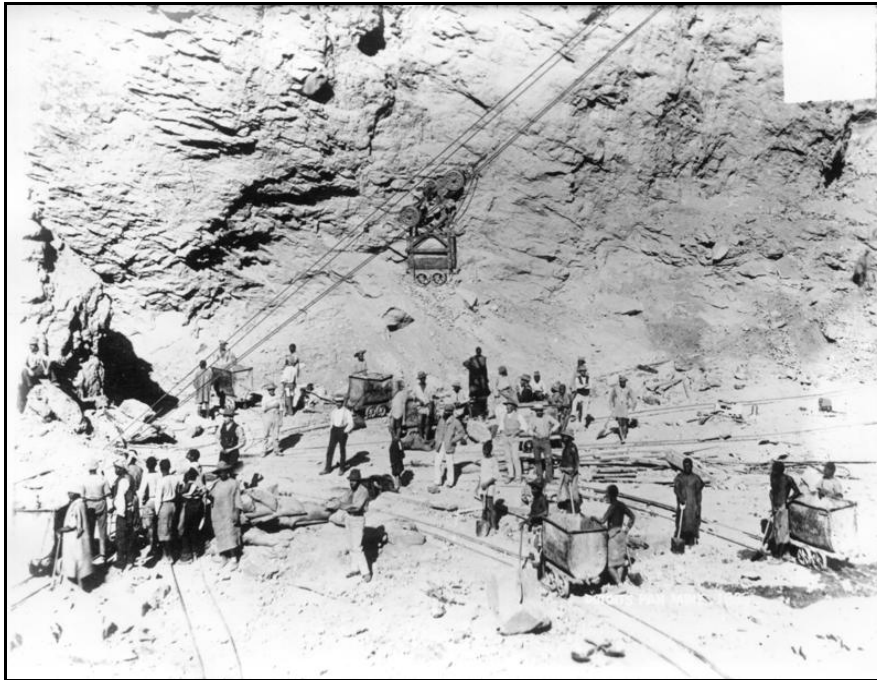
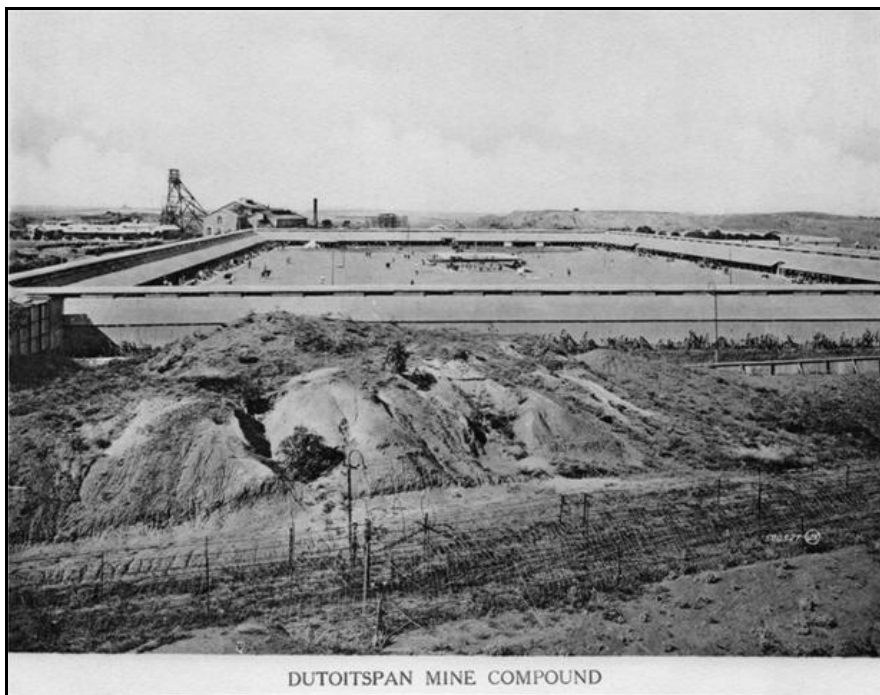


## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

---



**Du toitspan Mine open cast operations, early 1900s**  
(McGregor Museum Kimberley Photography nr.1690)



**Du toitspan mine compound**  
(McGregor Museum Kimberley Photography nr.786)

This project would never have been possible without the support and guidance of various people at the University of Pretoria, McGregor Museum and the Leiden University Medical Centre.

