

cave
PANXIAN DADONG



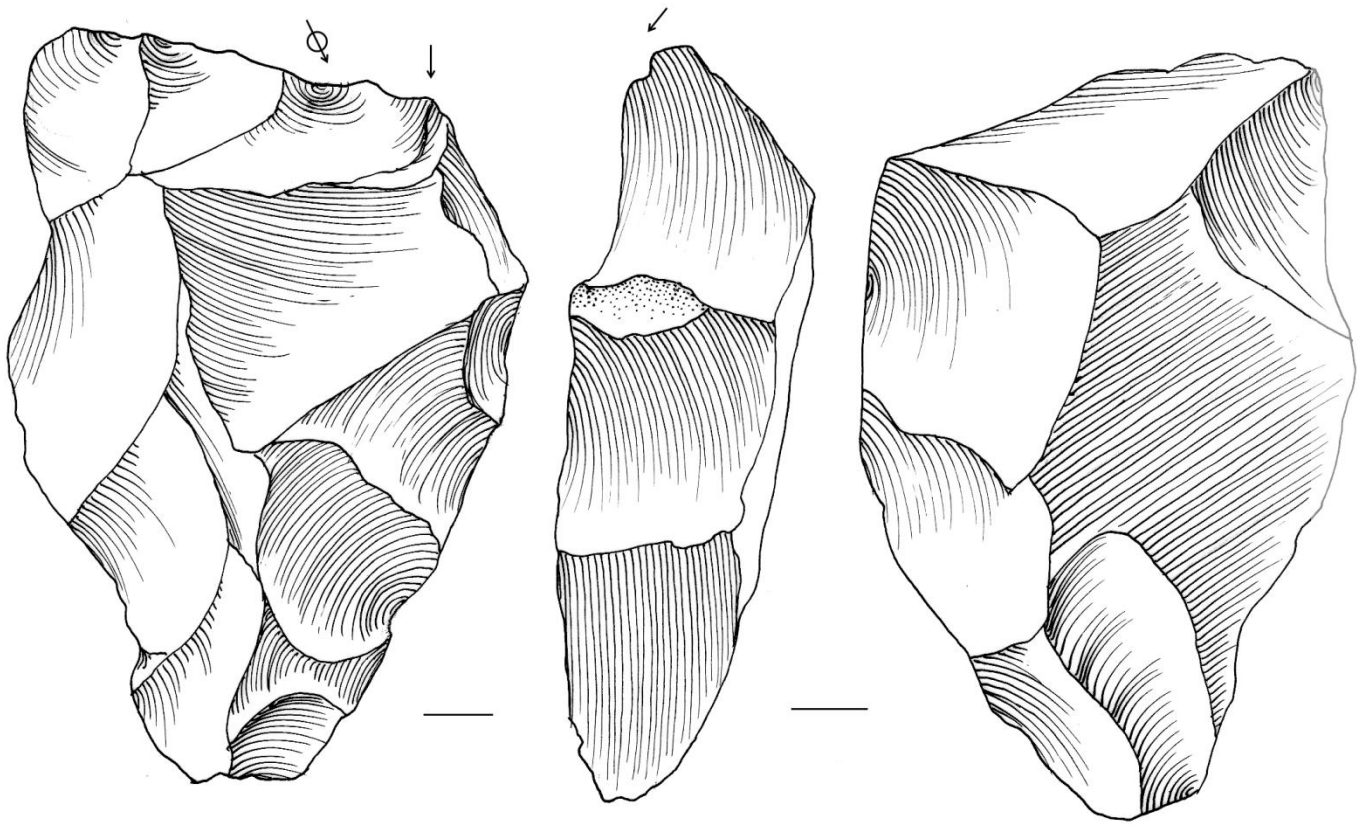
Levallois Technology
in Southern China

Weiwen Huang, Marcel Otte, Yue Hu, Ya-Mei Hou

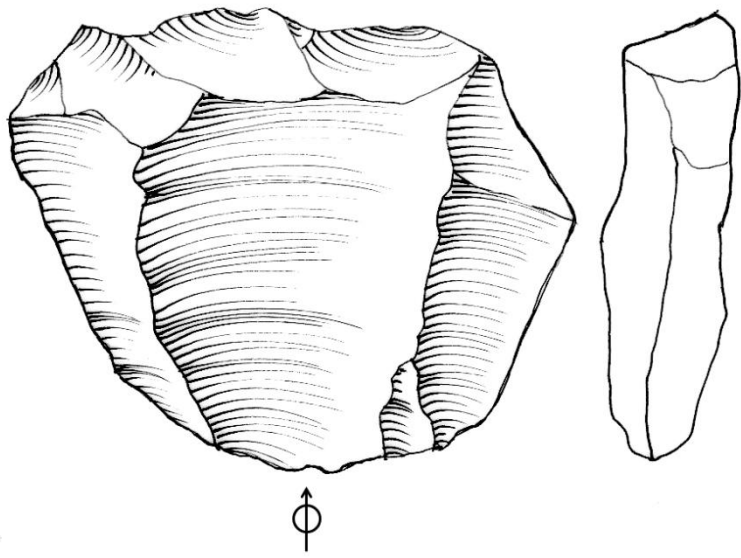


With an east-facing entrance, the large cave of Dadong in the village of Panxian, stands out in the landscape in South China. Its deposits are several meters thick, primarily of alternating layers of limestone rock fall and clays.

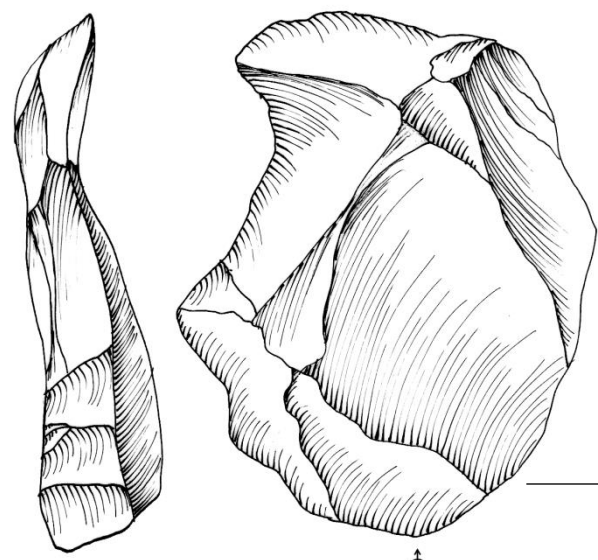
The immense cave of Dadong is located in the southernmost part of China in Guizhou Province. Several excavation seasons have been conducted by Chinese colleagues since 1991 and a series of dates was obtained by an international team.



