

### PRETORIA RADIOCARBON DATES III

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This list contains  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates pertaining to the Stone Age in southern Africa and covers the region from Zambia in the north to Natal and the northern Cape Province in South Africa. The southern and southwestern Cape Province are not included. Descriptions are based on information supplied by the submitters.

Unless otherwise stated, all charcoal and wood samples are pretreated with hot dilute hydrochloric acid. The bone samples are gradually demineralized with a 1% hydrochloric acid solution which is renewed daily until the solution remains colorless after 24hr. The collagen is then washed with distilled water in the same way until all acidity is removed. Experience has shown that when the acid remains colorless the contaminating organic material has been removed effectively and that a reliable date for the collagen can be obtained. In some instances, when environmental conditions under which the bones had been preserved were unfavorable and the collagen had been degraded, it is impossible to remove all the contaminating organic substances without dissolving all the collagen, and the acid solution remains yellow. Dates for such samples tend to be less reliable.

The pretreated samples are combusted, and after purification of the resulting carbon dioxide (Vogel & Waterbolk, 1967) assayed for  $^{14}\text{C}$  in two similar gas proportional counters described previously (Vogel & Marais, 1971). Ostrich eggshell samples are treated directly with hydrochloric acid and the evolved  $\text{CO}_2$  collected for analysis. Where enough material is available the first fraction is discarded to minimize secondary contamination.

Ages are calculated using the conventional half-life of 5568 yr for  $^{14}\text{C}$ . Corrections for variations in isotope fractionation, based on  $^{13}\text{C}$  analysis of the  $\text{CO}_2$  gas, are applied to all dates. The most probable historic date for samples with ages of <400 yr is deduced from the calibration curve for the Southern Hemisphere and given in the comments where appropriate.

The general shape of the calibration curve has not changed since earlier measurement (*cf* Vogel, 1970, p 466), but the actual position on the graph, which depends on the absolute calibration of counters in different laboratories, has been improved. This intercalibration is at present probably not better than  $\pm 20$  yr for most laboratories. In addition, the previously reported difference between  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates for the Northern and Southern Hemispheres (Lerman, Mook & Vogel, 1970) has recently been confirmed (Vogel *et al*, 1986) and our best estimate at present is that samples from mid-latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere are ca 30 yr older than those from Europe. Taking both the current values for laboratory calibration and this effect into account, the calibration curve given in Figure 1 has been constructed, and this curve has been used for interpreting the Iron Age dates in this list.

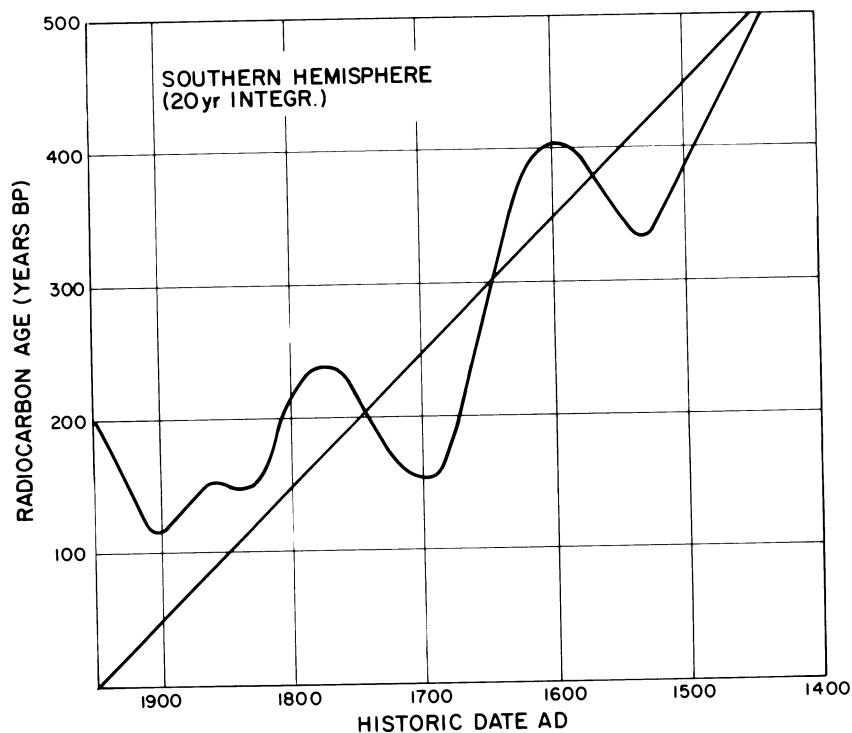


Fig 1. Calibration curve for samples from mid-latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere

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#### Zambia

#### Mwambacimo Shelter series

Mwambacimo rock shelter (13° 24' S, 28° 45' E) near Ndola, Copperbelt Prov, 220cm deposit containing Later Stone Age (LSA) assemblages. Coll and subm 1978 by F B Musonda, Livingstone Mus, Livingstone, Zambia.

#### Pta-2409. Mwambacimo 1

**350 ± 45**

$\delta^{13}\text{C} = -25.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from hearth in Layer I in SE corner of Pit A at 30cm depth assoc with LSA assemblage and pottery. *Comment:* cal AD 1490–1640 (Fig 1).

**Pta-2410. Mwambacimo 2** **5980 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Layer II in SE corner of Pit A at 70 to 80cm depth assoc with LSA.

**Pta-2454. Mwambacimo 3A** **9830 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Layer IIIA, Pit C at 130cm depth assoc with LSA quartz artifacts.

**Pta-2453. Mwambacimo 3B** **18,100 ± 180**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Layer IIIB, Pit C at 200cm depth 20cm above bedrock assoc with LSA quartz artifacts.

*General Comment: cf dates from Chilimulilo and Mufulwe, below.*

### Chilimulilo Shelter series

Chilimulilo rock shelter (13° 24' S, 28° 53' E) near Ndola, Copperbelt Prov. Deposit contains LSA assemblage. Samples coll and subm 1977 by F B Musonda.

**Pta-2176. Chilimulilo I** **130 ± 30**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Layer I, Pit Ia at 20cm depth assoc with potsherds and LSA artifacts. *Comment: younger than cal AD 1810 but cal AD 1700 also possible.*

**Pta-2178. Chilimulilo II** **930 ± 35**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Layer II, Pit I at 45cm depth assoc with potsherds and LSA artifacts.

**Pta-2180. Chilimulilo III** **420 ± 35**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Layer III, Pit I at 45 to 60cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts. *Comment: pretreated with acid and alkali.*

**Pta-2181. Chilimulilo IV** **220 ± 35**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from concentration near dripline in Layer IV, Pit Ia at 120cm depth assoc with LSA assemblage. *Comment: pretreated with acid and alkali. Cal AD 1660 or cal AD 1770.*

*General Comment: cf dates from Mwambacimo, above and Mufulwe, below.*

### Mufulwe Shelter series

Mufulwe rock shelter (13° 58' S, 29° 35' E) S of Hwila, Central Prov. Shallow deposit with LSA assemblage (Musonda, 1984; Gutin & Musonda, 1985). Samples coll and subm 1981 by F B Musonda.

**930 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰}$

**Pta-3255. Mufulwe 1**  
 Charcoal from Layer 1 at 10 to 20cm depth.

**2170 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$

**Pta-3256. Mufulwe 2**  
 Charcoal from Layer 2 at 20 to 30cm depth assoc with beginning of pottery manufacture in area.

**600 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$

**Pta-3257. Mufulwe 3**  
 Charcoal from Layer 2 at 30 to 40cm depth assoc with pottery.

**1460 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

**Pta-3258. Mufulwe 4**  
 Charcoal from Layer 2 at 40 to 50cm depth underlying first occurrence of pottery and iron. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**1690 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰}$

**Pta-3259. Mufulwe 5**  
 Charcoal from Layer 3 at 70 to 100cm depth assoc with microlithic assemblage and antedating pottery. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

*General Comment:* contrary to opinion of excavators, Pta-3258 and -3259 for pre-pottery levels show Pta-3256: 2170 ± 50 BP unreliable as date for introduction of pottery. Microlithic assemblage in Layers 2 and 3 considered by excavators equivalent to Layer 3 in Mwambacimo, see above.

### *Zimbabwe*

#### **Diana's Vow series**

Rock shelter on Diana's Vow farm (18° 21' S, 32° 18' E) 33km NE of Rusape, Makoni dist, with unusual paintings. Deposit contains Early (EIA) and Later Iron Age (LIA) ceramics and four phases of Wilton industrial complex (Cooke, 1979). Samples coll 1976 by C K Cooke; subm 1976 by T M Huffman, Univ Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

**1440 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.6\text{‰}$

**Pta-2001. Diana's Vow 1**  
 Charcoal from Sq CD1/2 at 20 to 30cm depth.

**2980 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.6\text{‰}$

**Pta-1858. Diana's Vow 3**  
 Charcoal from Sq CD1/2 at 70 to 80cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1857. Diana's Vow 5** **10,650 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -26.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq CD1/2 at 150 to 160cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2788. Craiglee Shelter** **4260 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -6.6\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from ca 4cm depth in small granite overhang on Craiglee farm, Bulawayo dist (20° 08' S, 28° 39' E) assoc with Wilton assemblage. Coll 1947; subm 1980 by C K Cooke, Natl Mus and Monuments, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. *Comment:* first 5% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.

### Bambata Cave series

Large Bambata cave (20° 30' 10" S, 28° 24' 25" E) near summit of large bare granite hill in Matopos hills, ca 40km S of Bulawayo. Deposit contains Bambata pottery (Jones, 1940; Walker, 1983) and LSA industry. Samples coll 1980; subm 1980 and 1982 by N J Walker, Queen Victoria Mus, Harare, Zimbabwe.

