

**Section 8.** Description of sites from Morris (2013)

Locality	Description	Heritage Significance	Proposed mitigation
GI 1 29.23450 S 18.95805 E	A Middle Stone Age workshop site identified previously by Deacon (1995), of high regional significance. It had been quarried for the making of a landing strip on the top of Gamsberg. The <i>in situ</i> remainder of the occurrence is estimated to extend over an area of >150 x 50m, and was revealed in a scraped section to have a depth of at least 100 mm in at least that part of the site. The significance of the site is partly in relation to the raw material source at that point in the landscape.	High	Several areas will be chosen for formal excavation of archaeological artefacts. This will involve sieving, sorting and collection of all artefactual material from the chosen areas. In addition we would conduct a foot survey of the remainder of the site and collect particularly diagnostic artefacts mapping their locations with a GPS. The limits of reasonable scatter and any other concentrations and/or quarried localities would also be mapped and photographed as necessary.
GI 2 29.23668 S 18.95275 E	A <i>small</i> shelter on the northern side of the basin. While it was expected that there might be evidence of Later Stone Age (LSA) or earlier use, there were minimal traces of archaeological material: a single LSA quartz flake was found. The shelter was disturbed by previous mining-related activity.	Low	A test excavation would be conducted to test for subsurface deposits. Should anything of value be found then this will be formally excavated either during the planned trip if there is time or else during a separate trip especially for the purpose. It is generally best practice to sieve all material from test excavations and this will be done.
GI 3 In vicinity of 29.24339 S 18.95494 E	Scatters of varying but generally low density Middle Stone Age and Acheulean material, sometimes mixed, in and alongside the dry watercourse draining the western interior of the inselberg. Erosion and high energy run-off in heavy rains would account for what would essentially be a secondary depositional context, lacking in archaeological integrity.	Low	The poor integrity of the site suggests that a detailed mapping (via GPS) and description would be most appropriate (this has been confirmed telephonically with Dr David Morris). Diagnostic artefacts would be photographed from all sides (to allow measurements in the laboratory).
GI 4 In vicinity of 29.24162 S 18.95041 E	On the inner slopes of the Gamsberg basin several places with isolated or weakly clustered artefacts of Pleistocene age were noted. One of these in the approximate location indicated suggests an Acheulean (Earlier Stone Age) workshop site focussed on what was apparently a favoured raw material source outcropping there.	Low	As for GI3, but with more attention focussed on the quarried outcrop. A test excavation may be conducted alongside the outcrop if the substrate seems appropriate for this.
GI 5 In vicinity of 29.24649 S	South east of Site GI4, a further low density clustering of Acheulean artefacts. In an eroded setting on the sloping side of the basin, there is no depth of deposit and hence no likelihood of	Low	The same approach as indicated for GI3 above will be adopted here.

18.95346 E	stratigraphy.		
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**12. Purpose and motivation.** Mitigation of archaeological resources prior to open cast mining as requested by SAHRA. The sites were identified by Morris (2013) and while only one is of high significance, the other four require at least some test excavation and/or minor mitigation work. Further motivation and site descriptions, etc. can be located in the original HIA by Morris (2013).

**13. Nature of activity.** It is anticipated that archaeological artefacts will be excavated and collected as required from the five sites. With *in situ* LSA material not expected to be found, it is likely that radiocarbon dating will not be required. However, since one of the sites to be tested is a rock shelter, dating has been listed here just in case this becomes necessary later on.