SUPPLEMENTARY ONLINE MATERIAL

THE LATER STONE AGE OF WELGEVONDEN ROCK SHELTER, WATERBERG, LIMPOPO PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA

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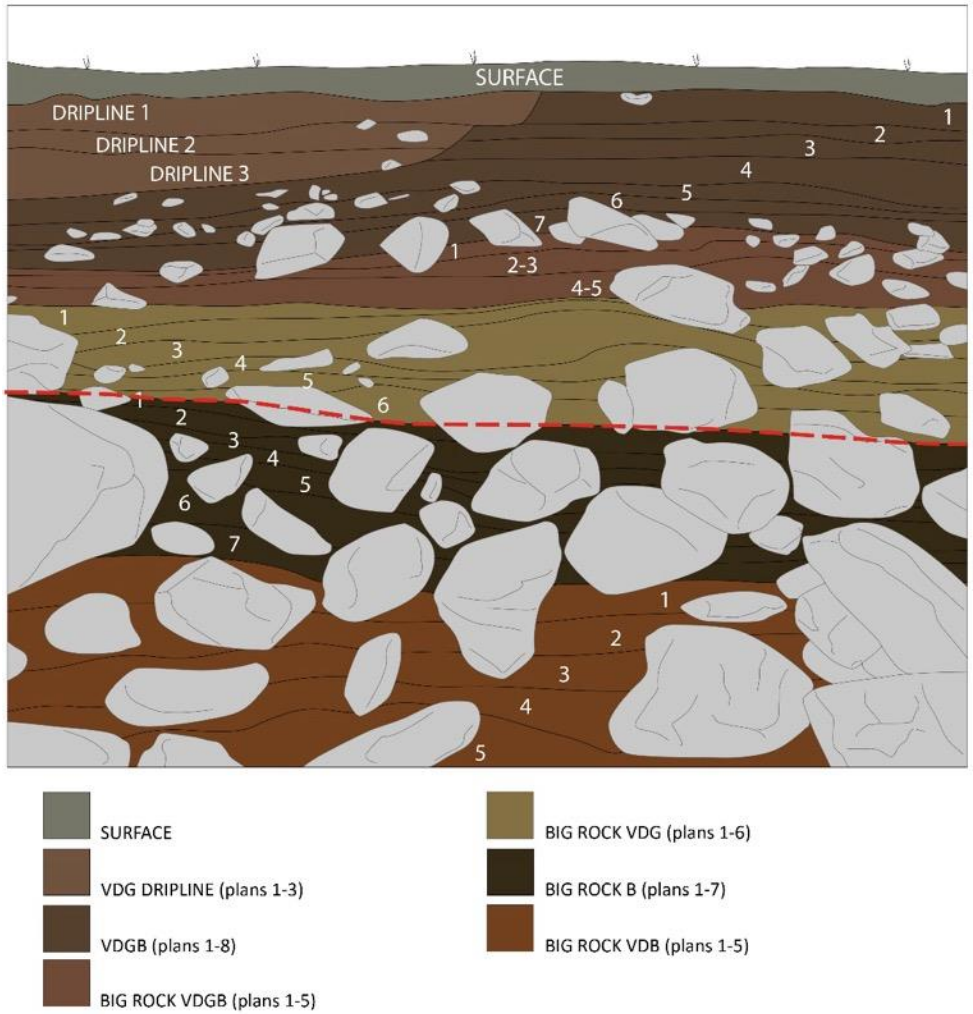
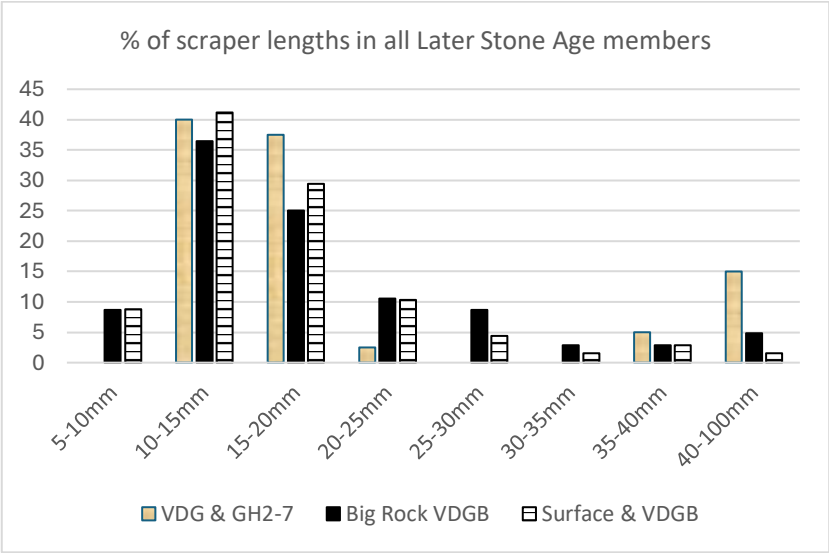
SOM Figure 1. The Welgevonden hill provides a wide-angle view of the landscape.

