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MGUNGUNDLOVU

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HONOURS THESIS

DEPT. of ARCHAEOLOGY

U.C.T.

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AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH (TAKEN 1937)



PHOTO 1

MOUNGUNDLOVU VIEWED FROM THE HILL TOP (SANGONYANE); THE
ISIGODLO IS SITUATED JUST ABOVE THE TENTS (SEEN IN THE CENTRE-RIGHT);
THE CENTRE DHEIE KRAAL IMMEDIATELY BELOW THE NEAREST EUPHORBIA TREE
AND THE WARRIOR SECTION STRETCHING DOWNSLOPE TO THE RIGHT & LEFT OF THE ISIGODLO

INTRODUCTION

I. The development of the nineteenth century Zulu state has been the subject of a large amount of attention, not only recently, but ever since the European world became aware of the Dingiswayan and Shakan era. However, the questions which are related to this paper, belong to a slightly different set of problems. The question is not so much - how did the Zulu state come about? - but rather- how did it operate during subsequent years? It is within this field of historical inquiry that the importance of Mgungundlovu data is associated. Its value lies in acting as a basis for future research, on its own it has only a limited set of information to offer.

Except for a section in the introductory text, the slant in this paper is purely empirical, aspatial and synchronic. The description of the Mgungundlovu settlement is firstly intended to present a documentary/quantitative record of the hut floors and their related features and positions from data collected during 1974 & 75 excavations there. Secondly, the availability of historical information either related directly to Mgungundlovu or to other similar kraal sites makes it possible to reconstruct particular aspects of the archaeological record. On the other hand the excavations have provided a test for the historically derived information. It will be illustrated that the two sets of data compare favourably except in a few cases which are obviously the results of blatant guesswork on the part of the earlier observers.

It must be emphasized that this paper is primarily concerned with/...

with architecture and site layout, it does not include an analysis of pottery, beads, faunal remains or other objects collected from the midden, hut and grainpit excavations. Such data, however, obviously lends itself towards an interpretation of hut function and other aspects of the way in which the site was used; but an approach of this kind has been avoided for two reasons. Firstly, the analysis of this data is far from completion¹ and secondly, the sample has been complicated by pillaging ever since the abandonment of the site in 1838², the description below being an unfortunate but interesting example. An article in the Advertiser (Brink 1936) titled, "South Africa's strangest auction sale. How Dingaan's Household was sold" records the sale of articles found at Mgungundlovu by the victorious boer commando. Items sold included; porcelain mugs (kommetjies), vegetable dishes, cut glass salt cellars, silver teapots, milk jugs, "twenty-two cups and saucers of the finest porcelain figure on the inventory," (op.cit.) dozens of silver knives and teaspoons, several cruet stands, half a dozen soup tureens and many toilet sets, a fine silver jug (sold for 300 riksdaler); many brass door knobs, hinges, locks and keys; two bottles of hair oil; hundreds of strings of beads; a calvary sabre, 47 guns and a copper kettle. "A strange feature of the sale was the exceptionally large stock of copper, in the form of wire and ingots, found in Dingaan's kraal. Sufficient copper for several thousand bangles or bracelets." (op.cit.) "According to J. Bantjies, secretary to the Commandant-General, Andries Pretorius, the total proceeds of the sale were 5,915 riksdalders, approximately £443 12s." (op.cit.)

*Mandela
Landscape*

II. SOURCES. Data used in this paper has been derived primarily from two sources, archaeological and historical.

Two seasons have been spent on excavations at Mgungundlovu,³ during January 1974 and July 1975. The field crew consisted of staff and student members of the Dept. Archaeology, U.C.T. During some 6 weeks of work at the site 38 hut floors were exposed whilst data from 10 other floors excavated previously by a Mr Chadwick⁴ was recorded. A tachimeter survey of the site was also carried out in which the positions of 178 located hut floors and 4 grainpits were measured. In the addition to the excavation of hut floors, samples were taken from 4 middens and a section through one of the grainpits was obtained. There are obviously many more hut floors and other features which have not been recorded, the reason for this has been the low recovery yield of manual surveys⁵ and the inability of other techniques to make any form of contribution. Due to vegetation coverage (see photographs 1, 20+21 for example) and simple non-visibility of features, aerial photography failed to produce any useful information, whilst proton-magnetometer and resistivity surveys proved too inconsistent to be of use.

Unlike other excavated archaeological sites there is a good deal of related first hand information given in the diaries of visitors to Dingane and to be found in particular pieces of ethnographic and historical research. The principal sources of the first kind, come from Fynn(1950), whose diary describes events in Natal and Zululand between 1824-1836 and who himself visited/....



CPT. GARDNER
AFTER VISITING
DINGANE'S HAREM



DINGANE'S
BATH

visited Mgungundlovu during April and August 1831, his friend Isaacs also left us an account of his experiences in Zululand (1830-1831), during which time he visited Dingane on four occasions (see Table 202) (Isaacs 1937, Bird 1965). Andrew Smith, on somewhat of a spying mission, visited Dingane in 1832 (Kirby 1955). The missionary and traveller Cpt Gardiner describes three of his visits to Dingane during the year 1835 (Gardiner 1966, Bird 1965). In December 1835 (Bryant 1925:177) a band of American missionaries arrived in Natal (Champion, Wilson, Venable and Grout); their letters and diaries, up to 1838, record pieces of useful information (Kotze 1950, Bird 1965 and Champion 1967). The Rev. Owen arrived in Zululand in 1837, his diary is of particular use, especially since he established his mission at Mgungundlovu and remained there until shortly before Dingane's defeat (1838) (Owen 1926). Other pieces of information have been obtained from the letters of Piet Retief and William Wood (interpreter to Owen) (Bird 1965).

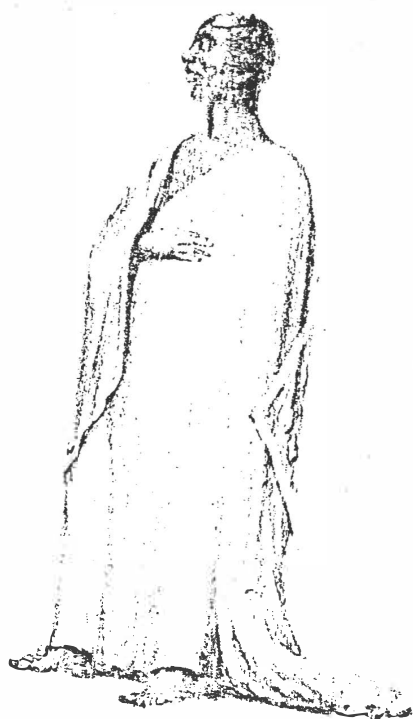
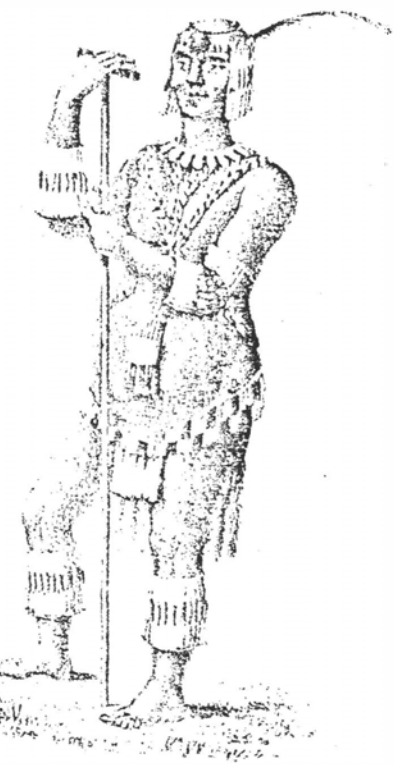
Bryant (1910-13, 1929, 1967) and to the same degree Stuart (K.C.C.- derived from Khulumethule 1925) have recorded some well researched ethnographic and historical accounts. More recent anthropological material can be obtained from Krige (1965) and Gluckman (1950 & 1970). Other pieces of information have been obtained from the relevant parliamentary Blue Books and from collections in the Natal Archives, Pietermaritzburg, and the Killie Campbell library, Durban.⁶

III. THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND The Zulu are a small clan within the larger Ntungwa Nguni group; geneology traces the royal lineage to Malandela who first moved together with his followers into the/...

rise to power.¹¹ The need for an acceptable model has seen the formation of other explanatory theories; based on the role of population density,¹² the importance of the ^{Delagoa} Bay trade¹³ and the influence of the environment.¹⁴ The mechanisms for expansion have been described in terms of the appearance of new military systems, techniques, the character and powers of various leaders¹⁵ and more recently in the role of cattle and the system of ukusisa (the lending of cattle).¹⁶

The story of Dingiswaya's reign, his death (died 1818) in the hands of Zwide, the chief of his principal opponents the Ndwandwe; the rise to power of ^{the} a small Zulu chiefdom, one of the Mthethwa vassal clans, under Shaka and the events which subsequently led to his control over most of Natal and large areas to the West and North are well known and need no repetition here.

On the 22 September, 1828 (Isaacs 1937) Shaka was assassinated at Dukuza¹⁷ by his half-brothers Dingane and Mhlangana and his principal servant Mbopa. The assassination was probably largely a matter of opportunism, especially since the army was engaged in an ill-fated campaign to the north against Soshangane. Before its return Dingane had removed Nguadi (Shaka's maternal half-brother) and Mhlangana, thus succeeding Shaka as king (pending of course the return of the army and chief indunas; the defeated army was only too pleased to have seen the last of Shaka and Dingane retained the throne unopposed) Dingane removed the political centre away from the coastal areas and erected his new capital (Ungungundlovu) in the original Zulu homeland to the Northeast. Dingane was at first faced by the problem of revolt among the vassal polities (the Qwabe for example rebelled, having never recognized Zulu supremacy, being



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— DINGBIE —

— (GARDINER, 1902) —

geneologically the senior clan, and migrated southward to the (Mzimvubu) he managed however to reinstitute the military system and kept the Zulu state from disintegration.

The kingdom however, appears to have been much weaker than it was during Shaka's time and throughout Dingane's reign the army involved itself with fruitless campaigns against Mzilikazi's Ndebele, the Bhaca, Mpondo, and Dlamini (under Sobhuza) In addition Dingane was faced by the ever demanding European settlers newly arrived at Port Natal¹⁹ and finally in 1837 by the invading emigrant Afrikaners. On the 16th December 1838 the Zulu army was defeated at Blood River by a Boer commando. Dingane left the Emakosini and moved northwards, where he was betrayed by Mpande (his half-brother) who moved off with some 17,000 of his warriors. Hounded by the Boers, Mpande and the Swazi, Dingane was eventually captured and killed (by the latter) sometime early in 1839 near the Pongola. Mpande, very much 'underdog' to the Afrikaners, succeeded Dingane and ruled over a much reduced kingdom until he died in 1872 (both he and his successor Cetshwayo had again moved the Zulu political centre, this time northwards across the White Mfolozi - see map 6(Arr)) Mpande's son Cetshwayo, who long before in 1856 had been victorious in a succession dispute with his brother Mbulazi, became king. Cetshwayo fell victim to British imperialism and the Zulu state was finally crushed during the Anglo-Zulu war (1879) (Cetshwayo dying in 1884).

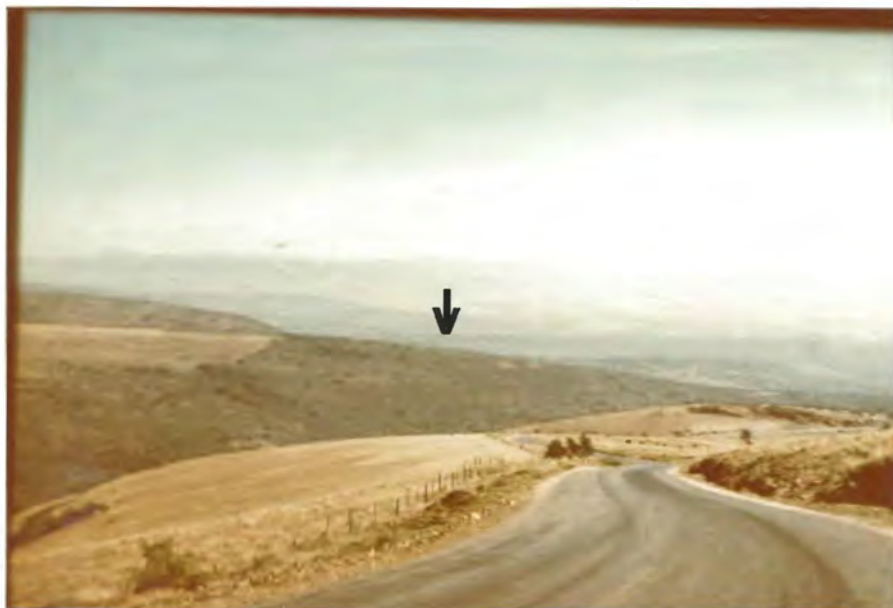


PHOTO 2

THE EMAKOSINI VALLEY VIEWED FROM THE NTONJANENI
SPRINE ; MSUNGUNDLOVU IN THE MIDDLE DISTANCE



PHOTO 3

LOOKING TOWARDS MSUNGUNDLOVU (THE TWO BARE PATCHES
IN THE CENTRE) + NTONJANENI IN THE DISTANCE, FROM NOBAMBA

IV. A SHORT NOTE ON MGUNGUNDLOVU²⁰ AND RELATED FACTORS

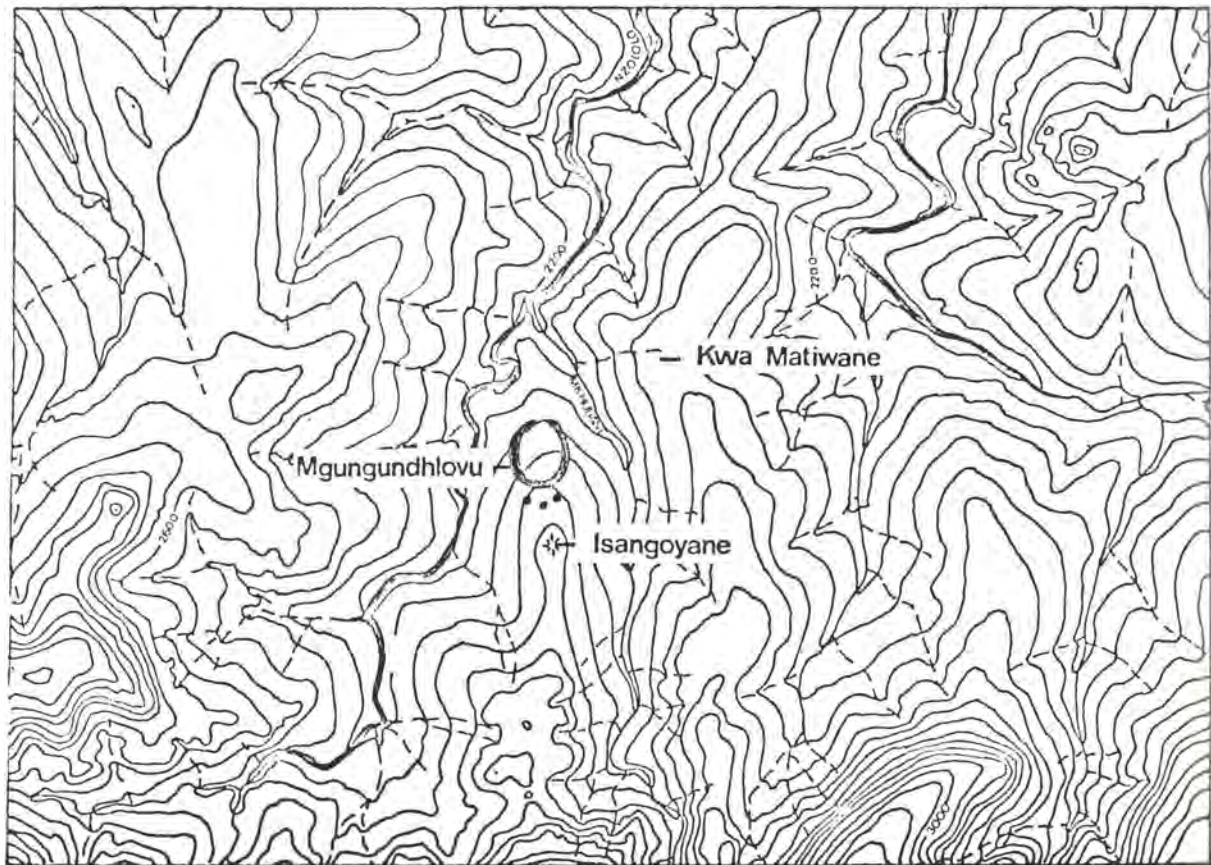
"Dingane thus became unchallenged Zulu king at the early age of some 30 years, his half-brother Mpande being about 24. A few months more and Dingane had cast the dust of Dukuza from his feet and erected his new capital (1829) at emGungundlovu, in the original Zulu country, by the Mkhumbane." (Bryant 1929:671)

Dingane's move, along with Mhlangana and Mbopha, back into the Emakosini was most probably undertaken for political reasons. It was in this area that the elders and important members of the ruling Zulu clan resided (particularly at the Nobamba, Siklebeni and Embelli-belli kraals) and it would be there that Shaka's assassination would have to be sanctioned and that the processes of succession would be enacted. Probably for the same reasons Dingane established his capital in the area that was familiar to him and where he could watch over and safeguard the nucleus of the Zulu state.

The building of Mgunkundlovu was started probably sometime in mid 1829 and completed 2 or 3 months later.²¹ Dingane more than likely stayed at Nobamba, while the new town was being erected

"This place where he built his kraal was a good place with hills, valleys, forests etc. It was quite nice because it was high and cool. The place nearby grew trees of mngawe: Mungo and Mtolo. There was also mhlonhlo and Mhlala. The grass of this place was insinde and Mtungwa (used for securing thatch covering hut-roofs)" (Stuart - Kulumutule)

Unlike Shaka, Dingane was to retain the new town as his principal capital throughout his reign²² it being finally destroyed in 1838, by fire.²³ From what information there is available/....



0  2 Km

MAP 1

The Location of the Mountains of the Hill ...

... the surrounding terrain

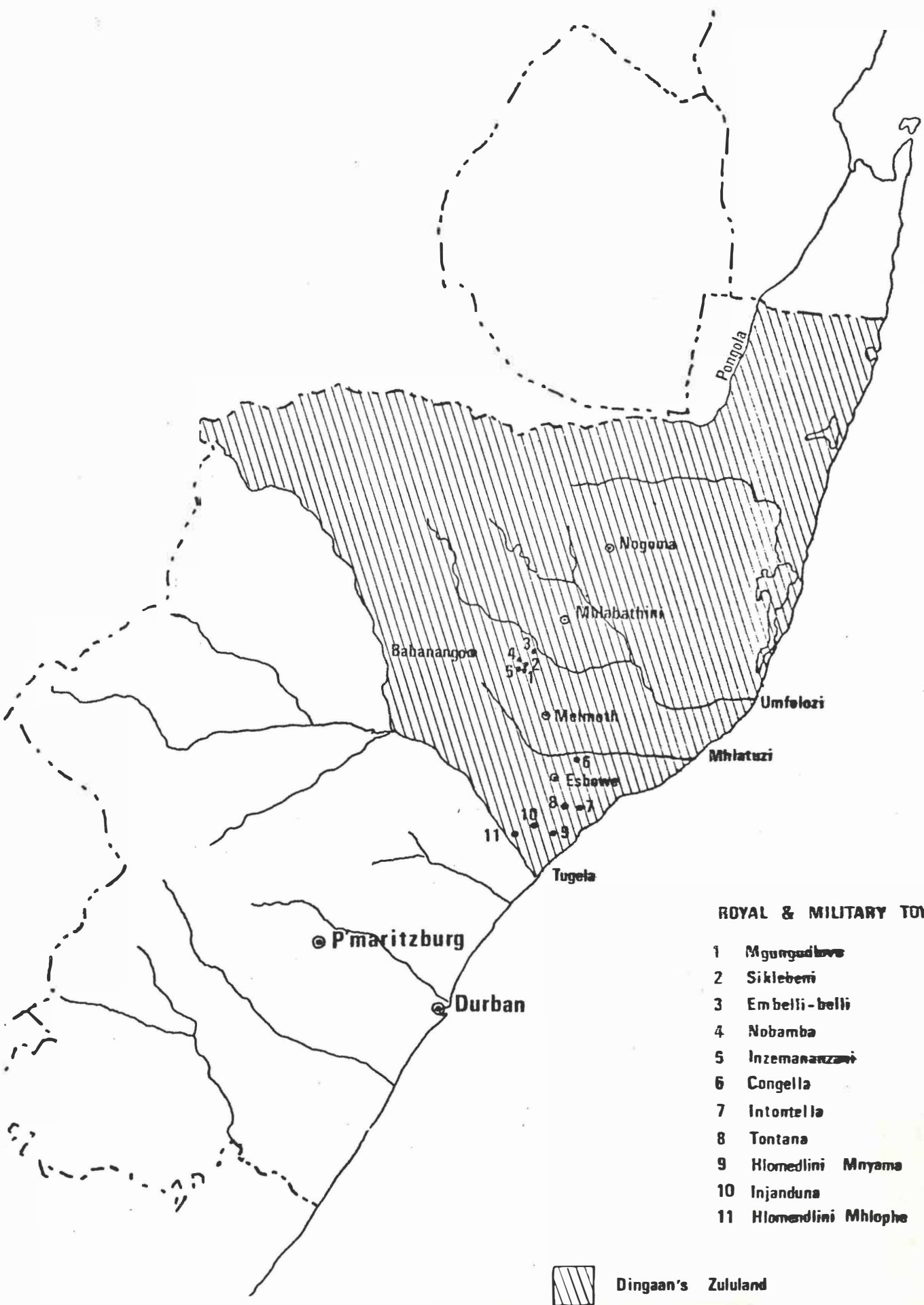
available only once (July 1835) were major repairs and changes carried out; Gardiner reports that the barrack huts were removed and rebuilt between the outer fence and where the first row of warrior huts had formerly been, this in fact really constitutes a rebuilding of the entire town; although Gardiner is not very specific as to whether both isigodlo and warrior huts were rebuilt(Gardiner 1966:204)²⁴

From the historical sources it is clear that Mgungundlovu, which consisted of the principal circular complex and three satellite Bhje kraals above the main section(isigodlo), was situated below the top of the hill(see photographs 1 + 6 and Map 1) and seated itself between the fork of the Mkumbane and Nzololo streams. Near where these two streams joined each other and below the main entrance to the capital is the grave of ZULU, the founder of the Zulu clan; thus giving symbolic importance to the hill itself. To the South, East and West the hills rise above Mgungundlovu, especially to the south-east where the Ntonjaneni heights are a some 4300 ft above the valley below. The heights were probably forested during Dingane's time, supplying the neighbouring settlements with wood and fuel. To the North and north east the topography "rolls" down towards the White Mfolozi (see Map 7/box) The Emakosini valley was also the location of 4 other major towns all within a radius of 5 miles of each other (see Map 7)²⁵ The reasons for such a concentration of large towns are not known but can probably be related to three factors. Firstly, as has already been suggested the Emakosini was idealogically the political/..



Area enlarged on Map 2 and below





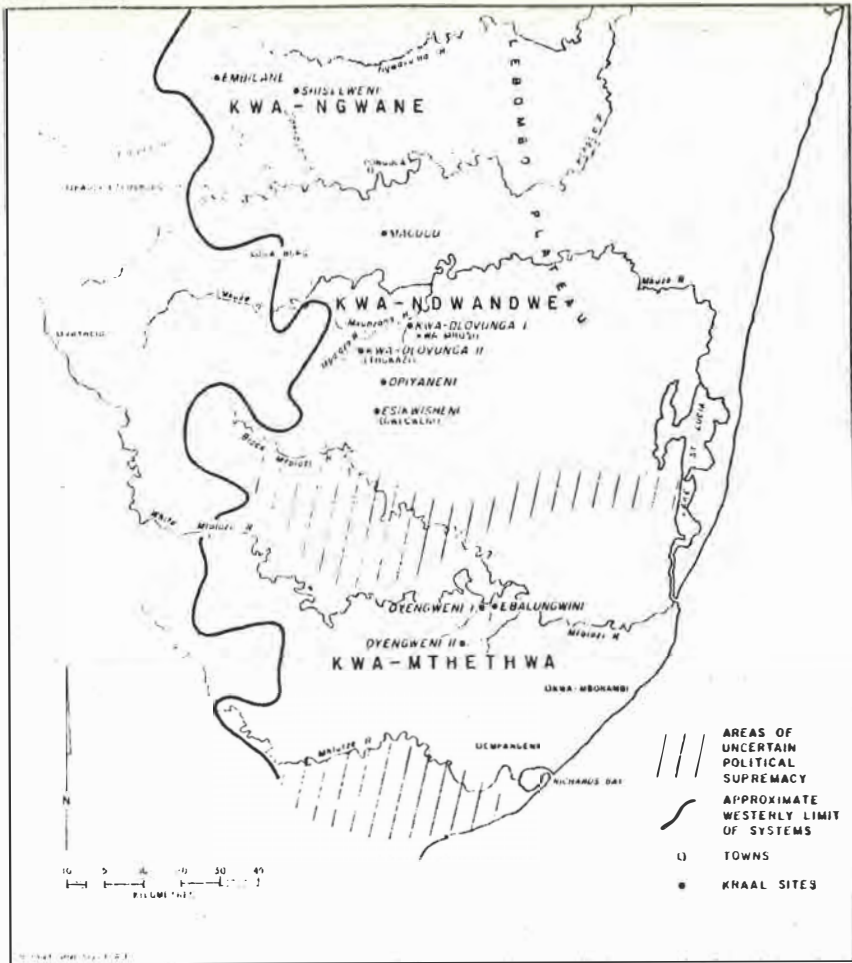
ROYAL & MILITARY TOWNS

- 1 Mgungudlwe
- 2 Siklebeni
- 3 Embelli-belli
- 4 Nobamba
- 5 Inzemananzazi
- 6 Congella
- 7 Intontella
- 8 Tontana
- 9 Hlomedlini Mnyama
- 10 Injanduna
- 11 Hlomedlini Mhlophe

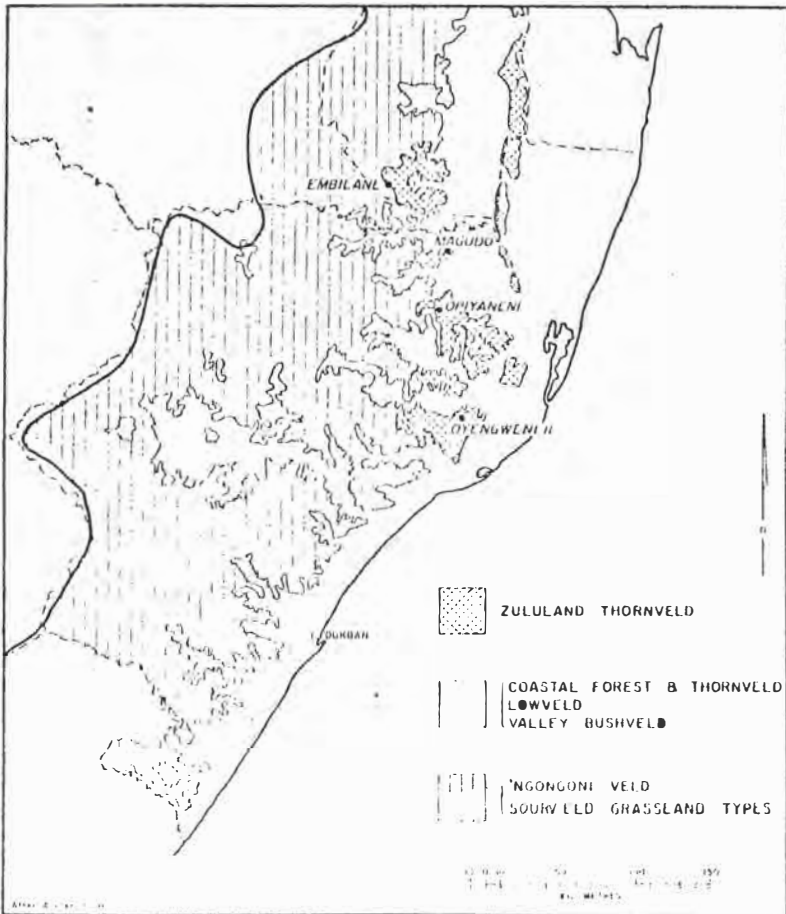
 Dingaan's Zululand

the political centre of the state; secondly, is the possible re-use of towns (namely Nobamba, Embelli-belli and Siklebeni) because of their social importance,²⁷ thirdly, is the environmental factor. Daniel(1973) and Guy(n/d) have emphasized the importance of the proximity to favourable grazing areas, as a factor in the political upheavals of nineteenth century Nguni-land. The Emakosini lies close to, or contains areas of mixed-veld, the vegetation type, identified by Guy and Daniel as offering the best grazing potentials(ie. grazing for 8 months of the year). Since large towns can be equated with large herds of cattle there is possibly a correlation between the number of towns in the Emakosini and the importance attached to it as a grazing area.²⁸ The mixed velds and sweet velds are however susceptible to overgrazing (Guy n/d) and it would be interesting to know if this problem was avoided in some way, if at all. Dingane's second capital Congella²⁹ and other large towns to the south-east (eg. Intontella and the two Hlomenlini kraal - see map 2) are situated in or close to areas of sourveld where the optimum grazing periods are apparently for some 2-3 months immediately after the first rains fall (in October and September). A possible indication of economic changes or events of this kind, is the movement of the king between the two capitals (Mgungundlovu and Congella) However, a plot of his movements (see diag. 1) does not seem to show this.

Two things/...



MAP 5
KWA-NDANDWE (1974)



MAP 6
KWA-NDANDWE (1974)

A. diagram illustrating the residence of the King at various times of the year.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec.
Isaacs. 1830				—		—						—
1831				—								
Fynn 1831				—				—				
Smith 1832			—									
Gardiner 1835		—			—		—					
Grout ?		—			—		—		—	—		
CHAMPION 1836	—		—			—	—		—	—		
Owen 1837								—		—	—	—
1838	—	—										
Retief 1837											—	
TOGETHER	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

KEY

- at Mgungundlovu
- at Congella
- at Nobamba
- at Embelli-belli
- residence unknown

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Ploughing starts	ploughing →										
Planting of izife (little fields) with vegetables	planting of big fields →										
Sow early madumbes	sow:— maize potatoes beans madumbes sorghum (kaffir corn)		maize (late crop) beans sweet potatoes rice	maize →							
			first crop from izife may arrive	←weeding →	←scaring away birds →			(weather becomes colder and birds migrate)			
				reap:— some maize from izife	reaping harvest	first main crop of maize	maize (late maize)				
				maize from izife beans		sweet potatoes early madumbes rice harvest	beans → sweet potatoes (late) madumbes sorghum fruit				
											(last old crop of madumbes)
SPRING RAINS			SUMMER RAIN								SPRING RAINS BEGIN
Mean temperature (1951-1955) 64.8°F. 65.5°	69.9°	72.0°	73.8°	74.6°	72.1°	70.5°	66.6°	62.3°	61.5°	62.9°	
Food stored and decreasing	LEAN PERIOD		LEANEST MONTH	Food becomes more available						HARVEST & HOLIDAY	

DIAGRAM 2

(READER, 1964)

Two things, should however be mentioned, firstly, the king remained at Mgungundlovu for over 7 months of the year; he is there for the festival of the first fruits, which takes place generally in the early part of January, and during the spring months when the first rains fall. Secondly, the main period of activity for the king, during June and July, coincides with the harvesting times (see diag. 2 pg. 21). It is possible then that the movements of the king between Mgungundlovu and Congella (and other kraals) corresponded not with pastoral factors but rather with agricultural events, this however needs further documentation.

The main diet of the warriors,^{who} resided at Mgungundlovu for several months of the year only, seems to have been sour milk (utyuala) and cattle meat (Gardiner 1966, Bryant 1967, Fynn 1950, Champion 1967). There is very little information available as to the nature of agricultural activities in the area. The main crops cultivated seem to have been maize and various millet species (Kirby 1955) and both Gardiner and Owen refer to plots of nearby land under cultivation.⁴⁹ The exact role which agriculture played in the maintaining of requirements at the military towns is uncertain, but it seems that the only food provided by the king himself was beer and beef. The granaries at Mgungundlovu (see Diag. 38) were probably for private use of the isigodlo inhabitants alone.

Mgungundlovu was the principal shield-making centre (shield making was also carried out at the second capital, Congella)..

Gardiner/...

Gardiner explains this

"As all the cattle folded in the military towns belong to the King, and but few are killed there in proportion to the numbers which are daily slaughtered at the capital, this is, in consequence the great deposit of shields." (Gardiner 1966: 47)

Two shields were made from each hide and the finished articles were stored in raised huts placed at intervals in the barracks section of the kraal. (6 according to Wood (Bird 1965) and 4 according to Smith (Kirby 1955)). In addition Copper and brass(?) ornaments appear to have been manufactured at a 'smiths-shop' around the top of the kraal (the Bheje area) (Gardiner 1966, Champion 1967).

The basic social unit in Nguni society is the clan, consisting of the clan head and his male descendants who may or may not have their own homesteads. The basic political unit is the chiefdom incorporating a number of clans under the supremacy of the chief and his clan.³⁰ It is difficult, however, to say to what extent this system of political hierarchy maintained itself during the Dingane's time (and of course ^{that of} Shaka, Mpande and Cetshwayo). There is little information contained in the sources as to what degree the lineage, clan and chiefdom units of organization were disrupted by the imposing of the new military recruitment system. Two factors are however apparent; firstly, from the accounts of travellers in Zululand during the 1830's (especially Gardiner) it is noticed that only on a few occasions were any of the large military towns occupied by their full complement of soldiers, these

being said/.....

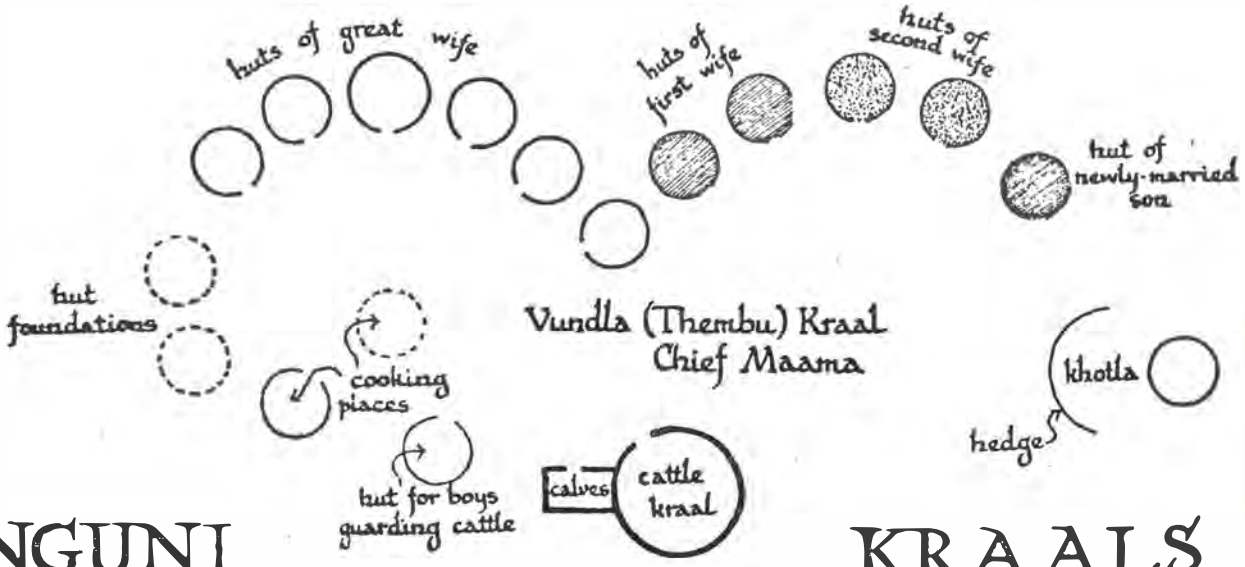
being said to have gone to their 'outplaces'.³¹ Secondly, it seems that warriors whilst serving their time at the barracks were not wholly supported by the kings food and were forced to rely on supplies sent from their homes, to some extent anyway. (Bryant 1967, Fynn 1950)³² The impression then is of a dichotomy in the political and economic organization of the Kingdom; whilst the military system and the lending out of cattle (ukusisa) to proprietors of chiefdoms (which may or may not have been the former chiefs³³) certainly disrupted the independency of former social units by its cohesive and centralizing nature, the role of the clan and kinship ties acted as a necessary foundation for the larger and perhaps even unwieldy political and economic complex.

It is suggested that any attempt to explain the location of large towns must take into account the much wider spatial realm of its economic political and environmental situation. As with most towns and sites the impression we gain from the Zulu ekand@s or military towns is not one of self sufficiency but rather of a high degree of dependency on the support of peripheral and rural settlement.

THE ZULU KRAAL³⁴

The plan form of all villages and large towns were basically the same. A strong circular fence, probably about 8 feet in height and consisting of stakes driven into the ground and interwoven with brushwood, (Précis of information 1894, F.C. Bryant 1967) enclosed the settlement unit. The huts were built singularly or in rows, depending on the size of the kraal, along the inside perimeter of this outer stockade. Enclosed by the living quarters and yet another fence (but not as strongly built) was the isiBhaya, the principal cattle pen. At one end of the town/village was the main entrance which faced the quarters of the family head/chief/king on the opposite side. Rapoport(1969) feels that correlation can be found between the occurrence of pastoral, polygamous people and the circularity of kraals in Africa and that "there are probably symbolic features in the circularity the centrality, and the fence itself." The differences between the basic homestead and the royal/military kraals is mainly, and obviously, one of size. The former containing anywhere from 5-15 huts (chiefs kraals were probably large with 30 or maybe 50 huts - the diagram on pg 27, taken from a drawing by Bell probably made in 1832, represents a chiefs kraal.) Whilst the latter, during Dingane's time could have contained anywhere from several hundred to over 1000 (Gardiner 1966). The other differences can be related to the inmates of each. The homesteads consisted basically of the headman, his family and possibly servants, the larger towns were inhabited by a regiment or regiments formed on the basis of age groups; whilst some of these towns

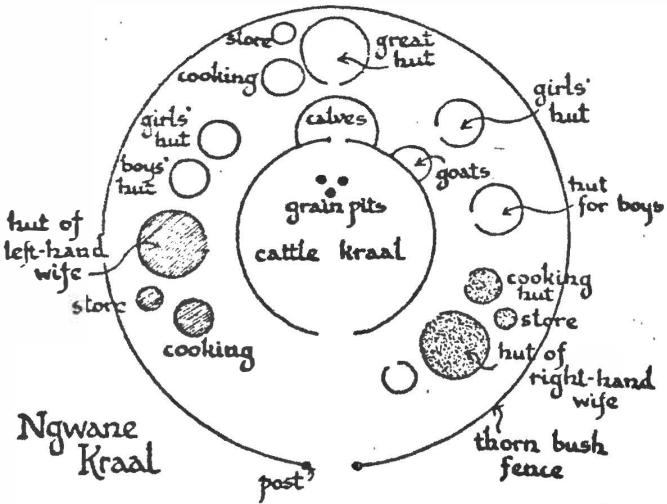
undoubtedly/.....



