



Nach dem Spiel ist vor dem Spiel –

New Palaeolithic field projects in the Ach Valley in the Swabian Jura (southwestern Germany)

Since 2020 the State Office for Cultural Heritage conducts surveys in the core zones and the surroundings of the Palaeolithic serial UNESCO World Heritage site "Caves and Ice Age Art in the Swabian Jura". Thereby, the Ach Valley is in the focus of current archaeological surveys, test-sondages and excavation projects. Our aim is to evaluate the archaeological potential of known sites and the identification of previously unknown sites. Thus in 2020, we started archaeological excavations at the well-known cave site Brillenhöhle and in the entrance area of the so-called Untere Könenbuchhöhle (both Blaubeuren/ SW-Germany).

Palaeolithic of the Swabian Jura

Important Palaeolithic sites of the Swabian Jura



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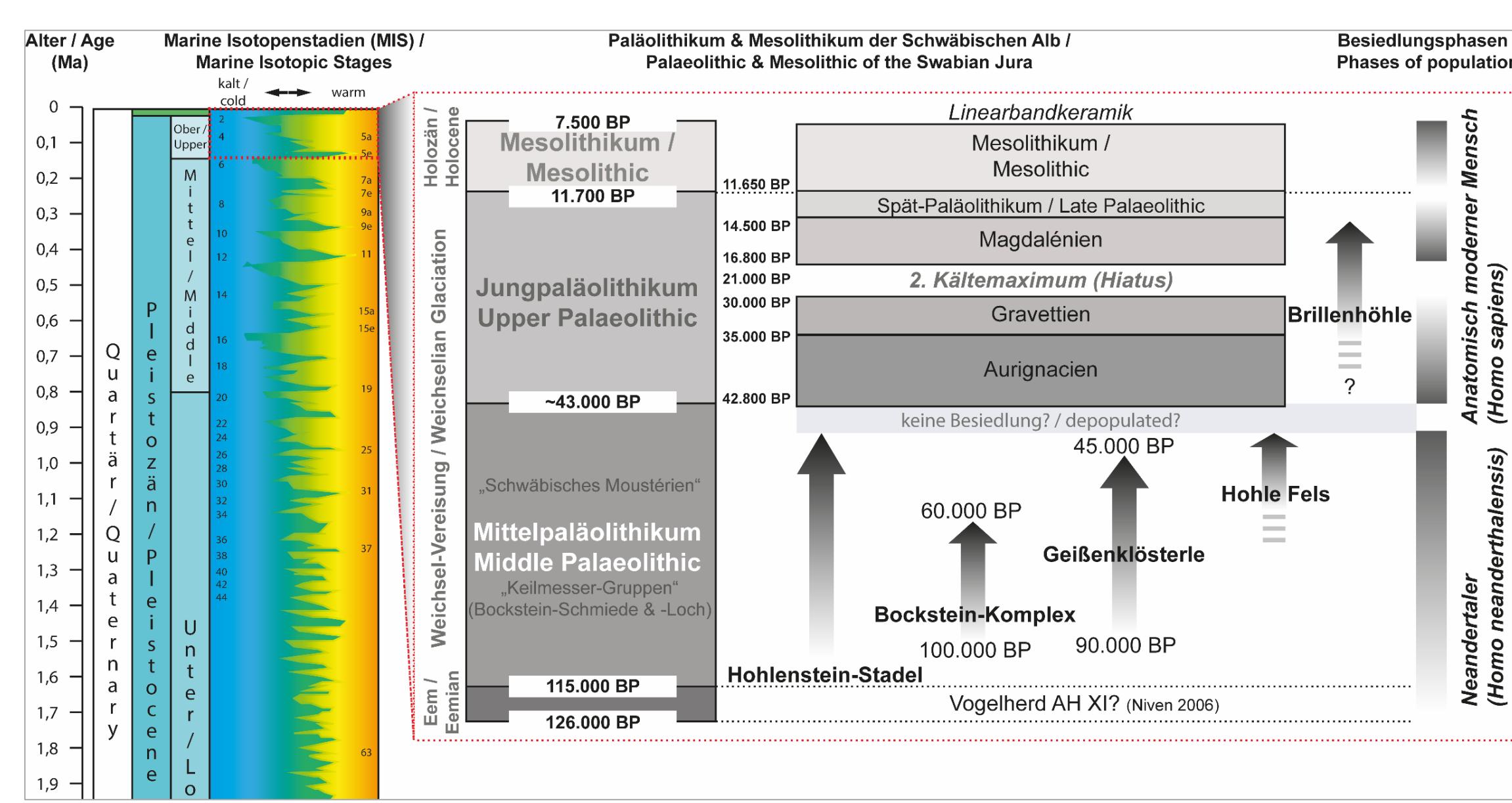
Brillenhöhle