SOM Figure 2. Aerial view of the Welgevonden hill with rock cisterns. The painted site WEL1 is at the top, right corner (see Fig. 2).

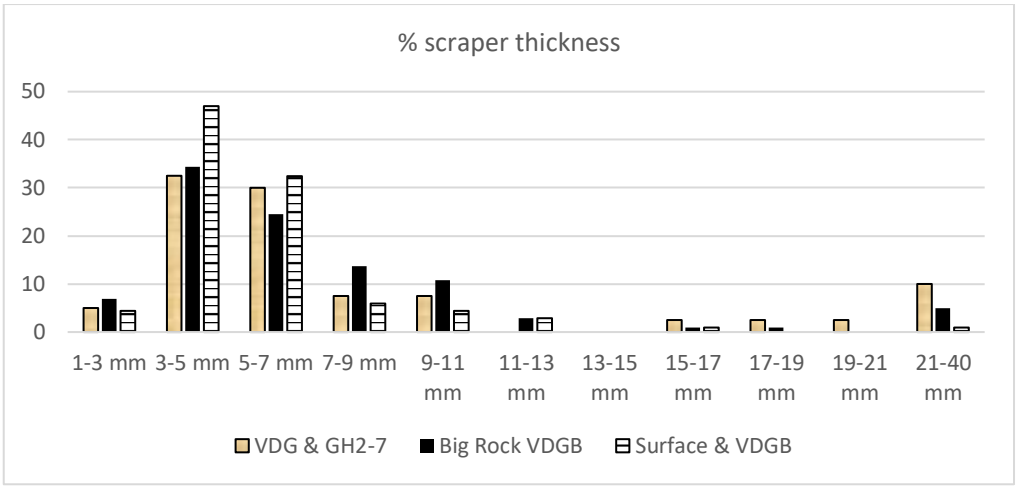
SOM Figure 3. The Welgevonden rock formations are dramatic and unusual.



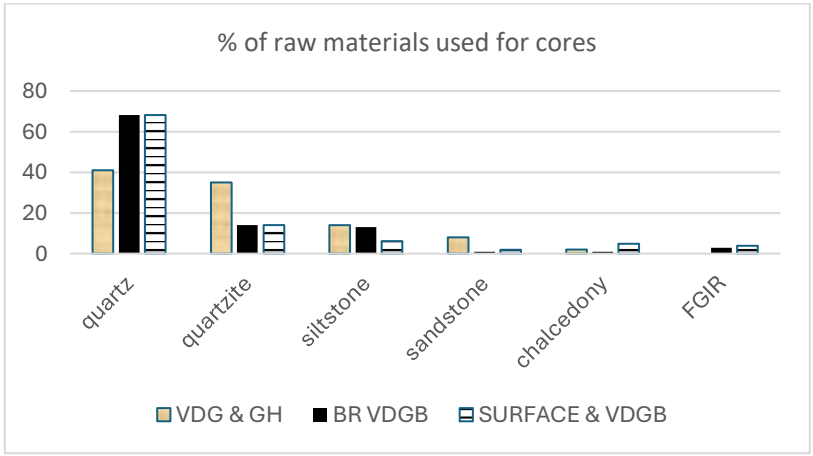
SOM Figure 4. Stratigraphy of the Welgevonden Rock Shelter west wall, square R3. Note the changing size and shape of the dripline as the sediments deepen. Rock size increases with depth, hence the name of the deeper layers, such as Big Rock VDGB. VDGB=Very Dark Greyish Brown; VDG=Very Dark Grey; VDB=Very Dark Brown. The Later Stone Age layers discussed in the paper are above the red dotted line.



