

UMJINDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

P O Box 5014
BARBERTON
1300

Tel & Fax: (013) 712-7449

CASE ID: 1275

ALREADY ON SAHRIS

11 November 2010

Mr Philip Hine
South African Heritage Resources Agency
P O Box 4637
CAPE TOWN
8000

Dear Mr Hine

RIMER'S CREEK HERITAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT - BARBERTON

Thank you for your email advising that the Heritage Report has finally arrived.

We are aware that Mr Benjamin Moduka will be dealing with this issue but as Dr Kusel also sent you a copy of his report, together with the 'Replication' of the Applicant / Legal Representative, we thought it necessary to also send you a copy of our comments so that you are completely in the picture, and for your records.

A copy of our submission to Mr Moduka is enclosed.

Yours sincerely

M. Nuns

MARJORIE NUNS
Secretary
Umjindi Environmental Committee

Encl.



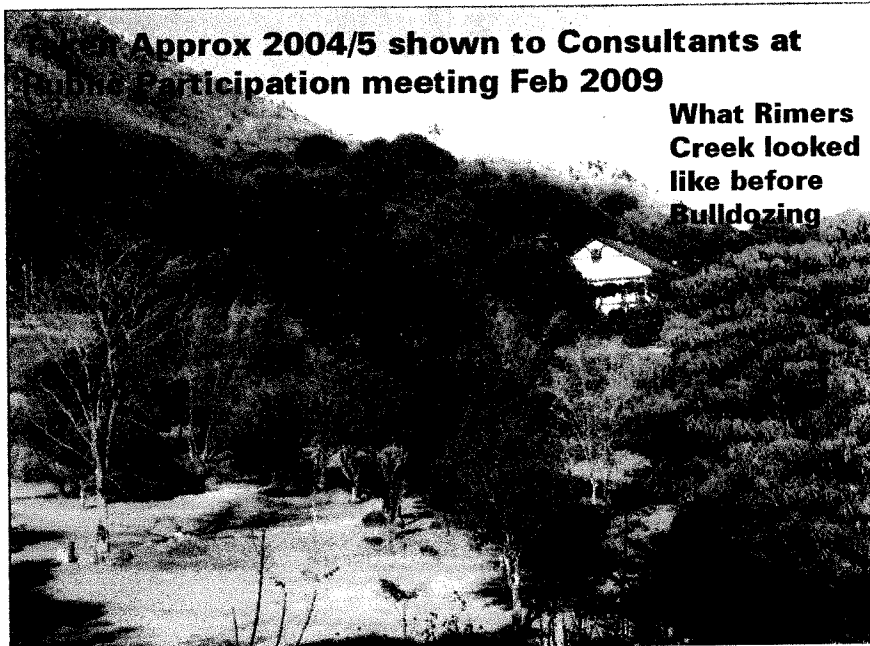
UMJINDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

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2 November 2010

RIMER'S CREEK EIA PROCESS

RESPONSE FROM INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES TO COMMENTS
MADE BY THE APPLICANT / LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE RIMER'S CREEK
HERITAGE REPORT BY DR U KUSEL



BEFORE

illegal
bulldozing
showing a
section of
the Rotary
Memorial
Tree Park
on the
historical
site of the
Central Mill
in Rimer's
Creek



AFTER

illegal
bulldozing in
May 2007
this is what
remained of
what is
considered
to be the
**historical
heart of
Barberton**

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2 November 2010

Provincial Heritage Resources Agency
Private Bag X11316
NELSPRUIT
1300
ATTENTION: MR BENJAMIN MODUKA

cc MR PHILIP HINE

Dear Sir

**CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT
FOR RIMER'S CREEK PORTION 14 OF THE FARM
BARBERTON TOWNLANDS 369 JU, BARBERTON MPUMALANGA
(CARRIED OUT BY AFRICAN HERITAGE CONSULTANTS CC)**

We are a registered Interested & Affected Party (I&AP) in the Rimer's Creek EIA process and, along with numerous others, are extremely concerned regarding the 'REPLICATION' to the above Heritage Report by the Applicant (Mr P J Lea) / Legal Representative (Mr L J A Louw) submitted to SAHRA in Cape Town several weeks ago, together with the Heritage Report. As this report has recently been forwarded to you, our concerns in this regard are being addressed to you.

This Replication goes to great lengths to discredit the Heritage Report of African Heritage Consultants cc but contains substantial **incorrect and/or misleading information**. Of major concern is that while this 'review' was going on I&AP's had not even seen the report, or been advised of its availability, despite their numerous and ongoing queries in this regard. As such, they had no opportunity to challenge these comments before submission to SAHRA.

As the Applicant / Legal Representative are neither qualified nor impartial to review the report their comments are obviously unacceptable to I&AP's and rejected. If the Applicant / Legal Representative are unhappy with the findings of Dr Kusel then we believe that a further independent study should be carried out by another suitably qualified specialist.

Please refer to the attached comments from the Umjindi Environmental Committee, together with various attachments, responding to the Applicant's Replication and clarifying certain issues.

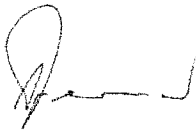
List of Attachments:

1. Umjindi Environmental Committee's response to the REPLICATION by Mr P J Lea and Mr L J A Louw which is in two parts.
2. Annex. UEC1 – Extracts from Barberton Museum records regarding tree planting ceremonies. (Other info can be found in Dr Kusel's report).

3. **Annex UEC2, UEC3 & UEC23** - Affidavits from long time residents of Barberton confirming:
 - that no deep excavations took place on the disputed area prior to May 2007
 - the existence of the tree park
 - that the tree park flourished
 - that the tree park was a popular area with Barbertonians and a maintained park
4. **Annex UEC4** - correspondence from Mr HC Bosua clarifying that deep excavation was restricted to the immediate vicinity of the dam and that in the course of developing the proposed park area **light surface grading ONLY** took place between the dam wall and the Irricon/Museum premises **using the same heavy duty equipment used on the dam.**
5. **Annex UEC5** - Google Earth image showing the number of trees at the time of bulldozing in May 2007 and that Irricon's proposed site occupies approximately 25% of the flat usable park area.
6. **Annex UEC6** – photograph showing the condition of the park before and after bulldozing.
7. **Annex UEC7** – photograph showing abnormal trucks laden with pipes which is what is planned for the historic site of the Central Mill in historical Rimer's Creek.
8. **Annex UEC8** – photograph of pipe shed – also planned for this historical site and public open space area.
9. **Annex UEC9** – the current view from Heritage Walk below Belhaven museum looking down on the bulldozed site of the Central Mill that is required for the parking of heavy, abnormal trucks, heavy machinery and the storage of pipes. (Annex UEC7 & UEC8 will give an indication of what tourists, locals and residential property owners will see).
10. **Annex. UEC10** – cut slope that can be clearly seen 16 months after bulldozing
11. **Annex. UEC16** – Affidavit from local historian, Mr Hans Bommman, concurring with Dr Kusel re site of Central Mill
12. **Annex. UEC20 & UEC21** – Affidavits confirming scattering of ashes of loved ones
13. **Annex. UEC27 & UEC28** – Affidavits from owners of the Masonic Lodge confirming they are opposed to the proposed development.
14. **Annex. UEC29** – letter from Umjindi Environmental Committee dated 17 March 2009 requesting various specialist studies; resulted in no response.

If any further information is required, or the contact details of those who have provided information in this submission, please contact our Secretary, Mrs Nuns, on the above telephone number.

Yours faithfully



A A FERRAR
Chairman
Umjindi Environmental Committee

UMJINDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

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RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S REPLICATION

(to avoid a proliferation of paperwork comments from the Umjindi / Barberton Ratepayers Association, Mr Chris Rippon (on behalf of Petitioners) and other Interested & Affected Parties have been included in this response)

AMENDED CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR RIMER'S CREEK – PORTION 14 OF THE FARM BARBERTON TOWNLANDS 396 JU, JU BARBERTON, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

REPLICATION:

The EIA process is supposed to be a public participation process but it is almost impossible for the public to understand what is going on, let alone offer intelligent comment. It would appear that 2 heritage reports are being commented on by the Applicant / Legal Representative but only two copies of the same report have been handed to Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) by the Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP). However, whilst the majority of statements made are considered irrelevant to the EIA process, certain ones are cause for concern and we are forced to respond in such instances.

FORWARD

It would appear that both the Applicant and his legal representative are unhappy with the Heritage Report produced by African Heritage Consultants CC, although I&AP's have been stressing the historical importance of the area for over three years. The Heritage Report identified significant heritage values for the site and recommended, "*- the proposed development . . . be rejected -*". It is therefore not surprising the Applicant was not happy with Dr Kusel's report as it makes it difficult for the application to be approved. The Applicant not only has a strong vested interest in discrediting the report, he also has no professional expertise that qualifies him to accept or reject its findings. The Environmental Assessment Planner (EAP) is obviously also not qualified to judge its findings, but **if** the EAP felt it necessary to review the report, a **qualified independent reviewer** should have been used, not the applicant and/or his legal representative. As such, any comments in this regard by either the Applicant, his legal representative or the EAP have little credibility and are not recognized.

Of major concern here is that while this 'review' was going on, presumably with the knowledge of the EAP, the I&AP's had not even seen the report, or been advised of its availability, despite their numerous and ongoing queries in this regard. As such, they had no opportunity to challenge the Applicant's numerous incorrect and/or misleading comments submitted to SAHRA. This demonstrates procedural and material bias that is shockingly unprocedural.

REPLICATION

2. AD PAGE 2 : METHODOLOGY

*Regarding 6 people in attendance with the Heritage Consultant, whilst this is irrelevant to the EIA process we would like to add that the Applicant's 'informant' omitted to mention that **ONLY I&AP's 'who would like to highlight any additional issues'** were invited to attend. In this regard a few weeks earlier a large party met with Dr Julius Pistorius who,*

subsequently withdrew and handed over to Dr Kusel, and most issues were covered during the first meeting.

