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KUDU GRANITE

**A PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION OF THREE LATE
IRON AGE SETTLEMENTS ON MOGALESKRAAL AND ON
SCHAAPKRAAL IN THE RUSTENBURG DISTRICT OF THE NORTH-
WEST**

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1 CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT IN THE GRANITE MINING AREAS OF THE CENTRAL BANKEVELD

Since 1995, the author of this report is busy with the maintenance of a cultural heritage management programme for Kudu granite and for Rustenburg Quarries operating in the Rustenburg district of the North-West. The aim and objective of this programme has been outlined in addenda to the Environmental Management Programme Reports done for these two mines.

According to the new National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) some form of symbiosis should exist between any development activities and the conservation of cultural remains. This can best be done by managing a cultural heritage management programme that is endorsed by the South African Heritage Resources Agency. (SAHRA) Such a programme recognises three phases of archaeological enquiry whenever archaeological impact assessment studies are undertaken. These levels of enquiry consists of:

- Phase I archaeological surveys of development areas (such as mining areas). The results of these surveys are included as addenda in mines' Environmental Management Programme Reports, as addenda to Town Development schemes and must be acknowledged in all environmental impact studies;
- Phase II investigations, which include salvage work and therefore detailed archaeological work. These investigations can only be done with permits from the South African Heritage Resources Agency. The reports compiled during these investigations must be sent to the South African Heritage Resources Agency.
- Phase III studies which consist of management plans to ensure the sustainable existence of archaeological and historical sites and remains. These programmes provide for the utilisation, development, in situ protection, etc. of archaeological and historical sites older than 100 years.

The cultural heritage management programme currently implemented in the granite mining areas in the Central Bankeveld enables environmental managers from Kudu Granite and from Rustenburg Quarries, in conjunction with the author (an archaeologist) of this report, to formulate, on a continuous basis, strategies with regard to the future management of the remaining archaeological sites in mining areas. This management programme includes:

- Reactive Phase II investigations of sites which have been affected by development activities during the last fifty years in mining areas;

- Pro-active Phase II investigations of sites which may be affected or destroyed by development activities in the immediate future in mining areas; and
- Phase III studies which consider the indefinite survival and sustainable utilization (where necessary) of cultural remains in mining areas.

The archaeological remains of the Central Bankeveld as a whole, are non-renewable cultural resources. Archaeological sites and features which have been affected or destroyed by development activities, or by vandals, can never be restored or replaced. Granite mining has already destroyed a substantial part of the Batswana's cultural heritage as these remains are mainly confined to the granite hills between Onderstepoort near Pretoria in the east and around Marikana in the west. The cultural heritages of the Bankeveld, however, is also endangered by other types of development as this region is probably one of the heaviest populated in South Africa.

The cultural heritage of the Central Bankeveld is therefore continually endangered and is in fact becoming a diminishing resource. Rustenburg Quarries and Kudu Granite, however, have since 1996 rectified the situation. The two mines and the author of this report has gradually started with the implementation of a cultural heritage management programme for the granite mining areas of the Central Bankeveld. Private developers such as Eskom and Magalies Water, from time to time, also participated in this venture by commissioning archaeological impact and assessment studies whenever development activities were undertaken in this region.

The cultural heritage of the granite mining areas is currently managed as part of the environmental management programmes of Kudu Granite and Rustenburg Quarries. The aims of the cultural heritage management programme are include the following:

1.1 Phase I investigations

- conducting extensive archaeological surveys of all the granite mining areas managed by Kudu Granite and Rustenburg Quarries in order to establish the presence, nature and extent of archaeological remains in this part of the Bankeveld;
- documenting and mapping all the archaeological and historical remains which may be found during this survey in the mining areas;

1.2 Reactive and pro-active Phase II investigations

- investigating all archaeological sites and remains which have been affected by development activities during the last fifty years;
- conducting archaeological investigations (surveying, documenting and excavating) of all settlements which may be affected or destroyed by future development activities;

1.3 Phase III investigations

- collecting a fully representative archaeological collection of the material culture of the Batswana and other groups who occupied the Bankeveld;
- conserving and utilising this museum collection (e.g. in displays);
- publishing the results of research efforts in the Central Bankeveld in scientific journals and in popular magazines, acknowledging participants' involvement in this programme;
- declaring settlements of outstanding historical significance national monuments, in collaboration with the South African Heritage Resources Agency; and
- collaborating with the Batswana or other living relatives of the inhabitants of the historical and archaeological settlements in the Central Bankeveld.

1.4 Progress with the cultural heritage management programme

The archaeological team has since 1996 conducted Phase I surveys of nearly all the granite mining areas managed by Kudu and Marlin Granite mines. The results of these surveys have been published in four reports, namely:

- Pistorius, J.C.C. 1998. *Archaeological survey and assessment of the Taylor mining area on the farm Tweedepoort (283JQ) in the Rustenburg district*. Addendum to the Environmental Management Programme Report done for Kudu Granite. Report prepared for Kudu Granite. (49pp).

- Pistorius, J.C.C. 1998. *Archaeological survey and assessment of the Schaapkraal mining area in the Rustenburg district*. Addendum to the Environmental Management Programme Report done for Kudu Granite. Report prepared for Kudu Granite. (79pp).
- Pistorius, J.C.C. 1999. *Archaeological survey and assessment of Granite mines on the farms Tweedepoort (283JQ) and Boschpoort (284JQ) in the Rustenburg district. Incorporating the Taylor mining area, the Bekker mining area, the Transvaal mining area and the Springbok mining area*. Addendum to the Environmental Management Programme Reports done for Marlin and Kelgran Granite. Report prepared for Marlin and Kelgran Granite Mines. (89pp).
- Pistorius, JCC 2000. *Archaeological survey and assessment of granite mining areas on the farms Tweedepoort 283JQ, Boschpoort 284JQ, Beestkraal 290JQ, Elandsheuvel 282JQ, Nooitgedacht 287JQ, Nooitgedacht 289JQ and Schaapkraal 292JQ in the Rustenburg district of the Central Bankeveld*. Addendum to the Environmental Management Programme Reports done for Kudu Granite and for Rustenburg Quarries (200pp).

All these reports were continually integrated in order to eventually provide one single comprehensive report of the Phase I survey of all the granite mining areas managed by Kudu Granite and Rustenburg Quarries in the Central Bankeveld.

Phase II archaeological investigations of settlements in the granite mining areas have also commenced. Settlements studied since 1996 included:

- the site known as Makgope located on the farm Nooitgedacht 287JQ north of Marikana;
- the site known as Malle located on the farm Nooitgedacht 287JQ north of Marikana; and
- the site known as Masetlhaneng (TWE005) located on the farm Tweedepoort (284JQ) in the Taylor Mining area of Kudu Granite.

Phase II investigations done for other developers in the Central Bankeveld include:

- The site known as Site ZK001 located on the farm Zwartkopjes or Roodekopjes (JQ) to the north-east of Brits;

- a Matabele village consisting of nine settlements located on the farms Rietvlei (271JQ), Donkerhoek (312JQ) and Boschfontein (268JQ) to the north of Rustenburg;
- two sites on Mmatshetshele Mountain (Site MMA001 and Site MMA004) adjacent to the Bospoortdam on the farm Boschpoort (283JQ); and
- a site in the Lesung complex (Site KRO002.1) on the farm Kroondal (304JQ) south of Rustenburg.

Very important discoveries were made in the Central Bankeveld since 1996. Several settlements which had been occupied by Mzilikazi's Matabele, from c. 1827 to 1832, were discovered during archaeological surveys. These village complexes are:

- a village to the north of Rustenburg which was painted by Charles Bell in June 1835;
- the village complex known as emHlalandlela which was located to the north-east of Brits and which was painted by Cornwallis Harris in December 1836;
- two village complexes, namely enKungwini and enDinaneni, which are located along the northern and southern foot of the Magaliesberg between Brits and Pretoria; and
- a village known as Moordkoppie was also discovered north of the granite mining areas. Mzilikazi's Matabele warriors overtook and killed a large number of Griqua who previously had stole their cattle at this settlement in July 1832.

1.5 National monuments

The cultural heritage management programme has also resulted in certain types of Phase III work which has been done. The National Heritage Resources Act (Act No 25 of 1999) view the cultural heritage of South Africa in terms of their sustainable qualities, such as their potential or use in fields as diverse as education and tourism. Important sites, therefore, must be protected for posterity by declaring such sites national monuments. At present, no archaeological sites have as yet been declared as national monuments in Marikana or in the Rustenburg district. The results of Phase II investigations are continually published in scientific magazines (see Bibliography).

2 AIM AND METHODOLOGY

Two Phase II archaeological studies were recently completed for Eskom and for Kudu Granite on the farms Mogaleskraal and Schaapkraal (292JQ) in the Central Bankeveld of the North-West. The results of these two studies are integrated in this report as the settlements on Mogaleskraal (Site MOG001 and Site MOG002) and on Schaapkraal (Site SCH022.1) are in relative close proximity to each other. The sites is separated from each other by the Minaco mining area and a portion of land belonging to Mr Dandre Botha. Stone walled sites were destroyed by mining activities in the Minaco mining area and on the portion of land belonging to Mr Dandré Botha.

The sites that were subjected to a Phase II investigation include:

- Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 on the farm Mogaleskraal (east of the farm Schaapkraal 292JQ) and located in Eskom's 400kV transmission line corridor between the Bighorn power station (near Marikana) and the proposed Adis substation (near Brits); and
- Site SCH022.1 located in the Minaco mining area on the farm Schaapkraal 292JQ. Site SCH022.1 was damaged by granite mining activities and was therefore subjected to a reactive Phase II investigation.

