CHAPTER 5
INDIVIDUAL STUDY SITES

KEY CONCEPTS

To fully understand and be able to appreciate the artwork located at the individual sites, certain basic concepts pertaining to the rock engravings of the research area need to be understood. This includes an understanding of the various techniques used to engrave and certain theories on the purpose for engraving. The following are key concepts that need to be understood, in order to appreciate the engraved work.

1) Incision (incised) technique - It is a singular engraved (carved) line, simplistic in nature that curves to form the characteristic silhouette of the object or subject being engraved. Other lines may be engraved inside the silhouette, to enhance the character of the subject. In a few cases multiple lines are used to depict the engraved work.

2) Fine line technique - It is a style utilised in incision work, in which the incised lines are no more than 1mm in breadth.

3) Broad line technique - It is another style, younger than the fine line technique that was utilised in incised works. In this case the incised lines are broader than those of the fine line incisions are.

4) Entoptic phenomenon - They are luminous visual precepts that take on geometric forms such as grids, zigzags, dots, undulating lines, nested catenary curves and spirals, (Lewis-Williams, 1988). These shapes are experienced as glowing heat, shimmering, moving, rotating and enlarged patterns, independent of light from an external source, (Lewis-Williams, 1988). These phenomenon are experienced with the eyes open or shut at a distance of approximately 30cm, and change form rapidly (Table 2), (Lewis-Williams, 1988). The concave curves shown in the entoptics column of Table2 and in the north-western Cape column, which according to the Table does not occur in the Magaliesberg, does in fact occur in the Magaliesberg, but in the Magaliesberg they converge at the tips (Figure C4).

That the shamans engraved entoptic phenomenon is a distinct possibility but that they then went on to stage two of the hallucinations, in which according to Lewis-Williams, (1988) they would take these basic geometric forms and construe them into something they hoped to see in the spirit world, is debatable. Even more debatable is the statement, according to Lewis-Williams, (1988), that they then move on to stage three, in which the person will experience a vortex or rotating tunnel, that seemingly surround them, these tunnels then give way to images of people, animals, monsters and houses. The a-fore mentioned concept, is said to be what people undergoing a trance or hallucinations experience, this was proven through psychological testing, (Carson et al. (1992)). Other side effects, include an increased heart rate, a slowed down reaction time, itchy eyes, memory disfunction, a slowing down of information processing, all of which impair work productivity, (Carson et al. (1992)). Taking into account the high quality of work produced by the artists and the complexity of their work, it seems logical to presume that the person, would have to be at their full senses, during the production of the work. On studies the
person, would have to be at their full senses, during the production of the work. On studies the rubbings of the relevant engravings the above statements on entoptic phenomenon appear true, but if the actual engraved surface is studied it becomes clear that the “entoptic phenomenon” were engraved long before the subjects superimposed on them or vice versa. Also the styles used to engrave the animal images differ in style and technique from the “entoptics”.

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<th>Entoptics</th>
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(Table 2: Entoptic phenomenon compared with engravings from the north-western Cape and the Magaliesberg, [Lewis-Williams, 1988])
The grade of the majority of the work produced by the Bushmen is of such a high standard, that it would be unrealistic to think that they engraved while in a trance or hallucinating. It is more realistic to believe that they created their masterpieces while at their full senses, engraving what they remember experiencing while under the influence. Also it is more realistic to believe they engraved animal, humans, monsters or houses on some of the entoptics simply because the make for an interesting background. This is verified by the statistics of the sites. All the entoptic’s grouped with other subject were engraved long before the other subjects and making use of a different style and technique. Thus in conclusion, yes the Bushmen shamans did enter trances and make use of hallucinogenics, which led to them experiencing entoptic phenomenon and later engraving these phenomenon experienced, but this is where the experience ends.

To further complicate matters, if we study basic human nature, we all “doodle”, (scribble or draw absent-mindedly) when we are board or to keep our minds and hands occupied, while doing something else like talking on the phone or sitting through a lecture. These “doodles” more often than not resemble “entoptic phenomenon” and we are not in a trance or hallucinating, due to the induction of drugs at the time. Thus the so called “entoptics” engraved by the bushmen, could perceivably have been “doodles”, engraved by board bushmen, who had nothing better to do in-between hunting expeditions.