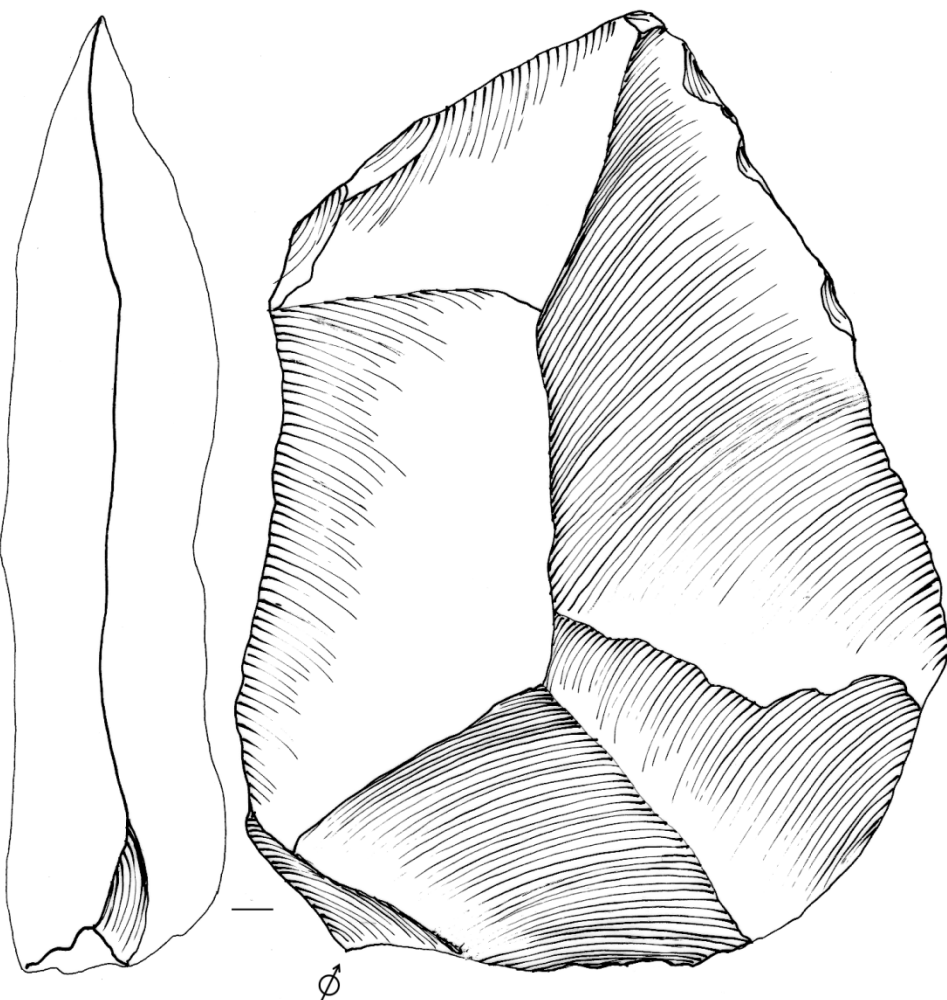
Core: preparation of an elongated block by centripetal removals



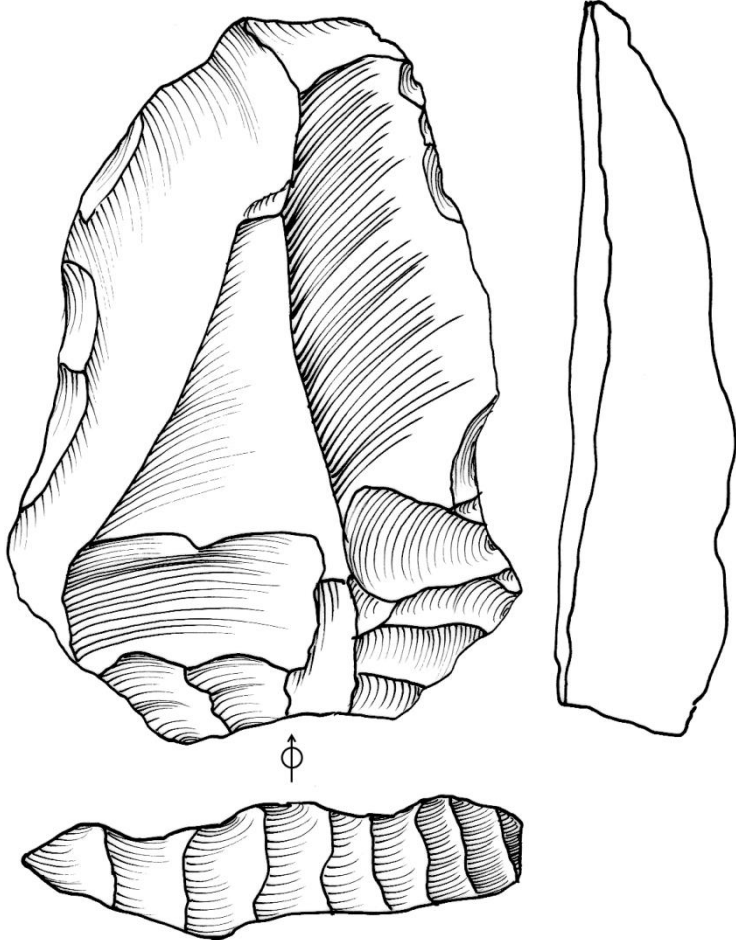
Tools on thick Levallois flakes: Sidescraper



