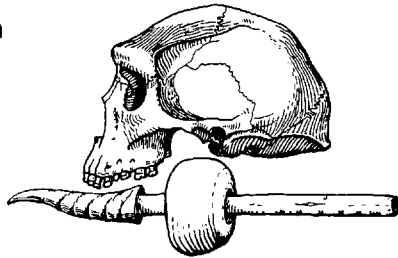


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Editor: Margaret Avery

The Digging Stick

EDITORIAL

With this issue of *The Digging Stick* I have taken over as Editor from Mrs Shirley-Ann Pager, who has many other responsibilities on her hands and is also about to visit Australia, as she mentioned in the last issue. I should like to thank her on behalf of all our members for a job well done. We are deeply in her debt for all the time and effort that she has put into *The Digging Stick* over the last five years; to her the newsletter owes both its name and its success.

This issue of *The Digging Stick* will complete the present volume in essentially the format that we have come to know but with some small changes. With the new volume next year the format will change further and our newsletter will expand to become a magazine. I wrote to all our members a few months ago outlining my suggestions for a magazine and asking for your response. This was very positive and extremely encouraging (see the article below) and Council has agreed that we should go ahead, first with a fairly small magazine but building on this as we see how it goes.

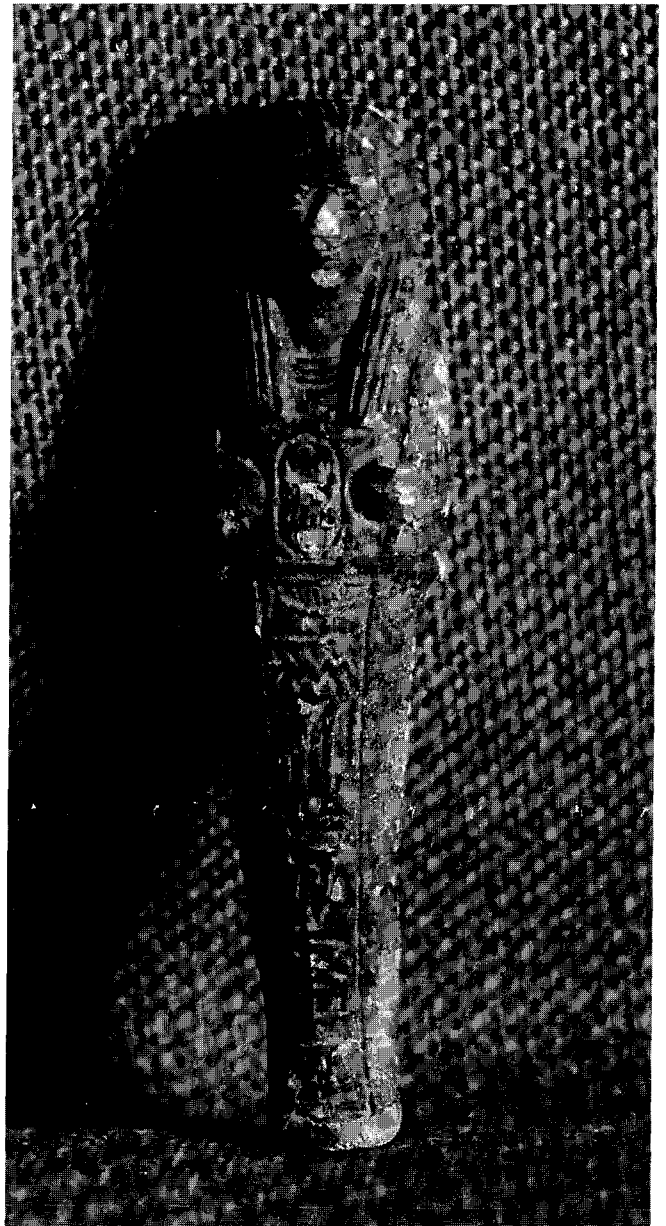
ARTICLES

AN EGYPTIAN ENIGMA

A.J.B. Humphreys

Shabtis (or Ushabtis) are small mummy-shaped statuettes that were entombed with Egyptian pharaohs. They were images of servants who would perform the tasks demanded by the pharaoh in the other world. These shabtis were of the most varied types and materials, some masterpieces in their own right, others rudimentary.

About 20 years ago I acquired two clay shabtis, one of which is shown here and is 163 mm tall. Given their availability and the general state of the 'antiquities' market in Egypt, it seemed unlikely that they were genuine but they were nevertheless interesting specimens that made attractive ornaments. Consultation with various experts over the years, as



well as some reading on the subject, has shown that although, as expected, the shabtis are not genuine they do exhibit some exceptional features that are perhaps worth describing.