Photo: T. Beutelspacher © LAD

Untere Könenbuchhöhle

Photo: G. Bataille © LAD

Chronology of the Swabian Palaeolithic & Mesolithic



Brillenhöhle

Photo: T. Beutelspacher © LAD

Untere Könenbuchhöhle

Photo: G. Bataille © LAD

Sites under investigation (Ach Valley)

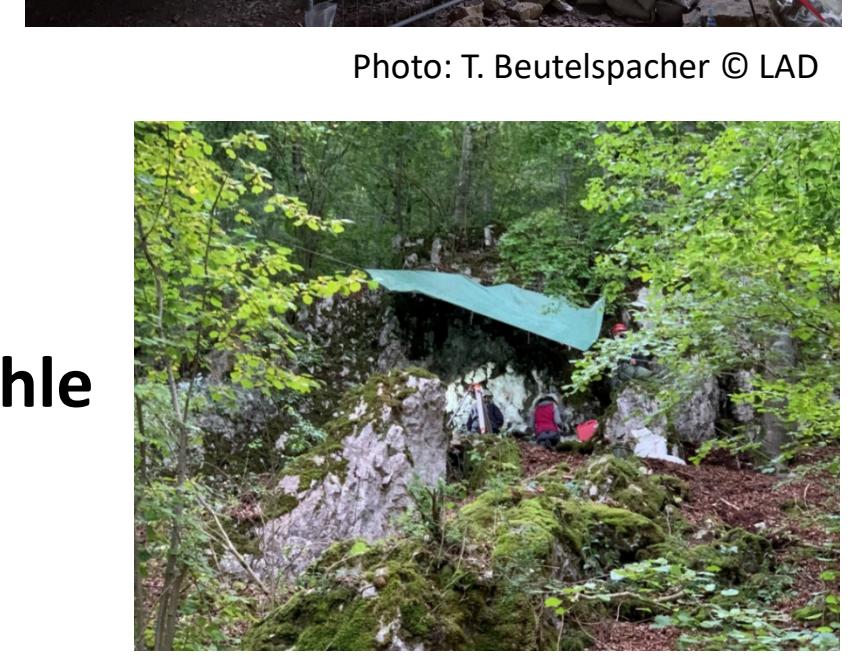
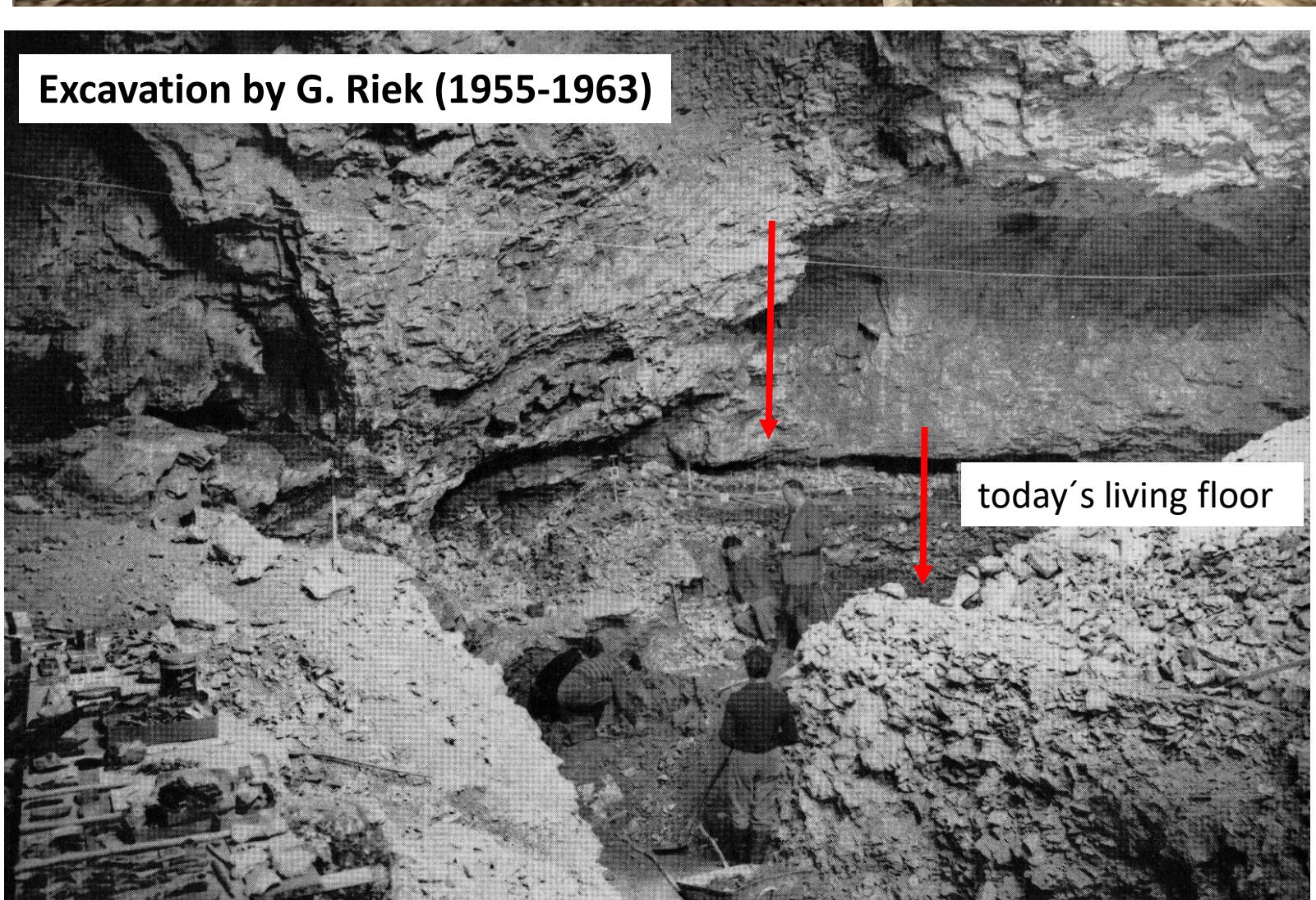


Photo: G. Bataille © LAD

Brillenhöhle (Blaubeuren-Seißen) – excavation campaigns 2020 & 2021



Research questions: Are intact sediments still present?
Hypothesis: If yes, they should be correlated with Riek's arch. layers XII – XXII of the deep sondage (AUR & MPal).

(3-D-Model: Markus Steffen & Christoph Steffen; © LAD)

today's living floor

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Excavation by G. Riek (1955-1963)

today's living floor

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Research questions: Are intact sediments still present?

Hypothesis: If yes, they should be correlated with Riek's

arch. layers XII – XXII of the deep sondage (AUR & MPal).

© G. Riek (1973)

not excavated area

deep sondages

Aurignacian AH XIV

W-Profile 2021

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