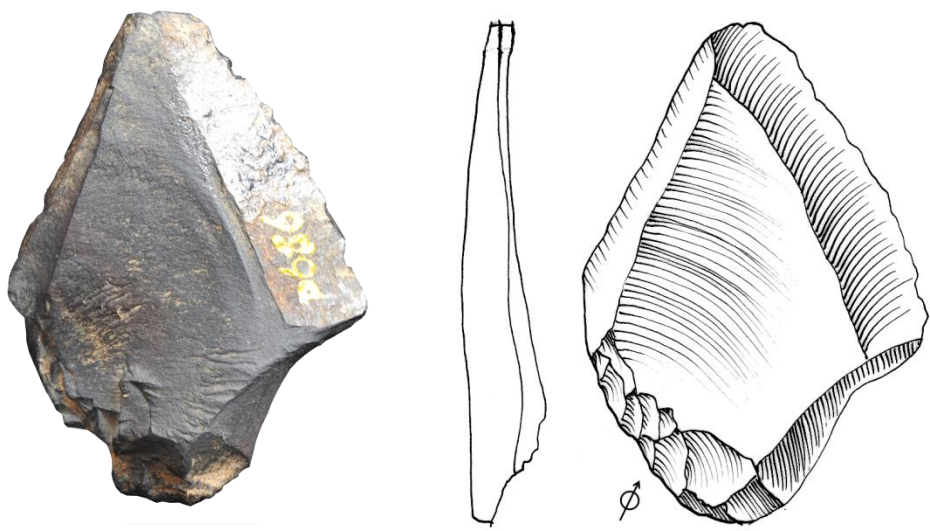
Overshot Levallois flake



Large preferential Levallois flake

