

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would not have accomplished this work on my own. I relied on the assistance of professional and technical staff from the Malawi Department of Antiquities, colleagues in various local and international organisations, and my family. I wholeheartedly acknowledge their assistance and I would like them to be proud that their support has resulted in this book.

I thank Alfred Topeka for being a reliable lead technician during my fieldwork. He was the lead technician in both the field and the laboratory. Alfred not only supervised other technicians in my absence, he also handled various administrative responsibilities and hence ensured that the research progressed uninterrupted. Special recognition goes to the Director of Museums and Monuments, Elizabeth Gomani-Chindebvu, for the initial mapping of the site. I am also indebted to Chrissy Chiumia, head of the Malawi Department of Antiquities, for sorting out various administrative details that contributed to the smooth running of my research. I appreciate too the assistance of the following present and past staff of the Department of Antiquities: Medson Makuru, Martin Chikonda, Mathias Zalinga Phiri, Adriana Lizi, CG Chapotera and posthumously, Kamwadi Moyo, Simon Chikapa, Selino Mithi, Stanley Mphaya, Beston Kayira and Chalakwa Mwenda.

I would like to thank two members of staff of the Malawi Department of Surveys, Mkondo Moyo and Felix Tembo, for mapping the site using GPS technology and drawing the figures in Chapter 7, and Herbert Chihana, then a college student, for his participation in the project.

I must extend my special gratitude to the following colleagues whose expertise in their respective fields gave a deeper insight into my research. I thank Owen Kalinga for his encouragement and prompt responses to my various queries. Spana Davison, thank you for your helpful comments on Mawudzu pottery and some of the iron objects, and for drawing the figures in Chapters 8–10. Bennet Bronson, I also thank you for both identifying the Chinese porcelain and for your comments regarding their age and area of origin in China. Marilee Wood, I greatly appreciate your work in identifying and analysing the glass beads. David Killick, thank you for identifying the sole object made of lead. Karin Scott and Ina Plug, you agreed to work on a large faunal assemblage. Thank you.

I thank Alisa Yalan-Murphy, Stuart Alleyne and Puja Shah of Long Island University (LIU), Brooklyn New York, for helping me with computer-related tasks. Alisa and Puja, your patience was commendable. Although the task of revising figures appeared endless, you maintained exceptional professionalism. I thank Hyacinth Reneau, also of LIU, Brooklyn, for typing some of the tables in Chapters 8–10.

I am grateful to Fr Claude Boucher, of Kungoni Centre of Culture and Art at Mua Catholic Mission, for taking Alfred Topeka and me to Mpando wa Nyangu — Mankhamba's ritual water pool — and for the full-board accommodation at the Centre. I also thank Group Village Headman Kafulama of the Mtakataka-Mua area for welcoming us to his village. His support made our interaction with the local people easy.

Some members of my family provided various forms of assistance and I am grateful to all of them. I thank my mother-in-law Phyllis Chipendo who, besides providing accommodation, always made me packed lunches whenever I went out to the field. I appreciate the cheerful and warm welcome of my sister-in-law, Philadelphia Ambali, and her husband George who hosted me in their house for many days. I thank my sister, Phyllis Neniwa, and her husband Anthony for letting me use their truck to travel to my laboratory at Nguludi, and my brother, Daudi Juwayeyi, for shedding light on various ethnographic questions. I am grateful to my daughter, Atuwani-tupochile, and her husband Kabass Agbermodji for putting their car and their guest room at my disposal, and their children — my grandchildren Talia Chipo and Azariah Pambone — for the pleasure they have always given me whenever I am in their home. I thank my sons, Murendehle Mulheva and Kalole Kamasile, for their encouragement. Murendehle, you read the entire book and some chapters twice. I truly appreciate your editorial skills. Kalole, thank for your computer expertise. You rescued me several times when I was stuck.

Finally, yet importantly, I thank my wife Elsie Lexa Namulauzi for her understanding. I was absent from home for many months, but she was patient and encouraging. Since she studied history, she was eager to see the history of the Chewa written.

## Financial Support

I am grateful to various organisations and individuals for their financial support. Besides procuring camp, excavation and laboratory equipment, the Malawi Department of Antiquities also provided transport and paid wages to locally hired assistants. The British Institute in East Africa, through the Department of History at Chancellor College, provided funding for initial field investigations and, later, for faunal identification and analysis. The Vine Group through its president, Henry Akintunde, provided additional funds to finalise faunal analysis and for an air ticket to Malawi and South Africa. Hildi Hendrickson, former chairperson of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, and David Cohen, former Dean of Conolly College at LIU, Brooklyn, approved funds for carbon-14 dates. Last, but not at all least, my colleague, Timothy Bromage, of the College of Dentistry at New York University, and my friend, Gary Allen, president of the Christian Mission for the United Nations Community, gave generous financial support for one of my trips to Malawi. This project would not have been accomplished without this support. I am truly grateful.

## Figures, Maps and Plates

Acknowledgement is extended to the following for permission to reproduce figures, maps and plates. Figures 6.1, 6.2a, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 6.6 and Map 6.1, Plates 6.1 and 12.1: Malawi Department of Antiquities; Figures 7.1, 7.2; 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 9.1, 9.2, 10.1; Plates 8.1, 8.2, 9.1; Tables 7.1, 7.2, 8.1, 8.2, 9.1, 9.2: Taylor & Francis; Tables 10.2, 10.3: Ditsong National Museum of Natural History.

