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# ADANSONIA HERITAGE CONSULTANTS

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TO: SAHRA  
Att: Mr. Phillip Hine / Ms. Jenna Lavin  
Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit  
From: Adansonia Heritage Consultants  
Christine (van Wyk) Rowe  
Date: 12 December 2013

## REQUEST FOR PERMISSIN TO MOVE THE ROOIDRAAI ROCK ENGRAVING

### Background:

An archaeological scoping assessment was conducted in 2006 on the *remainder of portion 7 of the farm Rooidraai 34 JT*, on the outskirts of the town Lydenburg (Mashishing), Mpumalanga. A section on the farm is earmarked for the Panorama (Lydenburg) Mall development.

A Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) was conducted in April 2006 (Phase 1 HIA for the Morning Tide Development Complex, by Archaeology Africa cc, P. Birkholtz), (SAHRA Arch. Ref. 9/2/236/0002). A review comment by SAHRA, was issued on 23 October 2007. The rock engraving site (identified in the report by Mr. Birkholtz) was listed as RDR 8.

The review comment by SAHRA (23 October 2007) stated the following:

- The rock engraving (RDR 8) must be preserved *in situ* and a surrounding buffer zone must be demarcated. A management plan which includes monitoring during the construction and operational phases and sustainable conservation must be compiled.

A documentation report and management plan was conducted in August 2013, by Adansonia Heritage Consultants (C. van Wyk Rowe). A permit application (by A. Pelsler) is currently pending for the excavation and destruction of the poorly defined Late Iron Age site (RDR 7) which is closest to the engraving site RDR 8.

The owners / developers, Thornby Mellows One (Pty) Ltd, of the Panorama (Lydenburg) Mall, initially planned to incorporate the site as part of a feature in the development and to preserve it *in situ* as a green open space. The site was also fenced in with a locked gate to protect it during the construction phase (see Fig. 2).