

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY – ADAM’S CALENDAR

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Anomalous free standing rocks appear on top of the escarpment near Kaapse Hoop. These rocks are out of context with the underlying quartzites. They display characteristics that warrant further investigation.

Above the Black Reef quartzite of the escarpment stand numerous doleritic rocks.

1) These doleritic rocks exhibit:

- a) Freestanding anomaly – their shapes and mass configuration suggest that they should be horizontal but this is not the case – (Adams Calendar , Pg 63 , Pg 115)
- b) Striations or Gouging anomaly – appear on different surfaces of the same rock – these striations are not necessarily parallel or linear which one would expect if glacial erosion had occurred (A.C – Pg 39 , Pg 41, Pg 12 , Pg 103, Pg 104, Pg 105)
- c) Shape’s anomaly – Shapes not consistent with natural erosion ; We see ‘dumb-bell’ (A.C Pg 92)
- d) Clustering anomaly – The preponderance of free standing rocks along the escarpment ridge (A>C – Pg 102)

2) The doleritic rocks are not found ‘in-situ’ but occur as free standing monolithic rocks embedded in topsoil resting on quartzites. A doleritic sill appears down the slope about a kilometer away.

From the observable field data we can conclude that the doleritic freestanding monolithic rocks were transported uphill from the doleritic sill. They were arranged indicate that the rocks have been worked.

The striations suggest carving or gouging was undertaken on some rocks. Clustering suggests a premeditated plan was adhered to.

It is recommended that further investigation be implemented from a geological perspective to obtain

- A) A thorough “ground map” of doleritic monoliths
- B) A possible dating of the site using:
 - i) Astroarchaeological techniques.
 - ii) Patina growth studies.
 - iii) Erosion studies
 - iv) Potassium –argon dating

The first studies on erosion are about to commence under the guidance of Prof. Jan Neethling at NMMU (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University). But more needs to be done.

Ruined Stone Structures – Mpumalanga, Gauteng, North-West

The predominant rock type used in the construction of stone ruins stretching from Barberton all the way to Swartruggens is known as hornfels.

Hornfels is a fine-grained nonfoliated metamorphic rock. It is produced by contact metamorphism. Hornfels is a rock that was "baked" while near a heat source such as a magma chamber, sill or dike. The composition of the specimens used in majority of the explored ruins is very specific and constant throughout the area. It indicates a very “conscious” use of this specific rock.

Most of the rocks show extensive water exposure with rounded edges, indicating that they were first exposed to fast flowing water for very long periods (thousands to millions of years) before they were used to construct the walled enclosures. It also suggests that they were often transported over large distances of several kilometers to the construction site.

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Many of the rocks used in the construction of the stone walls show signs of being worked and shaped by unexplained means. The hornfels occurring in the walled enclosures display patina growth, in some cases up to 10 mm in thickness. A detailed study of patina growth by electron microscopy may reveal relative or even absolute dates for particular rocks within the structures depending on their occurrence below or above the ground. These features and characteristics warrant further investigation.