and is far from the trail. It has the classic shape moulded by the glacier with three panels divided by two shallow slides. The rock was well traced in 1980, but it was never recomposed. In 2017, CCSP team added some newly discovered engravings on the original tracing.

The surface has three distinct panels. On the first, stands a schematic female anthropomorphic figure with huge high raised hands and big feet (II-IIIa); not far away, an Iron age warrior (IVF) is close to a small barn. The panel features many scratchings, mainly bundles and groups of lines.

In the southernmost panel, notable are two ploughs and an unyoked animal (ox or horse, IVA)<sup>29</sup>. Other engravings are footprints, Latin inscriptions, a five-pointed star and, finally, a more recent key.

The last panel, at the bottom, has few engravings: two concentric squares, two anthropomorphs (IVF) and a deer.

#### *FdN - Rock 41 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.041) - 2017*

The rock is located a few meters West of rock 40 and northbound a few meters from the trail leading from rock 25 towards Naquane. This wide and moutonnée rock is steep sloping westbound. CCSP staff discovered the surface during 2017 Recording Rock-art Fieldwork and provided a complete tracing of the engravings. The rock displays a warrior, an incomplete footprint, and other undefined shapes, dating to Iron age. Number 41 was given in place of a lost rock discovered and traced in 1980<sup>30</sup>.

#### *FdN - Rock 42 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.042) - 2017*

The rock lies on the edge of the trail with a slight and constant slope. In 1980, CCSP team identified and cleaned the lower part of the surface, starting but not completing the tracing; in 2011, the Dipartimento Valcamonica of CCSP provi-

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<sup>29</sup> PIOMBARDI 1992, p. 19-20.

<sup>30</sup> MEDICI, GAVALDO 2019, p.104.

ded a new tracing of a panel. In 2017, the rock was fully brought to light and traced *ex-novo*.

In late Neolithic-early Copper age, a bucranium, a plough, and topographical figures were engraved; a second phase, during middle - late Iron age, shows warriors, duelling pairs with shield and spear, footprints, barns, a five-pointed star, and other less defined signs.

A later phase, entirely made by scratchings, holds series of concentric circles, a so-called "Sun of the Alps", circles and arches, two grids, a quadrangle, and bundles of lines.

#### *FdN - Rock 43 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.043) - 2017*

The surface is near r. 42, surrounded by chestnut trees. It is a sheepback rock, almost flat on the top. In 1980 the rock was discovered, but only the scratchings were recorded in 1981. The tracing sheets achieved a good quality standard. In 2017, CCSP provided to record the engravings on the top (sector A): in late Neolithic-early Copper age, two praying figures, topographical ensembles and cup-marks were engraved; other signs belong to late Iron age.

Sector B shows an irregular topographical figure (II/III A: late Neolithic-early Copper age), a late Bronze age dog, a warrior, a footprint (middle-late Iron age), a cross, and other less clear engravings. The overwhelming number of scratchings is only comparable to rock 24B.<sup>31</sup> A rich panorama of anthropomorphs, among which a warrior and a knight, is mixed with a bird, and series of symbols, as stars, circle arches, circles, nine men's Morris, triangles, grids, lines, almonds, and an incomplete Solomon's knot. There are also an inscription, "A.d." and two dates "61" and "12".

#### *FdN - Rock 54 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.054) - 2017*

The rock looks like a large square-shaped protrusion between rocks 25 and 36; only the southern side, which directly overlooks the trail, has been carved. The rock was discovered during the second phase of research, and documented in 2017. It displays two cup-marks and a late Iron age warrior, this last comparable to Pià d'Ort rock 6<sup>32</sup>.

#### *FdN - Rock 55 (BS.CETO.FOPPEDINADRO.055) - 2017/2018*

Rock 55 is a steep-sloping outcrop, South of r. 36, beyond the trail. The top is covered by an earthy layer and by tall trees. The engravings are often covered by foliage and ground washed from above. The surface was identified since the 1980s but was fully brought to light in 2017 and traced in 2018.

The engravings belong mainly to Iron age. Two panels show deer, a deer hunting scene, and cup-marks; the other two panels focus mainly on warriors. The most interesting one wields a spear, a scabbard, a shield, wears an Etruscan helmet, and overlaps a shovel. Between the warriors, a snake-like line is flanked by cup-marks.

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31 CITTADINI (ed.) 2017, pp. 114-117.

32 SANSONI, GAVALDO 1995, p. 42.



Fig. 32 - FdN 55 B

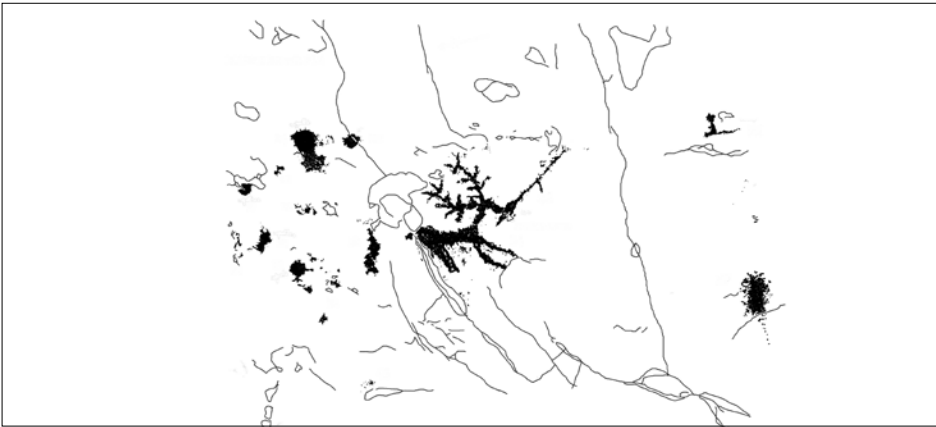


Fig. 33 - FdN 55 C

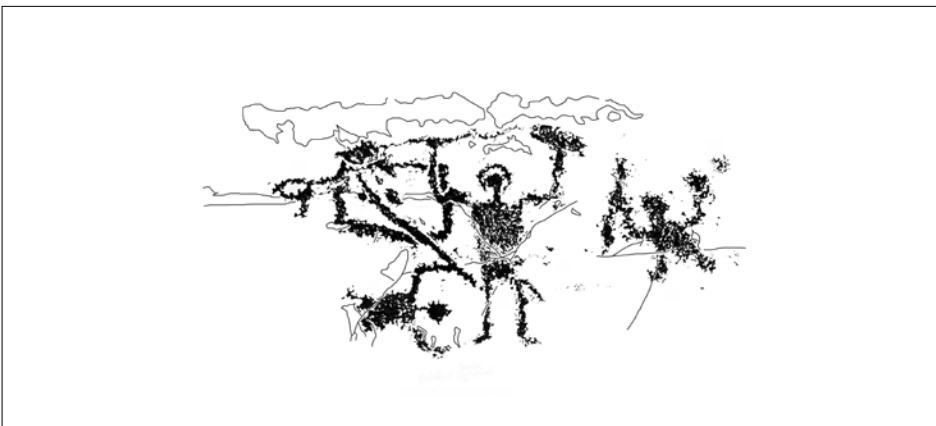


Fig. 34 - FdN 55 D

scala 1:10





## THE STAFF

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Graphic technician: Valeria Damioli

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Credits: "Riserva Naturale Incisioni Rupestri di Ceto, Cimbergo, Paspardo", "Museo delle Incisioni Rupestri di Nadro", "Associazione L'Ontano Verde".

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