5. **AD PAGE 10 : PARAGRAPH 5**

With regard to public interest – at the Public Participation meeting held on 23 February 2009 it was stated by Mr Boet Pohl, a long time resident, councilor for 35 years, former Mayor of Barberton and past Chairman of the Ratepayers Association, that **in all his years of dealing with public matters he had never witnessed such passion relating to an issue of Barberton. THIS WAS NOT MINUTED BY JACO K CONSULTING.**

6. **AD PAGE 10 : PARAGRAPH 6**

The Applicant's own research and response to CHRIA 1 in "an unbiased, comprehensive and professional way"

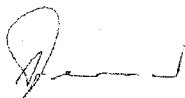
The Applicant / Legal Representative go to great lengths to try to discredit the investigations and findings of the leading heritage specialist in the country, Dr Udo Kusel. As stated in the first paragraph of page 1 this is hardly surprising as this report makes it difficult for the application to be approved. Furthermore, the Applicant not only has a strong vested interest in discrediting the report, **he also has no professional expertise either that qualifies him to accept or reject its findings** but has done so anyway referring to his own response as "*unbiased, comprehensive and professional*". **Many of these comments are extremely worrying and will be commented on where appropriate but we must reiterate that these are totally unacceptable to I&AP's and therefore rejected. If the Applicant / Legal Representative are not happy with Dr Kusel's report then another must be organized by another suitably qualified heritage specialist.**

8. **AD PAGE 12 : PARA 7.2**

We agree that a site visit is necessary but point out there is no longer a garden (or Memorial Tree Park as it is better known) to inspect on the disputed area as all the trees were demolished by illegal bulldozing in May 2007. **Refer Annex UEC6 – FOR BEFORE AND AFTER BULLDOZING PHOTOGRAPHS.**

9. **AD PAGE 16: PARAS 10.1 TO 10.3**

IT IS INCORRECT THAT THE DISPUTED AREA WAS EXCAVATED IN 1992 during the construction of the dam. Bulldozing took place in May 2007 by Irricon destroying part of the Rotary Memorial Tree Park in the process and the site of the Central Mill. Mrs Barbara Macaulay who lives close to the area **personally witnessed the bulldozing** – Refer Annex UEC3. Affidavits Annex. UEC2, UEC3 and UEC23 also confirm that deep excavation was restricted to the immediate vicinity of the dam during construction in 1992. Regarding the Affidavit of **Mr H Bosua** – Applicant's Annex LEA11 – subsequent correspondence has been received (Annex. UEC4) confirming that deep excavation was restricted to the immediate vicinity of the dam and that in the course of developing the proposed park area **light surface grading ONLY** took place between the dam wall and the Irricon/Museum premises **using the same heavy duty equipment that was used on the dam.** He also confirms the existence indigenous trees in the area. Whilst the Affidavits of Messrs F S Louw and H Bosua are rather ambiguous Mr Louw's also only makes reference to the **grading and leveling of the area.**



A A FERRAR – CHAIRMAN
UMJINDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
Date: 2 November 2010

/Contd

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RESPONSE TO APPLICANT'S SECOND REPLICATION

(to avoid a proliferation of paperwork comments from the Umjindi / Barberton Ratepayers Association, Mr Chris Rippon (on behalf of Petitioners) and other Interested & Affected Parties have been included in this response)

CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR RIMER'S CREEK –
 PORTION 14 OF THE FARM BARBERTON TOWNLANDS 396 JU, JU BARBERTON,
 MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

FORWARD

Again, we place on record that neither the applicant nor his Legal Representative are professionally qualified to make comments on heritage issues and in most instances these will not be responded to as they are not considered worthy of comment. As stated earlier, as they are obviously unhappy with the results of Dr Kusel's research they should organize a further study by another suitably qualified specialist as their comments will not be accepted by I&AP's.

REPLICATION

2. PROTECTED SITES IN TERMS OF THE NATIONAL HERITAGE RESOURCES ACT NO 25 OF 1999:

The Applicant is not qualified to offer comment.

3. METHODOLOGY:

- 3.2.1 The Applicant's annexure LEA 10 **DOES NOT CLEARLY STATE THE FACTS** and is **inaccurate and misleading**. The Affidavit is also ambiguous in many respects but does only refer to **GRADING AND LEVELLING**. However, Mr Bosua's subsequent correspondence Annex (UEC4) makes it clear that **only light surface grading, using the same heavy machinery used on the dam, was carried out in the disputed area**. As stated earlier nearby resident Mrs Barbara Macaulay **personally witnessed the illegal bulldozing of the disputed site during May 2007 (Refer UEC3)**.

Whilst it seems unusual that as head of Community Services Mr F S Louw was unaware of the Memorial Tree Park there certainly was one and this is well documented in Museum records (Refer Annex UEC1), Dr Kusel's report and is also confirmed in the attached Affidavits, Annex. UEC2 & UEC3. These Affidavits also confirm that the trees flourished and the area was a well maintained park area popular with locals.

- 3.2.2 The Applicant's Annexure LEA 11 **DOES NOT CLEARLY STATE THE FACTS EITHER** but Mr Bosua's subsequent correspondence (Annex UEC4) referred to in 3.2.1 above does.

- 3.2.3 **Site of the Central Mill** - Applicant's Annex HC02 **shows nothing clearly and proves nothing with regard to the Central Mill.** The site indicated by the Applicant, without any evidence to support this claim, is obviously incorrect as the mountain background in this area does not match that shown on Applicant's Annex. HC03. Local Historian, Mr Hans Bornman, also concurs with Dr Kusel regarding the site of the Central Mill – Refer Annex. UEC16. However, if Applicant is unhappy with the findings of the HC he should obtain further specialist opinions but not do the job himself as he is neither qualified nor impartial. The Applicant's statement in this regard is therefore disregarded.
- 3.2.4 **Bulldozing** - there is no other appropriate word to describe the actions that took place on the disputed site during May 2007. A one to two meter deep cut slope was created on the south-western edge of the site, which was leveled to a one meter high fill platform on the north-eastern edge of the site, within one to two meters of the stream bed. Refer Annex UEC10 where cut slope can be clearly seen 16 months after bulldozing.
4. **RESULTS:**
- 4.1.1. **Entrance to Rimer's Creek** is well known by locals and lies between the museum and Irricon. **The entrance is not at Fernlea House.** Applicant is trying to expand into Rimer's Creek and onto the historical site of the Central Mill.
- 4.1.3 **Sale of Public Open Space Historical Park area** required both an EIA and HIA which must obviously happen **BEFORE any rezoning** in these circumstances as there would be a big problem if the EIA ruled against the sale and rezoning had taken place.
- 4.1.4 **Bulldozing** the piece of ground before **STARTING** the EIA process is an incorrect procedure as was the application for an ordinary EIA instead of the required 24G process.
- 4.1.5 **Possible historic sites** – as stated earlier the Applicant's annexures LEA 10 and LEA 11 **do not** state the facts but Mr Bosua has provided further clarity in Annex. UEC4.
- 4.1.6. **Site of the Central Mill** - The site of the Central Mill can easily be confirmed by a site visit where both the background view of the mountains and the position in relation to historical buildings (*detailed in photograph Nos. 3 & 4 in the Heritage Report*) will be obvious. Local Historian, Mr Hans Bornman, also concurs with Dr Kusel regarding the site of the Central Mill – Refer Annex. UEC16. These will not be same at the site indicated by the Applicant who is free to obtain further **specialist** opinion in this regard but not offer comment himself as this is unacceptable to I&AP's.
- 4.1.7. **Rotary Garden of Remembrance** – more commonly referred to as the **Rotary Memorial Tree Park** - most certainly did exist (*and a section still does*) until illegal bulldozing destroyed the trees on the disputed area during May 2007, and is well documented in museum records (Annex UEC1). See also Affidavits marked Annex. UEC2 & UEC3. Annex: UEC20 and UEC21 also confirm the scattering of ashes of departed loved ones during 1990 and 1997. **NOTE:** During the 1997 ceremony ashes were actually sprinkled under trees on the disputed area that were subsequently bulldozed.
- 4.2.2 The Applicant **bulldozed and leveled the specific area with heavy earthmoving machinery - Annex UEC6. This was personally witnessed by Mrs B Macaulay - Annex. UEC3**

- 4.2.7 ***Spatial Development Framework*** - Umjindi Municipality does not seem to understand their obligations or responsibilities in this regard. A Spatial Development Framework (SDF) is drawn up by experts in the field of town planning to ensure harmonious and sensible development in terms of town planning norms. Presumably to protect the community from actions such as these and the municipality from themselves. Whilst it may be deviated from **for good reason** this **CANNOT TAKE PLACE WITHOUT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION WHICH HAS NOT HAPPENED TO DATE**. We have in our possession a copy of the 2003 SDF which was applicable for the 5 year period to 2008 and therefore applicable during all negotiations in respect of the disputed land. In terms of both the applicable Municipal Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the SDF this land had been highlighted as a tourism node that *“must be conserved and complementary land uses encouraged”, “should be protected from urban sprawl and land uses not compatible with nature conservation”* In addition the documents recommend that **subdivision of this land should not be allowed if it will result in a change of land use that is non-compatible**. From the Applicant’s Annexure LEA08 Umjindi Municipality appear unaware of its existence **but EAP Chris Botha was given a copy of this document by our secretary, Mrs Nuns, over a year ago. This document WAS NOT attached to the draft Basic Assessment Report**
- 4.2.8 ***Rotary Trees*** - The map enclosed with Dr Kusel’s Heritage Report shows where the original Rotary trees were planted on the disputed site and can also be seen in Annex. UEC1. The Google earth image marked Annex. UEC5 shows how many trees were in existence at the time of the bulldozing . Annex UEC6 shows the condition of a section of this park area in 2004 before bulldozing and in 2008 after bulldozing. As stated earlier the tree planting records are well documented in the museum (Annex UEC1) but there are no records showing what was planted by Mr F S Louw.
- 4.2.10 ***World Heritage Site*** - The alleged comment by HC is inappropriate as the Provincial Premier at the time and the National Minister of DEAT committed significant support and resources to ensure the WHS application does succeed. A “Tentative Listed World Heritage Site” already existed, the northern boundary of which is less than 600m from the present Irricon buildings, formally accepted by UNESCO in July 2008.
- 4.2.11 Again, the applicant’s comments with regard to the Central Mill are disregarded – applicant should obtain a further expert opinion and avoid making statements of things he knows nothing about. Local Historian, Mr Hans Bornman, concurs with Dr Kusel regarding the site of the Central Mill – Refer Annex. UEC16
- 4.2.12 Annexures LEA 10 and LEA 11 are inaccurate and misleading. Refer Annex UEC2, UEC3, UEC4.
- 4.2.13 Other Affidavits enclosed as Annex. UEC2 & UEC3 indicate otherwise.
- 4.4.2. ***The visual impact*** of the proposed development from Heritage Walk, Belhaven and nearby properties will be shocking as the area is below street level and those above will look down on abnormal trucks laden with pipes and pipe storage sheds which are planned for the site of the Central Mill. (Refer Annex. UEC7 & UEC8). **Professional Visual Impact Assessment and Sense of Place studies were requested by several I&AP’s and also in our letter of 17 March 2009 (Annex UEC29) but fell on deaf ears.** However, although no detailed Visual Impact Assessment was conducted by African Heritage Consultants CC they did consult with a Registered Professional Landscape Architect on the matter of Visual Impact and concluded that : *Not only is the proposed development incompatible from a land use perspective but also from a Visual Impact perspective.* Applicant’s comments in this regard are biased and unacceptable.