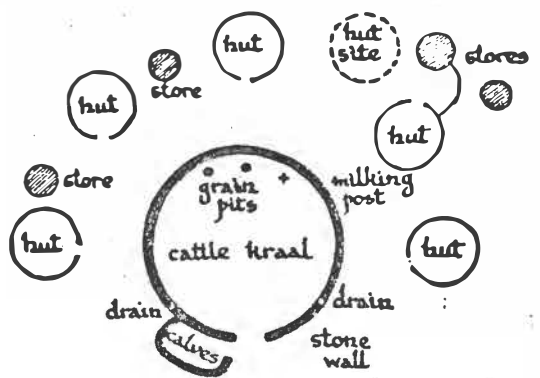
Vundla (Thembu) Kraal
Chief Maama

NGUNI

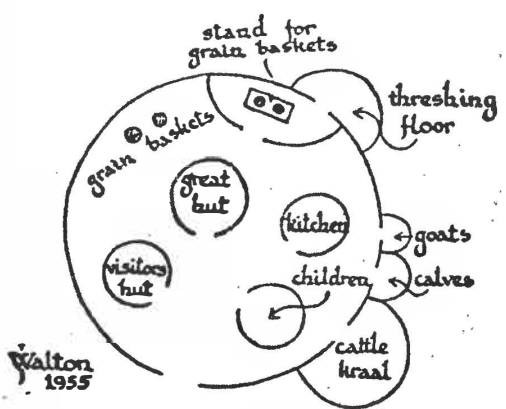
KRAALS



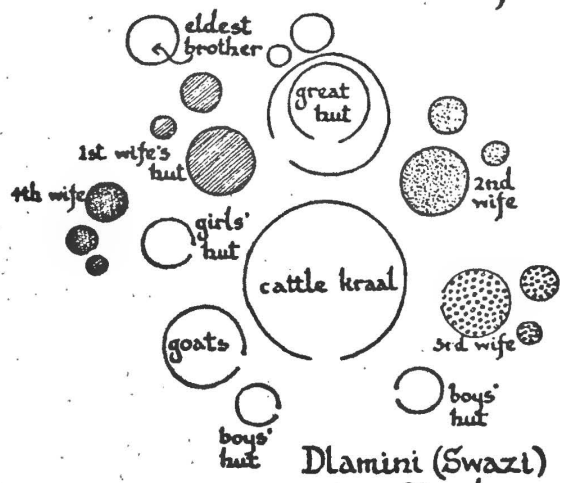
Ngwane
Kraal



Khanyile Kraal
Chief Doni



Rhodesian Ndebele Kraal

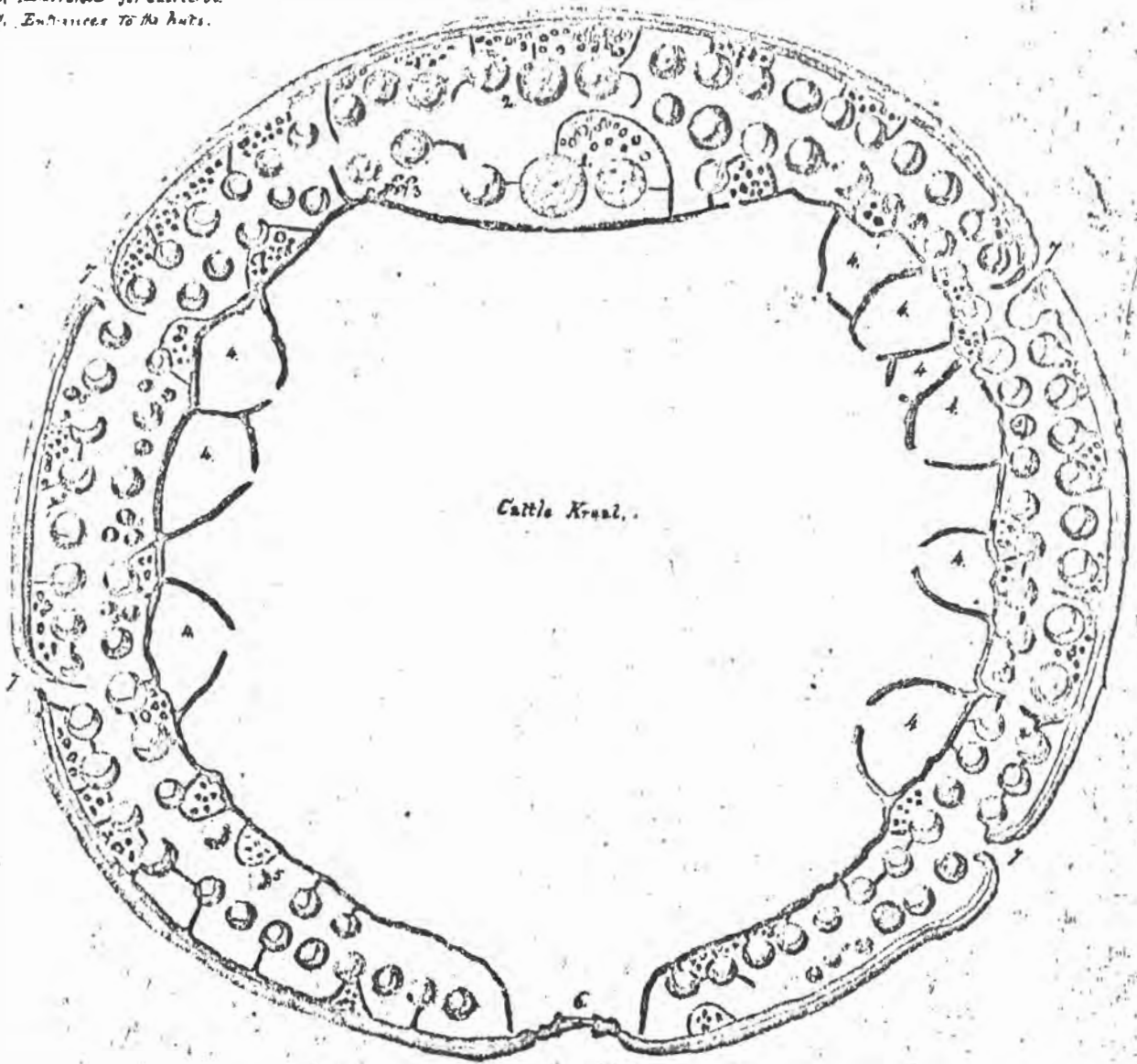


Dlamini (Swazi)
Kraal

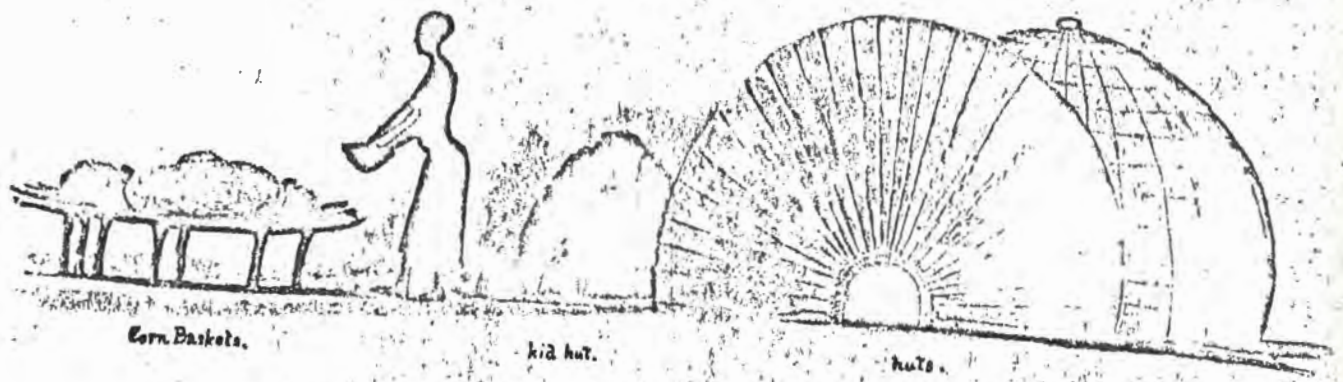
Walton 1955

Walton 1955

- 1. Residence of the Chief
- 2. of his wives
- 3. Corn baskets
- 4. Calf & Goat kraals.
- 5. Small huts for Children & kids
- 6. Entrance for Cattle &c.
- 7. Entrances to the huts.



Cattle Kraal.



Corn Baskets.

kid hut.

huts.

G. Bell.

R.S.M. 1914. -67-6

DIAGRAM 4

undoubtedly contained quarters for the king and his wives³⁵ (isicodlo). There were other structural differences too; the cattle were folded in small enclosures within the isiBhaya itself, whilst the grainpits, which in the smaller homestead kraals, were located in the isiBaya, formed a separate unit ^{peripheral to} the town itself or in the case of homesteads, amongst the huts (Kirby 1955)

There are two factors which influence the layout of the kraal and the pattern of hut building (reference is to the ekanda - but most of the points relate to the homestead settlements too). The first incorporates the physical nature of the site and environment; the slope, soil coverage, water runoff and so on. The second relates to the symbolic or cultural values attached to certain patterns of architecture and general site layout.

It is extremely difficult to put up an environmental (climate, resource availability etc.) deterministic argument in relation to the form and structure of huts. Rapoport(1969) has argued convincingly that the variety of forms suggests that environmental factors alone do not determine the house and type structure, It is obvious that the widespread occurrence of beehive or hemispherical huts in Africa (Walton 1956) point directly to social and cultural determinants whilst the variety of materials used in construction points to the environmental availability of suitable items for use in different parts of the structure. But these are generalized factors and we find that details will vary from area to area according to cultural and social choice not only in the way things are built but in the materials/.....



PHOTO 4
ROOF FRAMEWORK



PHOTO 5
MODERN NGUNI HUT (NKWALENI)

materials which are used for particular structures(Walton 1956)

Since these variables are concerned with roofing, however, they cannot be related directly to the archaeological information, and we should turn to factors influencing the position, building and form of the hut floors. The gradient shape, size and soil coverage of the hill on which the site is situated must determine the position of hutfloors and orientation of the kraal to some degree. The top of the hill(San⁹oyane) was not built on very probably because the soil is far too rocky. Surface run-off and soil types must also make certain demands on the building and orientation of hut floors. The soil at Ngungundlovu is of a general gritty type; the depth of this surface soil varies from a shallow layer on the higher portions of the hill to slightly deeper deposit on the lower slopes (naturally a result of water erosion)

A rubbly and 'rotten' type of bed rock underlies this surface layer. It seems from one or two huts in the isigodlo area that huts in general might have been purposely laid down on bedrock rather than on the surface, possibly because of the dangers of cracking ~~data~~ due to slight downslope soil movements, but there is not adequate information as yet to illustrate this. Surface run-off, as will be shown later, must definitely determine the position of the hut entrance; it is also possible that surrounding ditches and drainage systems might also have been built to cope with excessive storm water runoff during the summer months.³⁶ Bryant(1967) says that hills were chosen for settlement to catch the cool breezes that might spring up during the day but it is also probable that/....

that higher ground was chosen for reasons of health (Dingane established a second uMgungundlovu kraal somewhere near the Black Umfolozi, soon after his defeat at Blood river, he was, however, forced to move it again to somewhat higher ground because of health and mosquito problems.)

I have already mentioned the possible connection between circularity and pastoral, polygamous peoples, but there were other ideological concepts that may have influenced the structure and arrangement of huts. The ideas of centrality and kinship meant that the kings living quarters and those of the more important members would probably be built on ground above and overlooking, as far as possible, the major portion of the town. Again the concepts of centrality and kinship would perhaps mean the location of the kings quarters in some central position in relation (symmetrically) to the rest of the town.

Thus the building of Dingane's capital on a hill slope may have incorporated the ideas of drainage, tradition, polygamy, kinship and health.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE MGUNGUNDLOVU DATA

The approach and quantification of the data from Mgungundlovu must be designed to test, some of the suggestions that have been made earlier and the 'historical' descriptions of the kraal. The following factors have therefore determined the assignment of various attributes to each floor (and site in general)

i) the/.....

- i) the location of the floor in terms of the gross arrangements of features (or living section) on the site in tota (ie. isigodlo area, warrior section, right flank, left flank, entrance area, Bheje etc.)
- ii) the position of the floor in terms of its immediate surrounding (in particular the distance between it and the next hut in each direction)
- iii) the position of the floor in terms of slope (as related to contours)
- iv) the approximate diameters of the floors (approx. as the floors were not perfectly circular); to standardize the maximum measurement has been used.
- v) the type of hearth (circular or clover), the diameter of the inner bowl of the hearth, and the width of the hearth rim.
- vi) The number and position of postholes on the floor (diameters were taken when possible)
- vii) the presence/absence/position of other types of hut furniture (umbundus(single,multiple,cupid bow); potholes (single/multiple); 'racking' holes; entrances(entrance step; isihonqo or isithambanja))

SLOPE - A DETERMINANT FOR HUT ORIENTATION (SEE DIAGRAM 5)

One of the most obvious and basic assumptions that can be made is that the slope of the ground must in some way determine the building of the huts. The two assumptions that can be made are that

- i) Provision was made for the levelling of the floors (comfort and storage)
- ii) Rain water surface runoff should be prevented from entering the huts.

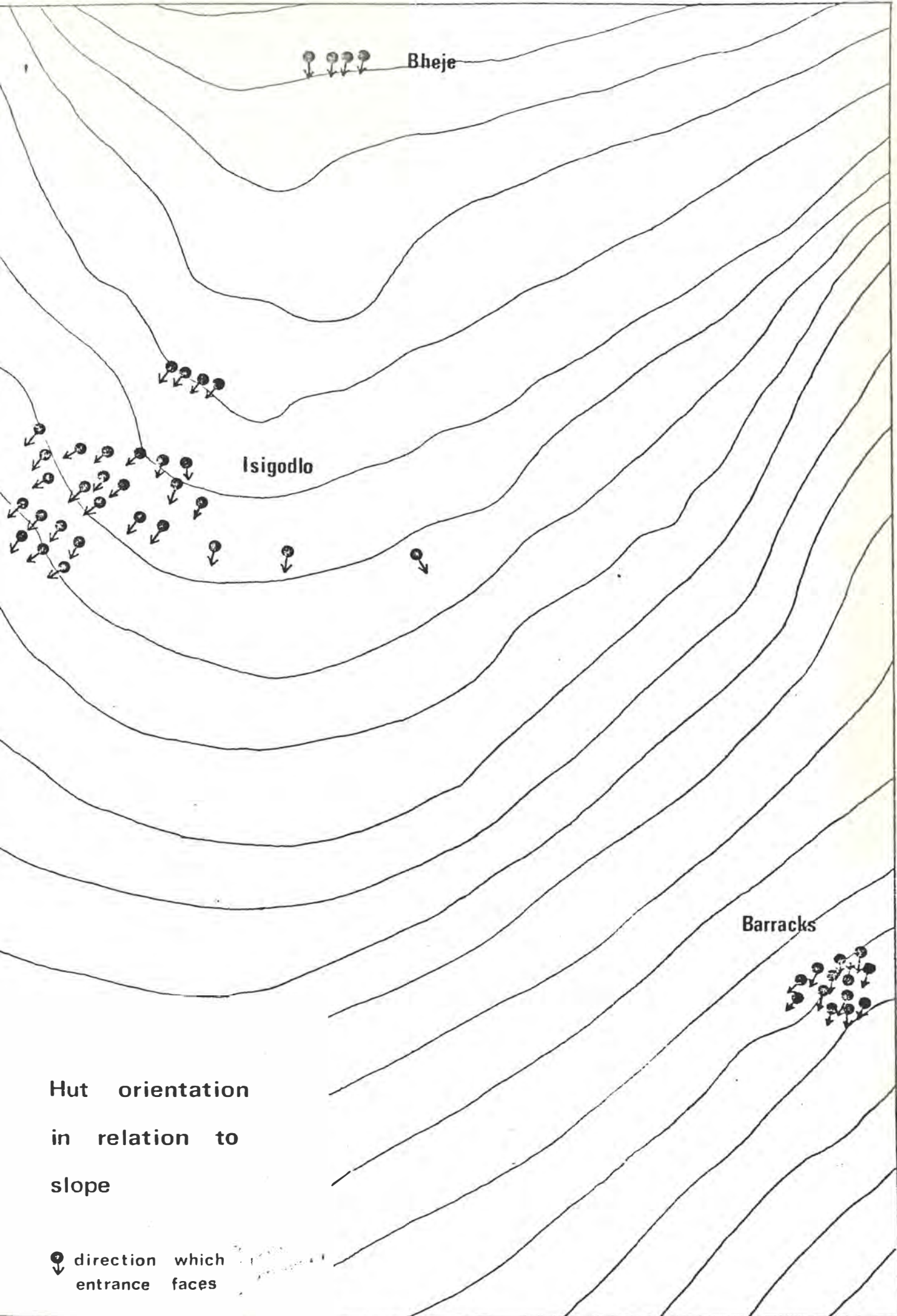
The first of these factors we tested by running cross sections through a number of huts, both in the isigodlo and the warrior areas. The huts were found to be levelled but with slight inclines towards the entrance this was probably due to insufficient levelling as the test for the second assumption (see diagram 5) shows that all the entrances of our exposed hut floors face downslope or to a sufficient degree, so as to prevent water flowing through the entrance into the hut (the entrance position was calculated on the basis that where entrances were clearly defined they were the points on the hut perimeter closest to the hearth - this feature is also supported by Walton(1969), Bryant(1967) and Biermann(1967).) I suspect that my data for the warrior huts may be a little inaccurate, but the position of the entrances are nevertheless averted from the danger of water flow.



PHOTO 6

THE SITE IS SITUATED ON
SLOPES OF THE HILL (CENTRE); THE
ENTRANCE TO THE KRAAL IS OUT
OF VIEW TO THE RIGHT

which site?



Bheje

Isigodlo

Barracks

Hut orientation
in relation to
slope

↓ direction which
entrance faces

INTER - HUT RELATIONSHIPS

Inter hut relationships are obviously important in the organization of living space in a kraal the size of Ngungundlovu. Decisions must be made as to the amount of free space afforded to each dwelling unit, how the need for privacy should be coped with, and generally how to arrange and order a large number of houses. These decisions will ultimately be made in terms of kraal design, seniority and function. Thus more room and provision for privacy can be expected to be found in areas containing the King and his women, whilst in the 'commoner' warrior section little comfort of this kind would be apparent and inter hut spaces probably only allowed for movement around the barracks and the occasional open area for eating purposes. This is all conjectural but the differences in hut spacing clearly observable on the survey maps (see pgs 49-51+63) do illustrate a marked distinction between the isighodlo and the iziGhabeni. These differences have been quantified in terms of inter hut distances measured from centre-hearth, to the two nearest floors. Since recovery percentage of warrior huts is known to be low an area, apparently containing the highest density of located huts, was sampled.³⁸ All inter hut (hearth) distances were measured in the isighodlo.

The statistic tables (pg 50) clearly illustrate the isighodlo/warrior dichotomy in this respect. The low recovery percentage in the warrior area has most definitely influenced the standard deviation and mean figures. (total recovery of huts in the Isighodlo is probably somewhere around 90% whilst being only ca 75% in the selected warrior area)

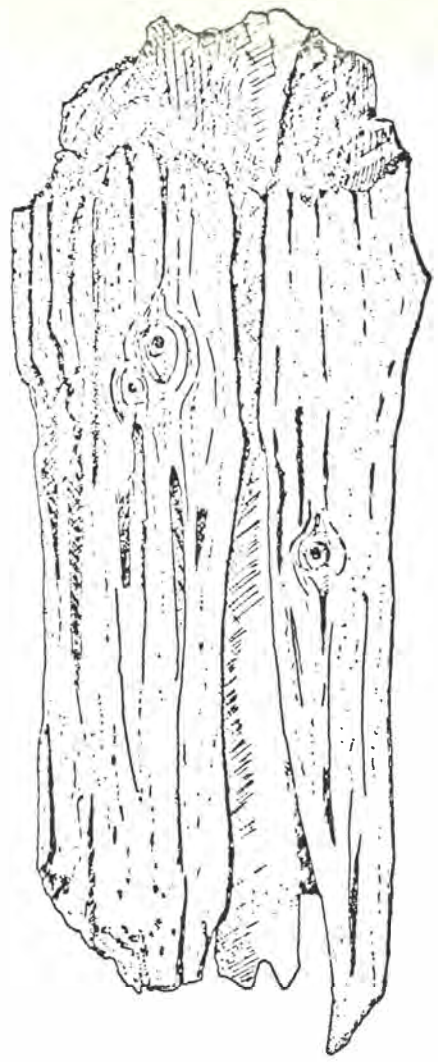
THE POSTHOLES

The identification of postholes is not a very accurate process. Since, one of the areas where the data is most exposed to erosion, vegetation damage and termite activity is the posthole, it is often difficult to decide whether a broken section of data marks the position of a former insika or not. Very occasionally one of the 'possibles' contain a burnt stump (such as that represented in daigram 6) allowing for the positive identification of an insika position, but this is only rarely the case. The most important factors in the determination of posthole positions are the hut size and rough symetricity in arrangement. Thus it is as unnecessary for a small hut to contain 10 posts just as it is absurd that all posts should be located in front of the hearth. Postholes were looked for in the centre of huts just behind the fireplace. If the hut was of medium size (5m) a further two postholes(at the minimum) could be expected, and aligned along the hearth/entrance axis. As hut size increased the erecting of post supports on either side of the central axis would prove necessary. This relationship between size and number of postholes has been illustrated graphically (pg 157), although the general pattern is clearly observable there appears to be a certain amount of overlap which is most probably partly a result of identification inaccuracies. The dichotomy between warrior and isigodlo is also represented here. All exposed huts having 1 post each whilst the number ranged from 1 to 9 in the isigodlo³⁸. (The amount of damage has rendered information possibly derived from posthole diameters impractical)

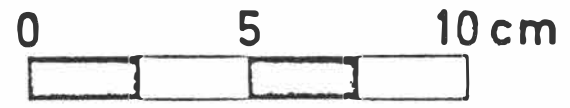
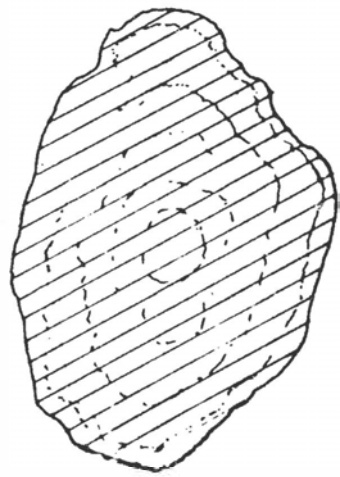
doesn't
make
sense

has new
team
popping
up
and
might
introduce
teams

warrior?



hut 39



DIAGONAL
to grain

IZIKO - THE HEARTH (see pages 143-8)

Two types of hearths have been identified (i) circular and (ii) scalloped (see photographs 7+8). By far the greater number of hearths are circular and only five of those located being scalloped (all of which occur in the Isigodlo). The range of inner hearth diameter at Mgungundlovu is 0,97m to 0,43m (and is greater at Ulundi - 1,22m-0,20m). The hearth sizes in the Isigodlo are generally larger than those from the barracks section, the range and variation is also bigger, whilst those from the latter tend to be standardized (see the mean and standard deviations pg 149). There seems to be a high degree of correlation between the hut and hearth size (see low standard deviations pg 149), this factor might prove to be important in the reconstruction of the less well preserved hut floors at the site especially since the thickness of the hearth favours its durability. *or the fact that it is baked hard.*



— PHOTO 7 —
— CIRCULAR HEARTH —



— PHOTO 8 —
— CLOVER LEAF HEARTH —

VARIATION IN HUT FLOOR DIAMETER.

Two different diameters were taken for each hut floor (see pg 140) the maximum reading was used in analysis. Two types of patterns emerged from a pure quantification of this data.

- i) areas where hut floors tended to be standardized in size (see graph 1 pg 152)
- ii) areas where there was greater variability (see graph 1 pg 152)

Areas of type (i) are located in Section E (see Page 33 Back)

the excavated portion of the warrior barracks and also in the last and uppermost row of the isigodlo (Huts 47, 48, 49 & 50) The type (ii) pattern areas exclusively in the isigodlo and central Bheje. Admittedly the sample from the warrior area (5 reliable diameter measurements) is far too small a basis for the making of 'lawlike generalizations' about warrior hut size, but the pattern of standardization in this area is repeated in the quantification of other forms of data (which in turn reemphasized the small probable variability in hut diameters). Outside the realms of variability the distinction or dichotomy between isigodlo and warrior areas is underlined in addition, by the mere size of the floors occurring in each area. The smallest huts have been exposed in the barracks (less than 4 meters) whilst the biggest (hut 23 has the largest diameter of 8 meters) are found in the isigodlo, in fact all the warrior huts are smaller than any of those from the latter. (see graphs 1 & 2) (except, see the back of the page)



PHOTO 9

THE UMBUNDU. (THE ARCHING RIDGE FOREGROUND)



PHOTO 10

THE 'CLASSIC' POTHOLE, BEHIND THE UMBUNDU
(FOREGROUND)



PHOTO 11

RACKING POSTHOLES, HUT 23



PHOTO 12

THE ENTRANCE STEP; ARCH AT FAR END.



PHOTO 13

THE ISIMONQO ; HUT 187

THE ISIGODLO⁴⁷

The Isigodlo is the most complex of the 3 different living units at the kraal. The hut floors display the greatest variation in size and content and in their spatial arrangement. The quantification of hut floor data (see pages 42-5 & diag. 35) has shown that this variation can be indexed in terms of hut diameter, hearth diameter, the number of postholes, hut furniture (umbundus, potholes and racking supports) and inter-hut distances. These 'inconsistences' in hut type and the use of space must be primarily attributed to functional differences. The accounts and diaries of early visitors to Mlungundlovu and the work of some Zulu historians do describe in some detail the organization and structure of the Kings 'seragalio' but the inefficiency of the sampling makes it difficult to identify or relate the archaeological data with particular pieces of information they have recorded. From Bryant and Stuart (Killie Campbell Papers) we know that there were probably two primary divisions in the isigodlo, the Black (Isi godlo esiMnyama) and the White (Isigodlo esiMhlophe) and which seem to have been fenced off from one another. Both agree that the Black was the reserve of the King and his favourites whilst the White housed the Royal girls (Umdlunkulu) and other servants, however there seems to be a slight difference of opinion as to where these primary sections were located. According to Stuart and his informants³⁹ the Black Isigodlo was in the centre and nearest the big cattle enclosure (see diagram 23*). Whilst Bryant (1929), who admittedly is referring to the royal towns of both Shaka and Dingane, suggests it to be at the centre but towards the back.

assuming/.....

2

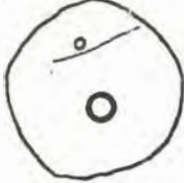
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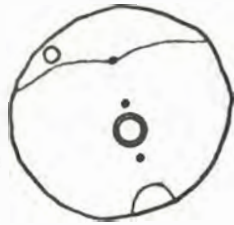
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37



35



12



8



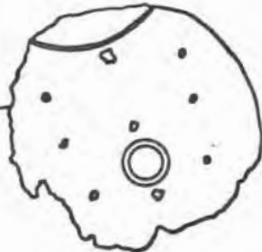
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9



6



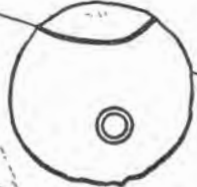
7



5



4



ISIGODLO

ISIGODLO

SECTION A

0 6 metres

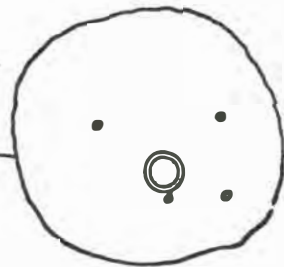
contour heights in metres a.s.l.

N

3



2

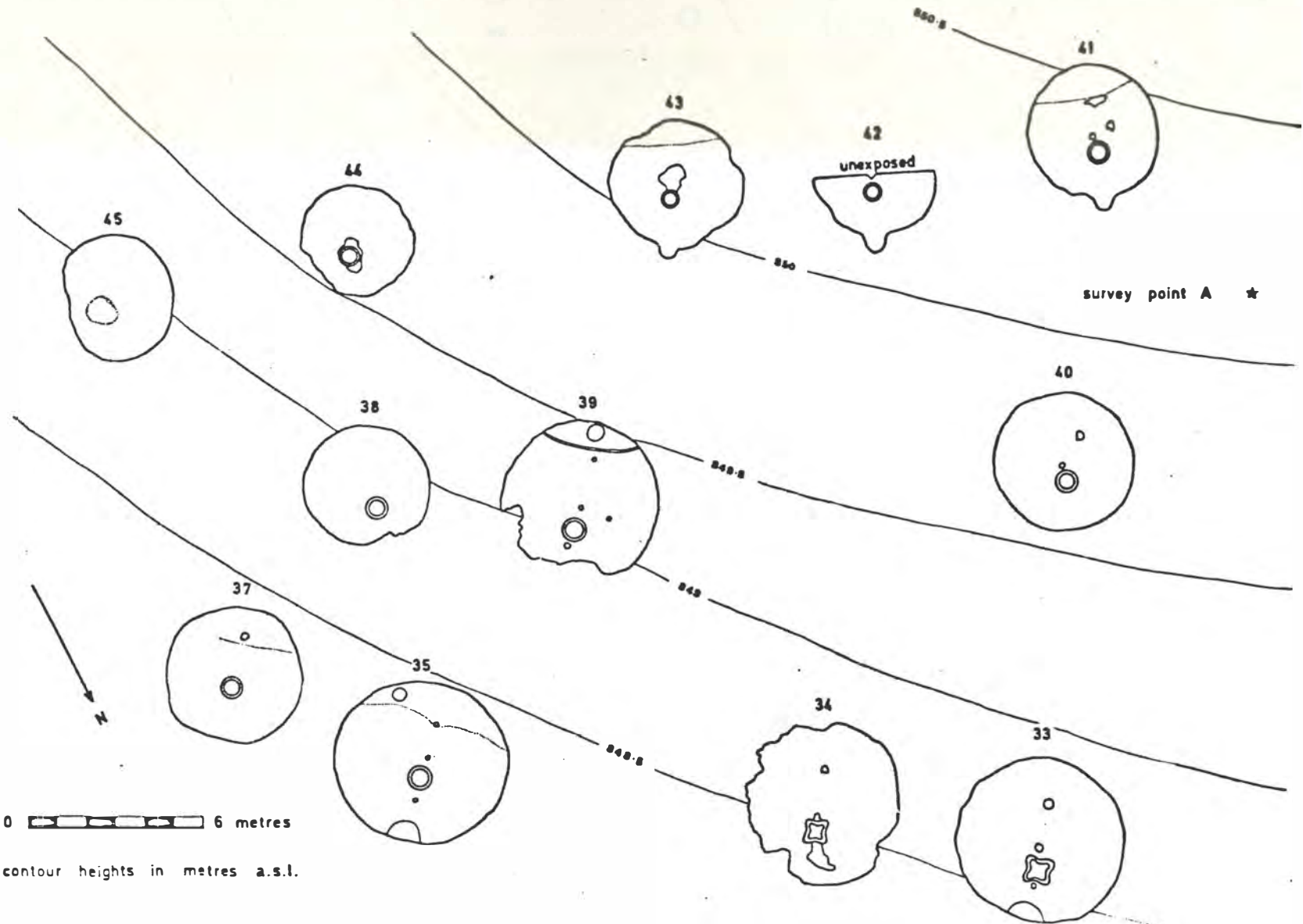


1



ISIGODLO

SECTION B

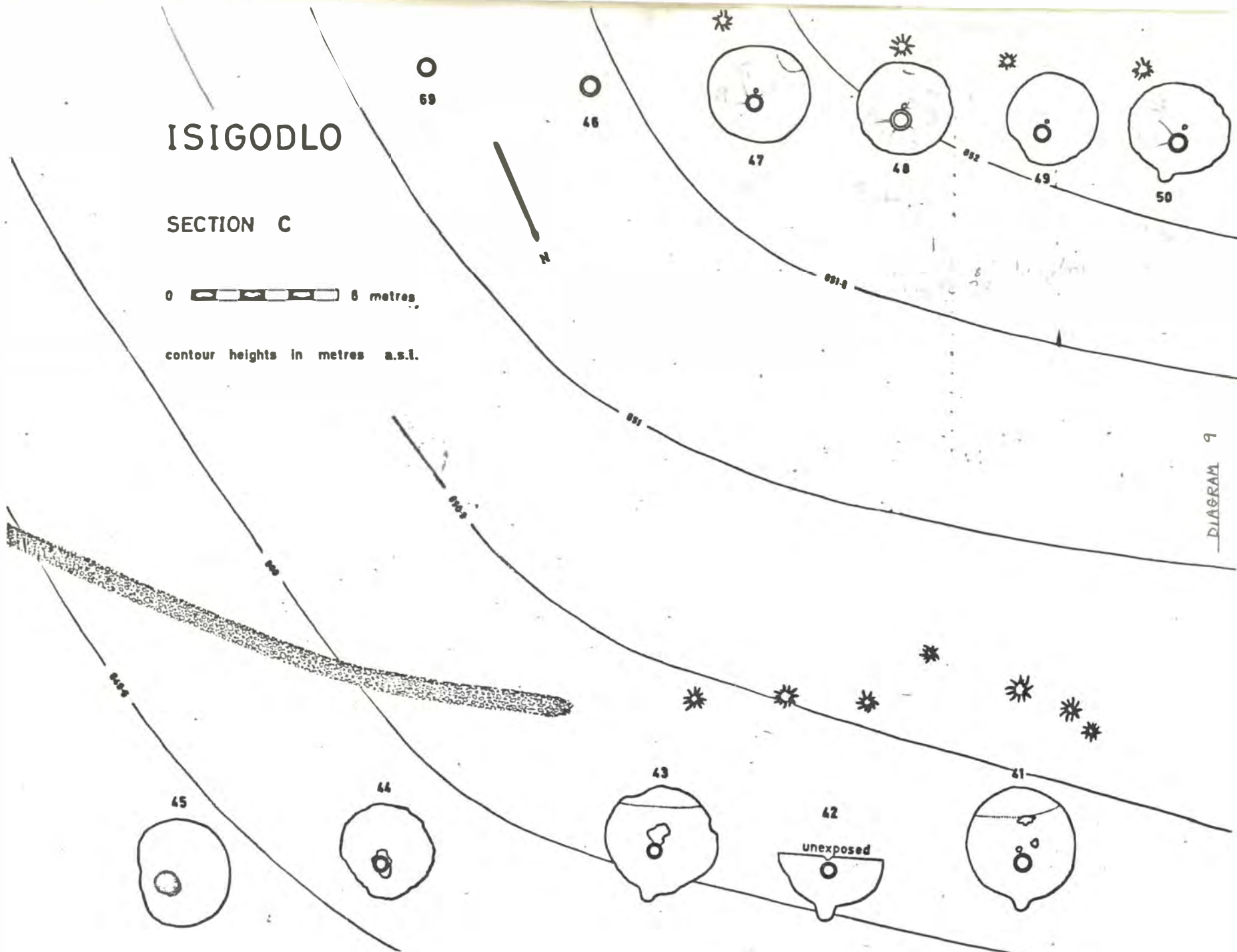


ISIGODLO

SECTION C

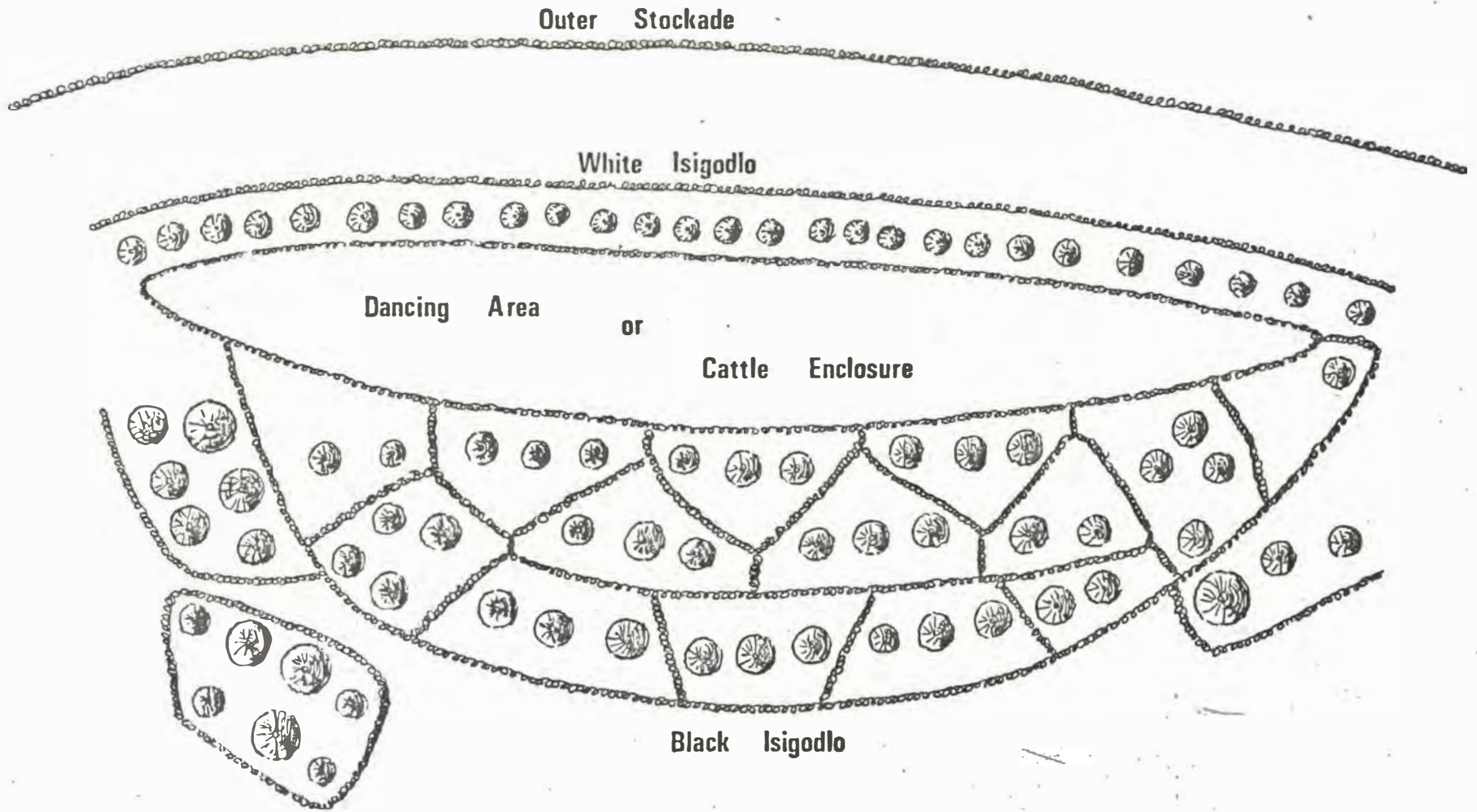
0  5 metres

contour heights in metres a.s.l.



MGUNGUNDOLOVU

15



caption?

DIAGRAM 10

0 50 m.

