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CK 2006/014630/23

VAT NO.: 4360226270

A REPORT ON A HIA RELATED TO A GRAVE SITE RELOCATION PROJECT FOR THE STRAWBERRY FARM TOWNSHIP DEVELOPMENT LOCATED ON A PORTION (PTN 14) OF THE FARM OLIFANTSFONTEIN 402JR OLIFANTSFONTEIN/IRENE/CLAYVILLE AREA, GAUTENG

For:

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REPORT: APAC08/43

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June 2018

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SUMMARY

APelser Archaeological Consulting cc, in conjunction with AVBOB Johannesburg, was appointed by M&T Development (Pty) Ltd to undertake the exhumation and relocation of a grave site located on a section of their Strawberry Farm Township Development. The grave site contains in excess of 100 graves and will be impacted by the proposed development. As part of this work a Heritage Impact Assessment related to this grave relocation project was required. The study area is on a portion (of Portion 14) of the farm Olifantsfontein 402JR, in the Olifantsfontein/Irene/Clayville area of Gauteng.

This report provides a discussion on the results of the physical assessment that was undertaken, as well as the background research conducted. Over and above the known cemetery, some other recent historical structural remains related to earlier agricultural activities were identified in this area. This report will discuss the results of the desktop related study and the field assessment conducted in June 2018. Recommendations regarding the required mitigation measures will be provided at the end of the document, including those needed for the successful investigation, exhumation and relocation of the graves located here.

From a Cultural Heritage perspective there should be no objection to the proposed township development in the study area once the recommended mitigation measures have been implemented.

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1. INTRODUCTION

APelser Archaeological Consulting cc, in conjunction with AVBOB Johannesburg, was appointed by M&T Development (Pty) Ltd to undertake the exhumation and relocation of a grave site located on a section of their Strawberry Farm Township Development. The grave site contains in excess of 100 graves and will be impacted by the proposed development. As part of this work a Heritage Impact Assessment related to this grave relocation project was required. The study area is on a portion (of Portion 14) of the farm Olifantsfontein 402JR, in the Olifantsfontein/Irene/Clayville area of Gauteng.

Over and above the known cemetery, some other recent historical structural remains related to earlier agricultural activities were identified in this area.

The client indicated the location and boundaries of the study area and the assessment focused on this.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference for the study, based on the methodology employed by Heritage Impact Assessors, were to:

- 1. Identify all objects, sites, occurrences and structures of an archaeological or historical nature (cultural heritage sites) located in the proposed development area;
- 2. Assess the significance of the cultural resources in terms of their archaeological, historical, scientific, social, religious, aesthetic and tourism value;
- 3. Describe the possible impact of the proposed development on these cultural remains, according to a standard set of conventions;
- 4. Propose suitable mitigation measures to minimize possible negative impacts on the cultural resources;
- 5. Review applicable legislative requirements;

3. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Aspects concerning the conservation of cultural resources are dealt with mainly in two acts. These are the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999) and the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998).

3.1. The National Heritage Resources Act

According to the above-mentioned act the following is protected as cultural heritage resources:

- a. Archaeological artifacts, structures and sites older than 100 years
- b. Ethnographic art objects (e.g. prehistoric rock art) and ethnography
- c. Objects of decorative and visual arts

- d. Military objects, structures and sites older than 75 years
- e. Historical objects, structures and sites older than 60 years
- f. Proclaimed heritage sites
- g. Grave yards and graves older than 60 years
- h. Meteorites and fossils
- i. Objects, structures and sites or scientific or technological value.

The National Estate includes the following:

- a. Places, buildings, structures and equipment of cultural significance
- b. Places to which oral traditions are attached or which are associated with living heritage
- c. Historical settlements and townscapes
- d. Landscapes and features of cultural significance
- e. Geological sites of scientific or cultural importance
- f. Sites of Archaeological and palaeontological importance
- g. Graves and burial grounds
- h. Sites of significance relating to the history of slavery
- i. Movable objects (e.g. archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, military, ethnographic, books etc.)

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) is the process to be followed in order to determine whether any heritage resources are located within the area to be developed as well as the possible impact of the proposed development thereon. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) only looks at archaeological resources. An HIA must be done under the following circumstances:

- a. The construction of a linear development (road, wall, power line, canal etc.) exceeding 300m in length
- b. The construction of a bridge or similar structure exceeding 50m in length
- c. Any development or other activity that will change the character of a site and exceed 5 000m² or involve three or more existing erven or subdivisions thereof
- d. Re-zoning of a site exceeding 10 000 m²
- e. Any other category provided for in the regulations of SAHRA or a provincial heritage authority

Structures |

Section 34 (1) of the mentioned act states that no person may demolish any structure or part thereof which is older than 60 years without a permit issued by the relevant provincial heritage resources authority.