- 4.5.1 **Masonic Temple: Cnr Lee & Judge Streets** It is incorrect that the new owners of this lodge don't have a problem with the proposed development as they recently advised our Secretary, Mrs Nuns, that they are totally opposed to it. **Refer Annex UEC27 & UEC28.**

5. PUBLIC OPINION:

It is incorrect and misleading to state that 'No "industrial" development is going to take place'. If this is so, why is the applicant applying for the land to be rezoned for industrial use? We also challenge Irricon's "Light Industrial" status as the generation of substantial noise, the presence of heavy machinery and heavy, abnormal trucks do not fit the term "light industry". This proposed development is also being misleadingly put forward as **Light Industrial.**

7. IMPORTANCE OF THE SITE

- 7.1 Again, Applicant's comments regarding the site of the Central Mill are disregarded along with the comments that *there was nothing to destroy*. **Reference is again made to Mr Herman Bosua's subsequent comments – Annex UEC4 - clarifying that deep excavation was confined to the immediate vicinity of the dam and light grading took place elsewhere.** Annex. UEC2, UEC3 & UEC23 also confirm that this was the case
- 7.2 **View from the Blockhouse** - we disagree that the view will not be affected – hence the request for an **independent** Visual Impact Assessment and a Sense of Place study. The comment regarding the importance of the Blockhouse and that it should be demolished is also disregarded but proves that the Applicant is totally unconcerned about the impacts of the proposed development. Refer also comments under 4.4.2 above.
- 7.3 **View from Belhaven** – the photographs referred to by the Applicant are misleading as they are taken from the development area upwards instead of from Belhaven downwards where the view of the proposed development area can be seen. Refer Annex. UEC9 for the view from Heritage Walk, below Belhaven, and Annex. UEC7 & UEC8 for what is planned for the historic and irreplaceable site of the Central Mill. Refer also comments under 4.4.2 above.
- 7.4 Comment disregarded – Applicant is not a specialist, is not impartial and obviously doesn't know what he's talking about.

8. CONCLUSION

- 8.1 Refer comments under 4.2.7.
- 8.2 The area was illegally bulldozed and leveled during May 2007 without any finalized Deed of Sale, EIA, HIA or rezoning approval. **This was personally witnessed by Mrs B Macaulay (Annex UEC3).** In the Application to Amend the Umjindi Town Planning Scheme 2002 submitted by the Applicant's Representative to Umjindi Municipality during June 2007 it was stated under 2.11 headed **Environmental Impact Assessment** that *As the rezoning of a property with an area less than 10 000m² is not a listed activity requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment in terms of the Environmental Conservation act (1989) no such application needs to be submitted to the relevant Government Department.* However, there was no mention that in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (NEMA) **AN EIA WAS REQUIRED.**
- 8.4 As stated earlier – only I&AP's who could provide additional input were invited by EAP As stated several times earlier the Applicant's Annex. LEA10 and LEA11 are ambiguous and Mr Bosua has subsequently confirmed (Annex UEC4) that deep excavation was

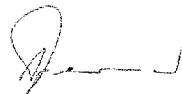
confined to the immediate vicinity of the dam. Refer also Annex. UEC2, UEC3 & UEC23.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 We disagree, hence the need for both HIA and EIA so that suitably qualified independent experts can assess the impact of the proposed development, not the Applicant.

10. **REFERENCES**

- 10.2 Again, if Applicant is unhappy he should obtain a more in-depth study by suitably qualified specialist and refrain from making comments.
- 10.3 This comment is considered ridiculous in the extreme and totally unacceptable
- 10.4 A further ridiculous comment with no specialist expertise to make it and totally unacceptable.
- 11.1.1 This area appears to have become considerably worse since the illegal bulldozing but is irrelevant to the EIA process. As the dumping and graffiti is taking place against Irricon's wall perhaps they should reprimand those doing it instead of taking photos.
- 11.1.2, 11.1.3, 11.1.4 Ditto above
- 11.1.5 Fail to see relevance in relation to the proposed development where industrial activity wishes to extend a totally incompatible land use INTO historical Rimer's Creek in an area dominated by "public open space", historical buildings, and residential properties
- 11.1.6 Again, fail to see relevance in relation to the proposed development and Irricon has extended twice already even nearer to Rimer's Creek.
- 11.1.7 Totally disagree with this statement and erection of a Wendy House has nothing to do with proposed development as it is a temporary security shelter.
- 11.1.9 EIA process is about whether the proposed development is suitable for the proposed area – do not see the relevance.
- 11.2 Irrelevant in terms of the proposed development. The Museum is attempting what the municipality has failed to do, to protect valuable land from abuse.
- 11.3 Noted but land has already been identified as tourism node that should be protected in terms of 2003 Spatial Development Framework. "The objectors" had nothing to do with any film set in Rimer's Creek except to ensure that any structures left behind would be in keeping with public space and tourism use.



A A FERRAR - CHAIRMAN
UMJINDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE
Date: 2 November 2010

BARBERTON

Gedurende April het die Barbertonse Museum hom weer eens as ware gemeenskapsmuseum bewys. Van die belangrikste aktiwiteite in die dorp het rondom die museum gesentreer en hierdeur is belangstelling in die museum opnuut aangewakker.

Op Saterdag 16 April is ongeveer 200 senior onderwysstudente van die onderwyskolleges in Pretoria en Potchefstroom en die Johannesburg College of Education by die museum ontvang. Die opvoedkundige beampte van die museum, Mnr. Pitout, het die verhaal van Barberton onderwyserig aan die studente vertel, 'n film oor die geskiedenis van die dorp is aan hulle vertoon en mev. Wilken het hulle ook deur die museum begelei. Heelwat onderwyserigte vrae is aan die museum personeel gestel en dit blyk dat die studente die besoek baie geniet het.

Saterdag 26 April sal seker lank deur die Barbertonse gemeenskap onthou word. Die museum was die middelpunt van talle feestelike bedrywighede. Die 21ste verjaarsdag van die Internasionale Rotariërvereniging is by wyse van 'n boomplantdag gevier. 60 Inheemse bome (15 verskillende soorte) is in Rimer's Creek aangeplant ter versiering van die museumterrein en natuurreservaat maar ook ter herstel van die inheemse plantegroei.

Die personeel van die museum het die terrein reeds weke voor die groot dag begin gereedmaak. Mnr. Van Biljon van Natuurbewaring en mnr. De Souza van Twello Bosboustasie het die posisie waar die bome geplant moes word, aangedui en die gatgrawery kon toe begin. Die Munisipaliteit van Barberton was besonder behulpzaam met die verskaffing van tuingereedskap, goeie leemgrond, kompos en kunsmis. Die Afdeling Natuurbewaring het die bome verskaf en 'n sestigtal bome is aan die verskillende instansies van die dorp toegeken, waaronder die Stadsraad van Barberton, Natuurbewaring, die museum, die Indiër-, Kleurling- en Swart gemeenskappe van Barberton, die Rotariërklub, die Lions-organisasie asook die Tafelronde en Rapportryersvereniging. Die verskeie

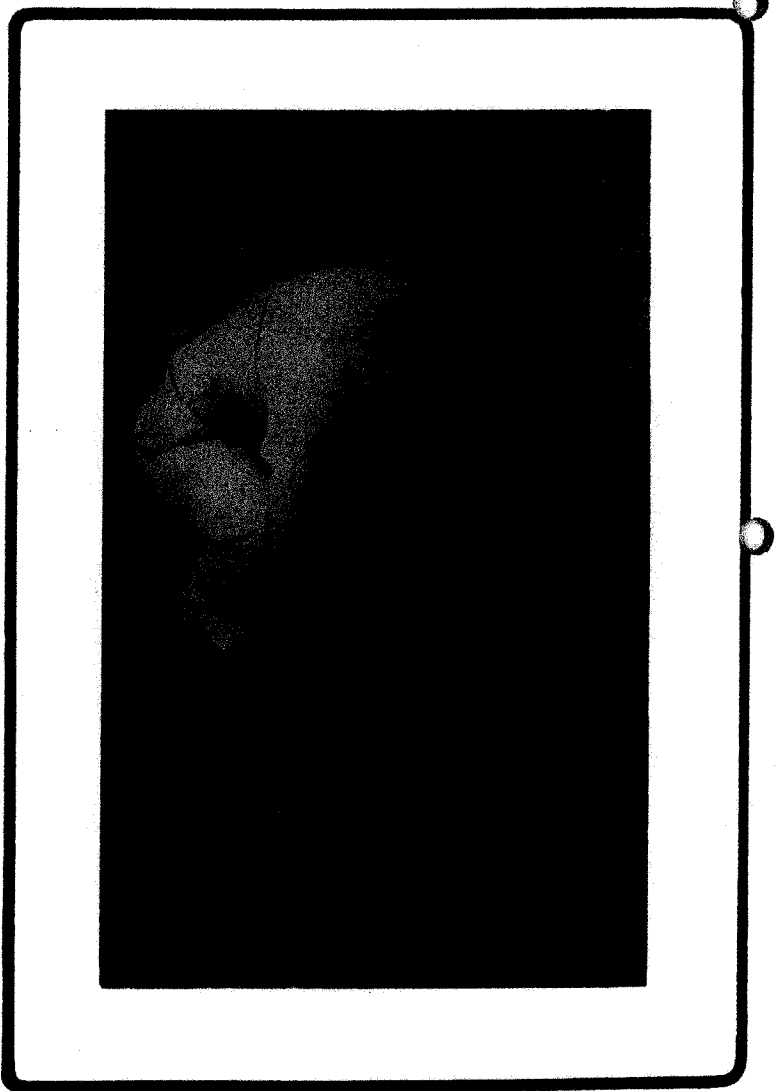
industriële en myne rondom die dorp het ook mildelik hulle deel bygedra.

Die Assistent-direkteur van Natuurbewaring, mnr. Peter Milstein, het die verrigtinge met 'n paslike toespraak geopen. Hy het die noodsaaklike herstel van die ekologie in die natuur bepleit en die nut van bome beklemtoon.

Die Barbertonse museum personeel is bly dat die funksie ook

kon bydra om die bejaardes van die Pumula Ouethuis se verblyf te veraangenaam aangesien die senior inwoners van Barberton 'n besondere rol in die vooruitgang van die museum speel.

Om ook die jeug se betrokkenheid by die museum te verstewig, het die jong lede van die Lionsklub 'n aandfunksie gereël en die dag is op 'n vrolike noot in die ou museumsaal afgesluit.



Raadslid Pohl, die Burgermeester van Barberton, plant 'n worsboom.

VERSLAG VAN 'N BOOMPLANTFUNKSIE

by die

BARBERTONSE MUSEUM

Op Saterdag 26 April 1980 was daar groot makietie by die Barbertonse museum toe die plaaslike Rotariërs hulle 75 ste bestaansjaar herdenk het deur 'n boomplantdag op die museumgronde te vier. Die personeel van die museum het weke voor die tyd al met die reëlings begin deur met bandiete die gronde in Rimers creek voor te berei. Eers was daar begin deur die uitsteek van boomplekke in die creek en toe het die gatgrawery begin, 'n hele sestig gate in die klipperige harde grond. Na die gatgrawery en die opvulling daarvan met goeie grond het die skoonmaak en uitbrand van die terrein begin.

Gelukkig het alles vlot verloop want 'n dag vóór die funksie was alles gereed en die gate genommer.

Saterdagoggend was 'n pragtige herfsdag toe die gaste opgedaag het. Die Rotariërdames het gesorg vir tee en eetgoed en hier het die personeel van die museum mooi meegehelp.

Na die verwelkoming van die voorsitter het Mnr. Milstein, adjunk Direkteur, Natuurbewaring die verrigtinge geopen met 'n gepaste toespraak waarna die verskillende instansies van die dorp begin het om hulle respektiewe boompies te plant. Alleenlik inheemse bome is geplant en behoort in die jare wat kom 'n pragtige gesig te wees in Rimers creek.