**Pta-3477. Bambata BN 25** **2850 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq N, Layer IIIa at 28cm depth assoc with final occupation of LSA (Late Matopan), pottery and sheep.

**Pta-3072. Bambata BN 32** **2140 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from hearth Unit PGA at 36cm depth assoc with Bambata pottery, final LSA/early Iron Age transition. *Comment:* from same layer at Pta-3477, above.

**Pta-3111. Bambata N60** **3960 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq N, Unit GA, at 60cm depth assoc with Bambata pottery, sheep/goat and possible cattle remains, and late LSA assemblage.

**Pta-3472. Bambata BN 108/111** **5120 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq N, Layer IVb at 92 to 96cm depth assoc with Matopan LSA assemblage and engraved stone. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

*General Comment:* vertical mixing has obviously taken place in pottery levels and Pta-3477, -3072, and -3111 do not provide date for earliest ceramics in region.

### Cave of Bees series

Cave of Bees (20° 30' 15" S, 28° 30' 35" E), 5km N of Pomongwe cave

in Matopos hills, S of Bulawayo, containing >1m LSA deposit. Samples coll 1978; subm 1979 and 1982 by N J Walker.

**Pta-2577. Cave of Bees IIIa**

**4570 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B, Layer IIIa at ca 34cm depth.

**Pta-3459. Cave of Bees IIIb**

**9130 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -6.0\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Sq B, Layer IIIa at 30cm depth assoc with Matopan assemblage. *Comment:* first 16% carbonate removed with acid, remaining carbonate analyzed. This sample was analyzed as check on Pta-2577, above, which appeared to be too young for assoc artifacts.

**Pta-2578. Cave of Bees IV**

**10,500 ± 100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B, Layer IV at ca 66cm depth assoc with Pomongwe industry, small backed piece with traces of painting on spall of granite. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2586. Cave of Bees V**

**11,000 ± 100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B, Layer V at ca 90cm depth assoc with LSA assemblage, slightly different from Layer IV, above. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2585. Cave of Bees VI**

**12,800 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B, Layer VI, overlying bedrock at ca 110cm depth assoc with LSA assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali. *General Comment:* cf dates from Nswatugi, Pomongwe and Tshangula, below.

**Nswatugi Cave series**

Nswatugi cave (20° 32' 10" S, 28° 28' 30" E), ca 5km NW of Pomongwe cave in Matopos hills, S of Bulawayo. Top ca 1m ash layer contains Matopan industry with scrapers predominating and backed tools increasing upwards. Underlying layer contains Pomongwe industry, thin relatively sterile orange-brown level, and 4m of probable Middle Stone Age (MSA) deposit (Walker, 1980). Samples coll 1975; subm 1976 and 1980 by N J Walker.

**Pta-1768. Nswatugi E4c 12**

**6490 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E4 at 10cm depth assoc with LSA Matopan industry.

**Pta-3113. Nswatugi E4d.24/28** **7610 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E4, Layer IIIb at 25cm depth assoc with Matopan industry. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2046. Nswatugi F4ac 28** **7880 ± 70**

Charcoal from Sq F4, Layer IV, at 26cm depth assoc with Matopan industry and burned limb-bone fragments of teenager.

**Pta-3116. Nswatugi D4b 88** **9220 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq D4, Layer V, at 88cm depth assoc with Early Matopan assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1771. Nswatugi E4d 96** **9790 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E4 at 91 to 95cm depth assoc with Pomongwe assemblage, base of LSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2218. Nswatugi D4 124/128** **10,270 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq D4, orange-brown soil level at ca 120 to 128cm depth assoc with human burial. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1772. Nswatugi E4b 124/128** **>41,900**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E4 at 120 to 128cm depth assoc with end of MSA Tshangula industry. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

*General Comment:* cf dates from Pomongwe, below.

**Pta-2570. Kalanyoni Shelter** **5760 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -7.5\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Unit IV–VII in Kalanyoni rock shelter (20° 32' 20" S, 28° 29' 5" E) ca 3km NW of Pomongwe shelter in Matopos hills, S of Bulawayo, assoc with LSA Matopan industry. Sample coll 1978; subm 1979 by N J Walker. *Comment:* first 13.1% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.

**Pta-2648. Maleme Shelter** **4740 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -7.1\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Units III–VIII at 8 to 60cm depth, in Maleme Dam shelter (20° 32' 25" S, 28° 30' 5" E) ca 1km NW of Pomongwe shelter, in Matopos hills, S of Bulawayo, assoc with LSA Matopan industry with many backed tools. Sample coll 1978; subm 1979 by N J Walker. *Comment:* first 11.8% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.

**Pomongwe Cave series**

Very large Pomongwe cave with paintings, almost on ground level, in Matopos hills (20° 32' 50" S, 28° 30' 45" E), Matopo Natl Park. Ca 4m deposit contains long sequence of Stone Age assemblages (Cooke, 1963; Walker, 1980). Coll 1960 by C K Cooke and 1979 by N J Walker; subm 1980 by N J Walker.

**Pta-3085. Pomongwe PZ 4/5** **4090 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Tr 5, Unit UWA at 5 to 8cm depth assoc with Matopan assemblage, final occupation by LSA people.

**Pta-3083. Pomongwe PM30** **4810 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -22.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Tr 5, Unit PBA at 32cm depth assoc with Matopan assemblage.

**Pta-3470. Pomongwe M55** **8420 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -21.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from hearth in Sq M, Unit VII at 68cm depth assoc with Early Matopan assemblage. *Comment:* date for granite spalls with paint.

**Pta-3117. Pomongwe M90** **9500 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq M, Unit BA at ca 87cm depth assoc with Early Pomongwe.

**Pta-3118. Pomongwe Y78** **12,300 ± 100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq Y, Unit BA at ca 110cm depth level appears to correlate with Cooke's (1963) Tshangula level Pta-2300, -2299, below.

**Pta-3119. Pomongwe Y87** **13,000 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq Y, Unit GB at ca 140cm depth.

*Samples from Cooke's excavation*

**Pta-2306. Pomongwe 1C** **8540 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E-G/3-5, Cook's Layer 3, Unit GA at ca 30cm depth assoc with Matopan assemblage. *Comment:* cf other dates from Pomongwe, SR-14: 7610 ± 110 (Layer 2); SR-93: 9410 ± 120 BP (Cooke, 1963, p 149).



**Pta-2300. Pomongwe 4A** **11,020 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E-G/3-5, Cooke's Layer 10 at ca 60cm depth assoc with Tshangula assemblage.

**Pta-2299. Pomongwe 4E** **14,900 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E-G/8-10, Layer 4, Unit BA at ca 1m depth assoc with beginning of Tshangula assemblage. *Comment:* cf date from Pomongwe, Layer 4b, SR-11: 15,800 ± 200 BP (Cooke, 1963, p 149).

*General Comment:* all samples pretreated with acid and alkali.

### **Shashabugwa Shelter series**

Shashabugwa shelter (20° 33' 55" S, 28° 33' 30" E) ca 5km SE of Pomongwe cave in Matopos hills, S of Bulawayo; 2.8m deposit with Iron Age, LSA, and MSA layers (Walker, 1980). Samples coll and subm between 1971 and 1979 by N J Walker.

**Pta-2217. Shashabugwa TII** **1110 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Tr II, gray ash layer at 70 to 85cm depth, just below lower level of pottery, assoc with Matopan assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2647. Shashabugwa 3** **7930 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -6.5\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Tr 1, Layer 1 at 85 to 90cm depth assoc with Matopan assemblage. *Comment:* first 12.5% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.

**Pta-2569. Shashabugwa 2** **8920 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -5.9\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Tr 1, base of Layer 1 at 145 to 163cm depth assoc with Matopan industry. *Comment:* outer carbonate removed with acid, rest analyzed.

*General Comment:* cf dates from Pomongwe and Nswatugi, above.

### **Tshangula Cave series**

Tshangula cave (20° 38' S, 28° 32' E) with rock paintings in Matopos hills, ca 10km S of Pomongwe cave (Cooke, 1963). Samples coll 1963; subm 1979 by C K Cooke.

**Pta-2472. Tshangula Level 1** **8560 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -6.4\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell beads from Sq BC 3 to 4 at 7.5cm depth, Level 1, assoc with Matopan assemblage and single human metatarsal with notch at

one end (Walker, 1980). *Comment:* first 9.5% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.

**Pta-2473. Tshangula Level 3**

**9760 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -6.5\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell beads from Sq DC 2 to 5 at 45 to 63cm depth assoc with Pomongwe phase of LSA. *Comment:* first 10% sample discarded, rest analyzed.

*General Comment:* dates from Zimbabwe collectively suggest Wilton-type Matopan (or Khami) industries already present in region before 9000 BP (Pta-3459, -3116, -3470, -2306, -2569, -2472), thus antedating earliest Wilton in S Cape Prov. Albany-type Pomongwe industry gives dates between 10,500 BP (Pta-2578) and 9500 BP (Pta-3117), and Tshangula industry at Pomongwe dates between 15,000 and 11,000 BP.

**Mtanye Stream series**

Rock shelter with paintings near Mtanye stream (21° 22' 55" S, 29° 15' 15" E) on Doddieburn Ranch, ca 50km S of West Nicholson, SW Zimbabwe; 84cm deposit with LSA assemblage. Samples coll 1972; subm 1973 by N J Walker.

**Pta-967. Mtanye Stream 1**

**410 ± 45**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Level B at 15 to 20cm depth assoc with Iron Age and LSA artifacts.

**Pta-969. Mtanye Stream 2**

**480 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from top of Level C at 25 to 30cm depth assoc with Matopan assemblage and Bambata pottery.