A structure means any building, works, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to land, and includes any fixtures, fittings and equipment associated therewith.

Alter means any action affecting the structure, appearance or physical properties of a place or object, whether by way of structural or other works, by painting, plastering or the decoration or any other means.

Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites

Section 35(4) of this act deals with archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites. The act states that no person may, without a permit issued by the responsible heritage resources authority (national or provincial):

- a. destroy, damage, excavate, alter, deface or otherwise disturb any archaeological or palaeontological site or any meteorite;
- b. destroy, damage, excavate, remove from its original position, collect or own any archaeological or palaeontological material or object or any meteorite;
- c. trade in, sell for private gain, export or attempt to export from the Republic any category of archaeological or palaeontological material or object, or any meteorite; or
- d. bring onto or use at an archaeological or palaeontological site any excavation equipment or any equipment that assists in the detection or recovery of metals or archaeological and palaeontological material or objects, or use such equipment for the recovery of meteorites.
- e. alter or demolish any structure or part of a structure which is older than 60 years as protected.

The above mentioned may only be disturbed or moved by an archaeologist, after receiving a permit from the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA). In order to demolish such a site or structure, a destruction permit from SAHRA will also be needed.

Human remains

Graves and burial grounds are divided into the following:

- a. ancestral graves
- b. royal graves and graves of traditional leaders
- c. graves of victims of conflict
- d. graves designated by the Minister
- e. historical graves and cemeteries
- f. human remains

In terms of Section 36(3) of the National Heritage Resources Act, no person may, without a permit issued by the relevant heritage resources authority:

- a. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position of otherwise disturb the grave of a victim of conflict, or any burial ground or part thereof which contains such graves;
- b. destroy, damage, alter, exhume or remove from its original position or otherwise disturb any grave or burial ground older than 60 years which is situated outside a formal cemetery administered by a local authority; or
- c. bring onto or use at a burial ground or grave referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) any excavation, or any equipment which assists in the detection or recovery of metals.

Human remains that are less than 60 years old are subject to provisions of the Human Tissue Act (Act 65 of 1983) and to local regulations. Exhumation of graves must conform to the standards set out in the **Ordinance on Excavations** (**Ordinance no. 12 of 1980**) (replacing the old Transvaal Ordinance no. 7 of 1925).

Permission must also be gained from the descendants (where known), the National Department of Health, Provincial Department of Health, Premier of the Province and local police. Furthermore, permission must also be gained from the various landowners (i.e. where the graves are located and where they are to be relocated to) before exhumation can take place.

Human remains can only be handled by a registered undertaker or an institution declared under the **Human Tissues Act** (Act 65 of 1983 as amended).

Unidentified/unknown graves are also handled as older than 60 until proven otherwise.

3.2. The National Environmental Management Act

This act states that a survey and evaluation of cultural resources must be done in areas where development projects, that will change the face of the environment, will be undertaken. The impact of the development on these resources should be determined and proposals for the mitigation thereof are made.

Environmental management should also take the cultural and social needs of people into account. Any disturbance of landscapes and sites that constitute the nation's cultural heritage should be avoided as far as possible and where this is not possible the disturbance should be minimized and remedied.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. Survey of literature

A survey of available literature, including previous heritage studies in the area, was undertaken in order to place the development area in an archaeological and historical context. The sources consulted in this regard are indicated in the bibliography.

4.2. Field survey

The assessment was conducted according to generally accepted HIA practices and in this case was aimed at identifying and recording any possible cultural heritage resources that might be located in the development area, assessing their archaeological & historical significance, while taking into consideration the negative impacts of the proposed development on these resources. The location/position of all sites, features and objects are determined by means of a Global Positioning System (GPS) where possible, while photographs are also taken where needed.

4.3. Oral histories

People from local communities are sometimes interviewed in order to obtain information relating to the surveyed area. It needs to be stated that this is not applicable under all circumstances. When applicable, the information is included in the text and referred to in the bibliography. For the Grave Relocation work extensive and detailed Social Consultation will be undertaken to obtain consent for and the required permits to conduct the work.

4.4. Documentation

All sites, objects, features and structures identified are documented according to the general minimum standards accepted by the archaeological profession. Co-ordinates of individual localities are determined by means of the Global Positioning System (GPS). The information is added to the description in order to facilitate the identification of each locality.

5. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

APelser Archaeological Consulting cc, in conjunction with AVBOB Johannesburg, was appointed by M&T Development (Pty) Ltd to undertake the exhumation and relocation of a grave site located on a section of their Strawberry Farm Township Development. As part of this work a Heritage Impact Assessment related to this grave relocation project was required.

The study area is located on a portion (of Portion 14) of the farm Olifantsfontein 402JR, in the Olifantsfontein/Irene/Clayville area of Gauteng. It is situated to the east of Glen Avenue and is bounded on the west by a railway line. The topography of the area is relatively flat & open and little tree cover exists (large trees has recently been cut down). Grass and weed cover in some sections made visibility difficult, although portions have also been recently burnt and cleared. Visibility over all was therefore good. In the recent past the area was extensively used for agricultural purposes (fruit farming, cattle) and the original natural landscape has been altered to a large degree. If any cultural heritage (archaeological and/or historical) sites, features or material did exist here in the past, it would have been disturbed or destroyed.

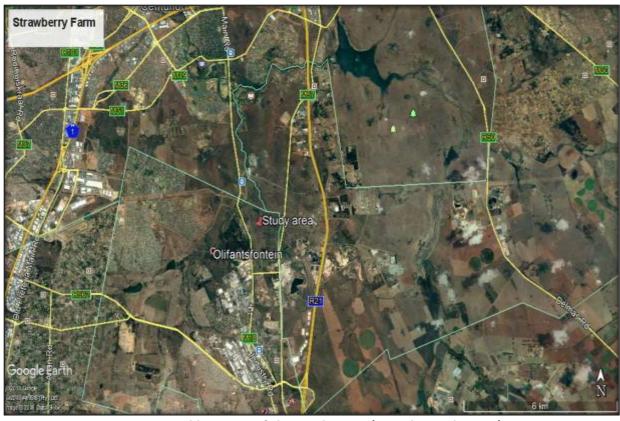


Fig.1: General location of the study area (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.2: Closer view of study area showing sites found (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.3: General view of section of the study area.



Fig.4: Another view of a section of the area.



Fig. 5: A view of a section showing the dense grass cover here.



Fig.6: Most of the large tree cover has been cut down recently.



Fig.7: A view of the open nature of the study area around the grave site.

6. DISCUSSION

A short background to the archaeology & history of the larger geographical and specific study area is given in the section below before the results of the fieldwork will be discussed.

The Stone Age is the period in human history when lithic (stone) material was mainly used to produce tools. In South Africa the Stone Age can be divided basically into three periods. It is however important to note that these dates are relative and only provide a broad framework for interpretation. A basic sequence for the South African Stone Age (Lombard et.al 2012) is as follows:

Earlier Stone Age (ESA) up to 2 million – more than 200 000 years ago Middle Stone Age (MSA) less than 300 000 – 20 000 years ago Later Stone Age (LSA) 40 000 years ago – 2000 years ago

It should also be noted that these dates are not a neat fit because of variability and overlapping ages between sites (Lombard et.al 2012: 125).

There are no known Stone Age sites or features in the specific study area, and no material were identified during the area assessment. It should be noted that it is possible that single out of context tools could be located in the area. The closest known Stone Age sites in then larger geographical area are located at Zwartkops, at the Hennopsrivier, Glenferness, Pietkloof and Zevenfontein. These sites are all dated to the Later Stone Age (Bergh 1999: 4).

The Iron Age is the name given to the period of human history when metal was mainly used to produce artifacts. In South Africa it can be divided in two separate phases (Bergh 1999: 96-98), namely:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 200 – 1000 A.D. Late Iron Age (LIA) 1000 – 1850 A.D.

Huffman (2007: xiii) indicates that a Middle Iron Age should be included. His dates, which are widely accepted in archaeological circles, are:

Early Iron Age (EIA) 250 – 900 A.D. Middle Iron Age (MIA) 900 – 1300 A.D. Late Iron Age (LIA) 1300 – 1840 A.D.

The closest known Iron Age sites to the area are those of Melville Koppies and Bruma Lake (Bergh 1999: 7) dating to the Late Iron Age. There are no known Early Iron Age sites in the larger area (Bergh 1999: 6-7). No Iron Age sites, features or material were identified in the area during the assessment.

