

SUBACHOQUE VALLEY  
ROCK ART SITES



*PICTOGRAFIAS ROJAS  
GACHA I*

SITE NUMBER: 14 (CuSubLcPi001)

SITE NAME: Gacha 1

VEREDA: La Cuesta

FINCA: Santa Isabel

OWNER: Carlos Camacho Cooke

TYPE OF ROCK ART: Red pictographs

ALTITUDE: 2,641 meters per GPS; 2,570 per altimeter

DISCOVERED BY: Jorge Ruge, 1985. Informant: Santiago Ruge

DOCUMENTED BY: Jorge Ruge 1985. Harry Marriner May 1989

DESCRIPTION AND ORIENTATION: Two groups of pictographs on the north vertical face of a highly fractured cliffside. Many areas that probably contained pictographs have separated from the cliff face and fallen. Four sets of vertical lines include: 1 group of 3 lines; 2 groups of 7 lines; 1 group of 8 lines; 1 group of 9 lines. Other motifs include: parallel zigzag lines, a lozenge within a lozenge, a partial hourglass figure, and 3 other geometric shapes. Most figures range from 5 to 10 cms. tall.

OBSERVATIONS AND HISTORY: The Gacha area of the Santa Isabel farm was probably the center of the Chinga Indian settlement at the time of the Spanish conquest. Steep hills and cliff faces enclose much of the small valley which has a stream flowing through it. The Subachoque River is located less than 1 kilometer to the west of the rock art site. The Madrid-La Cuesta-Subachoque road lies between the site and the Subachoque River.

The vertical lines may have been used as solar or lunar time markers.