**Pta-968. Mtanye Stream 3**

**560 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from bottom of Level C at 30 to 40cm depth assoc with Matopan assemblage and potsheerds.

*General Comment:* much younger than expected. *Cf* dates from Dombazonga shelter SR-15: 2700 ± 100 BP (unpub).

*Swaziland*

**Langubhela Shelter series**

Langubhela rock shelter (26° 17' S, 31° 10' E) near Mbabane, with MSA, LSA, and Iron Age horizons, was excavated in 1980. Samples subm 1982 by David Price-Williams, Swaziland Natl Trust Comm Lobamba, Swaziland.

**Pta-3346. Langubhela 1**

**1620 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -26.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq J10 at 54 to 65cm depth assoc with Iron Age.

**Pta-3347. Langubhela 2** **1950 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq J10 at 70 to 75cm depth assoc with LSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3349. Langubhela 4** **31,400 ± 780**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq O9 at 186 to 192cm depth assoc with MSA unifacial and bifacial points. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3348. Langubhela 3** **42,700 ± 2600**  
**-2000**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq L10 at 159 to 164cm depth assoc with convergent points and side scrapers of MSA, lowest stratum at site.

### Siphiso Shelter series

Siphiso rock shelter (26° 18' S, 31° 58' E) on scarp face of Lebombo Mts, NE Swaziland, has 4.6m LSA deposits. Samples subm 1982 by David Price-Williams.

**Pta-3533. Siphiso H8.1.8** **7600 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -19.8\text{‰}$

Charred bone from Sq H8, at 42 to 44cm depth, underlying Classic Wilton assemblage.

**Pta-3540. Siphiso H8.3.9** **8700 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -18.3\text{‰}$

Charred bone from Sq H8, Loc 3 at 75 to 77cm depth assoc with Pre-Wilton Lebombo industry.

*General Comment:* pretreated as for charred bone (Vogel & Waterbolk, 1963) and alkali soluble fraction measured. *Cf* Bellevue Shelter, below.

**Pta-371. Cauldwell Shelter** **6750 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -26.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs N0, N1, and N2 at 53 to 70cm depth, basal level of deposit in Cauldwell rock shelter, 6km N of Mbabane (26° 20' S, 31° 10' E), assoc with LSA assemblage. Coll 1969; subm 1970 by P B Beaumont, McGregor Mus, Kimberley. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

### Lesotho

### Melikane Shelter series

Large Melikane shelter (29° 57' S, 28° 45' E) above tributary of Orange R in Drakensberg, ca 18km N of Qacha's Nek (Carter, 1976). Samples coll and subm 1974 by P L Carter.

- 1440 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.5\text{‰}$
- Pta-1364. Melikane 1**  
 Organic material from Sq P9 in Layer 1 assoc with LSA assemblage.
- 19,700 ± 150**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.5\text{‰}$
- Pta-1367. Melikane 6**  
 Organic material from Sq R9, Layers 2/3 assoc with microlithic (?) early LSA assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.
- 20,200 ± 150**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.9\text{‰}$
- Pta-1407. Melikane 2**  
 Charcoal from Sq Q8 Layers 2/3. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.
- 20,000 ± 170**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.1\text{‰}$
- Pta-1406. Melikane 3**  
 Charcoal from Sq Q9 Layers 2/3. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.
- 33,100 ± 600**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.9\text{‰}$
- Pta-1408. Melikane 9**  
 Charcoal from Sq R8, top of Layer 4 assoc with MSA assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.
- 35,800 ± 920**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.4\text{‰}$
- Pta-1331. Melikane 19**  
 Charcoal from Sq Q7, top of Layer 4. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.
- 42,000 ± 1700**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.9\text{‰}$
- Pta-1534. Melikane 24**  
 Charcoal from Sq Q5, bottom of Layer 4.
- 42,300 ± 2100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$
- Pta-1330. Melikane 25**  
 Charcoal from Sq Q6, top of Layer 5 assoc with MSA assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.
- 33,800 ± 960**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.8\text{‰}$
- Pta-1369. Melikane 10**  
 Charcoal from Sq R9, Layer 5. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.
- 40,200 ± 1650**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.6\text{‰}$
- Pta-1370. Melikane 29**  
 Organic material from Sq Q7, top of Layer 6. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1372. Melikane 33****37,000 ± 1050** $\delta^{13}C = -24.0\text{‰}$ 

Organic material from Sq P6, Layer 6.

**Pta-1371. Melikane 36****30,400 ± 560** $\delta^{13}C = -21.8\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq P5, Layer 6.

*General Comment:* dates for Layer 6 obviously too young. Cf related dates from Belleview, Moshebi's, Ha Soloja, and Sehonghong series, below.**Moshebi's Shelter series**

Moshebi rock shelter (29° 56' 15" S, 29° 01' 50" E) in Drakensberg, 7km SW of Sehlabathebe, E Lesotho. MSA and LSA deposits are present (Carter, 1969; Carter & Vogel, 1974). Samples coll and subm 1970 by P L Carter.

**Pta-314. Moshebi 52****260 ± 45** $\delta^{13}C = -24.7\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq J10, Spit 2 with bone points, tanged or barbed points and pottery. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali. Most probable cal date AD 1650.

**Pta-319. Moshebi 54****2180 ± 45** $\delta^{13}C = -25.4\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq J9, Spit 4 from back of shelter. *Comment:* artifacts in this spit belong to pre-pottery industry, but one barbed point was found.

*General Comment:* see related dates for tanged/barbed points from Belleview and Sehonghong, below.

**Ha Soloja Shelter series**

Ha Soloja rock shelter (29° 51' 05" S, 29° 03' E) in catchment area of Orange R 5km NW of Sehlabathebe, Qacha's Nek dist. Uppermost deposit was removed during occupation in late 19th century; 3.25m intact deposit contains only MSA artifacts (Carter & Vogel, 1974). Samples coll and subm 1971 by P L Carter.

**Pta-741. Ha Soloja 7****38,800 ± 2200** $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq C5, Spit 5A, Layer 2 at 30cm depth, assoc with terminal MSA assemblage.

**Pta-771. Ha Soloja 8a****42,500 + 2500  
- 1900** $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq C7, Spit 5B, Layer 2 at 30 to 35cm depth.

$$45,000 \pm 2600 \\ - 3900$$

**Pta-936. Ha Soloja 8b**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Sq C7, Spit 5B, Layer 2 at 30 to 40cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali, sample from same layer as Pta-771, above.

$$>43,000$$

**Pta-760. Ha Soloja 16**

$$\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from hearth in Sq C 5/6, Spit 9, Layer 2 at 80cm depth, assoc with main MSA occupation.

*General Comment:* all results to be considered min ages.

**Sehonghong Shelter series**

Sehonghong rock shelter (29° 46' 5" S, 28° 47' 10" E) ca 28km NE of Melikane shelter (see above), in Orange R catchment of Drakensberg. 3m deposit contains LSA and MSA assemblages. Microblade assemblage with small lamellar blades and corie-shaped microcones clearly overlies MSA layers (Carter & Vogel, 1974). Samples coll and subm 1971–1973 by P L. Carter.

$$1400 \pm 50$$

**Pta-885. Sehonghong 2**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.2\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from hearth in Sq K8, Spit 2 at 15cm depth assoc with pressure-flaked tanged point horizon of LSA. *Comment:* pretreatment with acid and alkali. Related dates, Bellevue Pta-291: 1590 ± 60, below.

$$13,000 \pm 140$$

**Pta-884. Sehonghong 12**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Sq K8, Spit 5 at 45 to 50cm depth in top of Layer 9. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$20,900 \pm 270$$

**Pta-789. Sehonghong 13**

$$\delta^{13}C = -22.4\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Sq K9, Spit 6, Layer 9 at 60cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$19,900 \pm 220$$

**Pta-918. Sehonghong 17**

$$\delta^{13}C = -25.7\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Sq K8, Spit 7, Layer 9 at 60 to 70cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$20,200 \pm 230$$

**Pta-919. Sehonghong 18**

$$\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Sq K8, Spit 8, Layer 9 at 70 to 80cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali. Layer 9 contains micro-blade industry identical to Pre-Wilton at Rose Cottage, below, and Robberg industry at Nelson Bay cave (Deacon, 1982).

**Pta-920. Sehonghong 19** **28,900 ± 520**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq I9, Spit 10 at 60 to 70cm depth assoc with terminal MSA assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-787. Sehonghong 20** **30,900 ± 550**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from hearth in Sq J9, Spit 10/11 at 110cm depth assoc with MSA assemblage and intense rock spalling. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-785. Sehonghong 37** **32,200 ± 770**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq I8/9, Spit 13 at 130cm depth assoc with MSA assemblage, underlying roof spall layer. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

### *South Africa*

#### *Transvaal*

**Pta-2854. Mwulu's Cave** **26,000 ± 280**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq OP 45 at 40 to 45cm below datum in red layer in Mwulu's cave (24° 10' S, 29° 15' E), Strydpoort Mts, E of Potgietersrust, Potgietersrust dist, assoc with Pietersburg industry. Coll and subm 1979 by Eileen Aldworth, Univ Cambridge, UK. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali. Probably too young; see Border Cave, below.

#### **Kruger Cave series**

Kruger cave, Magaliesberg at Olifantsnek, ca 17km S of Rustenburg (25° 45' S, 27° 14' E). Deposit contains well-preserved plant remains and LSA assemblage (Mason, 1974). Samples coll and subm 1974 by R J Mason, Univ Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

**Pta-1273. Kruger Cave 1** **9100 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from back of cave at 10 to 20cm depth, assoc with Smithfield artifacts.