5) Hornfel rocks - Hornfel rocks were originally shale rock, but through metamorphic processes, which changed there chemical make-up became hornfel. They have a purple-blue interior with a bronze exterior, with a fine to medium texture. They produce an iron sound when clanged together, this is due to their mineral content, it also means they have a good, slow and even weathering rate, (Snyman pers Com. 2000).

6) Rock textures - Rock textures vary from fine, medium to rough grains. This is based on how coarse the rock surface is, which is determined by the size of the grains on the surface.

7) External anatomy terminology - (Figure1), of animals should be understood in order to describe an engraving correctly. A correct understanding of the anatomy of the animal aids in the identification of the animals.
External Anatomy Terminology

(Figure 1: External anatomy terminology, [Frandsen, 1992])
SITE A

Site A comprises of the ruins of an iron aged Sotho-Tswana village (Map20). The village is situated on top of a hill, there are no trees, but there are extensive grass types and extensive hornfel rock outcrops, these hornfel rocks were used to construct the walls of the enclosures. The site is approximately 300m from the nearest water source, which is a stream situated to the south of the settlement. The village had a panoramic view of the surrounding hills and valley. The fact
that there are no trees, expanses of grass and iron based hornfel rocks and that their huts would have been the tallest structures on the hilltop and taking into consideration the highveld thunder and lightning storms, the question of the village's safety from veld fires should be questioned. To date no excavations have been made on the site; the site consists of four individual scalloped enclosures running east, west. The largest enclosure lies one the western border and is approximately 100 meters in diameter; the original enclosure unfortunately no longer exists due to private development. The enclosure included numerous monoliths and four inner circles in the centre of the enclosure. The only record remaining of the enclosures are a few photographs and crude drawings (Illustration 1) and (Photo's 1-3).

The main enclosure has a central grid reference of 25° 54' 14,9" S and 27° 29' 30,3" E. The middle enclosure, which lies to the left of the other enclosures, has a grid reference of 25° 54' 16,0" S and 27° 29' 44,9" E. This enclosure is approximately ten meters in diameter (Photo's 4-5). The next circle is the smallest of them all approximately 5 meter's in diameter has a central grid reference of 25° 54' 19,0" S and 27° 29' 50,1" E (Photo6). The eastern most enclosure has the best and highest remaining outer walls, with three small enclosures inside it (Photo's: 7-11). It has a central grid reference of 25° 54' 21,1" S and 27° 29' 50,6" E. It is approximately fifteen meters in diameter. The remaining walls of all the enclosures, have diminished in height over the years, due to natural ground build-up and the removal of stones by early settlers to construct kraals for their cattle.

The Sotho-Tswana people are also responsible for numerous engravings located in the area, unlike the naturalistic style utilised by the Bushmen the Sotho make use of geometric shapes and multiple incisions, rubbing the rock, bringing the blue under tones of the rock to the fore. See photos 1-11 in appendix

SITE B

Site B, a Bushmen engraving site comprises part of the communal land shared by adjoining farms from the farm formally known as Doornkloof at a central grid reference of 25° 54' 43,0" S and 27° 29' 37,5" E (Map21). The terrain itself is located in an open valley floor just above the flood-line, which has caused extensive erosion over the years, which is currently being rectified. It is surrounded by hillsides on its southern and eastern sides offering some protection against the elements. While the terrain was in use it was on the banks of a water source, but due to changes in weather patterns over the years it is now approximately 30 to 40 meters from it. The rock surfaces are all the same medium in texture and are iron based hornfel rocks.

All the subjects are animal figurines, found in an area of approximately a 10m radius and include those of a giraffe, eland, lion, baboon, camel, and a rhebuck. All except two of the engravings are those of single figures, all in all there are seven animal figures. All paired engravings are those of paired animals. Fine and broadline techniques were used on the engravings on this particular site and all were incised making use of a naturalistic style.
Camels do not naturally occur in the area, which serves to prove that Bushmen did not only engrave what they saw in their immediate vicinity. They could however have encountered camels utilised by traders, while following the northern annual migratory routes of animals, which formed part of their diet. See figures B1-B7 in the appendix for a detailed description of the individual engravings.