These shabtis are imitations of forms typical of the later period of Egyptian history, that is, from the Twenty-first Dynasty onwards (after about 1000 B.C.). What is of interest is the cartouche on the chest. (Cartouche is the term for the oval shape containing the hieroglyph of the pharaoh's name.) The name represented on the cartouche is that of Tuthmosis III (1504 - 1450 B.C.), one of the greatest pharaohs of the Eighteenth Dynasty. The shabtis are thus not copies of real examples, as is often the case with fakes, but a pastiche of at least two separate elements - form and pharaoh. A further point of interest is that, although the tomb of Tuthmosis III has been found, no shabtis are known to have come from it. This particular cartouche should therefore appear on a shabti of any type.

But the story does not end there. In a recent book, *The Exodus Enigma* (1985), Ian Wilson suggests that the exodus of the Israelites did not take place at the end of the Late Bronze Age as is generally believed but at the end of the Middle Bronze Age. If Wilson's theory is correct (and he presents a very convincing argument) it would mean that the pharaoh at the time of the exodus was our friend Tuthmosis III. It is pure coincidence, of course, but it does add an interesting new dimension to the 'history' of shabtis.

Whatever else the shabtis prove, they certainly do provide tangible support for the words 'O, what a tangled web we weave, when first we practise to deceive'!

Department of Anthropology, University of the Western Cape, 7530 Bellville.

NEW MAGAZINE

Margaret Avery

First of all I should like to say thank you to all those who took the time to return the questionnaire, and especially those who made suggestions and wrote letters or phoned me. 145 forms were returned, of which an extremely encouraging 133 were in favour of the magazine. It looks as though I may not have made my intentions clear to some of those not in favour and perhaps I should try to sort out some confusions. For instance, if the Society is above the heads of laymen, as was stated, this is precisely why I suggested the magazine; the *Bulletin* does not serve the same purpose proposed for the magazine. Beyond this, the aim will not be to compete with the *Bulletin* but, effectively, to expand *The Digging Stick*; to increase the number of publications is certainly not the idea. I tried to distinguish between the journal (= *Bulletin* or scientific publication) and the magazine (= expanded *Digging Stick* or popular publication) which will be complementary and not in competition. Another proposal was that, instead of introducing a magazine, we should rather make a determined effort to reach a wider readership through other existing magazines with large circulations. This would not provide a service for Society members, which was my primary objective.

There was some problem with the question of 'professional' versus 'lay', 'popular' or what have you. For a start, I was in no way suggesting that one was somehow better than the other. Standards of content comparable to those of the *Bulletin* will be established but the style and intention of the magazine will be different. Beyond this, use of the term 'professional' may have been unfortunate because there was certainly no intention that the *Bulletin* would be reserved for

use only by those employed as archaeologists, any more than it is suggested that these people should be precluded from contributing to the magazine. Despite one expressed reservation that 'professionals' are normally bad at writing general articles, the aim would be to encourage this as much as possible because they are largely the people with the knowledge. Practice and experience can only improve matters! In this connection it could also be a good idea to persuade lecturers at Branch meetings to send in a written version of their talk (Branch Secretaries please note).

Of those who answered the question about membership involvement, 123 out of 128 approved of this idea. Here it should be pointed out that I was referring to sending in reports, letters, raising issues and the like. In the matter of sending in reports, it was good that 77 people said they would do this. Another 37 said that they would not but I think that some of these were being bashful because they said that they did not have the expertise. Perhaps they will be encouraged when they see that the idea is not to be too high-powered. At the same time it should be said that standards will be maintained; not everything will be published just because it is submitted. Also, please do not be offended if your report is either sent back to you for correction or altered before acceptance. There will probably have to be a fair amount of editorial initiative, at least in the beginning, to make sure that the style and format are properly established. It is important to set good precedents right at the beginning. This should, incidentally, allay fears that standards may slip.

Most people (84 as against 8) thought that branches should take extra copies and I hope that this means that members will be willing to make sure that these are sold or distributed outside the Society. Hopefully the magazine will become a powerful educational tool for the dissemination of information on prehistory and the conservation of the evidence. (This is another major reason for making sure that the content is of a high standard.) Membership involvement could become very important at this distributional stage. Copies sold, as suggested, at Branch meetings could also perhaps persuade more people to join the Society as well as spread information. Some people added the proviso that Branches should not be obliged to take copies and this was certainly not the idea. They might, though, have to put in pre-publication orders, at least in the beginning, so that we can determine how many copies are to be printed.