Firstly I would like to thank George Maat for giving me the wonderful opportunity to complete my Ph.D thesis under his supervision, it is truly an honor. Thank you for all the advice, ideas, moral support and patience in guiding me through this project. Thank you for your enthusiasm for the study of palaeopathology. Your wealth of knowledge in the field of palaeopathology and palaeohistopathology in particular is inspiring. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow in this field of research. Your ability to repair things, be it situations or even my handbag keeps astonishing me, thank you for making me feel at home in the Netherlands.

Special thanks should also be given to Maryna Steyn. Thank you for introducing me to the study of Basic Medical Sciences ten years ago, for your continuous support and guidance in the years that followed and for keeping me motivated throughout the writing and editing of the articles bound in this thesis. Thank you for creating various opportunities for me, believing in me and giving me the necessary pep-talks whenever I started doubting myself. Your passion for the field of anthropology is contagious. I hope that there will be many more collaborations between us in the time to come.

Without the persons that excavated, cleaned and curated the skeletal remains this study would not have been possible. I would therefore like to acknowledge the late Mrs. Elizabeth Voigt who co-directed the excavation, together with Karen van Ryneveld. Field assistants and help with cleaning of the skeletal remains came from the community including, principally, Koot Msawula, Kobus Saaiman, Bafana Ndebele, Petrus Wilson, Jane Joubert, Roger Bosch, Sandra Dodd, Bellin Hoffman, Abraham de Wee, Willem Eland, Stephen Seleku, Jacqueline Phetheni, Tanja Kruger, Vincent Dinku and Nomalinde Msuthu. Sephai Mngqolo recorded consultation proceedings.

I extend my sincere gratitude to David Morris and the McGregor Museum for giving me the opportunity to investigate the Gladstone skeletal remains. Special thanks to David for making arrangements and obtaining special permits from SARHA when it was decided to extend the project beyond macroscopic investigations. I would also like to thank you for always being available to give extra information about individual cases, archaeological findings associated with the remains or historical information. Your meticulous writing

## Acknowledgements

style and thorough reviewing of articles as well as wealth of knowledge made it a pleasure to work with you.

Further I would like to give special thanks to Maureen Klemp. Thank you for your hospitality every time I came to Kimberley, as well as for volunteering to help with cleaning skeletal material and writing down measurements. You are an inspirational lady!

Marius Loots and Renee Botha, thanks for helping me with the photography of the remains. Special thanks to Marius Loots for also merging several photographs for the histological section of the thesis.

I would also like to express my appreciation to Sunet Swanepoel, Robert Hart and staff at the Africana Library in Kimberley for assistance in finding historical documents, reports and photographs referred to in this thesis, and Marinda Pretorius, from the Department of Anatomy, for the preparation of maps.

Job Aarents at the Leiden University Medical Centre gave technical support with the making of histological slides. Thank you for teaching me to produce these histological sections, and helping to optimize my samples for microscopic investigation.

I am greatly indebt to Darlene Weston for proofreading this thesis and to Wies Groeneboer and Marion Maat-Schieman for translating the English summary to Dutch. I would also like to acknowledge Drs. R. Wolterbeek for his statistical assistance, and Daniel Jansma and Anne Marie de Wit for their technical support in producing the dissertation.

Thanks to the following persons for providing various craniometrical comparative data sets: Alan Morris, William W. Howells, Alain Froment and Hertha De Villiers.

A special note of thanks should also be given to Ericka L'Abbé. Your patience while explaining statistics and continuous moral support was greatly appreciated.

I also thank members of the public who came forward with information and advised us in community meetings. I acknowledge the help of Sol Plaatje Municipality (the developer), SAHRA, De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd, and the local press and radio in Kimberley.

Lastly I would like to thank my mom and sister, Retha and Jana van der Merwe and Johan Schutte. Your devotion, unconditional love and support, sense of humour, patience, optimism and advice was more valuable than you could ever imagine.