



McGregor Museum Kimberley

Archaeology Department: Archaeological sites

Archaeological sites in the province cover more than a million years of human history.

- Early hominid remains up to 2,7 million years old have been found along the Ghaap Escarpment and the West Coast, and their occurrence may be more widespread.
- Stone Age sites – ranging from Earlier to Later Stone Age times – occur richly throughout the province. While often concentrated along rivers or around pans, sites are found in every part of the landscape. Rock art occurs in the form of engravings on hills or plains in the interior, and paintings in caves and shelters along scarps or in mountainous areas.
- Herder sites are found particularly in settings near rivers and along the West Coast where evidence of pastoralism is known that dates from at least 2000 years ago.
- Agriculturist sites are found mainly in the north eastern part of the province. A westward extension of Tswana settlement in the southern Kalahari/Orange River Basin as far west as Upington is documented prior to 1800, when climate may have been more favourable.