It is possible that the stone walled sites in the eastern part of Schaapkraal and on Mogaleskraal were part of one sphere of influence. The aim of this report is therefore to compare the sites studied on Mogaleskraal (Site MOG001 and Site MOG002) with the site studied on Schaapkraal (Site SCH022.1). These three sites are also compared with other stone walled villages in the Central Bankeveld which have been subjected to archaeological investigations in the past, namely:

- SEL1 and SEL2 in the Molokwane complex near Rustenburg;
- Site ZK001 in the Zwartkopje complex north-east of Brits;
- Site KRO002.1 in the Lesung complex of sites south of Kroondal; and
- the sites known as Makgope (Site NTG001) and Malle located on the farm Nooitgedacht (282JQ) to the north of Marikana.

The Molokwane stone walled complex is associated with the Bakwena Bamodimosana, the Zwartkopje complex of sites with the Bakgatla (Bapedi), the Lesung complex of sites with the Bafokeng and the Makgope and Malle complexes with either the Bakwena Bamôgôpa, the Bakwena Bamogale or the Bakwena Baphalane. These sites resemble Batswana villages on different levels of social complexity such as the *kgorwana*, the *kgoro* and the *kgosing* (Pistorius 1994, 1995, 1999; Pistorius, Steyn & Nienaber 1998, 2001).

This Phase II report provides a general description of the three stone walled sites. This description is supplemented with illustrations that outline the spatial composition of the sites in terms of their ground floor plans. Photographs of the sites further aim to illustrate some of the features of these sites.

Two small excavations were conducted in a midden associated with Site MOG002 in order to collect charcoal for radio-carbon dates. These dates are published in this report.

The excavation of two huts in this site, however, revealed no evidence of the spatial features of these dwellings. The preservation of the dwellings was not good.

3 POSSIBLE HISTORICAL AFFINITIES OF THE SCHAAPKRAAL AND THE MOGALESKRAAL AREA

The stone walled sites investigated on Mogaleskraal and Schaapkraal form part of the series and chains of granite hills north of the Magaliesberg. These hills are spread from the Pilanesberg in the north-west to Onderstepoort in the south-east. Along the bases of these hills are hundreds of stone walled settlements built and occupied by numerous Batswana and Ndebele chiefdoms during the last five hundred years. The study area, considered from an archaeological and historical perspective, was part of the sphere of influence of Batswana groups such as the Bakwena Bamôgôpa, the Bakwena Baphalane and the Bapô (Bakwena Bamogale).

The Bakwena Bamôgôpa was originally part of a Bakwena cluster to which the Bafokeng and the Bakwena Baphalane belonged. The three groups separated near Mogwase, further to the north of the study area. Whilst the Bafokeng moved west to fill the void between the Magaliesberg and the Thaba ea Maralla range of mountains, the Bakwena Bamôgôpa moved east to near the present day Brits. The Bakwena Bamôgôpa occupy numerous towns such as Bethanië, Berseba, Hebron and Makolokwe located to the north-east of Marikana. The Bakwena Baphalane moved northwards and settled in what is today Ramôkôkastad (Pistorius 1994, 1995, 1999).

Members of the Bakwena Bamogale tribe today live in towns such as Bapông and Segwalane. These townships are relatively close to the study area. The name 'Mogaleskraal' in fact refers to 'Mogale' who used to be one of the early Bakwena Bamogale rulers. The name of the Magaliesberg was also derived from the name 'Mogale'. The Bakwena Bamogale claims to have a Nguni ancestry but has been Sotho-ised during their stay in the Central Bankeveld. The Bakwena Bamogale is also known as the Bapô. This name is derived from their Nguni clan name 'amaMbo' which has been adapted to Bapô (Breutz 1953, 1986).

4 BATSWANA SETTLEMENT PATTERNS IN THE BANKEVELD

4.1 Settlement types in the Central Bankeveld

According to oral history different Late Iron Age Batswana spheres of influence emerged in the Central Bankeveld of South Africa during the last five hundred years. These domains can be distinguished on the basis of settlement and pottery types and unique ecological adaptations between spheres of influence and different ecozones in the Central Bankeveld. During the last few years research has focussed on surveys and the recording of sites in the Central Bankeveld. Several settlement types, some with definite historical and cultural association, have been distinguished, namely (Figure 1):

- A Bakwena settlement type recorded in the Molokwane complex west of the Magaliesberg near Rustenburg (Pistorius 1985, 1994, 1996). On a macro level the Bakwena village (or *motse*) is characterised by a tripartite division. The *motse* is composed of three sections, namely the *kgosing* (or place of the *kgosi*) and the two *dintlha* sections. On a micro level the Bakwena village (or *kgoro*) is characterised by the kwena spatial nexus which describes a spatial position between a main dwelling, a main cattle kraal and a court (*kgotla*) (Pistorius 1985, 1992, 1994, 1996).
- A Bakgatla (Bapedi) settlement type documented in the Swartkoppies complex north-east of Brits (Pistorius 1995a, 1995b). The Bakgatla settlement type is characterised by the *letlatswa* or an addendum attached to the main body of the site. The *letlatswa* contained the *kgorong* (gathering place for men), the main entrance into the *kgoro*, a main cattle kraal and the holy fire place (Pistorius 1995a, 1995b).
- A Matabele (Ndebele) settlement type associated with Mzilikazi's Matabele (Ndebele) who occupied the Central Bankeveld during the first half of the 19th century (Pistorius 1997b, 1997c, Pistorius 1998).
- A Bakwena related settlement type investigated at Makgope and Malle located north of Marikana (Pistorius, Steyn and Nienaber 1998, 2001). At a micro level these settlements resemble Bakwena settlements such as SEL1 and SEL2 studied at Molokwane but, however, differ from these sites in spatial composition. These settlements, at the level of the *kgosing*, have more elaborate court structures (*dikgotla*), a different spatial organisation of the dwellings (*malapa*) of the high status group and of different family groups than these components in the *kgosing* (SEL2) of Molokwane. These settlements may either have a Bakwena Bamôgôpa, a Bakwena Baphalane or a Bakwena Bamogale (Bapô) identity.
- The Mmatshetshela and Masetlhaneng settlement types recorded in Site MMA001 and Site MMA004 and in Site TWE005 north of Marikana. on ocated against the slopes and on plateaux of large mountains such as Mmatshetshela Mountain near

Marikana (Pistorius 1997, 2001). The Masetlhaneng settlement type documented in Site TWE005 near Marikana and which comprises two settlement components (Pistorius 2000). The Mmatshetshela and Masetlhaneng settlement types may represent spatial identities associated with pre-Bafokeng (Batswana) groups who gradually became absorbed within the sphere of influence of the historically known Bafokeng.

The Batswana chiefdoms of the Central Bankeveld, during and before the *difaqane* wars, must also have been characterised by various types of specialised settlements and not only by common residential villages (*metse*). Settlements occupied by *dislocados* displaced during the pre-*difaqane* and *difaqane* wars may represent one of these types of specialised settlements. Other specialised settlements which probably may have existed were sites where ceremonial centres such as rain-making sites initiation sites for boys and girls, metal working sites, military or regimental villages and cattle stations.

4.2 Characteristics of Batswana villages on a micro level as revealed by archaeological evidence

Different types of Batswana villages can be distinguished on a micro level such as the *kgorwana*, the *kgoro* and the *kgosing*. These sites reflect three levels of social complexity in the Batswana village (or *motse*). Whilst the *kgorwana* is the smallest and simplest social unit in the Batswana village the *kgosing* represents the largest and the most complex social unit in the settlement. The *kgoro* is the most common unit in the site. Differences or variations, however, do occur between the sites that reflect different hierarchies of social complexity. Some of these differences may be highlighted in the following discussion.

The ground plans and spatial compositions of Site MOG001, Site MOG002 and Site SCH022.1 resemble some of the features of these Batswana villages, particularly the features of the *kgoro*. There is little doubt that all three sites are indeed *dikgoro*.

The archaeological remains of Batswana villages on different micro levels such as the *kgorwana*, the *kgoro* and the *kgosing* have been studied. These sites are the following:

- Site KRO002.1 in the Lesung complex of sites south of Kroondal is a *kgoro* and a possible *kgorwana* (Pistorius 1999);
- Site SEL2, Site ZK001, Site NTG001 (Makgope) and Malle are all *dikgoro* (Pistorius 1994, 1995; Pistorius, Steyn & Nienaber 1999, 2001); and

- Site SEL1 in the Molokwane complex is a *kgoro* (Pistorius 1994, 1996).

The most important resemblances between Batswana villages on different levels of social complexity include:

4.2.1 Dwellings arranged around central kraal complexes

The Batswana *kgorwana*, *kgoro* and *kgosing* have their dwelling units arranged around centrally located kraal complexes. Outer scalloped walls which contain one or more dwellings are a general feature of Batswana villages such as Molokwane, the Zwartkopjes complex, Makgope and Malle. Each of the scallops is associated with one or more dwellings (huts or *dintlha*). Clustered groups of dwellings (or dwelling units) were occupied by different family groups (*masika*). These family groups are usually, but not necessarily, related to a distant common ancestor. The head of the most senior family group (*bogolwane*) is also the head (*kgosana*) of the village. This structure applies to the *kgoro* and possibly also to *dikgorwana* composed of more than one family group. The social structure of the *kgosing*, however, differs from that of the *kgoro* and the *kgorwana* (Pistorius 1994, 1995, 1996).

Dwellings comprised the cone-on-cylinder type and were built with clay walls and grass roofs. Elaborate veranda's which covered as much as a third (or the frontal part) of dwellings and which sometimes incorporated paved and slide doorways were part of dwelling structures (Pistorius 1994, 1995, 1996).

A dwelling unit is therefore generally composed of a backyard (scallop), a dwelling in the middle and a frontyard (or frontal part). The backyard or frontyard may contain stone platforms that served as stands for granaries built with clay or grass (*difalana* and *disigo*). Upper and lower grinding stones were also used in these components. These three components (the backyard, the dwelling and the frontyard/frontal part), together, can be called a *lapa*. This three-fold division is particularly clear in bilobial dwellings associated with the Z Type of settlements identified by Maggs in the Orange Free State and near Klerksdorp and Potchefstroom in the North-West (Maggs 1976).

