

Supervisor Expression of Interest MSCA-IF Marie Skłodowska Curie Action- Individual Fellowship 2020

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Research topic	Archaeomorphology and Cultural Landscapes Archaeology of Mountain Landscapes

Brief description of research project themes to be considered:

Archaeomorphology and Cultural Landscapes

Archaeomorphology studies the historical structuring of territories over time, the human-made landscape forms, such as roads, field systems, terraces, water channels, livestock structures, etc. that are visible in the landscape. Landscapes become a cultural palimpsest and are at the same time a system within which previously existing forms played a key role in determining and shaping the subsequent landscape. The archaeological features studied through archaeomorphological approaches display thus a long-term chronology and play an important role in settlement evolution and landscape dynamics.

GIAP is one of the few European groups active in the application of archaeomorphological techniques. These are based on the implementation of GIS, georeferenciation procedures, multiscale and multisource analysis, incorporation of historical sources, remote sensing, palaeoenvironmental analysis, geostatistics, geoarchaeology, field survey and excavation. We use multidisciplinary data to extract information about the historical configuration of cultural landscapes that has great value to understand economic, social, cultural, and symbolic aspects of the landscape that could have not been obtained otherwise. In short, we believe archaeomorphology is particularly useful when it is applied within a landscape archaeology framework in which a long-term perspective, multidisciplinary and verification procedures can extract the most out of archaeomorphological data.

Archaeology of mountain landscapes

In the last decades there has been a growing interest in the occupation and exploitation of European mountain landscapes over time. The pioneering works in the 1990s constitute the starting point of a research line in Europe that has developed new projects enriched with the methods and techniques of Landscape Archaeology.

Paleoenvironmental studies have also had a growing impact with multidisciplinary and diachronic approaches. We are among the most experienced European researchers working on mountain archaeology, particularly in high mountain areas (above 2000 m a.s.l.). Since 2004 We have conducted research in high mountain areas in Catalonia, Andorra and France: Cadí Range, Núria and Coma de Vaca valleys, Cerdanya, Madriu-Perafita-Claror valleys (Andorra), Mont Lozère (France).