(Map21: Site B layout)
SITE C

Site C, is an engraving site located on the southeastern slope of the hill on portion 22 of the farm Doornkloof, with a grid reference of 27° 29' 05,0" E and 25° 54' 16,0" S (Map 22). The terrain is a rocky slope just above arable farmland, which once formed part of a dam and lies approximately 150 meters from a water source. It is offered some protection from surrounding bush, although the terrain itself is not bushy. The rock surfaces range from fine to medium grain textures, with no lichen on the engraved rock surfaces. All the rocks are hornfel. The subjects found on the rocks are that of animals (mammals and reptiles), cultural objects, weapons, manmade structures, linear figures and pattern work. Animals found include eland, unidentifiable buck, rhebuck, hippopotamus, chameleon, ostrich and wildebeest. There are paired and unpaired engravings, the paired engravings are of the same subject, animals with animals and pattern work with pattern work. Fine and broad line techniques were used on site. The site comprises of Bushmen and Sotho-Tswana engraved work. See figures C1-C25 in the appendix for a detailed description of the individual engravings.

(Map 22: Site C layout)
SITE D

Site D comprises of the ruins of an Iron Age Matabele village (Map23). To date no on site excavations have been undertaken. The site circumference is approximately 30 meters in diameter. It is made-up of numerous scalloped walls. Some of the original stone walls inside the scalloped outer walls that surrounded the individual homesteads still remain. The enclosure is positioned on the highest point of the hill; a height meter positioned close by reads 1491,4 meters above sea level. The sight is located relatively far from the nearest water source. It can only be reached on foot. Numerous Matabele sites are found dotted all over the countryside. The central grid reference point of this site is 27° 30” 20,6” E and 25° 55’ 13,1” S (Photo 25). The northern grid point is 27° 30’ 17,7” E and 25° 55’ 15,0” S (Photo 26), with the southern most point reading 27° 30’ 17,7” E and 25° 55’ 14,2” S (Photo’s 27-28). The eastern most point is at a grid reference of 27° 30’ 20,0” E and 25° 55’ 13,3” S (Photo’s 29-30), with the western point reading 27° 30’ 17,8” E and 25° 55’ 14,6” S (Photo 31).

(Map 23: Site D layout)
These stone wall builders of the middle and late Iron Age brought with them cattle and a pan-African currency of wealth. Unlike the people of the early Iron Age, they tended to settle on hilltops rather than in valleys. This is an indication of greater military activity and a need for security. Their huts were cylindrical mud-plastered walls, with coarsely thatched conical roofs, (Pistorius, 1994). Cattle enclosures and fences around the settlements were made from the branches of the *Acacia* thorn trees, indigenous to the area. The first stone walls in the Magaliesburg were constructed around the 1600s, (Curuthers, 1990), (Photo’s 32-34).

The war with the Zulu’s in Magaliesburg took place in 1832, (Curuthers, 1990). Mzilikasi and a group of renegade warriors defected from the Zulu kingdom under Shakas reign, ending up settling in the Magaliesburg, (Curuthers, 1990). Even after Dingane had succeeded his brother, Mzilikazi was still living in constant fear of attack from the Zulu, who wanted him to return to the kingdom, (Curuthers, 1990). The structure of the Zulu society was designed for warfare and therefor called for constant periodical raids, (Curuthers, 1990). In 1832 the two Zulu forces clashed, little is known on the actual battle except that, both fought using successful strategies developed by Shaka and thus both sides suffered great losses and the outcome was inconclusive, (Curuthers, 1990). The loss in cattle and a renewed threat of another Zulu attack, persuaded Mzilikazi to move his headquarters, west to the Gabeni in the Marco River basin, thus only the western Magaliesberg remained in his domain, (Curuthers, 1990). See photos 25-34 in the appendix.