Die museum is baie gelukkig want die funksie was nie alleenlik 'n groot sukses nie maar was ook waardig in opset.

MJP/pf



Wêreld- omgewings- dag by Belhaven

*Museumvriende in 'n gesellige
luim op die voorstoep van
Belhaven.*

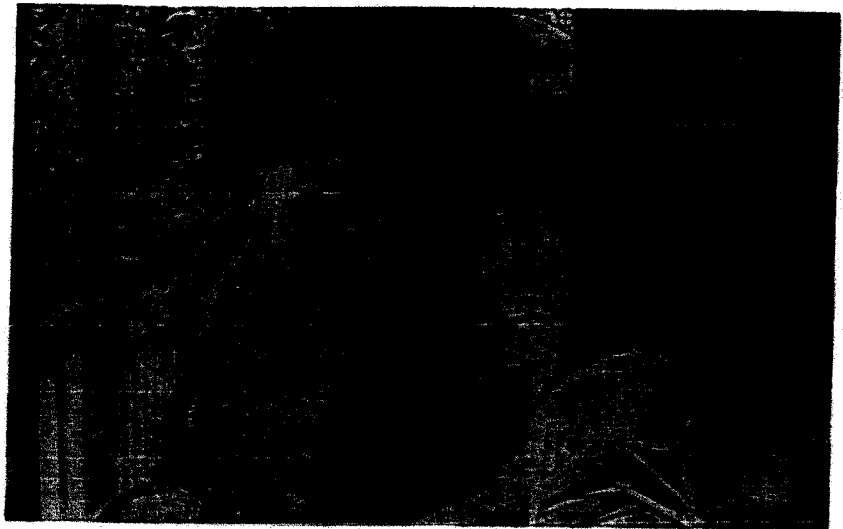
Die jaarlikse "At Home" funksie vir museumvriende is met Wêreldomgewingsdag gekombineer aangesien die tema vanjaar Kultuurbewaring is. Die 10de Junie 1988 was ook 'n spesiale geleentheid, aangesien dit die museumvriende 'n geleentheid gebied het, om die nuwe Kurator, mnr Naas Ferreira en sy vrou Emily te ontmoet.

'n Baie paslike en insiggewende praatjie met die titel "Die Geskiedenis van voorafvervaardigde gebou" is deur mev. Alison Bornman (Kultuurhistoriese Beampte) gelewer. 'n Beroep is op elkeen gedoen om te veg vir die behoud van ons ou geboue.

'n Verrassende gebaar het van twee van die museumvriende, mev. Paddy Jordaan en mev. Sophie Jardim gekom, toe elke museumpersoneelid 'n skouerruikertjie van orgideë ontvang het. Mev. Jordaan het namens die ander vriende, waardering vir die werksaamhede van die Barborton Museum uitgespreek.

Die oggend is op die gebruikelike manier afgesluit met komkommertoebroodjies, botterbroodjies met aarbeikonfyt en room en 'n lekker koppie tee. 'n Heerlike atmosfeer is geskep deur outydse treffers wat deur Mev. Honey Scrooby op Belhaven se klavier gespeel is. Ongeveer 50 vriende het dié geselligheid bygewoon.

Marilda de Klerk



"At Home"

"At Home" was a very important part of Victorian social life, especially for those who could not afford more elaborate entertaining. The rules of etiquette, however, were just as strict and many were the pitfalls for those who did not know what was what — or even worse, who was who. The unknown authoress of "Manners and Rules of Good Society" (who modestly describes herself as "a member of the aristocracy") was of the opinion that "The people who thoroughly enjoy at home days are those who have more time on their hands than they know what to do with". Nevertheless, for Victorian ladies, bound by strict rules of behaviour and chaperonage and with little to occupy minds and hands but hand-work, piano playing and drawing,

the "At Home" was surely a welcome break.

A lady would indicate to her friends and acquaintances that she was "at home" on a certain day by writing that day on all her visiting cards and leaving these cards in person on those who are not home when she calls. Those she find at home she should inform on which day her at home day is. The very best a table-linen and china would naturally grace the tables and acceptable dainty refreshments were arranged, either buffet style or to be handed round by the servants, depending on the numbers expected — the more who came the greater the hostess's social success.

Ann Jones

Boomplantdag

RIMER'S
CREEK

Op 26 April 1980 is daar in Rimer's Creek 60 inheemse bome aangeplant, as deel van die ontwikkeling van die museumgronde. (Owervaal Museanus Junie 1980). By nadere ondersoek het die kurator, bygestaan deur 'n museumvriend mnr. Jan Muller, vasgestel dat 30 van die bome gevrek of weggespoel het. Na oorlegging met van die personeel, is gevoel dat nuwe bome geplant moet word. Bome wat algemeen in die omgewing voorkom is aangekoop.

Mev. Ann Jones 'n personeelid wat ook lid van die "Wild Life Society" is, het dit onder die aandag van die kurator gebring dat die genoemde vereniging na projekte wat verband hou met natuurbe-
waring, soek om geldelik te ondersteun. 'n Bedrag van R250,00 is vir die doel aan die museum beskikbaar gestel.

Die kurator het 'n vendusie van 'n plaaslike kwekery bygewoon waar vyfjaar oue inheemse bome teen R3,00 per boom

(ROTHMAY CLUB)
MUSEUM



aangekoop is. Die Botaniese tuin te Nelspruit is besoek waar nog aankope gemaak is. 'n Totaal van 27 bome is vir R108,00 aangekoop.

In die tussentyd is daar begin om, met die hulp van gevangenisenhede, op die terrein skuinsagter die B.I.A.S.-gebou al die Tamboekiegras en ysterrommel te verwyder. Alle uitheemse bome is ook verwyder. 'n Oppervlakte van 4 800 vk meter is vir die doel skoongemaak. 'n Park-uitleg met aangeplante gras word beplan. Die gate is gegrawe en die grondmengsel vir die bome voorberei. Mnr. H. van der Watt, museumterreinopsigter, het 'n waterpypleiding na die terrein aangelê.

Op 09h00 op 12 Augustus 1988 het die museum personeel en museumvriende vir 'n koppie tee by die museumkantoor bymekaar gekom. Die aanwesiges het daarna na die terrein beweeg. Die kurator het almal welkom geheet en bedank vir die hulp wat verleen is om die boomplantdag suksesvol te maak.

Mev. Fiona Smith, lid van die "Wild Life Society" het die eerste boom geplant. Die museum personeel het elkeen 'n boom geplant. Daarna het die Biblioteek personeel en enkele vriende bome geplant. Mev. Rhona Millstein, wat verantwoordelik is vir die aalwyn-tuin langs die museumkantoor, het die boom van die jaar, die *Olea Africana* (Olienhout) aangeplant. Bome is ook namens die personeel wat met verlof was, aangeplant.

Die verteenwoordigers van die plaaslike koerant, *Die Laevelder*, mev. R. Strydom, het die geleentheid bygewoon en verslag gedoen.

'n Lys van boomsoorte, deur wie aangeplant het en waar geplant is vir rekord-doeleindes saamgestel. Daar word in die vooruitsig gestel om die fase van die museumontwikkeling, wat Fernleahuis insluit, binne 18 maande oop te stel vir die publiek.

Mej. Marilda de Klerk, opvoedkundige beampte van die museum, het elke boomplanter vir dokumentasie doeleindes gefotografeer. Swart en wit asook kleurskyfiesfilm is gebruik. Die kleurskyfies sal by 'n gepaste geleentheid aan die personeel vertoon word.

Naas Ferreira

"Great Trek" at the Barberton Museum

COVERS ENTIRE AREA BELOW DAM WALL

Once again the staff of the Barberton Museum are busy moving house. This time the contents of Stopforth House, which have all been packed up, are in the process of being transported and stored in all available places. The restoration of Stopforth House will

commence soon. With the unpacking of the outhouses many interesting objects which will be of great help in the restoration, were found.

Alison Bornman

Belhaven's Herb Garden

The first herb garden at Belhaven was neatly laid out in traditional style with rows of stone dividing the beds into squares. But it was not a success and the herbs refused to grow as they should — some were sparse and straggly while other didn't grow at all. The idea of a herb garden was an attractive one and the garden in general needed more points of interest. Help was required and so an expert Mrs Marie de Bruin was called in — a local farmer's wife, keen amateur herbalist and a good friend of Belhaven was invited to come and give her advice.

She saw the problem at once. The original site was nearly all in shade and most herbs need sun, she told me. If we were to have a successful herb garden we needed a new site. But what to do with the existing one? Situated beside the path leading from the back gate, it is not really suitable for flowers — but there are not problems once one has asked an expert to help!

Three beds were prepared — one above and two bordering the rose garden. Here we planted sun-loving herbs, keeping one bed exclusively for different types of mint which, if given a chance, are inclined to take over. Then we went back to the original plot and by pruning an overhanging tree, let in some more light and sun. For the squares that were still in shade, Marie suggested herbs that preferred less sun — rue, borage, comfrey, ground ivy, pennyroyal, lovage and even geraniums — and then

kindly donated some seedlings to start us off.

So I planted the seedlings and moved full grown, but sad and droopy plants from shade to sun. I watered and talked to our "babies" and then watched and waited. The results were quick and oh, so rewarding as the herbs responded and spread all over their new sites. We have prostrate rosemary creeping over on to the paths, we have lavender and lemon verbena to give a Victorian scented welcome; and then there is periwinkle, planted in the top bed so that it hangs down the stone wall into the lower one. There are all the usual herbs plus some unusual ones which had us running to our herb books for information — like yarrow (for heart complaints) and southernwood (for kidney problems). From the abundance there are bundles hanging to dry in the pantry, lavender and verbena in a basket to be added to pot-pourri and even slips and seedlings to be potted and given as little gifts to kind museum friends.

A final charming touch was added when Pilgrim's Rest gave us some green metal labels. With names painted in white and the labels suitably positioned, the herb garden "came to life" and has not only created a talking point for visitors but has opened up a whole new interest in both culinary and medicinal uses of our herbs.

Anz Jones

A busy Arbor Day at Barberton

BARBERTON — The Wildlife Society's Nelspruit Centre has several active members in Barberton and this year their Arbor Day activities were extended to include this town.

After consultation with the concerned people it was decided to plant a line of trees along Breda Street, opposite the circus grounds. These were planted by the Mayor, Mr Tinus Strydom, his wife, Mrs Angela Strydom, the Town Clerk, Mr Flip Boshoff and members of the SAP, Srg C.J. Niemand and AJO P.D. Perie.

The main activity was in historic Rimer's Creek where trees swept away by Domoina were replaced, the area having been recently cleared of exotic invader trees. Museum curator, Mr Naas Ferreira, and the Society committee have worked closely together. They are grateful for help and advice from friends and experts, especially Mr Bernard da

Souza for his donation of trees.

While these treeplanting ceremonies were performed in town, the Prison staff planted trees along the Pretorius dam on the prisons farm.