Assuming that the more elaborate and larger of the huts would occur in the IsiGhodlo esiMyama the dichotomy should be reflected in our data between areas of larger huts with more variation in hut furniture and areas of smaller huts with less content variation. With reference to the kraal Map (*back pocket*) a single arch of huts can be recognised running along the top end of the Isigodlo, below which there is a space of 30m at the maximum and then the main body of huts⁴⁰ (I shall refer to these as the back and front sections respectively.) An index of change through the isigodlo has been described on pages 158 & 161 where it is demonstrated that the index number decreases, for hut rows as one moves from the front to the back section (ie. the index merely indicates the mean figure for the posthole number, size etc. for each defined row, the bigger the index number the 'more elaborate' the row hut type). It is felt therefore that the dichotomy between front and back section in relation to (a) hut type and (b) the strong definition between the two in terms of hut arrangement and spatial division reflects the Black and White isigodlo areas respectively. (A rather conflicting factor, however is that Stuart (K.C. papers) suggests the White Isigodlo to be much larger than the Black, if this is true then the division hypothesized here, is not really acceptable.)

Fynn(1950) Bryant(1929) Champion(1967) and Owen(1926) have each described smaller divisions within the isigodlo usually consisting of 3 huts surrounded by triangular shaped fences Fynn(1950:25) says that "each compartment is named according to its use, or the division of the household who occupy it."

An attempt/...



PHOTO 14

VIEW OF THE ISIGODLO SECTIONS B+C
LOOKING UP TOWARD THE HILL TOP (LEFT)



PHOTO 15

ISIGODLO BACK SECTION 1 CUTS 50, 49, 48, 47

An attempt to assign attributes to each hut and define hut groups on the basis of a cluster analysis failed due to inefficient sampling (one type of cluster might be meaningful however; if it is assumed that kitchen of supply huts are represented by either one of the following, 1) racking holes, 2) multiple umbundus, 3) multiple potholes, then there is a definite clustering of these features around the eastern end of the isigodlo - see diagram 17 page 163.)

Other attempts at this sort of approach were hampered by the fact that a) all apartments did not contain 3 huts (Bryant, Champion, Owen), and b) there is some doubt as to whether hut groups should consist of

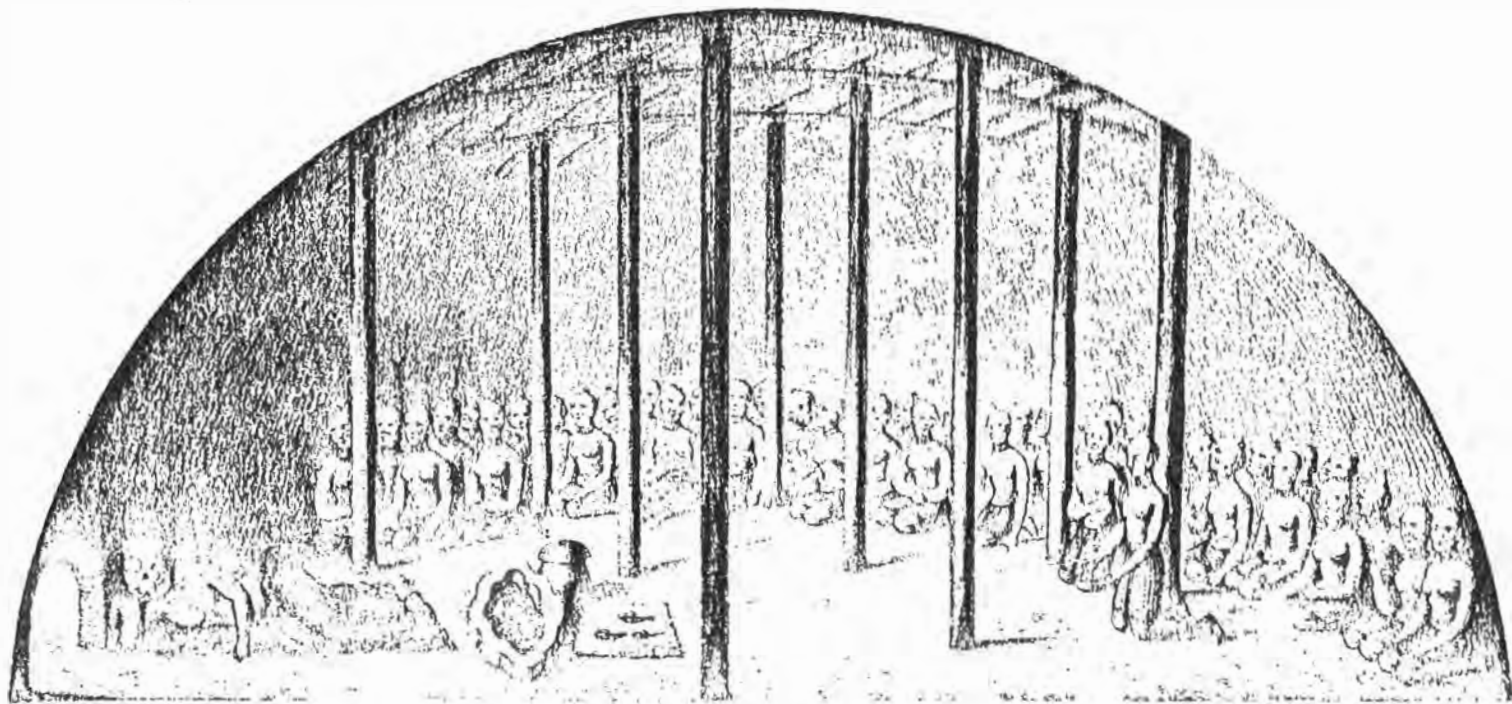
- i) Similar huts
- ii) dissimilar huts
- iii) apartments varying from one to the other of the above.

The most useful indicator of apartment grouping will obviously be the positions of the fencing complex but as no detailed inter-hut excavation has been undertaken in the isigodlo, it is not yet known whether the fence positions are still preserved.

The third possible indication of hut apartments is the spatial grouping of huts and I have taken the liberty of attempting to reconstruct the isigodlo on this basis (see diagram 10:51)

The question most often asked by visitors to the site, concerned the position of Dingane's hut; the king however had a number of huts all probably serving different purposes (sleeping, eating, business etc.) It is not known whether his izindlu were close together or spread around the isigodlo in large.

However/.....



Revised by: Balthasar

THE HUT OF THE ZULU PEOPLE.

DIAGRAM II

ONE OF DINGANE'S HUTS

(GARDINER, 1966)

However, the hut with 22 posts referred to by Owen, Champion and Retief as Dingane's council hut (and said to be the largest in the kraal) has definitely not been located; this probably because it was situated in the Eastern end of the Isigodlo, an area not yet excavated.⁴¹

Each hut from the isigodlo will not be described in turn, this information is described and illustrated elsewhere (Appendix II) but there are three types of hut furniture occurring on a number of huts that do need further elaboration.

1. Huts with pot-holes (11, 39 & 35). The area behind the umbundu is said to be a storage place for pots, calabashes etc. and in both huts 35 & 39 single potholes are located behind the umbundu, these were probably built for the safe keeping of beverages (probably sour milk - utywala) in large round-bottomed pots but there is no indication as to whether these were kitchen or ordinary living huts. Hut 11 is something entirely different, it contains 12 large pot-holes (diameters range from 35-55cm) around virtually the entire inside perimeter.⁴² There seems to be no doubt that these holes contained beer pots in which fresh milk was stored until souring (for the consumption of isigodlo inmates primarily and possibly some of the warriors) The hut has been termed the 'brewery' or affectionately the 'bar'.

2. Most of the hut umbundus were single ridges arching round the back of the floors, huts 10 and 9 however contain multiple umbundus (see drawings of huts App. I); 10 has 3 interlinking arches and 9 has two but a possible third. It is possible that these were simply elaborate designs fancied by the hut owners (this might also account for the 'cupid-bow' variation/....

variation in hut 35) but it seems more likely that they served particular fundamental needs, such as the storage of different types of foodstuffs: I suggest therefore that these were kitchen huts.

3. Two huts (8 & 23) have numbers of small postholes around the back areas. The frequency and position preclude the possibility of their being supports for the hut roof; instead we have called them racking posts; but for the support, keeping or storage of exactly what is not known. Hut 8 has 15 of these holes placed with some regularity behind and just in front of the umbundu. As the floor is in close proximity with the proposed kitchen and brewery huts (11,10 & 9) it might also be possible that the hut 8 stored articles dietary consumption or related to the preparation of foodstuffs. Hut 23(the largest located floor in the kraal) has over 56 of these racking post-holes; because of their number and position of the hut (on the other end of the isigodlo, the east end to the so called kitchen area) it does not seem likely that they served the same sort of function as these in hut 8, the only other possibility that comes to mind is that they formed support for stacking Zulu military equipment, primarily spears.

*position of hut 23
the kitchen area*



PHOTO 16

RACKING POSTHOLES AT BACK OF HUT 8



PHOTO 17
HUT II, THE BREWERY



PHOTO 18

HVT 10' MULTIPLE UMBUNO 2 (UPPER LEFT)



- PHOTO 19 -

- HUT 23, RACKING POSTHOLES (FOREGROUND)

EZIGHABENI/WARRIOR HUTS/BARRACKS

Data obtained from huts in the warrior area indicates, in contrast with those of the isigodlo, a large degree of standardization. None of the excavated warrior huts contained furniture, all had maximum diameters of under 4 meters and single postholes centrally placed; hearth sizes were also closely grouped (the sample distribution having a standard deviation of 0,04- see dimensional statistics pg 142)

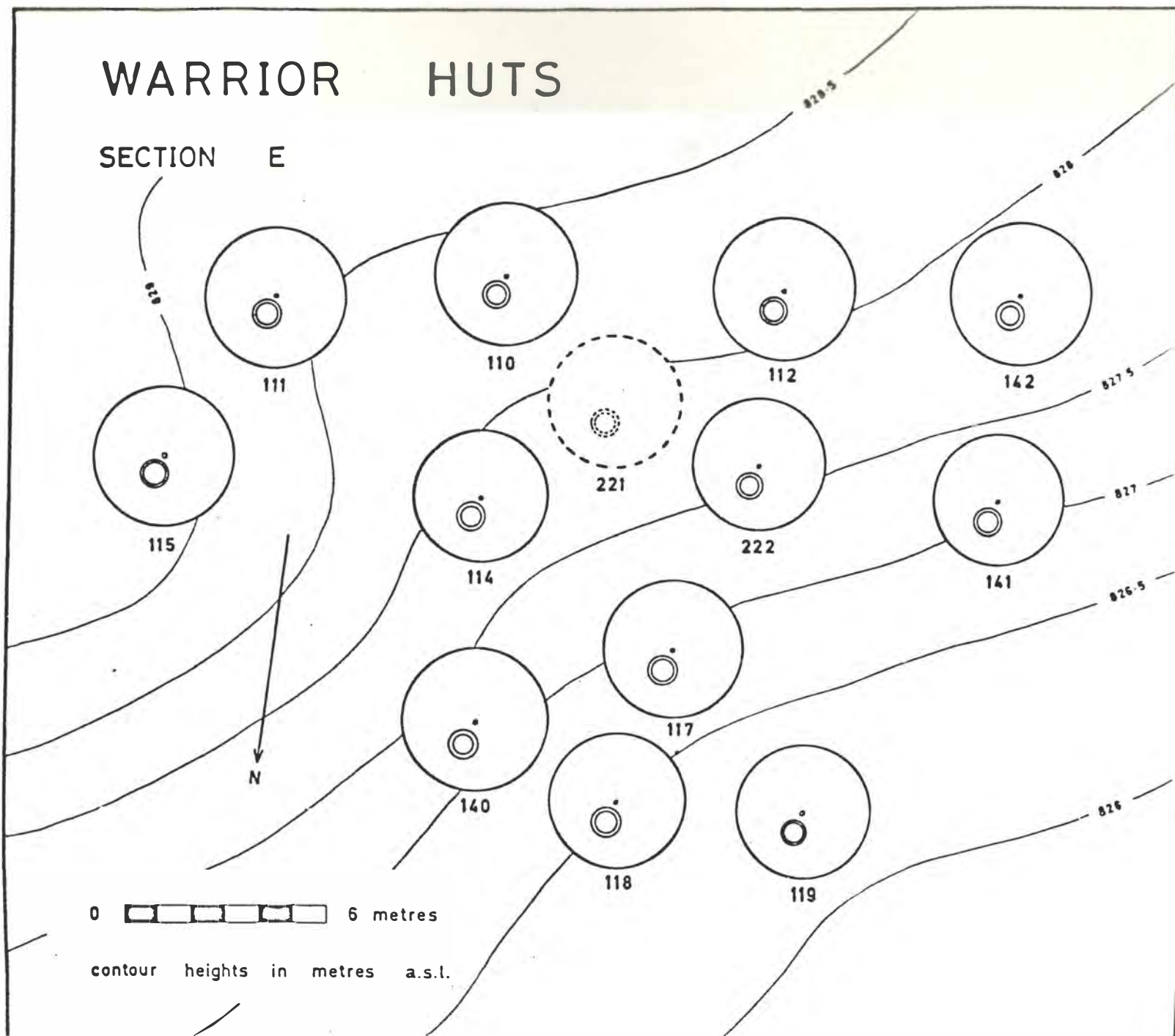
Information from historical sources refer to a number of features in the eziGhabeni:

a) The huts were apparently aligned in rows, although there is no detailed account of hut arrangement this is the impression gained from all the drawings and sketches of the kraal (see pages 83-91) and a few scattered remarks(Owen 1926). One gets the feeling (from these drawings) that huts were simply put rows because of ease in representation. Only Stuart seems to have made any effort to be accurate in this respect and his illustration shows the row density varying from 6 to 3 (with 4 around the entrance area and 6 towards the isigodlo - see daigram^{43 23}) Our excavated sample from the barracks is far too small to test the proposed row arrangement or to form a basis for any reconstruction of this sort. The plot of located hut floors is also confusing since the greater majority of these points are simply bits of floor rather than standard and known points on the hut (ie. Centre hearth) In addition there is no accurate information as to the width of the warrior band.

b) Again/.....

WARRIOR HUTS

SECTION E



0  6 metres

contour heights in metres a.s.l.

PLAN



PHOTO 20

VIEW OF THE EXCAVATED WARRIOR SECTION

- 45
- b) Again the impression gained from historical sources is of a high hut density in the eziGhabeni and this is supported by excavation and survey data. The mean inter-hearth distance for the warrior area is, 5,92m (see pages 150) is the lowest for the kraal; this figure can, however, be misleading as distances between the outer edges of the floors are often less than ^{two} ~~one~~ meter (see diagram 12)
- c) There is frequent mention of shield or weapon storage huts placed at intervals around the eziGhabeni; William Wood records 4, and Smith 6 (see diagram 19). These huts were erected on poles, to protect the shields from rats, worms, and according to Stuart were called uMyango (it is rather doubtful that they were rectangular in shape as Smith says them to be) We have no information as yet for the location of the Myanga.
- d) Stuart and Gardiner refer to open spaces found at intervals around the kraal serving as eating places for the warriors. Again our sample is too small to construct any test for this.
- e) Stuart, Walton and Oberholster divide the barracks into sections housing different regiments (see *DIAE* 24) Walton and Oberholster have obviously drawn their information straight from Stuart's book 'Kulmetule' in which there seems to be some confusion between the names of Induna's and those of regiments. Gardiner is the only one of the early visitors to the kraal who makes specific reference to a regiment which he calls the Unkunginlove (Ungungundlovu) which is about 900 strong. (Gardiner 1966:62). It seems however, that he is simply talking of the regiment resident in the kraal at the time and for want of

name uses/.....



PHOTO 21
VIEW OF THE EXCAVATED WARRIOR SECTION

27

a name uses that of the capital; besides it is doubtful that the full quota of warriors at Mgungundlovu were formed into one regiment of 900 men only, the number of huts and probable maximum population in the barracks (ca 5,500) suggests that there were at least 6 and possibly 8 different regiments residing at the kraal for some portion of the year (Gardiner, Bryant and Krige say that regiments usually consisted of 600-1000 warriors), Stuart's regiment divisions seem therefore to be consistent with other information and the names of the regiments are well known and often referred to in the history of Shaka, Dingane, Mpande Cetywaya. It is possible that there are some structural divisions in the barrack complex associated with regimental grouping but again there is no archaeological information to illustrate this.

Our hut sample from the warrior area has therefore proved itself inefficient in the testing of a number of features suggested in the historical record. Nevertheless it is able to illustrate

- i) the high density of huts (see Pg 150)
- ii) the standardization of the basic warrior hut type. (see Pg 142)
- iii) the extent of the barrack section and therefore the probable overall hut number.
- iv) although downslope erosion probably contributed, the warrior hut floors seemed to be generally in much poorer condition than those from the isigodlo, indicating that the latter were probably more carefully built.

HUT FURNITURE (PHOTOGRAPHS 4-13)

Hut furniture can be loosely defined as those hut floor features which occur only on a number of floors as opposed to those features which reoccur in each instance (postholes and hearths). Thus the hearth is part of the basic hut design whilst umbundus, potholes and racking holes (hut furniture) are additions to the hut. Umbundus can be traced either by the presence of the daga band itself or by a remaining scar arching across the floor. Pot holes are recognized by their size, regularity and occurrence of sherds; racking holes by their number, arrangement and position around the back of huts. Three other kinds of hut furniture, of a sort, are the isithambanja, a crescentic lip of daga attached to the entrances of some huts (eg. Hut 41 & 42); an entrance step, defined by a semicircle of daga reinforcement but within the hut itself (eg. Hut 33); both are probably ways of emphasizing the entrance and protecting the floor from damage. The third is the isihonqo (see Hut 187) and will be described more fully later (see pages 72-119)

Hut furniture are characteristics of the isigodlo and Bheje area only (see diagram 35 pg 142.)

THE BHEJE KRAALS

The name Bheje (or Beje) refers in a general manner, to three small satellite kraals situated higher on the hill slope above the Isigodlo and more specifically to the central and bigger of the three. The kraal on the left hand side (to the east) was called Mvazana (Stuart - see Page 89) (the name is probably derived from the noun va(um) meaning back part or background plus the diminutive zana suffix would mean the little outside thing (on the background) - Dent & Nyembezi(1974) According to Stuart(K.F.C.) this kraal contained 4 huts but its exact function is not really clear, although Walton and Oberholster suggest it to be an abattoir. Their argument seems reasonable especially since Ulundi, Cetewayo's kraal (which is supposed to have been very similar to Mgungundlovu) had two Bheje kraals, one of which was used for the slaughter of cattle (see diagram 31 pg 129)

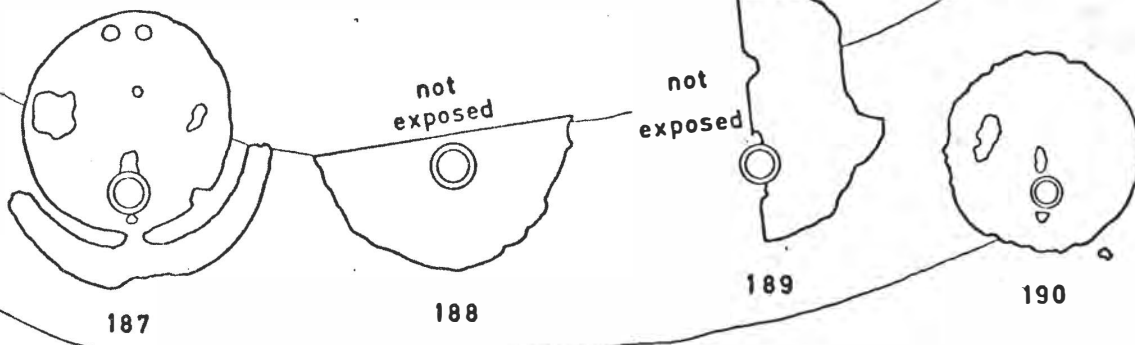
Eight huts were apparently contained in the central Bheje kraal (Stuarts map). Hofstede and Moodie's maps (pgs 87-88) indicate five but this is certainly not the case since the survey has located seven. The huts were all aligned in a rough linear pattern (similar to the maps on pgs 87 & 88) rather than in a circle as represented by Stuart.


Of the seven huts, four have been exposed, all of which fall into the range of hut types from the isigodlo rather than from the barracks (hut 187 is so far unique with respect to other hut types found at the site but its form is something we would not expect to find in the warrior area).

this central/..

BHEJE

SECTION D



0  6 metres

contour heights in metres a.s.l.

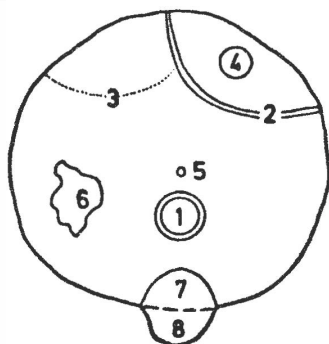
Key to hut floor diagrams



Aloa



Damaged area where an original hearth ?



clover shaped hearth 

stone wall 

1 hearth

2 umbundu

3 umbundu scar

4 pothole

5 posthole

6 damaged daga

7 entrance step

8 entrance porch



PHOTO 22
THE ISIKHONQO ; HUT 187



PHOTO 23
VIEW OF THE EXCAVATED BHEJE AREA



PHOTO 24
UPPER + LOWER GRINDSTONES, SOME WITH
OCHRE STAINS ; HUT 189



PHOTO 25
COPPER BANGLE ; HUT 190

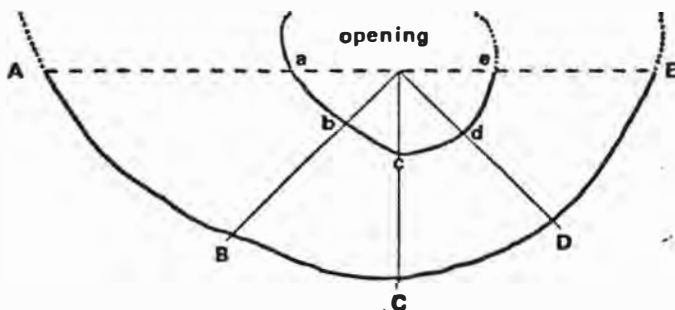
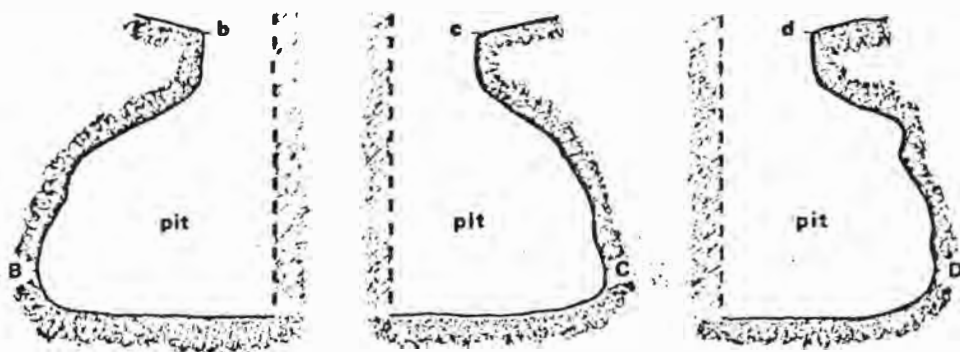
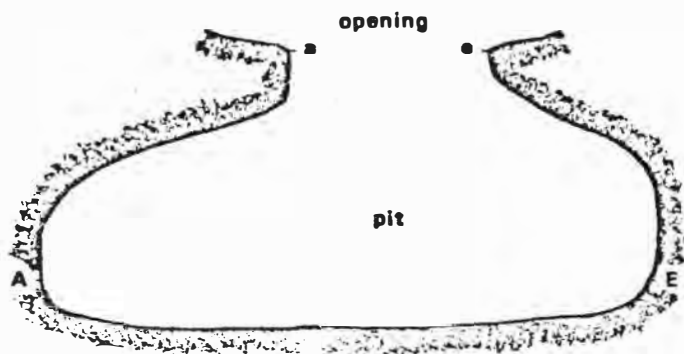
This central Bheje kraal was inhabited only by "the Royal family and the Kings' beloved" "Many people lived in them who wore Mgrata on their arms, Mnaka⁴⁴ on their necks and also beautiful shining brasses." (Kulmetule: Stuart) On one of the huts 190, 5 copper bangles (one of them possibly a neck-band) and large quantities of beads were found (not yet quantified) The neighbouring hut (189) produced a number of ochre stained upper and lower grindstones and a few ochre chunks (see photograph 24) The huts and their contents seem to be consistent with the argument that they were occupied by the King's relatives and some other important personages; the size of the huts, the ochre 'cosmetic' kits, the beads and bangles all seem to suggest this.

The function of the two peripheral flanges around the front portion of hut 187 is rather a puzzle. A Zulu visitor to the site identified them as belonging to the isiHonqo (a reed screen often built in front of doorways); the flanges would therefore form a daga porch between the screen and hut proper, whilst the gap between these outer strips and the main floor possibly marks the position of the umsele (foundation trench).

The Grainpits (see photographs 26, 27)

The third Bheje kraal, the Mbeceni, contained the grainpits. All the drawings illustrating this kraal including those of Stuart, Walton and Oberholster indicate 4 huts. Four possible (possible since they are indicated by small hollows in the ground, perhaps 1-2 metres in diameter) grainpits have been identified/...

GRAINPIT SECTION



Bedrock



Infill

0  1 metre

horizontal and vertical scale



PHOTO 26
MODERN GRAINPIT ; NKWALENI

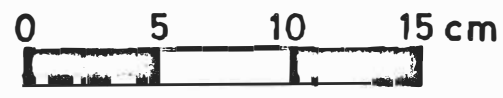
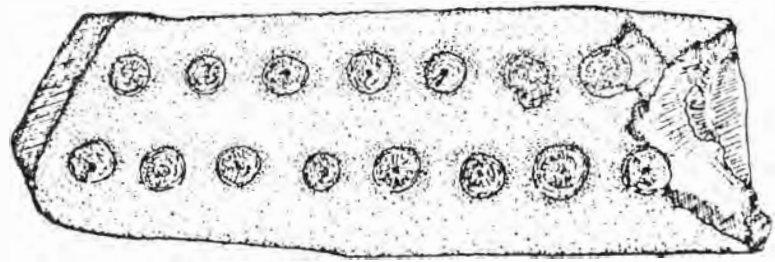
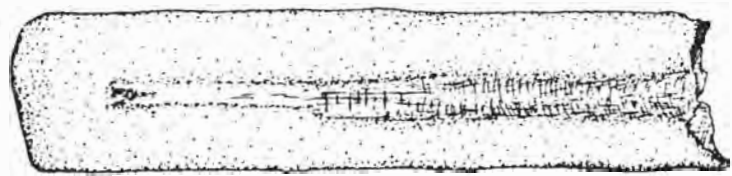


PHOTO 27
GRAINPIT EXCAVATION



PHOTO 28

'SMITH'S SHOP'; NKWALENI



DIABRAM 15

ROCKSTONE - COPPER BRAD STAMPED - 1911

identified on the survey map, one which has been excavated (see diagram 14) This grainpit showed similar design to the types usually found in smaller homesteads (and located in the central cattle kraal); it consisted of a narrow opening expanding into a largish bowl below. (although only slightly less than half of the whole grainpit had been excavated 4 of the excavation crew managed to fit inside quite easily. The openings were probably closed off with stones and cow dung and it is possible, since the records refer to huts (see Pgs 87-8), that each pit was covered by a thatched roof. The approximate volume of each grainpit (if we assume them to be the same size as the one excavated) was ca. 5,31 cubic metres, and it is probable that the grain was meant for the consumption of the isigodlo and Bheje inhabitants alone.

There is in addition evidence to the fact that this upper section of the kraal around the Bheje was an area used for copper and iron working.⁴⁵ A sandstone mould (see diagram 15) was recovered (from the excavated grainpit(!)). The rows of holes were probably used as moulds for copper or brass beads; the remains of burnt twigs in some of them possibly indicate the way in which small holes were made in each bead. Two triangular channels along the side of the 'brick' might have been moulds for copper bangles (also triangular in cross section). (mention of this sort of mould is made by Gariner (1966) and others.)

One mold in a grainpit hardly qualified it as an area for metalworking

UMBELO, THE STOCKADE

There is no doubt that Mgungundlovu was encircled both on the inner and outer perimeters by a fence or stockade (uMbelo) (whilst the Bheje kraals were probably similarly fenced.)

Champion describes the uMbelo as being made of "straight bushes crossing each other in the shape of an X." (Champion 1967:31).

A trench, excavated to bed rock, was extended outwards from behind huts 47 & 48 (see daigram 38 pg back) for a distance of approximately 43 metres in an attempt to locate the stockade. Although a number of holes (ca 15 metres behind the huts floors) were located in some concentration, nothing conclusive was obtained to indicate the position of the fence. (in diagram 10 pg 51 the outer stockade has been drawn in on the basis of the hole concentration mentioned above)

A section of a low stone wall has been located. It runs through the lower end of the open area between the front and back sections of the isigodlo and roughly parallel with the hut rows (see Diagram 38); this certainly suggests itself to be the remains of some form of partition or fence. (especially since it lies in a position where one would expect to find such a feature). The uncertainty as to it's exact associations, however, renders the interpretation of this bit of evidence, questionable.



PHOTO 29
THE TRENCH



PHOTO 30
PART OF 'STONE WALL'

MIDDENS

Three small midden excavations (see *diag 35*) produced quantities of cattle, buck, sheep/goat remains and sherds, beads and odd pieces of metal. Since no detailed analysis of the sample has been undertaken the exact contribution which the excavations have made. (and indeed future midden analysis will make) is still unknown. The faunal data does however suggest that hunting might have been of some importance to the dietary economy (as well as sheep or goat)⁴⁶

The location of middens in relation to the living areas might also be an important source of information, not only as a record of the probable variation in content between barrack and isigodlo but also as indicators of site use. If the inhabitants of the kraal were tipping waste over the outer stockade midden locations might also act as guides to the position of the fence.

CONCLUSION

To avoid repetition the conclusion will be as short as possible. The data as it stands is not in the need of fancy mathematical constructs, the patterns that wish to be illustrated are, for the most part, clearly observable and they have only required the assignment of simple measurements. It would also be pointless to describe in any detail the differences between the survey map of the site and the many historical drawings of the kraal. In terms of detail, Gardiners sketch (pg 53) seems to be the most accurate of the earlier drawings. Those of Smith (pg 55) and Champion (pg 8+) seem to have been jotted down from memory and are obviously inaccurate in detail. Smith showing far too few huts, ^{and} whilst the kraal is most certainly not circular, Champions plan is far too egg shaped. There are several variations of the type of drawings on pages 54-8 and all of them are inaccurate proportionally (being more interested in the 'murder' at the centre of the kraal), they are artist's sketches rather than anything attempting to represent a true and accurate picture of the kraal. Of the two later sketches, that of Stuart (pg 89) is probably the most accurate in detail whilst the water-colour executed by Cary (pg 91) is blatantly incorrect. The usefulness of the diagrams however, is that by their consistency in reproducing certain aspects of the kraal we can obtain general impressions of:

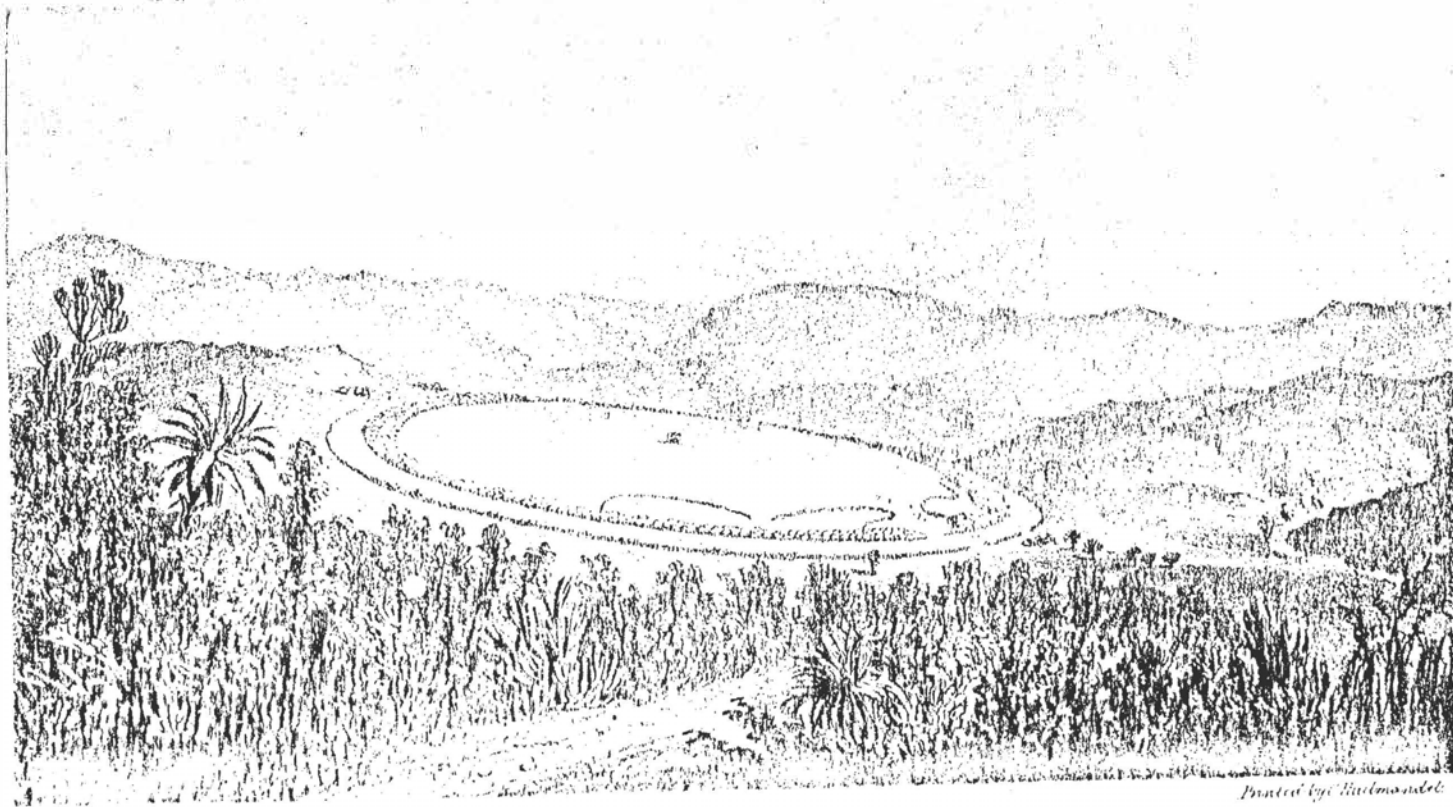
- i) the position of the kraal in relation to the hill
- ii) the relative positions and vague proportions of the isigodlo and barracks area.
- iii) the density of huts in the barracks as opposed to the greater amount of space and the apartmenting of huts in the isigodlo.

iv) the approximate locations, number and size of the Bheje kraals.

v) the existence of outer and inner stockades and the main entrance at the bottom of the kraal

The written accounts are not all that much more useful and there tends to be an overemphasis on the isigodlo. In addition there have been a number of attempts to estimate the total number of huts and the maximum possible population at Mgungundlovu.

SOURCE	POPULATION	NO. OF HUTS
Stuart-he obtained his information from Dingane's milk & herd boys		1,500
Steenkamp - apparently from his own observations at the site nearly 100 yrs. after it had been built!		2,500
Champion		1,000
Owen		2,500
Gardiner	5,500	1,100
Retief	20 per hut - 34,000	1,700(barracks)
Based on information from Krige & Gardiner.	Each regiment 800-1000 strong; 8 regiments at Mgungundlovu therefore 8,000-6,400 warriors	

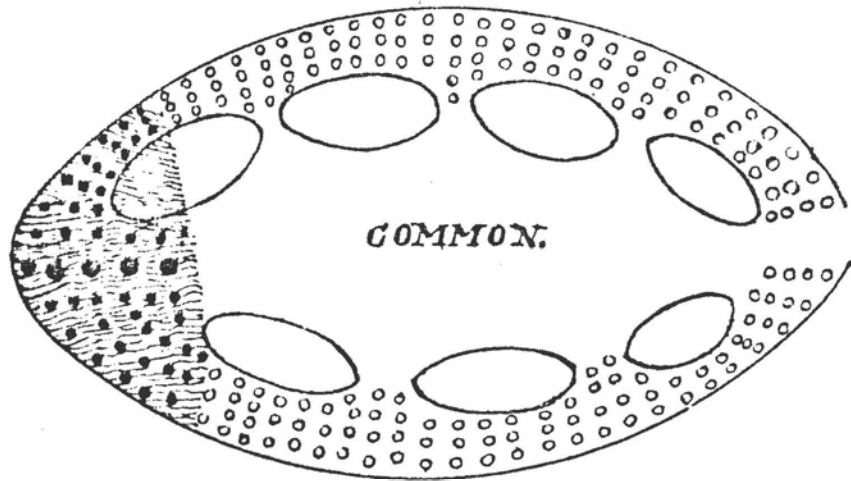


W. H. Holmes del.

Printed by H. M. S. S. Co.

*VIEW OF DOWRIGHT-LAKE.
Lake formed by retreating of the Tugata
retreated to Wanda-Chonseru Lake*

*DIAGRAM 3
CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE*

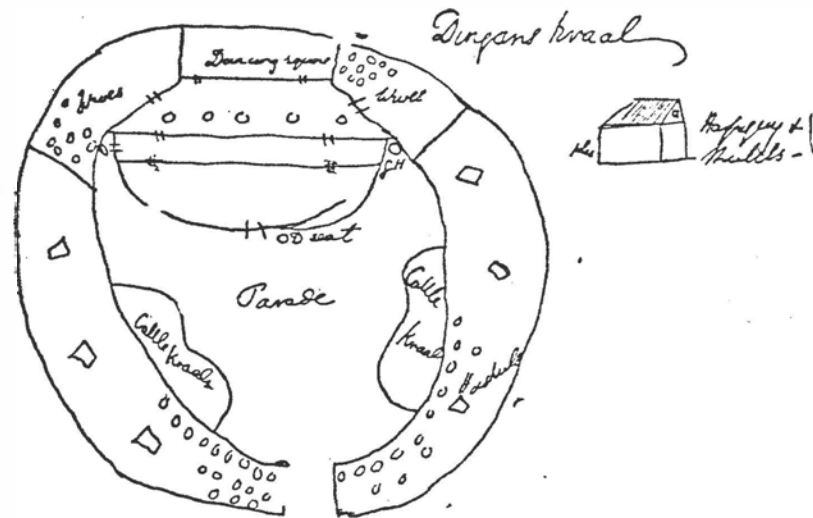


DINGAAN'S IQRAAL.

FROM 'THE MISSIONARY HERALD'
VOL. XXXIII NO. 5
MAY, 1837.