The historical period started with the moving into the area of people who could read and write (European travellers, missionaries, the Voortrekkers). The first Europeans to move into and close to the study area were the groups of Moffat & Archbell in 1829, followed by Cornwallis Harris in 1836 and then by David Livingstone in 1847 (Bergh 1999: 12-13). They were followed closely by the Voortrekkers and European farmers (p. 14).

During the Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) there was a skirmish between Boer and British forces near Olifantsfontein, while there was also a Black Concentration Camp built by the British near Olifantsfontein station/railway (Bergh 1999: 51; 55). Olifantsfontein station (around which a small town/residential area would have developed) are shown on Jeppe's 1899 Map already (Bergh 1999: 148).

The oldest map for the farm that could be located in the Chief Surveyor General's database (www.csg.dla.gov.za) dates to 1905 and indicates that Olifantsfontein was surveyed in 1904 (CSG Document 10H2NH01). It was then known as Olifantsfontein 156. A 1943 map for Portion 14 (CSG Document 10HGSS01) shows that this section was surveyed in January 1943 and that the farm was then still numbered as No.156 and that it was located in the District of Pretoria.

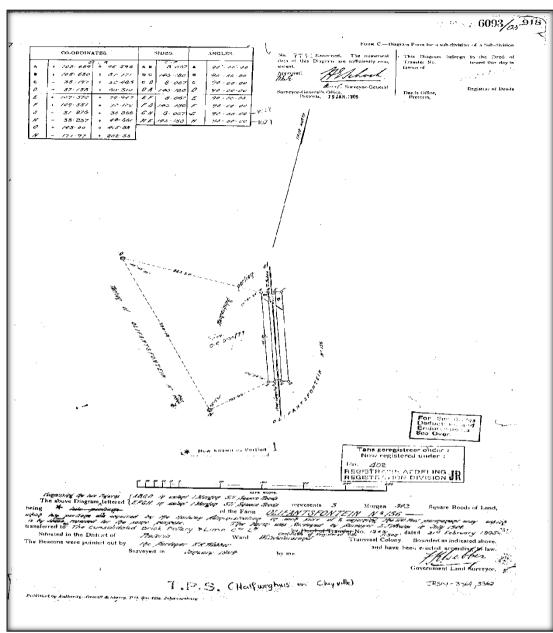


Figure 8: 1905 Map of a section of the farm Olifantsfontein (www.csg.dla.gov.za).

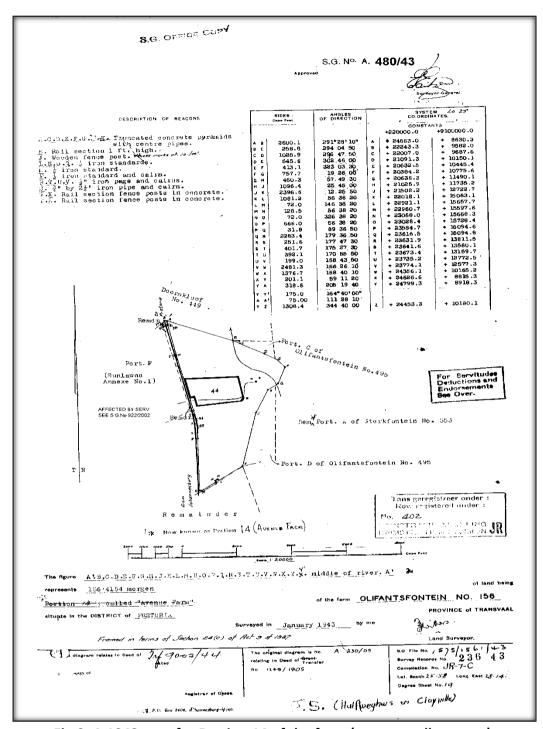


Fig.9: A 1943 map for Portion 14 of the farm (www.csg.dla.gov.za).

Results of the June 2018 Assessment

Over and above the large graveyard known and recorded in the study area, a few recent historical remains were found here during the assessment in June. This included a number of structures (including homesteads/farmstead ruins) as well old furrows (for strawberries?), fruit trees and features that are associated with cattle farming (water furrows/troughs). These are however fairly recent in age and has been extensively demolished and torn down in the ensuing years since the farm has been out of operation. The 3 sites are therefore seen as insignificant in terms of the historical significance and further mitigation would not be

recommended. Aerial images of the study area shows that in 2003 and 2004 the farm was still fully functional, but by 2009 is had gone into disrepair and that by 2016 it was completely destroyed and the structures on it demolished and the old agricultural fields overgrown.