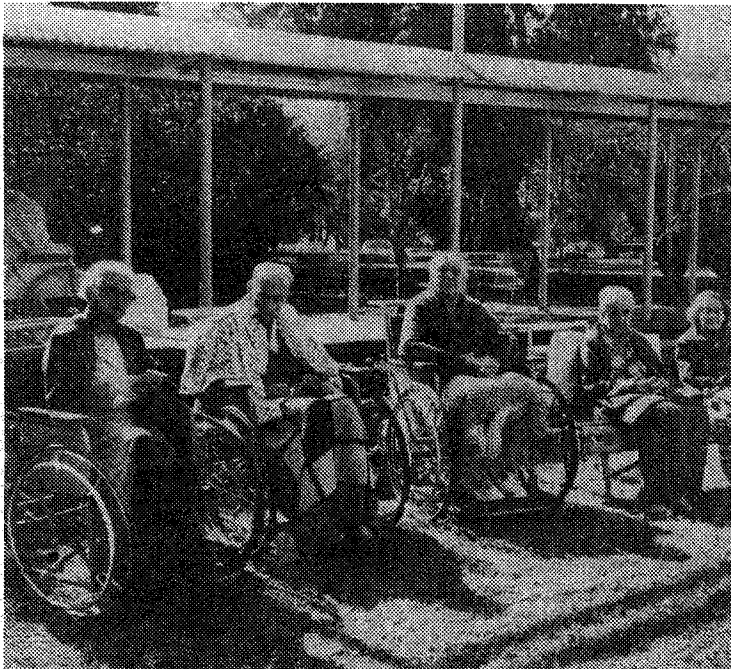


Last year the hospital involved the nursery schools to plant trees in the hospital grounds. This year they gave the inmates of the geriatric ward a chance to plant two specimens of the Tree of the Year, the Wild Olive.

The elderly were led, even wheeled, to the trees by hospital staff. Those with bad eyesight had to be guided as to where to aim the soil, shaky hands had to be supported but each did his small part to put a spade full of soil on a tree.



The Mayor, Mr Tinus Strydom and his wife, Mrs Angela Strydom at a tree planting ceremony.



The inmates of the geriatric ward of the Barberton Hospital lined up to take part in a tree planting ceremony.

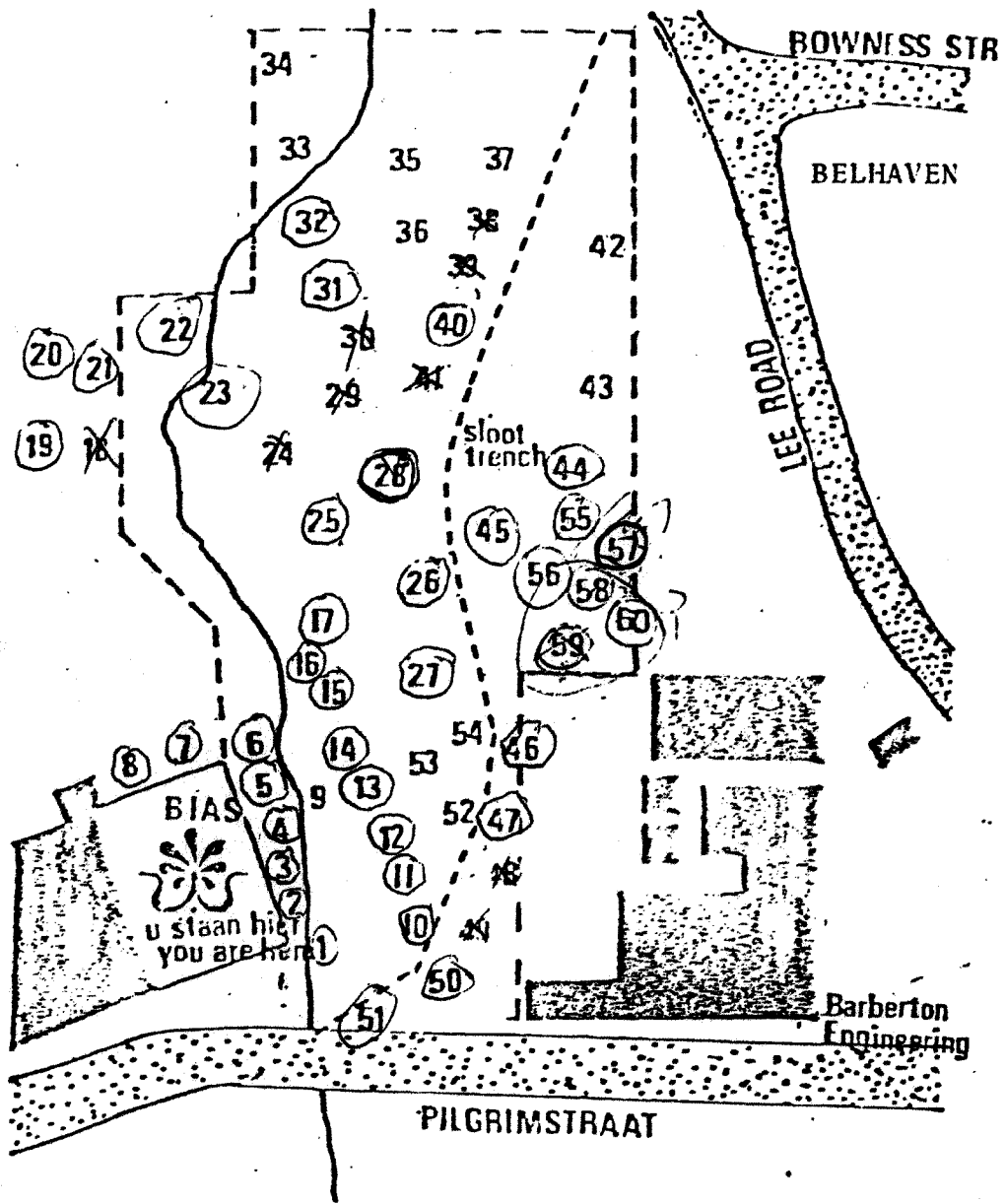


The Superintendent of the Barberton Hospital, Dr C. Oosthuizen assists Mrs C. Marigold at the tree planting.



Three members of the Wildlife Society at the tree planting in Rimer's Creek. At work is Mrs Rhona Milstein, Mrs Fiona Smith and Mrs Ann

TERREIN C : BOME IN CREEK



BARBERTON MUSEUM RIMER'S CREEK RESERVE '11

BOME GEPLANT OP 12 AUGUSTUS 1988

NR OP PLAN	BOOM NR	BOTANIESE NAAM	NOEMNAAM	GEPLANT DEUR	ORGANISASIE
A	678	Kigelia africana	Worsboom	Mev Fiona Smith	Wild Life Ass
B	202	Schottia brachypetala	Hullboerboom	Mev Ann Jones	Museum
C	301	Trichelia enetica	Rooi Essenhout	Mnr H van der Watt	Museum
D	564	Cussonia spicata	Kiepersol	Mev M van Niekerk	Biblioteek
E	503	Trimeria grandiflora	Wilde Moerbeel	Mev Rina Botha	Biblioteek
F	632	Onthocleista grandiflora	Boskoorsboom	Natus Ferreira	Kurator se seun
G	202	Schottia brachypetala	Hullboerboom	Mev A Borrihan	Museum
H	245	Erythrina caffra	Koraalboom	Mev F Müller	Museum
I	647	Rainolfia caffra	Kinaboom	Mev O Sturgeon	Biblioteek
J	386	Rhus lanceae	Kareeboom	Mev M de Klerk	Museum
K	617	Olea europaea (subspesie africana)	Olienhout	Mev Rona Milstein	Vriend van Museum
L	189	Acasia xanthophloea	Koorsboom	Mej Christina Maseko	Museum
M	202	Schottia brachypetala	Hullboerboom	Josiah Matsilela	Museum
N	341	Spirostachys africana	Tambotie	Mnr Jan Muller	Vriend van Museum
O	341	Spirostachys africana	Tambotie	Mev P Smal	Museum
P	227	Millettia grandis	Umzumbet	Josias Maluleka	Museum
Q	28	Aloe Bainsii	Boomaalwyn	Mnr Naas Ferreira	Museum (Kurator)
R	189	Acacia xanthophloea	Koorsboom	Mev Emily Ferreira	Vrou van Kurator
S	245	Erythrina caffra	Koraalboom	Thomas Maboenda	Museum
T	632	Anthocleisto grandiflora	Boskoorsboom	John Jones	Vriend van Museum
U	677	Markhamia acuminata	Klökkiesboontjieboom	Rienkie Msibi	Museum

NR OP PLAN	BOOM NR	BOTANIESE NAAM	NOEMNAAM	GEPLANT DEUR	ORGANISASIE
V	564	Cussonia spicata	Kiepersol	Mej Fmelize Ferreira	Kurator se dogter
W	433	Pappia capensis	Doppruim	Obed Maseko	Museum
X	298(2)	Ekebergia pterphylla	Basternieshout	Nicholas Bornman	Seun van Nev Bornman
Y	471	Dombeya rotundifolia	Drolpeer	Mev van der Watt	Museum
Z	397	Ilex mitis	Cape Holly	Mnr Japie van Niekerk	Vriend van Museum
A1	555	Syzygium cordatum	Waterbessie	Joshua Chauke	Museum

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned,

ALEXANDER BAILEY POHL

I.D. No.

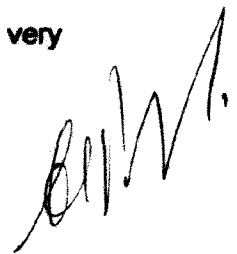
311105 504 208

of

57 SHEBA ROAD, BARBERTON

hereby declare under oath that:

1. I am an adult male and businessman presently residing in Barberton, Mpumalanga.
2. I served as a Councillor with Barberton Municipality, which subsequently became known as Umjindi Municipality, for a period of 35 years from approximately 1971 to 2006. I held the position of Mayor for 8 years.
3. I confirm the existence of a Memorial Tree Park in Rimer's Creek in the area behind the museum and the Irricon buildings extending towards the area below the dam wall. I was Mayor at this time and personally involved in the tree planting ceremony. In this regard museum records confirm that 60 indigenous trees were planted as part of Rotary anniversary celebrations on 26 April 1980 at a well attended ceremony including municipal officials and representatives from Nature Conservation.
4. I can also confirm that trees washed away during the floods around 1984 were replaced in a further tree planting ceremony on 12 August 1988. This is also confirmed in museum records.
5. I can further confirm that these trees flourished and the area became a very attractive, well maintained tree park and an area popular with locals.




- 6. I can also unequivocally state that during construction of the dam in Rimer's Creek around 1992 deep excavation was confined to the area in the immediate vicinity of the dam.

- 7. I can further unequivocally state that during my time as a councillor, it was council policy that all industrial operations be moved to the industrial area.



DEPONENT

The Deponent has acknowledged that he/she knows and understands the contents of this affidavit, which was signed and sworn before me at BARBERTON on this the 13th day of September 2010, the regulations contained in Government Notice No. 1258 of 21 July 1972, as amended, and Government Notice No. R 1648 of 17 August 1977, as amended, having been complied with.



