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López García, Antonio

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Ca 1500 B.C. - Ca A.D. 500

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**D. Ackermann, T. Alušík, E.S. Banou, Fl. Baret, S. Bouffier, P. Callieri,
R. Cebrián, Th. Corsten, A. Delahaye, C. Díaz-Sánchez, E. Duce Pastor,
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J. Nesbitt-Prosser, P. Panayides, H. Perdicoyianni-Paleologou, R. Rubio González,
N. Sekunda, O. Tentea,
M. Vitelli Casella (a researcher with a contract co-funded by the European Union -
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†N. Zahariade**

EDITOR - IN CHIEF

H. PERDICOYIANNI - PALEOLOGOU

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Dr.Hélène Perdicoyianna-Paléologou
Neossikon 93
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Greece

A.M. Hakkert Publishing Company
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Spain
E-mail: willen@telefonica.net

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A. López García

Cerro de los Castillejos in Teba, Hispania Baetica, Málaga, Spain. Archaeological site with continuous human occupation from the 9th century BC to Roman times. The oldest occupation is a *tholos* located on the southern side of the hill that is composed of a little access corridor and an oval chamber covered with a simulated dome. Other remains found at the site include Orientalizing pottery from the 7th and 6th centuries. The Iberian period is better represented by an urban settlement surrounded by stone walls of the 6th century and a cremation necropolis to the west of the settlement where a remarkable number of grave goods were discovered. Recently, remains of a Roman residential area and a centre of farming production with a mill have been discovered together with large storage containers and amphoras. The site suffered violent destruction in the mid-1st century AD, possibly because of an earthquake. After the destruction of the settlement, the population moved to the nearby Cortijo del Tajo where some defensive and funerary elements were discovered. Recent studies propose the identification of the site of Los Castillejos with the ancient city of Sabora mentioned and the site of Cortijo del Tajo with the Sabora Flavia erected in the time of Vespasian.

Plin. *Nat. Hist.* 3.12.
CIL II 1424, 1425.

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Cerro de Los Castillejos in Fuente de Cantos, Badajoz, Spain. On two hills along the banks of the Bodión Menor River, there are some remains of an ancient settlement with a perimeter of cyclopean walls. The site was identified as the Roman *mansio* of Lacunis that appears in Anonymous of Ravenna between the cities of Contributa and Curiga in the ancient Baeturia mentioned by Pliny. The site is near the historical road *Iter ab Ostio fluminis Anaë Emeritam* that connected the southern Atlantic coast with Emerita Augusta.

One of the hills (Castillejos I) was occupied from the Chalcolithic period. The other hill (Castillejos II) was occupied continuously from the late Neolithic to Roman times. On Castillejos II, there is a rich archaeological record of pottery from the 4th and 3rd centuries BC. This phase was interrupted by a violent event that coincides with the contact of the indigenous populations with the Romans. The next phase of occupation – from the 2nd century BC – is characterized by Campanian pottery, Dressel I amphoras and coins, but the settlement was abandoned after a destruction phase in the 1st century.

Anon. *Rav.* 4.44; Plin. *Nat. Hist.* 3.13-14.

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