



# HERITAGE

Contracts and Archaeological Consulting

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**Ref: Beverly Service Station**

28 January, 2014  
SAHRA - APM Unit  
PO Box 437  
Cape Town  
8000

Attention: Mr. Andrew Salomon

Dear Andrew

**RE: PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A SERVICE STATION INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION OF FOUR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS (46 CUBIC METRES EACH) AND ASSOCIATED FUEL INFRASTRUCTURE ON ERF 1188, FOURWAYS, JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG PROVINCE.**

## ***Background***

Shell SA Marketing (Pty) Ltd (Shell) is proposing to construct a new Service Station located in Beverly, Johannesburg. The proposed project site for the service station is an undeveloped piece of land measuring approximately 1ha. The site is surrounded by agricultural land (north), residential areas (east), commercial (south) and a multi-purpose community centre (west). The service station will consist of 4, 46m<sup>3</sup>, Underground Storage Tanks with associated infrastructure (canopy-covered forecourt, and pumps) and further facilities such as a convenience store, offices and attendant facilities.

The proposed project requires a Basic Assessment (BA) in terms of the National Environmental Management (NEMA), No 107 of 1998 and the EIA regulations (Government Notice R.543 to 546, published in June 2010). As part of the BA process HCAC was asked to evaluate and identify potential impacts of the proposed construction from a Heritage point of view.

### **The study area**

The proposed service station is located at the intersection of the R511 (William Nicol) and the Stone River Boulevard in Beverly Extension 64 (Figure 1). The site is located on Erf 1188 on the farm Zevenfontein 407 JR. The stand is vacant (Figure 2) but earth works for the upgrading/expansion of William Nicol impacted on the site as some material was dumped there.

The following infrastructure and activities will be undertaken for the project that might have a negative impact on heritage resources in the area:

- Site clearing;
- Proposed construction of a service station including the installation of four underground storage tanks (46 cubic metres each) and associated fuel infrastructure as well as convenience store, offices and attendant facilities.

The site is vacant and extensively disturbed, no buildings or ruins occur on site and the dense urban area together with road and infrastructure construction would have impacted on any surface indicators of heritage sites (Figure 3-10).

An enlarged section of the 2528 CC sheet of the 1:50 000 topographical map that was drawn up in 1943 also shows no features within the study area before the site was disturbed (Figure 11). Therefore no impact is expected on the built environment.

From an archaeological point of view no Iron Age sites are on record or expected for the study area. One open air Later Stone Age site is on record for the farm Zevenfontein (Wits archaeological database) but is not in close proximity to the proposed service station. Based on the extensive disturbance to the site it is also expected that no *in-situ* Stone Age sites occur in the study area. From heritage work conducted in the area (Huffman *et al* 2001, Nienaber & Steyn 2002) one can conclude that the only possible heritage sites of high significance expected in the area are informal graves. Again due to the disturbed character of the site no surface indicators of any possible grave sites are expected.

Potential archaeological impacts resulting from all phases of the project is considered to be low. Similarly the likelihood of any impact to the palaeontology of the area is considered to be extremely low (SAHRA palaeontological sensitivity map referenced 2014).