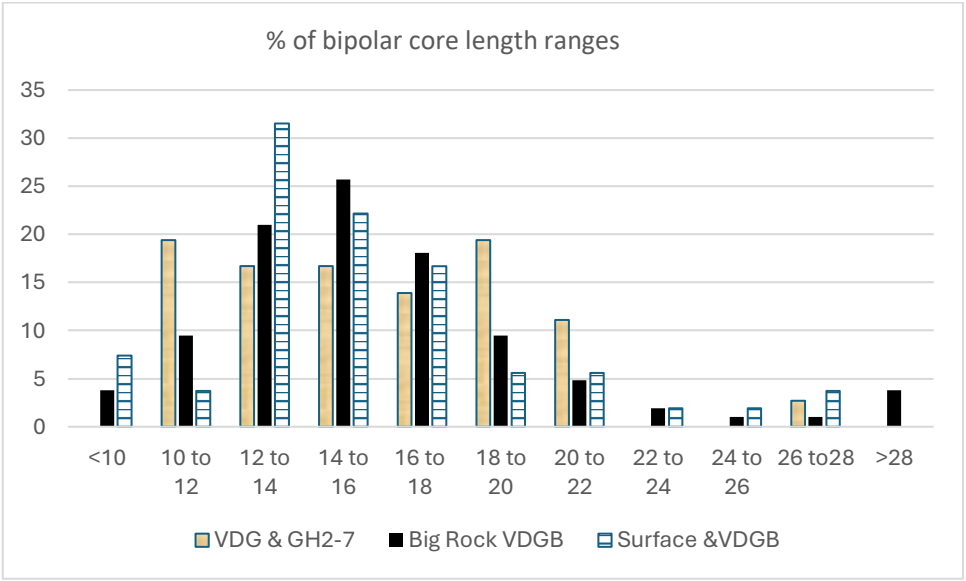
SOM Figure 5. Percentages of Welgevonden scrapers within eight length ranges. For this representation, the longest dimension of the scraper was used rather than the 'technological' length described in the Methods section. The scraper frequencies are listed in SOM Table 2.



SOM Figure 6. Percentages of scraper thicknesses in all Later Stone Age members of Welgevonden Rock Shelter.



SOM Figure 7. Percentages of raw materials used for making cores in all Later Stone Age members of Welgevonden Rock Shelter. FGIR=Fine-grained igneous rock.



SOM Figure 8. Percentages of bipolar core lengths (mm) in the three Welgevonden Rock Shelter Later Stone Age members. Although a few cores are smaller than 10 mm, the lengths of most bipolar cores are between 10 and 20 mm.

SOM Figure 9. Large rock with grinding hollow in square R2, layer VDGB 4.