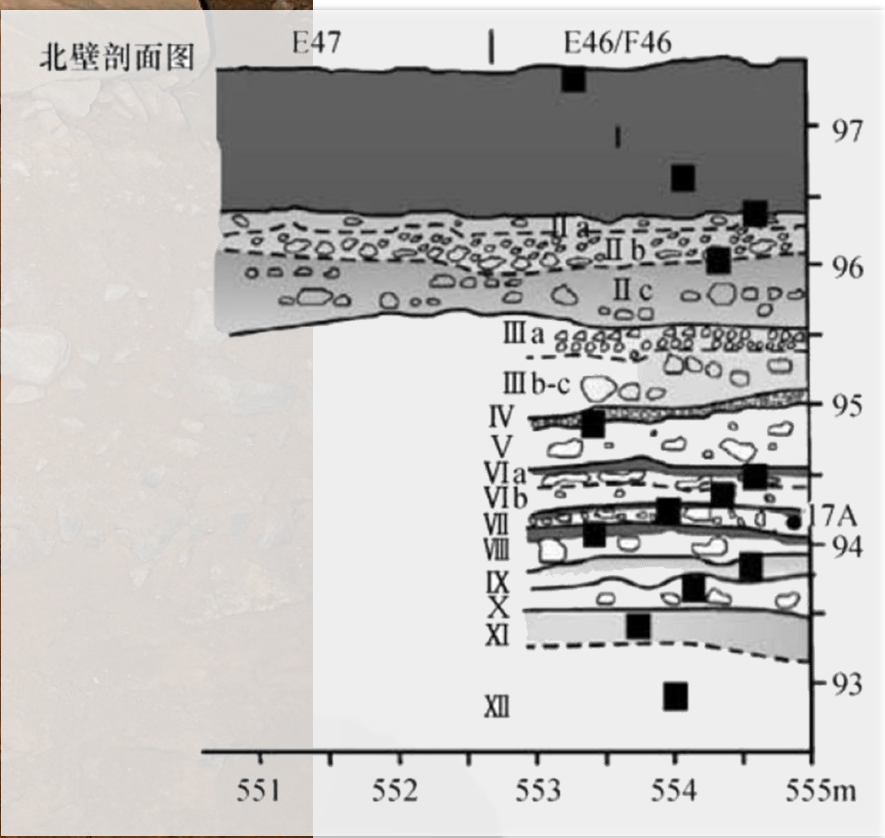
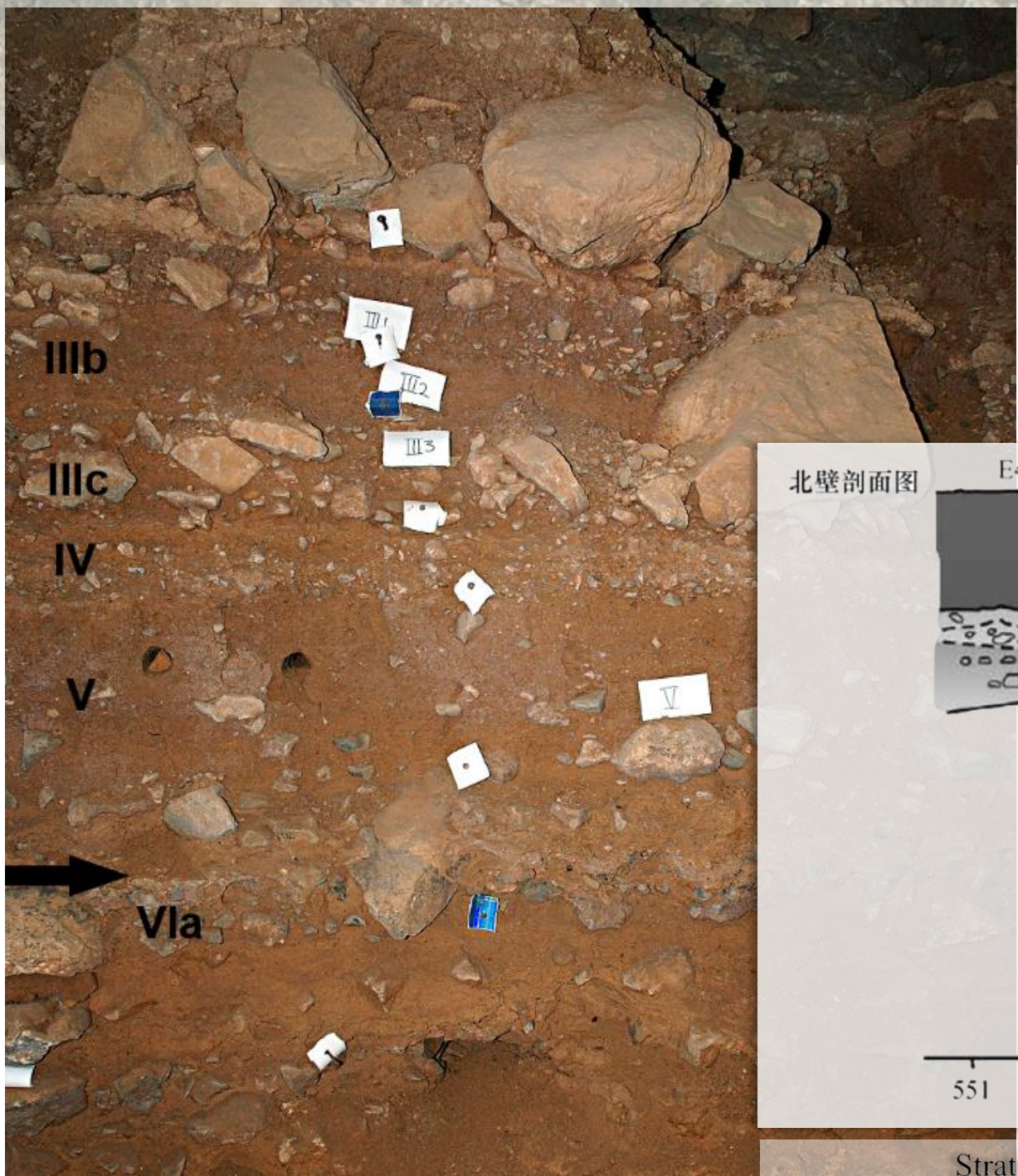