4.2.2 Central located enclosures (or kraal complexes)

The outer scalloped walls of the *kgorwana*, *kgoro* and *kgosing* encircle a group (complex) of centrally arranged enclosures. These enclosures were used for different purposes such as to shelter large and small stock (cattle, sheep and goat), to conclude

formal functions such as meetings between the king and his councils and hearings of the court (*kgotla*). Informal gathering of men also occurred in some of these areas while burials of important men and women took place in cattle kraals. Rituals and ceremonies relevant to the tribe at large were conducted in kraal complexes of *dikgosing* (Pistorius & Steyn 1995; Pistorius 1996; Pistorius, Steyn & Nienaber 1998, 2001).

The court and courtyard (generally referred to as the *kgotla*) were the most important features in the *kgoro* and even in the *kgorwana* if more than one family head (*mogolwane*) occupied such a unit. The privacy of enclosures or chambers where men met to discuss private (political and judicial) affairs was illustrated by enclosures with high walls and small entrances covered with lintels. In the *kgosing* (SEL2) of Molokwane affairs relevant to the tribe (*morafe*) were discussed in a secluded, private enclosure opposite the *kgosi's* main wife's dwelling. Here, different councils met, sometimes under great secrecy and late in the evenings, to discuss affairs relevant to the tribe. The informal, social gathering of men in enclosures of the kraal complex was common practise in the Batswana village. The holy-fire was located in the *kgotla* area (Pistorius 1994, 1995, 1996).

In the Bapedi (or Bakgatla) *kgoro* the *kgotla*, the holy-fire place, the *kgorong* and the main cattle kraal were spatially separated from the main body of the site. These features, as well as the main entrance to the *kgoro*, were located in a *letlatswa* that which was an appendix which fixed to the main body of the site. This spatial arrangement was recorded in Site ZK001 near Brits (Pistorius 1995).

4.2.3 A corridor between the dwellings and the kraal complex

An intervening space (or corridor) between the household dwellings and the centrally located kraal complexes was used for the circulation and movement of people and stock in the Batswana village. These corridors are clearly visible in SEL1 of Molokwane and in Site ZK001 of the Swartkoppies complex (Pistorius 1994, 1995, 1996). In Site NTG001 (Makgope) this corridor is not clearly visible. Here, the *malapa* of family groups are clustered in a slightly different pattern that in the Molokwane complex or in the Zwarkopjes complex of sites.

4.3 Other features associated with the Batswana *kgoro*

The Batswana village is usually associated with smaller spatial features and components such as the following:

- One or more entrances/exits located between the arch of dwellings. One of these entrances, usually the main entrance, is located directly opposite the main dwelling (or on the north-eastern perimeter of the site). It seems as if the *kgosing* usually has an entrance that gives direct access into the cluster of high status dwellings. This entrance is noticeable in SEL2 of Molokwane, Makgope, Malle and in Site ZK001.
- middens located outside and inside the village but usually well defined outside the village;
- platforms built with stone that served as stands for various types of granaries (such as grass baskets (*disigo*) or large clay pots (*difalana*). These platforms usually occur near huts and may either be located in the backyards or in the front-yards of *malapa*.
- stone platforms that in some instances also serve as entrances to court yards and courts; and
- stone artefacts such as upper and lower grinding stones, stones with flat working surfaces, stones on which marula pips were crushed, etc.

5 THE SETTLEMENTS ON MOGALESKRAAL

5.1 Macro settlement features

Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 were part of a cluster of three sites located on the flat summit of a relatively low, granite hill. The hill is elongated from the east to the west with Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 situated on the eastern part of the hill. The sites surveyed and investigated were designated Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 (Figure 2). A third settlement, the largest of this group but not investigated, is located approximately two hundred meters to the west of Site MOG002. Another two stone walled sites are located on the southern foot of the granite hill while a third followed by an unknown number of sites, are located still further to the west. This cluster, incorporating Site MOG001 and Site MOG002, is a formidable complex and has not yet been affected by granite mining activities. The cluster represents the remains of a historically significant Batswana group and warrants a detail Phase I investigation.

The tripartite division recognised in Batswana *motse* can be associated with Bakwena clans (Pistorius 1994, 1995, 1996). It is possible that Site MOG001, Site MOG002, the third settlement and the cluster of sites further to the west, together, may have constituted a Batswana village (or *motse*). These three sites (or clusters of sites) reflect the tripartite division recognised amongst the Bakwena Bamodimosana of Molokwane. The third site is the largest of the three, has thick deposits and was occupied by a larger community than Site MOG001 and Site MOG002. This site may have been the *kgosing* of a Batswana *motse*.

The *kgosing* In the Bakwena *motse* is usually located in the middle (or the centre, *fa gare*) of the village. The *kgosing* is the oldest and also the largest unit in the Batswana *motse*. The two *dintlha* divisions on opposing sides of the *kgosing* are usually located 'upstream' or 'downstream' or 'east' or 'west'. The *ntlha ya godimo*, or second highest ranking division in the *motse*, is also associated with a position that can be interpreted as 'higher up'. It is therefore highly likely that the cluster located furthest to the west and Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 located to the east may have been the *dintlha* sections of this Batswana *motse*. This assumption can best be tested against evidence provided by an aerial photograph of the cluster of sites.

Figure 1 - Different Late Iron Age settlement types identified in the Central Bankeveld of North-West

