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Red Ereño and *Cantera Gorria*: Natural and Cultural Geoheritage (Basque Country, Spain)

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Construction and ornamental stones are important elements of cultural heritage and identity and shape the urban landscape of the territories (Pereira & Cárdenes Van den Eynde, 2019). These stones and their **quarries** are a part of **geoheritage** that is gaining interest in the tourism industry (Mateos *et al.*, 2011). **Red Ereño** is an urgonian limestone (Lower Cretaceous) with abundant rudist fossil shells, which white colours highlight on an intense red micritic matrix. This stone is exploited since Roman times in the north of the Iberian Peninsula (Basque Country, Spain). This lithology is found in many buildings, both heritage and common. Its uniqueness has contributed to its expansion worldwide and, it can be found in such emblematic places as the Colon Theatre in Buenos Aires (Argentina) or St Peter's basilica in the Vatican (Italy) (Damas Mollá *et al.*, 2021).

The main quarry related to Red Ereño is called **Cantera Gorria** (meaning Red Quarry) and is located inside the Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve (x: 529,659.29 m; y: 4,800,839.60 m; z: 15 m). It is included in the Geosites Inventory of the Basque Country (LIG nº 15), and is part of the historical heritage of the Biscay province. The last concessionaire of the quarry was *Marmolería Bilbaina* and it ceased its activity in 1968. At present the quarry is abandoned. Nevertheless, on its exploitation fronts outstanding **geologic features** are recognised: **stratigraphic** (bioconstructions, facies changes), **petrologic** (diagenesis, mineralisations), **tectonic** (succession verticality, faults) or **geomorphologic** (karst). All of them make *Cantera Gorria* a point of reference for both **research** and **teaching** activities. Additionally, it is important to underline the richness related to the **mining heritage** itself. Numerous buildings from the mining activity are still preserved. Also noteworthy are the signs engraved on the rock showing the progress of exploitation in various stages, from manual to the use of helical steel wire.

In the case of Red Ereño and *Cantera Gorria* the **symbiosis** between **geoheritage** and **cultural heritage** is significant. This symbiosis, together with all the above mentioned characteristics of the quarry makes *Cantera Gorria* an interesting space for **dissemination** of geoheritage as well as for **tourism** (Damas Mollá, 2011).

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