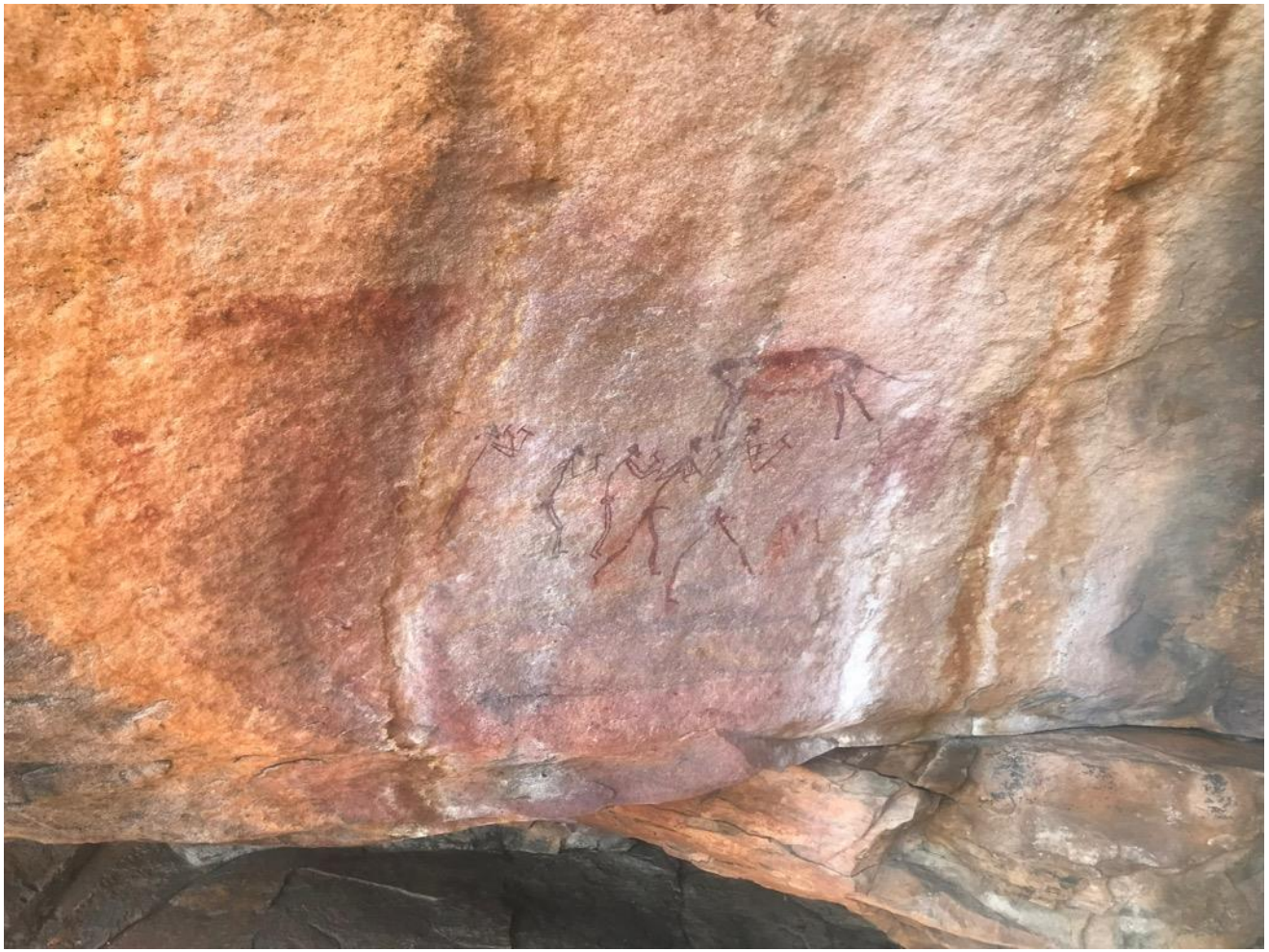
SOM Figure 10. The painted site WEL1 showing the relationship of the two painted panels.

SOM Figure 11. Photograph of Panel 1 at WEL1. The narrow space between this panel and rock behind makes it difficult to photograph the entire painted surface.

SOM Figure 12. Photograph of Panel 2 at WEL1. The art is not well preserved, but this panel is also densely painted.

SOM Figure 13. Panel 1 at WEL1 depicts this man with horns, feathers or ears on his head and a human body with exaggerated penis and buttocks.