Massive Levallois flake with faceted platforms



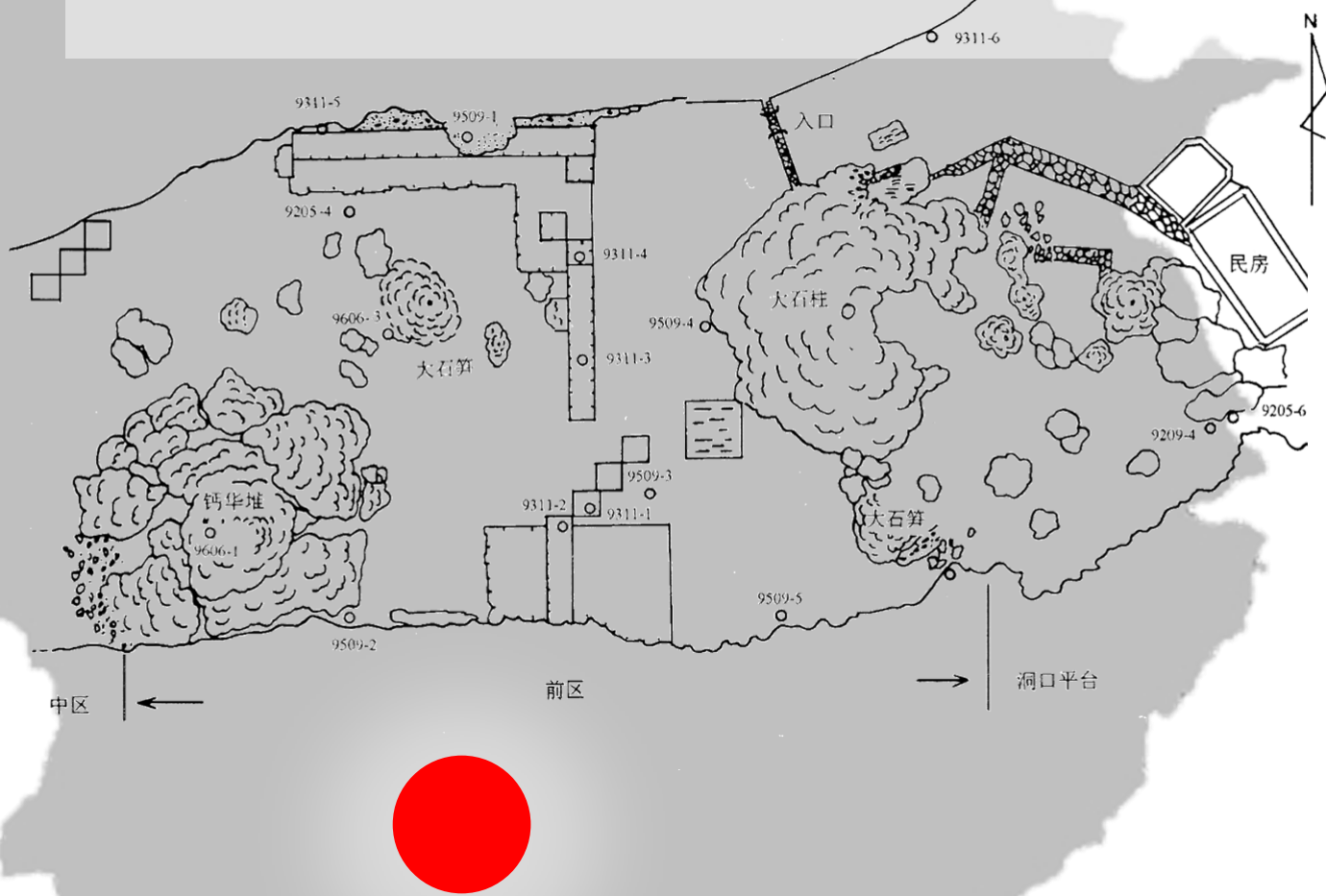
