

The Neolithic Revolution

- Domestication, settlement, agriculture
- Limited range
- Persistence as part of hybrid “many worlds” (dates?)
- The question of progress
- The subsequent organization of agriculture-based states

The industrial revolution

- Organization of labor
- Reliance on fossil fuels
- Vast increase in productivity

The still unnamed revolution we are living through:

“Information” is part but not the whole

Also geographical consolidation and concerns

Mumford: an artificial, human-built world?

Types of revolution:

- Physical, scientific use (earth around sun)
- Political metaphor (French, Russian, etc.)
- Technological metaphor (industrial, Second Industrial, information, etc.)
- Things accumulate: displacements are gradual and often incomplete

Social teleology:

Where do we come from?

Where are we going?

What does it all mean?

What is our place in the universe?

What really matters?



Paul Gauguin, "Where Do We Come From? What are We? Where are We Going?" (1897)

(Boston Museum of Fine Arts)

Revolutions in ends as well as means

- Question of ends is always there
- Another energy source: psychic and social energy, enlisting allegiance and trust
- Meanings in kinship, rulers, nation, wealth
- Is this also changing? Is “sustainability” a new end? others?

Four revolutions changing the role of “technology in history”

- The Human Revolution in “prehistory” or paleohistory
- The Neolithic Revolution
- The Industrial Revolution
- The Human Empire

Key points about the human revolution

- Startling and shocking discovery of “prehistory,” which is also history (dates?)
- The primary event: emergence of humans as distinct from the rest of nature, while also being part of nature
- A view of “technology in history” beyond tool-making for physical survival

Cave art as part of socio-technological system

- Quest for meaning: human place and purpose in the rest of nature
- Providing a social meeting point to swap observations, reaffirm bonds, learn more about animals, arrange for cooperation, sharing of food
- Mithen: “...a tool for survival, one as essential as tools of stone, clothes of fur, and the fires that crackled within the caves”

Lascaux, France

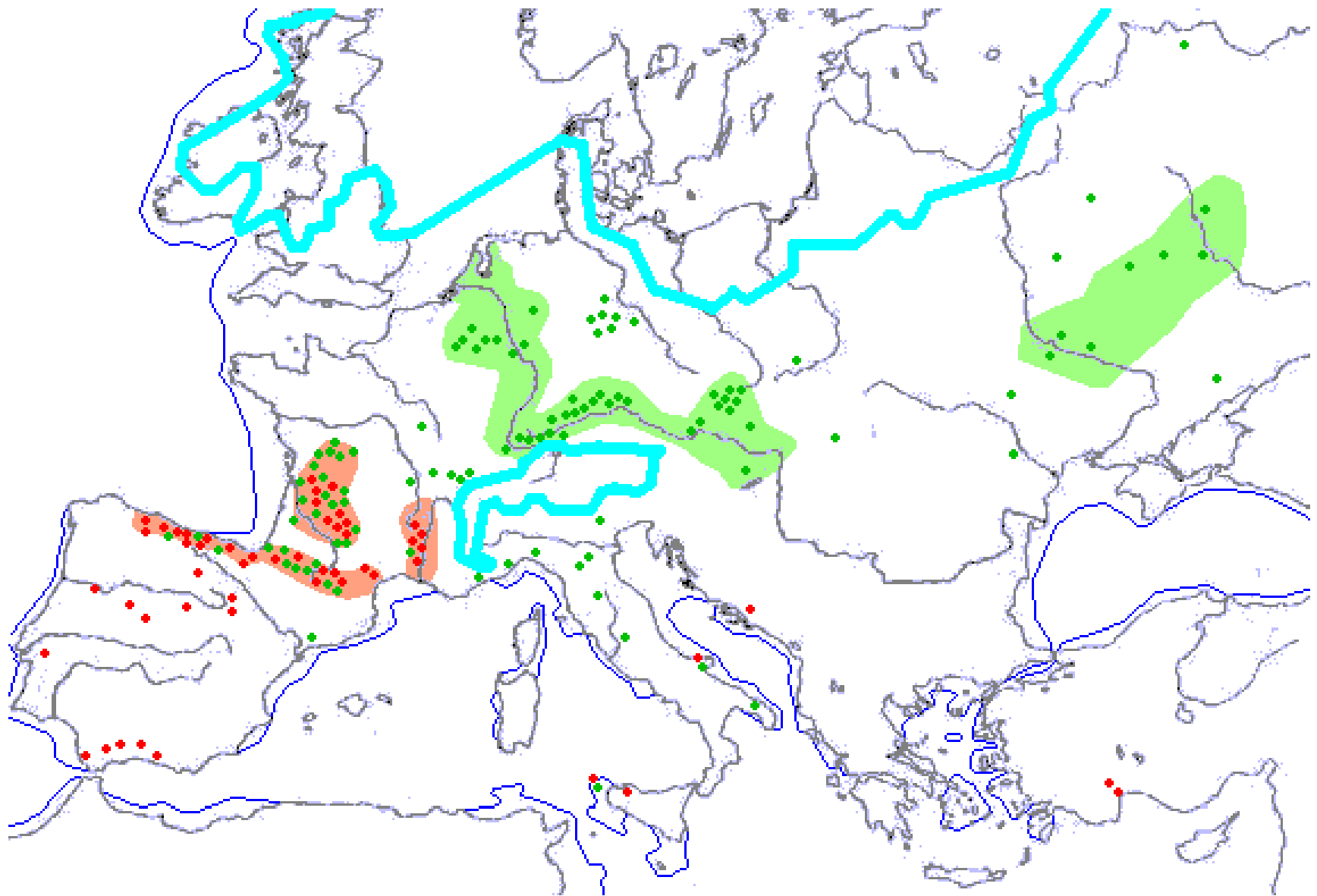
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See: <http://www.atlantis-webportfolios.com/world/cave/LascauxLocation.gif>