On the educational front more than one person suggested the need for a junior section to encourage more family membership, not to mention those children who mysteriously develop an interest in archaeology without any family involvement. This section might include a question-answering service and a competition. Would Branches like to sponsor a competition prize?

It was also very heartening to have 26 people say that they were willing to become involved in the production of the magazine. Some thought that they would be unable to assist because they live in different parts of the country but they should be encouraged by the fact that a member in England volunteered to send information culled from archaeological magazines there. This would also be in line with one person's request for international coverage. Others could be regional correspondents or take on certain aspects of production, even at long distance. People can expect to be taken up on their offers in the very near future.

Most people were obviously sufficiently keen on having a magazine to accept the possibility of a slight rise in subscriptions (105 said that they would not mind; 24 said that they would). One suggestion was that members be given the option of receiving the *Bulletin* and/or the magazine but this would unfortunately not help as printing fewer copies would make each publication more expensive. On the other hand, if the membership were to become sufficiently large this could be a possibility. Another suggestion was that education centres at schools and tertiary institutions be canvassed to take out memberships. Extra orders from Branches will also help by increasing the print run (again, the more copies that

are printed the cheaper each copy becomes). The question of sponsorship will be looked into, especially because of the educational aspect, once there is a magazine to show prospective sponsors. Appropriate advertising would also help but again one needs a viable magazine before this can be attracted. The idea of extending sales through a commercial outlet was suggested and certainly might reduce the cost of individual copies but is not something that can be considered at this stage.

Almost half the respondents had some suggestions or comments which also shows members' interest in the project. On the question of subject matter, there was a suggestion that there be a page of small ads, ie volunteers for excavations, back numbers of publications, etc. Someone asked for profiles on local archaeologists, and industrial, historical and maritime archaeology as well as more palaeontology were other topics proposed. Other ideas were to have articles on the archaeology of popular holiday areas and also series on basic concepts and techniques. Articles on other disciplines and the contribution they make to archaeological interpretation was another idea. One could wander off into many other sciences that often have totally unexpected applications to archaeology. This might also solve the problem foreseen by one member that a magazine related purely to archaeology would not succeed. A little harmless humour was a good suggestion; people could perhaps send in their favourite archaeological cartoons, copyright permitting of course. News on current fieldwork might also be of interest and help maintain contact between 'professionals' and lay members.

It was also suggested that there might be regional supplements but I think that regional sections will be less ambitious for the present; the Society is not big enough to do different editions. People, particularly travellers, will in any case probably be interested in knowing what is happening in other Branches. A proposal was also made that the magazine be bilingual or at least make provision for articles in Afrikaans. It seems reasonable that articles or other communications should be acceptable in either language but, again, it is unlikely at this stage that it will be possible to produce two editions. If anyone has any further suggestions please send them in; this is what membership participation is all about.

THE SUCCESS OF THE MAGAZINE WILL DEPEND
LARGELY ON HOW MUCH SUPPORT WE RECEIVE FROM
MEMBERS - WE NEED THOSE ARTICLES, REPORTS,
LETTERS, NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Send them to me (Dr D.M. Avery), South African Museum,
P.O.Box 61, Cape Town, 8000.

THE MONA LISA OF THE GALILEE

David Stadler

A woman of rare and haunting beauty will be awaiting Israeli and American archaeologists when they resume their excavations this year. Archaeologists first caught a glimpse of one of the archaeological sensations of the decade towards the end of last year's excavation season at the once famed Galilee town of Sepphoris. With only six more days scheduled for digging, students and volunteers recognized patches of an intricate mosaic beneath the dirt covering the floor of a large monumental building. The team hurriedly uncovered the hidden portions of what promised to be a remarkable piece of ancient art work. Their reward was far beyond what they had hoped for; the full mosaic was a gem.

The mosaic, dating back to the late third or fourth century A.D. when Palestine was an outpost of the Roman Empire, measures some 12 by 7 metres. It consists of a T-shaped section depicting scenes from Greek mythology and a white U-shaped section around the base of the T-section. There are markings for the location of three banquet couches on which, in keeping with Roman custom, the guests were seated. While eating, they were treated to a view of this remarkable mosaic.