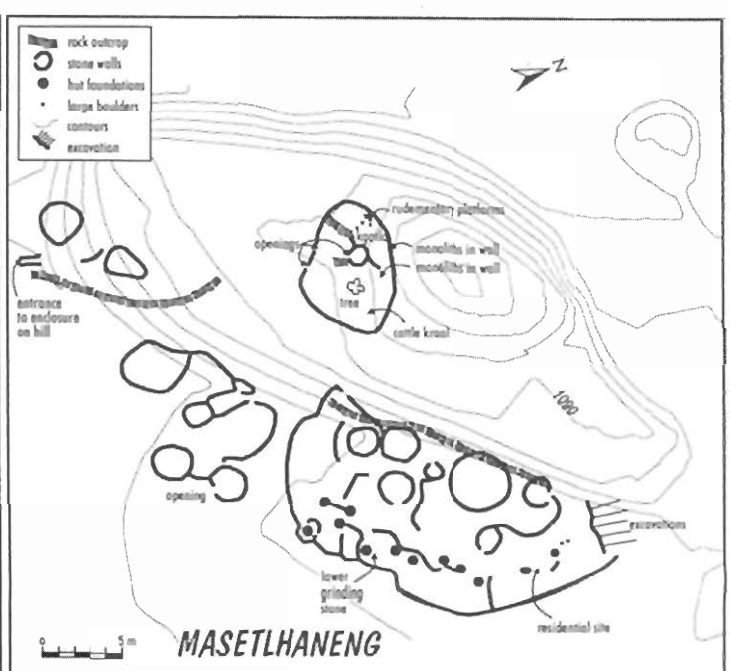
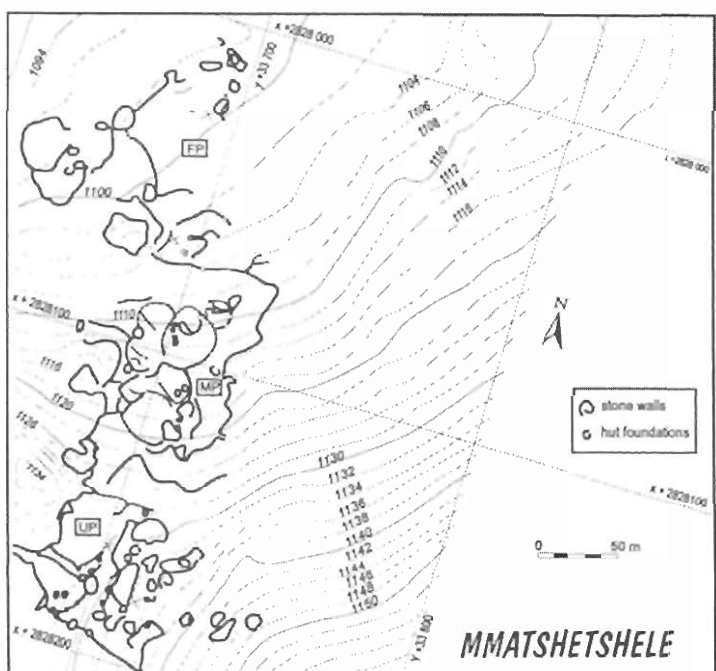
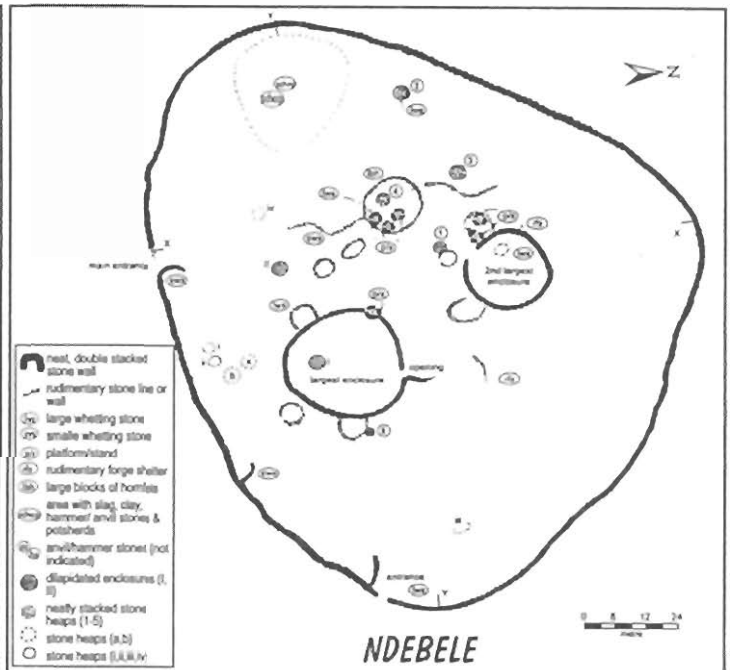
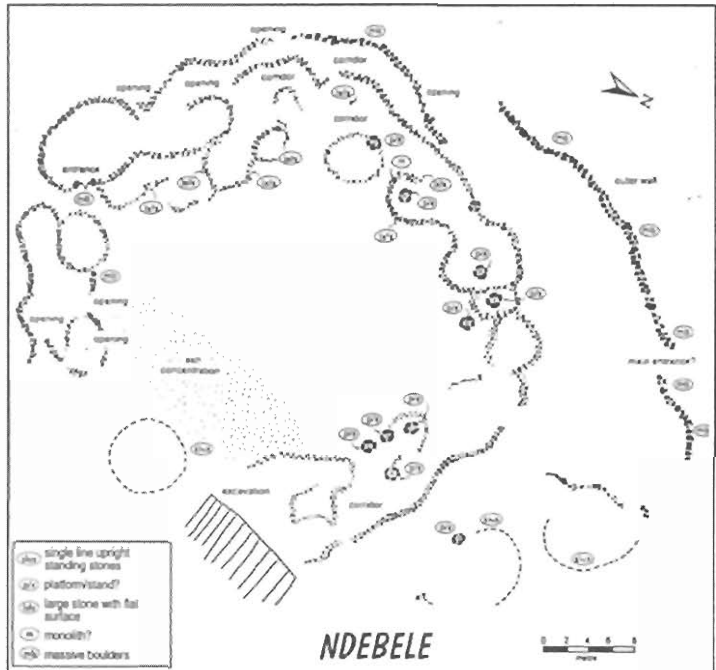
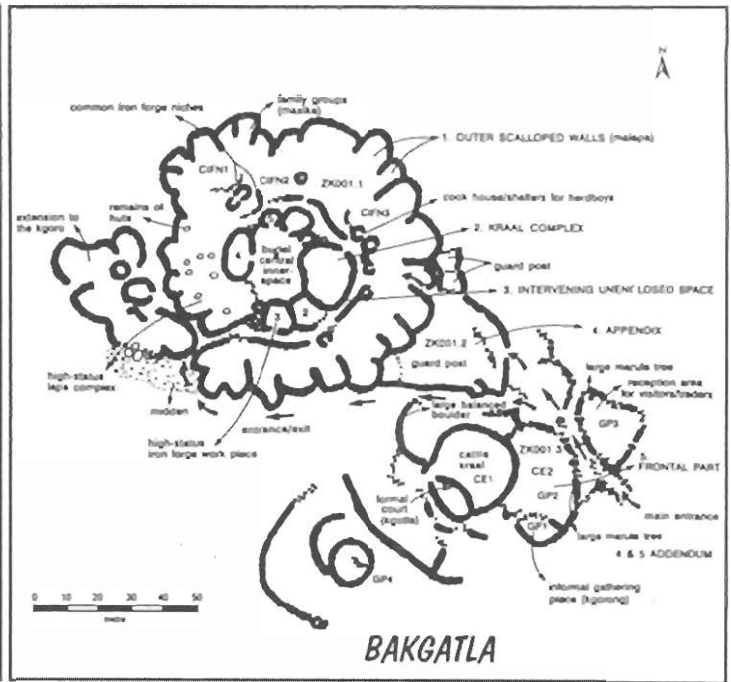
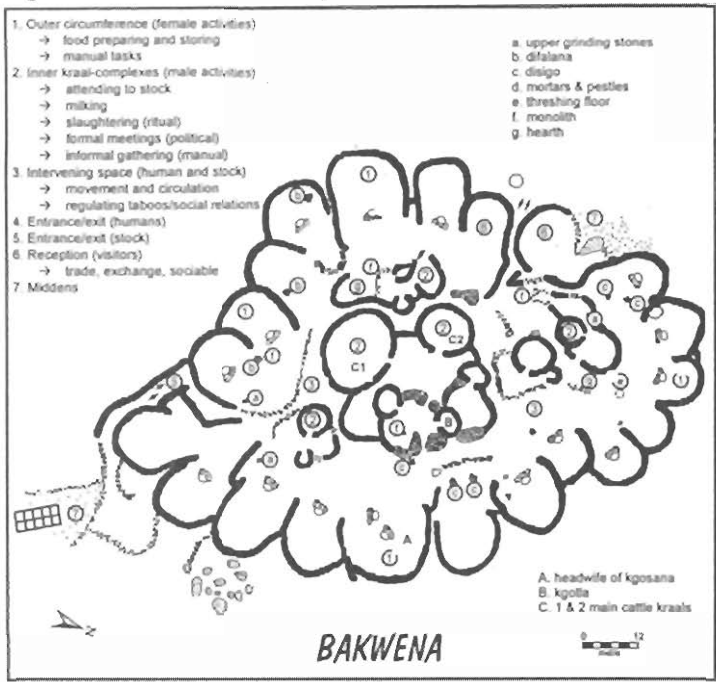
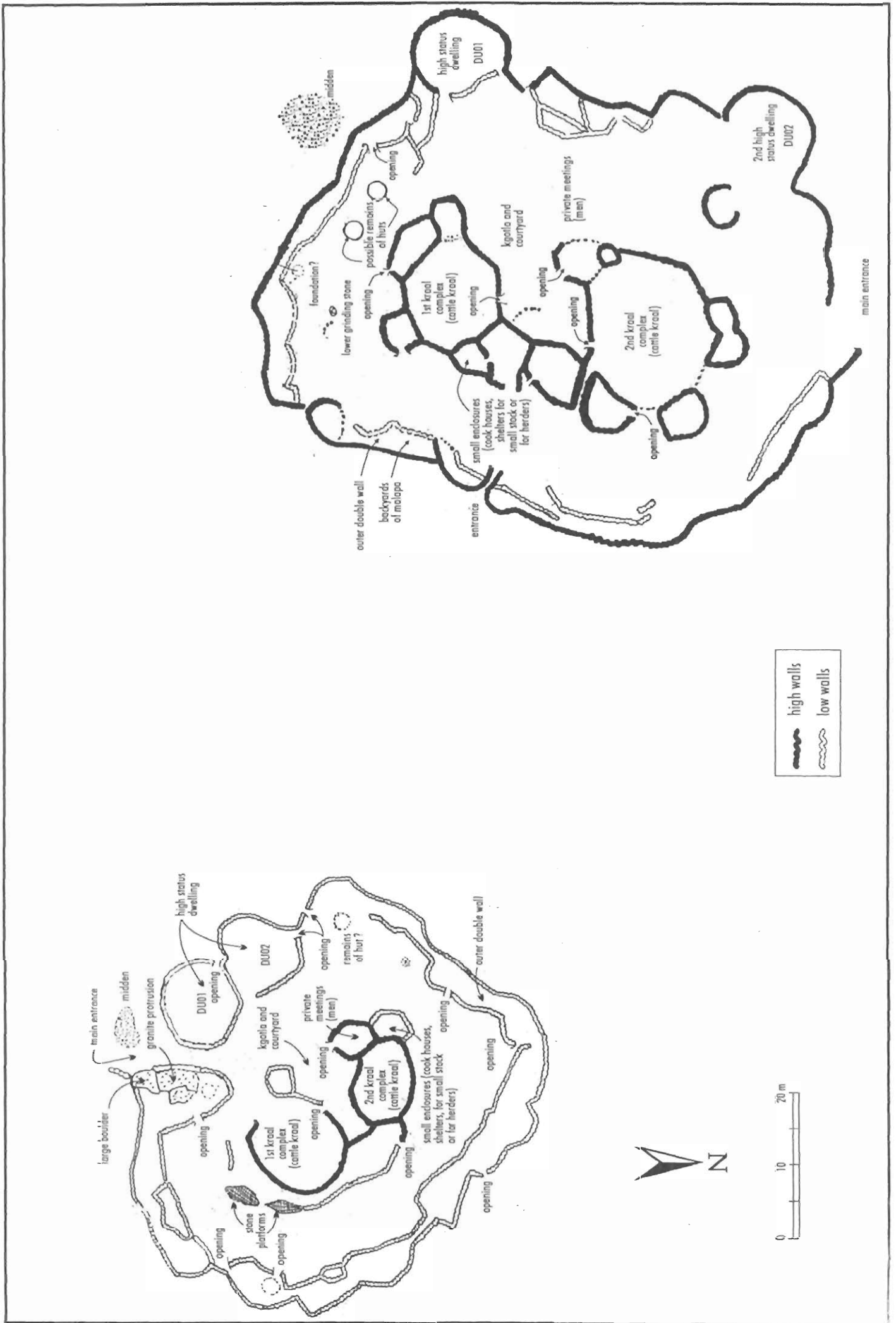


Figure 2 - The ground floor plans of Site MOG 001 and Site MOG 002. These sites are part of a formidable sphere of influence located in the Eastern part of Schaapkraal 292 JQ



5.2 Site MOG001

Site MOG001 has a diameter of approximately 58m from north to south and 55 metres from east to west. The site, therefore, has a circular ground floor plan that deviates from the elongated or oval shape that characterises settlements such as of SEL 1 (Molokwane), Malle or NTG001 (Makgope) (Figure 3) (Pistorius 1994; Pistorius, Steyn & Nienaber 1998). Site ZK001 (Zwartkopjes) and Site SEL2 (Molokwane) also has a circular ground floor plan (Pistorius 1995, 1996).

The largest part of the surface of Site MOG001 is located on level ground. A part of the southern perimeter of the site, including the main entrance with the large boulder, is situated on a slight rise. A midden is located next (or to the west) of the entrance when one enters the site from the south.