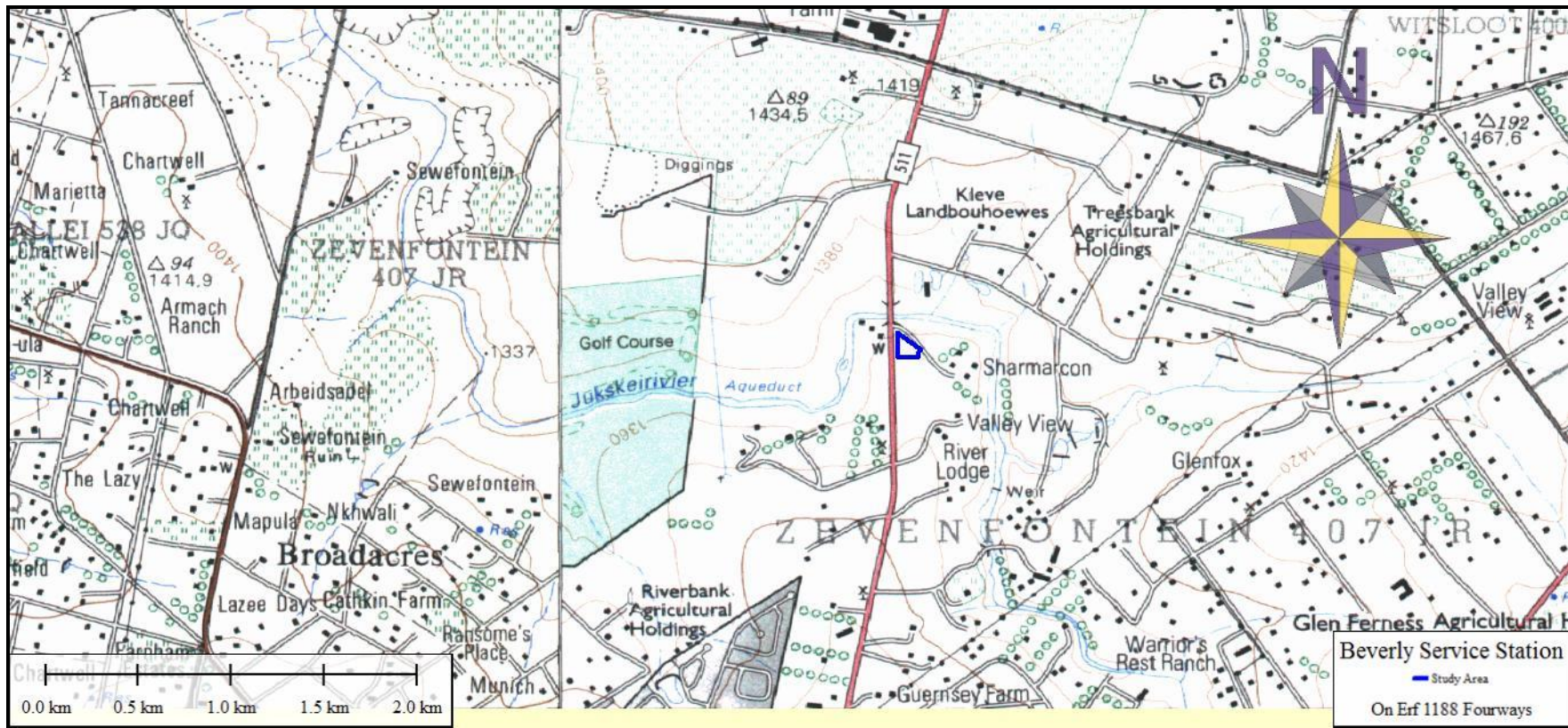


Figure 1: Location Map



Figure 2: Google Image of the area



Figure 3. View from the site facing south west



Figure 4: View from the site facing West



Figure 5: view from the site facing north-east.



Figure 6: View from the site facing north-west



Figure 7: View from the site facing north



Figure 8: View from the site facing east.