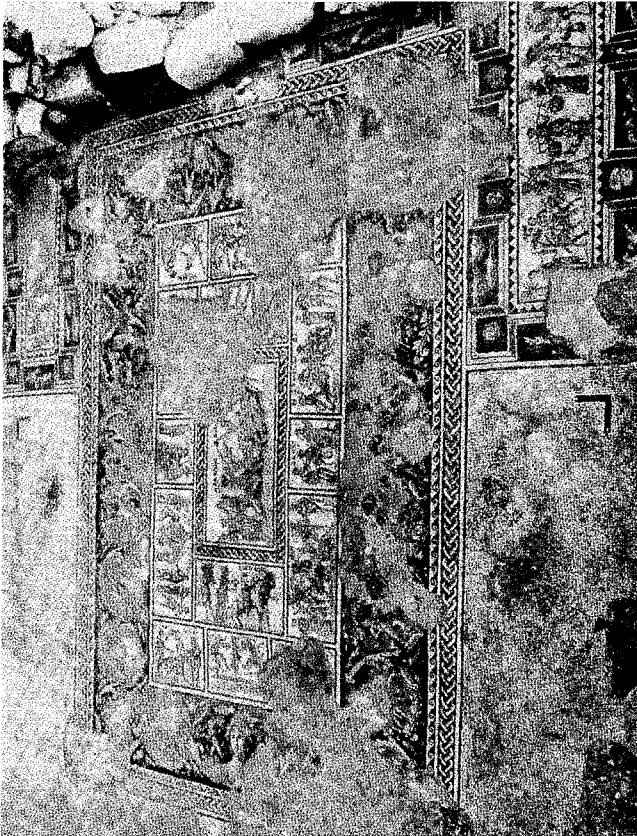
The ancient artisans who made the mosaic used extremely small tiles measuring only 2-3 mm on each side. This, along with the rich palette of colours available to them, made it possible for them to render the scenes depicted in the mosaic in great detail and depth. The unidentified lady, whose beauty has created such a stir in the archaeological world, adorns the lower border of the mosaic. A small cupid, bow and arrow in hand, dangles mischievously in space above her right shoulder (see figure).



A close-up of the unidentified lady at Sepphoris, Israel whose beauty has created such an archeological sensation.

The mosaic 'carpet' adds a new dimension to the picture of life in the Galilee town of Sepphoris; it suggests that the level of culture was far higher than was previously thought. Sepphoris was an important Jewish centre in the Galilee for many centuries, both before and during Roman rule. Only Jerusalem is mentioned more often than 'Zippori' (the Hebrew name for the town) in ancient Jewish writings of the first centuries A.D. Sepphoris was inhabited by Jews and Christians living together under Roman rule. A large Roman theatre presumably made the town the centre of cultural activity in the Galilee. The language here, as in all eastern parts of the Roman empire, was Greek. The town was destroyed in A.D. 363, probably by an earthquake.

Preliminary archaeological excavations were conducted at Sepphoris in the 1930s. Fifty years later digging was resumed under Israeli and American auspices, with Dr Ehud Netzer of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Profs Eric Meyers and Carol Meyers of Duke University, North Carolina, as joint directors. Volunteers from Israel and the United States come to help with the excavations each summer.



An overview of the entire third to fourth century A.D. mosaic floor, which includes the sensational "Mona Lisa" of the Galilee image. (Photo: Gabi Laron).

Previous finds at the site include hoards of coins, bronze figurines of the gods Pan and Prometheus, and the remains of mosaics containing Hebrew writing deriving apparently from a synagogue in Sepphoris. Also of interest is a number of small stepped pools, presumably used by the Jewish community of Sepphoris for ritual baths. The colourful mosaic in what may have been the residence of the Roman governor is the most spectacular find so far. 'We had already uncovered a tiny corner of the room during the second excavation season', said Dr Netzer, 'and we thought the room might have a decorated centre but we certainly did not expect this.'

Excavations at Sepphoris were due to resume this June when the 'Mona Lisa' of the Galilee would once again be uncovered from its protective layer of dirt and sand. Due to the lateness of the discovery the sand was re-applied by the archaeological team at the end of the season last year to protect the mosaic. Archaeologists will now perform the necessary 'cosmetics' to allow the mosaic to remain open. Upon completion of the excavations it is hoped that the site will become a new and important stopover for tourists in Israel.

c/o Embassy of Israel, P.O. Box 3726, 0001 Pretoria.

'EXCAVATIONS' AT WYNBERG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

Andrew B. Smith

After a lecture on the value of archaeology for historians by Prof. James Dietz in 1987, Pam van Dyk, who was teaching pre-colonial history at the Wynberg (Cape Town) Girls' High School, had the idea of a teaching exercise in which she would 'make' an Iron Age site and the girls would excavate it.

To obtain an idea of how a site works Ms van Dyk took a kombi-load of girls to Kasteelberg near Saldanha while excavations were in progress during January 1988. There the girls and teachers were introduced to excavation and sorting techniques while being shown round the site and learning why it is relevant to South African history.