**Pta-1272. Kruger Cave 2** **10,150 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from back of cave at 30 to 35cm depth, assoc with Smithfield stone tools.

*General Comment:* samples pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3563. Jubilee Shelter** **3730 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -26.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq D1 at 72cm depth from Jubilee shelter on Magalieskloof Pleasure Resort in Magaliesberg, 8km E of Hartebeespoort Dam (25° 41' S, 27° 54' E), Brits dist, assoc with LSA assemblage including stone segments. Coll 1982; subm 1983 by Lyn Wadley, Univ Witwatersrand.

**Bushman Rock Shelter series**

Bushman Rock shelter (24° 35' S, 30° 38' E) on Klipfonteinhoek farm, near Echo cave, Ohrigstad dist, excavated in 1965 by A W Louw (1969; Vogel, 1970), and in 1970s by J F Eloff. Deposit contains MSA levels overlain by LSA horizons. Re-excavation provided material for artifactual and faunal analysis (Plug, 1981). Samples from new excavation subm 1972 by J F Eloff, Univ Pretoria.

**Pta-1175. Bushman Rock A** **12,300 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C6, Layer 14a (Louw's Layer 24), at 132cm depth.

**Pta-1176. Bushman Rock B** **12,500 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C6, Layer 16 (Louw's Layer 25), at 137cm depth, base of LSA levels.

**Pta-1177. Bushman Rock C** **12,800 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C6, Layer 17 (Louw's Layer 28), at 150cm depth, top of roof-spall level.

**Pta-1178. Bushman Rock D** **12,950 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C6, Layer 18 (Louw's Layer 29, 30), at 155cm depth, main level of roof-spall.

**Pta-1179. Bushman Rock Ea** **43,300 + 3100  
- 2300**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C6, Layer 19 (Louw's Layers 31–33), at 180cm depth, underlying roof-spall, assoc with MSA assemblage. *Comment:* since practically whole sample was dissolved in sodium hydroxide, this soluble fraction was acidified and precipitate measured. Result is thus min date only. Cf GrN-5116: >53,000 BP for Layer 38 (Vogel, 1970, p 459).

**Pta-1242. Bushman Rock Eb** **23,900 ± 320**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from same Sq C6, Layer 19, at 180cm depth. *Comment:* sample treated less vigorously with acid and alkali than Pta-1179, and insoluble



fraction measured. Age difference from Pta-1179 suggests that this sample is mixed with younger material.

*General Comment:* all samples pretreated with acid and alkali. Results confirm previous dates (Vogel, 1970, p 458–460), specifically that charcoal in roof-spall level (17,18) that contains MSA artifacts is derived from overlying LSA occupation. Weathering of roof-spall indicates long hiatus before re-occupation (Butzer, pers commun), strongly suggesting that MSA occupation ended before 53,000 BP. Derived MSA artifacts in LSA levels indicate considerable churning of deposit, and dates on bone from Layers 14, 15, 21 (Protsch & de Villiers, 1974) are considered only min ages for MSA material.

### *Natal*

#### **Border Cave series**

Border cave just below crest of steep W face of Lebombo range (27° 1' 19" S, 31° 59' 24" E) >400m above Swaziland Lowveld, 7km N of Ingwavuma R gorge, KwaZulu. Excavation revealed upper Iron Age deposit with early LSA horizon and MSA levels, with anatomically modern *Homo sapiens* remains dated to >49,000 BP (Beaumont, 1973; Beaumont, de Villiers & Vogel, 1978; Butzer, Beaumont & Vogel, 1978). Coll and subm between 1970 and 1972 by B P Beaumont.

#### **Pta-870. Border Cave 1**

**170 ± 45**

$\delta^{13}C = -17.6\text{‰}$

Plant remains from Sq T21 in brown sand upper layer, 1 BSU, at 8 to 15cm depth assoc with Iron Age. *Comment:* cal date is post-AD 1660.

#### **Pta-715. Border Cave 2**

**440 ± 60**

$\delta^{13}C = -21.6\text{‰}$

Twigs from Sq T19, Layer 1 BSU, Excavation 3A, at 30 to 38cm depth assoc with base of Iron Age levels. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

#### **Pta-703. Border Cave 3**

**500 ± 45**

$\delta^{13}C = -20.3\text{‰}$

Plant remains from Sq T22, Layer 1 BSU, Excavation 3A, at 7.5 to 15cm depth assoc with Iron Age. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

#### **Pta-777. Border Cave Skeleton BC4**

**340 ± 45**

$\delta^{13}C = -9.5\text{‰}$

Collagen from humerus of partly exposed Skeleton BC4, outside grid, apparently buried from present surface of Layer 1 BSU, in S portion of cave. *Comment:* 4.0g purified collagen extracted. Cal date is AD 1490–1640.

**Pta-1318. Border Cave Skeleton BC4** **480 ± 45**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -11.9\text{‰}$

Collagen from rib-bone of Skeleton BC4. *Comment:* 10g collagen combusted yielded 1.4g C. Skeleton was painted with glyptol which could explain two different dates. Average for two measurements: 410 BP.

**Pta-506. Border Cave 4** **2010 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq S19, Layer 1 BSU, Excavation 3A, at 38 to 46cm depth assoc with a few undiagnostic stone artifacts and potsherds which are probably intrusive.

**Pta-721. Border Cave 5** **13,300 ± 150**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq S19, Layer 1 BSU, Excavation 3A at 46 to 53cm depth assoc with a few undiagnostic stone artifacts. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-704. Border Cave 6** **38,600 ± 1500**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq S21 in base of first brown sand lower layer, 1 BSL, Excavation 3A, at 69cm depth assoc with early LSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-446. Border Cave 7, acid only** **37,500 ± 1200**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.9\text{‰}$

**Pta-422. Border Cave 7, residue** **36,800 ± 1000**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from top of first white ash layer, 1 WA, Sq T21, Excavation 3A assoc with early LSA. *Comment:* Pta-446 pretreated with acid only, another portion of sample pretreated with acid and alkali and insoluble residue measured. Similarity of two dates suggests very little contamination.

**Pta-423. Border Cave 8** **36,100 ± 900**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from middle of Layer 1 WA, Sq T21, Excavation 3A assoc with early LSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-424. Border Cave 9** **35,700 ± 1100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from base of Layer 1 WA, Sq T21, Excavation 3A assoc with early LSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$\begin{array}{r} 45,000 + 2800 \\ - 2200 \end{array}$$

**Pta-1190. Border Cave 10**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.1\text{‰}$$

Twigs from base of Layer 1 WA, Sq R19, Excavation 3A assoc with early LSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali. Date suggests possible mixing with lower Layer 2 BSU.

$$>42,300$$

**Pta-872. Border Cave 11**

$$\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from second brown sand upper layer, 2 BSU, Sq T23, Excavation 3A assoc with late MSA assemblage. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$\begin{array}{r} 45,400 + 3000 \\ - 2200 \end{array}$$

**Pta-877. Border Cave 12**

$$\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Layer 2 BSU, Sq Q22, Excavation 3A assoc with late MSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$>48,800$$

**Pta-1244. Border Cave 13**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Layer 2 BSU, Sq R21, Excavation 3A assoc with late MSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$\begin{array}{r} 47,200 + 4300 \\ - 2800 \end{array}$$

**Pta-1274. Border Cave 14**

$$\delta^{13}C = -25.7\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from base of Layer 2 BSU, Sq Q20, Excavation 3A assoc with late MSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$>49,100$$

**Pta-1275. Border Cave 15**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from base of Layer 2 BSU, Sq Q21, Excavation 3A assoc with late MSA. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$>48,700$$

**Pta-489. Border Cave 16**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$$

Charcoal from Sq A7, first gray-brown sand upper layer, Level A, Excavation 3B. Layer grades laterally into third brown sand lower assoc with Epi-Pietersburg. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

$$\begin{array}{r} 36,000 \pm 1000 \\ \delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰} \end{array}$$

**Pta-421. Border Cave 17, acid only**

$$>47,500$$

**Pta-447. Border Cave 17, acid only**

$$\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$$

$$>48,300$$

**Pta-459. Border Cave 17, alkali insoluble**

$$\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$$

**Pta-463. Border Cave 17, alkali soluble** **>42,600**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq OZ8, first gray-brown sand lower layer, Level B, Excavation 3B. Layer grades laterally into third white ash, Layer 3 WA, assoc with Epi-Pietersburg. *Comment:* first two portions of samples Pta-421, -447 pretreated with acid only, remainder pretreated with acid and alkali and both insoluble fraction, Pta-459, and alkali soluble fraction, Pta-463, measured.

**Pta-488. Border Cave 18** **>48,500**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq A8, first gray-brown sand lower layer, Level B, Excavation 3B. Layer grades laterally into Layer 3 WA, assoc with Epi-Pietersburg. *Comment:* pretreated with acid only.

**Pta-719. Border Cave 19** **42,000 + 3000**  
**- 2000**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs OZ7 and OZ8, first gray-brown sand lower layer, Level B, Excavation 3B at 25 to 46cm depth. Layer grades laterally into Layer 3 WA assoc with Epi-Pietersburg. *Comment:* pretreated with dilute acid.

*General Comment:* dates for Layer 1 WA (except Pta-1190) do not differ outside statistics. Combined estimated age of this level is 37,000 BP which is earliest date for early LSA industry. Underlying Layer 2BS, which contains post Epi-Pietersburg MSA and postdates pre-Iron Age human skeletal finds in cave, is at least 43,000 yr old.

### Nkupe Shelter series

Nkupe rock shelter on Quaggiskirk farm (28° 09' 04" S, 29° 56' 41" E), 25km W of Dundee, has >1.7m LSA deposit: 16 grindstones from upper 4 layers; points, linkshafts, and fish hooks dominate bone implements from Layer 5 upwards. Samples coll and subm 1982 by A D Mazel, Natal Mus, Pietermaritzburg.