The site features the three main spatial components recognisable in Batswana villages, namely an outer tier that encircles centrally located kraal complexes. A corridor between these features facilitated the movement of people and stock in the settlement. Only one entrance is noticeable in the outer arch of dwellings. This entrance is located on the southern perimeter of the site and is marked by a massive boulder standing on the flat surface of a second boulder protruding from the surface.

The most immediate difference between Site MOG001 and other Batswana villages with outer scalloped walls (SEL 1, SEL 2, Site ZK001, Site NTG001 and Malle) is a double row of walls that encircled the centrally located kraal complexes. Clay nodules, characteristic of the remains of huts, were observed on one locality in Site MOG001 and on two localities in Site MOG002. In all three instances these clay occurred in front (outside) the double row of walls. Two of these concentrations of clay were excavated in the corridor of Site MOG002. No evidence for remains of solidly constructed hut floors was found beneath these clay concentrations.

Barely any evidence in Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 indicates that dwellings existed in either Site MOG001 or in Site MOG002. Neither is it clear whether these dwellings stood in front of the double walls or between the double walls (in the cells) in Site MOG002. The dwellings in Site MOG002 must have stood in front of the double walls as the narrow space between these walls can not contain any dwellings. The broad corridors between the outer walls and the centrally located kraal complexes in both sites, however, are a significant clue that some dwellings must have been built in this space. This doesn't, however, eliminate the possibility that dwellings may also have

been built in some of the cells (or between the double walls) in Site MOG001.

The double row of walls noticeable in Site MOG001 and in Site MOG002 must have served some function not quite clear yet. These functions were probably the same in the two sites. It is noticeable that the spaces between the double walls and the walls themselves differ in Site MOG001 and in Site MOG002. The double row of walls are equally high and spaced further from each other in Site MOG001 than in Site MOG002. The inner 'walls' in Site MOG002 do not really qualify as walls as they are merely one to two levels high. The space between the outer (high) wall and the inner (low) wall is also more restricted in Site MOG002 than in Site MOG001.

It can be presume that these low 'walls' in Site MOG002 served as backyards for *malapa* where food and utensils such as pots were stored. It is, however, not sure whether this assumption also applies for the double walled cells of Site MOG001. These spaces are large enough to contain small dwellings such as Nguni styled hemi-spherical grass huts. The surfaces of these cells, however, do not contain any refuse reminiscent of household activities (potsherds, ash concentrations). Such huts therefore may have been used for small stock or for storage purposes. The Matabele settlement north of Rustenburg also did not contain no household refuse due to the Nguni's custom to utilise perishable materials for building purposes and even as household utensils (Pistorius 1997a, 1997b).

Small animals such as goats could have been kept in some of the cells in huts or in the structures which are part of the walls. Goats provide a daily supply of milk when cows were kept at cattle stations far from villages. The outer ring of the Zulu or Matabele village (*umuzi*) is a comparable feature to the double walled spaces in Site MOG001 and Site MOG002. In the Nguni village this ring was filled with hemi-spherical grass huts standing up to six rows deep in large villages. Similar structures, built between the dwellings, were used to shelter goats. Storage platforms on which crop plants were stored also occurred in these spaces. If these platforms were built with wood, such as the platforms the Matabele built in their *imizi*, these structures would disintegrate and left no traces in the archaeological record.

Site MOG001's outer double row of walls is replaced with only three clearly defined scallops (DU01 to DU03). These dwellings are the largest and therefore the most important in the site. They occur on the south-western perimeter of the site. The high status dwellings in sites such as Site ZK001, Site SEL2, Site NTG001 (Makgope) and Malle were all located on the south-western perimeters of these sites (Pistorius 1995, 1996, 1998, 2001). These high status dwellings were also located on a rise or on a level

slightly higher than the surrounding dwellings. This high location is conspicuous in SEL2, Site NTG001 and Site ZK001. There is little doubt that these *malapa* (designated DU01 and DU02) are the high status living quarters of Site MOG001 and that they resemble *malapa* in Batswana villages.

The central kraal complex of Site MOG001 consists of one large enclosure, a medium sized enclosure, three small sized enclosures and a long, narrow space attached to the northern walls of the large and medium enclosure. One of the small enclosures is attached to the large enclosure and the other two small enclosures are attached to the medium sized enclosure. The entrance of only one of the small enclosures is clearly visible. A secondary space is formed between the large and the medium enclosure. This space faces towards the two high status dwellings, namely DU01 and DU02.

A clear spatial relation is noticeable between the main (or principal) dwelling, the court (*kgotla*) and a main cattle kraal in the Batswana *kgoro*. This spatial relation has been described as the Kwena spatial nexus and is obvious in Site SEL1 and in Site SEL2 (Pistorius 1994, 1996). It is therefore possible that the secondary area between the large and medium enclosures may have served as a court, a courtyard and a holy fire-place. These three features have also been identified in Site MOG002. The position of the holy fire-place in Site MOG001 is not clear. It is, however, possible that the small enclosure attached to the medium enclosure (with an entrance) may have served as a *kgotla* where judicial affairs and private gatherings of men took place.

It is significant that the courtyard gives access into the largest cattle kraal. This spatial association between the court, courtyard and the main cattle kraal is also conspicuous in Site MOG002. This site also has an entrance into the second largest cattle kraal. A similar entrance exists between one of the main cattle kraals in Site NTG001 (Makgope) and the courtyard in this settlement.

Figure 3. The ground floor plan of Site MOG001. The site closely resembles Site MOG002 in spatial composition but seems to be a smaller socio-political unit.

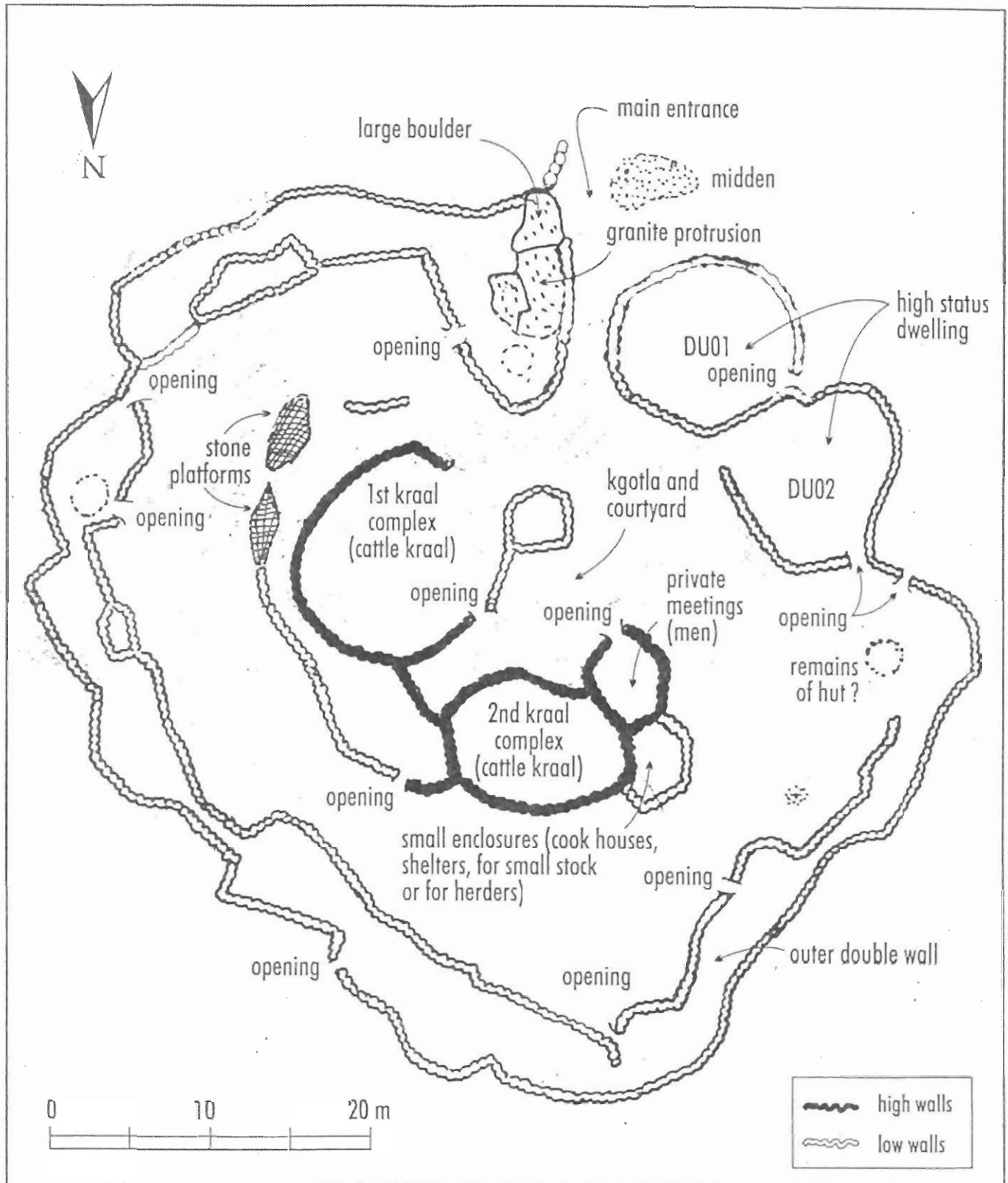


Figure 4. The main entrance into Site MOG001 is situated adjacent to a large natural boulder on the southern perimeter of the site. The entrance has a midden with a substantial deposit.



Figure 5. Part of the outer double wall units in Site MOG001. These double walls differ from the scalloped walls so characteristic of Batswana *dikgoro* such as SEL1, SEL2, Site NTG001 and Site ZK001.



Figures 6 & 7. The centrally located kraal complex of Site MOG001 comprises enclosures for stock, a courtyard, a *kgotla* and perhaps a holy fire-place (above and below).