Ms van Dyk then enlisted the help of the senior girls in creating her own site in the corner of the hockey field at the school. This was to be a single-level site with pottery and bones at one end and iron slag at the other. The standard 6 class was given the task of excavation and, with Devil's Peak in the background, they spent a sunny morning digging with gardening tools and sieving the sand with sieves from mother's kitchen.

Five approximately 1.5 metre squares had been set up. Each group of about six girls was given the task of digging and recording where each artefact was found. The exercise showed that, although all the girls had fun, it was not sufficient just to tell them what they were supposed to do. Only one group realised the need for digging carefully and plotting each object accurately. The rest tended just to dig holes in the square which ended up looking like a site that had been gone over by metal-detectors. The other problem was that they all wanted to get into the squares and dig.

After this first attempt it was obvious that a more thorough briefing session was necessary before the pupils were turned loose. The roles of excavator, recorder, etc. needed to be much more clearly worked out. This was done and two more classes had the chance to excavate, with greater teacher intervention on the 'site' itself. These excavations proved to be more successful.



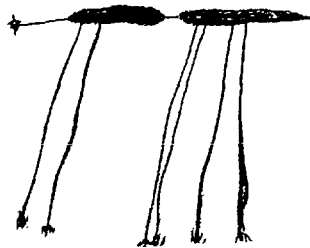
The exercise was good for both girls and teachers as it showed very quickly that there is more to archaeological excavation than just digging holes in sites. The entire project was relatively simple, requiring a few artefacts, bones, shells, broken potsherds (these were leftovers from University of Cape Town student practicals but could be any broken dishes) and slag. Thus, cost was minimal and many schools have a long-jump sand pit which is ideal for creating the 'site'.

Dept of Archaeology, University of Cape Town, 7600 Rondebosch.

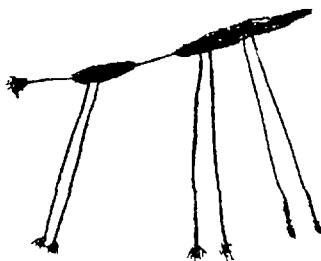
ON TRANCE, DREAMS, AND THE MANTIS

J.F. Thackeray

In a recent article on southern African rock art, Lewis-Williams has drawn attention to Bushman words for dreaming, and has recognised a close connection with trance (*World Archaeology* 19: 165-177). He cites ethnographic accounts in which the trickster, //Kaggen ('the mantis') features in trance-related beliefs and he goes on to interpret a number of paintings in terms of 'trance-dreaming'. The existence of conceptual associations between trance, dreams and the mantis is suggested from additional data.



2.



1.

1. *ikoggen gwa*, male mantis.
2. *ikoggen taityl*, female mantis.

Diatkofin, March, 1876.

Ed. note: The mantises were copied from *Specimens of Bushman Folklore*, collected by W.H.I. Bleek & L.C. Lloyd. 1911. London: George Allen & Co. Ltd. For those, like me who have not seen it before, this is a fascinating book with the most delightful illustrations which were drawn by Bushman informants.

In Bleek's *Bushman Dictionary* we find that the word //gan'a has more than one meaning. It can refer to a dream but it also refers to the insect *Empusa purpuripennis*, identified by Bleek as a mantis. Moreover, the term, //gan'a is similar to the word for a hallucinogenic plant (*Salsola* sp.) which is commonly known as *ganna* (incorporated into Afrikaans).

The common root in words for a mantis, a dream and a hallucinogenic plant provides a basis for suggesting that these concepts were associated in prehistory. Of course, the association could be entirely coincidental but this is unlikely if it is taken together with ethnographic and other data cited by Lewis-Williams. In this case the conceptual association suggested by the linguistic data is supported by ethnographic data. In another example a common root (*kwa kwa*) in Bushman words for a mantis, a disguise and something elusive may lead to the discovery of associations that are not explicit in ethnographic accounts but are supported by other independent lines of evidence such as the behaviour and shapes of animals.

In the light of these and other examples, where ethnographic support may or may not be forthcoming, it seems reasonable to take full advantage of any information to be gained from the linguistics, to explore the implications of common roots in terms of various animals and concepts. If this leads to the recognition of conceptual associations we may then look for other independent evidence to confirm these associations. Corroboration from independent sources, perhaps including prehistoric rock art, should stimulate further enquiry along avenues opened up by exploratory linguistic analyses.