GPS Location of Sites: S25 55 31.60 E28 13 57.50 (**Site 1**); S25 55 38.30 E28 14 05.90

(Site 2); S25 55 46.70 E28 14 21.30 (Site 3).

Cultural Significance: Low. **Heritage Significance**: None

Field Rating: General Protection C (IV C) - Phase 1 is seen as sufficient recording and it

may be demolished (Low significance)

Mitigation: None required.



Fig.10: Closer view of area showing the farm still in full operation (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.11: Closer view in 2004 (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.12: By 2009 the farm was going into disrepair (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.13: View of the area in 2016 (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.14: A view of the Site 1 structural remains.



Fig.15: A view of some old foundations at Site 1.



Fig.16: View of old agricultural furrows and fruit trees in the study area.



Fig.17: Some of the structural remains on Site 2.



Fig.18: Further remains at Site 2.



Fig.19: Remains of a structure at the Site 2 area.



Fig.20: A water trough at Site 2.



Fig.21: Another water trough at Site 2.



Fig.22: Structural remains at the Site 3 farmstead.



Fig.23: More stone-walled remains at Site 3.



Fig.24: Another view of the Site 3 farmstead/homestead area.

Grave Site

The grave site under discussion and that needs to be exhumed and relocated, contains 104 graves, with most of them stone-packed or demarcated by bricks and/or concrete. A few of the graves have slate headstones only, while there is some with cement crosses or metal markers as headstones. Only one of these could be identified and is the grave of one **Esta Xumalo, who seemingly died on 1.10.1977**. The age of the other graves can't be determined at this stage but could date to between the 1940's and 1970's or a bit later. Social consultation will also aim at obtaining dates and identities for the graves located here

Graves always carry a High Cultural Heritage Significance. If the graves on a site cannot be left intact and impacts on it avoided by a development, then the graves can be exhumed and relocated after extensive social consultation had been conducted in order to obtain consent from possible descendants. Once this process has been exhausted permits need to be applied for and obtained from SAHRA and various other agencies. As these graves will be impacted

by the proposed development, APAC & AVBOB Johannesburg were appointed by M&T Development to undertake the full exhumation and relocation process

GPS Location of Graveyard: S25 55 41.67 E28 14 05.89

Cultural Significance: High. Heritage Significance: Grade III

Field Rating: Local Grade IIIB - Should be included in the heritage register and may be

mitigated (high/ medium significance)

Mitigation: Exhume and Relocate after Social Consultation and Permissions have been

obtained



Fig.25: Aerial view of Grave Site (Google Earth 2018).



Fig.26: A view of the grave site.



Fig.27: Another view of the Grave Site.



Fig.28: The broken slate headstone of Esta Xumalo's grave.



Fig.29: One of the other graves with a formal headstone.



Fig.30: A grave with a metal marker.



Fig.31: More of the graves on the site.

It should be noted that although all efforts were made to cover the total area and therefore to identify all possible sites or features of cultural (archaeological and/or historical) heritage origin and significance, that there is always the possibility of something being missed. This will include low stone-packed or unmarked graves. This aspect should be kept in mind when development work commences and if any sites (including graves) are identified then an expert should be called in to investigate and recommend on the best way forward.

7. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

APelser Archaeological Consulting cc, in conjunction with AVBOB Johannesburg, was appointed by M&T Development (Pty) Ltd to undertake the exhumation and relocation of a grave site located on a section of their Strawberry Farm Township Development. The grave site contains in excess of 100 graves and will be impacted by the proposed development. As part of this work a Heritage Impact Assessment related to this grave relocation project was

required. The study area is on a portion (of Portion 14) of the farm Olifantsfontein 402JR, in the Olifantsfontein/Irene/Clayville area of Gauteng.

Over and above the large graveyard known and recorded in the study area, a few recent historical remains were found here during the assessment in June. This included a number of structures (including homesteads/farmstead ruins) as well old furrows (for strawberries?), fruit trees and features that are associated with cattle farming (water furrows/troughs). These are however fairly recent in age and has been extensively demolished and torn down in the ensuing years since the farm has been out of operation. The 3 sites are therefore seen as insignificant in terms of the historical significance and further mitigation would not be recommended.