5.3 Site MOG002

Site MOG002 has a diameter of 78 metres from south to north and 60 metres from west to east. The floor plan of this site is therefore more oval than circular as the case is with Site MOG001 (Figure 7). The site further reveals the three main components of Batswana villages, namely an outer tier of dwellings that encircle the centrally located kraal complexes. A broad corridor separates these components.

The double row of walls that encircle Site MOG001 is also present in Site MOG002. The space between the outer and the inner wall, however, differs from the space noticeable between the double wall of Site MOG001. The inner and outer walls in Site MOG001 do not differ in height or in prominence. The inner wall in Site MOG002, however, is low and less prominent than the inner wall in Site MOG001. The secondary space between the inner and outer walls of these two sites also differ in shape. The secondary space in Site MOG001 is much more spacious than the long narrow secondary spaces in Site MOG002.

Only four well defined scallops appear in the outer double wall of Site MOG002. These scallops occur at two localities in the outer wall, namely as a single scallop or dwelling unit (DU01) on the south-western perimeter of the site and as two to of three scallops (DU01 to DU03) on the north-western perimeter of the site. The spatial location of the single dwelling unit (DU01) corresponds with the spatial location of the two scallops in Site MOG001 identified as the main dwellings in the site. It has already been pointed out that this position is associated with the ruler in sites such as SEL2, Site NTG001 (Makgope), Malle and Site ZK001. There is thus little doubt that this dwelling can be associated with the ruler of Site MOG002. The position of a possible *kgotla*, between the two kraal complexes, and therefore opposite DU01 further supports the statement that DU01 served as the main dwelling of Site MOG002.

Both the single scallop on the south-western perimeter of the site and the three scallops on the north-western perimeter of the site are positioned opposite each of the two kraal complexes located in the middle of Site MOG002. Each of these kraal complexes comprises of a single large enclosure to which smaller enclosures are attached. The two large enclosures served as cattle byres. The entrances into the small enclosures face outwards, towards the dwellings. These small enclosures probably served as gathering places for herd-boys (*badisa*). Similar structures occur in Site ZK001 where these enclosures are separated from the kraal complex by a corridor. It was suggested that these structures served as cookhouses as each of them was associated with a cluster of

dwelling (Pistorius 1995). It is even possible that that these structures served as kraals for small stock.

A secondary space, located directly opposite DU01, is created between the two kraal complexes. A single row of upright standing stones is visible on the surface of this area. These stones may have been the foundation of a wall built with wood or clay. The secondary space between the two kraal complexes and the small enclosure attached to the second kraal complex (facing into the secondary area and located opposite to DU01) must have served as the public court and courtyard. This area may also have contained the holy fire-place (demarcated by a wooden or clay wall) and a private gathering or meeting place for men (possibly the small enclosure). The court and courtyard was probably demarcated with a wooden fence whose remains since has disappeared.

The secondary space associated with the court and courtyard in Site MOG002 closely resembles the secondary space and therefore the spatial composition and layout of the court and court yard in Site MOG001. These two spatial components resemble each other in the following way:

- The courts and court-yards in both sites are set between two kraal complexes.
- Both courts and court-yards are located opposite the main or high status dwelling in each of the sites.
- Both spatial units have an entrance into the largest enclosure of one of the kraal complexes (Site MOG001) or entrances into both the large enclosures of both kraal complexes (Site MOG002).
- Both the courts and court yard areas have two small enclosures attached to each of the two kraal complexes in the two sites. One or both these small enclosures in each of the two sites could have served as the court and/or the private meeting place for men.
- The Kwena spatial nexus which describes a spatial relation between a main (or high status) dwelling, a main cattle kraal with a court and court-yard is noticeable in both Site MOG001 and in Site MOG002.

5.4 General observations with regard to Site MOG001 and Site MOG002

Other observations in Site MOG001 and in Site MOG002 include:

Both sites are associated with middens located on the outside perimeters of both sites. These middens occur in both sites near the high status dwellings in both sites. The middens are relatively shallow suggesting, together with the few remains associated with both sites, that the sites may not be as old as some of the radio-carbon dates suggest.

It is possible to distinguish different sections (cells or units) along the double outer perimeter walls of both sites. These sections delineate dwelling units associated with the various family groups (*masika*) occupying these sites. At least four to five family groups occupied both sites. These sections, cells or units differ totally from the clustered groups of scallops that are associated with the *masika* occupying sites such as SEL1, SEL2, Site NTG001, Site ZK001 and Malle.

Very few artefacts and features are associated with the two settlements. Only one lower grinding stone was observed in Site MOG002. At least one or two flat stones with working surfaces were observed in this site. Very few potsherds occur on the surfaces of these sites.

Due the scarcity of surface material in Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 it can be said that these settlements appear to be 'poor' with regard to material remains. This may be attributed to the fact that these sites are relatively young or that the inhabitants of these sites made use of perishable materials to built their huts and to manufacture household equipment. The Matabele settlements north of Rustenburg contained very little archaeological material. This may have been due to the fact that the Matabele occupied these sites for a relatively short period (c. 1827 to 1832) before they left the Central Bankeveld. A second reason may have been the fact that the Nguni utilised less tangible material (such as branches/laths and grass) to built their dwellings. The Nguni also used plant material (such as curcubits) as containers or wood to manufacture plates and other utensils. The Matabele built small hemi-spherical dwellings with thatch and grass. All these material items would have left few remains in the archaeological record (Pistorius 1997a, 1997b)

Figure 8. The ground floor plan of Site MOG002 resembles that of Site MOG001. Site MOG002 has larger kraal complexes and more family groups (*masika*) occupying this site than Site MOG001. It seems as if this site is a more complex unit than site MOG001.

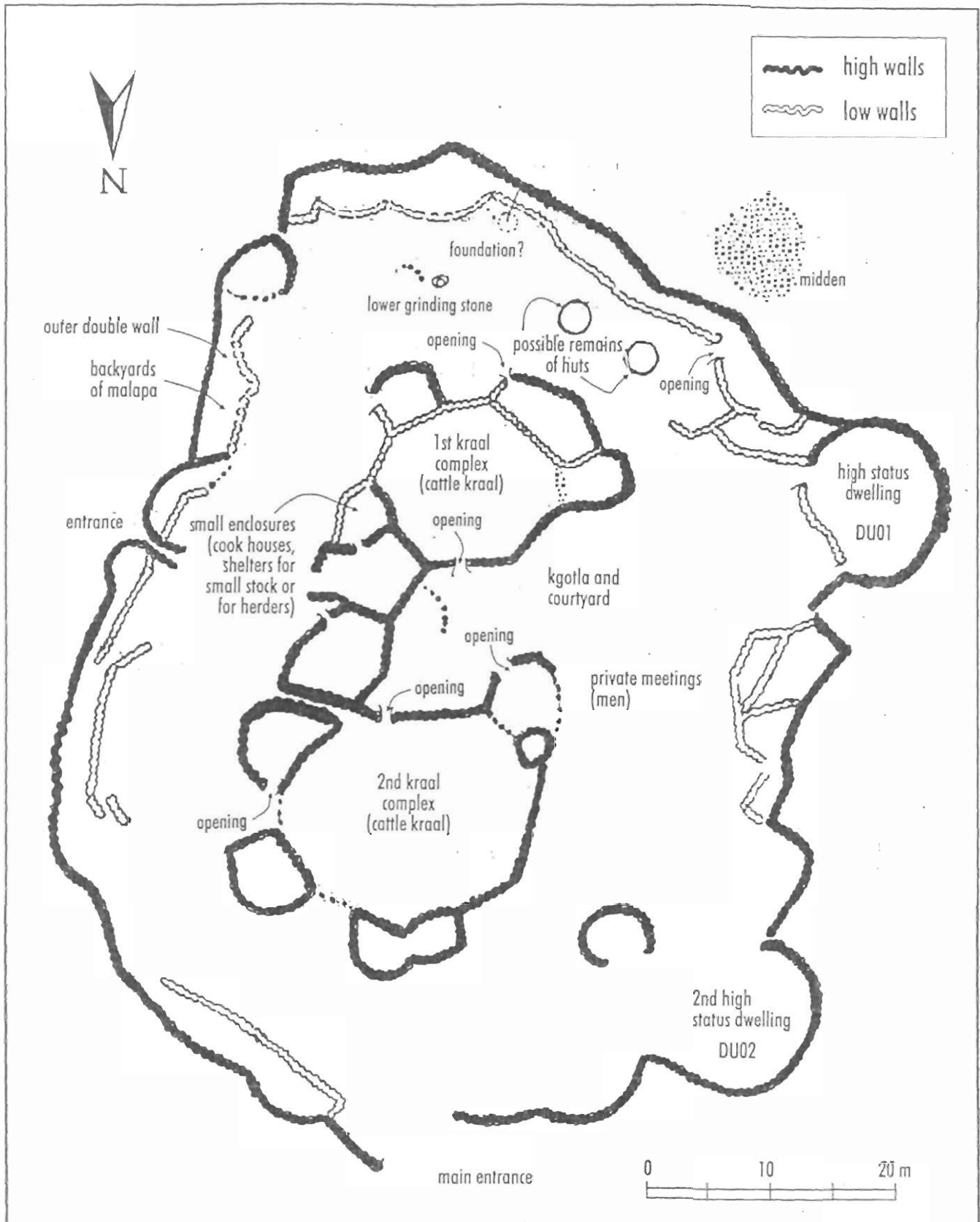


Figure 9. Part of the outer scalloped wall of Site MOG002. *Malapa* with scalloped backyards are not a characteristic feature of Site MOG001 and Site MOG002. The double outer perimeter walls of these sites differ from the scalloped walls in other Batswana villages. Double outer perimeter walls are unique to sites located in the eastern parts of Schaapkraal. These double walls served as backyards for dwellings and may have been used for domestic activities such as cooking and storing. Small stock (goats) could have been kept in hemi-spherical dwellings in these structures.