28 Lovell Avenue, Die Boord, 7600 Stellenbosch.

RAISING THE DUST AT STORMSVLEI

Between 13 and 29 January, South African Museum Archaeology Department members Mike Wilson, Bill van Rijssen, Vivien van Zyl and Cyd Wolfaardt, assisted by three volunteers, Olive van der Stuyt, Thea Toussaint van Hove and Tony Pedroza, carried out excavations in a rock-shelter on the farm Grootkloof, at Stormsvlei, between Rivier-sonderend and Swellendam. The farm is owned by well-known Bonnievale farmer, Mr Laubscher van der Merwe, who started clearing out the shelter with a view to using it as a weekend campsite. However, when human remains were exposed, he contacted his niece, the museum planetarium's Elmar Willis, who alerted the archaeologists. The site was inspected in late November and plans made for an urgent salvage operation.

The main interest of the excavation was the discovery of another two human burials under a cairn of rocks. There are the remains of two young, probably San, adults who were buried lying on their sides, facing each other and with limbs drawn in towards the body. Their heads were placed on a flat 'pillow' and red ochre was scattered over the bodies before the grave was closed. The bones were in very poor condition, and it took meticulous work by Bill to expose as much bone as possible before Vivien set about impregnating it with adhesive in order to facilitate removal - a long and tedious job for both, but ultimately rewarding. While this was being done, other members of the team were excavating the deposit in other parts of the shelter - hard, rocky soil that strained the wrists and, when sieved, raised clouds of dust that coated everybody and everything.

Our work aroused considerable interest among the local communities and we had a constant stream of visitors to the site, with whom we were only too happy to talk; on-the-spot PR does much to make people aware of the importance of

archaeological sites and the need for their systematic excavation.

During our stay we had the use of the farmhouse at Grootkloof, where there was - happily for the begrimed workers - an abundant supply of running water: there is even an al-fresco shower rigged up in a bluegum tree! On the second Sunday of our visit Mr van der Merwe gave us the use of his well-equipped cottage on the bank of the Breede River at his farm, Merwespont, at Bonnievale. He also provided us with several bottles of the excellent wines that bear his farm's name - the best thing for slaking dry, dusty throats!

It would not be fitting to close this short report without mentioning that two of our volunteers, Olive and Thea, are members of the 'over-70s club'. Their energy and enthusiasm was truly remarkable, and an inspiration to those of us decades younger.

Mike Wilson, Archaeology Department, South African Museum, P.O. Box 61, Cape Town, 8000.

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SITE REPORTS

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL OCCURRENCE AT WILDERNESS HEIGHTS, GEORGE DISTRICT

Over an area of approximately 50 x 50 metres cultivation exposed numerous Acheulean handaxes, cleavers and assorted chunks, all made from quartzite. Unfortunately the site has been destroyed and over the years artefacts have been carried away by visitors as curios and souvenirs. There are, however, still a few handaxes and cleavers to be found in the rubble heaps on the borders of the fields and elsewhere on the farm. The source of the material used for the manufacture of the artefacts was probably either the nearby river or the sea shore.

The soil of the field is derived from shale (?Bokkeveld); the recent ground cover was probably scrub Knysna forest as it still is on the northern and southern escarpments. The western escarpment, sloping down to the river estuary, is Table Mountain Sandstone and covered with fynbos.

Outeniqualand, where the site is situated, is geologically a youthful landscape. It is bounded on the north by the Outeniqua Mountains and on the south by the sea. The deeply incised river gorges effectively slice the landscape into compartments. During glacial times, with the associated marine regressions, the river gorges were rejuvenated and extended to the new shoreline.

The glacial periods also brought about climatic fluctuations which, in turn, affected the vegetation and its dependent fauna. The wandering and migrating game herds trod well-worn paths to watering places, river fords and mountain passes. These nick-points were probably favoured hunting and killing grounds for predators, including prehistoric man. This may be the reason for the as yet not fully explained localised open site accumulations of Early and Middle Stone Age artefacts in the southern Cape.

The early game trails, fords and passes indicated the routes and roads later followed by encroaching white hunters and settlers of the 17th and 18th centuries. The Kaaimans River gorge was a formidable obstacle until a route was found which led from Pampoenskraal (Saasveld) along the interfluvium between the Kaaimans and Swart Rivers to ford at the narrow estuary of the Kaaimans River, known as Kaaimansgat and in earlier times as Omkeer (turn back). The route led up the steep slope past the archaeological site and then meandered on, eventually to reach and cross the Outeniqua Mountains at the Duiwelskop Pass.

