

# Supporting Information

## Early Levallois and the beginning of the Middle Paleolithic in Central Italy

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### History of research at Monte delle Gioie and Sedia del Diavolo

The discovery of fossil quaternary faunas at Monte delle Gioie (MdG) and Sedia del Diavolo (SdD) then in the northeast outskirts of Rome, goes back to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The hill of MdG (41°56 ' 45 " N; 12°30 ' 44 " E) is on the right bank of the Aniene River, close to its confluence with the Tiber. The first description of the stratigraphy of thick "post-pliocene" deposits at MdG is from Frère Indes who also describes the excavation he have undertaken in a cave developed in the calcareous tufa capping these deposits [1]. This cave which contained plentiful fauna and some lithic remains from an Upper Palaeolithic occupation [2] is referred to as "Indes cave". E. Clerici [3] was the last explorer of this cavity before it was destroyed between 1936 and 1938 by road- and rail work. SdD (41° 55'46"N; 12°31'22"E), on the left bank of the Aniene River 2.5 km upstream, was located on a fluvial terrace portion exploited for gravels and sands that was covered by urban growth of the city of Rome during the 1950's. At SdD the first stratigraphic record was established by R. Meli around 1882.

Taking advantage to ongoing road- and rail work during the 1930's A.C. Blanc recorded stratigraphy at MdG and SdD and in both sites he collected fossil faunas and lithic industry. Similarities between stratigraphy and altitude of gravels deposits were noticed by A.C Blanc et A.G. Segre and these deposits were firmly correlated [5–7]. The last fieldwork was undertaken in April 1956 by A.C. Blanc L. Cardini and P. Cassoli. The stratigraphy published by M. Taschini [4] is a synthesis of previous observations.

Industry and faunas have been recovered at both sites from the bulk of the upper fluvial gravels [4]. Similarities between lithic assemblages from SdD and MdG have been noticed by scholars [4,8,9]. When sorting fauna from SdD, Blanc, Cardini and Cassoli have identified two hominin remains: a metatarsal and a femur fragment described as Neandertal [10–13].

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