**Pta-3443. Nkupe 4** **2480 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq S13, top of Layer 3, Level WA1 at 15cm depth; 70% of formal tools are adzes and 10% scrapers.

**Pta-3269. Nkupe 1** **3190 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq R10, base of Layer 3, Level WA1 at 30cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3275. Nkupe 2** **3950 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -27.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq R11, Layer 5, Level WA2 on large rock at 65cm

depth; 40% of formal tools are adzes and 30% scrapers. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3276. Nkupe 3** **4590 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq R10, Layer 7, Level WA3 at 100cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3460. Nkupe 5** **5760 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq R10, Layer 9, Level GA2 at 135cm depth. Backed pieces predominate and adzes are absent. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3455. Nkupe 6 a + b** **6650 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -26.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq R10, Layer 10, Level RBS 2 & 3 at 160cm depth. Scrapers and backed pieces predominate, with segments common; no adzes. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

### Mgede Shelter series

Large Mgede rock shelter (28° 10' 12" S, 29° 41' 14" E) ca 40km W of Dundee, with >1.1m deposit. LSA assemblage consists mostly of scrapers with few backed pieces and adzes. Coll and subm 1982 and 1983 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-3669. Mgede 5cm** **120 ± 45**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq J2, Layer 1, Level GBS 1 at 0 to 5cm depth. *Comment:* cal date is post AD 1810 but 1700 also possible.

**Pta-3665. Mgede 17cm** **820 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq J2, Layer 1, Level GBS 2 at 16 to 17.5cm depth.

**Pta-3505. Mgede 23cm** **4390 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq H3, Layer 1, Level ASH 1 at 13 to 23cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3508. Mgede 45cm** **6550 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq H3, Layer 4, Level MBS 2 at 35 to 45cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

*General Comment:* cf Nkupe series, above.

**Sikhanyisweni Shelter series**

Sikhanyisweni rock shelter (28° 28' 05" S, 30° 23' 46" E) with rock paintings on Valhalla farm, ca 3km W of Helpmekaar, Helpmekaar dist. Overall LSA assemblage consists of 50% adzes, 30% scrapers, and 10% backed pieces. Samples coll 1982; subm 1984 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-3764. Sikhanyisweni 1** **3850 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -26.1\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq J7, Layer CBS1 at 4 to 14cm depth.

**Pta-3782. Sikhanyisweni 2** **9700 ± 100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.7\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq K8, Layer CBS3 at 24 to 34cm depth. *Comment:* pre-treated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-3780. Sikhanyisweni 3** **10,000 ± 100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq L8, Layer CBS5 at 45 to 55cm depth. *Comment:* pre-treated with acid and alkali.

**Diamond I Shelter series**

Diamond I rock shelter (28° 39' 32" S, 28° 56' 52" E) in Royal Natal Natl Park, ca 40km W of Bergville, contains 1m deposit with LSA assemblages. Scrapers are most abundant tool followed by backed pieces (most abundant in Layer 2) and adzes increasing from 2% in Layer 2 to 18% on surface. Samples coll and subm 1981 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-2974. Diamond 1.1** **3020 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.2\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq P2 at 3 to 10cm depth in Level CBS, Layer 1, antedating arrival of pottery in Natal Drakensberg.

**Pta-3246. Diamond 1.3** **4900 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq P4 at 18 to 22cm depth in Level BS, Layer 3.

**Pta-2977. Diamond 1.2** **2810 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq P2 at 25cm depth in Level RBS, Layer 3, below Level BS.

*General Comment:* samples pretreated with acid and alkali. Cf Nkupe, above. Mazel (1984b, p 46–49) re-assigned samples to other levels, thereby forming a time sequence.

**Mbabane Shelter series**

Mbabane rock shelter (28° 45' 21" S, 30° 22' 27" E) with rock paintings, ca 8km W of Tugela Ferry, Msinga dist, KwaZulu. Overall LSA assemblage

consists of 50% scrapers, 8 to 30% backed pieces, and < 30% adzes. Coll and subm 1983 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-3680. Mbabane 1** **1310 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq D4, pale brown sand layer, at 3 to 9cm depth.

**Pta-3684. Mbabane 2** **500 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq E3, gray brown sand layer, at 10 to 15cm depth.

**Pta-3848. Mbabane 4** **470 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.3\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq D2 at 10 to 15cm depth in gray brown sand layer.

**Pta-3678. Mbabane 3** **1520 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq D2, stony brown sand layer, at 17 to 19cm depth, assoc with LSA and potsherds.

*General Comment:* charcoal in gray brown sand layer seems to be intrusive as it is much younger than overlying layer. Pta-3678 suggests contact between LSA and IA by 5th century AD in Tugela Basin.

**Pta-1381. Driel Shelter** **1780 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq E3, Layer 3, at 15 to 27cm depth at Driel rock shelter (28° 46' S, 29° 17' E), on W bank of Tugela R, ca 8km SW of Bergville. This ca 55cm deposit contains Iron Age artifacts in top layer and LSA assemblage below. Rock paintings are visible on walls. In Layer 3 scrapers dominate but adzes and fish hooks are also present. Potsherds occur but are slightly thinner than those from upper layers (Maggs & Ward, 1980). Coll and subm 1974 by Tim Maggs, Natal Mus, Pietermaritzburg.

#### **eSinhlonhlweni Shelter series**

eSinhlonhlweni rock shelter (28° 50' 37" S, 30° 09' 57" E), Baviaanskrans farm, ca 6km E of Weenen, has ca 40cm Iron Age and LSA deposit. LSA assemblage consists of 50% adzes, 30% scrapers, and 10% backed pieces. Samples coll 1983; sub 1984 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-3584. eSinhlonhlweni 1** **170 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq D3, Level BSA at 10 to 15cm depth. *Comment:* cal date is post-AD 1660.

**Pta-3851. eSinhlonhlweni 2** **330 ± 45**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.4\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq C3, Level BSA at 15cm depth. *Comment:* cal AD 1500–1650.

**Clarke's Shelter series**

Clarke's rock shelter (29° 01' 15" S, 29° 18' 58" E) in Cathedral Peak State Forest, Drakensberg, ca 40km S of Bergville, has impressive rock paintings and ca 1m LSA deposit. Assemblages are dominated by scrapers; adzes increase from Layer 2 to surface. Backed pieces are most numerous in Layer 2, decreasing from 33 to 4% in Layer 1. Samples coll and subm 1981 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-2971. Clarke's Shelter 1** **2160 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq K4, at 3 to 18cm depth, Layer 2, Level PBS I.

**Pta-2973. Clarke's Shelter 2** **1580 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq K3, at 18 to 26cm depth, Layer 3, Level PBS II.

**Pta-3247. Clarke's Shelter 3** **2380 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq J3/4, at 18 to 24cm depth, Layer 3, Level PBS II.  
*General Comment:* Mazel (1984b, p 29–31) re-assigned samples to other levels, thereby forming time sequence.

**Gehle Shelter series**

Large Gehle rock shelter (29° 07' 47" S, 29° 54' 22" E) on tributary of Bushman R, 10km S of Estcourt, contains 40cm LSA deposit and rock paintings. Scrapers and backed pieces dominate with relatively few adzes present. Backed pieces are more abundant in lower levels (Mazel, 1984a). Samples coll and subm 1981 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-3243. Gehle 2** **750 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.6\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from 3 to 13cm depth in Sq I6, Layer 1, Level MOS 1. Decrease of segments to only 13% of backed pieces; worked bone and pottery present.

**Pta-3242. Gehle 1** **1280 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from 3 to 10cm depth in Sq I5, Layer 1, Level MOS 1, assoc with pottery and LSA assemblage.

**Pta-3585. Gehle 4** **5690 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq J7, Layer 2, Level MOS 2 at 23 to 33cm depth.

**Pta-3245. Gehle 3** **4330 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.7\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq I7, Layer 3, Level MOS 3 at 23 to 33cm depth.



**Good Hope Shelter**

Large Good Hope shelter (29° 39' 22" S, 29° 25' 38" E) on Forestry reserve in Drakensberg, Underberg dist, 52m above small stream. Cave has 15 groups of painted figures on walls and deposit with LSA artifacts (Cable, Scott & Carter, 1980). Samples coll and subm 1971 by P L Carter, Univ Mus Archaeol & Ethnol, Cambridge, UK.

**Pta-838. Good Hope 1** **2160 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C4, Spit 3, Layer 1 at 20 to 30cm depth assoc with LSA.

**Pta-1480. Good Hope 3** **7670 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C4, Spit 5, Layer 3 assoc with LSA tools with many notched scrapers.

*General Comment:* cf Bellevue series, below.

**Shongweni South Cave series**

Large Shongweni S cave is 27m above and overlooking Umlazi R at Shongweni Waterworks (29° 51' 46" S, 30° 43' 15" E), ca 30km W of Durban. Upper deposit contains Iron Age remains with specimens of cultivated *Pennisetum* and *Eleusine* cereals; lower deposit is assoc with Stone Age (Davies, 1975). Samples coll and subm between 1971 and 1985 by Oliver Davies, Natal Mus, Pietermaritzburg.

**Pta-1059. Shongweni S.J3.A** **1120 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -19.2\text{‰}$

Organic material from surface of upper dung floor in Sq J3, Spit A, Level 1b, at 5cm depth assoc with LSA.