According to the literature, Early Stone Age artefacts have been associated with passes, defiles and river crossings at, for instance, Toralba and Ambrona in Spain, the Thames valley in England and the Somme valley in France. It should not be far-fetched to place a similar interpretation on this site.

Although the site has been destroyed as such, it may still be a useful exercise for a trained archaeologist to have another look at the area.

G.F.M. Wepener, 7 Churchill Street, 6530 George.

Editor's Note: This is the general interest section of a complete report sent in to the Archaeological Data Recording Centre at the South African Museum. In order to protect sites (a matter of principle, although it is too late in this case) details of location are confidential and only given out to bona fide research workers for specific projects at the discretion of the Data Recorder.

To report the existence of a site please contact the nearest of the following centres:

(for South Africa)
Albany Museum, Somerset Street, 6140 Grahamstown;
McGregor Museum, P.O. Box 316, 8300 Kimberley;
Natal Museum, Loop Street, 3201 Pietermaritzburg;
NATCO, P.O. Box 3300, 0001 Pretoria;
South African Museum, P.O. Box 61, 8000 Cape Town;

(for Namibia)
State Museum, P.O. Box 1203, Windhoek.

SHORT NOTES

STORM REVEALS BONES OF ANCIENT SEAFARERS

A severe winter storm at an archaeological site in Israel has uncovered the 8000-year-old remains of at least two people. The skeletons were uncovered at the ancient sunken village of Atlit just south of Haifa by Ehud Galil and Avraham Ronen of Haifa University. Atlit was inhabited just before the last retreat of glaciers in the northern hemisphere, and was abandoned when the ice melted and the seas rose.

The remains provide the first proof anywhere that prehistoric man engaged in seafaring. One of the skulls revealed a bone protusion near the ear, indicating an infection common in underwater divers even today. An elbow abrasion in the second skeleton points to the use of canoes or some sort of oar-powered craft since this type of injury is found today among people in southeast Asia who use dugout canoes.

Prof. A. Ronen, Institute of Archaeology and Maritime Studies, Haifa University, Mt Carmel 31999, Israel.

ISSUES

Following on from the review by Prof. John Parkington of *Bushman Art* by Erik Holm Snr in the last issue of *The Digging Stick*, Council determined to approach the publishers to withdraw the book. Dr Janette Deacon reports that this has now been done and the book is no longer available.

Please bring to our attention books about which you have any doubts and we shall obtain an informed opinion, and follow up if necessary.

FOR SALE

Mr W. van der Elst, 309 Beacon Hill, Roberts Road, 3201 Pietermaritzburg, has bound leather-backed copies in four volumes of *South African Archaeological Bulletin* Vol. I No. 1, Dec. 1945, to Vol. X No. 40, Dec. 1955, and loose copies of Vols X No. 40 to XXV No. 97, 1970, for sale as a set at a cost of R550, inclusive of GST and postage in South Africa. Payment may be made by cheque or postal order.

FROM THE BULLETIN

In this section we will be taking a regular look at back numbers of the *South African Archaeological Bulletin* to see what was happening during the early years of the Society.

The first issue (Vol. I No. 1) came out in December 1945 and contains all sorts of interesting information on the foundation of the Society, which began as the Cape Archaeological Society in August 1944. It was expanded to become the South African Archaeological Society at a meeting on 12th June 1945 after 'the amazing reaction of the general public of the Cape Province in half a dozen towns proved the immediate need for some larger organisation.'

It is interesting to note that the policy of the first five years was stated to be primarily instructive, with two series of publications, the Handbook Series and the Bulletin. The former was meant to build up into an encyclopaedia of archaeology in South Africa. The Bulletin was to be instructive and written, as far as possible, in language that could be readily understood. 'We shall try to weed out curious compound words and classical creations that have acceptable equivalents in our common language... We cannot publish in simplified English, but we can fight against embroiled and over-complicated jargon.' It was also stated that it was expected that the policy of the Society would be reviewed as situations changed. Today we still have two main publications but the *Bulletin* has become the equivalent of the Handbook and *The Digging Stick* has taken on more of the original role of the *Bulletin*.

In the first issue there appeared the following articles:

A preliminary survey of work in South Africa, which was 'an account of an address given at Cape Town before the Royal Society of South Africa, on October 18th, 1944, by the Abbé Henri Breuil';

Archaeological excavation in the Middle East, by J. d'A. Waechter who 'on his way back to England from the R.A.F. camp at Salisbury, has paused at Cape Town long enough to give an account of some of his memories of excavation in the Middle East six years ago';

The Mesolithic cultures of Britain. 'Instructor Commander H.S. Gracie, Royal Navy, gave a talk on "The Mesolithic Cultures of Britain". It was illustrated by numerous sketches on the blackboard, some of which are reproduced here. Some of the implements shown are actual ones from the lecturer's collection, but the remainder are sketches of general types. Microliths are so plentiful in South Africa that it is felt that members would like a full report of the lecture'.