DINGAAN'S IQRAAL
(continued)

TRACING OF ANDREW SMITH'S SKETCH OF DINGANE'S KRAAL,
APRIL, 1832

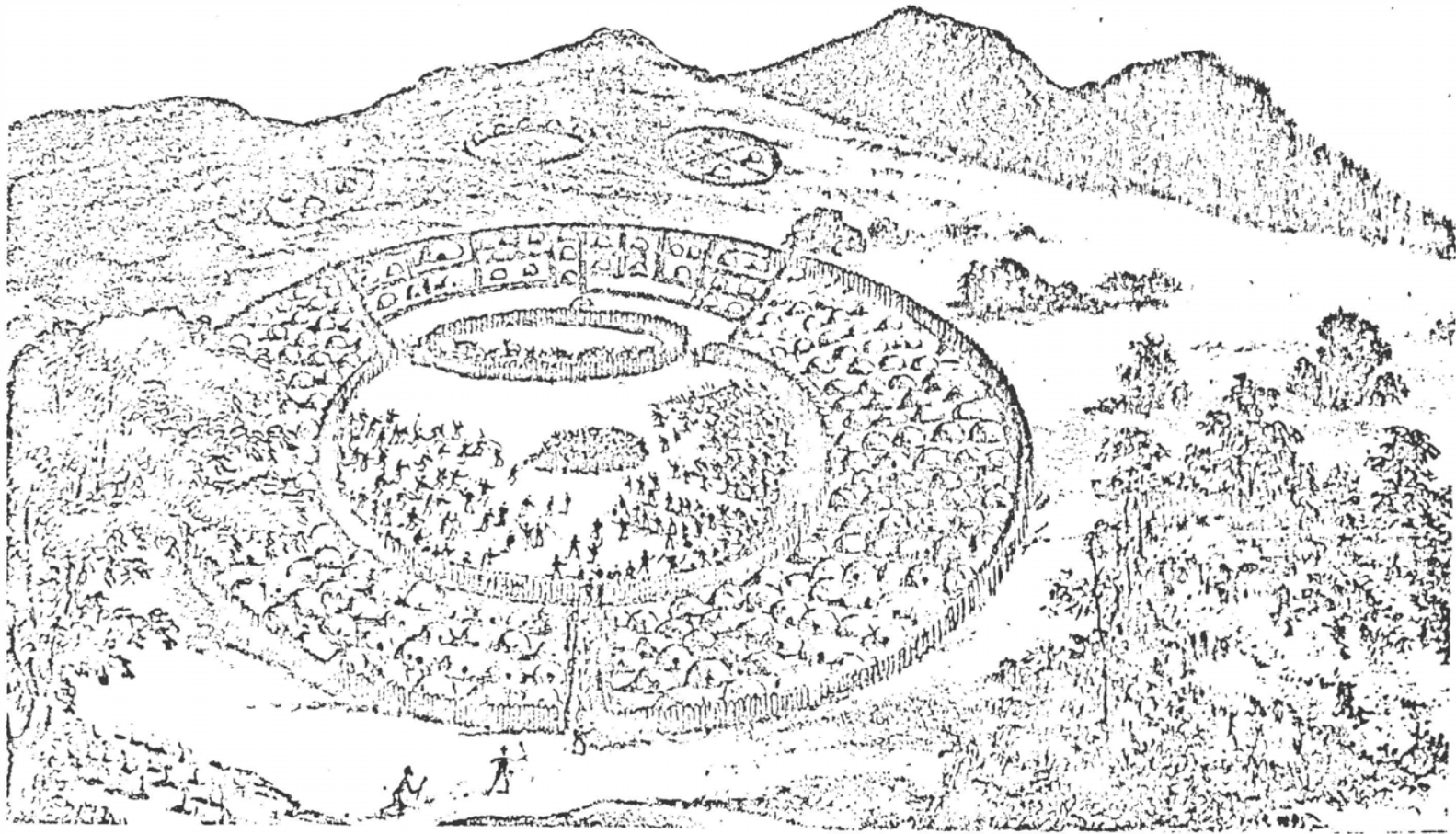


It is obvious that Smith made this sketch in order to refresh his memory when he returned to the Cape. Note how only a few huts are indicated in four different areas. These were, of course, completely filled with huts. Note also the rectangular thatched sheds in which weapons were kept.

DIAGRAM
APRIL 1832



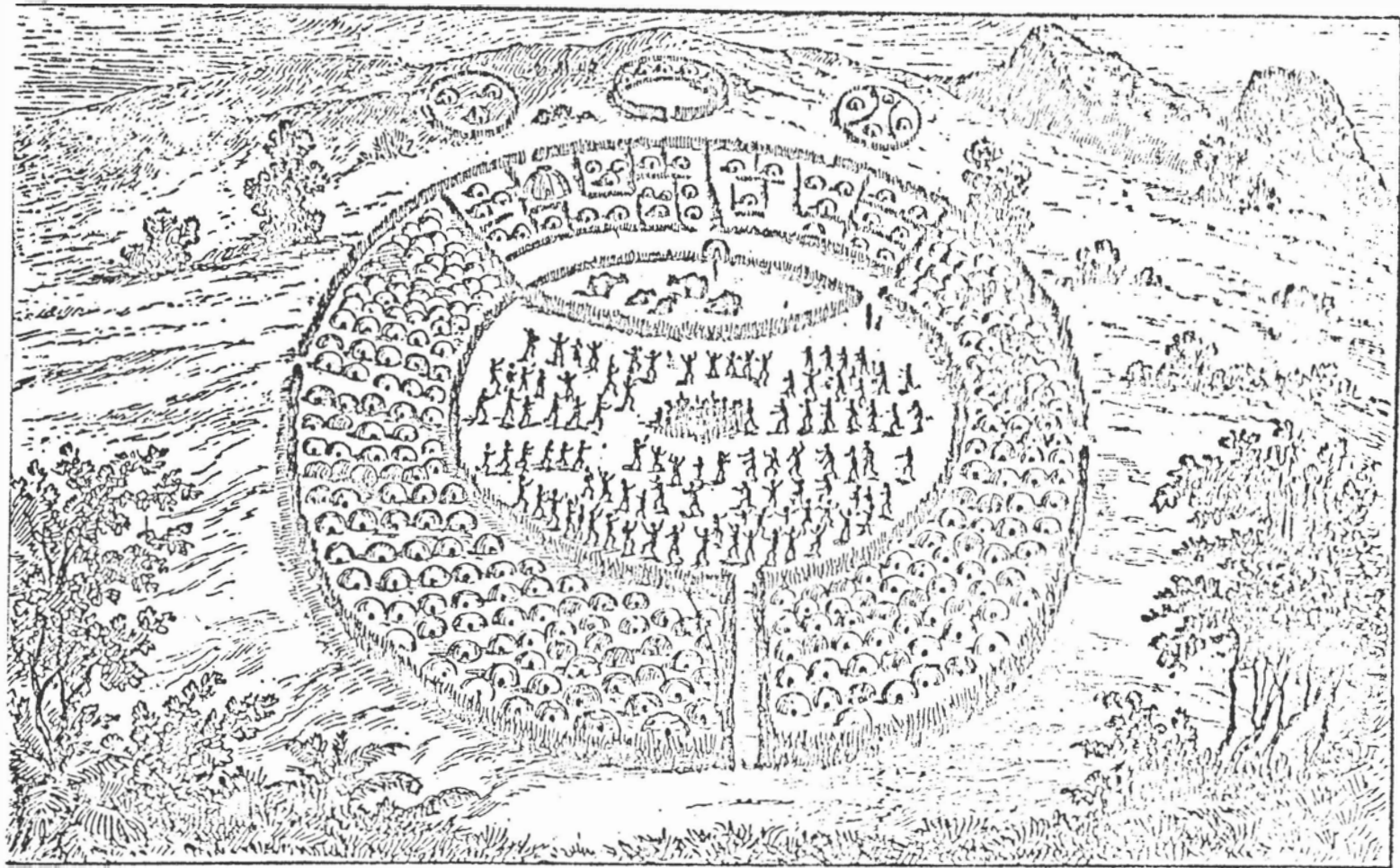
DIAGRAM 20



Dingaan's Kraal

Taken from an illustration in H.J.Hofstede's(junior)book"Geschiedenis van den

Oranje-Vrystaat" 1876.



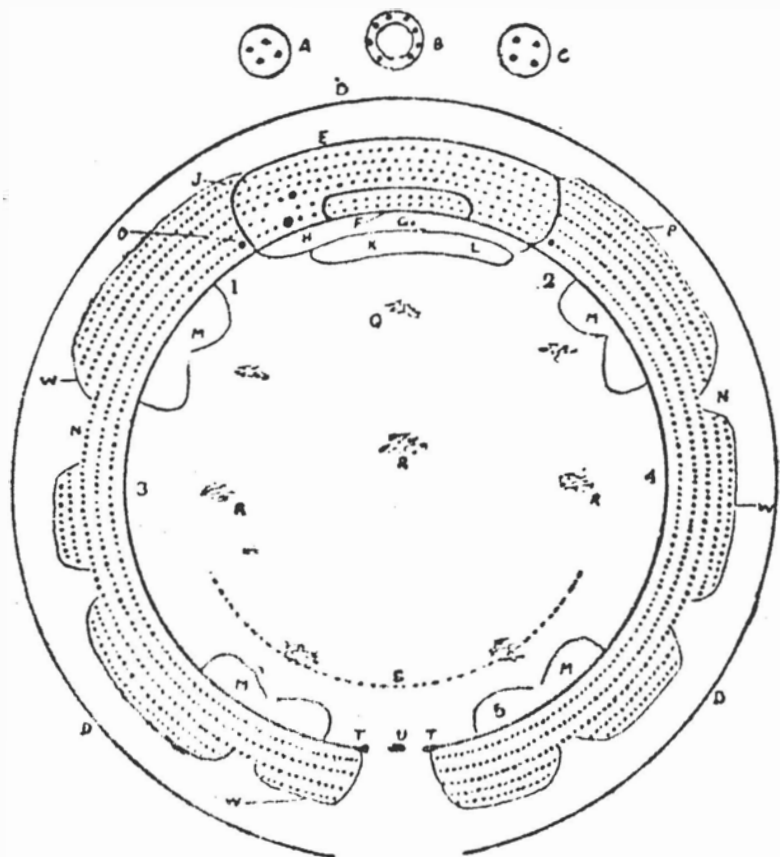
Murder of Piet Retief; Illustration taken from

History of the Battles in S. Africa, by D.C.F. Moodie. vol. 1.

This diagram, taken from James Stuart's book *uKuhmetule*, is circular for reasons of space, and in order to be more easily handled for details. The kraal was, in fact, elliptical in shape.

Explanation

- A. uMvazana—the little outside left kraal.
- B. uBeje—the little outside centre kraal.
- C. KwaMbeceni—the little outside right kraal.
- D. Outer fence of the big Royal Kraal.
- E. Fence of the white seraglio.
- F. Fence of the black seraglio.
- G. Barracks of the guards of the seraglio.
- H. House of the King.
- J. House of Mpikase, mother of Dingane.
- K, L. Kraal in which the cattle for slaughter (the cattle for the mouth) were kept, and in which the King washed.
- M. Kraal for the cattle of the community.
- N. Regimental barracks.
- O. House of Commander-in-Chief, Ndlela.
- P. House of the Commander, Nzofo.
- Q. Abattoir enclosure.
- R. Milking enclosures.
- S. Enclosure in which soldiers danced at milking time.
- T. Gate posts.
- U. Central dividing gate post.
- W. Fences of soldiers' barracks.
- 1 & 2. Where the pillows, i.e., headrests, arc.
- 3. All the space right down to the gate is the side of the kraal.
- 4. Great cattle kraal.
- 5. Large cattle kraal of the amaWombe regiment.



UMGUNCUNDILOVU.

DINGANE'S KRAAL

Plan drawn by James Stuart

There were many entrances on all sides, and many wind-screens in front of doors, and grain huts and storehouses for shields, but they are not shown on this paper for they are too small.

The soldiers at Umguncundlovu filled the whole place. At the headrest on the left side of the kraal there was the NqoSolondo regiment; then followed the Mankamane (imiKhulutshane); at the stomach of the kraal were the ZiBolela and Fasimba regiments; and when you went towards the gate there was the Tshoyisa. Near the large cattle kraal on the right at the headrest (near seraglio) was the Zimpohlo; then followed the Mankentshane (imi-Khulutshane) and the Dukuza regiments; then towards the gate was the large cattle kraal and amaWombe.

In the white seraglio stay the 1,500 girls who have been sent as tribute to the King. The *iNdhokhulu* and *iKhohlo* and *iNqadi* of every kraal of importance in Zululand were required to present to the King at least one grown-up girl. This girl was sent to one or other of the King's numerous kraals, and lived there with the other girls in a similar position. She belonged to the King and he could either marry her himself or marry her to someone else, in which case he received the *lobolo* cattle for her. The matron who was in charge there was Bibi, daughter of Nkofo (or Sompisi), the sister of Ndlela, the Commander-in-Chief.

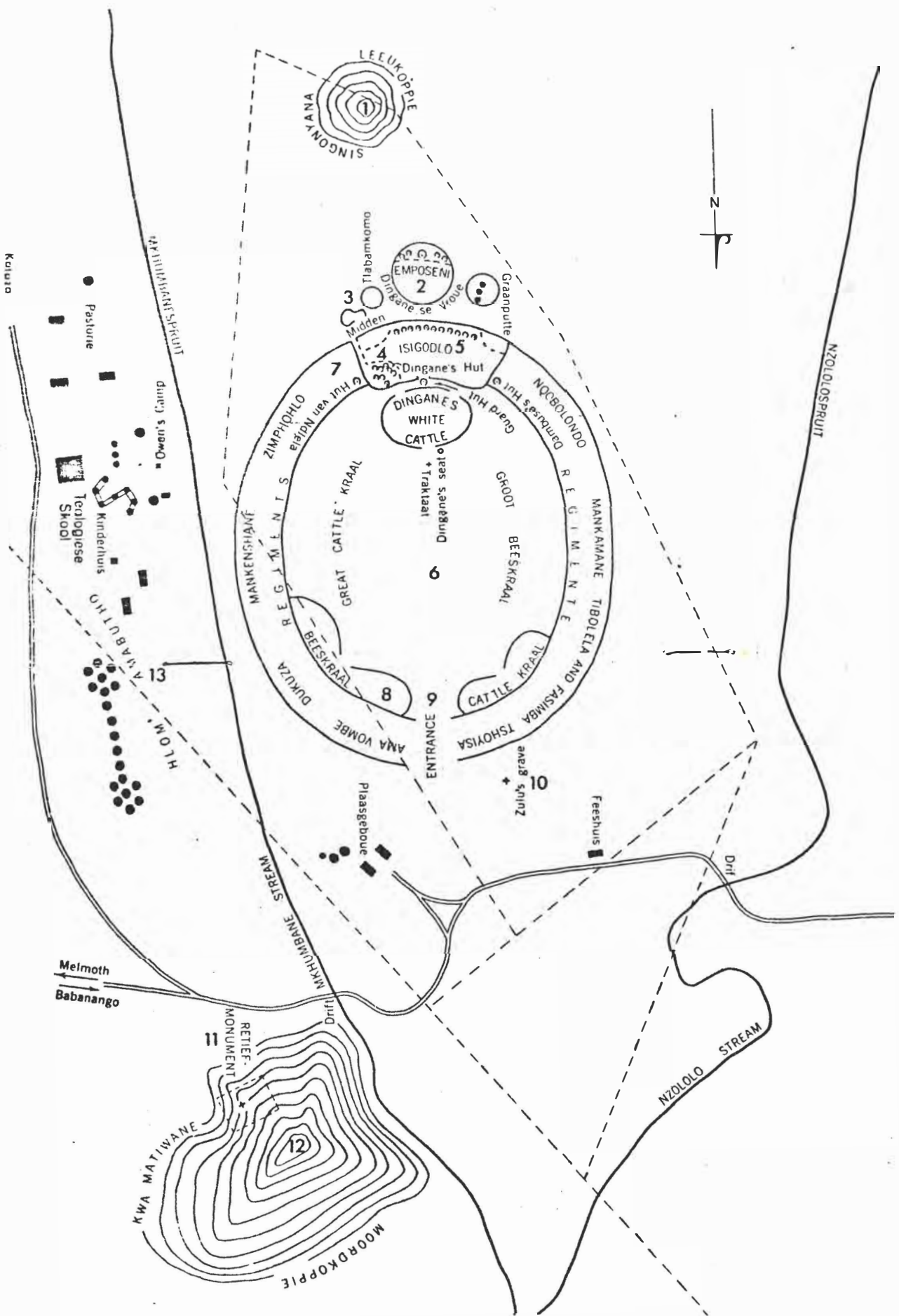
In the black seraglio, where no one enters (only a boy servant who has not reached the age of puberty works), stay the King only with his concubines, together with the part of the seraglio responsible for his food. The matron in charge at first was Langazana, daughter of GuBashe. Then, when she was transferred to Khangela, the matron was Mjanisi, the wife of Lenzangakhova. The food and beer and calabashes were kept in the huts of the girls. They do not stay in the house of the matron.

In the seraglios there were slave girls and widows who did the work of the place.

Note—

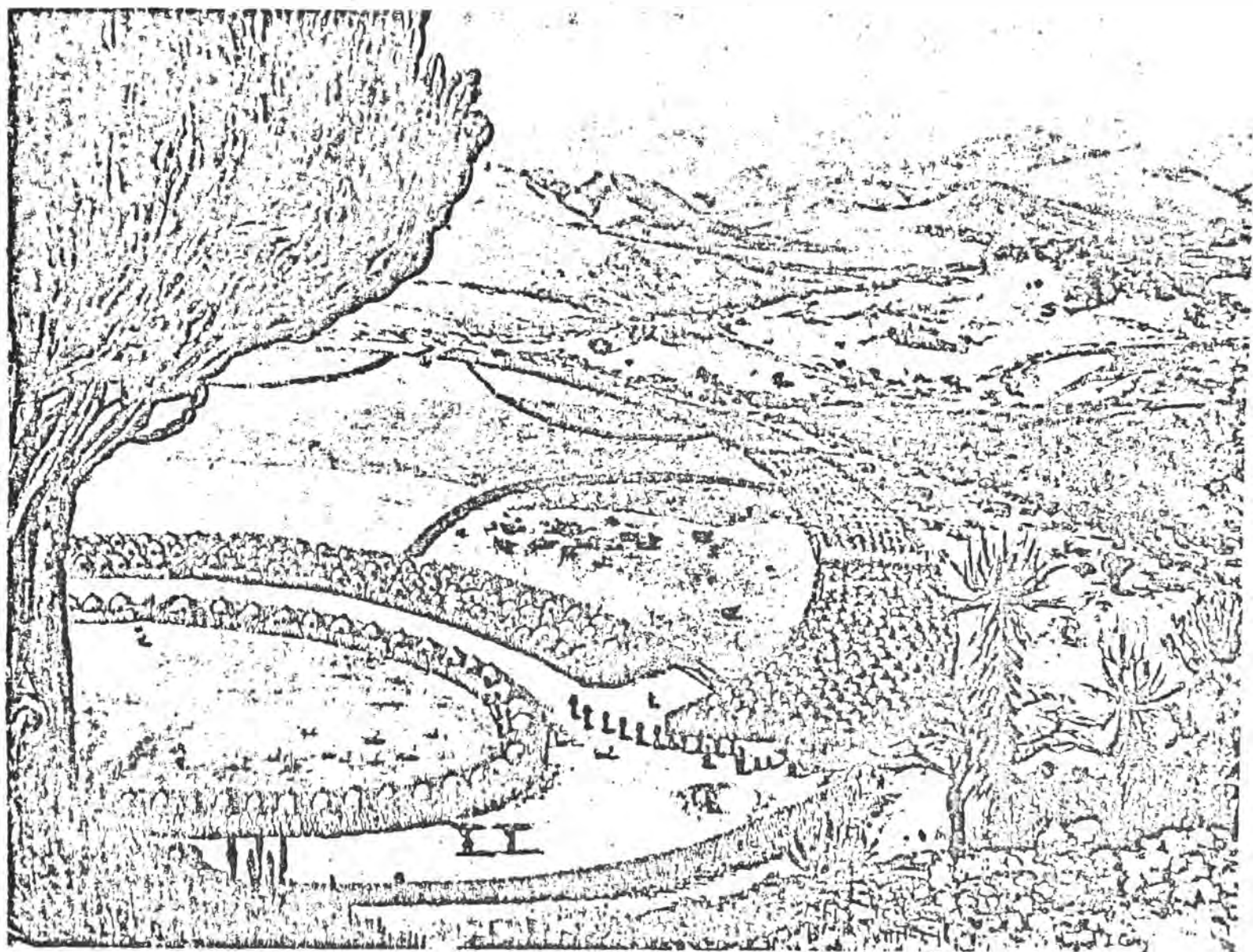
James Stuart's information concerning Umguncundlovu, Dingane's Kraal, was taken from his Zulu book *uKuhmetule*, as told by the Zulus, Tununu, son of Nonjaya of the QwaBe clan, Ngidi (or Mankamankazi), son of Mankaziswa of the Langa clan, Lunguza, son of Mpukane of the Themba clan, Siviya, son of Maqungo, son of Malunga of the HluBi clan, during his investigations on Zulu History from 1889 onwards.

DINGANE'S KRAAL



DINGANESTAT

- DIAGRAM 24
 - (WAGNER & GIBBS)



Dingaanskraal

From a painting by Margaret Cary, done under the direction of

"Die Historiese Kommissie van die Saamwerk Unie. Natal.

On the basis of assumed recovery percentages it is possible to make some estimations derived from our archaeological data. The estimations that follow are made on the basis of 3 assumptions

1. that one whole half of the warrior arc has been mapped. There are two problems in making this assumption, firstly, we have no idea whether the bottom couple of huts (ie near Nkosinkulu's grave) truly marks the entrance position or not (but symmetrically the central axis seems to run through this point and the road which, all probability is the same path used at the time of the kraals habitation, also passes here) Secondly, we do not have precise indications as yet to where the warrior huts stop and the isigodlo complex begins. (supposedly marked by Dambuza's hut 4³) (however the isigodlo extends, at least a little further to the right from hut no. 23 - on the basis that 23 is a large isigodlo type hut and also on the overall plan form of huts in the area including the probable termination beginning of isigodlo)
2. that we have located at least 85% of the isigodlo huts and very probably as much as 95%. We certainly have mapped the right end (although the precise point of which is not known - see above) and seem to be fairly near to the left end. The odd 'gap' that can be seen on the hut map might be 'natural' spaces just as they may be areas where we have not as yet located a hut.
3. that in a 50metre section, where the density for located huts in the warrior area is greatest (around the Section E strip) We have a 75% recovery (because this is a rough approximation I have included a range from 85%-95% in the estimations below - especially since, open 'eating spaces' apparently occurred at intervals in the warrior area.) see overleaf

WARRIOR

Length of left warrior arc = 170 metres
therefore total length of
warrior barracks = 1420 metres

Highest density of located
warrior huts in 50m = 33 Huts
which, at the following recov-
ery percentages, means a total
of warrior huts of:

65%	-	14	42
70%	-	13	38
75%	-	12	50
80%	-	11	71
85%	-	11	02
90%	-	10	41

ISIGODLO

No. of located huts = 77
therefore the total no.,
at the following recov-
ery percentages, would be

85%	-	90.59	91
90%	-	85.56	86
95%	-	81.05	81

TOTAL NO.

Therefore at the minimum there are
at the maximum there are
and probably (ie average
figure)

ca 1136.59
ca 1532.59
1335.56 huts

Handwritten notes:
... ..

The accuracy of these calculations are borne out by their close correspondence with estimations made by others (ie Stuart 1,500, Champion 1000, Retief 1,700, Gardiner 1,100 and seems to reject the high number suggested by both Kirkman and Steenkamp - 2500)

In the calculation of the maximum possible population at Mgungundlovu, Gardiners estimate of five individuals to each hut have been used.

"In any other than a military place, the average of five individuals to each house, which I have allowed, would be too many, as in those there are frequently three or four houses belonging to one family; but in the ekandas no person, with the exception of the Indoonas of the regiment, are permitted to have more than one, which he occupies generally with two wives and as many servants."(Gardiner 1966: 206)

The estimate of five per hut is reasonable in terms of other figures given by Bleek(1965) and Bryant (1929). This then would give approximately 5,600 to 6,600 inhabitants at the kraal on the basis of our hut numbers this fits in between the estimates given by Gardiner (5,500) and the calculation using the regiment size (6,400 - 8,000).

Finally the question of sampling adequacy is an important one. The nature of the sample, as it stands, has most probably been influenced by the initial objectivities of the excavation, which was to obtain some form of archaeological reconstruction of the site (it is wondered however, if the sample would have been any different if this had not been the case.) The result has been a possible overemphasis on exposing the more 'attractive' isigodlo floors, as opposed to the 'plainer' warrior huts.

Logistical/...

Log istical factors have also been influential since the extent and nature of the site really demanded far larger field crews than were ever really present .

Although these kind of factors should not be ignored when discussing sampling problems the rest of this section will be turned into a simple check list in terms of (a) what the sample is capable of illustrating and (b) what it has failed to show.

- (a) i) The data has allowed for a reasonable estimation of the site size, the total number of huts and, also, although less accurately, an estimation of the possible maximum population.
- ii) An accurate plot of all located hut floors and features, thus presenting a fair reflection of the overall site layout.
- iii) The information enabled the identification of the isigodlo, warrior and two of the Bheje areas.
- iv) Differences in layout, architecture patterns between the isogodlo and warrior areas have been illustrated. In particular - density, dimensional factors, hut furniture, and inter hut variation.
- (b) i) Total hut number estimates have depended on a number of assumptions (see pg 92) none of which can be adequately illustrated (ie. extent of warrior and isigodlo areas and entrance position.)
- ii) There is no acceptable information to illustrate accurately the width, density and arrangement of the warrior huts.
- iii) The inner and outer stockades have not been found - their importance is related both to simple reconstruction and to spatial analysis of living area etc.
- iv) There are a number of divisions within the isigodlo primarily defined by area (ie Black and White) and by compartmental groupings (see pg 51). None of these compartment groups have been located in terms of surrounding stockades nor is there, at the moment, any information for dividing huts, hut groups or areas of the isigodlo into functional loci (with the possible exception of the 'kitchen' area)

v).....

- v) The relationship of midden dumping areas to kraal layout cannot at this stage be examined.
- vi) The position and nature of the Mvazana kraal. (the third Bheje site) is unknown.
- vii) Nothing is really known about the possible inter hut features (eating spaces, entrances and throughways and shield storing huts.)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank Prof. N. van der Merwe and my supervisor, Mr J. Parkington, for his help and for making the Mgungundlovu data available to me. Without the survey, conducted by Mr H. Ruther of the U.C.T. Land Survey Dept., most of the diagrams appearing in this paper would not have been accomplished. Thanks are also given to all those who have helped on the Mgungundlovu excavations, but especially to Mr C. Poggenpoel (Dept. of Archaeology, U.C.T.), Mr E. Hyde and several 'unknown' African workers, from the Natal Roads Dept. I would also like to acknowledge the help given me by Mr M. Ripp (Environmental Studies, U.C.T.) in programming the Univac computer for the map plot of the site.

KEY TO NOTES MADE IN THE TEXT.

1. The second season's 'finds' collection and midden samples having only just arrived from Pietermaritzburg.
2. The capital was purposely fired by the king and it is probable that a good many articles were collected from the hut floors before the town was destroyed.
3. During which time a survey was made of Ulundi (see diag. pg 30)
4. Of the Historical Monuments Council
5. Carried out by walking over the terrain and either spotting bits of daga floor or digging in likely areas .
6. Trevor Cope has published a useful (but incomplete and insufficient in detail) bibliography on the Zulu. (T. Cope The Zulu People: a select bibliography 1974)
7. This factor of Qwabe seniority was to cause Dingane a spot of bother, since the Qwabe never really recognized Zulu supremacy (Bryant 1929)
8. In fact the whole question of Nguni origins and the nature of their settlement in Natal is badly in need of re-examination.
9. It is unclear as to when the Nguni people first appeared along the south east coast, but it seems they were probably there well before the 16th century (Wilson 1969)
10. For the location of these three political groups see map 3 on page 19
11. I am thinking about ^{the} myth of Dingiswayo's associations with a Mr Cowan who taught him the arts of European warfare (eg Bryant 1929)
12. Gluckman "The Rise of the Zulu Empire" Scientific America vol. 202, April 1960. Stevenson 1968 has an interesting chapter devoted to an examination of the basis of Gluckman's theory of population density.
13. Smith 1972 examines the importance of the Delegoa Bay trade in Nguni politics 1750-1835. Although Smith himself admits that trade was probably only of secondary importance (op.cit. 171) it is nevertheless an interesting and much understudied field of research. It seems too that trade with Delegoa Bay during Dingane's time was still a factor of some importance (Gardiner 1966) (see also Fynn 1950:47)

14. Daniel(1973) and Guy(n/d) have looked at grazing potentials for cattle in Zululand and the relationship of Ngwane, Ndwandwe and Mthethlwa centres to areas of good grazing.
15. This is the usual type of popular approach, to be seen in Becker(1966) and Ritter(1955) for example.
16. Spieg(1975) basis his model on the 'putting out of cattle' as a means of gaining wider political control, the approach essentially examines the mechanisms of change rather than the causes.
17. Shaka was actually killed in a small kraal, called Nyakamobi, alongside the Dukuza town.
18. The bulk of the information for this chapter has been derived from Wilson(1969) and Bryant(1929)
19. Okoye(1969) has examined the attitudes of Whites towards Dingane and the reasons for the many 'character type assassinations' to be found in the literature. He suggests that they failed to have greater confidence in Dingane "as they embarked on measures which could only be interpreted as mimical to the kings interest"(op,cit.)
20. There are several interpretations of the exact meaning of the name Mgungundlovu - the most popular being - 'the place surrounded by elephants.'
21. There is very little material available on this subject the most complete account is given by Becker(1966) but as he does not mention where he has derived his information, the description is all probably a figment of his own imagination.
22. It is ^{NOT} certain how many capitals Shaka built, but there were at least two Bulawayo's; the last capital being his Dukuza kraal.
23. This was not of course accidental and was fired by order of Dingane himself after it had been abandoned.
24. During May the same year(1835) similar enlargements were taking place at Congella(Dingane's second capital, near Eshowe in the Mhlatuži Valley) "For the purpose of enlarging the town, and giving a greater space for cattle in the centre, the huts are all about to be removed from the neighbourhood of the inner to that of the outer fence. This operation is now going on with great vigour: and in order to save time and trouble, many huts are carried on men's shoulders entire and set up again in the situation required."(Gardiner 1966:139)(see sketch on pg 135) It is interesting that the town was being enlarged to accommodate more cattle(!) and Gardiner later refers to the same

thing/.....

thing occurring at Intontella, another military town near the Amatikulu. "The people here, as at Congella, were occupied in building new houses further out, in order to enlarge the circumference of their town, for the admission of more cattle, which are said to have greatly increased in all parts of the country."(op.cit.)

It is assumed that the old hut floors at Mgungundlovu were destroyed after the capital had been rebuilt and that there is no mixture in our hut sample between 'old' and 'new' floors.

- 25. The Dukuza kraal, which was located during the second season at Mgungundlovu, is not a military barrack, but seems to have been fairly large (approx. 12 hut floors were located during our short survey, and there is every indication that there were many more). It was built by Dingane to appease the spirit of Shaka. The ^{map 7 (back)} Imzemananzani location, given on the map, is inaccurate, but it was certainly no more than 3 kilometers away from Mgungundlovu (the orientation is probably correct however see Gardiners map. pg 42) (Gardiner 1966)
- 27. Hobamba seems to have first been built by Ndaba (13th century) but the site occupied during Dingane's times was certainly the same as the one during Senzanakhona's and Shaka's reign. There were three Isiklebeni's (see map 7) and all three might have been used during Dingane's period. The first was built by Senzanakhona. The Embelli-belli kraal existed during the reigns of Shaka and Senzanakhona too. (Essary papers (n/d) K.C.C.) There is a list in the appendix (pg 60) of important towns belonging to Dingane
- 28. The herd size at Mgungundlovu alone, was obviously large. Retief had two of his men count one of the herds (Dingane said it was the smallest), they reported 2,424 head. "I am informed that his herds of red and black oxen consist of three to four thousand each." (Bird 1965:365)
- 29. Congella, although the second capital was not the second largest in the kingdom; "Congella is the second capital of the Zoolu nation, but in size not superior to Intontella" (Owen 1926;29)
- 30. Krige (1965)
- 31. The homesteads and villages in the 'rural' areas.
- 32. "In return for this personal sacrifice for king and country, the warriors were graciously forbidden to marry (during their period of soldiery); and were permitted to feed themselves and to get no reward. They obtained food supplies from their own homes." (Bryant 1967:497)

33. "Private kraals belong to individuals who, having sufficient cattle, are sure of getting sufficient people to establish a kraal either from the regiment or stragglers in distress.....They are supported by the loan of his cattle and milk, only planting their own fields of corn" (Fynn 1950:286)
34. Since there is a tendency in this paper to use a number of different terms to describe the same thing the reader is advised to take note of the terminology list on Pgs 112-11
35. There is very little information available in this respect. It is obvious that both Congella and Umgungundlovu contained isigodlo's but many of the other larger towns like Intontella probably did too, whilst some of the other military barracks were apparently the quarters of women regiments.
36. Although Bryant says.."there was no artificial drainage in the Zulu house system, nor any water storage."(Bryant 1967: 76)
37. The basis for these divisions is obviously derived from historical data. There are dangers of circularity in argument implicit in this approach, but the units as such have been used generally rather than definitively
38. One of Dingane's huts apparently contained 22 posts (Owen 1926; Champion 1967; Retief in Bird 1965) but this hut has not been located.
39. Stuarts informants were (or obtained information from) milk and herd boys at the capital itself.
40. Smith(Kirby 1955) records this as a dancing area.(see sketch pg 8⁵), this it might well have been but it would be interesting to attempt a soil analysis here as it could possibly have been used as a cattle pen.
41. This has been suggested as many of the drawings of the kraal (see pages 87-90) include a large hut in the eastern section of the isigodlo.
42. The hut was exposed, before the U.C.T. excavations, by a Mr Chadwick. A large quantity of thick sherds was collected (now stored in the Natal Museum.)
43. Bleek (1965) records that there was a similar variation of hut rows at Ulundi (Cetshwayo's capital); he says that near the entrance there were three but in areas near the isigodlo the row density swelled to six.

44. A copper necklace worn by royalty (Dent & Nyembezi 1974)
45. "..... he led us to the smiths shop, the manufactory of the cruel bangles of copper and brass." (Champion 1967:90) Reference to the 'smiths shop' is also contained in Gardiner (1966)
46. The analysis of midden material besides possibly being extremely informative in their own right could, possibly aid as a data substitute for information destroyed by pillaging.
47. The most useful descriptions of the isigodlo at Mgungundlovu are to be found in Owen (1926:56;60-1) and Champion (1967: 90-1;32;39.)
48. Dambuza and Ndhlela were Dingane's chief indunas, the latter being the senior of the two. "... the heads of the nation were I the King, Dingarn, 2 Mapeti .." (Dingane's brother) "...3 Umthlela.." (Ndhlela) "...4 Tambooza.." (Dambuza) "...and that the King could do nothing without them; for whatever the King might appoint, it would not stand without their consent." (Gardiner, 1966:52)
49. It seems, however, that most of the food supplies other than cattle were brought in from surrounding villages or towns. Gardiner (1966:40 and 55) observes that he had frequently seen large numbers of women carrying supplies to the Isigodlo, especially utywala (beer).

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- K.C. - Killie Campbell Africana Library (Durban)
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- V.R.S. - Van Riebeck Society Publication.

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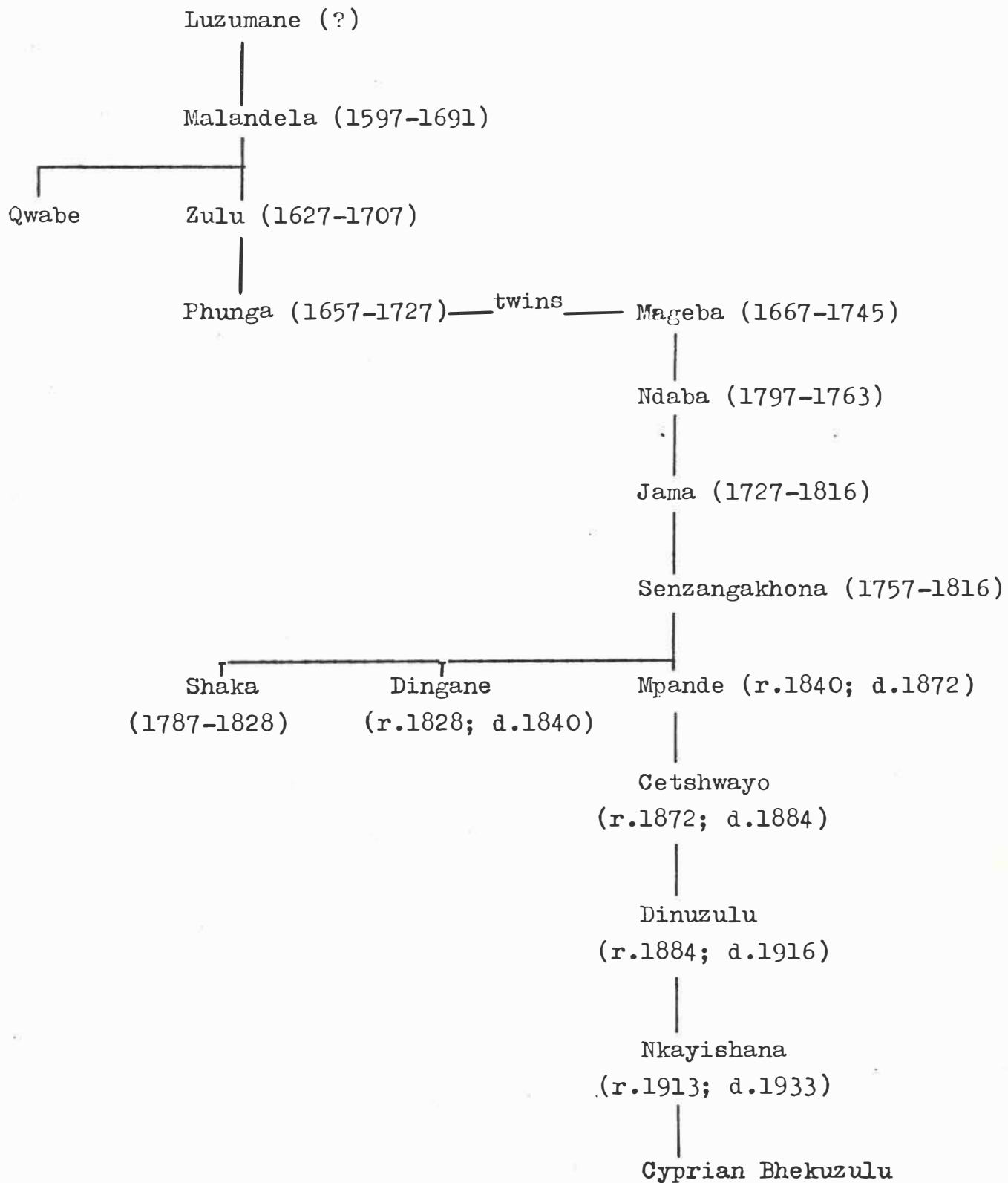
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(v)

APPENDIX I

101

ZULU GENEALOGY (Bryant 1929; Wilson
& Thompson 1969)



List of major towns occupied during Dingane's reign

SOURCE	TOWN	APPROX. LOCATION
ESSERY	Nobamba	Emakosini
	Isiklebeni	"
	Mgungundlovu	"
	Dukuza	"
	Kwa Kangella	Mhlatuzi
	Intontella	Amatikulu
	Hlomendlini mhlophe	Tugela
	Hlomendlini mnyama	Ndulini
	Ndondakusuka	Tugela mouth
	Kwa Tulwane	Ivuna valley
	Amawombe	?
Isiyendane	?	
GARDINER	Inzemananzani	Emakosini
	Embelli-belli	Emakosini
	Tontana	Eshowe-Amatikulu
	Injanduna	Tugela-Amatikulu
OWEN	Ukayakunina	Emakosini
Kirkman	Intomblo	?