Figure 9: View from the site facing south-east



Figure 10: General site conditions

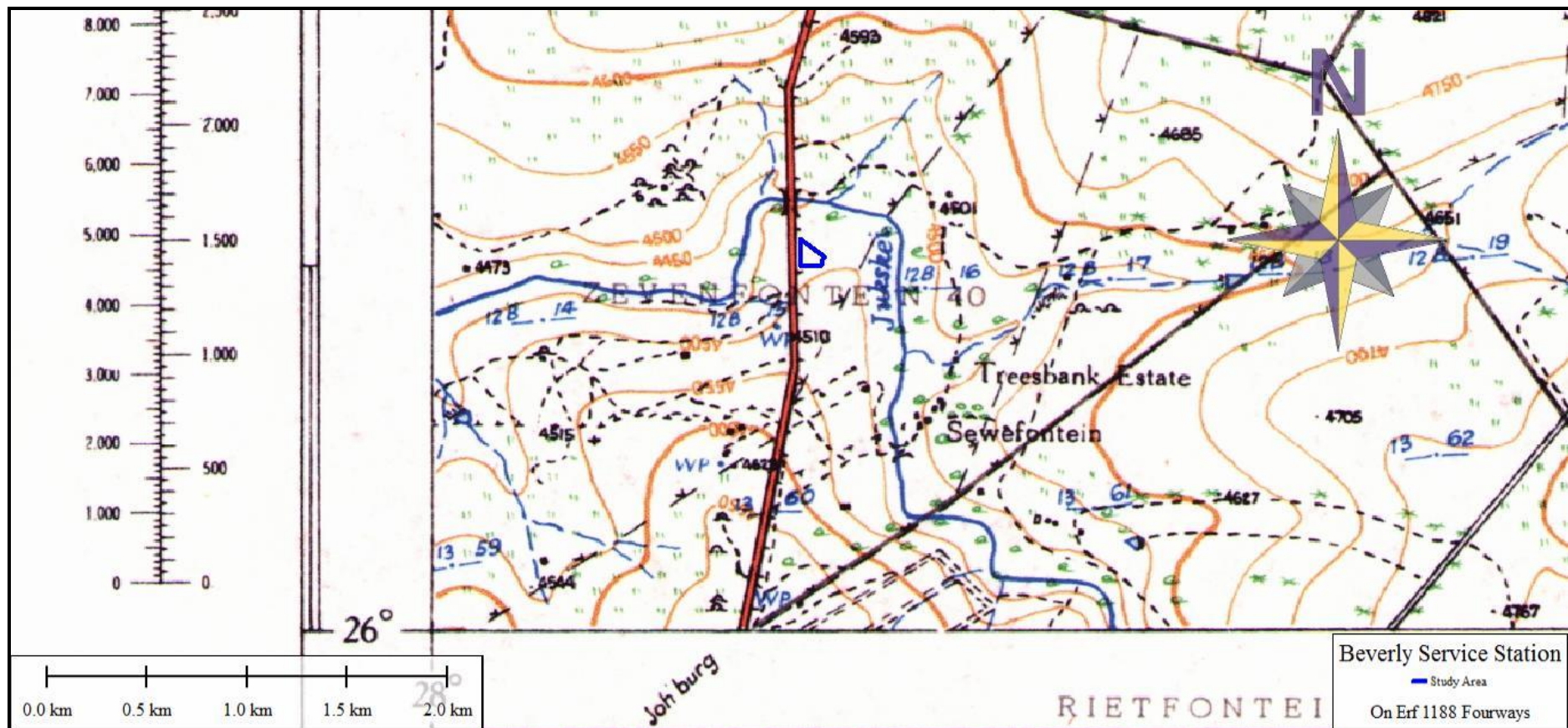


Figure 11: Enlarged section of the 2528 CC sheet of the 1:50 000 topographical map that was drawn in 1943.

## **Conclusion**

ERM (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the independent environmental consultants, to undertake the required Basic Assessment process for the project to identify and assess potential environmental impacts, and to propose appropriate mitigation and management measures as part of an Environmental Management Programme (EMP). They subsequently requested heritage input to identify potential impacts.

From a heritage perspective the disturbed character of the site does not warrant a full Phase 1 study as it is anticipated that there is no archaeological sites, cultural heritage sites, historic structures, burial grounds or isolated artefacts likely to be present on the affected landscape, due to the disturbed nature of the site. As such, we support the recommendation that the project be exempted from any archaeological assessment studies or palaeontological studies. In the unlikely event that any sites might occur within the proposed site the following recommendations are to be included in the EMP and are the responsibility of the ECO of the project to implement these:

- If during construction any possible finds such as stone tool scatters, artefacts or bone and fossil remains are made, the operations must be stopped and a qualified archaeologist must be contacted for an assessment of the find.

If the above mentioned recommendations are adhered by we support the application for exemption from a Phase 1 Archaeological Impact Assessment and Palaeontological study.

Any further queries can be forwarded to Jaco van der Walt on Cell: +27 82 373 8491 or to [jaco.heritage@gmail.com](mailto:jaco.heritage@gmail.com)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jaco van der Walt'.

Jaco van der Walt  
Archaeologist  
Heritage Contracts and Archaeological Consulting CC (HCAC)

## **References**

- Huffman, T.N. 2001. AIA Dainfern North. Unpublished report.
- Nienaber, W.C. & Steyn, M. 2002. Relocation of 10 graves in an informal cemetery on Erf portion 51 on the Farm Zevenfontein 407 JR impacted on by the development X54 Fourways (Dainfern Estates) in the Randburg Region, Gauteng Province.  
SAHRIS Referenced 2014.  
Wits Archaeological Database