Figure 10. Excavating a midden on the southern perimeter of Site MOG002. Remains of fauna, carbon and potsherds were retrieved from the midden.

Analytic no (Pta) CSIR	Sample	Radiocarbon age Years BP	Calibrated date AD
8128	Square A, layer 1	200±40	1667(1678)1692;1726(1748,1804)1814
8132	Square A, layer 2	100±50	Most probable date AD1900
8135	Square A, layer 3	150±45	1680(1698,1722)1742;1805(1828,1877,1928)1951
8191	Square B, layer 1	90±45	Most probable date AD 1900

Table 1. Radiocarbon dates for Site MOG002

6 CLUSTER SCH022 ON SCHAAPKRAAL 292JQ

The farm Schaapkraal was one of the first localities where granite mining commenced in the Rustenburg district as early as 1950 and perhaps earlier. Consequently, few of the granite kopjes in the heart of this farm are still unaffected by these activities. A Phase I survey revealed the presence of approximately 31 settlements and clusters of settlements on Schaapkraal. One of the sites in the eastern part of the farm was subjected to a Phase II investigation. This site was called Site SCH022.1 in the addendum to Kudu Granite's Environmental Management Programme report.

The settlements discovered on Schaapkraal 292JQ occur in clusters. It is possible that these clusters may represent different levels of social-political groupings such as chiefdoms, sub-chiefdoms or lineage groups. These spheres of influence existed during the last 500 years and mostly comprised of Sotho-Tswana groupings. It is, however, clear from the settlements still existing that several formidable spheres of influence must have existed on Schaapkraal. Due to the scale of destruction caused by granite mining, however, it is difficult to reconstruct these spheres of influence with a great degree of certainty. Large settlements or clusters of settlements that can still be distinguished include Cluster SCH022, Cluster SCH028 and Site SCH029.

6.1 Macro settlement features

Cluster SCH022 is located to the north of the Minaco Mine offices and is situated directly to the north of an abandoned workshop. The cluster is inconspicuous as it is situated between a range of low granite knolls that are covered by dense vegetation. The cluster covers a considerable surface but the southern part was destroyed during mining activities. Cluster SCH022 is clearly the remains of a large Batswana *motse* consisting of several *dikgoro*. Only one settlement in the cluster was investigated, namely Site SCH022.1

Site SCH022.1 is characterised by elaborate stone walls. A limited number of potsherds were observed on the site's surface. Clay nodules in the corridor in the north-eastern part of the site indicate that clay dwellings were built in this part of the site between the kraal complexes and the site's outer perimeter wall.

6.2 Site SCH022.1

Site SCH022.1 resembles other Batswana villages in its spatial composition although slight differences do occur. The site is composed of an arch of dwellings that encircle

centrally located kraal complexes. The site has a circular ground plan and its diameter is approximately 87 metres in all directions. A corridor separates the dwellings on the outer perimeter from the centrally located kraal complexes (Figure 11).

The dwellings located on the southern perimeter of the site were destroyed by mining activities. The northern perimeter, a part of the western perimeter as well as the largest part of the eastern perimeter of the site is still intact. The northern perimeter of the site contains at least six scallops. The north-eastern perimeter of the site consists of a few short walls with no definite floor plan. The western perimeter of the site consists of structures that are clearly not scalloped shaped. This part of the outer perimeter of the site contains sections or cells partly corresponding with the double row of walls described in Site MOG001. These structures (or cells) are also formed by double rows of walls and have rectangular shapes. They are to some extent comparable to those in Site MOG001 as all the walls of each structure or cell are equally high. A few of these structures also occur in the south-eastern part of Site SCH022.1, but more towards the central part of the site than towards the perimeter.

Due to the fact that the dwellings on the southern perimeter of Site SCH022.1 were destroyed, it is not sure what these dwellings looked like. Did they include *malapa* associated with scalloped backyards or did these dwellings resemble those that occur on the western perimeter of the site?

It seems apparent that Site SCH022.1's main dwelling was located on the south western perimeter of the site if the spatial composition of Batswana villages (including Site MOG001 and Site MOG002) is used as a guideline. This part of the settlement was located on low rising granite knolls which, together with the dwellings, were destroyed during mining activities. There is little doubt that the high status dwelling(s) in Site SCH022.1 was located on a slightly higher elevation than the surrounding dwellings.

Remains of clay nodules in the corridor in the north-eastern part of Site SCH022.1 indicate that dwellings built with clay were built in a part of Site SCH022.1. It is, however, not sure whether similar dwellings were built in the western part or in the eastern part of the site.

The outer double row of walls on the western perimeter of Site SCH022.1 partly resembles the outer double wall of Site MOG001. These double walled sections or cells however, are further demarcated from the central kraal complex with a third wall with openings/entrances giving access to these sections or cells. Some of the sections or cells have openings giving access into these spaces. Circular foundation stones are

noticeable in front of one of these sections (cells) which, however has no opening/entrance itself.

The sections or cells, although limited in Site SCH022.1, seem to have a spatially more complex arrangement than the outer double row in Site MOG001 and the more simple version in Site MOG002. The sections or cells exist as individual entities demarcated from Site SCH022.1 with a wall. It is possible that these cells which must have served as dwelling units with possible storage places may have been part of the site located adjacent (or to the west) of Site SCH022.1. These cells were therefore probably not part of Site SCH022.1 any more.

It is possible that Site SCH022.1 is composed of two kraal complexes. Only one of these complexes, however, can clearly be distinguished. This kraal complex comprises of at least one large cattle enclosure spatially linked with a second enclosure. These two enclosures are considered to be the cattle kraal, a court and a courtyard. There is little doubt that the main cattle enclosure, court and courtyard do in fact represent these structures as they are located directly opposite to the area where the main dwelling(s) used to exist. The Kwena spatial nexus which describes a spatial relation between a main cattle kraal, a court and the high status dwellings (which was destroyed) therefore also exists in Site SCH022.1.

The court and courtyard is situated partly on the bare surface of a granite boulder. A small area in the court may have been demarcated with a wooden fence as indicated by a row of stones. The bare surface of the granite boulder adjacent to the court may have served as the courtyard. The court and courtyard is raised above the cattle enclosure and the surrounding dwellings as the granite boulder on which these structures were built protrude above these structures.

An unknown feature built with stones occurs near the entrance of the *kgotla*. This feature is circular in shape and has the appearance of the basin of a hearth built with stones. It is tempting to suggest that this structure served as the holy fire-place (Figure 16).

An intricate group of enclosures, designated the second kraal complex, were built adjacent (to the east) of the cattle enclosure and the court. It is possible that these structures were not yet completed before Site SCH022.1 was abandoned. This assumption may hold some truth when considering the absence of dwellings on the eastern perimeter of the site as well as the fact that some of the sections or cells in this part of the site seem not to be completed.

Figure 11. The ground floor plan of Site SCH022.1. The high status living quarters of this site was destroyed by mining activities.

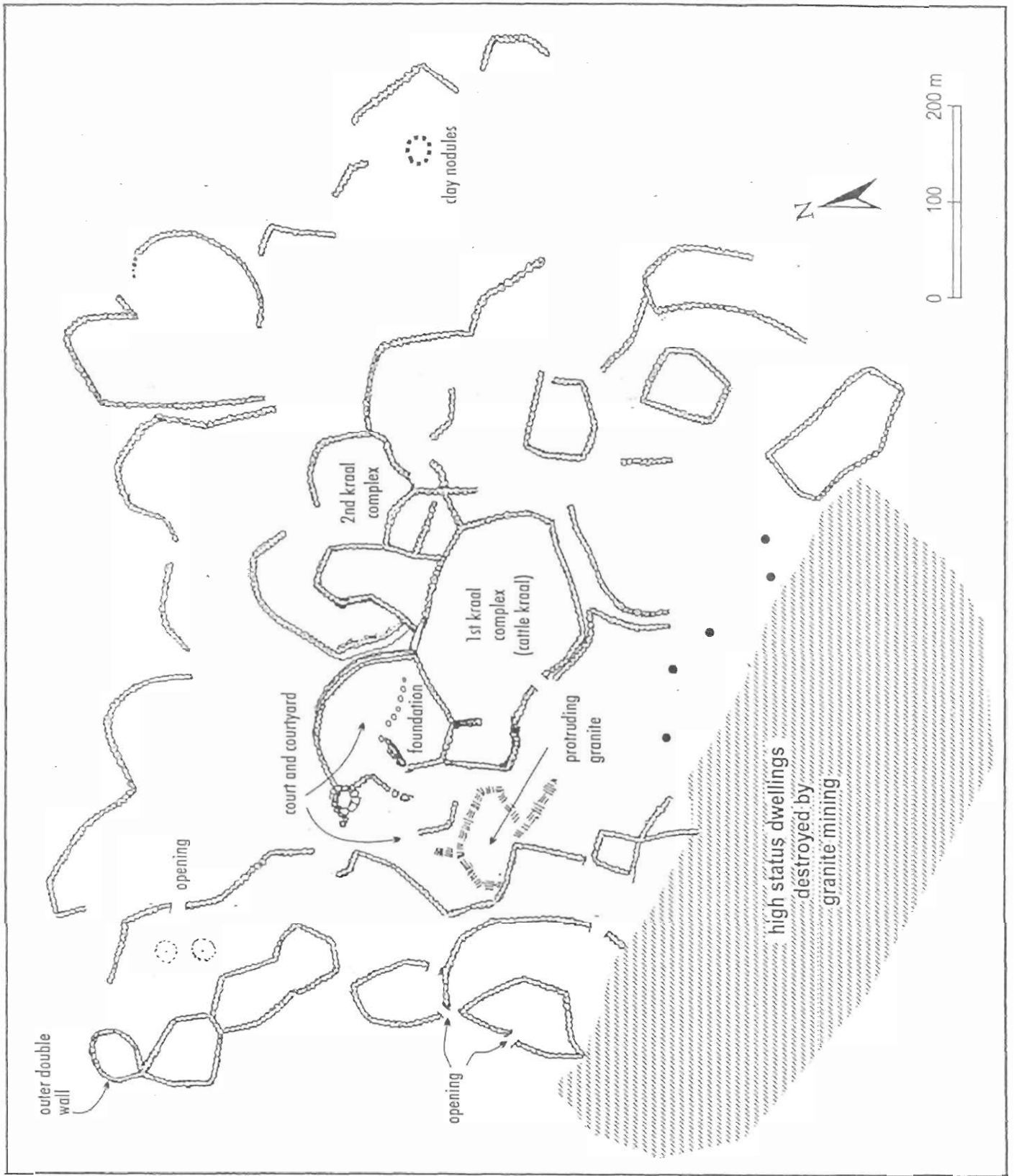


Figure 12. A view on the *kgotla* in Site SCH022.1. Note the large boulders used to built the entrance to this structure.