Graves always carry a High Cultural Heritage Significance. If the graves on a site cannot be left intact and impacts on it avoided by a development, then the graves can be exhumed and relocated after extensive social consultation had been conducted in order to obtain consent from possible descendants. Once this process has been exhausted permits need to be applied for and obtained from SAHRA and various other agencies. As these graves will be impacted by the proposed development, APAC & AVBOB Johannesburg were appointed by M&T Development to undertake the full exhumation and relocation process

Finally, it should be noted that although all efforts are made to locate, identify and record all possible cultural heritage sites and features (including archaeological remains) there is always a possibility that some might have been missed as a result of grass cover and other factors. The subterranean nature of these resources (including low stone-packed or unmarked graves) should also be taken into consideration. Should any previously unknown or invisible sites, features or material be uncovered during any development actions then an expert should be contacted to investigate and provide recommendations on the way forward.

8. REFERENCES

Aerial views of study area location, sites found: Google Earth 2018.

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Republic of South Africa. 1998. **National Environmental Management Act** (no 107 of 1998). Pretoria: The Government Printer.

Chief Surveyor General Database: www.csg.dla.gov.za. CSG Documents 10H2NH01 & 10HGSS01.

APPENDIX A

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Site: A large place with extensive structures and related cultural objects. It can also be a large assemblage of cultural artifacts, found on a single location.

Structure: A permanent building found in isolation or which forms a site in conjunction with other structures.

Feature: A coincidental find of movable cultural objects.

Object: Artifact (cultural object).

(Also see Knudson 1978: 20).

APPENDIX B

DEFINITION/ STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Historic value: Important in the community or pattern of history or has an association

with the life or work of a person, group or organization of importance in

history.

Aesthetic value: Important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a

community or cultural group.

Scientific value: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of

natural or cultural history or is important in demonstrating a high degree

of creative or technical achievement of a particular period

Social value: Have a strong or special association with a particular community or

cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

Rarity: Does it possess uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of natural or

cultural heritage.

Representivity: Important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular

class of natural or cultural places or object or a range of landscapes or environments characteristic of its class or of human activities (including way of life, philosophy, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique) in the environment of the nation, province region or locality.

APPENDIX C

SIGNIFICANCE AND FIELD RATING:

Cultural significance:

- Low A cultural object being found out of context, not being part of a site or without any related feature/structure in its surroundings.

- Medium Any site, structure or feature being regarded less important due to a number of factors, such as date and frequency. Also any important object found out of context.

- High Any site, structure or feature regarded as important because of its age or uniqueness. Graves are always categorized as of a high importance. Also any important object found within a specific context.

Heritage significance:

- Grade I Heritage resources with exceptional qualities to the extent that they are of national significance

- Grade II Heritage resources with qualities giving it provincial or regional importance although it may form part of the national estate

- Grade III Other heritage resources of local importance and therefore worthy of conservation

Field ratings:

i. National Grade I significanceii. Provincial Grade II significance	should be managed as part of the national estate should be managed as part of the provincial estate
<u>c</u>	
iii. Local Grade IIIA	should be included in the heritage register and not be
	mitigated (high significance)
iv. Local Grade IIIB	should be included in the heritage register and may be
	mitigated (high/ medium significance)
v. General protection A (IV A)	site should be mitigated before destruction (high/
1	medium significance)
vi. General protection B (IV B)	site should be recorded before destruction (medium
1 , ,	significance)
vii. General protection C (IV C)	phase 1 is seen as sufficient recording and it may be
vii. General protection C (1 v C)	1
	demolished (low significance)

APPENDIX D

PROTECTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES:

Formal protection:

National heritage sites and Provincial heritage sites – Grade I and II

Protected areas - An area surrounding a heritage site

Provisional protection – For a maximum period of two years

Heritage registers – Listing Grades II and III

Heritage areas – Areas with more than one heritage site included

Heritage objects – e.g. Archaeological, palaeontological, meteorites, geological specimens, visual art, military, numismatic, books, etc.

General protection:

Objects protected by the laws of foreign states Structures – Older than 60 years Archaeology, palaeontology and meteorites Burial grounds and graves Public monuments and memorials

APPENDIX E

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT PHASES

- 1. Pre-assessment or Scoping phase Establishment of the scope of the project and terms of reference.
- 2. Baseline Assessment Establishment of a broad framework of the potential heritage of an area.
- 3. Phase I Impact Assessment Identifying sites, assess their significance, make comments on the impact of the development and makes recommendations for mitigation or conservation.
- 4. Letter of Recommendation for Exemption If there is no likelihood that any sites will be impacted.
- 5. Phase II Mitigation or Rescue Planning for the protection of significant sites or sampling through excavation or collection (after receiving a permit) of sites that may be lost.
- 6. Phase III Management Plan For rare cases where sites are so important that development cannot be allowed.