SOM Figure 14. Battle-axe depictions on Kaingo Game Reserve. Left: A fine-line painting of a battle-axe from WEL 1, Panel 2. The photograph is enhanced using Dstretch crgb. Right: A Dwaalhoek 6 finger-painting attributed to Iron Age farmers. The human figure holds a battle-axe (see Wadley & Laue 2025: chapter 11).



SOM Figure 15. The panel at WEL2 showing five men in the centre, with additional faded images on both left and right.

SOM Table 1. A list of specimens that have been identified taxonomically as well as the diagnostic wood characteristics that were noted in the archaeological fragments. Varr=Vessel arrangement, Vdiam=Vessel diameter in micrometers (µm), Vfreq=Vessel frequency per mm^2, Fthcks=Fibre thickness, Papo=Apotracheal parenchyma, Ppara=Paratracheal parenchyma, Rcw=Ray cell width, Rcht=Ray cell height, Rµw=Ray cell width in µm, Rµht=Ray height in µm, Rcomp=Ray composition, Rho/Rhe=Rays homocellular or heterocellular, Rfreq=Ray frequency/linear mm, Odf=Other diagnostic features, Ref.=Reference specimen, cf.=taxa that were identified with less certainty.

Taxa	Sample#	Varr	Vdiam	Vfreq	Fthcks	Papo	Ppara	Rcw	Rcht	Rµw	Rµht	Rcomp	Rho/Rhe	Rfreq	Odf	Ref
***Combretum* sp.**	WGV52	sol	<=50	20-40	thin	vasi		1 (-2)c	5-10c	10-20	0-500	Rmix	Rhe	>=12	Incl. phloem; crystals	LFA40-45 (Allott 2005)
***Ficus* sp. 1**	WGV10	sol	<=50	20-40	thick		band(c>3)	1-3c	10-20c	20-50	0-500	Rmix	Ret	>=12		LFA94-101 (Allott 2005)
***Ficus* sp. 2**	WGV100	srm	<=50	20-40	thick	vasi	band(c<=3)					pro1up/sq	Rhe			LFA94-101 (Allott 2005)
***Kirkia* sp.**	WGV31	sol srm	<=50	20-40	thin-thick	vasi	band(c<=3)	1-2(-3)	5-10c	10-20	0-500	pro	Rho	4-12		LFA159-160 (Allott 2005)
Pterocarpus* cf. *rotundifolius	WGV28	sol	50-100	40-100	thin-thick	vasi	band(c<=3)	1(-2)c	10-20c	20-50	0-500	pro	Rho	4-12	tyloses	LFA209 (Allott 2005)
Rhoicissus revoilii	WGV18	sol	<=50	40-100	thin-thick	rare		4-10c	20-50c	50-100	0-500	pro2up/sq	Rhe	>=12		LFA115-117 (Allott 2005)
Senegalia/ Vachellia1	WGV1	srm	50-100	40-100	thin	vasi?		1(-2)	3-5c	10-20	0-500	pro	Rho	>=12		BPI/20/1,6,69, 74,75,94
Senegalia/ Vachellia2	WGV2	sol	50-100	40-100	thin-thick	confl		1-2(-3)c	5-10c		0-500	pro	Rho	4-12	crystals?	BPI/20/202,24 1,249,
Senegalia/ Vachellia3	WGV5	sol srm	50-100	20-40	thin-thick	vasi		1-2(-3)c	10-20c	20-50	0-500	pro	Rho	4-12		BPI/20/428-430, 432,
Senegalia/ Vachellia4	WGV6	sol clus	50-100	5-20	thin-thick	alif		1-2(-3)c	10-20c	20-50	0-500	pro	Rho	4-12		BPI/20/525,20 ,90,353,
Senegalia/Vachellia5	WGV7	sol srm	50-100	5-20	thin	alif		1-2(-3)c	10-20c	20-50	0-500			4-12		BPI/20/410, 433
Senegalia/ Vachellia6	WGV101	sol srm	50-100	20-40	thin-thick	alif		1-2(-3)c	10-20c	20-50	0-500	pro	Rho	4-12		LFA189-197 (Allott 2005)

SOM Table 2. Frequencies of scraper classes in all three Later Stone Age members in Welgevonden.

	end	**side**	**end/side**	**side/side**	**other**
Big Rock VDG & GH 2-7	45	24	19	5	7
Big Rock VDGB	62	23	14	0	1
Surface and VDGB	62	15	17	2	4

SOM Table 3. Breakdown of images at WEL1 by panel.