BACK NUMBERS OF MOST ISSUES OF THE *SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BULLETIN* ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY, SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 15700, VLAEBERG, 8018.

Numbers 1 - 132 are R4.50 each, numbers 133 - 142 are R7.50, and numbers 143 onwards are R9.00.

A list of other publications is also available on request.

NEW BOOKS

Notice of the following new books in archaeology has been received from Sheffield Academic Press, The University, 343 Fulwood Rd, Sheffield S10 3BP, England:

Mesolithic Northwest Europe: recent trends. P. Rowley-Conwy, M. Zvelebil & H.P. Blankholm, (eds). \$32.50. Papers on data recovery, analysis and modelling, and regional syntheses.

Yorkshire's Past from the Air. Derrick Riley (ed.). \$22.95. The Romano-British period onwards with aerial views and ground descriptions of sites.

The Early Biblical Community of Transjordan. Robert G. Boling. \$25.00. The archaeological evidence for shifts in demographic patterns; a new look at the Transjordan conquest tradition, and a proposed correlation between demographic data and historical memories carried in the archaic poems of Genesis-Judges.

Shiloh: a biblical city in tradition and history. D.G. Schley. \$42.50. The first comprehensive treatment of the biblical traditions pertaining to the Israelite sanctuary at Shiloh.

The Dead Sea Scrolls in English. Geza Vermes. Third Revised Edition. \$42.50. The standard English translation of the non-biblical Qumran scrolls; an introduction to the organization, customs, history and beliefs of the community responsible for them. Major updates and the Temple Scroll, the most voluminous of the Qumran texts.

Ancient Israel: a new history of Israelite society. Niels Peter Lemche. \$14.95. A new model for understanding Israelite society, based on the conviction that the Old Testament contains hardly any sources older than the seventh century B.C.E.

In addition, there are two books on Ireland;

The archaeology of Medieval Ireland. T.B. Barry. Methuen & Co. Ltd, 11 Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE, England.

The Cistercian monasteries of Ireland. Roger Stalley. Yale University Press, 13 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3JF, England.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Azania XXI (1986) and *Institute of Archaeology Bulletin 24* (the Golden Jubilee volume) are now in the library.

The following are some other interesting new articles found in publications recently accessioned:

Kelemen, M.H. 1987. Roman amphorae in Pannonia. *Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* 39: 1 - 45.

Maat, G.T. & Hagg, Th. 1985. Suspect of trephination. *Berichten van die Rijksdienst voor het Oudheidkundig Bodemonderzoek* 35: 7 - 13.

Versteeg, A.H. 1985. The prehistory of the young coastal plain of west Suriname. *Berichten van die Rijksdienst voor het Oudheidkundig Bodemonderzoek* 35: 653 - 750.

Bokonyi, S. 1986. Animal remains from the Roman forum of Sopron-Scarbantia. *Acta Archaeologica Academiae Scientiarum Hungaricae* 38: 397 - 422.

Valoch, K. 1987. The early Palaeolithic site Stranska Skalai, near Brno (Czechoslovakia). *L'Anthropologie* XXV (2): 125 - 142.

Gladilin, V.N. & Sittliviy, V.I. 1987. On the pre-Oldowan development stage of the society. *L'Anthropologie* XXV (3): 193 - 204.

Maret, P. de 1985. Fouilles archéologiques dans la vallée du Haut-Lualaba, Zaïre. Il Sanga et Katongo, 1974. *Annales de la Musée Royale de l'Afrique Centrale. Sciences Humaines* 120.

Sherratt, A. 1987. Wool, wheels and ploughmarks: local developments or outside introductions in Neolithic Europe? *Institute of Archaeology Bulletin* 23: 1 - 15.

Vitto, F. 1987. Potters and pottery manufacture in Roman Palestine. *Institute of Archaeology Bulletin* 23: 47 - 64.

Borland, C.H. 1984. Problems in the linguistic reconstruction of Zimbabwean prehistory. In: Hall, M., ed. *Africa Seminar Collected Papers*: 1 - 12. Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town.

O'Sullivan, M. 1986. Approaches to passage tomb art. *Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland* 116: 68 - 83.

Jacobson, L. & Avery, G. 1988. Archaeological conservation along the Namib coast. *Newsletter of the S.W.A. Scientific Society* 29 (5/6): 1 - 10.

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