

A PREHISTORIC ROCK-SCULPTURE FROM THE NORTH-  
EASTERN TRANSVAAL.

By C. PIJPER.

(With Plate XII.)

The stone, pictured herewith, was discovered by me in the Lijdenburg district, in the North-Eastern Transvaal, not far from the stones engraved with cup-and-ring markings, of which I gave a description in the 'South African Journal of Science,' March-April, 1919.

There can be no doubt that the circular "knob" is the handiwork of man; it is so very nearly circular, in fact as nearly circular as we can imagine it was possible to make it with crude stone implements only, without the help of compasses or similar instruments; moreover, in the original the tool-marks are unmistakable.

As the "moat" around the "knob" has, from length of time, once more assumed the colour of the original rock, this "piece of sculpture" must date from long, long ago.

As far as I know, no similar rock-sculpture has ever been described from South Africa, and this circumstance I think justifies the publication of this photo, even although it is at present impossible to say by whom this piece of work was executed or what it was intended to represent. It seems most likely, however, that it was meant to be an image of the sun; is it possible that the semi-circular lines higher up on the rock were intended to represent the moon?



Pijper, C . 1921. "A PREHISTORIC ROCK-SCULPTURE FROM THE NORTH-EASTERN TRANSVAAL." *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Africa* 9, 195–195. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00359192109520210>.

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