**SITE E**

Site E comprises of the remains of a former Evangelical Lutheran mission station, known as Ebenezer (Map 24), (James et al. 1911). All that remain are the stone walled foundations of the structure (Photo 35). The structure is rectangular in shape, and comprises of four rooms, no more than two meters in length. The grid reference points of the four corners of the building are as follows, the north-western corner reading 27° 29’ 42,9” E and 25° 54’ 49,8” S The north-eastern corner has a grid point of 27° 29’ 41,8” E and 25° 54’ 47,0” S. The southwestern corner has a grid reference point of 27° 29’ 40,0” E and 25° 54’ 49,3” S, with the southeastern corner reading 27° 29’ 43,4” E and 25° 54’ 47,9” S. There is only one entrance which faces south, towards the top of the hill, with a grid reference of 27° 29’ 44,6” E and 25° 54’ 49,5” S (Photo 36).
In front of this door is an eroded open sand patch, from this it appears that this piece of ground has still not recovered from the years of use by the missionaries. There are a lot of trees growing inside the actual remains of the mission house and around the northern side of the structure. The structure is positioned midway up the northern face of the hill and can only be reached by foot (Photo 37). On a koppie north of this hill engravings are found of this structure facing in the direction of the structure, they display the four rooms and a steeple for a roof. See photos 35-37 in the appendix.
Many missions were recorded in South Africa. The Tswana chieftains looked upon the missionaries as diplomats, interpreters and providers of education, a link across the cultural chasm between black and white, (Curuthers, 1990). The Calvinist Boers clashed with the English missionaries on most grounds, but found the Lutheran doctrine acceptable, also the German missionaries were less critical of the Boers racial attitudes, (Curuthers, 1990). The German missionaries contributed largely to the peaceful settlement of the displaced population in the Magaliesberg, (Curuthers, 1990). The main purpose of the missions was religious instruction, but they also aided in the accumulation of wealth from wages and the acquisition of land, (Curuthers, 1990). They also provided top class elementary education, (Curuthers, 1990). By the end of the century seventeen mission schools were functioning on the northern side of the Magaliesberg, (James et al. 1911).

To the west of the structure there is a single isolated engraving of a female figurine. The figurine is engraved on a watermark located on the rock surface. The engraving is very small and stick-like. See photo 38 and figure E1 in the appendix for a detailed description of the engraving.

SITE F

Site F is located along the water source, being the old dam wall. Only fragments of it remain (Photo 39), as the rest has eroded and washed away over the years (Map26). The year in which it was completed was engraved into the wall this still remains, reading the fourth day, of the fifth month, of the year 1924. It was constructed according to the design and direction of a Mr. W, Swanepoel (Photo 40), the name of one of his aids; Petrus was also engraved on the wall (Photo 41). It was constructed of the hornfel rocks found in the area and was extremely well packed at a diagonal gradient and is approximately three meters in diameter (Photo 42-43). At certain sections of the wall the stones are reinforced with cement. The cemented portion of the wall comprises the overflow walls of the dam wall; these walls are approximately one meter in diameter and run in an angular “r” shape on the eastern side of the dam wall (Photo 44-45). Certain parts of the cement wall are reinforced with extra hornfel rocks (Photo 46). The grid reference point of the tip of the “r” is 27° 29’ 23,3” E and 25° 54’ 59,9” S. The grid reference of the point were the top arm of the “r” shape changes direction reads 27° 29’ 23,2” E and 25° 54’ 59,4” S. The grid reference point of the angle were the vertical arm of the “r” begins reads 27° 29’ 22,9” E and 25° 54’ 00,9” S. The grid reference point of the eastern end of the dam wall reads 27° 29’ 22,7” E and 25° 54’ 59,4” S, while the western bank reads 27° 29’ 24,8” E and 25° 54’ 59,6” S. See photos 39-46 in the appendix.
SITE G

Site G is relatively small, covering only a small area, no more than three meters in diameter (Map27). It is solely an engraving site, located on top of a hill, at a central grid reference of 27° 29' 50,1" E and 25° 54' 04,3" S. It lays just before the Doornkloof, Doornhoek farms boarder. It is part of portion 25 of the farm Doornkloof. The site is completely open, with the closest and only trees lying meters away on its north side. The site consists of a small out crop of hornfels rocks. It is very far from any water source. The rock surfaces are all fine to medium grained, with extensive erosion on most of the surfaces, this is due to the exposed nature of the site.
There are six engravings found at the site. Four of the engravings are definitely of Bushmen origin and are of animals, the other two engravings are of a mission station, the artists of these engravings are debatable. The problem being that the Sotho-Tswana people engraved making use of geometric shapes, and although the mission houses are engraved, using these shapes they are not done with the same artistry displayed by the Sotho-Tswana on other engraved works. They are clumsy as though the engravers were not used to making these shapes, which would be the case of the Bushmen, who made use of natural styles. The animals engraved include a rhino, red hartebeest, eland and gemsbok. Broad and fine line incision techniques were used to engrave with. See figures G1-G6 in the appendix for detailed engraving descriptions.
SITE H