France and Spain

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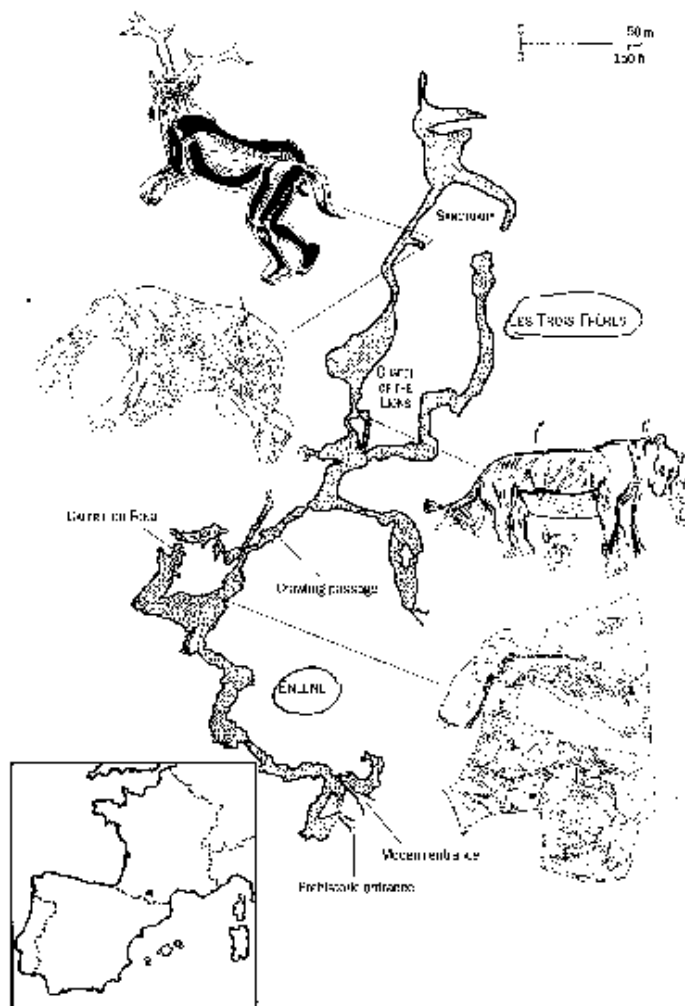


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Lewis-Williams, *Mind in Cave-*
L2 Three Caves, Three Time-Bytes



The Dancing Sorcerer

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Font du Gaume

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<http://donsmaps.com/fontdegaume.html>

http://s3.amazonaws.com/readers/2009/04/08/a172gaume1_1.jpg

<http://infinity.cos.edu/art/strong/module/history2/unit1/paleoneo/photo2.jpg>

Les Combarelles

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<http://pagesperso-orange.fr/nicole.rolin/prehistoire/Images/Anthropomorphes%20les%20Combarelles1348.jpg>

<http://www.landschaftsmuseum.de/Bilder/Mammut-2.jpg>

<http://www.paleolithicartmagazine.org/comba.jpg>

<http://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/d/images/3/34/Altamira-tectiformes.jpg>

Tools found in Les Combarelles, now in museum at Les Éyzies

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Lascaux

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http://www.gailallen.com/images/his/lascaux_cave_painting_800x522.jpg

http://ursispaltenstein.ch/blog/images/uploads_img/lascaux_2.jpg

<http://slowpainting.files.wordpress.com/2009/02/lascauxbulls.jpg>

<http://smartistcareerblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2008/10/lascaux-axial-gallery-3.jpg>

http://web.me.com/kbolman/Lascaux_France/3LascauxHallofBulls_files/3.1lascaux.gif

<http://www.coolschool.k12.or.us/courses/119900/graphics/Lascaux/L2-07b.jpg>

<http://www.susanboothfinearts.com/WebImages/VengenceatLascaux.jpg>

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Cognac

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<http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/conservation/fr/grottes/Photos/Cognac3191.jpg>

<http://www.fenomenum.com.br/ufo/historico/imagens/6815883cognac-jpg.jpg>

<http://www.judeart.com/Dscn0017.jpg>

Pech Merle

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<http://www.judeart.com/Dscn0017.jpg>

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<http://www.dkiel.com/SouthofFrance/Dordogne/PechMerle/Cave35.jpg>

<http://www.donsmaps.com/images3/pechmerlemammoth.jpg>

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Chauvet

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http://www.newyorker.com/images/2008/06/23/p465/080623_r17477_p465.jpg

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d1/Chauvet_cave_paintings.JPG

<http://www.woostercollective.com/images/horsegraf1.jpg>

The end of a way of life

- The warming of the climate, invasion of woodlands, scattered animals, less need for group hunts
- 20000+ years
- What other ways of life are extinct?

Mithen on the end of cave art:

“The cessation of cave painting is a remarkable testament to the ability of people to rewrite the rules of their society when the need arises. It is one we must recall as global warming threatens our planet today.”

(After the Ice, p. 149)

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STS.007 Technology in History
Fall 2010

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