Note: Information obtained from Essery (n.d.); Gardiner (1966); Owen (1926) and Kirkman (n.d., Natal Archives). The towns listed under Essery, represent the total number of large kraals he associates with Dingane's period of rule.

Those/....

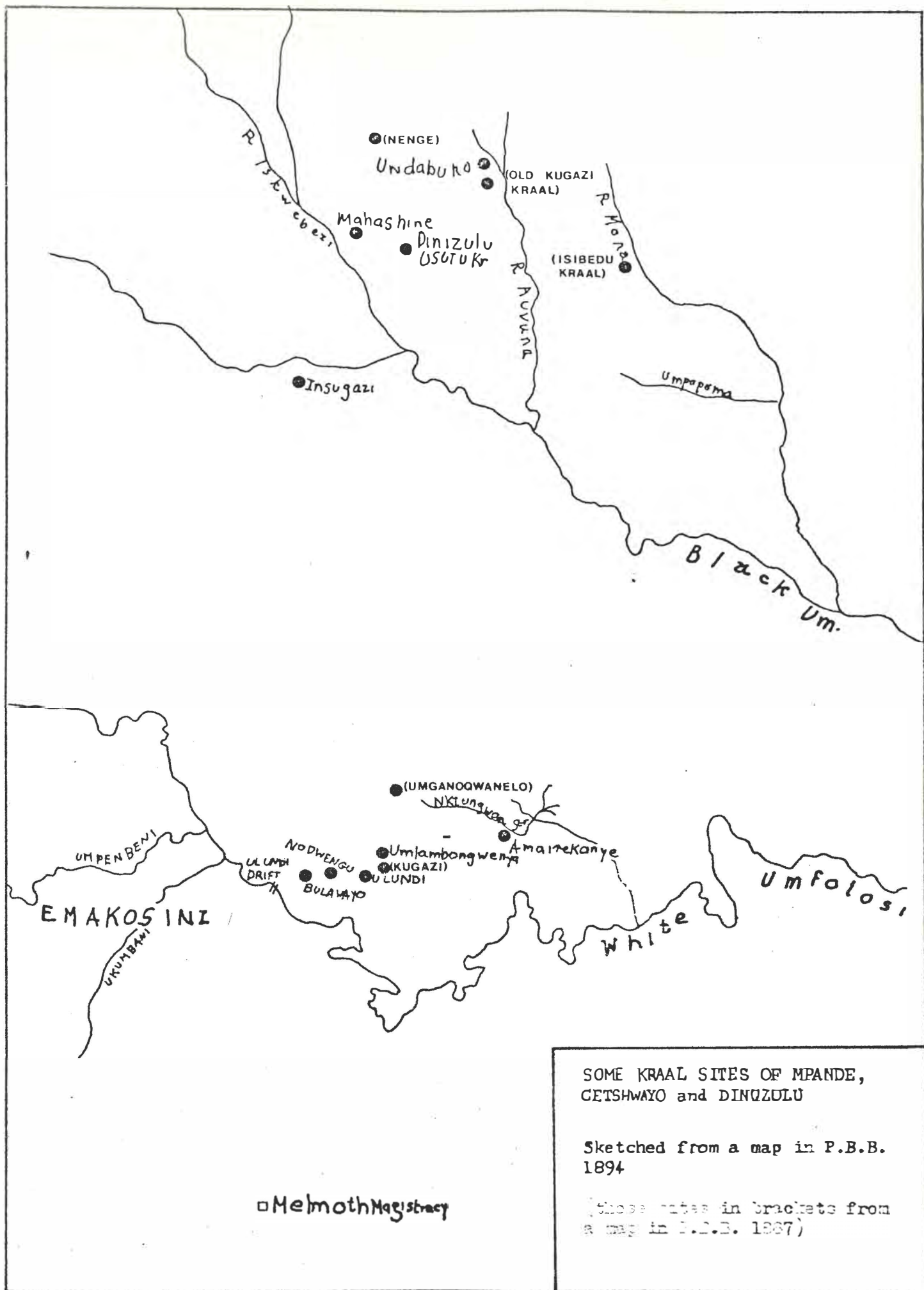
Those listed under Gardiner, are towns not mentioned by
Essery and so forth.



Map of
COUNTRY

Ekanias or Military Towns are distinguished thus *

Scale of Miles



SOME KRAAL SITES OF MPANDE,
CETSHWAYO and DINUZULU

Sketched from a map in P.B.B.
1894

(those sites in brackets from
a map in P.B.B. 1887)

□ Malmouth Magistracy

The preparation of a daga floor

"The external frame now finished, the earthen 'floor' inside having been first duly levelled and watered, a thick top layer of very finely-grained soil taken from a termite heap was then laid down in a damp state and beaten with heavy pebbles until it flattened out into one level and compact surface. This process of breaking up and rubbing down is repeated over and over again, until all cracks (which constantly reappear in the drying) are finally removed; whereafter the floor is rubbed over with smaller pebbles, which not only flattens out all remaining irregularities, but at the same time confers a certain glaze. By constant shuffling of the inmates' feet, this gloss becomes gradually worn away, and the floor has henceforward to be regularly smeared (Sinda) with diluted cowdung to keep down dust. The cowdung dries as a kind of cement covering the whole surface, is lasting and easily swept, and, mirable dictu, gives to the dwelling the fresh and agreeable odour of a dairy!

The best kind of hut, however, (for instance, those of the wealthy, and the private huts of the young men, as distinguished from the family huts, wherein the young fry and their mothers live) is furnished with a much superior type of flooring. In this case, beef-fat is rubbed into the already glazed earth, which is then carefully polished again with small pebbles, until it obtains the gloss and slipperiness of deep-black marble, and looks quite fine.

In the/...

In the centre of the hut floor is made, and glazed as before, a gentle depression, round or oval in shape, two feet wide perhaps by three feet long, and having a raised border all round. This is the fireplace (iZiko)."

(BRYANT 1967:81)

*1. 115
2. hut*

TERMINOLOGY

THE KRAAL

- Kraal used to denote any complete Nguni living unit - homestead, royal kraal, military barrack, large town.
- Ekanda a *military* barrack, military town (and in this essay royal town or 'large' town.)
- EziGhabeni military barracks (ie. not whole kraal but living area of warriors only (isiGhaba - is a company)
- Uhlangothi the two side of the barracks (ie. the 2 horns)
- IsiGodlo the seraglio or living quarters for the king, royalty, and the kings attendant bevy of maidens.
- UmMbelo the wooden stockade encircling the outer perimeter and the central cattle fold.
- Utango thorn bush hedges sometimes used for kraal fencing.
- ISango main entrance to the kraal.
- IsiBaya the central cattle-fold.
- UMyango huts, sometimes built on stilts, where weapons (eg shields) are stored.

OTHERS

- Emakosini namely grave sites or place of the kings; an area extending from the White Umfolozi to the Isihlungu and Ntonjaneni hills. It is also known as the valley of Qangqato
- Bheje Beje or Beja; the three satellite kraals at Mgungundlovu. The name is apparently derived from a chief who once defied Dingane, his name being Beja

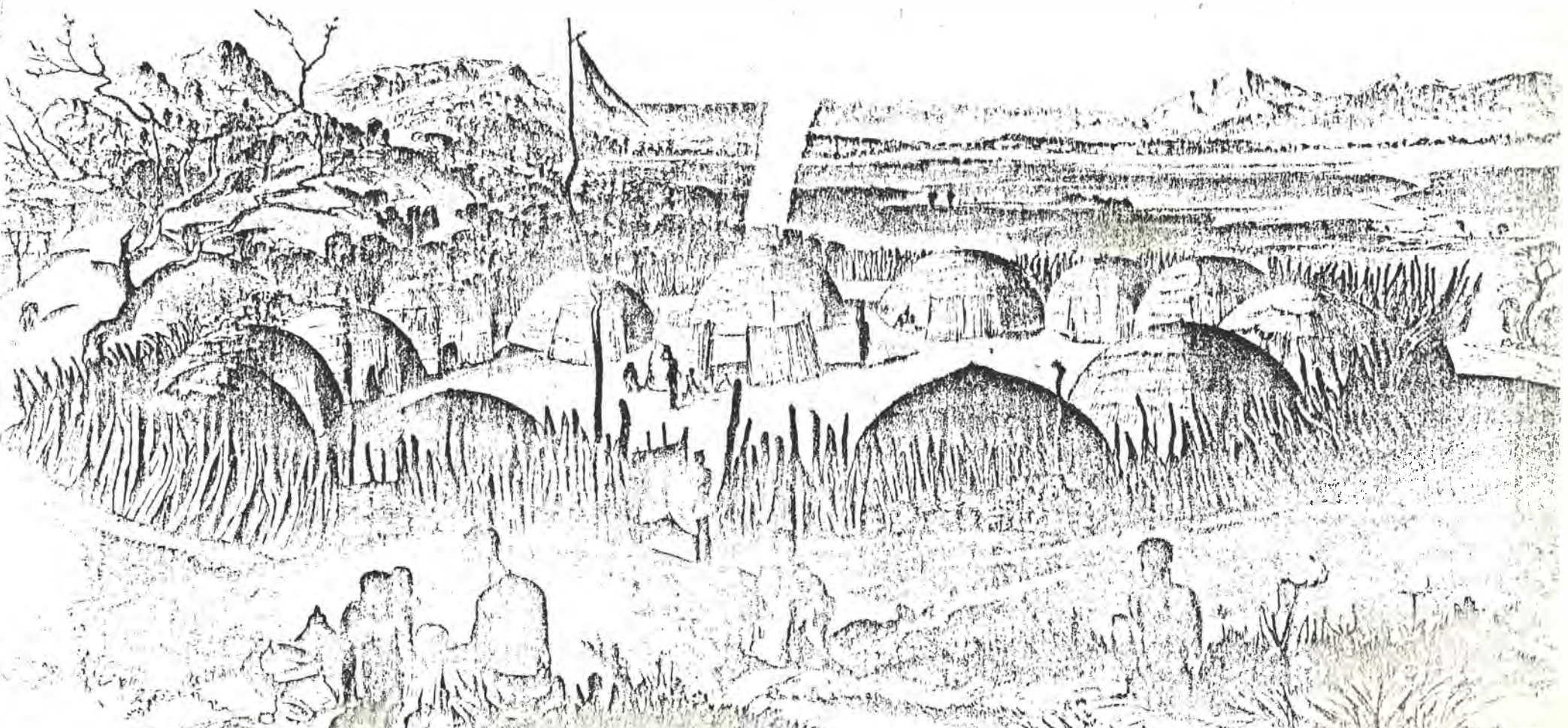


Natal Nguni Kraal

(Photo by S.A. State Information Office)

PHOTO BY

TYPICAL HOMESTEAD WITH SUBSISTENCE



119

THE HUT (INDLU) (see diagram)

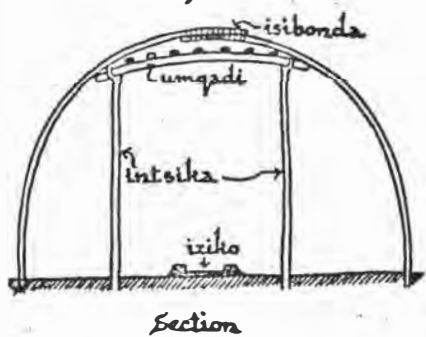
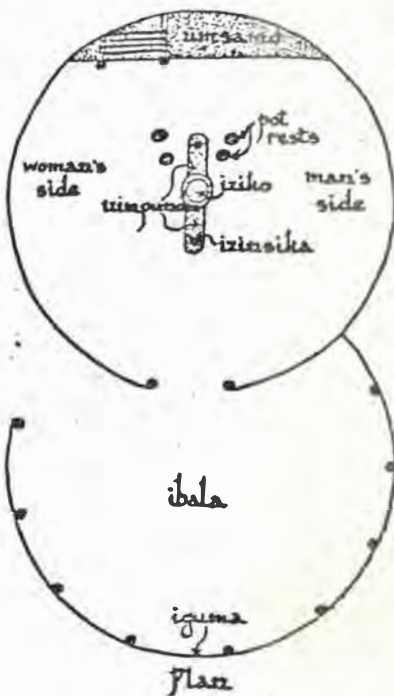
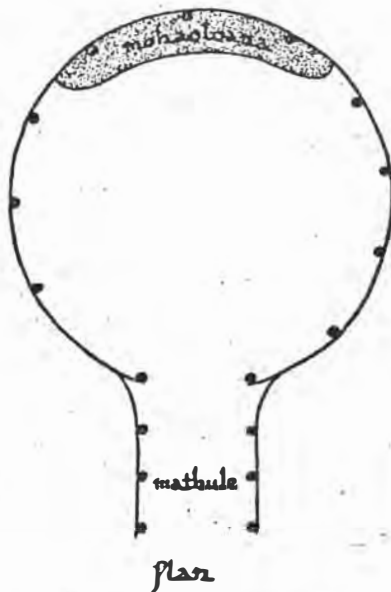
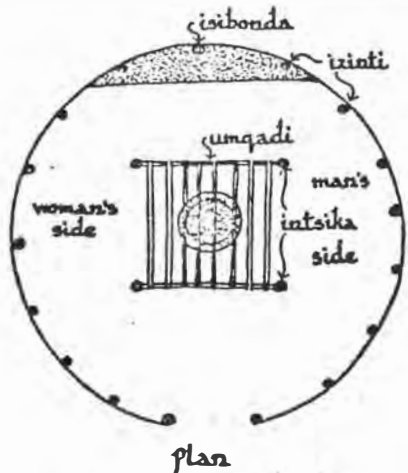
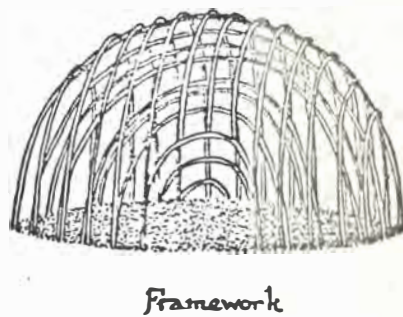
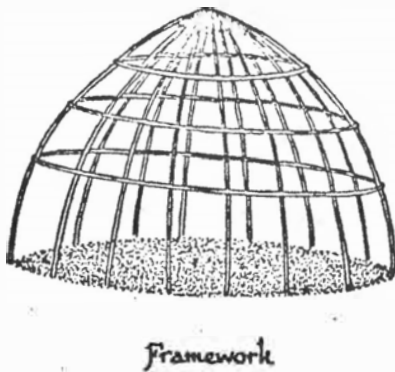
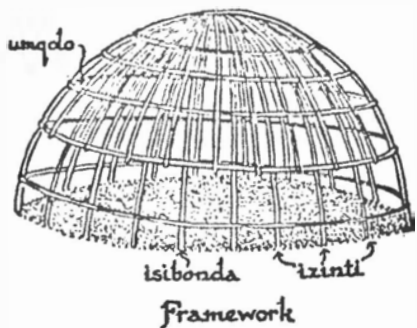
- Indlu }
Icawu } The dwelling unit or hut - which of course may vary in size and construction, and decoration. Some of the principle differences are in thatching; ukuakha umduzo- (stitched work); ukuakha mdeko (stepped thatch); indlu esikutulo (jointed house) - for a more detailed description of the thatching and hut construction see page
- Iziko Fireplace - hearth - again there^{are} considerable dimensional differences (see graphs 1-5) but there are only two design types (circular & clover leaf). The hearths seem to be placed a third portion of the hut length from the entrance. They are constructed from the same dung mixture as the floor and are formed by encircling the bowl shaped fire place by a rim raised approximately 15 cm from the floor level.
- Izinsika are the primarily supporting posts for the hut framework. Their number and position are determined by hut size (carrying capacity (sic)) although it does seem that with some of the larger huts the izinsika are not altogether functional to construction needs and may have partially been determined by individual choice or fancy
- Umbundu are raised ridges of daga usually in the form of an arc running from edge to edge round the back portions of some huts. (the shape of the umbundu may also vary - from cupid-bow to multiple arcs)
Biermann () - has a different word iguma - but the iguma is a thatched screen usually used to surround the entrance area.
- Umsamo is not directly speaking an individual construction but merely defines the area behind the umbundu used for storage
- Umyango is the entrance or doorway - occasionally demarkated by an entrance step (see diag. 13) or one of the two below.
- Isithambanja an entrance porch; a semicircle of daga extending out from the hut edge usually ca $\frac{1}{2}$ metre long to $\frac{3}{4}$ metre wide. (see daig. 13)
- Isihonqo (?) a flange of daga constructed about 20-30 cm away from the hut edge; about $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ metre wide and extending over 1 third of the hut diameter and joined to it by a strip of daga at the entrance (see daig. 13)
(NOTE Isihonqo (like iguma) might also be the protective reed screen) Umsele/.....

- Umsele a foundation trench around the perimeter of the hut forming a base for the framework. About 10cm deep and 10cm wide (see photo 32)
- Izintungo }
Izithungo } the principal supporting frame of the hut roof, which consist of two series of semi-circular arched withies crossing each other at right angles.
- Daga the hut floor 'cement', usually having an ant-heap/cowdung base. The surface is polished with smooth pebbles and fat.

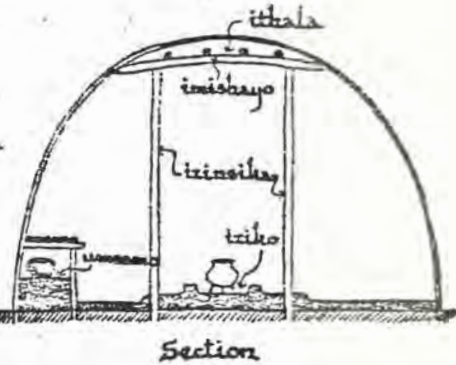
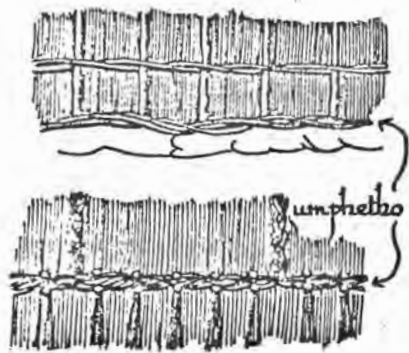
Xhosa

Sotho

Natal Nguni



BEEHIVE HUTS



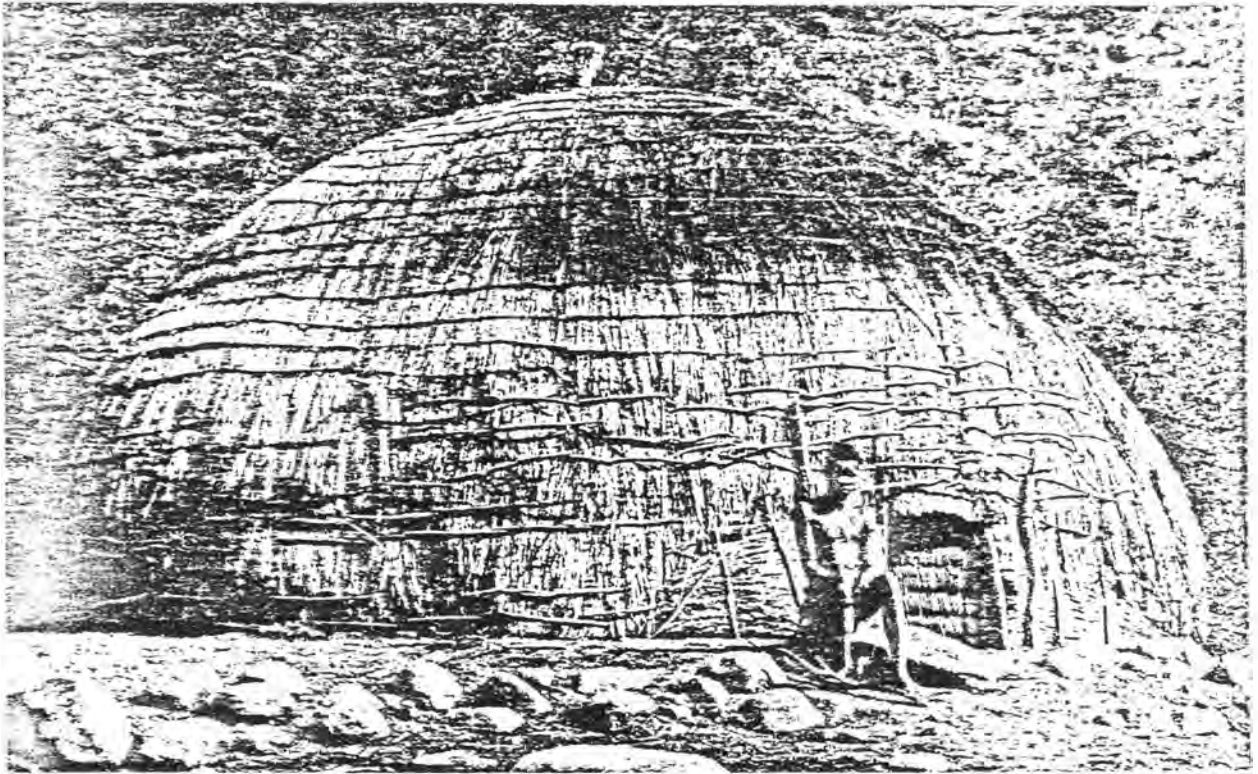
Natal Nguni Thatching Detail

Walton 1953

Fig. 52



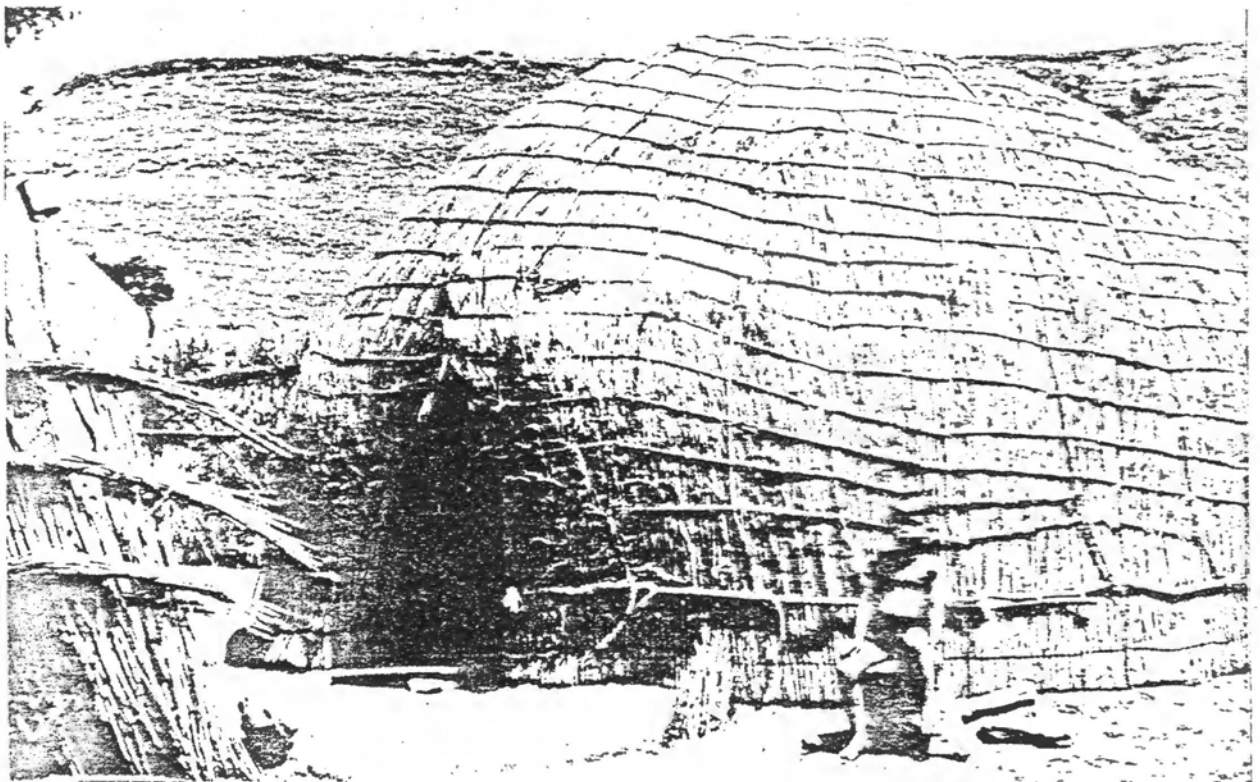
PHOTO 32
THE UMSELE TRENCH (HUT 33)



Natal Nguni Hut

PHOTO 33

(PHOTO'S 33 - 37 ILLUSTRATE THATCHING VARIATION)



Ngwane Beehive Hut

PHOTO 34

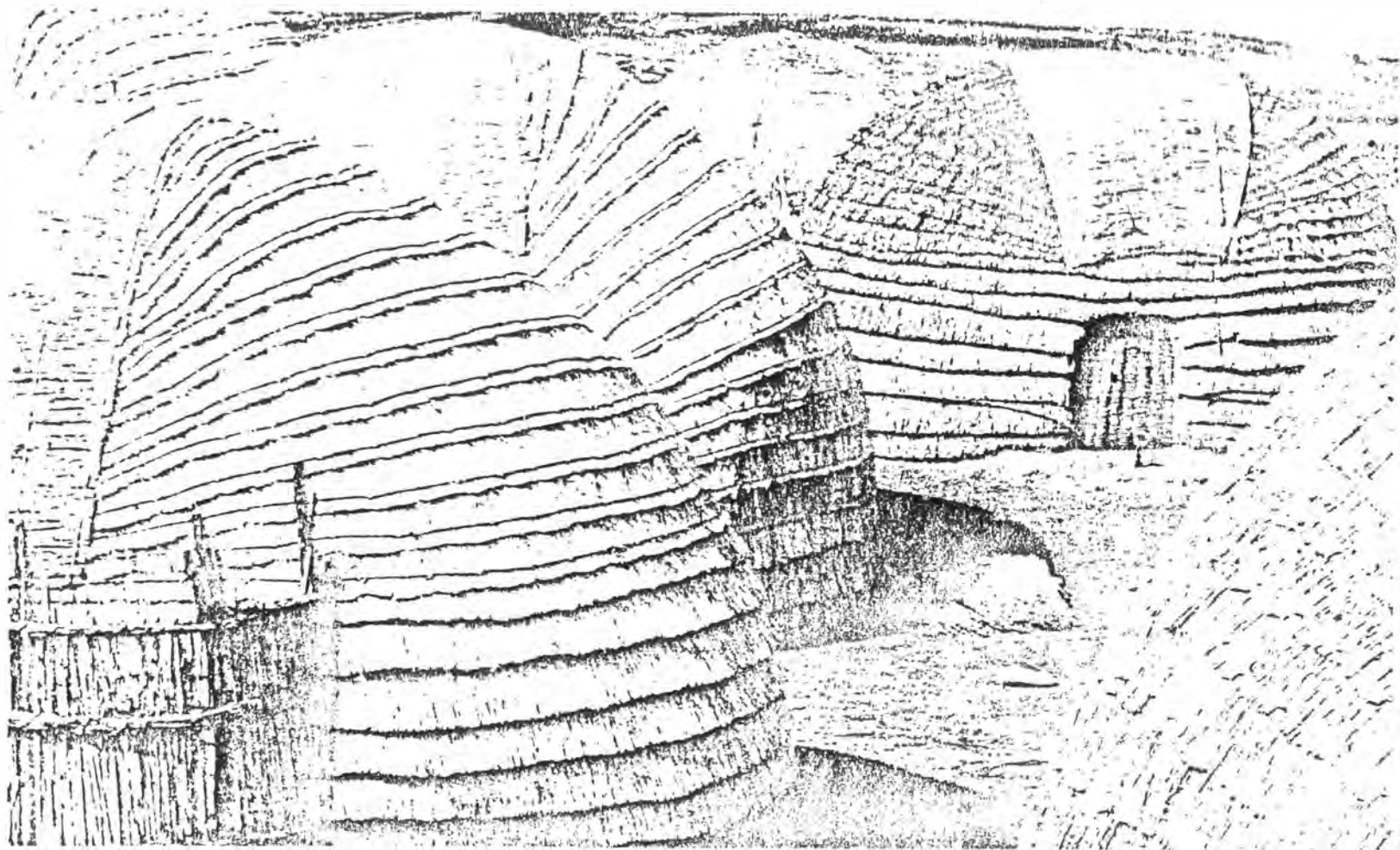


PHOTO 35

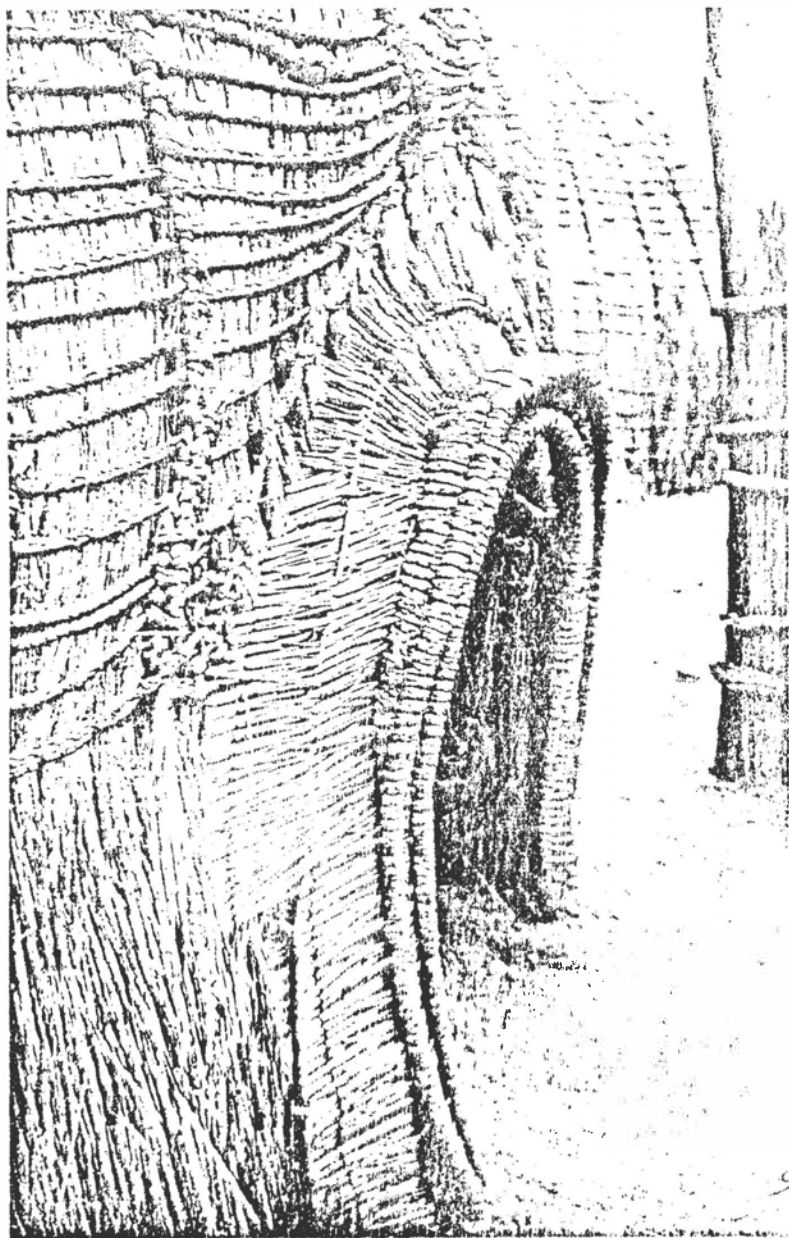


PHOTO 36

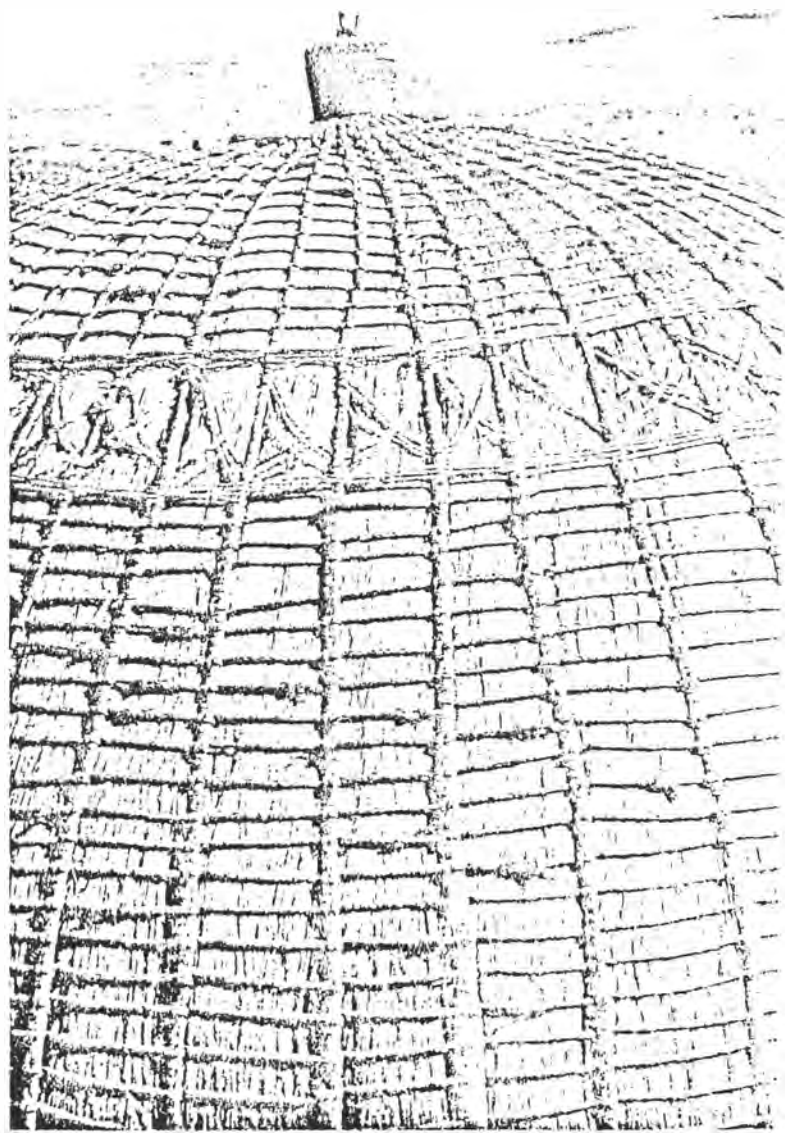


PHOTO 37



PHOTO 38

Natal Nguni Beehive Hut Framework
(Photo by S. A. State Information Office)



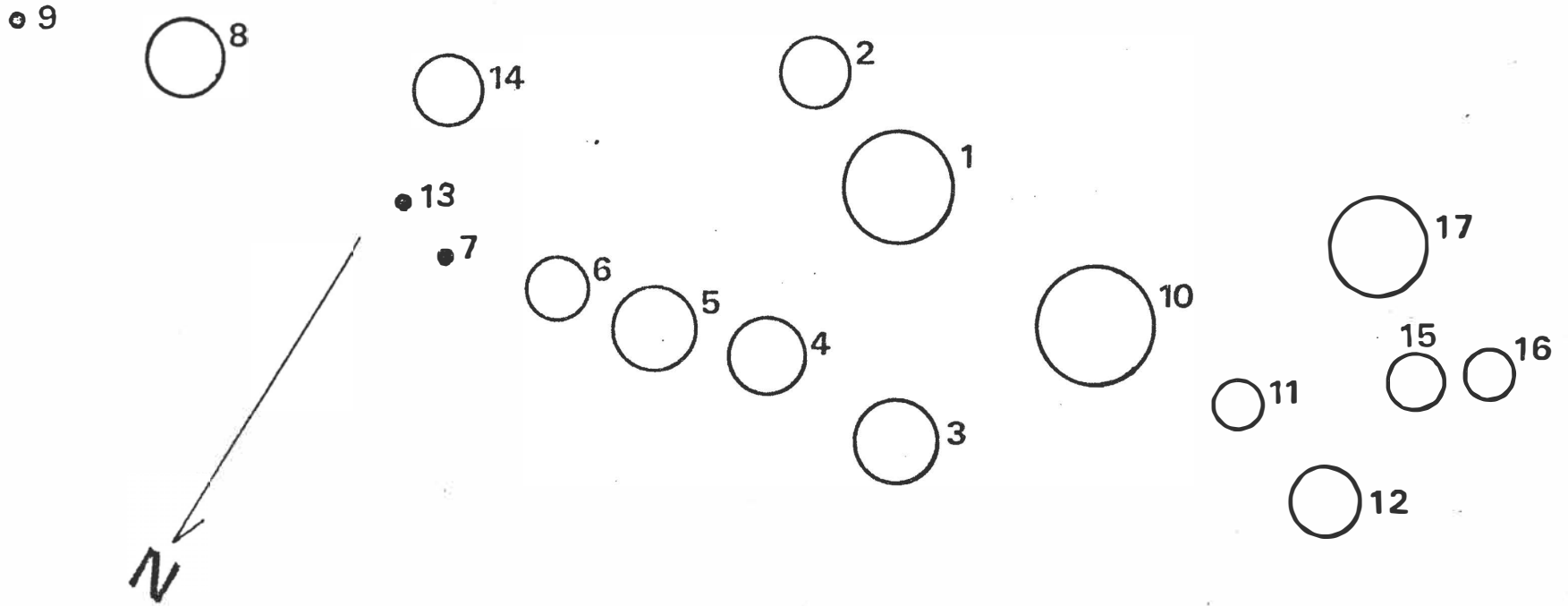
PHOTO 39

IZINTUNGO

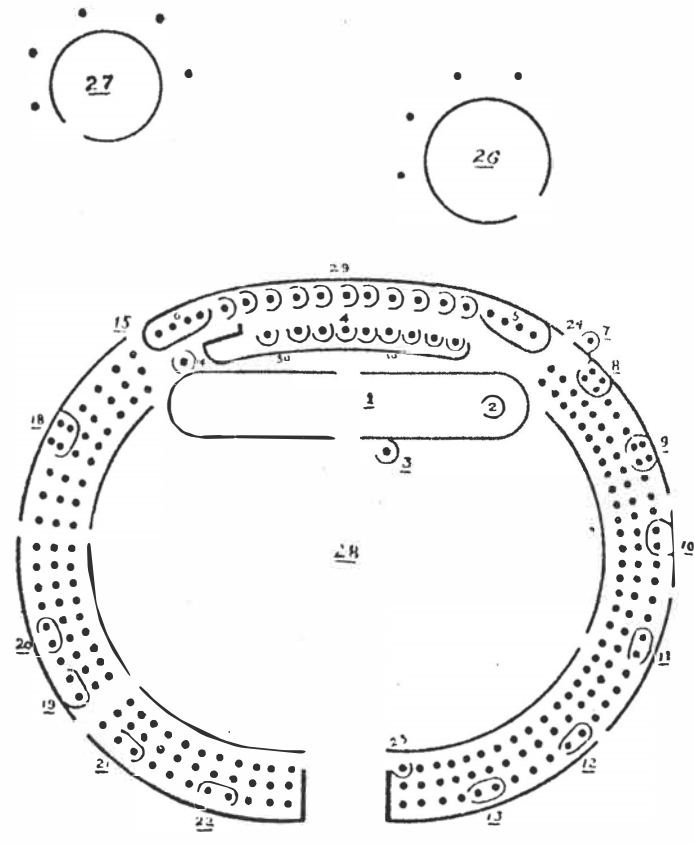
ULUNDI (see diagrams 30, 31 & 32)

"According to Native reports Cetshwayo ordered his kraal to be built like Umgungundlovu and Natives were sent to Dingane's Kraal to measure and make it as far as possible the same." (from Killie Campbell's collection of information relating to Umgungundlovu). This makes Ulundi (or Ondini, as it is sometimes called.) a natural comparative settlement for Umgungundlovu. The survey, described elsewhere (pgs 13²) has most certainly located huts in the main Isigodlo section; the graphs showing hearth and hut diameters illustrate the typical 'isigodlo type' variation (Pgs 14² 57) Ulundi, has so far, produced the largest hut floor (no. 10 - 8,20cm) and the largest hearth (1,22m, see photograph 42 pg: 13³)

ULUNDI



DIAGRAM



This is the Ulundi Kraal of King Cetewayo, which was burnt down in 1879 at the close of the Zulu War. The small sketch above it, to the right, was Emapotweni Kraal where he kept his milch cattle, and the one to the left top was where he had his grain stored.