Site H is a rock-engraving site, located on portion 25 of the farm Doornkloof (Map28). It comprises the top ridge and southern slope of the northern hill on the farm, with a general grid reference of $27^\circ 29' 50,1''$ E and $25^\circ 54' 08,3''$ S. The site comprises of Bushmen and Sotho-Tswana engravings. The engravings total 28, ninety percent of these are of Bushmen origin. The site itself is a very rocky ridge comprises of hornfel rocks; there are no trees with only sparse grass between the rocks. At the base of the hill there is a man made construction, a cattle kraal and shed, these however do not interfere with the engravings and poses no threat to them. Cattle do graze in this area, but tend not to venture onto the rocky hillside due to the sparseness of the grazing there, therefore they to pose no threat to the site. Some human vandalism has taken place over the years, but not during the time of this study. The only threats to the site at present are the elements, rain causing erosion and lighting damage. The site is approximately 400 meters from the nearest water source and lies just below the top kraal of the Sotho-Tswana village.

Animal species engraved include ostrich, warthog, white rhino, eland, giraffe, rhebok, zebra, unidentifiable antelope, blue wildebeest. There are also engravings of humans, pattern work and linear work. Pairing takes place in the form of animals with animals and linear and pattern work. See figures H1-H28 in the appendix for a detailed analysis of the individual engravings.

(Map27: Site H layout)
SITE I

Site I comprise of both Bushmen and Sotho-Tswana engravings as well as engraved work done by the settlers (Map 29). The site is relatively small and lies between the main enclosure of the Sotho-Tswana village and the second enclosure of the Sotho-Tswana village. It is on top of an outcrop of hornfels rocks. The area it comprises is approximately ten meters in diameter. It is located on portion 24 of the farm Doornkloof, with a central grid reference of 27° 29' 33,1" E and 25° 54' 15,0" E. The outcrop is on a hilltop and is hundreds of meters from the nearest water source. Being located on an outcrop the engravings are protected from fires and cattle damage, but are exposed to lightning, as the iron base of the rocks on the hilltop attract the lightning. There are also no trees nearby, rendering the outcrop, the highest point. The site is comprised of eight engravings of which 62,5% are of Sotho-Tswana origin, 25% from Bushmen artists and 12,5% engraved by a Settler. Three of the engravings are patterns, three are of various animals, one is a cultural weapon and lastly there is one of a Piet the settler. See figures II-18 in the appendix, for a detailed analysis of the individual engravings.
SITE J

Site J is located on the western slope of a hill on portion 23 of the farm Doornkloof, with a central grid reference of 27° 29’ 22,0" E and 25° 54’ 18,1" S (Map30). There is a power line only recently erected running through the site, its erection was however closely monitored and no harm came to the engravings. The site is flanked by a cattle kraal on the northern side, a access road on the western side, farm and guest houses on the south and a boundary fence on the eastern side. Although the cattle walk through the site to the kraal everyday, no harm comes to the engravings as they stick to the pathways, which meander through the site. There are 11 engravings found on the site, which is approximately 30 meters in diameter. The site has animal and linear engravings on it. 36% of the engravings are of animal figures and include eland, elephant and an unidentifiable antelope. The other 64% of the engravings are of pattern work. See figures J1-J11 in the appendix, for a detailed analysis of the individual engravings.
SITE K

Site K is located to the north of Site J, it is on the western slope of the same hill Site J is on, but it is further up the hill and far enough from Site J to warrant it becoming its own site (Map 31). The site is at a central grid reference of 27° 29' 21,5" E and 25° 54' 14,8" S. It has an access road on its northern border and shed on its western border. The southern slope of the hill constitutes the southern border and settlement buildings, a dam and a tank stand form eastern boarder. It is located on portions 23 and 24 of the farm Doornkloof, with a boundary fence running through the site. The only tree that was on the site has recently fallen over, none of the engravings were harmed in the process. The textures of the rock surfaces range from fine to rough grained. The site comprises of 53% Bushmen, 33% Sotho-Tswana and 13% Settler engravings. Both fine and broad line techniques were used. The engravings are comprised of 60% animal figures, 27% pattern work and 13% settler history. See figures K1-K15 in the appendix, for a detailed analysis of the individual engravings.

