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A medieval unrecorded earthquake? The archaeoseismological assessment of El Castillejo, Granada

Abstract

Our poster presents the results of the archaeological investigations which, in 2018, targeted the site of *El Castillejo*, a fortified Islamic settlement located about 40 km south of Granada. Adopting an archaeological approach combining buildings archaeology, excavation, radiocarbon dating, OSL and Bayesian statistics, our archaeological project identified and dated a seismic event which affected the site during the late Middle Ages. The results point out that this earthquake is an event not recorded by contemporary Spanish and European seismic catalogues.

This work was funded by the British Academy and a Marie Curie action and aimed at building a feasible and easily replicable methodology for the seismological study of an archaeological site. It was also designed in order to contribute to the assessment of the local seismic hazard. The paper, therefore, will offer the opportunity to discuss and explore the potential of archaeology in risk assessment and risk communication with a multidisciplinary audience of palaeo and historic seismologists, geologists and disaster risk reduction practitioners.