ULUNDI KRAAL
EMAPOTWENI KRAAL
KEY

THE ULUNDI

The Ulundi, chief kraal of King Cetywayo at Matlabatini, as depicted by Ntukwini Mounu, the second Chief son of Matyana ka Sitshekuzi Mounu, who was one of the favoured household Officers of the King, and who fought at Isandhlwana. His mother was lobolael by cattle gifted to his father by King Cetywayo. He has educated himself, though a raw native, and has drawn the figures of these establishments.

No. 12 is where the Chief Army Officer of the King lived.

The main figure, No. 1, is where the King's cattle stood, temporarily, for a day or two to be inspected by him and passed on to various places.

No. 2 represents the bathing enclosure of the King.

No. 3 is the hut of the keeper of the gate alongside, through which the King went to inspect his troops.

No. 4 represents the King's hut, where he lived.

No. 5 represents the huts of the *isizothlo* Esimhlophe, where lived some of his wives, and where the King's food is prepared.

No. 6 represents the same class of personages and functions as No. 5.

No. 7 is the hut of an individual who guards the gate alongside it, through which the King goes out to relieve the necessities of Nature. No. 24 is that gate.

No. 14 represents the hut where the individual lived whose duties were to sweep and keep tidy the space between No. 1 and the fence below No. 4; his duty also was to guard the gate at No. 15.

No. 15 is the gate through which all the Royal women went out to relieve Nature and for other business.

No. 8 represents where the Council of the King, Chief men and Princes were put up.

No. 9 represents the quarters of the Chief Officer, "Induna," over the soldiers who lived in this section of the kraal.

No. 13 is where the Second Chief Officer of the King lived, subordinate to No. 11.

No. 10 represents the quarters of the Chief Officer of this section of the soldiers in the kraal.

No. 11 is the Chief Officer's quarters over the soldiers in this part.

No. 3 was where the Sentinel lived who guarded the main entrance to the kraal alongside which his hut stood.

No. 21 was where the Chief Officer of this side of the kraal lived.

No. 22 was where the Officer second in importance to No. 21 lived and No. 19 where the third in importance to No. 21 lived.

No. 20 was where the Officer in charge of the middle of that side of the kraal lived.

No. 18 was where the princes and such were put up.

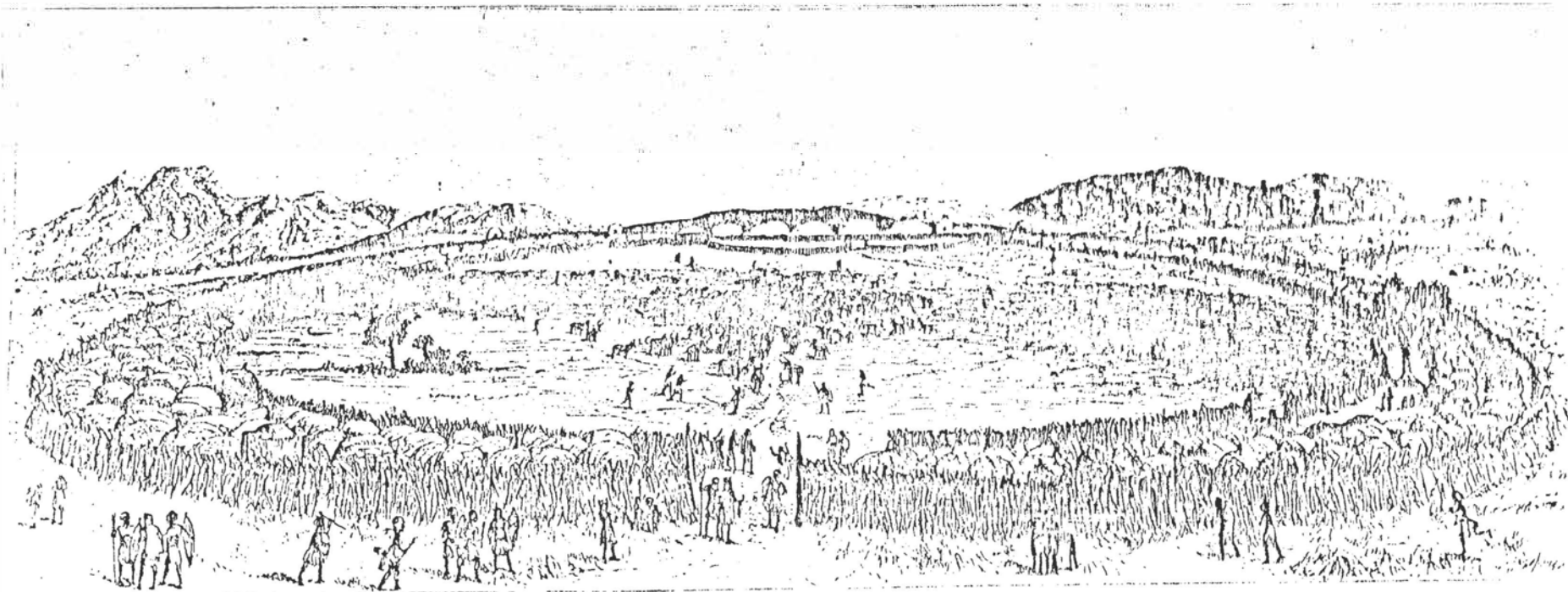
No. 23 was named Emaphothweni, and was where the cattle of the King were slaughtered, and where his milch cattle were milked. Any unauthorised person going to or moving about this place was liable to the death penalty.

No. 27 is where the corn and other foods of the King were stored.

The large open space at No. 28 was where the soldiers of the King used to parade and sing for his pleasure, and for inspection.

No. 29 represents where the Maids of Honour, "Umdhlunkulu," and their Handmaids lived.

No. 30 represented the huts of the King's wives.



THE KING'S BEAM

DIAGRAM 32

U-NDI

(KILLIE SANDS, 1900)



PHOTO 40
LOOKING UP TOWARDS
ULUNDI



PHOTO 41
THE ULUNDI SITE



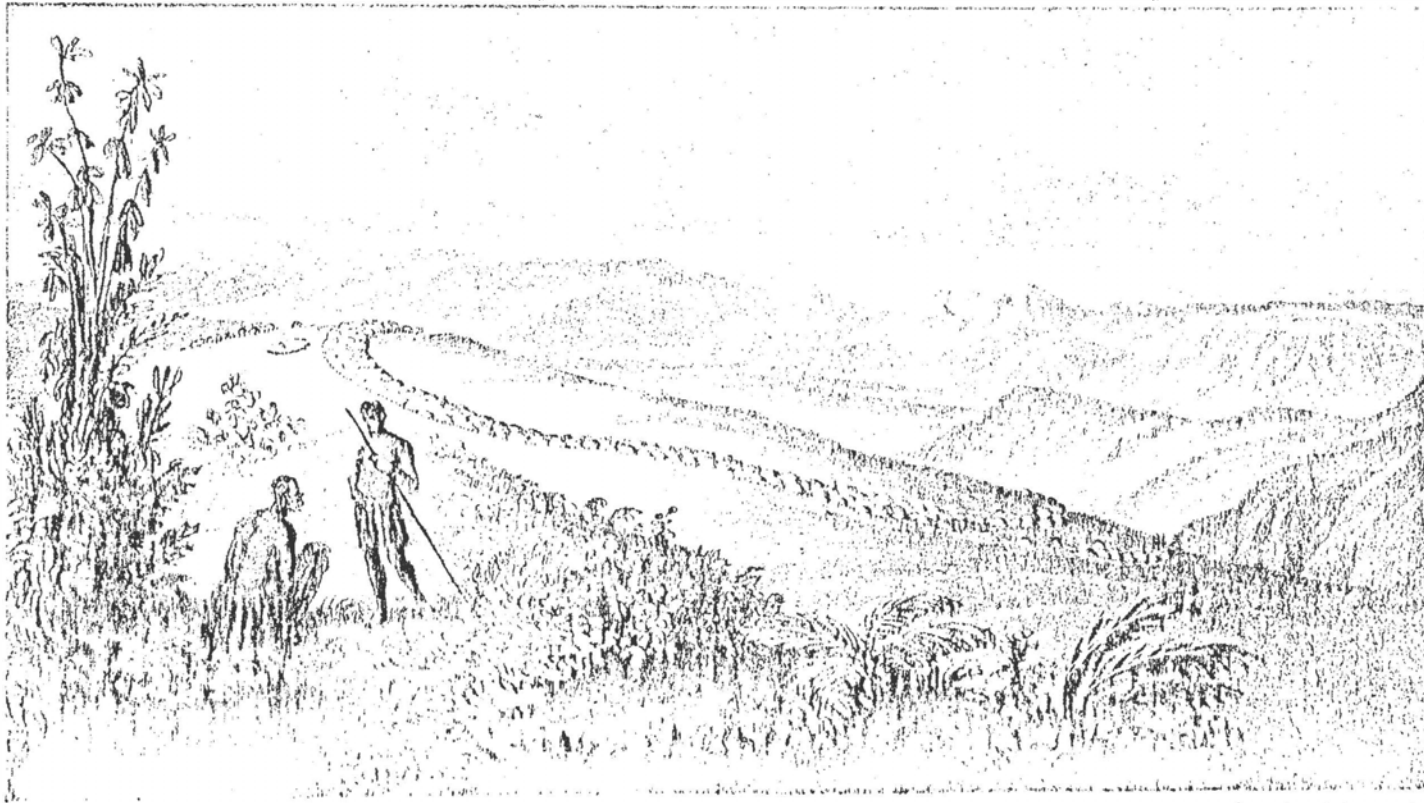
— PHOTO 42 —

'LARGE' HEARTH (HUT 1, ULUNDI)



PHOTO 43

ULUNDI HUT FLOOR



View of the entrance

CHIMBURA.

DIAGRAM 33

CARACAS 1912

NOTE DURING EXTENSION BELOW ENTRANCE

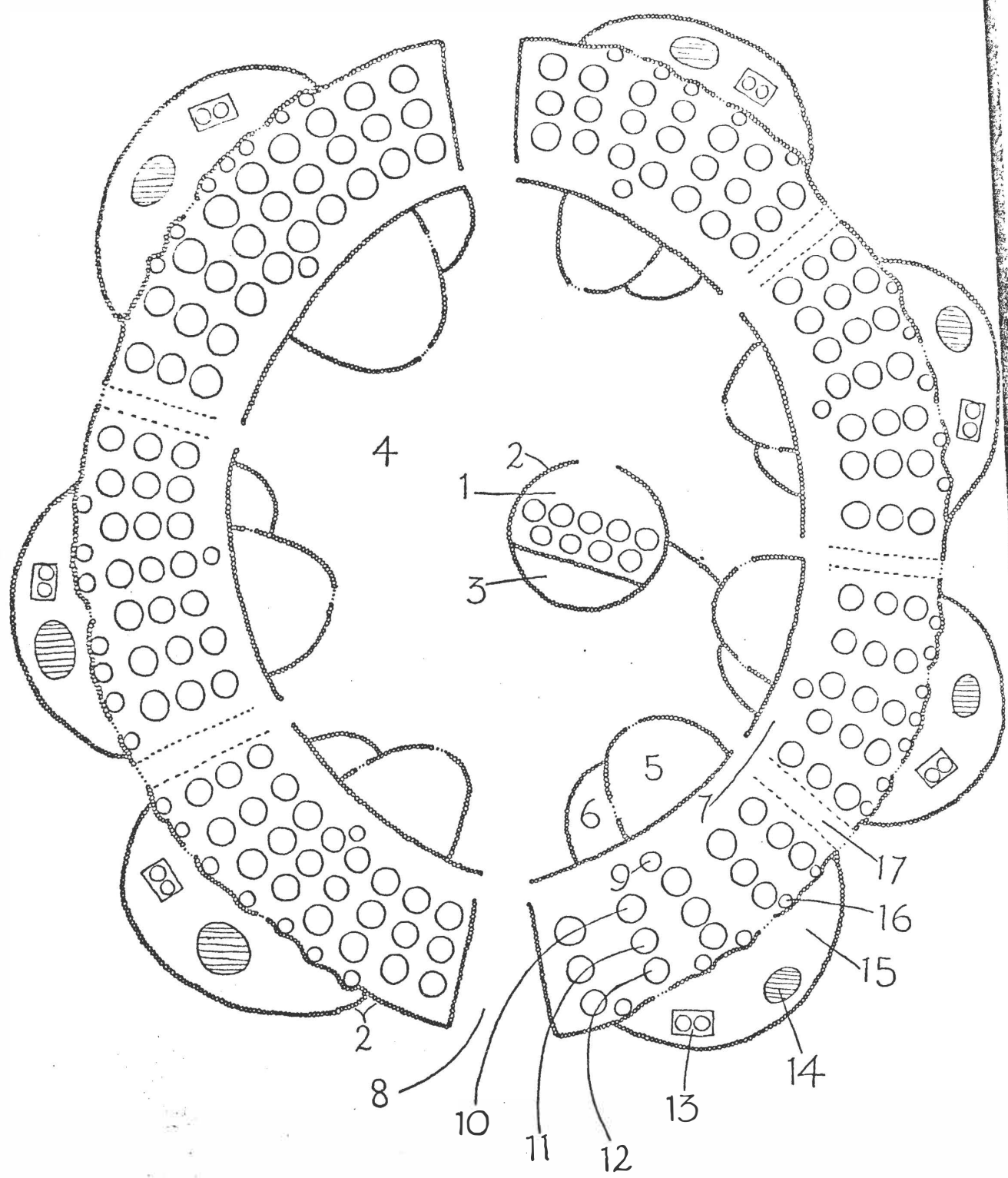


DIAGRAM 1
 HORIZONTAL SECTION OF A STEM
 (ACT 201 PAGE)

Plan of a typical small Matabele town.

This is taken partly from a plan by W. N. G. Davies and partly from a model by Neville Jones, the former was based on a description of Enyatini II by the Revd. Mtompé Kumalo, who was born there about 1880.

1. *isigodhlo* — quarters for "queen".
2. *utango* — stockade. That around the *isigodhlo* was of plain logs set upright in a trench; that around the town was strengthened by weaving thorn bushes among the logs. Fences round the *izinbuya* (15) were much slighter.
3. *isibuya sasigodhlo* — granary of the *isigodhlo* where taxes paid in kind were stored.
4. *umdanga* — great central court where dances were held and justice administered.
5. *isibaya* — kraal for cattle, there may also have been kraals for goats.
6. *isilugu* — calf-kraal.
7. *umkandlo* — path from which notices were given by town crier (*imemezi*)
8. *isango* — main gateway, guarded but never closed. A large town would have four such gates.
9. *impalane* — huts where shields were kept.
10. *amaziba* — huts for children
11. *izindhlu* — huts for adults
12. *imikulu* — cooking huts
13. *izilulu* — grain baskets, usually in pairs, on platform (*ingalane*)
14. *isiza* — threshing floor
15. *isibuya* — enclosure where grain was stored before threshing
16. *izipala* — grain bins made of daga (prepared mud) in which threshed grain was stored. (Note: Meal was ground on a stone quern or stamped in a wooden mortar only as it was required — this was a heavy daily task for women)
17. *intshuguntshu* — wicket gate, firmly closed at night

APPENDIX II

APPENDIX IIDRAWING AND PLOTTING

The information for the majority of the drawings was based on the tacy survey conducted during the first season at Mgungundlovu. A Univac computer has plotted the contours and hut, grainpit and midden positions. Most of the hut floors were drawn from simple string line plots conducted at the site but a few were mapped by a photogrammetry correction technique; the Moebius grid method. *(described in an additional course project of mine - 1974)*

The map of the Emakosini valley was drawn from a 1:50,000 and the kraal locations are based primarily on information derived from Essery(n/d) Gardiner (1966), Lugg(1949) and Small (1969)

The Ulundi hut floor drawing was not based on accurate measurement; compass bearings were taken from a datum point (the centre of the Hut 1 hearth) to the centre hearth of the other huts. Distances were taken with a tape measure, from centre hearth to centre hearth, (the tape, however, tended to be 'sidetracked' by trees and small bushes.)

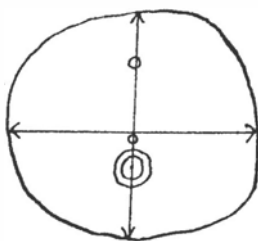
(Note: We are unable, at the moment, to plot a large scale map of the Mgungundlovu hill as the respective aerial photographs (for stereo plotting) are subject to problems of change in flying height. Aerial photographs taken recently by the Natal University survey Dept are expected to arrive soon.)

DEFINITION OF MEASUREMENTS USED

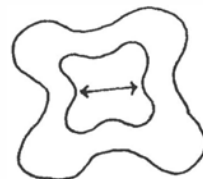
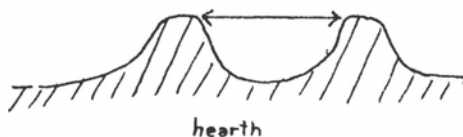
I. Hut Diameter - two measurements were taken (where possible) since the huts are oval in shape.

- (a) Central axis - the diameter passing through the centre hearth and the posthole immediately peripheral to the hearth.
- (b) Side/side - the diameter passing through the centre of the central axis diameter at right angles.

Both readings were taken at the edges of the hut floors (unless badly damaged)

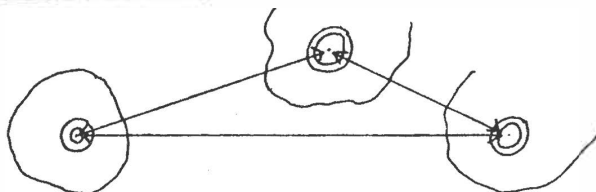


2. Hearth Diameter - the inner diameter of the hearth was measured, which is the diameter of the 'bowl' taken from the inner edges of the rim (with the clover leaf the nearest rim on facing sides.)



'clover leaf'
hearth

3. Inter hut distances - measured between centre hearths

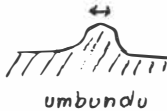


(In addition to these two other types of measurements were taken but which have not been used in the paper.)

4. Rim & Umbundu Thickness - both the hearth rims and

umbundus/...

umbundus were measured in terms of the width of the ridge tops (the edges of which were sometimes more of an arbitrary point than a consistent feature.)



umbundu



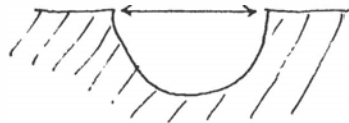
hearth

5. Potholes and Postholes - diameters - floor (surface)

diameters were taken.



posthole



pot hole

43	4,45	0,50	1	7,1 ; 11,0	1,60	2
44	4,0	0,52	1	8,7 ; 8,5	1,30	
45	4,0		1	8,7 ; 11,3		
26		0,45		7,7 ; 7,2		
27		0,43		7,2 ; 6,8		
25		0,65		6,2 ; 7,7		
24		0,55		6,2 ; 7,5		
22				9,0 ; 8,5		
72				17,3 ; 8,5		
21				8,5 ; 9,0		
61				9,0 ; 6,5		
62				6,5 ; 5,6		
70				5,6 ; 7,8		
19				8,2 ; 11,2		
29				9,7 ; 7,5		
30				7,5 ; 6,5		
32				8,9 ; 10,0		
18				11,2 ; 8,2		
17				8,2 ; 7,2		
16				7,2 ; 11,5		
15				7,2 ; 12,5		
68				11,8 ; 7,5		
67				7,5 ; 6,9		
66				6,9 ; 10,4		
65				9,0 ; 11,0		
64				9,0 ; 8,0		
63				8,0 ; 10,5		
70				7,8 ; 5,7		
62				5,7 ; 6,6		
69				7,8 ; 6,6		

ISIGODJO
(back
section)

47	4,12	0,46	1	7,2; 5,5	1,45	1	
48	3,80	0,55	1	5,5; 6,0	1,30	1	
49	3,70	0,55	1	6,0; 5,5	1,10		
50	4,20	0,53	1	5,5; 5,0	1,20	1	
182				4,5; 17,5			
181				17,5; 7,5			
180				7,5; 5,5			
69				5,5; 6,0			
46				6,0; 7,2			
51				5,0; 5,5			
52				5,5; 5,2			
53				5,2; 7,4			
54				7,4; 3,8			
55a				3,8; 3,0			
55b				3,0; 8,1			
56a				8,1; 3,0			
57				3,0; 5,8			
58				5,8; 8,5			
59				8,5; 19,5			
60				19,5; 10,1			
73				7,9; 10,1			
74				11,8; 11,0			
71				11,2; 11,8			
<hr/>							
<u>BHEJE</u>	187	4,60	0,60	3	5,0; 7,0	0,80	2
	188	5,3	0,70	3	7,0; 7,0	2,20	
	189	5,8	0,63	3	7,0; 5,0	1,60	
	190	4,35	0,55	3	5,0;	1,40	

WARRIOR
HUTS

114		0,60	1	4,5; 6,2	
140	3,8	0,58	1	4,8; 6,2	1,35
115		0,64	1	5,9; 5,8	1,59
111	3,7	0,59	1	3,5; 3,8	1,56
110		0,57	1	5,0; 6,5	1,47
112	3,8	0,61	1	6,5; 7,0	1,50
142	3,4	0,57	1	6,0; 5,9	1,45
141		0,57	1	10,5; 6,0	
117		0,61	1	4,9; 6,0	1,40
119		0,53	1	6,0; 5,7	
118	3,7	0,65	1	4,8; 4,9	1,30
222		0,55	1	5,3; 6,1	
?		0,65			
?		0,56			
?		0,55			
?		0,60			
?		0,61			
?		0,60			
?		0,49			
?		0,55			
?		0,56			
?		0,54			
?		0,63			
152				5,1; 6,0	
153				6,0; 6,6	
145				6,3; 5,1	
126				5,0; 6,3	
146				4,7; 5,4	
125				5,4; 6,6	
123				6,1; 6,7	

186					
147				6,1 ; 6,1	
155				5,3 ; 6,1	
121				5,5 ; 10,9	
149				6,3 ; 5,5	
150				5,5 ; 5,5	
151				5,5 ; 5,5	
122				6,9 ; 5,5	
154				5,5 ; 6,9	
116				6,9 ; 6,3	
156				6,3 ; 6,1	
185				5,9 ; 8,1	
157				3,5 ; 2,5	
143				3,8 ; 7,2	
144				5,9 ; 4,1	
184				6,9 ; 4,1	
161				7,5 ; 7,5	
				7,5 ; 9,2	

ULUNDI

1	8,15	1,22			
2	5,6	0,75			
3	6,45				
4	6,10				
5	6,15				
6	4,85	0,55			
7		0,34			
8		0,46			
9	FLOOR	ONLY			
10	8,20				
11	3,70				
12	5,50	0,58			
13	FLOOR	ONLY			
14	5,57	0,55			
15	4,10	0,51			

16	3,60	0,20				
17		0,65				

NOTE: a/ The posthole count and the centre hearth to hut edge measurements have been based on the hut floor reconstructions (see Pg).

b/ The 'accessory' count is the sum of different furniture types occurring on each floor. Therefore: single or multiple potholes = 1; single or multiple umbundus = 1; racking postholes = 1 and the 3 types of entrances each =1.

MEAN AND STANDARD DEVIATION READINGS FOR DIMENSIONAL MEASUREMENTS

<u>Hut Diameters</u> (max. readings)	<u>Isigodlo</u>	n= 35
	and	\bar{x} = 5,10
	<u>Bheje</u>	s= 1,04
	<u>Warriors</u>	n= 5
		\bar{x} = 3,68
		s= 0,16
	<u>Ulundi</u>	n= 12
		\bar{x} = 5,66
		s= 1,51

<u>Inner Hearth Diameters</u>	<u>Isigodlo</u>	n= 39
	and	\bar{x} = 0,62
	<u>Bheje</u>	s= 0,14
	<u>Warriors</u>	n= 23
		\bar{x} = 0,58
		s= 0,04
	<u>Ulundi</u>	n= 10
		\bar{x} = 0,58
		s= 0,27

<u>Hearth to Hut size</u> <u>Relationship</u> (hearth diam/ hut diam.)	<u>Isigodlo</u>	n= 33
	and	\bar{x} = 0,13
	<u>Bheje</u>	s= 0,02
	<u>Warriors</u>	n= 5
		\bar{x} = 0,16
		s= 0,01

<u>Total</u>	n= 38
	\bar{x} = 0,13
	s= 0,02
<u>Ulundi</u>	n= 7
	\bar{x} = 0,11
	s= 0,03

<u>Inter-Hut Distances</u> (C.H. to C.H.)	<u>Isigodlo</u> (front section)	n= 112
		\bar{x} = 8,21
		s= 1,80
	<u>Isigodlo</u> (back section)	n= 46
		\bar{x} = 7,6
		s= 4,09
	<u>Warriors</u>	n= 70
		\bar{x} = 5,92
		s= 1,42

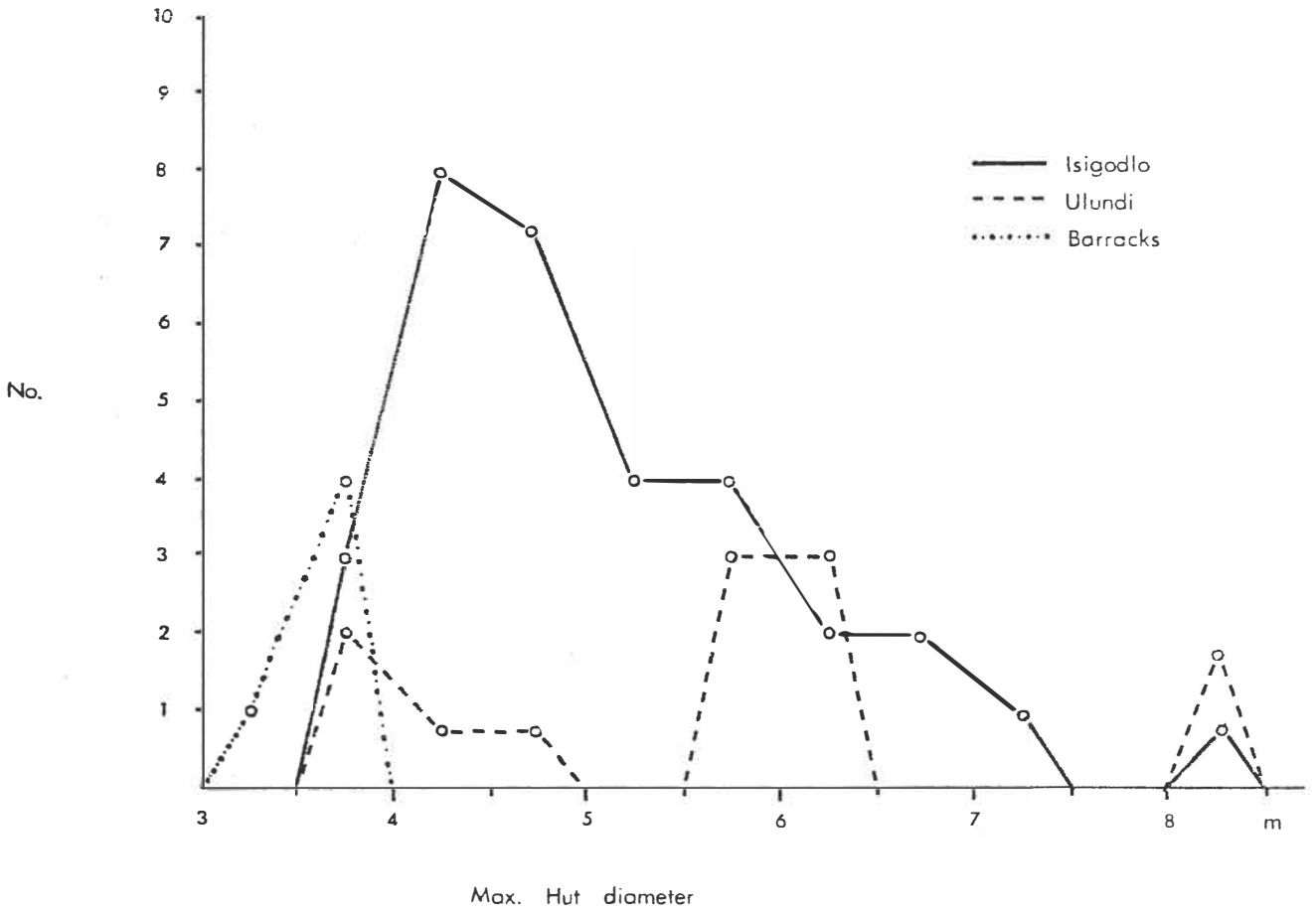
<u>Location of Hearth</u> (hut diam./C.H. to hut edge)	<u>Isigodlo</u>	n= 40
	<u>Bheje</u>	\bar{x} = 3,12
	and	s= 0,64
	<u>Warriors</u>	
	<u>Ulundi</u>	n= 4
		\bar{x} = 2,77
		s= 0,16

<u>No. of Postholes to Hut</u>	<u>Isigodlo,</u>	n= 40
<u>Diameter, Relationship</u>	<u>Bheje</u>	\bar{x} = 0,48
(no. postholes/hut diam.)	and	s= 0,31
	<u>Warriors</u>	

Mean Diameter and Standard Deviation of Huts with:-

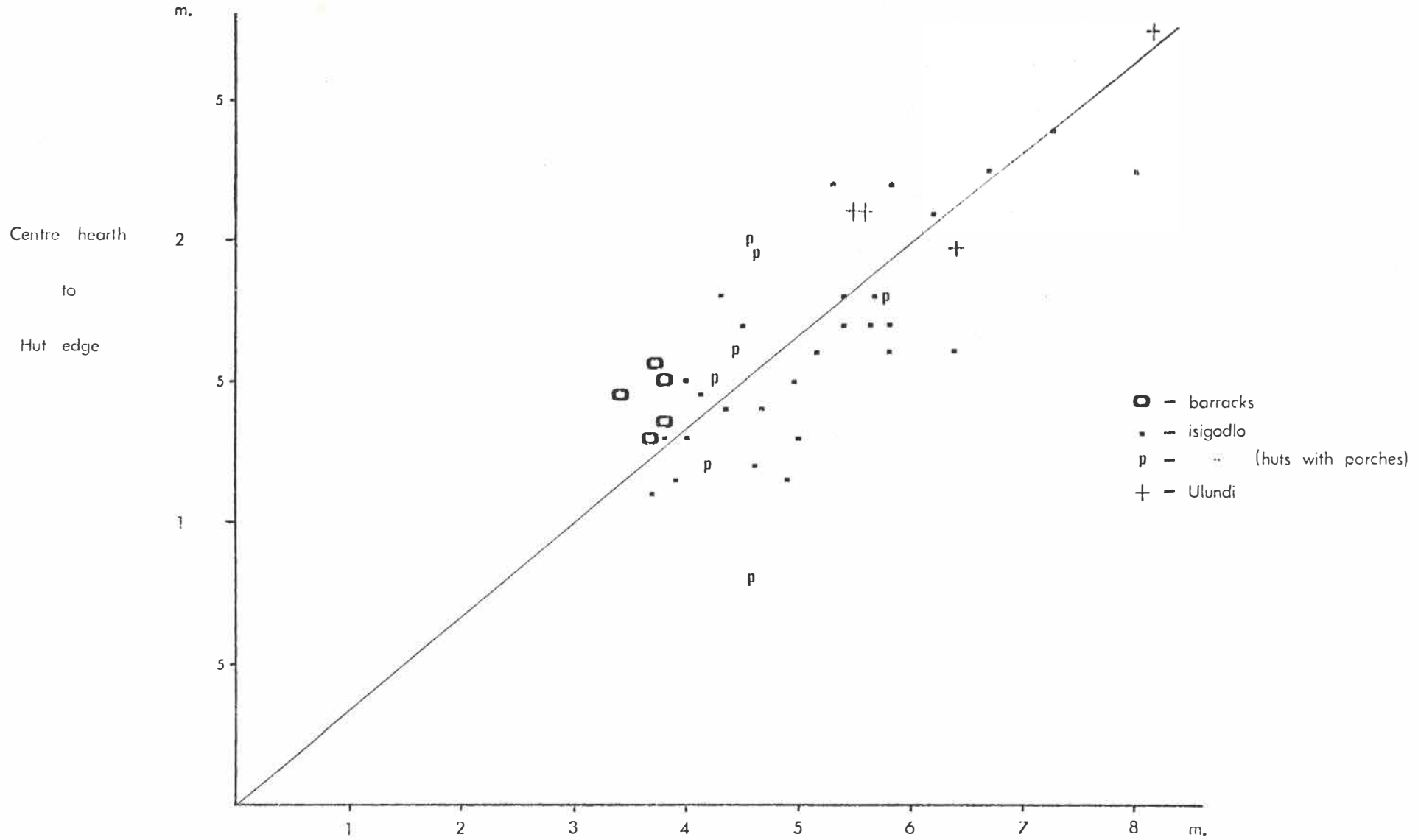
I Posthole	n= 21
	\bar{x} = 4,17
	s= 0,46
3 Postholes	n= 11
	\bar{x} = 5,24
	s= 0,55
5 Postholes	n= 3
	\bar{x} = 6,20
	s= 0,91
7 Postholes	n= 2
	\bar{x} = 6,30
	s= 0,14
9 Postholes	n= 2
	\bar{x} = 7,35
	s= 0,92

Hut size



GRAPH 1

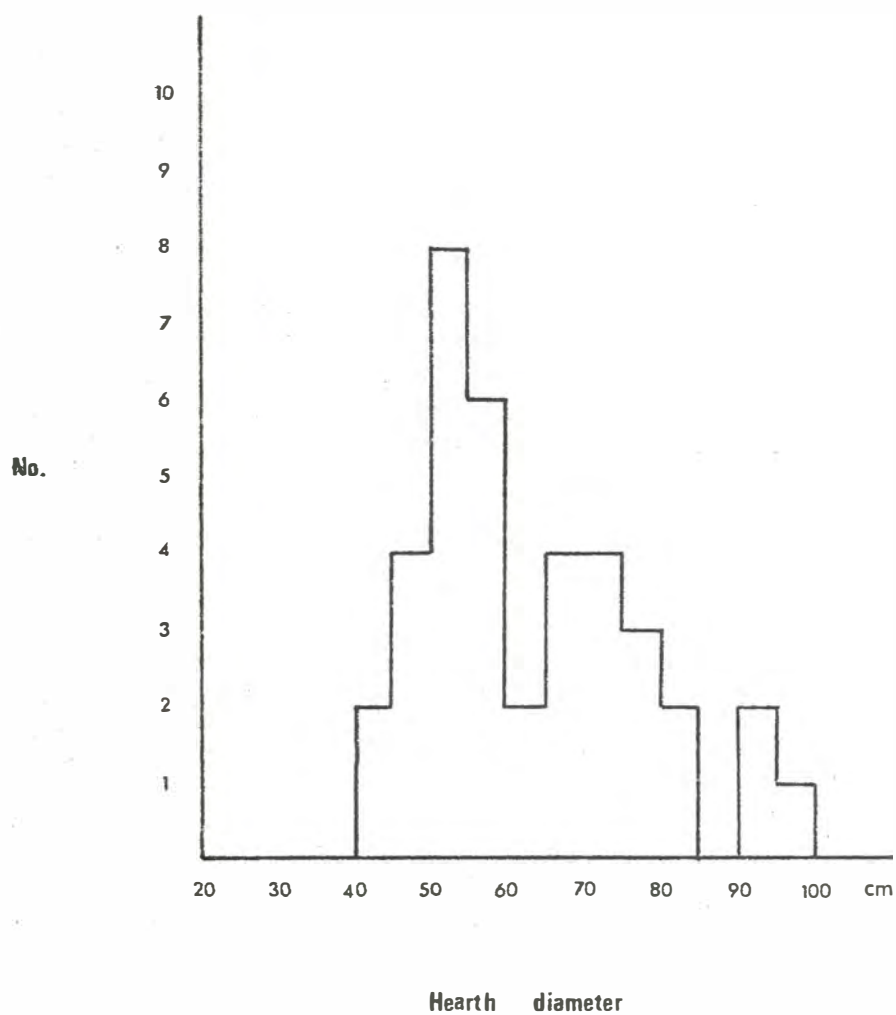
Hearth position



Max. Hut diameter

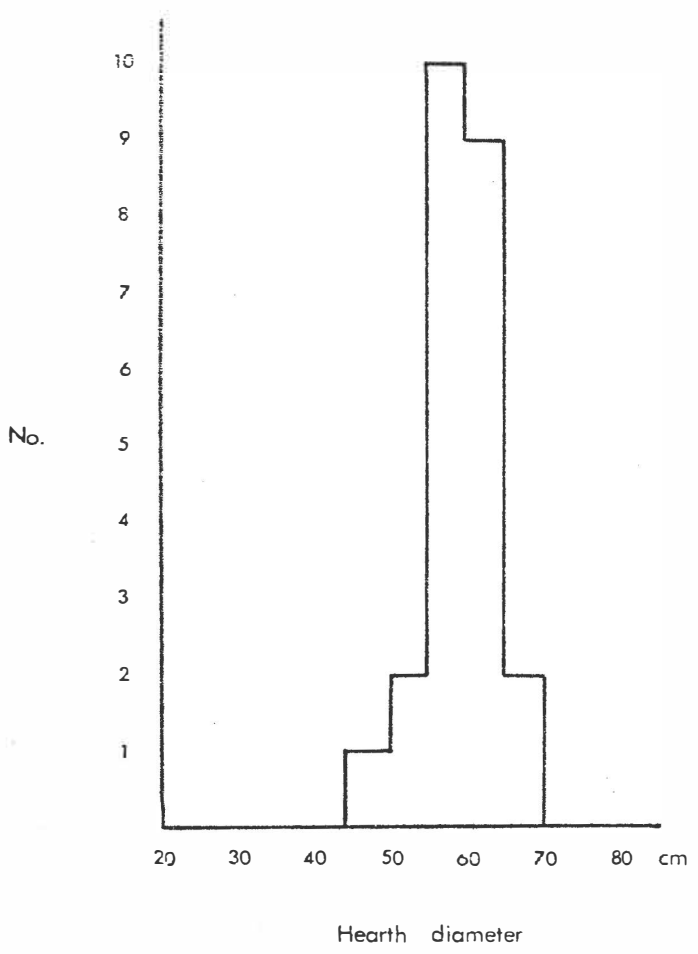
GRAPH 2

Isigodlo : hearth size

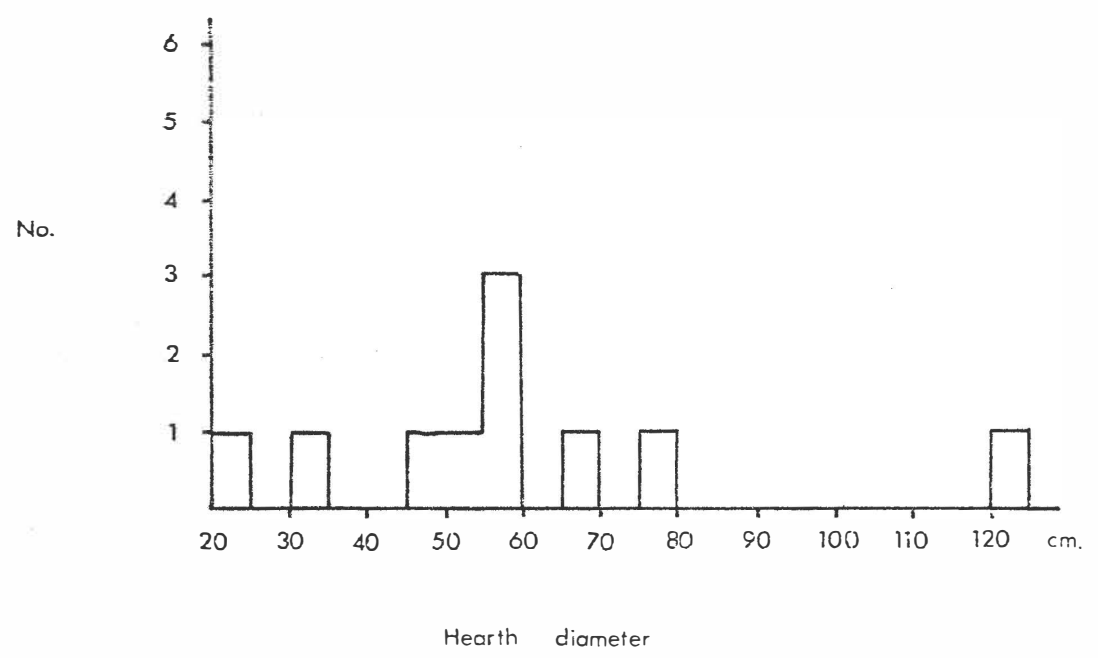


GRAPH 3

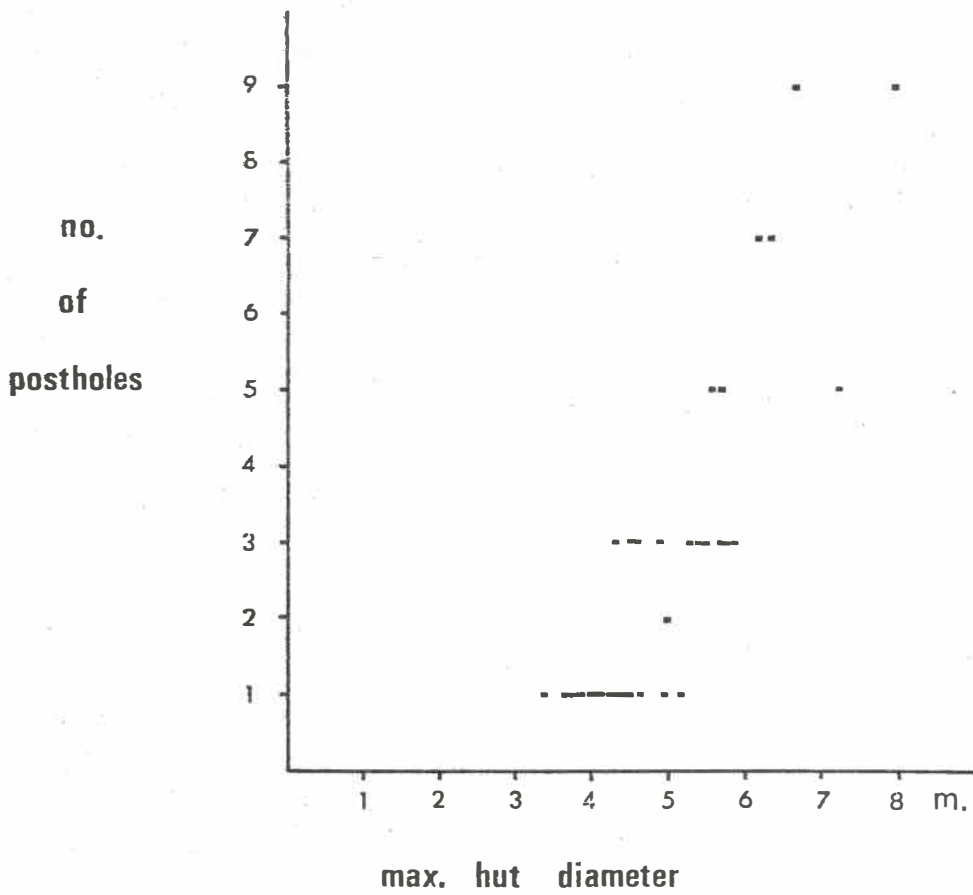
Barracks : hearth size



Ülundi: hearth size



Posthole no. - Hut size



GRAPH 6

An Index of Hut change through the Isigodlo

For the purposes of gauging tendencies in the change of hut form through the isigodlo, six hut rows have been identified on the basis of easily observable alignments (see diagram 34 , overpage) in the isigodlo complex. The index figures were calculated as follows:- the sum, for each hut, of furniture attribute frequency (defined under (b), Pg 148) + posthole number + max. hut diameter + mean inter-hut distance. The mean index figure (or attribute no.) for each hut row is given below.