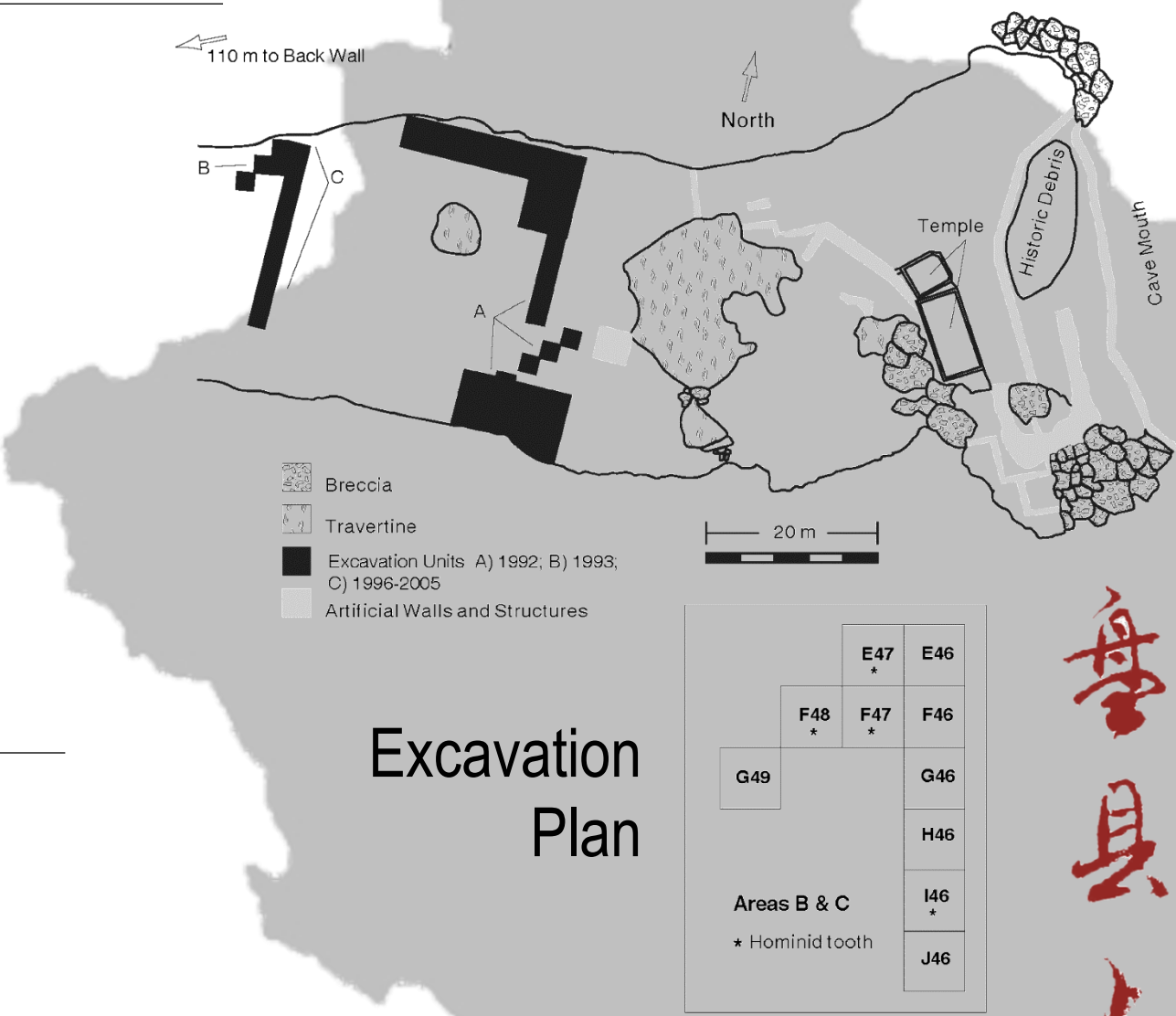
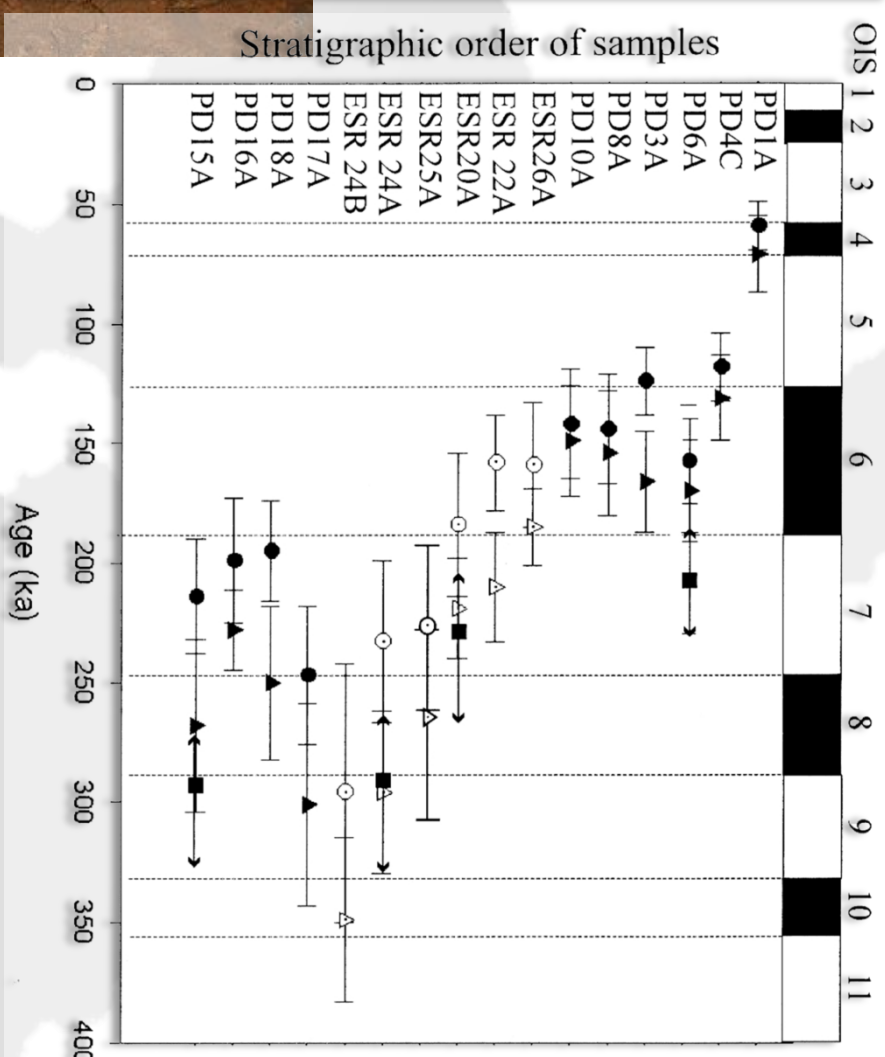
Levallois point, slightly overshot to one side of ideal size despite the constraints of stone