(Map 30: Site K layout)
SITE L

Site L is located on the eastern border of portion 24 of the farm Doornkloof (Map 32). The site is a small "koppie" and the slopes surrounding it. The site is located at a central grid reference of 27° 29′ 41.0″ E and 25° 54′ 16.5″ S. The site consists of both Bushmen and Sotho-Tswana engravings. 61% of the engravings are of Bushmen origin and 39% are Sotho-Tswana. 57% of the engravings are of animal figurines and 43% are pattern work. The textures of the rock surfaces range from fine to rough grained surfaces. Animals engraved on the site include “quagga”, roan antelope, eland, gemsbok, hippopotamus, blesbok and giraffe. See figures L1-L23 in the appendix, for a detailed analysis of the individual engravings.

(Map 31: Site L layout)
SITE M

Site M is in fact out of contexts, consisting of only one engraving (Map 33). It is not in close proximity to any of the other sites. The engraving is located on an access road that is regularly used; this has however not impacted on the condition of the work. The road is the access road to portion 24 of the farm Doornkloof. The site is located at a longitude of 27° 29' 45,5" S and a latitude of 25° 54' 03,6" E. The engraving consists of an antelope and some pattern work. See figure M1 in the appendix for a detailed analysis of the engraving.
SITE N

Site N is located on the portion 24 of the farm Doornkloof and is situated between site L and site I on a flat open plane, on an outcrop of hornfels rock (Map34). The site is small in comparison to some of the other sites, consisting of only seven engravings. 86% percent of the engravings are of animals and 14% are pattern work. The site is small being only approximately six meters in diameter. The site is protected on the eastern side, by a small hill. There are no trees on the site, which is surrounded by grazing. The site has a central grid reference of 27° 29’ 58,8“ E and 25° 54’ 31,0” S. 43% of the engravings are of Bushmen origin and 57% of the engravings are of Sotho-Tswana decent. The textures of the rocks range from fine to rough in texture. Animals engraved include elephant, antelope and giraffe. See figures N1-N7 in the appendix for a detailed analysis of the individual engravings.

(Map33: Site N layout)
SITE O

Site O comprises the original farmhouse located on portion 22 of the farm formerly known as Doornkloof (Map35). It is located at a central grid reference of 27° 28' 52,7'' E and 25° 54' 13,4'' S (Photo72). The farmhouse was built using hornfel rocks found in the area, plastered together, using mud and dung (Photo73). Some engraved work can be noted on the walls of the house, on the hornfel rocks. They are linear in nature. The walls typical of the times are extremely thick, measuring approximately 1/2 a meter in diameter (Photo74). The inside of the house is dark due to the fact that the house is south facing and the windows are small and only located on the north and south sides. To top it off there is a stoop on the south side, letting in even less light (Photo75-76). Although the house probably originally had a grass roof, it has a corrugated iron roof today. Today this farmhouse is utilised as farm staff quarters. See photos 72-76 in the appendix.

(Map34: Site O layout)
SITE P

Site P was one of General J. P. De Wets headquarters during the Anglo Boer War (Map36). This is based on oral history from the original owners of the farm. General De Wet and a small number of saboteurs were exceptionally elusive and passed through the area whilst on the run from the British who had cornered them at the Vaal River in August 1900, (Curuthers, 1990). In an attempt to reach the vast unoccupied bushveld, De Wet crossed the Magaliesberg at Olifantsnek moving along the north side and crossing again at Remhoogte and came to settle on the south side at the a-fore mentioned site, portion 23 of the farm Doornkloof, (Curuthers, 1990). From here he was able to avoid further contact with any British forces and return to the Free State unscathed, (Curuthers, 1990). The above is corroborated by Map 37, of De Wets movements in the area, (Curuthers, 1990).

All that remains on the site are the rock foundations of De Wets small rectangular shaped office and three small circular lookout posts under several bluegum trees (Photo77). This well-chosen site was situated only 10m from a water source. He had an excellent view of the Magaliesberg and surrounding hills, allowing him an unimpeded view of approaching enemy. See photo 77 and map 37 in the appendix.