**Pta-1837. Shongweni S.J2.A** **1060 ± 45**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -19.4\text{‰}$

Organic material from base of upper dung floor in Sq J2, Spit A, Level 1b at 7 to 10cm depth assoc with LSA microliths and *Eleusine*. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1766. Shongweni S.J3.C** **1200 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -17.2\text{‰}$

Organic material from broken-up dung floor in Sq J3, Spit C at 22 to 23cm depth assoc with LSA tools and pottery. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-821. Shongweni S.J2.B** **1770 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -16.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from hearth just beneath upper dung floor in Sq J2, Spit B, Level 3 at 13 to 15cm depth assoc with *Eleusine* and *Pennisetum*, pottery and tanged and barbed Late Wilton artifacts. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1060. Shongweni S.H4.C****700 ± 60** $\delta^{13}C = -10.6\text{‰}$ 

Heads of *Sorghum*, Sq H4, Spit C at 24cm depth, just below twig floor.  
*Comment:* date indicates that *Sorghum* was placed in pit, later than Level 1, Pta-1059, -1837, above.

**Pta-1951. Shongweni S.J2.C****1100 ± 70** $\delta^{13}C = -10.9\text{‰}$ 

*Pennisetum* head from Sq J2, Spit C, Level 4 and 5 at 20 to 23cm depth.  
*Comment:* 56mg carbon analyzed in mini-counter (Vogel & Behrens, 1976).  
 Date indicates that *Pennisetum* was placed in pit, assoc with Level Pta-1059, -1837, above.

**Pta-4040. Shongweni S.Ji.λ****1960 ± 60** $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$ 

Marula nuts from Sq J1, Spit λ, below Level 3, at 25cm depth in later excavation, assoc with stone and bone artifacts and underlying Iron Age levels.

**Pta-823. Shongweni S.J2.D(1)****3870 ± 60** $\delta^{13}C = -25.7\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from hearth in Sq J2, Spit D, Level 6 at 32 to 39cm depth, assoc with Late Wilton artifacts, barbed and tanged arrowheads. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1061. Shongweni S.J2.D(2)****4000 ± 60** $\delta^{13}C = -22.6\text{‰}$ 

Marula pods from Sq J2, Spit D, Level 6 at 30 to 40cm depth, assoc with LSA microliths. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1947. Shongweni S.J2.D(3)****900 ± 140** $\delta^{13}C = -11.1\text{‰}$ 

*Pennisetum* head from Sq J2, Spit D, Level 6 at 30 to 40cm depth. *Comment:* 56mg carbon analyzed in mini-counter (Vogel & Behrens, 1976).  
 Date indicates that *Pennisetum* is intrusive at this level and assoc with Level 1, Pta-1059, -1837, above.

**Pta-682. Shongweni S.J3.E****11,900 ± 130** $\delta^{13}C = -24.7\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from hearth in Sq J3, Spit E, Level I at 44 to 50cm, top of lower occupation, assoc with LSA artifacts.

**Pta-822. Shongweni S.J4.I****14,800 ± 130** $\delta^{13}C = -24.1\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq J4, Spit I, Level IV at 82 to 86cm depth in lower occupation, assoc with LSA artifacts. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-966. Shongweni S.J2/3.L****23,000 ± 310** $\delta^{13}C = -24.9\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq J2/3, Spit L, Level VII at 115 to 122cm depth, lowest ash layer in lower occupation, assoc with some stone and bone flakes.  
*Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

*General Comment:* results show sporadic Stone Age occupation from 23,000 to 1960 BP overlain by occupation during Early Iron Age (EIA) at ca 1100 BP and again at 700 BP. Earliest documented domesticated grain in Natal (Pta-1951).

**Shongweni North Cave series**

Shongweni N cave at Shongweni Waterworks (29° 51' 46" S, 30° 43' 16" E); some 10m N of Shongweni S cave (above) was excavated in 1979 and 1981 by O Davies and T Maggs. Samples subm between 1979 and 1985 by O Davies.

**Pta-2601. Shongweni N.MD2****670 ± 40** $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq X7, Layer XVII, 15 to 20cm depth, assoc with pottery, Middle Iron Age (MIA).

**Pta-2602. Shongweni N.II 4****950 ± 50** $\delta^{13}C = -24.7\text{‰}$ 

Wood from trial trench at 40 to 50cm depth assoc with pottery, MIA.

**Pta-4159. Shongweni N.9****1490 ± 50** $\delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq Y7, Layer XVIII at 22 to 23cm depth assoc with top of EIA deposit.

**Pta-4135. Shongweni N.8****3840 ± 50** $\delta^{13}C = -25.6\text{‰}$ 

Leaves from Sq Y7, Layer XIXa at 40 to 42cm depth, base of continuous human occupation of cave.

**Pta-4134. Shongweni N.7****2030 ± 45** $\delta^{13}C = -25.1\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq X7, Layer XXIVd at 55 to 60cm depth, near Stone Age/Iron Age interface.

**Pta-3864. Shongweni N.XXVb****13,800 ± 240** $\delta^{13}C = -23.2\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq X7, Layer XXVb beneath large fallen slab at 70 to 75cm depth. Lowest spit with *Ricinus* seeds and chewed wads, probably *Catha edulis*.

**Pta-4115. Shongweni N.6****13,600 ± 140** $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq Y7, Layer XXVd at ca 102cm depth assoc with quartz and lydianite artifacts.

**Pta-4133. Shongweni N.5****25,200 ± 570** $\delta^{13}C = -25.5\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq X7, Layer XXVIb overlying bedrock at 93cm depth assoc with some bone and stone artifacts.

**Pta-3858. Shongweni N.XXVI.d****29,400 ± 580** $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq X7, Layer XXVI.d at 120cm depth, extreme base of cave floor.

*General Comment: cf dates from Shongweni South cave, above.*

**Sibudu Shelter series**

Sibudu rock shelter (29° 30' 15" S, 31° 05' 10" E) overlooks Tongati R, ca 6km NW of Tongaat. Top deposit assoc with Later Iron Age (LIA) assemblage overlying MSA industry; no rock paintings are present. Samples coll 1983; subm 1984 by A D Mazel.

**Pta-3765. Sibudu 1****26,000 ± 420** $\delta^{13}C = -25.7\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq D6, mottled layer deposit 2, at 20 to 30cm depth assoc with MSA artifacts. *Comment: pretreated with acid and alkali.*

**Pta-3767. Sibudu 2****24,200 ± 290** $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq D6, general ash layer area 2, at 79 to 88cm depth assoc with MSA artifacts. *Comment: pretreated with acid and alkali.*

**Borcher's Shelter series**

Borcher's rock shelter (30° 42' S, 30° 16' E) overlooking Oribi Gorge, Paddock dist. Deposit contains LSA artifacts. Samples coll and subm 1980 by Charles Cable, Dept Archaeol, Cambridge Univ, UK.

**Pta-3107. Borcher 17****100 ± 50** $\delta^{13}C = -24.2\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq D3 of 6cm depth in upper gray brown earth layer. *Comment: pretreated with acid and alkali. Cal date is post-AD 1820 but AD 1700 also possible.*

**Pta-3108. Borcher 20****2070 ± 50** $\delta^{13}C = -24.1\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq D3 at 20 to 50cm depth, at base of dark brown earth layer. *Comment: pretreated with acid and alkali.*

**Pta-3110. Borchers HB** **3360 ± 110**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -16.9\text{‰}$

Collagen from human skeleton from Sq B4 at 60 to 90cm depth. Bones not in original relative position, assoc with large quantity of red ochre lumps and LSA artifacts. *Comment:* 2.5g purified collagen extracted from 48g bone and tooth fragments.

*Orange Free State*

**Rose Cottage Cave series**

Further samples from Rose Cottage cave near Ladybrand (29° 15' S, 27° 30' E), (Vogel, 1970, p 462; Vogel & Marais, 1971, p 385–386). Samples coll from wall of excavation exposure and subm 1974 and 1977 by K W. Butzer, Dept Geog, Univ Texas, Austin.

**Pta-2067. Rose Cottage 60cm** **8600 ± 100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -22.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from 60cm depth, Layer 6b, at base of Wilton sequence. *Comment:* cf Pta-359: 8650 ± 80 from Bellevue, below.

**Pta-1417. Rose Cottage 9 soluble fr** **23,400 ± 200**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.3\text{‰}$

**Pta-1416. Rose Cottage 9 insoluble fr** **22,700 ± 240**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from base of Layer 6a, assoc with microlithic Pre-Wilton LSA industry. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali and both alkali soluble and alkali insoluble fractions measured. Similarity of results suggest reliable date. Cf dates of ca 20,000 BP for same industry at Melikane and Sehonghong, above. In S Cape Prov Robberg industry yields similar dates (Deacon, 1982).

**Munro's site series**

Further samples from Munro site upstream from Oppermansdrift on Vaal R near Bloemhoff (27° 38' S, 25° 35' E), assoc with LSA artifacts and pottery (Vogel & Marais, 1971, p 385). Samples coll 1968; subm 1970 by R J Mason.

**Pta-345. Munro 3** **280 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B 0-5/40-50 at 10 to 20cm depth.

**Pta-344. Munro 2** **1150 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C 5-10/10-25 at 30 to 46cm depth.

*General Comment:* both samples pretreated with acid and alkali. Cf date for skeleton from site, Pta-087: 850 ± 60 (Vogel & Marais, 1971, p 385).

*Cape Province***Bellevue Shelter series**

Bellevue shelter (29° 59' 50" S, 29° 2' 25" E) on Bellevue farm in Drakensburg, ca 12km NE of Ramatseiso, E Griqualand. Deposit contains LSA artifacts (Carter & Vogel, 1974). Samples coll 1969; subm 1970 and 1971 by P L Carter.

**Pta-448. Bellevue 18** **820 ± 35**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -22.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E19, Layer 1 assoc with pottery, small handscrapers, and blade cores. *Comment:* designated to Layer X (Carter & Vogel, 1974, p 563).