2128718 2010-09-13
SUID-APRKAANBEHOORDELS
GEMEENSKAPDIENSTENTRUM
COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTRE
BARBERTON
POLICE SERVICE
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned,

BARBARA ANN MACAULAY

I.D. No.

330611 0035 084

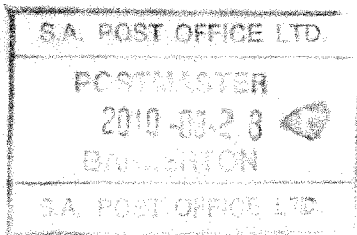
of

4 SAUNDERS STREET, BARBERTON

hereby declare under oath that:

1. I am a retired adult female and have resided in close proximity to the proposed development since 1966.
2. Almost every day of my life since then I have either walked in this area or driven past it. My children also spent their growing up years in the area.
3. I can confirm the existence of a Rotary Memorial Tree Park in Rimer's Creek in the area behind the museum and Iricon buildings extending towards the area below the dam wall. 60 indigenous trees were planted here in 1980 and dedicated to various pioneers, companies and individuals as part of Rotary anniversary celebrations.
4. Trees that were lost during the floods of 1984 were replaced a few years later and the area subsequently developed into a very attractive Tree Park.
5. I can further confirm that this area was always a well loved, well utilized, well maintained and popular area with local Barbertonians up until the past 3 years or so. Unfortunately during recent times the municipality has failed to maintain this beautiful asset to our town.

S. Boshoff



6. Since my retirement in 1987 I walked the area from Rimer's Creek across to Rose's Creek for many years and still walk my dogs every day but my ramblings nowadays are confined to the mountains above my home.
7. Since 1966 I have seen heavy earthmoving machinery present on two occasions in the area between the Irricon and Museum buildings and where the dam is today.
8. The first occasion was in 1992 during construction of the dam and I can unequivocally state that deep excavation only took place in immediate vicinity of the dam.
9. The second occasion was on a Sunday during May 2007 when I personally witnessed heavy machinery bulldozing the area behind the Irricon property. Cutting down of trees took place prior to the bulldozing.

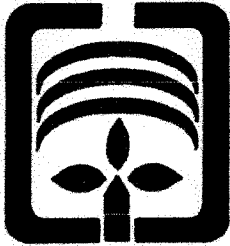

DEPONENT

The Deponent has acknowledged that he/she knows and understands the contents of this affidavit, which was signed and sworn before me at BARBERTON on this the 20th day of September 2010, the regulations contained in Government Notice No. 1258 of 21 July 1972, as amended, and Government Notice No. R 1648 of 17 August 1977, as amended, having been complied with.

L. Baskoff
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

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2010-09-23
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Herman Bosua & ASSOCIATE ASSOCIATES

(EDMS) BPK / (PTY) LTD REG. Nr./No. 98/10270/07

RAADGEWENDE INGENIEURS / CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Datum
Date 2010-08-26

U verw.
Your ref.

Ons verw.
Our ref. BtnRPAss/001

Presidentstraat 36
Barberton Rep. Van Suid Afrika
788 Barberton 1300
☎ (013) 712 4071/3
☎ (013) 712 5702
E-pos: hbh_comp@soft.co.za

36 President Street
Barberton Rep. of South Africa
788 Barberton 1300
☎ (013) 712 4071/3
☎ (013) 712 5702
E-mail: hbh_comp@soft.co.za

FOR ATTENTION: Andy Nuns

P.O. Box 5014
Barberton
Mpumalanga


Dear Sir,

Re: Your communication as attached

I hereby confirm the statements to be correct but wish to point out that I was not directly involved with the selection of indigenous trees to be left untouched during the park development by Mr. Sybert Louw but only with regard to the layout of the irrigation system which allowed for the overall irrigation of the park without requiring the removal of selected trees which final position and layout was determined by Mr. Sybert Louw.

The danger of flood water deviation is increasingly probable towards the dam from the existing buildings in the direction of the eastern edge of the existing earthworks.

Yours sincerely


Herman Bosua (Director)
Reception/BtnRPAss/001

Herman

From: "Ratepayer's Committee" <rpcommittee@icon.co.za>
To: <herman@hbasso.co.za>
Sent: 26 August 2010 09:29 AM
Subject: Building of dam and grading of area below the dam wall
Hi Herman

Thanks for meeting with Boet and I on Tuesday to clarify the sequence of events in Rimer's Creek at the time of building the dam in 1992.

You confirmed that:

- The Affidavit signed by you was prepared at the request of Lucas Louw who drew up the Affidavit.
- In addition to Syringas and Jacarandas etc on site, indigenous trees and shrubs were present in the area below the dam wall up to the Irricon and Museum buildings.
- trees/shrubs which were to be retained were identified prior to grading to ensure that they were not removed.
- In the course of developing the proposed park area between the dam wall and the Irricon/Museum premises light surface grading took place using the same heavy duty equipment that was used on the dam. Where necessary, this equipment was also used to remove and reposition rocks in the proposed park area. The work was carried out very carefully as the parties concerned were ever mindful of the fragile asbestos main water pipes running below the surface of the site. From the foregoing we understand that heavy grading and deep excavations, using heavy duty equipment, were restricted to the area in the immediate vicinity of the dam.

Whilst Boet confirmed that he had been involved in the Rotary indigenous tree planting ceremony as Mayor (we have a newspaper photograph of him planting one), we appreciate that you personally were not aware of this ceremony as it took place in 1980. According to newspaper articles and museum documents Trees destroyed by Demoina were replaced in 1988 and one which subsequently died was replaced in 1989.

You also confirmed to us that in your opinion if Irricon built a wall along the banks of the creek or in close proximity to it, it could have the effect of pushing flood waters onto the Museum and other premises.

We would appreciate it if you would confirm in writing that our above understanding is correct. We have limited time to respond to comments in the EIA draft assessment so we would appreciate it if the response could be done as soon as possible and we will fetch the letter when ready

Thanks for your assistance once again.

Andy Nuns

Chairman Barberton/Umjindi Ratepayers Association

Jeff Barbra REFER
LETTER REF: BDR/PA/001 AS
ATTACHED, DATED 26/08/2010

Barberton/Umjindi Ratepayers Association

P O Box 5014

2010/08/26

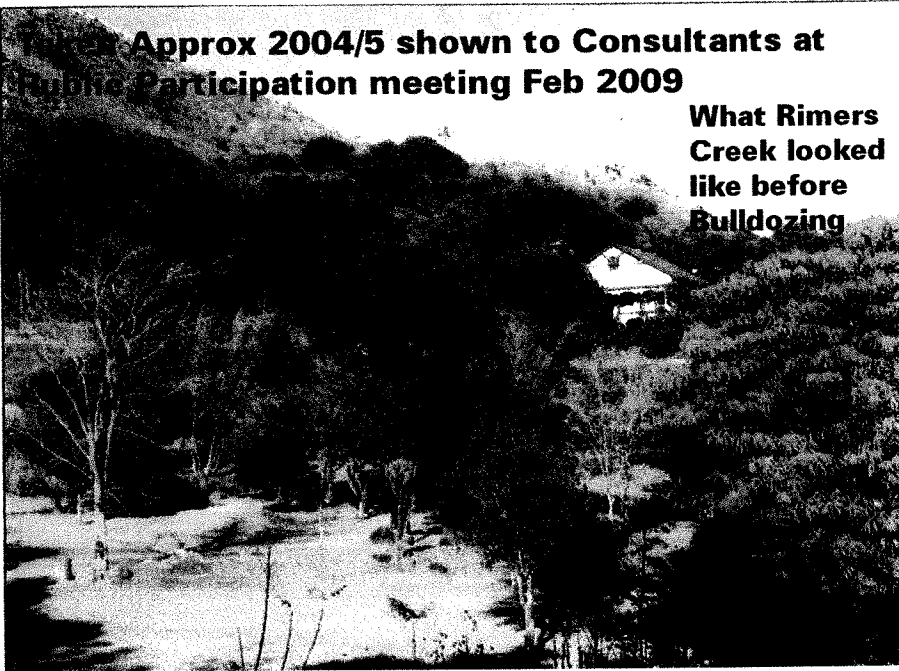
RIMER'S PARK

1. THE GOOGLE IMAGE BELOW SHOWS THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE WITHIN THE YELLOW LINES AND GIVES AN INDICATION OF THE NUMBER OF TREES BEFORE ILLEGAL BULLDOZING IN MAY 2007.
2. THE REMAINING PORTION OF RIMER'S PARK IS SHOWN WITHIN THE GREEN LINES.
3. THIS IMAGE INDICATES THAT THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AREA WILL OCCUPY APPROXIMATELY 25% OF THE FLAT USABLE AREA OF RIMER'S PARK.



**Taken Approx 2004/5 shown to Consultants at
Public Participation meeting Feb 2009**

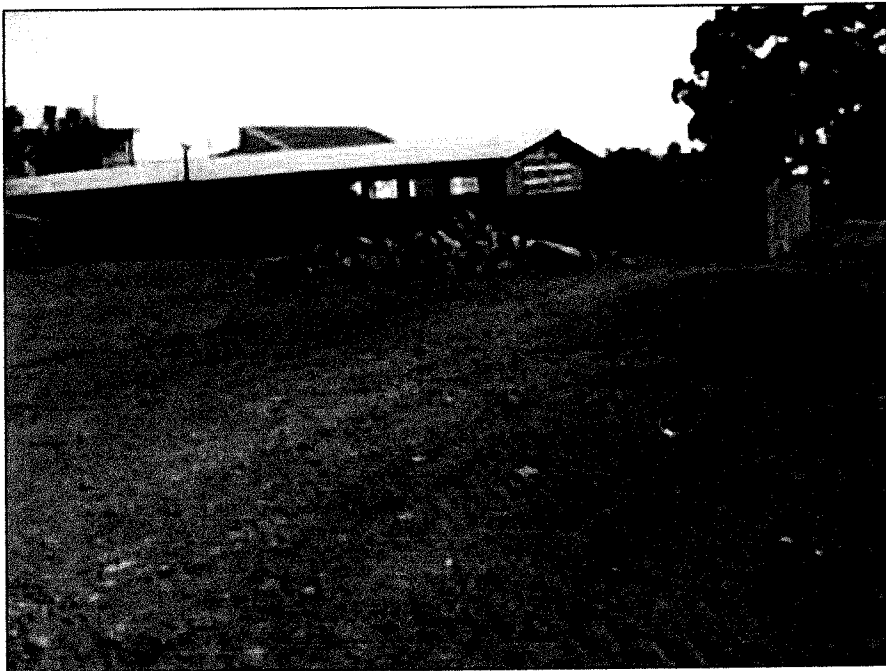
**What Rimers
Creek looked
like before
Bulldozing**



