

21 February 2014

Dr. Mariagrazia Galimberti
South African Heritage Resources Agency

Via: SAHRIS



Dear Mariagrazia

SECTION 35 (4) PERMIT APPLICATION TO ALLOW FOR THE DISTURBANCE OF A STONEWALL BELIEVED TO BE OLDER THAN 100 YEARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF RAND WATER'S R5 PIPELINE

This letter acts as a cover letter for the permit application to allow for the disturbance to a stonewall believed to be older than 100 years. The permit is required as a Rand Water pipeline (known as the R5 Pipeline) will be constructed across a small section of the wall.

Rand Water plans to construct the R5 Pipeline between Vlakfontein and Mamelodi. The pipeline development will result in a positive impact for the residents of Mamelodi as it will increase their availability to water. The proposed pipeline will be constructed adjacent to an existing pipeline. This duplication of the pipeline was decided upon due to an estimated 49% increase in water demands in the area for the period 2005 to 2025.

As part of the environmental impact assessment undertaken by Africon during 2008, the company Archaeology Africa was appointed to compile a heritage impact assessment for the proposed development. The author of this letter formed part of this company and was responsible for compiling the report. During the intensive walkthroughs of the study area a total of 10 heritage sites were identified, including a low straight stonewall which was believed to be older than 100 years. The site is located on Portion 2 of the farm Zwartkoppies 364JR and the coordinates for the site is as follows: S 25.74696 E 28.37702 (Refer Figures 1 and 2). The site is situated approximately 500m north-west of the Sammy Marks Museum. This stonewall was given the site number P3-7 and was calculated to be of Medium Significance.

As the pipeline will be constructed across the wall and perpendicular to it, a small section of it will have to be disturbed. The following mitigation measures were listed in the heritage impact assessment report:

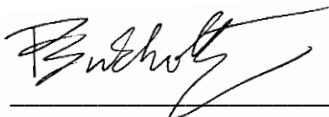
1. Measured drawing of 10m sections of the wall on both sides of the pipeline.
2. Photographic recording of the wall.
3. Compiling the drawings, photographic recordings and descriptions into a report.
4. Submission of the report to the SAHRA to acquire a permit to allow a section of the wall to be removed for the pipe to be constructed.
5. Once the permit is obtained, the stones can be removed and temporarily stored nearby.
6. After completion of construction activities in this area the stone wall must be repacked in the same way it was before construction.

At the time that the heritage impact assessment was undertaken, the wall was assessed by the project architectural historian Mr. Mauritz Naudé who has been an expert consultant on the conservation of buildings and historic sites since 1995. He agreed with the mitigation measures recommended in the report.

PGS Heritage was appointed by Aurecon on behalf of Rand Water to undertake the mitigation measures with regard to the identified heritage sites, including site P3-7. Mr. Mauritz Naudé was commissioned to undertake the abovementioned mitigation measures with regard to the site. This letter accompanies his report containing the photographic record and measured drawing of the site.

I trust that you will find the contents of this letter in order. As always, please contact me should there be any enquiries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Birkholtz', written over a horizontal line.

Polke D. Birkholtz
Director (PGS Heritage)

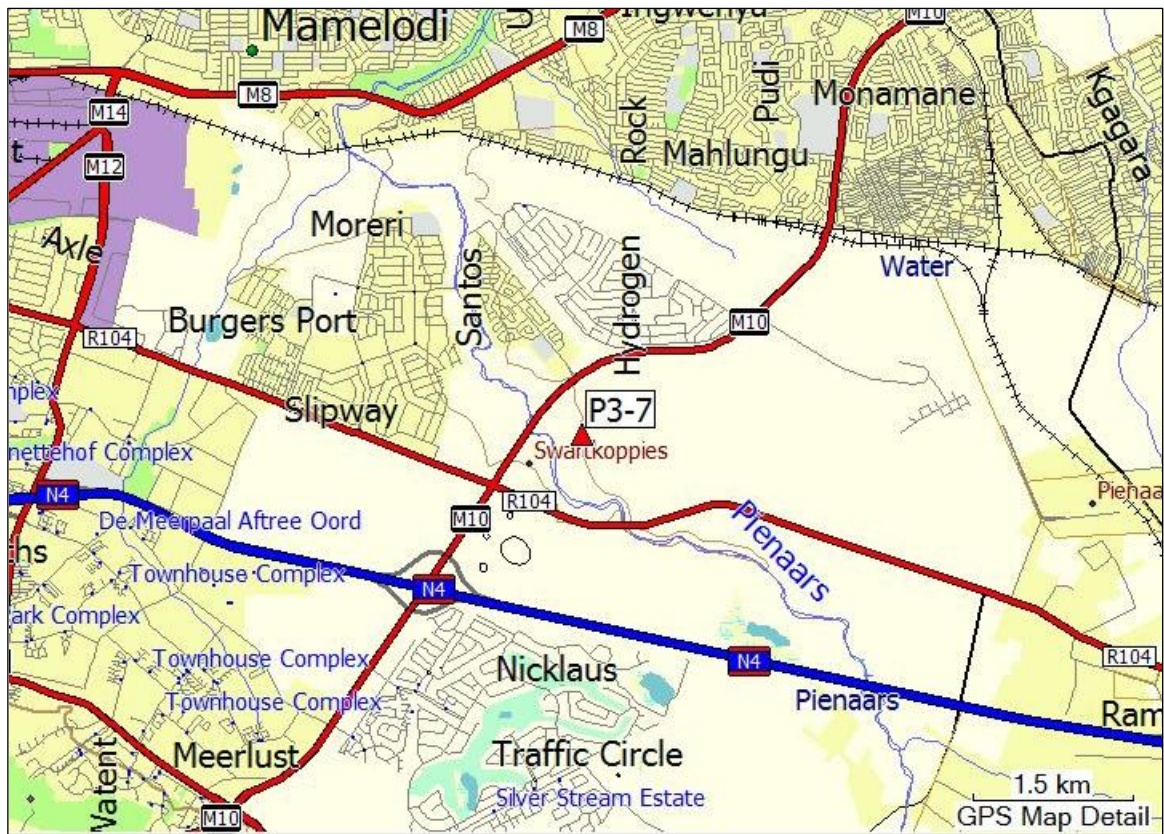


Figure 1 – Mapsource image depicting the position of Site P3-7 within its regional context.



Figure 2 – Google Earth image depicting the position of Site P3-7 within its immediate context.



Figure 3 – Rand Water plan depicting the proposed pipeline route (depicted as a dark blue line) in relation to Site P3-7.