Panel 1

Image	Number		Red		Orange		Yellow		Black		Brown		Orange & Yellow		Red & Yellow		Red & Orange	
Human figures	31	84%	15	48%	7	23%	8	26%					1	3%			1	3%
with bow and arrow/s	3	10%	2	13%		0%		0%					1	100%				
with one-stringed violin	1	3%	1	7%		0%		0%						0%				
elongated	6	19%	3	20%	1	14%	2	25%						0%				
male(with penis)	8	26%	6	40%		0%	2	25%						0%				
female (with breast)	1	3%		0%	1	14%		0%						0%				
distorted	1	3%		0%	1	14%		0%						0%				
pixilated lower limbs	3	10%		0%	3	43%		0%						0%				
with arrows	1	3%	1	7%		0%		0%						0%				
with back apron	4	13%	3	20%		0%		0%					1	100%				
Therianthropes	2	5%	1	50%	1	50%												
Antelope	4	11%	3	75%	1	25%												
indeterminate	3	75%	2	67%	1	100%												
wildebeest?	1	0,25	1	33%		0%												

Arrows	17	50%			4	24%							3	18%	10	59%		
leaf point	3	18%				0%								0%	3	30%		
straight point	14	82%			4	100%							3	100%	7	70%		
in bundles	7	41%				0%							3	100%		0%		
being held	3	18%				0%							3	100%		0%		
Bow	2	6%	1	50%									1	50%				
Handprints	3	9%					3	100%										
Finger strokes	2	6%	2	100%														
Other	10	29%	3	30%	2	20%	5	50%										
pallete	1	10%	1	33%		0%		0%										
paint smudges	2	20%		0%	1	50%	1	20%										
cross hatching	1	10%		0%		0%	1	20%										
wavy lines	3	30%		0%		0%	3	60%										
parallell lines(sets)	2	20%	1	33%	1	50%		0%										
comb shape	1	10%	1	33%		0%		0%										

Panel 2

Image	Number		Red		Orange		Yellow		Black		Brown		Orange & Yellow		Yellow & Red		Red & Orange	
Human figures (total)	27	90%	2	7%	4	15%	5	19%			15	56%			1	4%		
with bow and arrow/s	5	19%	1	50%		0%	2	40%			2	13%				0%		
with a beak on head	1	4%		0%	1	25%		0%				0%				0%		
elongated	3	11%		0%		0%	2	40%			1	7%				0%		
male(with penis)	16	59%	2	100%	2	50%	5	100%			6	40%			1	100%		
distorted	4	15%	1	50%	2	50%		0%				0%			1	100%		
with back apron	1	4%		0%		0%		0%			1	7%				0%		
Antelope	3	10%					1	33%	1	33%	1	33%						
indeterminate	3	100%					1	100%	1	100%	1	100%						
Arrows	40	85%	2	5%			29	73%			7	18%			2	5%		
leaf point	6	15%	2	100%							3	43%			1	50%		
crecent point	2	5%					1	3%				0%			1	50%		
straight point	4	10%									4	57%						
in bundles	15	38%					8	28%			7	100%						
flying	24	60%					24	83%				0%						
Bow	4	9%					4											
Axe	1	2%													1			
Other	2	4%	1	50%	1	50%												
pallete	1		1	100%														
paint smudges	1				100%													

SOM Table 4. Breakdown of images at WEL2. All images are red.

Image	**Number**	**Percentage**
Human figures (total)	12	92%
with picks	8	67%
lying down	1	8%
partial	3	25%
Antelope	1	8%
Total	**13**	**100%**