**ORIGINAL STATE OF
SECTION OF TREE
PARK TAKEN
AROUND 2004
BEFORE ILLEGAL
BULLDOZING
DURING MAY 2007**

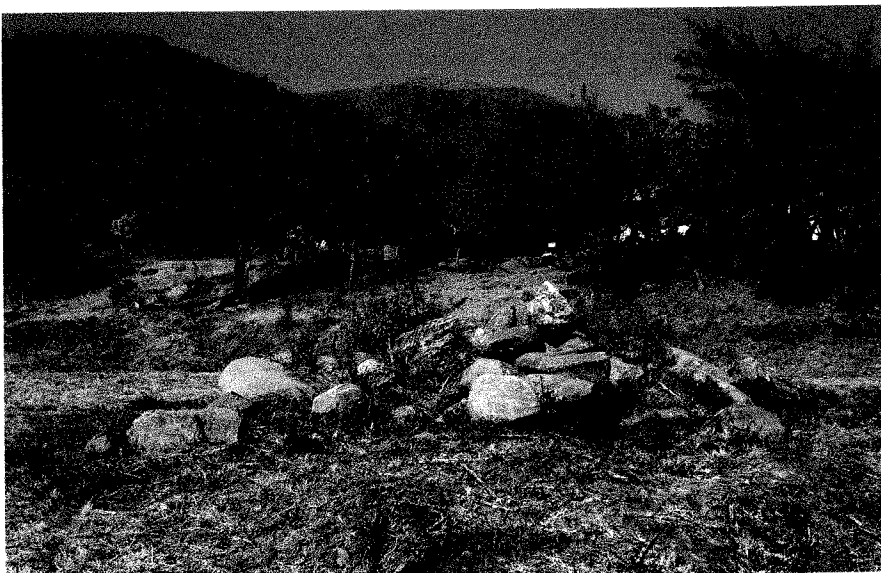
**This is also the historic
and irreplaceable site of
the CENTRAL MILL
which is required for the
parking of heavy
abnormal trucks**

**Belhaven historical
home is shown in the
background**



**STATE OF TREE PARK
IMMEDIATELY AFTER
ILLEGAL
BULLDOZING IN
MAY 2007**

**A section of the CUT
SLOPE can be seen
towards the top left of
the photograph in front
of the Irricon Building**



**STATE OF THE TREE
PARK 16 MONTHS
AFTER BULLDOZING
IN SEPT 2008**

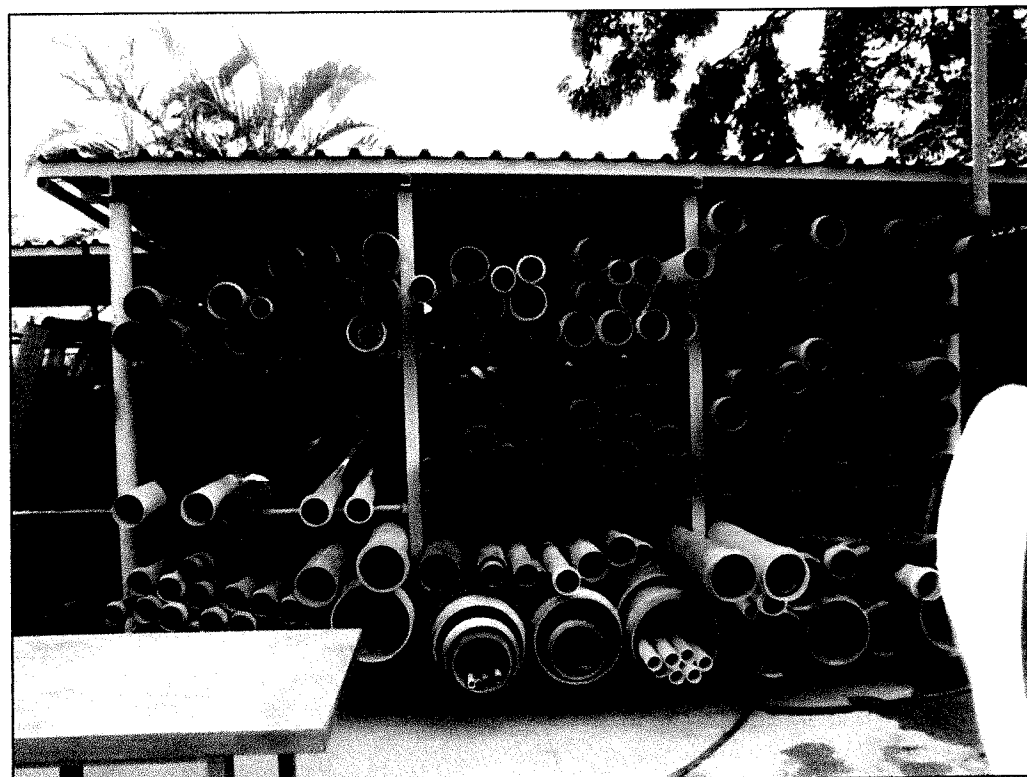
**Taken from a similar
position to first photo and
gives an indication of
trees removed.**

**Sections of the cut slope,
which vary in depth
between approximately 1
and 2 metres, can also be
seen behind the pile of
rocks.**

THE IRREPLACEABLE HISTORIC SITE OF THE CENTRAL MILL, SURROUNDED BY HISTORICAL BUILDINGS, IS REQUIRED FOR THE **PARKING OF TRUCKS, HEAVY MOBILE MACHINERY AND PIPE STORAGE** (see below) THE DEVELOPMENT IS BEING PUT FORWARD AS **LIGHT INDUSTRIAL!!!**



This photo was taken on Heritage Walk next to Barberton's museum. This area is **obviously** not conducive to this kind of traffic which belongs in an industrial area.

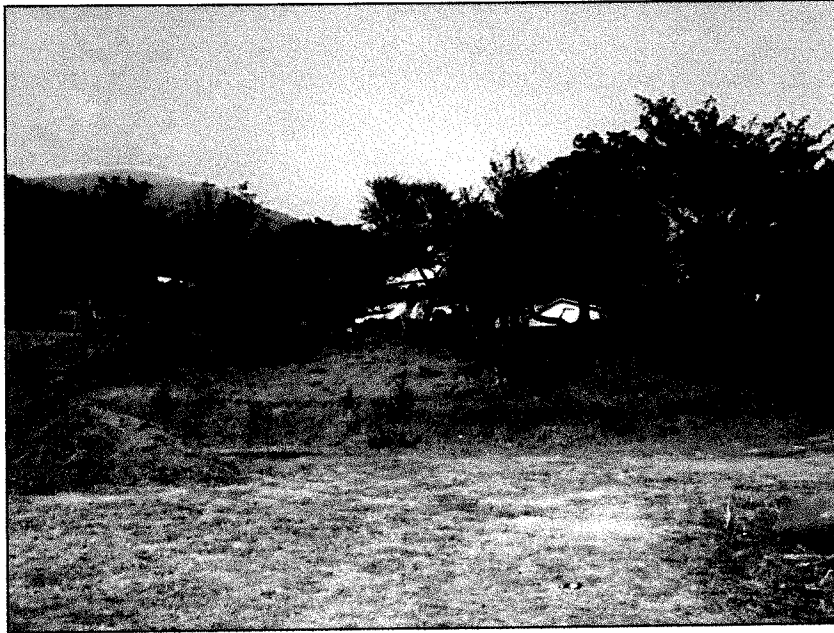


The noisy sound of angle grinders cutting pipes can be heard throughout the day and this kind of activity also belongs in the industrial area

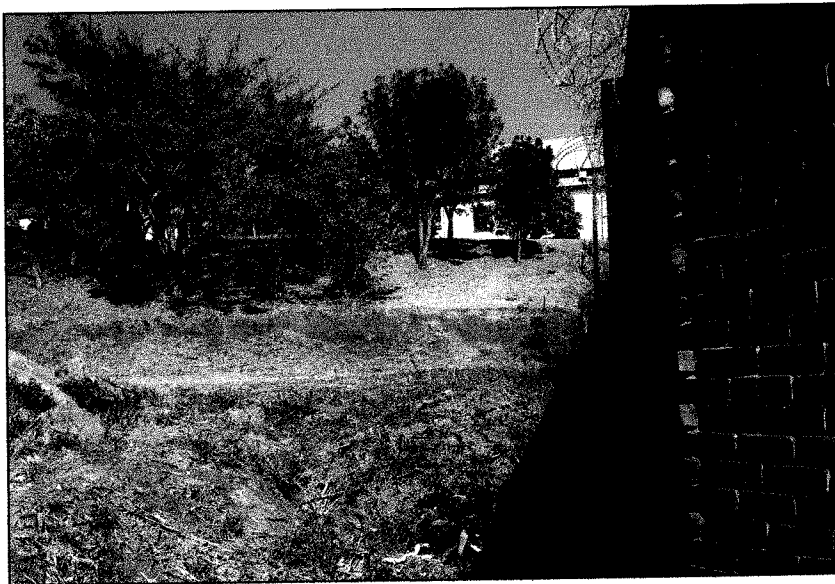
**NOT IN
HERITAGE
WALK NEXT
TO OUR
MUSEUM
AND
HISTORICAL
BUILDINGS**

1. VIEW OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT SITE (PHOTOGRAPHED 16 MONTHS AFTER BULLDOZING) THAT WILL BE SEEN FROM HERITAGE WALK AND BELHAVEN HISTORICAL HOME (shown below) .
2. THIS IS ALSO THE SITE OF THE HISTORIC CENTRAL MILL THAT FORMED PART OF A WELL DEVELOPED INDIGENOUS TREE PARK PRIOR TO BULLDOZING IN MAY 2008 (Refer Annexure 6)





**EAP's
PHOTOGRAPH
SHOWING
SECTION OF
OBVIOUS CUT
SLOPE – TAKEN
16 MONTHS
AFTER
BULLDOZING IN
SEPTEMBER 2008.
BELHAVEN
HISTORICAL
HOME CAN BE
SEEN IN THE
BACKGROUND**



**EAP's
PHOTOGRAPH
SHOWING
FURTHER
SECTION OF CUT
SLOPE – ALSO
TAKEN 16
MONTHS AFTER
BULLDOZING IN
SEPTEMBER 2008
THE HISTORIC
LODGE OF ST
JOHN IN THE
SOUTH CAN BE
SEEN IN THE
BACKGROUND**

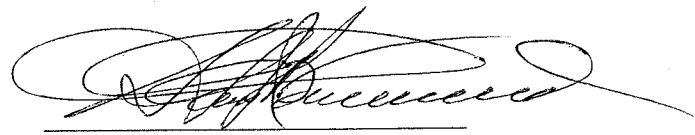


**I&AP RECENT
PHOTOGRAPH
(NOV 2010)
SHOWING
SECTION OF CUT
SLOPE FROM
DIFFERENT
ANGLE.
DEPTH OF CUT
SLOPE VARIES
BETWEEN
APPROXIMATELY
ONE AND TWO
METRES**

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned, JOHANNES JURGENS BORNMAN, of 19 Palmyra, Rimer Street, Barberton, hereby declare under oath that:

1. I am an adult male, writer and historian presently residing in Barberton, Mpumalanga.
2. I am author of several books, including local history and Barberton's gold rush days.
3. I fully concur with Dr Kusel regarding the site of the Central Mill as detailed in his Cultural Heritage Resources Impact Assessment carried out as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in respect of the disputed area in Rimer's Creek.
4. I also confirm that photographs No 3 and No 4 in this report are both of the Central Mill taken from different angles. Photograph No 5 shows the foundation of the Central Mill.
5. A visit to the site indicated by Dr Kusel will confirm this as both the background view of the mountains shown in photograph No. 3 and the position in relation to historical buildings detailed in No. 4 will be evident from this area.
4. The site indicated by the Applicant on HC02 is unsubstantiated by any facts or evidence but is also countered by the fact that the view from this area will not match the background shown on photograph No. 3, nor will the historical buildings shown on photograph No. 4 feature either.