Row 1	n = 3
	\bar{x} = 17,55
	s = 3,82
Row 2	n = 4
	\bar{x} = 20,51
	s = 4,35
Row 3	n = 8
	\bar{x} = 19,72
	s = 3,57
Row 4	n = 6
	\bar{x} = 16,93
	s = 2,87
Row 5	n = 6
	\bar{x} = 16,87
	s = 3,61

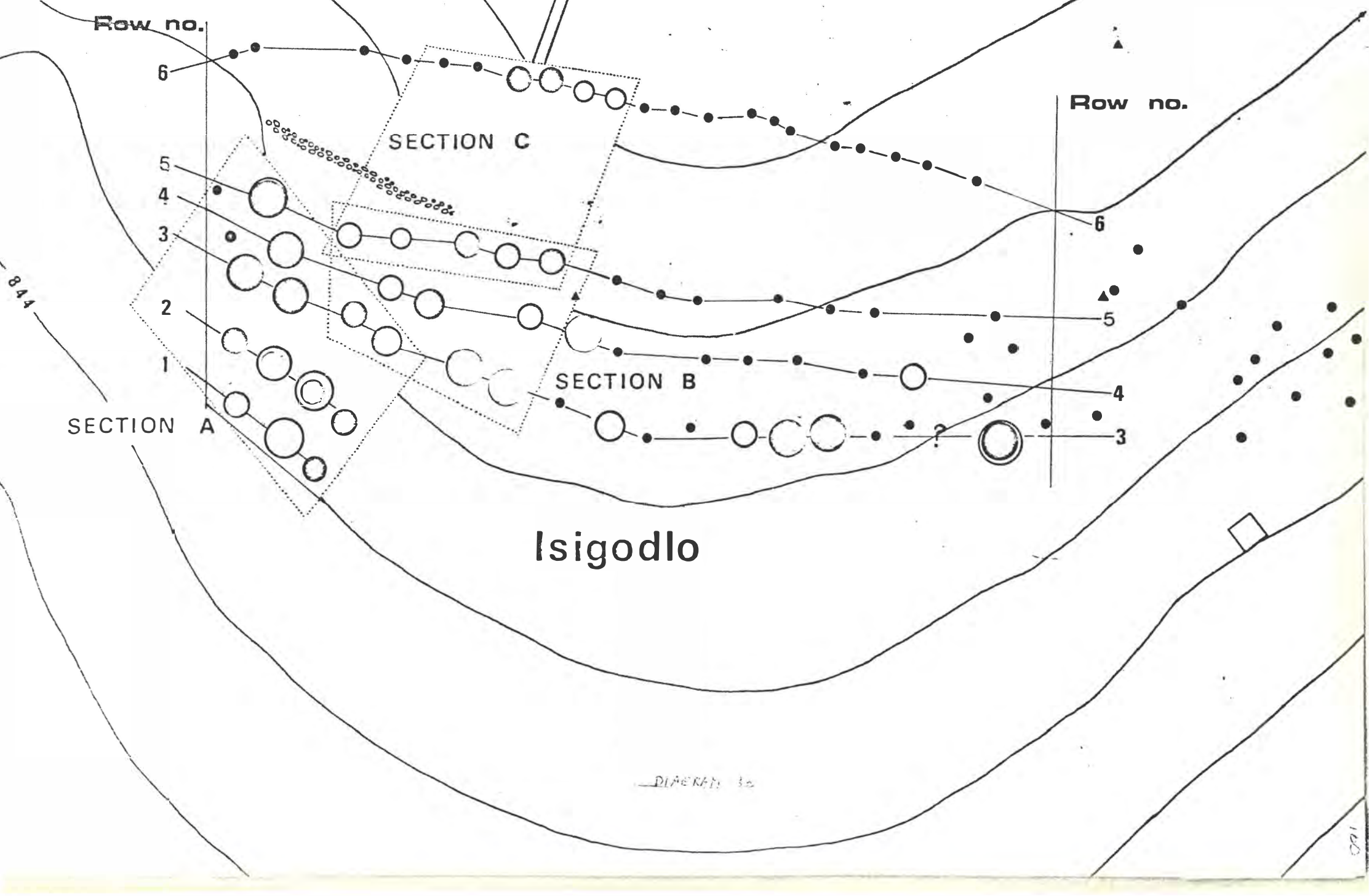
Row 6

$$n = 4$$

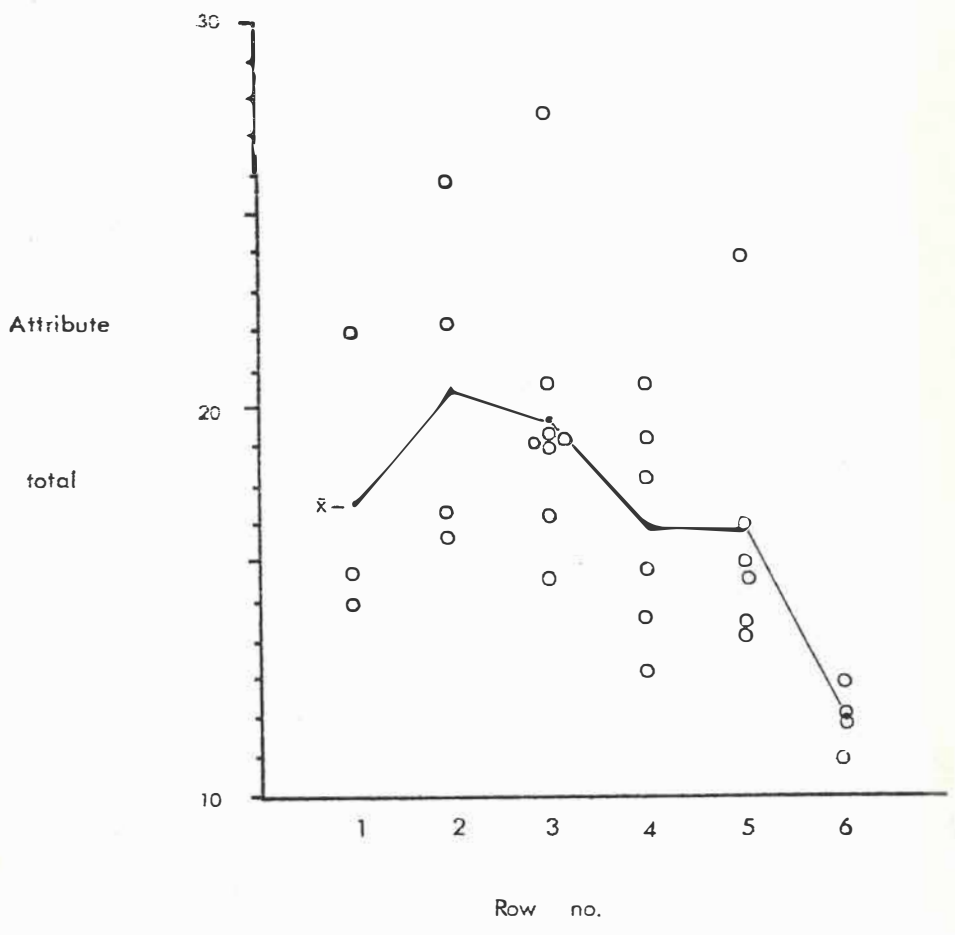
$$\bar{x} = 12,00$$

$$s = 0,79$$




(These index figures are illustrated in GRAPH 7 Pg 161)



Index of change through Isigodlo



KEY TO DIAGRAM 37

- interesting example*
-  Huts with multiple umbundus; multiple potholes or 'racking' postholes
 -  Huts with single umbundus.
 -  Huts with 'clover leaf' hearths.

(NOTE: - the most interesting cluster in diagram 37 is that of huts with multiple umbundus; multiple potholes or 'racking' postholes. It has been suggested in the text, that this might represent a 'kitchen area'.)

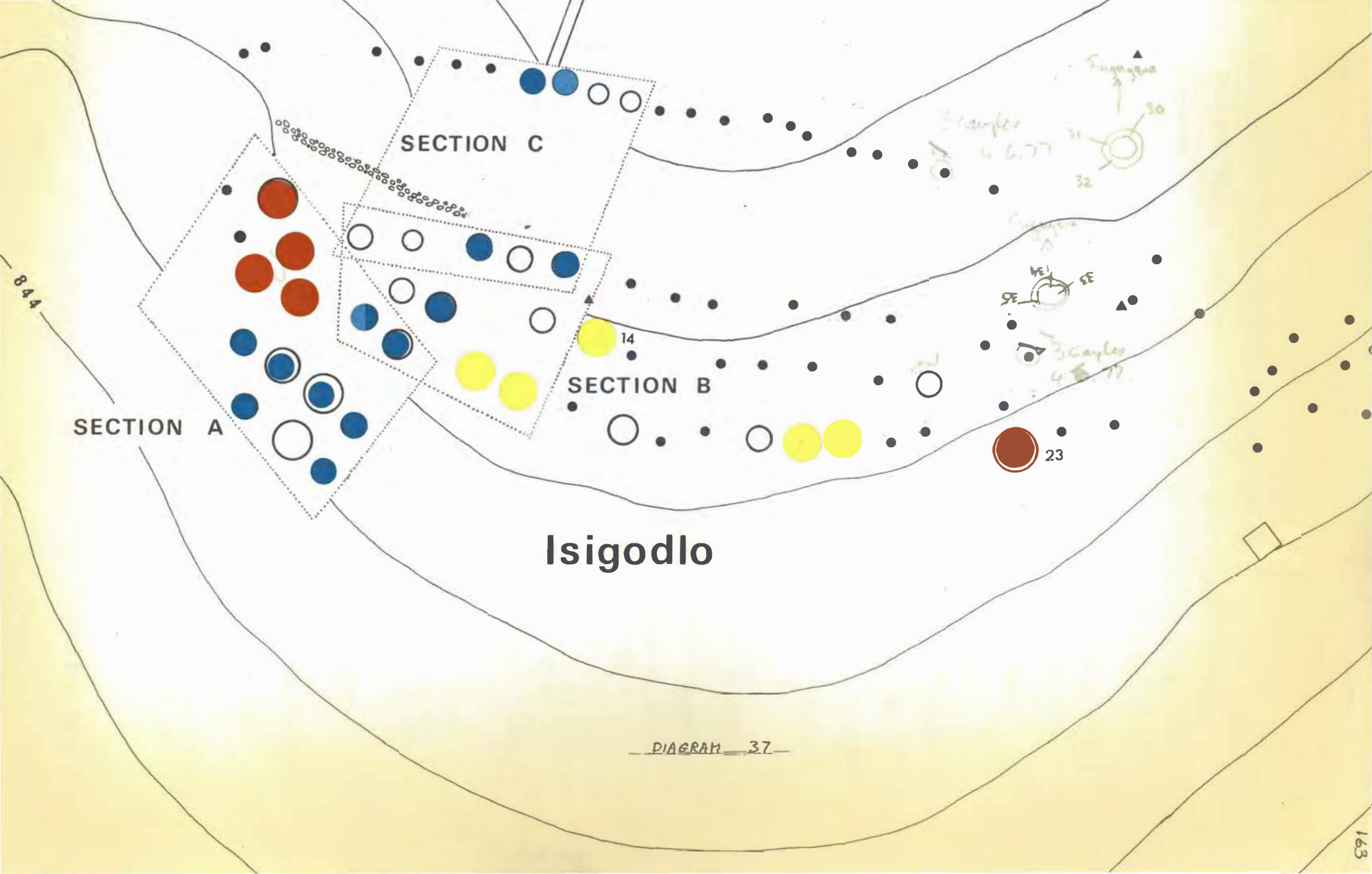


DIAGRAM 37







EXPLANATION OF HUT FLOOR DRAWINGS AND OVERLAYS

The hut floor outlines (black lines) are approximate reconstructions of all exposed hut floors, excepting the warrior huts (which have been illustrated separately (see diagram) The reconstructed areas have been drawn in on the basis of diameter measurements taken on each floor (hearth and hut diameters). In some cases the hearths have been totally destroyed, in these instances the position and size of the hearths have been approximated using figures for hearth and hut relationships (see pages 142-50) (For the way in which posthole positions were estimated see pages 36+157)

A key for the hut floor features can be found on Diagram 13 page 69

The rather garish overlays, simply indicate areas where the daga floors have been damaged, destroyed, not exposed or where certain markings represent the former position of some feature (eg umbundu scar)

A key to the overlay has been included below

	- areas where the hearth has been damaged
	- areas where the daga floor has been destroyed (ie where there is no daga) often indicating the position of a posthole.
	- areas where the hut floor has not been exposed.
	- damaged areas along the perimeter of hut floors
	- umbundu scar
	- areas where surface damage possibly indicate the former position of features

COMMENTS (NICK)

1. Footnotes are a drag to look up. Avoid them!
2. Lettering of captions poor
3. The writing style is pedantic and unnecessarily full of jargon. This, for some reason, is a common failing with people writing their first site report.
4. Captions of pictures & diagrams should be self explanatory. It should be possible to understand them, at least in part, without reading the text.
5. Maps good. Write-up thin. Integration of the two poor. Overall impression. unfinished

2+

After seeing the others, I tend to agree with John that this rates a lower 2nd.

COMMENTS (JOHN)

gives the impression of having been rather hastily assembled. Badly organised - in the sense that

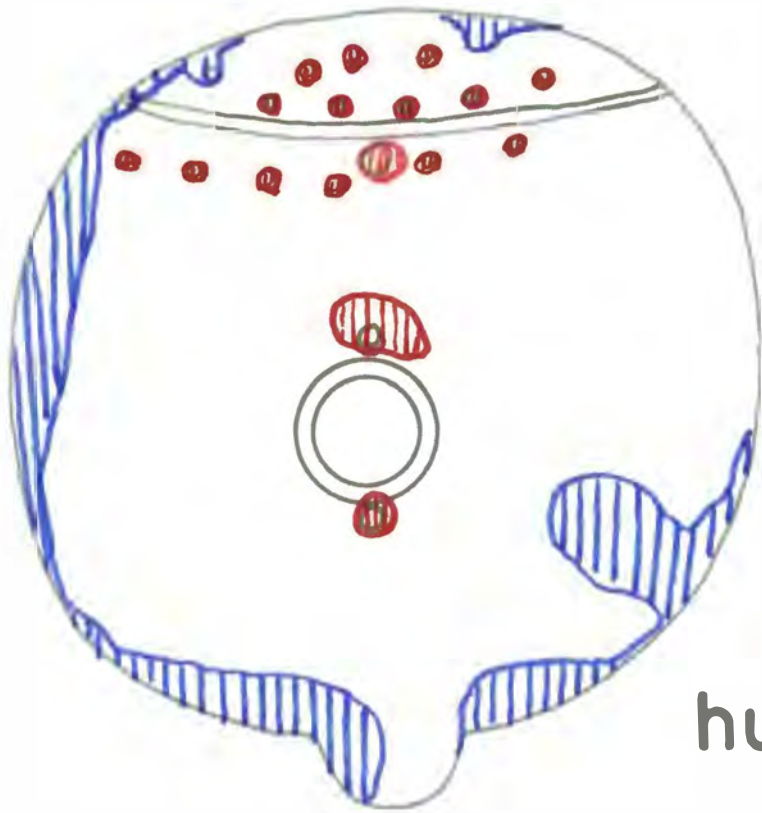
- Ⓐ there are no CONTENTS
- Ⓑ there is no attempt to define the aims of archaeological work at the site
- Ⓒ terms & concepts appear from the blue, and
- Ⓓ there is no logical trend in the discussion (ie area → site → site sections → bank floor)

The important aspect of size is omitted, as are descriptions of the height differentials from area to area.

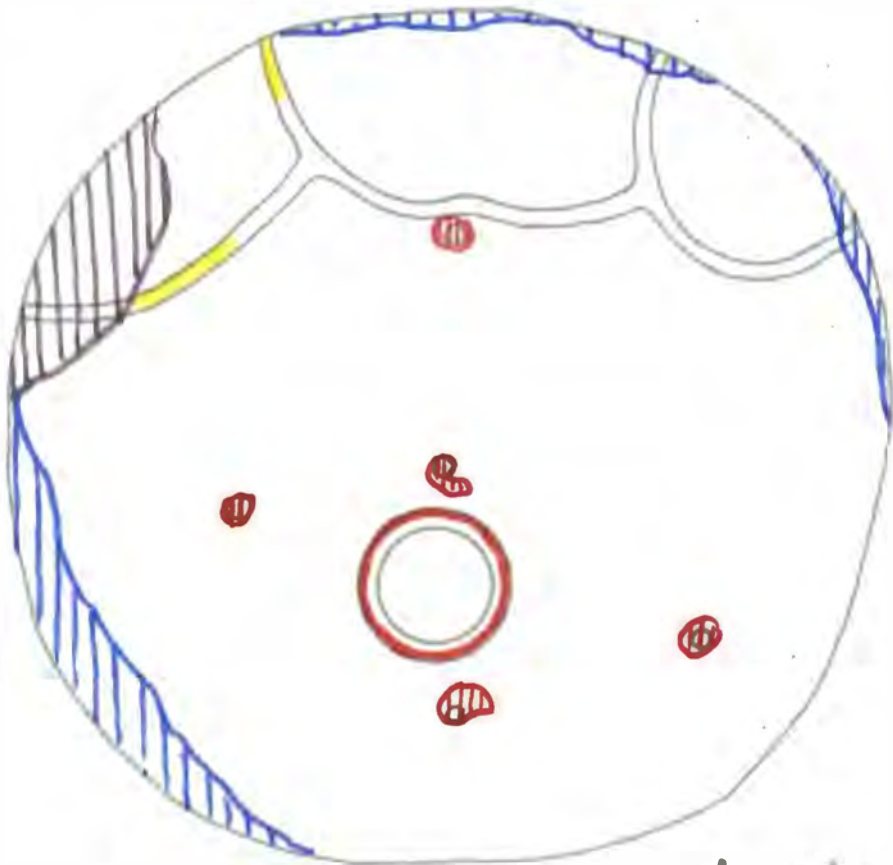
There is lots of information but it wasn't carefully & effectively assembled.

assessment: lots of effort went into the collection of data & this is often compared with research. research is actually collection plus exposition thus the lack of adequate exposition denotes this to be a 2nd - good but not top 2nd.

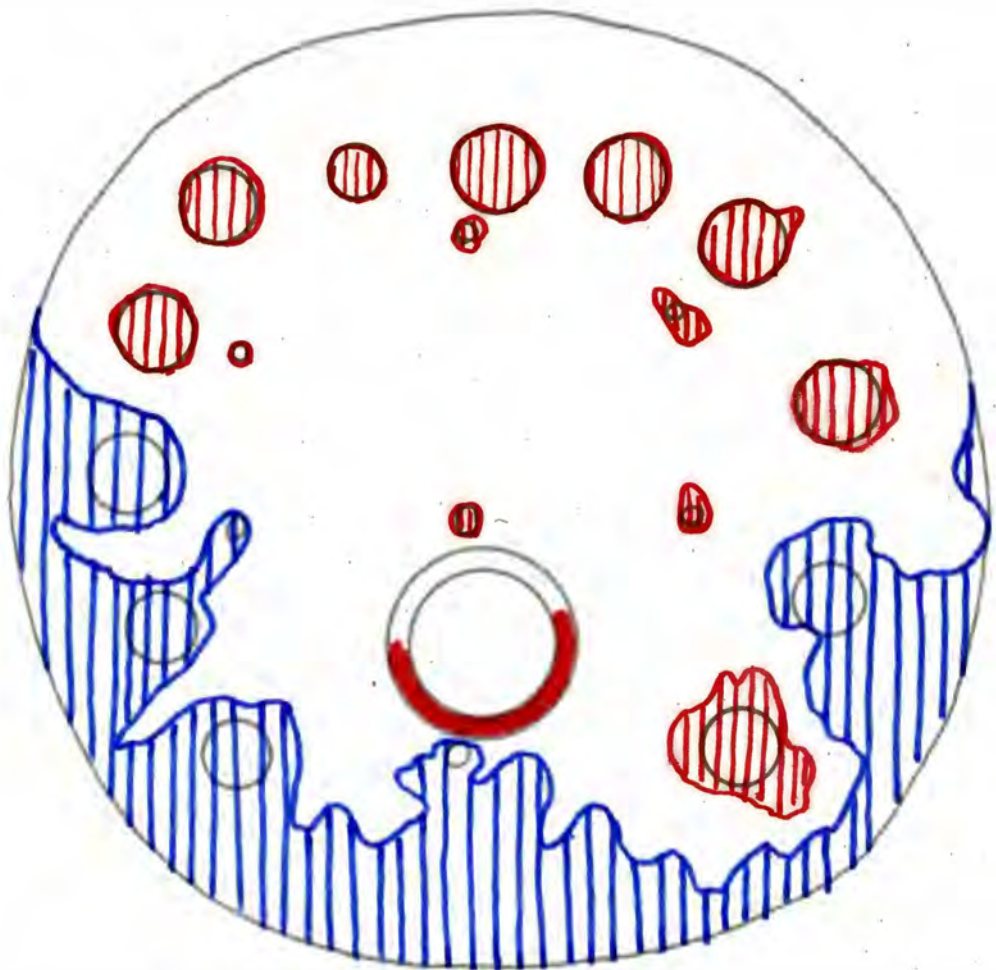
I would have preferred something much shorter - & more to the point - in fact something with a point