**Pta-449. Bellevue 16** **1030 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E19, Layer 1. *Comment:* originally designated to Layer X.

**Pta-291. Bellevue 20** **1590 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E19, Layer 2 assoc with tanged and barbed stone points, bone points, delicate bone fish hooks, and fragment of iron. Terminal pre-pottery level.

**Pta-292. Bellevue 22** **2330 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E19, Spit 4, assoc with Wilton assemblage.

**Pta-293. Bellevue 25** **3280 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq E19, Spit 7 assoc with Wilton industry.

**Pta-359. Bellevue 8** **8650 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -22.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq G19, Spit 17 underlying Wilton industry.

**Pta-309. Bellevue 6** **2610 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq H15, Spit 28 assoc with early LSA. *Comment:* pre-treated with acid and alkali. Date is far too young and charcoal probably intrusive.

*General Comment:* cf Moshebi and Schonghong series, above and Wonderwerk series, below.

**Equus Cave series**

Equus cave in Oxland Tufa at Norlim quarry (27° 37' S, 24° 37' E) Taung dist, Bophutatswana. 2.5m faunal deposit assoc with MSA and LSA assemblages. Samples coll and subm 1978–1980 by P B Beaumont.

**Pta-2452. Equus 1a 23cm** **2390 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from hearth in Sq 20I, St 1a upper, at 25cm depth.

**Pta-2495. Equus 1a 45cm** **7480 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -5.2\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from hearth in Sq 19I, St 1a base, at 45 to 53cm depth. *Comment:* first 8% carbonate discarded and rest analyzed.

**Pta-2789. Equus 1b 52cm fr 1** **5060 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -6.5\text{‰}$

**Pta-2791. Equus 1b 52cm fr 2** **5460 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -6.2\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Sq 20I, St 1b upper, at 52 to 67cm depth assoc with abraded and fresh small amorphous flakes. *Comment:* first 11% carbonate removed with acid; next 40% analyzed as fraction 1, final 49% analyzed as fraction 2. Small difference in results indicates slight recent contamination.

**Pta-2741. Equus 2a** **>49,700**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -0.2\text{‰}$

Tufa sheet capping from St 2a in Sq 22 J/K at 120cm depth, upper temporal limit of massive faunal sample in St 2a lower and 2b. *Comment:* first 8.6% carbonate removed with acid, rest analyzed. Ionium date (unpub) shows tufa is fallen roofblock which therefore does not date stratum.

**Pta-4051/57. Equus 2b 23K 221cm** **10,800 ± 270**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -13.7\text{‰}$

Collagen from bone found in Sq 23K, St 2b at 218 to 225cm depth assoc with amorphous LSA assemblage. *Comment:* collagen considerably degraded and result considered min date only.

### Powerhouse Cave series

Powerhouse cave at Norlim quarry (27° 37' S, 24° 37' E) Taung dist, Bophutatswana contains ca 60cm deposit with LSA artifacts. Samples coll 1975; subm 1976 by A.J. Humphreys, Univ Western Cape, Bellville.

**Pta-1763. Powerhouse I** **2250 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq A, Level I at 10 to 15cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-1508. Powerhouse 57cm** **3680 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq A at 57cm depth overlying bedrock.

*General Comment:* cf dates from Dikbosch and Limerock, below.

**Little Witkrans Shelter series**

Little Witkrans shelter (27° 39' S, 24° 37' E) 0.5km S of Witkrans cave, 5km S of Norlim quarry, Taung dist, Bophutatswana, containing LSA assemblages. Samples coll 1978; subm 1978 and 1982 by P B Beaumont.

**Pta-2447. Little Witkrans 10cm** **1490 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.6\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq 13B at 10 to 15cm depth assoc with pottery.

**Pta-3418. Little Witkrans 13B,5** **1830 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq 13B at 20 to 25cm depth assoc with pottery.

**Pta-2448. Little Witkrans 40cm** **4710 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.8\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq 13D at 40 to 45cm depth.

**Pta-2490. Little Witkrans 60cm** **7470 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -5.2\text{‰}$   
Ostrich eggshell from Sq 13B/D at 60 to 65cm depth. *Comment:* 17% carbonate removed with acid and rest analyzed. Sample, ca 15cm above bedrock, provides min date for base of Wilton culture in this area.

**Wonderwerk Cave series**

Wonderwerk cave (27° 50' 45" S, 23° 33' 19" E) on Wonderwerk farm, 45km N of Danielskuil, Kuruman dist, runs 140m into base of Kuruman Hills, 18m wide, 4m to 10m high. Excavations were conducted by B D Malan and L H Wells 1943/44, F E Peabody and B D Malan 1948, P B Beaumont 1978, J F Thackeray and Anne Thackeray 1979, and P B Beaumont 1981 and 1982. Largest and most complete sequence of industries and sediment in semi-arid interior of South Africa, containing ESA, MSA and LSA assemblages, and stratified engraved stone slabs (Avery, 1981; Thackeray *et al*, 1981; van Zinderen Bakker, 1982). Ostrich eggshell samples from Peabody Wonderwerk colln at Univ California. Coll 1948 by F E Peabody; subm 1977 by K W Butzer.

**Pta-2139. Wonderwerk 7cm** **3060 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -8.8\text{‰}$   
Ostrich eggshell from Sq P30 at 0 to 13.5cm depth. *Comment:* first 28% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.

**Pta-2140. Wonderwerk 32cm** **5930 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -7.7\text{‰}$   
Ostrich eggshell from Sq M28 at 31.5 to 45cm depth. *Comment:* first 26% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.



**Pta-2141. Wonderwerk 85cm**  $12,380 \pm 100$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -10.0\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Sq N31 at 81 to 90cm depth. *Comment:* first 11% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed.

*1978 Excavation*

Subm 1979 by P B Beaumont.

**Pta-2542. Wonderwerk 3 top**  $1890 \pm 50$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -21.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs 0 19/P 20, St 3 top at 10 to 15cm depth assoc with Late Wilton assemblage.

**Pta-2543. Wonderwerk 3 base**  $2910 \pm 60$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs 0 19/P 20, St 3 base at 15 to 20cm depth assoc with Late Wilton assemblage. *Comment:* cf Pta-2139, from 1948 excavation, above.

**Pta-2541. Wonderwerk 4a top**  $4240 \pm 60$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs P 20/21, St 4a top at 20 to 30cm depth assoc with Late Climax Wilton artifacts.

**Pta-2544. Wonderwerk 4b**  $5180 \pm 70$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs 0 19/P 20, St 4b at 40 to 60cm depth assoc with Early Climax Wilton.

**Pta-2545. Wonderwerk 4c**  $5970 \pm 70$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs 0 19/21, St 4c at 60 to 80cm depth assoc with Early Wilton. *Comment:* cf Pta-2140 from 1948 excavation, above.

**Pta-2546. Wonderwerk 4d**  $9130 \pm 90$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.2\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs 0 19/22, St 4d at 80 to 100cm depth assoc with Late Albany assemblages.

*1979 Excavation*

Subm 1979 by I F Thackeray and A I Thackeray, Univ Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch.

**Pta-2779. Wonderwerk 2b**  $1210 \pm 50$   
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs T 22/23, St 2b at 10cm depth, assoc with LSA artifacts including stone segments and bone points, and *Ovis* bones. *Comment:* cf Pta-2542 from 1978 excavation, above.

**Pta-2785. Wonderwerk 3a/b** **3990 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq R 25, St 3a and 3b interface at 29cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts, including segments, bone points, and rock engravings (Thackeray *et al*, 1981, p 64–67). *Comment*: pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2797. Wonderwerk 4a base** **4890 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs T 22/S 22 between travertines 4 and 5; St 4a base at 45cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts including segments, decorated ostrich eggshell, and bone points. *Comment*: pretreated with acid and alkali. *Cf* Pta-2541, -2544 from 1978 excavation, above.

**Pta-2798. Wonderwerk 4c top** **7430 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs S 24/25 and T 24/25, St 4c top at 67cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts, oldest rock engravings (Thackeray *et al*, 1981, p 64–67). *Comment*: pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2786. Wonderwerk 4d top** **10,200 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -22.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs 0 25/P25, St 4d top at 87cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts and rock engraving. *Comment*: pretreated with acid and alkali. *Cf* Pta-2546 from St 4d from 1978 excavation, above. Result indicates that rock engraving in South Africa is at least 10,000 yr old.

**Pta-2790. Wonderwerk 4d base** **10,000 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -22.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sqs 0 25/P 25, St 4d base at 97cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts. *Comment*: pretreated with acid and alkali. *Cf* Pta-2546 from 1978 excavation, above.

**Pta-2852. Wonderwerk 5a** **9760 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq 0 24, St 5a at 92cm depth assoc with amorphous stone artifacts, probably early LSA. *Comment*: pretreated with acid and alkali. Apparently charcoal from overlying St 4d; *cf* Pta-2786 and -2790, above.

#### *Travertines*

Coll 1979 and subm 1980 by J F Thackeray.

**Pta-2723. Wonderwerk Trav 2** **2350 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -0.6\text{‰}$

Travertine 2 from Sq R22 between St 3a and 4a at 17 to 18cm depth. *Comment*: first 17% sample removed with acid, remaining carbonate analyzed. *Cf* date for St 4a top Pta-2541: 4240 ± 60 from 1979 excavation, above.

**Pta-2727. Wonderwerk Trav 4****2260 ± 50** $\delta^{13}C = +0.2\text{‰}$ 

Travertine 4 from Sq T21, St 4a at 42 to 44cm depth. *Comment:* first 16% sample removed with acid, remaining carbonate analyzed. *Cf* date for between travertine 4 and 5 Pta-2797: 4890 ± 70 from 1979 excavation, Pta-2541: 4240 ± 60 in St 4a top from 1978 excavation, above.