Exhausted centripetal core

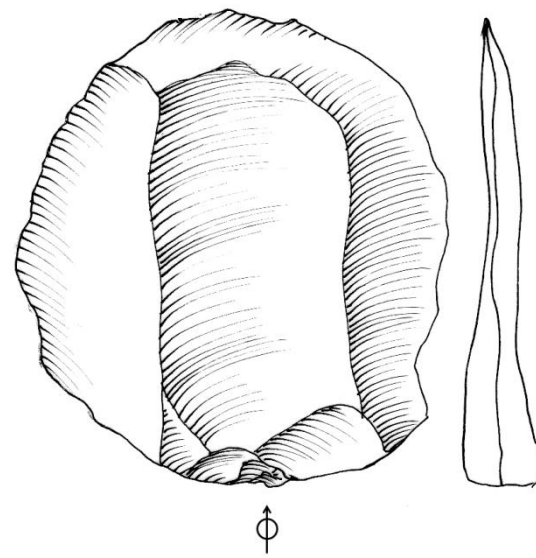


Main stratigraphic profile: the archaeological layers alternate with rock fall and clay layers. Dosimeter positions are indicated by crosses.

ESR and U/Th dates. Glacial phases are indicated in white on the vertical columns and interglacials in black. Overall, dates range from 150, to 300,000 years ago.



Preferential Levallois flake



The Chinese Levallois is not the result of processes of diffusion, but rather to several independent appearances at different times and places, due to the responses of the human mind to constraints of the mechanical laws of stone in order to achieve the entirely universal intentions of humans to produce effective and efficient tools and overcome such constraints.