Figure 13. A closer view of the *kgotla* in Site SCH022.1. Note the bare surface of the granite boulder on which this structure and the adjacent courtyard (not visible on the photo) was built.

Figure 14. A close up view of the *kgotla*'s entrance. Upright standing stones, part of the holy fire-place, can be seen to the right of the entrance. Also note the other upright standing stones in the wall of the *kgotla*.

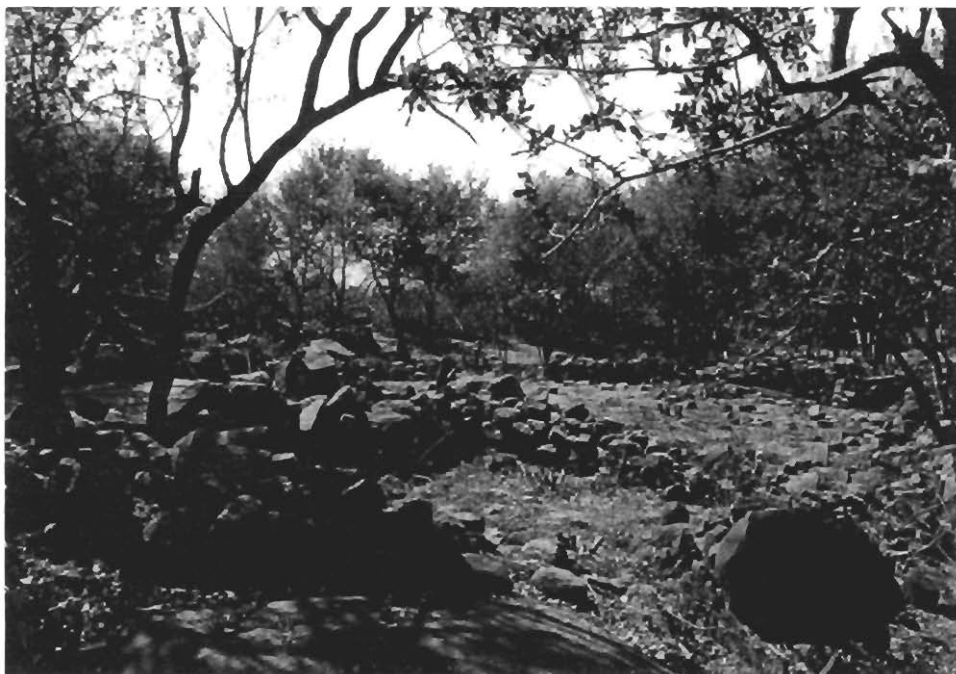


Figure 15. A view of the *kgotla* from the courtyard. Note how high the *kgotla* is located above the surrounding dwellings.

Figure 16. The structure next to the entrance of the *kgotla*. This feature may have been a hearth and therefore may have served such as the holy fire-place. The fire in the holy fire-place was kept burning at all times.



Figure 17. A view on the eastern perimeter of Site SCH022.1 where few stone walls were built for dwellings. The eastern part of the settlement was probably not completed before the site was abandoned.

7 CONCLUSION

The three settlements on Schaapkraal and on Mogaleskraal resemble each other in certain respects but also have differences. The most obvious resemblance is the circular to oval arrangement of dwellings in an arch that encloses centrally located kraal complexes. These two components are separated from each other by a corridor. The corridor enhances the movement and circulation of people and stock through the settlement. The outer tier of the corridor also contained the frontal parts of dwellings in settlements that have an outer scalloped wall as part of the Batswana village (*kgoro*) such as SEL1, SEL2, Site NTG001 (Makgope), Site ZK001 and Malle.

Dwellings that encircle centrally located enclosures are the basic characteristics of a Batswana village whether it is on the level of the *kgorwana*, *kgoro* or *kgosing* (Pistorius 1994, 1996, 1999). Other resemblance between the sites on Schaapkraal and on Mogaleskraal is a spatial relationship between a main dwelling and a kraal complex that accommodates a main cattle enclosure, a court and a courtyard (*kgotla*). The court and courtyard included a small enclosure where men could discuss private (political) affairs. This spatial relation has been described as the Kwena spatial nexus and can be recognised in settlements such as SEL1 and SEL2.

The Kwena spatial nexus may have originated amongst Sotho-Tswana clans who had the *kwena* (crocodile) as a totem. It is possible that this spatial expression may have changed or may have been re-adapted by new emerging Batswana groups who may have adopted new totems, such as the Bakgatla. Bakgatla sites studied at Zwartkopjes near Brits (Site ZK001) do not reveal the Kwena spatial nexus. These sites are characterised by the *letlatswa* that can be described as an addendum attached to the frontal part of the Batswana *kgoro*. The *letlatswa* contained the main entrance into the village, the *kgotla*, the *kgorong* and the holy fire-place.

The most obvious difference between Site SCH022.1, Site MOG001 and Site MOG002 and other Batswana villages is the absence of an outer scalloped wall and the presence of an outer double wall in these villages. Site MOG001, Site MOG002 and Site SCH022.1, therefore, do not have dwelling units (*malapa*) associated with scallops as part of the outer perimeter of these villages. It is interesting to note that the only few scallops that do occur in the outer perimeter walls of these sites are located in positions on the south-western perimeter of both sites where they are associated with high status. The scalloped walls in these two sites are subsequently associated with the rulers and the ruling families of these two sites.

The appearance of the outer walls in Site MOG001, Site MOG002 and in Site SCH022.1 that are associated with the dwellings in these sites, differ. While the inner and outer walls of Site MOG001 are of equal height, those of Site MOG002 differ in height. The inner wall in Site MOG002 can hardly be described as a wall as these structures were merely built with three to four levels of stone. There is, however, some resemblance between the dwellings in Site MOG001 and in Site MOG002. The dwelling structures on parts of the outer perimeter of Site SCH022.1, however, differ from that of Site MOG001 and Site MOG002. The most obvious difference is the fact that the dwelling units in this site are associated with rectangular or roughly square units (or cells) A third wall with openings (or entrances) was built in front of these cells. These cells are most prominent on the western perimeter of Site SCH022.1.

It appears that the outer double walls in Site MOG001 and in Site MOG002 served as backyards to dwellings that were built in front (outside) these double walls. The spaces in these backyards were probably used as storage places for plant foods and for utensils. It is also possible that small structures, such as hemi-spherical huts built with grass, could have been erected in these spaces, particularly in Site MOG001 where these spaces are large. Small animals such as goats could have been kept in these spaces to provide a readily available supply of milk.

The square to rectangular cells on the western perimeter of Site SCH022.1 probably served as the dwellings for Site SCH022.1. These dwelling units were demarcated with a wall with entrances from the central kraal complex. The remains of possible dwellings (such as upright foundation stones) were observed in at least one location in front of these cells. It is not sure whether the square to rectangular cells have been supplied with roofs or whether small dwellings (such as hemi-spherical grass huts) were built inside these structures. Some of the cells are too large to have served as dwellings themselves while others were too small for dwellings to have been built inside them..

It is possible that all three settlements may be associated with the Bakwena Bamogale (or Bapo) who claims to be of Nguni descent. The original nucleus of this group originated from Kwa Zulu/Natal in the sixteenth century. It is therefore possible that ancient Nguni characteristics may be found in settlements associated with this group. Such cultural features may occur in settlements that are associated with this group.

The outer double wall in Site MOG001 and in Site MOG002 may have served a similar function than the outer tier of the Nguni (Zulu, Ndebele, Matabele) residential village (*umuzi*). In the Nguni residential site (*umuzi*) this tier contained hemi-spherical dwellings for the inhabitants of the site as well as similar looking huts for small stock such as goat.

Platforms built with wood and on which crop plants were stored were connected to these dwellings and shelters.

The nature, extent and functions of double walled dwellings and of cells associated with dwellings and located on the outer perimeter of settlements on the farm Schaapkraal and Mogaleskraal, will only become clearer when more of these settlements have been studied. It is necessary that these structures and features be studied through excavations and through the comparison of these remains with ethnographic descriptions of the use of storage and dwelling space amongst groups such as the Batswana, Nguni and the Ndebele.

According to the radio-carbon dates five possible dates can be distinguished for Site MOG001 and therefore probably also for Site MOG001 and Site SCH022.1, namely:

- during the last quarter of the 17th century (AD1678, 1698);
- during the first quarter of the 18th century (AD1722);
- during the second quarter of the 18th century (AD1748);
- during the first three decades of the 19th century (AD1804, 1828); and
- during the last quarter of the 19th century (AD1877).

It is interesting to note that no dates for the second half of the 18th century (AD1750 to 1800) were recorded for Site MOG002. This may be due to the limited number of radio-carbon dates available for the site. It is less likely that the site was abandoned during this period.

It is possible that the site may have been occupied, uninterrupted, from the last quarter of the 17th century to the fourth quarter of the 19th century (AD1678 to 1877). The scarcity of archaeological deposits and material on Site MOG001 and Site MOG002, however, seems to contradict such a possibility.

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