Uraha

Pliocene site named after the village where an early hominin mandible, UR 501, was recovered from the Chiwondo Beds, northern Malawi. The mandible, referred to *Homo rudolfensis*, occurs within the upper part of Unit 3A near Uraha Hill, which is dated, by means of faunal correlation, to ca. 2.4 Ma. It was found in a ferruginous calcimorphic paleosol that lies
in siltstones to mudstones interbedded with sandstones displaying lenticular geometries. These deposits are assigned to a swamp-to-interchannel setting, as no evidence for open lacustrine conditions exists. Laterally (south and west), these deposits interfinger with low energetic ramp deposits and lagoonal siltstones and mudstones with pelecypods and gastropods indicating more open lacustrine conditions.

See also Africa, Southern; Chiwondo Beds; Homo rudolfensis. [T.G.B.]

Further Readings