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**Title:** Una isla, dos mundos : estudio arqueológico sobre el paisaje indígena de Haytí y su transformación al paisaje colonial de La Española (1200-1550)  
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Propositions

1. When defined by clear units of cultural materials and their distributions, the archaeological concept of site can be considered equivalent to the anthropological idea of place.

2. Although regional patterns can be identified in the study region, it would be a mistake to assume those patterns will be similar to those in other regions on the island. The differences observed in the three comparative areas explored in this project provide an excellent example of diversity.

3. From Columbus’ reports to XIX century historians a series of historical misunderstandings and misconceptions have been created in relation to the spatial and political organization of the indigenous populations in the Caribbean. This was maintained with the single-site research done in early 20th century archaeology. The systematic, regional and spatially well-defined research developed in this dissertation contribute greatly to challenging these models and propose alternative ideas of the spatial and landscape organizations of the indigenous populations.

4. The contested taskscape concept is a powerful theoretical tool to study and understand past landscapes, particularly in the contexts of cultural conflict and colonization.

5. The statement -- that archaeological sites are not waiting outside to be discovered, but rather they have to be defined in the field and the laboratory -- is as valid today as it was 30 years ago. Archaeological sites are the product of the researcher’s project design and need to be clearly defined in every research programme.

6. The use of –scapes, should be taken as heuristic conceptualizations to reach the understanding of past and contemporary landscapes.

7. Spatial statistics and GIS are powerful tools with which to study and understand past landscapes. However, archaeological science is nothing without archaeological theory!

8. Archaeological research is worth nothing without the active engagement of the contemporary communities that inhabit in “our” research regions.

9. A major challenge and an exciting aspect of archaeology is to articulate the different voices from the past and the present in order to create histories that both stay close to what we can really say about the past, and that are useful for contemporary communities in their search for a re-vitalized identity.

10. We, as archaeologists and as scientists, are responsible for what we say and do about the human past. As a result, we have a responsibility to be explicit about our theoretical and political positions, in particular with respect to our relationships with local communities.