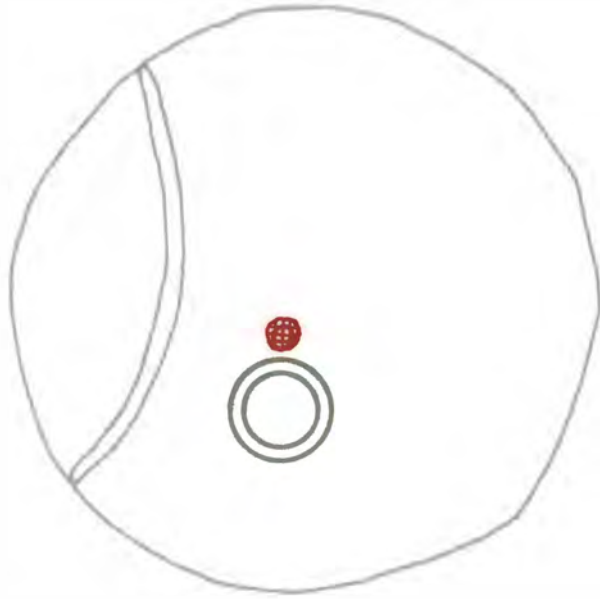
hut 8



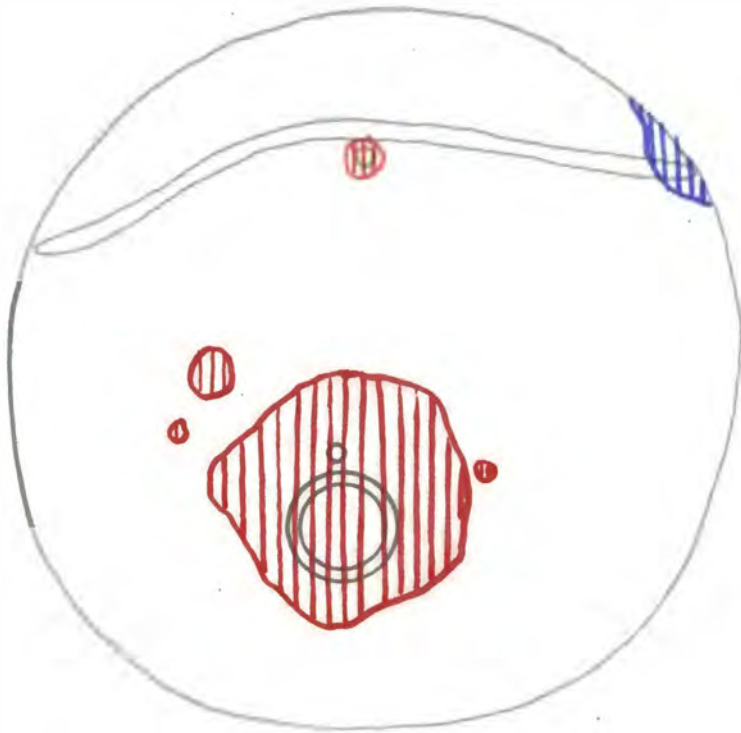
hut 10



hut 11



hut 1



hut 7



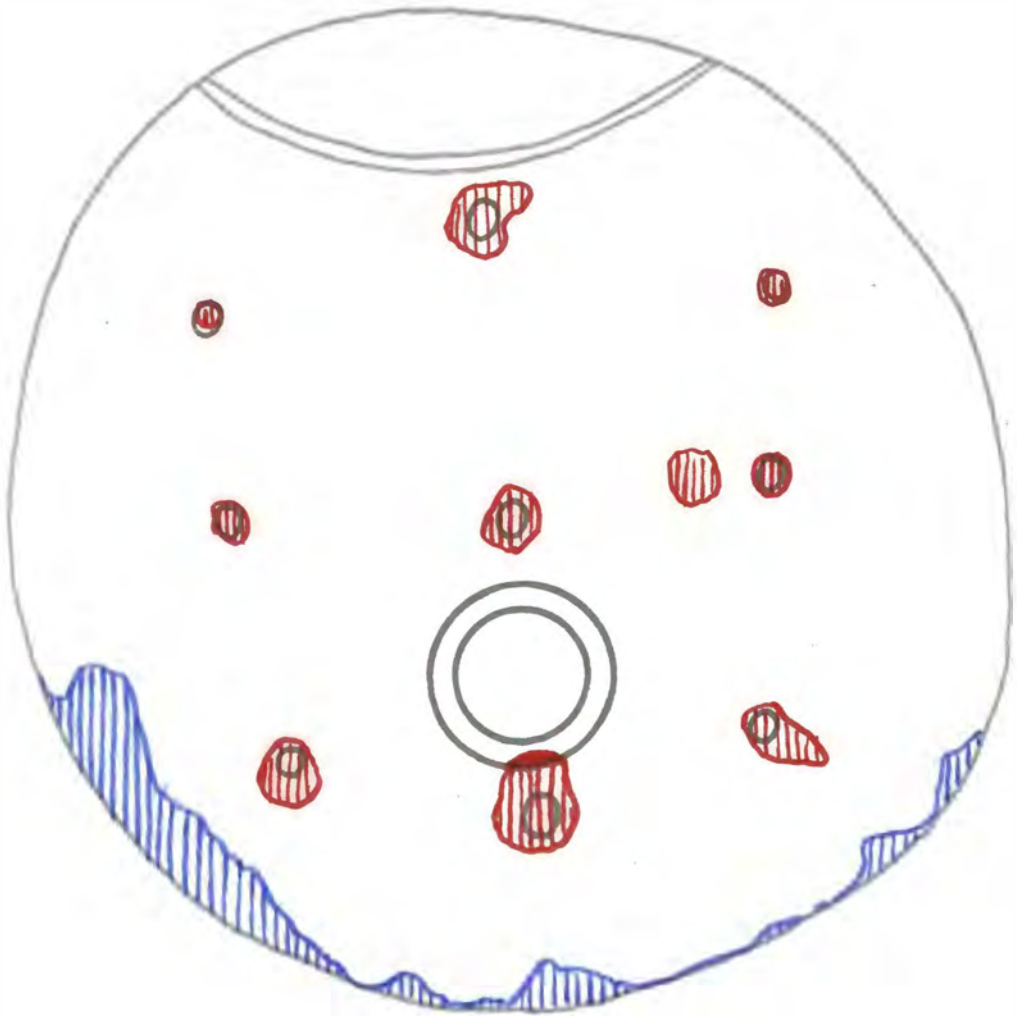
hut 2



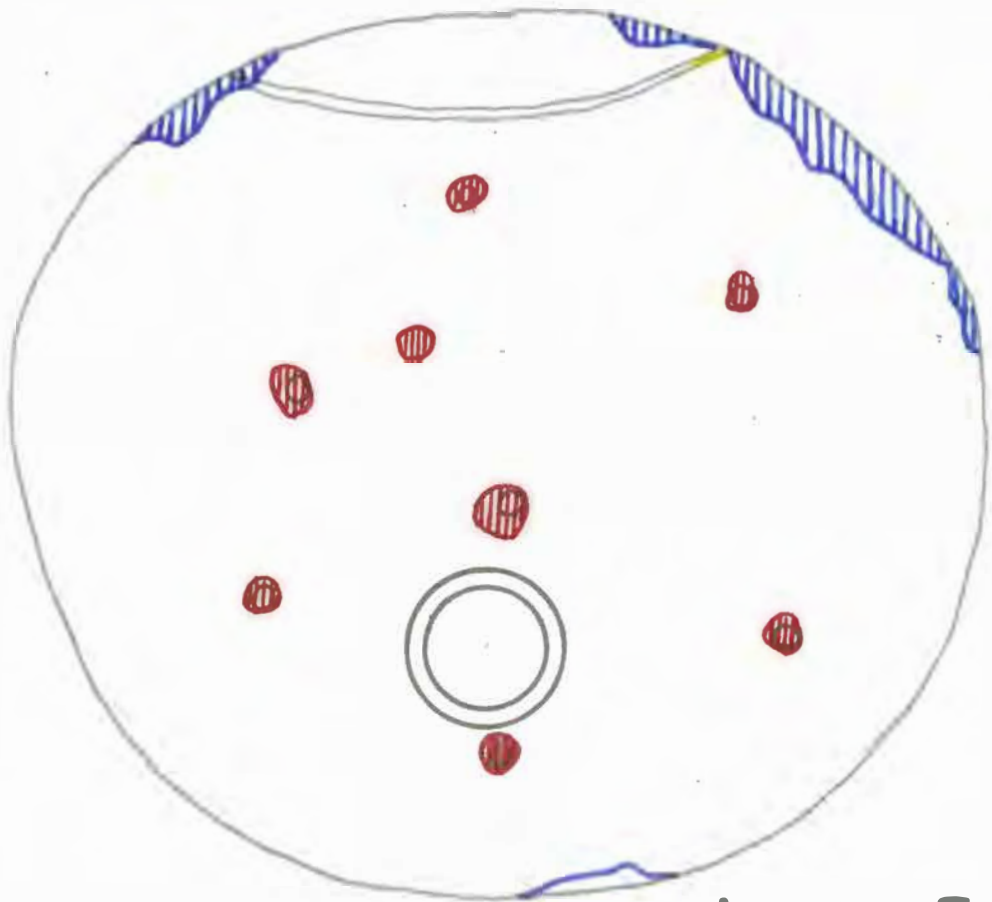
hut 4



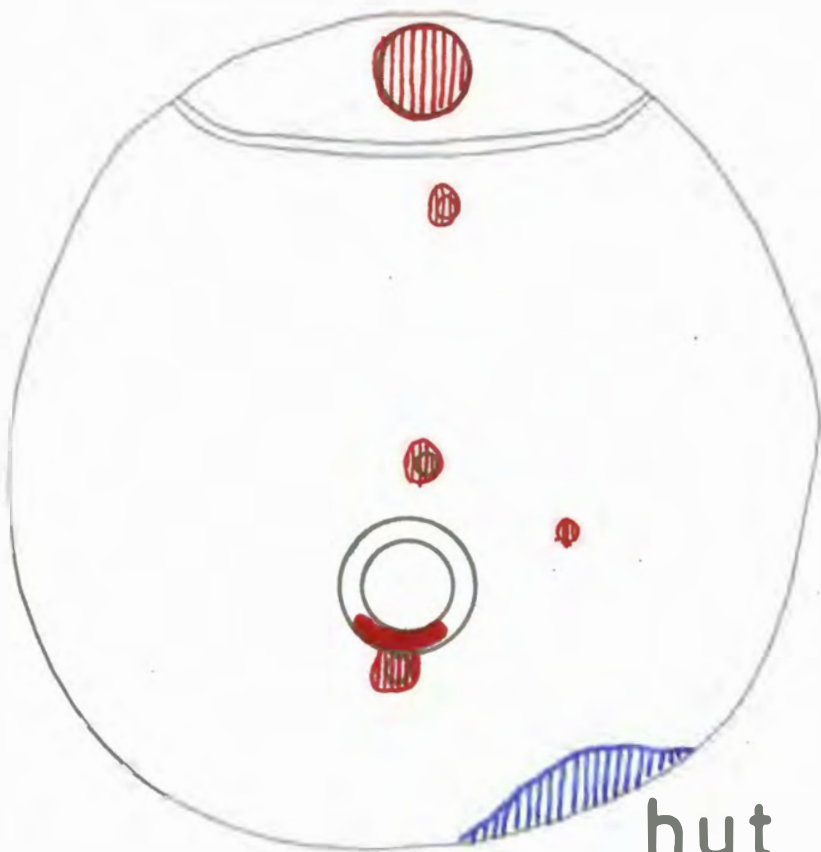
hut 3



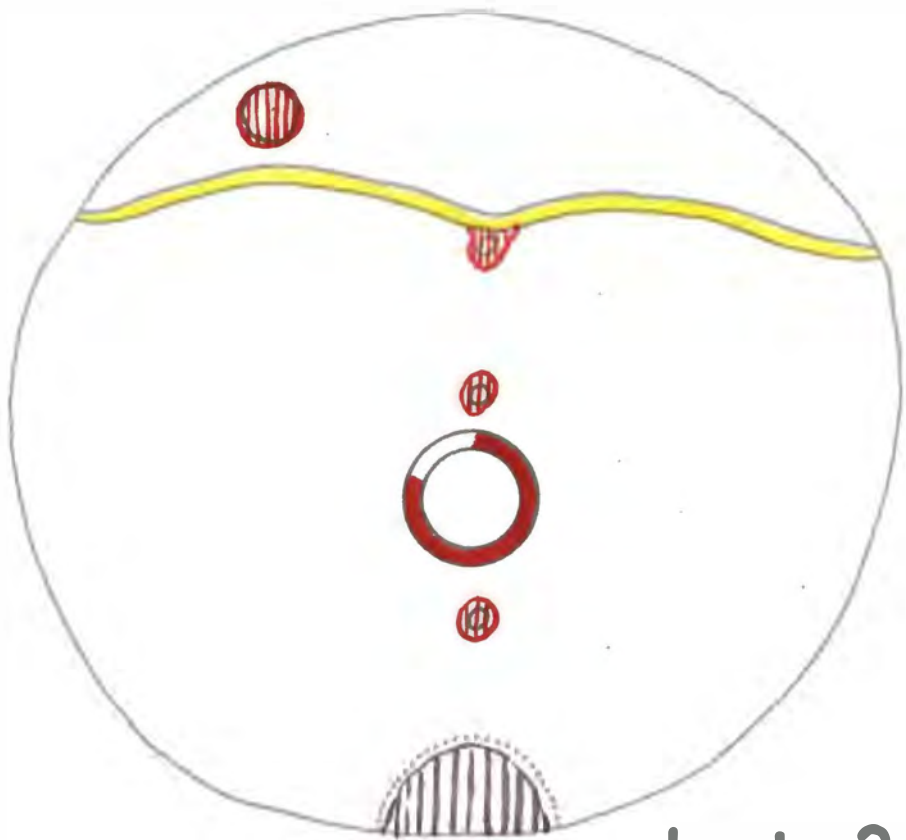
hut 6



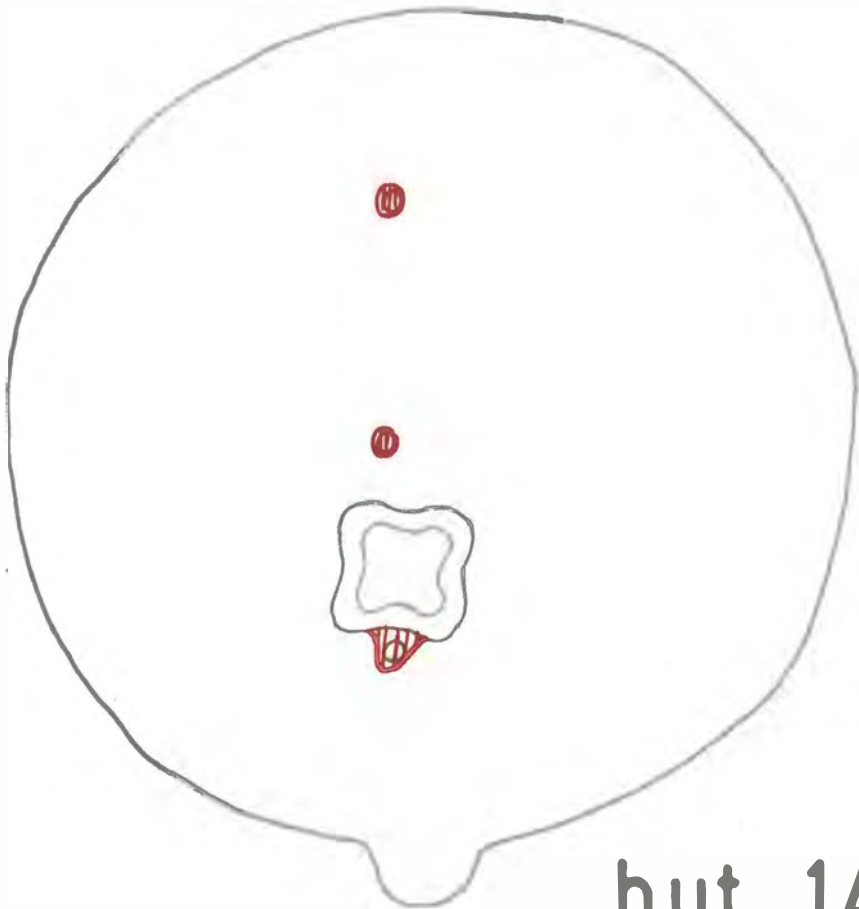
hut 5



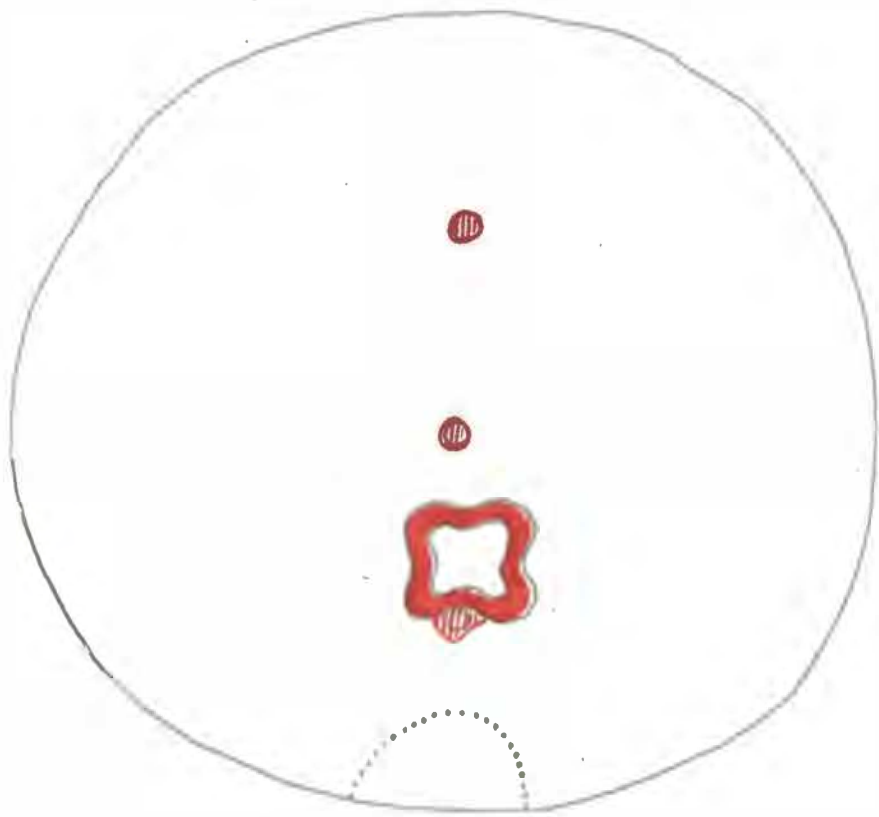
hut 39



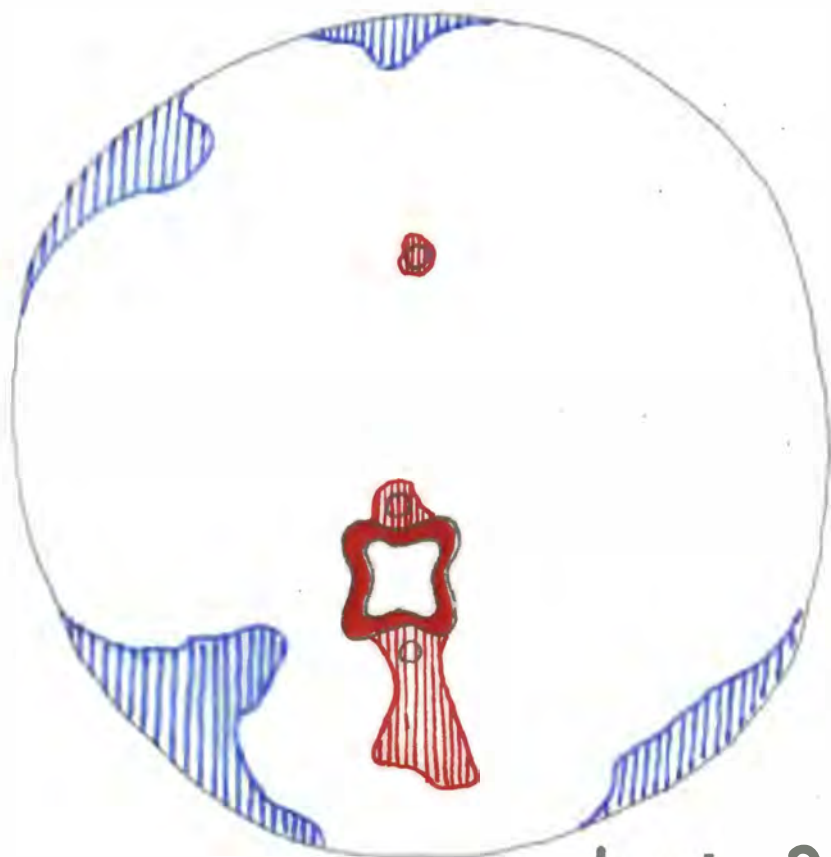
hut 35



hut 14



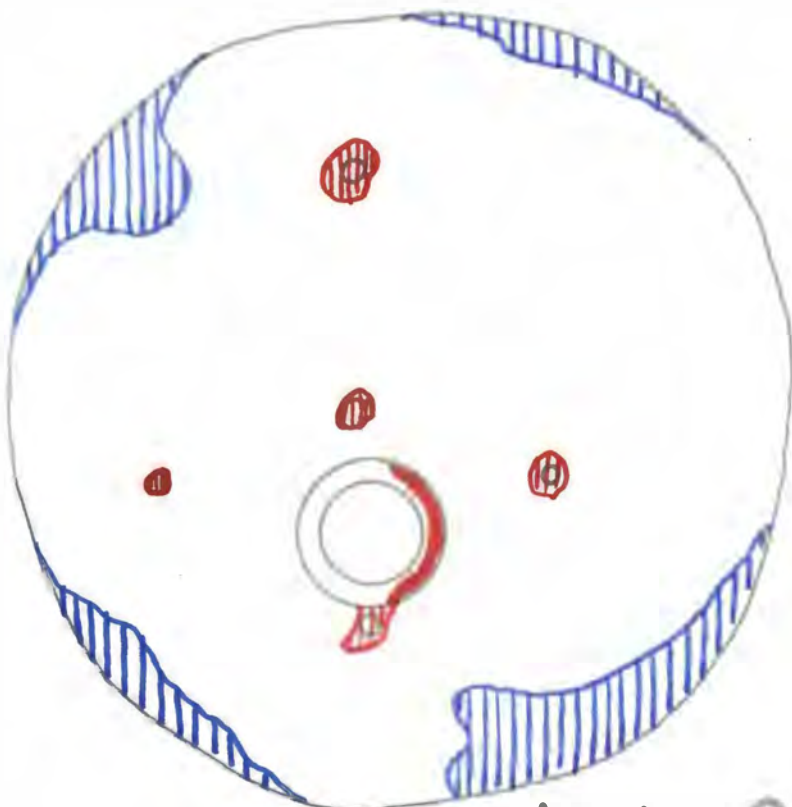
hut 33



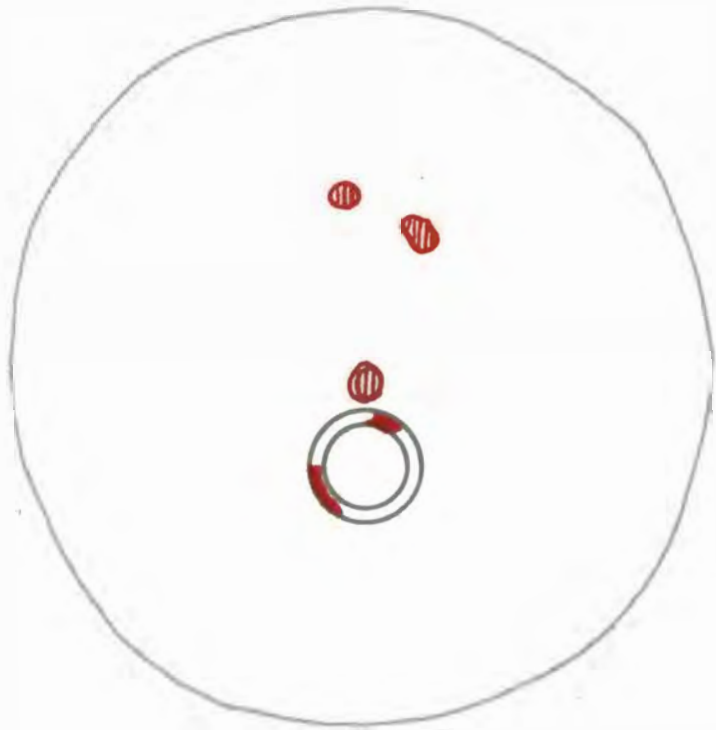
hut 34



hut 28



hut 31



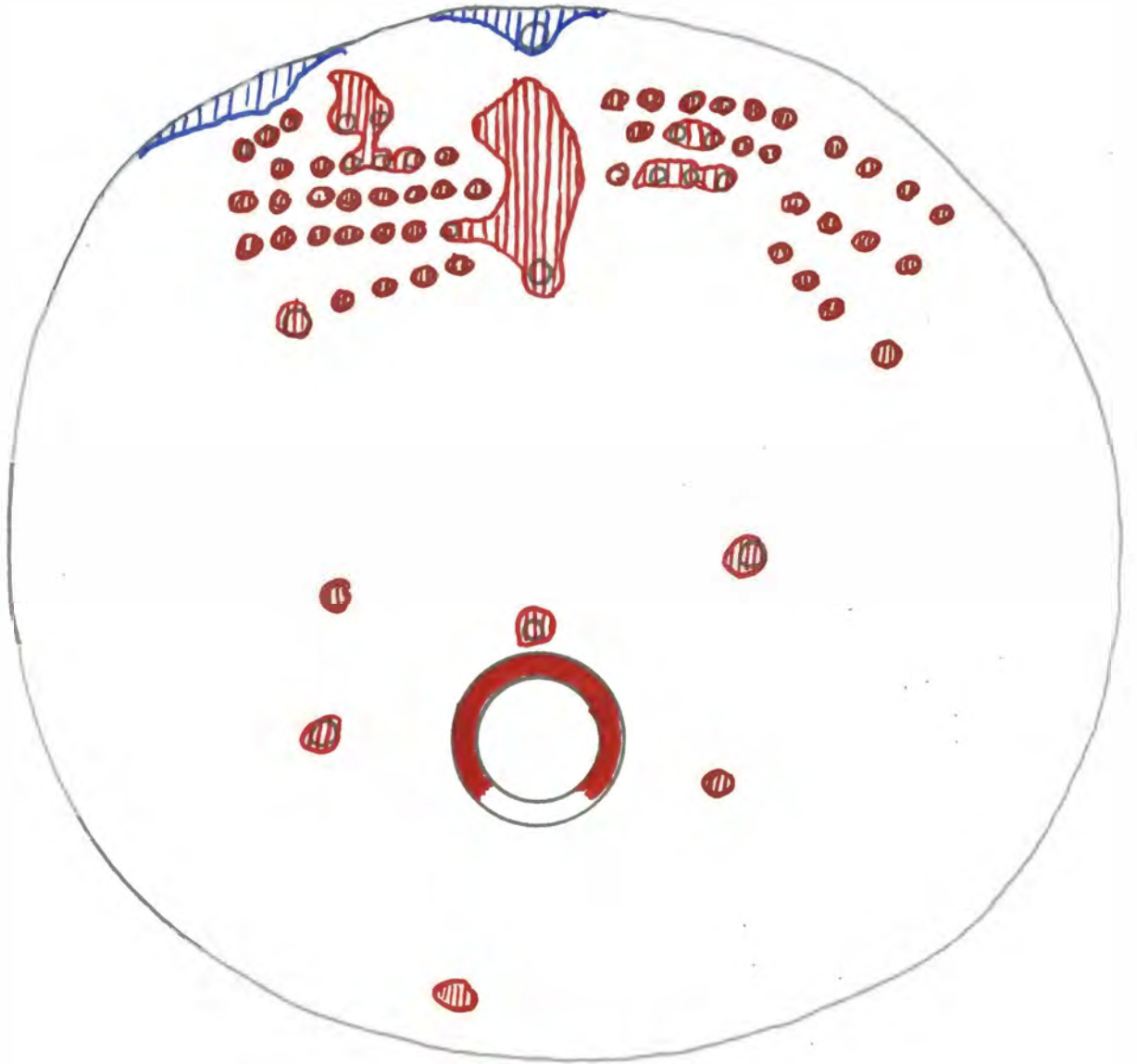
hut 40



hut 38



hut 37



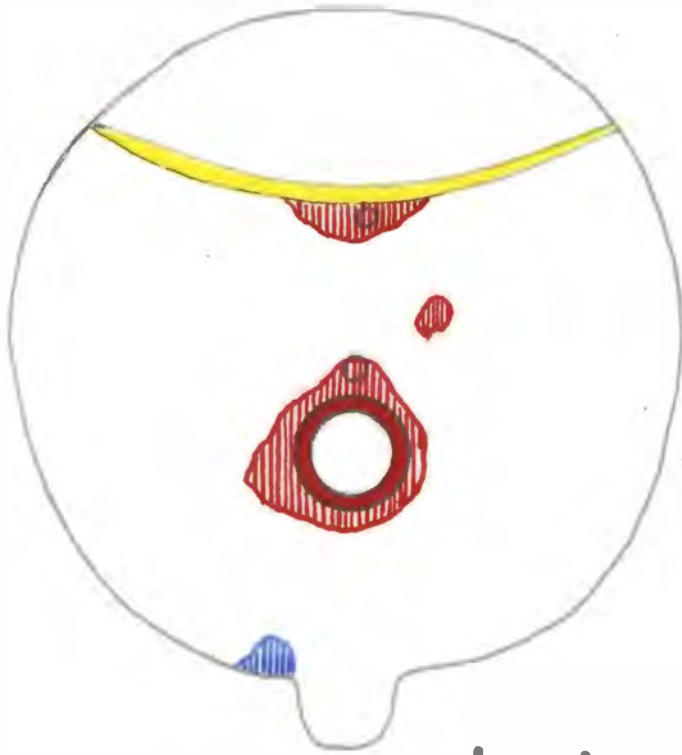
hut 23



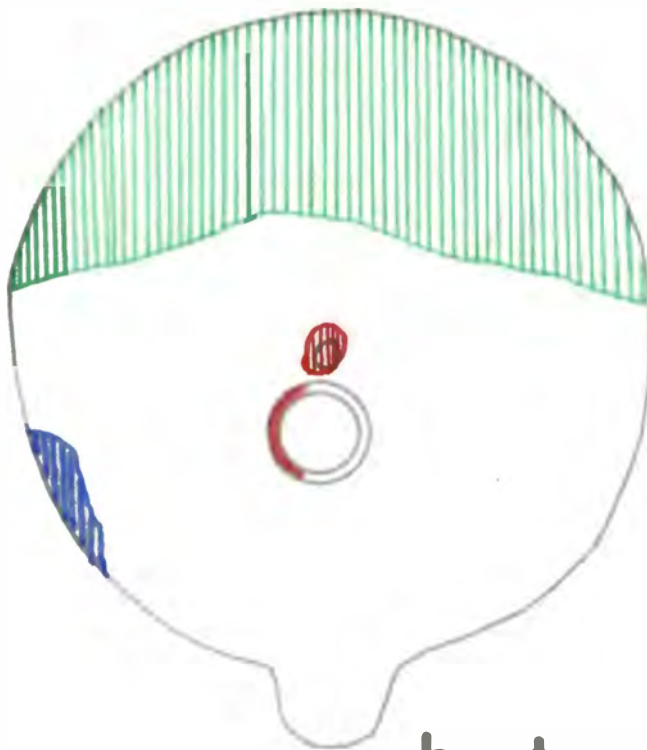
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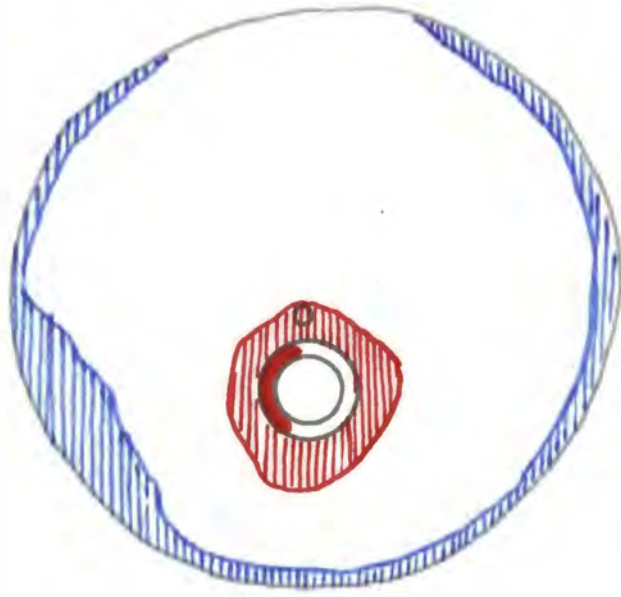
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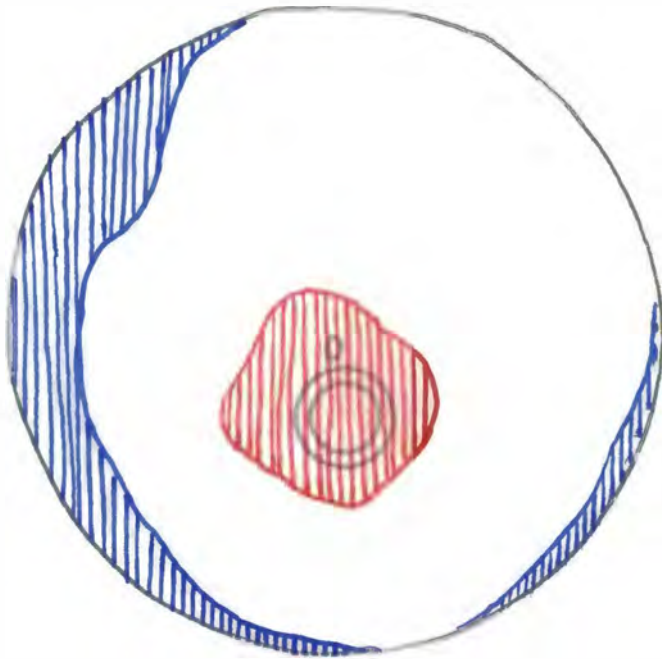
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hut 42



hut 44



hut 45



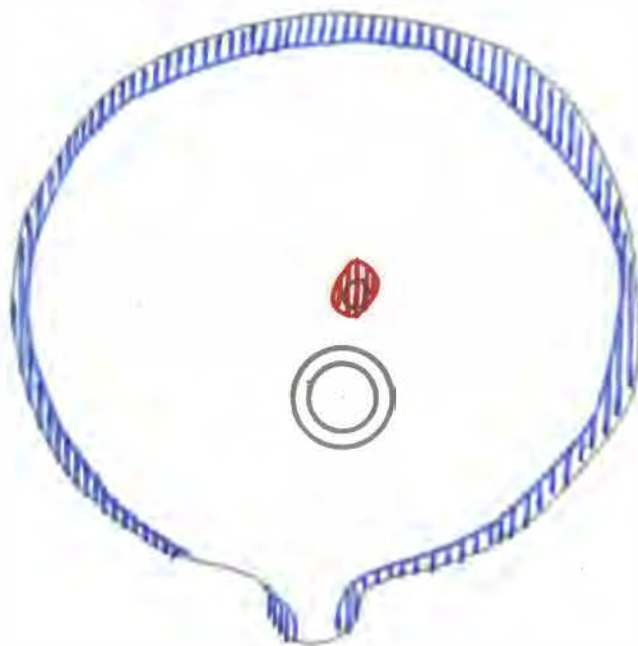
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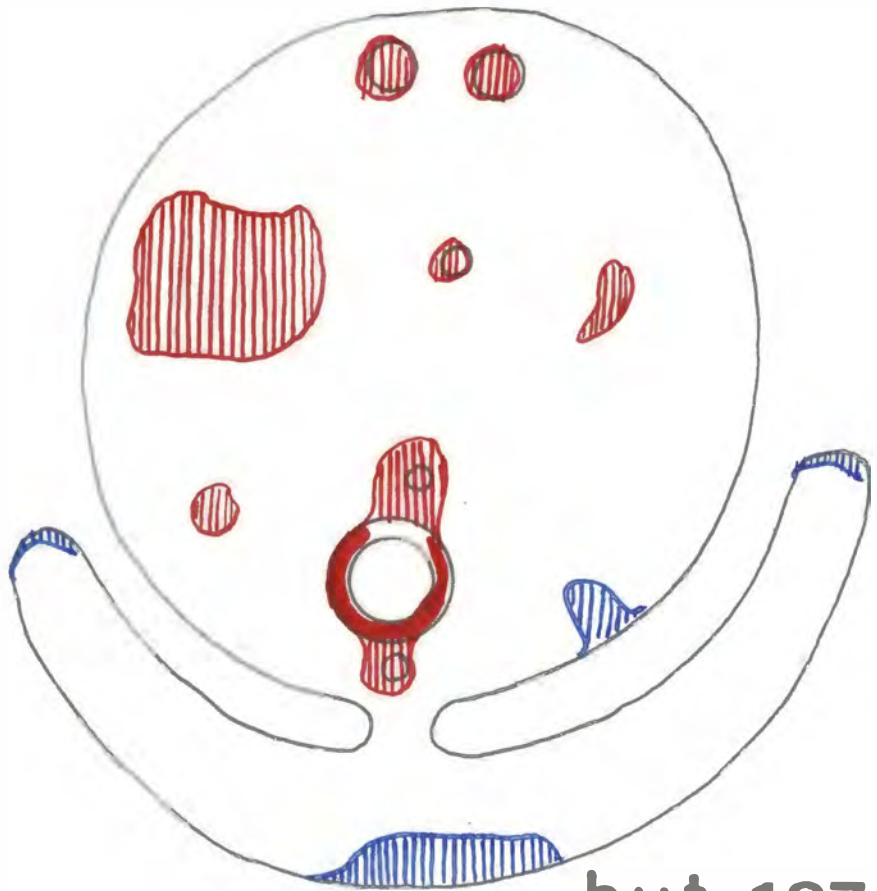
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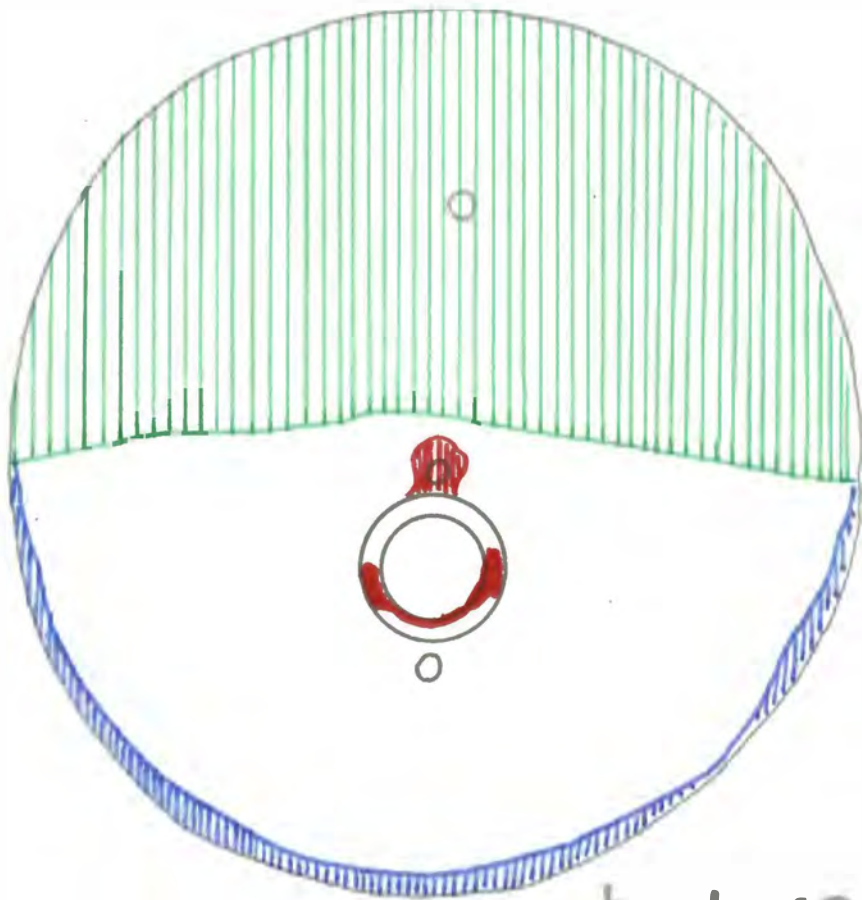
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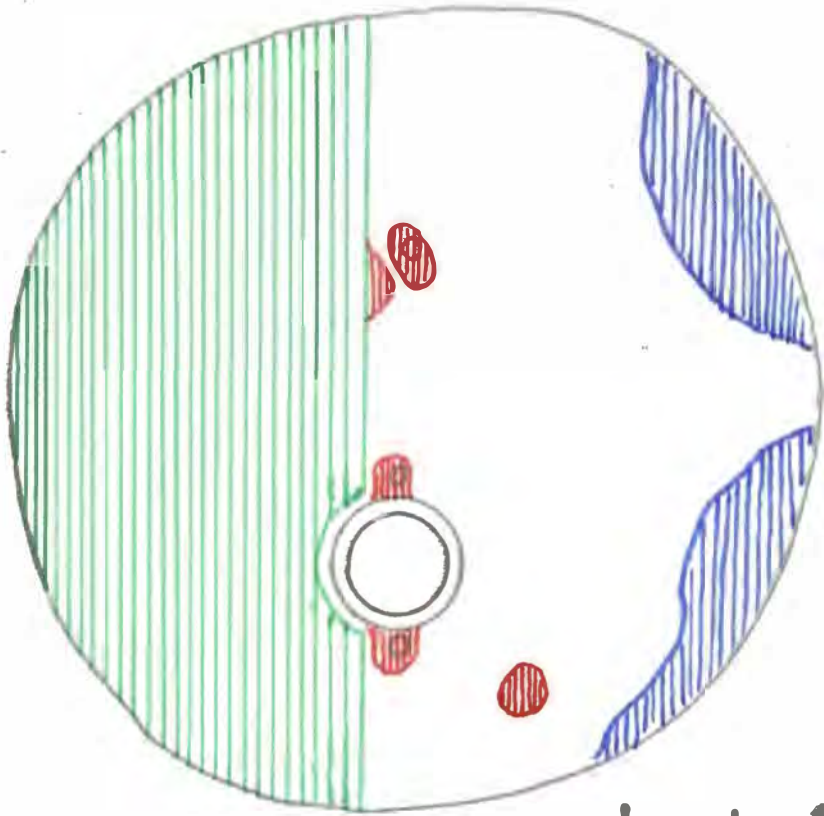
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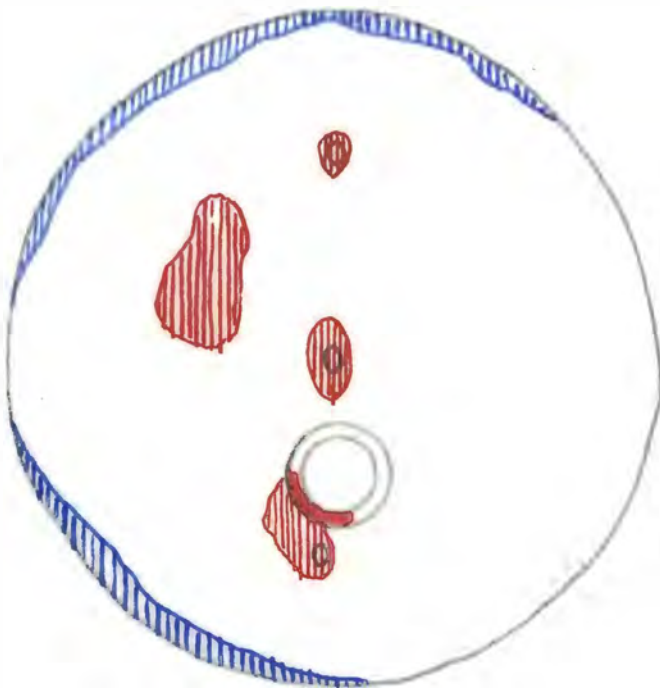
hut 187



hut 188

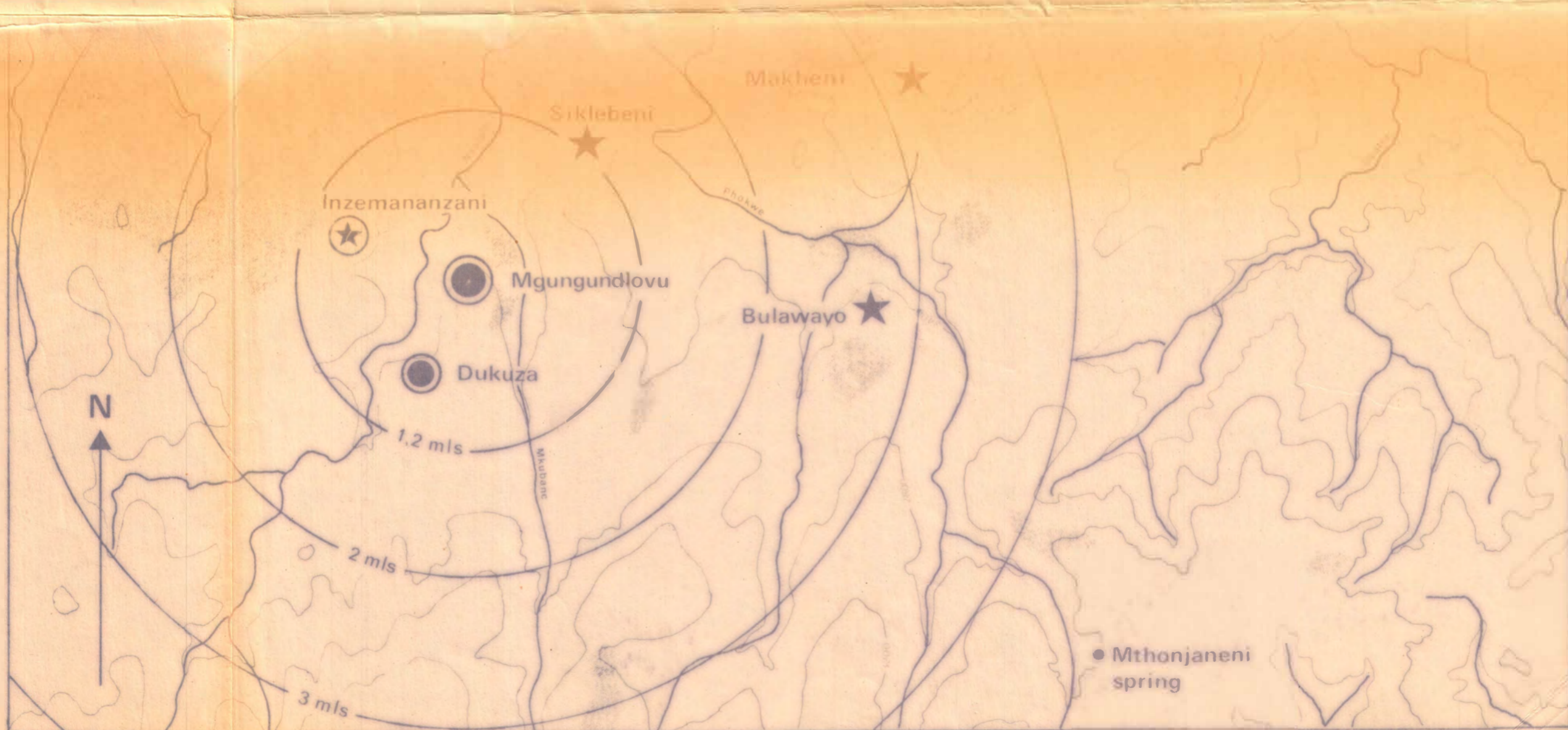


hut 189



hut 190

Kraal sites in the Emakosini Valley



0  5 km

★ approx kraal locations

○ Dinga's kraals

400 ft. contour intervals

● known kraal locations

land under modern cultivation

Bheje

SECTION D

large midden

midden

Grain pits

SECTION C

SECTION B

SECTION A

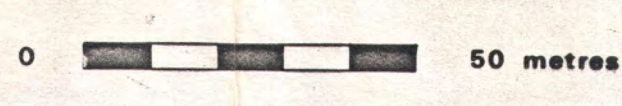
Isigodlo

SECTION E

Warrior huts

MGUNGUNDLOVU

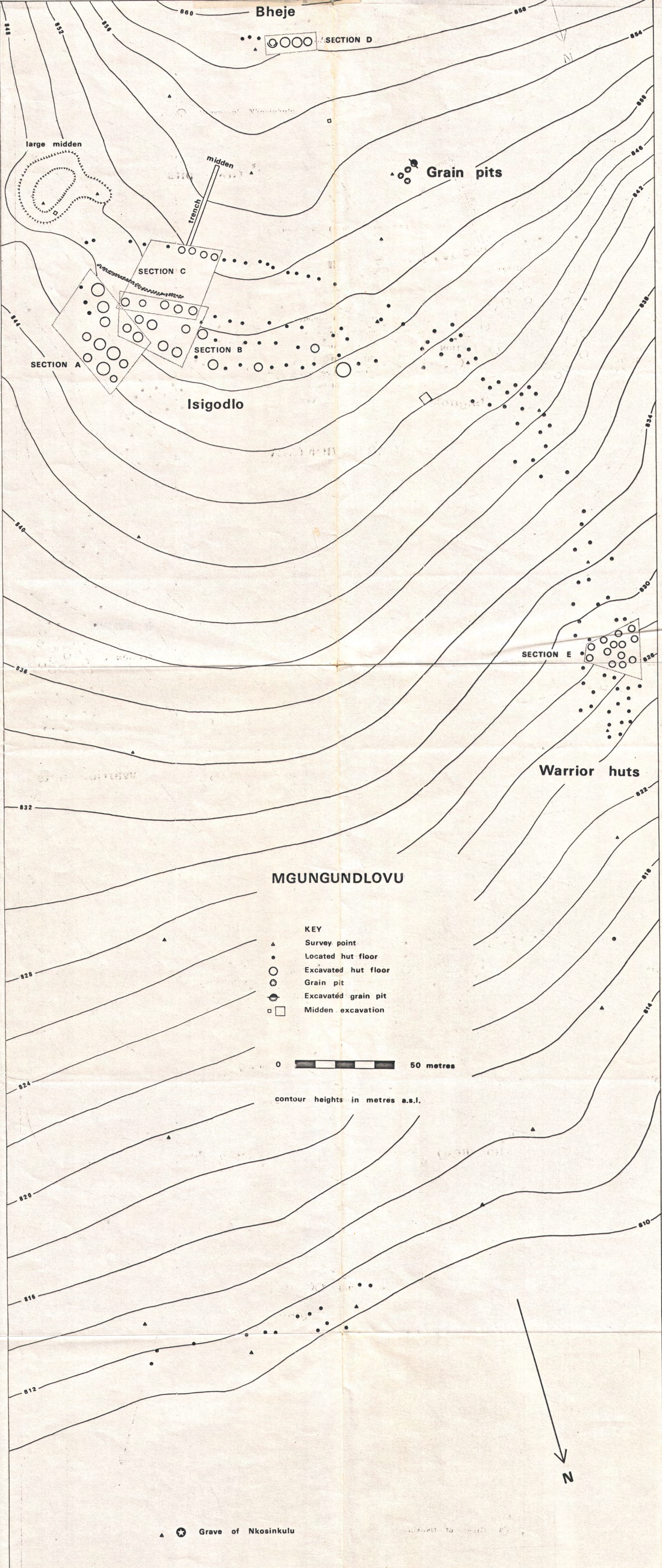
- KEY
- ▲ Survey point
 - Located hut floor
 - Excavated hut floor
 - ⊗ Grain pit
 - ⊕ Excavated grain pit
 - Midden excavation



contour heights in metres a.s.l.

N

▲ ☆ Grave of Nkosinkulu



CONTENTS

DIAGRAM 38 - Complete site map

MAP 7 - Map of kraal sites
in the Emakosini

DIAGRAM 39 - Cross-Sections of
Mgungundlovu