**Pta-2728. Wonderwerk Trav 6****3360 ± 60** $\delta^{13}C = -1.0\text{‰}$ 

Travertine 6 from Sq 21 in St 4c at 68 to 74cm depth. *Comment:* first 10% sample discarded, remaining carbonate analyzed. *Cf* date for 4c top Pta-2798: 7430 ± 60 from 1979 excavation, above.

**Pta-2729. Wonderwerk Trav 8****2930 ± 60** $\delta^{13}C = -0.9\text{‰}$ 

Travertine 8 from Sq R 21 St 4d at 88 to 94cm depth. *Comment:* first 11% sample discarded, remaining carbonate analyzed. *Cf* dates for St 4d top and 4d base Pta-2786: 10,200 ± 90, -2790: 10,000 ± 70 from 1979 excavation, above.

*General Comment:* these apparent ages are for carbonate and may be 1500 yr too old, but initial apparent age of carbonate is not known. Apparently cementing took place long after deposit was laid down.

*1981 Excavation*

Subm 1982 by P B Beaumont, from deeper in cave.

**Pta-3422. Wonderwerk 2, 1****11,350 ± 100** $\delta^{13}C = -15.7\text{‰}$ 

Portion of charred grass from fill of subcircular Feature 1 at 25cm depth, Sq P 63, rim of which is concordant with surface of St 2 containing amorphous LSA artifacts with shell blades but no backed items or large scrapers. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali. *Cf* dates from adjacent exposure SI-3561: 12,160 ± 115, -2032B: 12,130 ± 110 (Beaumont, pers commun).

*1982 Excavation*

Subm 1982 by P B Beaumont, from near mouth of cave.

**Pta-3426. Wonderwerk 3aa****2310 ± 60** $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq P 7, St 3aa at 12cm depth assoc with hair tentatively id as *Ovis* and Wilton assemblage. *Comment:* cf Pta-2542 from 1978 excavation and Pta-2779 from 1979 excavation, above.

**Pta-3427. Wonderwerk P8.3aa****5800 ± 70** $\delta^{13}C = -22.8\text{‰}$ 

Charcoal from Sq P 8, St 3aa at 9.5 to 11.5cm depth assoc with Wilton assemblage. *Comment:* sample should postdate Pta-3426, above. Presumably admixture from adjacent pit.

**Pta-3425. Wonderwerk 4ac** **6840 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.0\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq P 7, St 4ac at 68 to 71cm depth assoc with Wilton assemblage. *Comment:* cf Pta-2545 from 1978 excavation Pta-2798 from 1979 excavation, above.

**Pta-3366. Wonderwerk P9.4ac** **8000 ± 80**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -8.0\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Sq P 9, St 4ac at 83 to 84cm depth assoc with Wilton base in front sec of cave. *Comment:* 10% carbonate discarded, rest analyzed. Cf Pta-2798 from 1978 excavation, above.

**Pta-3439. Wonderwerk 5, 1** **9030 ± 90**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -8.0\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Sq 7/9, St 5 at 85 to 90cm depth assoc with small Robberg-type blades but no backed items or large scrapers. *Comment:* first 18% carbonate rejected and rest analyzed. Cf Pta-2852 from 1979 excavation, above.

**Pta-3441. Wonderwerk 5, 5** **12,400 ± 180**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -9.0\text{‰}$

Ostrich eggshell from Sq P7, St 5 at 93 to 98cm depth assoc with small Robberg-type blades but no backed items or large scrapers. *Comment:* first 15% carbonate rejected and rest analyzed. Cf Pta-2852 from 1979 excavation, above.

*General Comment:* base of Wilton industry (St 4c) dated by Pta-3366: 8000 ± 80 BP; underlying late Albany industry (St 4d) dates between Pta-2546: 9130 ± 90 BP, and Pta-2786; 10,200 ± 90 BP, and atypical Robberg industry (St 5) dates to Pta-3441: 12,400 ± 180 BP. Cf Pta-2067: 8600 ± 100 BP at Rose Cottage and Pta-359: 8650 ± 80 BP at Bellevue Shelter, above for earliest Wilton assemblage further E.

### Limerock Shelter series

On Limerock farm (28° 33' S, 24° 0' E), Herbert dist, two adjacent shelters, 1 and 2, with LSA assemblages. Coll 1975; subm 1975 and 1977 by A J Humphreys.

**Pta-1621. Limerock 1.III** **1620 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -22.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Level III, at 45cm depth in Shelter 1 assoc with pottery and LSA assemblage.

**Pta-2095. Limerock 2.IV** **1720 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq A, Level IV at 47cm depth in Shelter 2 assoc with LSA artifacts and pottery.

**Pta-1759. Limerock 2.V** **1430 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.5\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq A, Level V at 55 to 60cm depth in Shelter 2.

**Pta-360. Grootdrink 4** **310 ± 30**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.1\text{‰}$

Carbonaceous material scraped from outside of pot, which was buried upside down in fireplace on Grootdrink farm (28° 33' S, 21° 45' E) on S bank of Orange R, 50km E of Upington, Gordonia dist, assoc with human skeletons, pots, and decorated ostrich eggshells. Coll by A S Brink; subm 1971 by Jalmar Rudner, South African Mus, Cape Town. *Comment:* cal AD 1530 or 1640.

**Pta-3847. Waterval** **760 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C1/D1 at 0 to 15cm depth from hearth at pastoralist camp site on Waterval farm (28° 34' S, 20° 21' E), Augrabies Falls Natl Park Gordonia dist, assoc with pottery, bone, and stone work. Sample coll 1984 by A G Morris and A B Smith; subm 1984 by A G Morris, Univ Cape Town, Rondebosch.

#### Zoovoorbij Cave series

Cave on Zoovoorbij farm (28° 39' S, 20° 58' E) on Orange R, near Keimoes, Gordonia dist. Ca 1m deposit assoc with Stone Age assemblage. Samples coll and subm 1980 by A B Smith, Univ Cape Town.

**Pta-2871. Zoovoorbij II** **2860 ± 45**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq A1, Layer II at 5 to 10cm depth assoc with LSA assemblage and pottery.

**Pta-2870. Zoovoorbij III** **2800 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.0\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq B1, Layer III at 30cm depth assoc with LSA assemblage without pottery.

**Pta-2888. Zoovoorbij VII** **3080 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq B1, Layer VII at 44cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2893. Zoovoorbij VIII** **3440 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.8\text{‰}$   
Charcoal from Sq B1, Layer VIII at 65 to 85cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

**Pta-2889. Zoovoorbij IXa** **4140 ± 70**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.4\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B1, Layer IXa at 85 to 90cm depth assoc with LSA artifacts. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

### **Dikbosch Shelters series**

Two adjacent rock shelters on farm Dikbosch (28° 39' 8" S, 23° 54' 9" E) ca 45km NNW of Douglas, Herbert dist, with LSA assemblages (Humphreys, 1974). Samples coll and subm between 1973 and 1982 by A J Humphreys.

#### *Shelter 1, Area A*

**Pta-1065. Dikbosch 1.A.II** **3110 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.9\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq C2, Level II at 10 to 15cm depth.

**Pta-1288. Dikbosch 1.A.III** **13,500 ± 120**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B1, Level III at 30cm depth.

**Pta-1067. Dikbosch 1.A.IV** **12,500 ± 100**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.1\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B3, Level IV at 35cm depth.

**Pta-1068. Dikbosch 1.A.V** **13,800 ± 130**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.6\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq D4, Level V at 50cm depth.

**Pta-1200. Dikbosch 1.A.VI** **13,200 ± 130**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq B3, Level VI at 65cm depth. *Comment:* pretreated with acid and alkali.

#### *Shelter 1, Area B*

**Pta-3413. Dikbosch 1.B.II** **1720 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq 11, Level II at 25cm depth.

**Pta-3412. Dikbosch 1.B.III** **1570 ± 40**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -23.7\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq 11, Level III at 35cm depth.

**Pta-3411. Dikbosch 1.B.V.** **8010 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.5\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq 22, Level V at 55cm depth assoc with Wilton-type assemblage.

## Shelter 2

**Pta-1507. Dikbosch 2** **570 ± 45**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -25.3\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq 8/9 at 45cm depth from rock shelter Dikbosch 2 with ca 80cm LSA deposit.

**Pta-1357. Voëlfontein Burial** **70 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -11.5\text{‰}$

Collagen from human skeleton buried in sitting position at ca 90cm depth on Voëlfontein farm (28° 47' S, 23° 43' E) just N of Campbell, Kimberley dist, near Burchell's shelter. Coll 1959 by G J Fock; subm 1974 by A J Humphreys. *Comment:* 3.6g purified collagen extracted from 36g bone. Cal date is post-AD 1820.

**Pta-1196. Burchell's Shelter** **170 ± 50**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -24.8\text{‰}$

Charcoal from Sq EX2C at 10cm depth from Burchell's shelter (28° 48' S, 23° 43' E) near Campbell, Kimberley dist, assoc with LSA assemblage (Humphreys, 1975). Coll and subm 1974 by A J Humphreys. *Comment:* cal date is post-AD 1660.

**Pta-681. Weltevreden Burial 1** **3380 ± 60**  
 $\delta^{13}C = -10.9\text{‰}$

Collagen from human skeleton at ca 1m depth in grave with stone cairn on Weltevreden farm (29° 02' S, 24° 10' E) 40km W of Ritchie, Herbert dist. Coll 1967; subm 1972 by A J Humphreys. *Comment:* 9g purified collagen extracted from 42g bone.

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