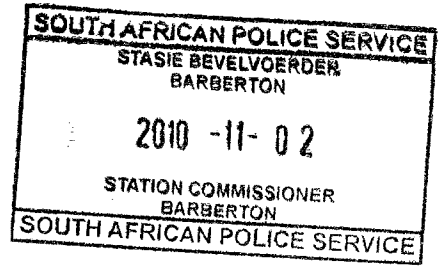


DEPONENT

The Deponent has acknowledged that he/she knows and understands the contents of this affidavit, which was signed and sworn before me at BARBERTON on this the 02 day of November 2010, the regulations contained in Government Notice No. 1258 of 21 July 1972, as amended, and Government Notice No. R 1648 of 17 August 1977, as amended, having been complied with.

70369101
SK
Rolli
S.M. du P.

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS



AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned,

TERENCE NORRIE THORNCROFT MATTHEWS I.D. NO. 2105205038081

of **10 DE VILLIERS STREET, BARBERTON**

hereby make oath and state that:

I was born in Barberton in 1921 and have spent all my life here.

In the past, many family members spent time with my wife René, and I, and Rimer's Creek was a very special place for the family, and a popular venue for a Sunday afternoon walk.

When René passed away during 1990 the obvious place to scatter her ashes was in Rimer's Creek and during November 1990 these were placed in the Creek, at Fernlea House, during a small ceremony with friends and family.

René had a brother, Robert Andresen, whose wife, Sheena, is still alive today. Around 1997 Robert also passed away and Sheena brought his ashes to Barberton for scattering in their very special place, Rimer's Creek. There was no water flowing in Rimer's Creek at the time so Sheena selected a lovely spot under some large shady trees, forming part of the Rotary Memorial Garden, planted in 1980, in memory of citizens of Barberton who had contributed to the growth and prosperity of the town. These trees were subsequently bulldozed around April 2007.

T.N. Matthews

DEPONENT

I CERTIFY THAT THE DEPONENT HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE/SHE KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT WHICH WAS SIGNED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME AT BARBERTON ON THIS 1st DAY OF APRIL 2009 AND THAT HE/SHE HAS NO OBJECTION TO TAKING THE PRESCRIBED OATH AND CONSIDERS SAME TO BE BINDING ON HIS/HER CONSCIENCE.

C.L.L. Robus
C.L.L. Robus
11/4/09
CHARLES LOUIS ROBUS
KOMMISSARIS VAN EDE
HUWELIKSBEVESTIGER - REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA
SHEBAWEG 11
BARBERTON
1300

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned,

CLIFFORD NORRIE MATTHEWS

I.D. No.

520309 5125 089

of


15 Boon Street, Barberton

hereby declare under oath that:

1. I am an adult male currently residing in Barberton.
2. Rimer's Creek is a special place for me and where I've spent many happy hours of my life walking in the area and picnicking with my family.
3. Rimer's Creek was also a special place for my parents, and other family members, and a popular venue for a Sunday afternoon walk.
4. As such, when my mother (René) passed away in 1990, her ashes were scattered in the Creek at Fernlea House during a small ceremony with family and friends in November 1990.
5. My mother's brother, Robert Andresen, (my Uncle Bob) passed away around 1997 and his wife Sheena (who is alive today) brought his ashes to Barberton for scattering in their special place, Rimer's Creek. There was no water flowing in the creek at the time so Sheena selected a lovely spot under some large trees in the park area below the Blockhouse, towards the dam wall.

Ek verklaar dat C.N. Matthews
voor my verklaar het dat
die inhoud korrek is
C.N. Matthews

6001245089083

Geeërtuigde 'n ware afskrif van die oorspronklike dokument.

CHARLES LOUIS ROBUS (BD 24312) Kommissaris van Ede Huweliksbeampte, R.S.A. Forbus 14395 Shortla 0129

CR 04

- 6. These trees were subsequently destroyed during 2007 when the area was bulldozed.
- 7. I was present at both of the above ceremonies and can state unequivocally that neither area was overrun with scrap iron, weeds or vagrants at the time.

Math

DEPONENT

The Deponent has acknowledged that he/she knows and understands the contents of this affidavit, which was signed and sworn before me at BARBERTON on this the 30th day of August 2010, the regulations contained in Government Notice No. 1258 of 21 July 1972, as amended, and Government Notice No. R 1648 of 17 August 1977, as amended, having been complied with.

CL Robus

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

6001245089083

besertifiseer 'n ware afskrif van die oorspronklike
dokument.

CL Robus

CHARLES LOUIS ROBUS (BD 24312)
Kommissaris van Ede
Huweliksbevestiger, R.S.A.
Postbus 14305 Sinoville 0129

ur
cl

AFFIDAVIT

I, the undersigned,

ELIZABETH FRANCINA MINNAAR

I.D. No.

501225.0065083

of

JUDGE STR. 24 BARBERTON

hereby declare under oath that:

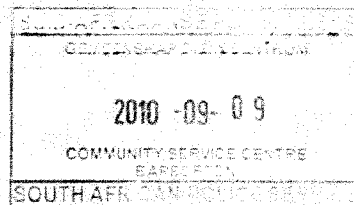
1. I am joint owner of the *Lodge of St. John in the South* situated on the corner of Lea Road and Pilgrim Streets, Barberton, and I am totally opposed to the proposed Irricon development into the historical Rimer's Creek area.
2. The unacceptable and continual noise of angle grinders, clanging pipes and heavy truck traffic can be heard throughout the day and I believe that this type of industry belongs in an industrial area.
3. This area also forms part of Heritage Walk and is surrounded by several historical buildings that also form part of a tourism node that must be protected.
4. As a directly affected property owner I believe this development will significantly reduce the value of my property.
5. To compromise this area for the storage of pipes and the parking of heavy vehicles is outrageously wrong and goes against all town planning norms.

E. Minnaar

DEPONENT

I hereby certify that the deponent states that he/she understands the contents of the declaration and to the best of his/her knowledge is the truth, which declaration is signed and sworn to me at BARBERTON GAPS on this 09 day of 09 2010 and that the provisions as set in Government Notice No. R1648 of August 1977, as amended, have been complied with.

M. P. Mabau 7006347-9 RICK
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS



AFFIDAVIT

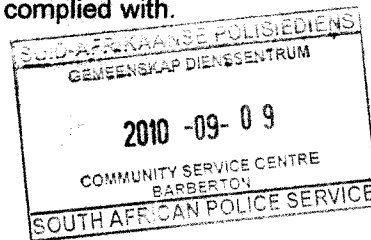
I, the undersigned, Wilhelmina Catharina Le Roux
 I.D. No. 591001 0069 081
 of 24 Judge street, Barberton

hereby declare under oath that:

1. I am joint owner of the *Lodge of St. John in the South* situated on the corner of Lea Road and Pilgrim Streets, Barberton, and I am totally opposed to the proposed Irricon development into the historical Rimer's Creek area.
2. The unacceptable and continual noise of angle grinders, clanging pipes and heavy truck traffic can be heard throughout the day and I believe that this type of industry belongs in an industrial area.
3. This area also forms part of Heritage Walk and is surrounded by several historical buildings that also form part of a tourism node that must be protected.
4. As a directly affected property owner I believe this development will significantly reduce the value of my property.
5. To compromise this area for the storage of pipes and the parking of heavy vehicles is outrageously wrong and goes against all town planning norms.

De R. Le Roux
DEPONENT

I hereby certify that the deponent states that he/she understands the contents of the declaration and to the best of his/her knowledge is the truth, which declaration is signed and sworn to me at BARBERTON SAPS on this 09 day of 09 2010 and that the provisions as set in Government Notice No. R1648 of August 1977, as amended, have been complied with.



7006347-9 Rikst
P. M. M. M. M.
COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

UMJINDI ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

P O Box 5014
BARBERTON
1300

Tel & Fax: (013) 712-7449

17 March 2009

Mr Jaco Kleynhans
Jaco – K Consulting
P O Box 6027
MIDDELBURG
1050

Dear Jaco

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS FOR LEADAL PROPERTY INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD

At the public meeting held on 23 February 2009, it was indicated that Jaco K Consulting would be carrying out all the relevant assessments for the proposed Irricon development into historical Rimer's Creek, without the involvement of specialists. This subsequently changed when Mr Moduka pointed out that a Heritage Impact Assessment would definitely be required.

Feedback from the community has indicated to us that due to the contentious nature of this issue and the many alleged irregularities and misunderstandings surrounding the attempted alienation, it will be in everyone's best interests that independent experts carry out the necessary assessments. As clearly indicated by the public's inputs at the 23rd February meeting, this development is considered so outrageously wrong for Rimer's Creek and our Eco Heritage Town, that the community believes this to be essential.

In this regard we believe the following assessments are required:

1.	<p>Noise Assessment: The cutting and joining of heavy metal pipes with angle-grinders and welding hammers frequently provide loud aggravating noise levels, highly disturbing within $\pm 100\text{m}$ of the existing Irricon building (Museum, Heritage Walk, residential properties, guesthouse, etc.) and can be heard up to 250m away. The proposed expansion will result in increased noise from these and other sources (heavy trucks & machinery) and an acoustic engineer is required to monitor existing noise levels and assess future impacts.</p>	
2.	<p>Traffic Assessment: As per Mrs Peterson's presentation (23 Feb public meeting) extra long 'abnormal' trucks already create traffic problems in an area not appropriate for industrial traffic. The proposed extension intends more pipe storage and heavy machinery/truck traffic. Increased traffic congestion is inevitable. The impact of such increased traffic hazard</p>	

	requires assessment by suitably qualified road traffic & safety engineers.	
3.	Sense of Place / Visual Impact Assessment: The logic of 'zoning' in town planning, disqualifies industrial development in a public park cultural/tourism precinct. Industrial activities are highly disturbing in the midst of museums, national monuments and residential properties. There is a history of compulsory translocation of industrial businesses from the area. Umjindi Local Municipality advertises available industrial areas for development. The application serves to deny these realities. Because of this, a specialist assessor is required to determine the <i>Sense of Place</i> and <i>Visual Impact</i> of the proposal and all structures and activities that might occur on the site.	
4.	Socio-economic Impact Analysis: As per Mrs Brandt's presentation (23 Feb meeting) the proposed development will have little local socio economic benefit compared to other potential uses of the land: linked to tourism projects and cultural uses proposed for the area. A socio-economic comparative analysis is required to illustrate these potentials.	

Finally, could you please also provide clarity on the following:

- Please advise when these studies will be carried out and what part, if any, the community will play;
- Please assure us that these studies will form part of the Basic Assessment package submitted to DALA.

We trust that you will be able to respond specifically to all of these issues.

Yours sincerely

M Nuns (Mrs)

for
A A FERRAR
 Chairman
 Umjindi Environmental Committee