

Altadene

Grahamstown.

29/4/1932.

Dear Miss Bleek;

I have written to Mrs North to tell her that we have fixed the 7th May as the date of our going to Oudtshoorn. We have decided that on our way through Humansdorp we will find out all we can about the paintings there so that we can do them on our return journey.

I am sending paintings from Mountain Top ^{Benjamin} Mr Bowker's farm which is twenty seven miles north west of Grahamstown also two sheets from Blaauwkrantz Drift, eighteen miles east, that is eighteen miles along the Port Alfred road.

The paintings at Mountain Top are, I think, very interesting; especially the sheep which Mr Bowker says is an old Cape sheep now hardly seen in South Africa. The black figures seem to be the oldest, the hands looking fairly recent though they could not be less than about 80 years old because they farm originally belonged to Mr Bowker's ^{grand} father & Mr Bowker is a man of about 50 or 60 years of age.



One might think that it is strange that the Bushmen should do their paintings so high above the river but it is quite obvious when one is told that during the Xmas vac, when we had all those rains, that the flood water actually washed the floor of the caves.

We have not yet been to Alicedale or Salem both I believe Mr Hewitt is anxious to take us to & as he has been away for a fortnight we have had to wait for him.

The more we do the more there seem to be for us to do. I have heard of 500 more caves, both I believe with good paintings in, twenty miles out of town, however I shall wait for Mr Hewitt's opinion of them before we go out to do them.

I am also sending a pen & ink sketch of the Mountain Top caves & snaps of the Coldspring Mountain Top & Blaaukrantz ones.

Yours sincerely

Joyce van der Riet.

