

THE PROPOSED MINING OF QUARRY 6B ASSOCIATED WITH THE UPGRADE OF NATIONAL ROAD R573 (MOLOTO ROAD), GAUTENG PROVINCE

Our Ref: 15855



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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Date: Thursday April 29, 2021
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CaseID: 15855

Final Comment

In terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act (Act 25 of 1999)

Attention: South African National Roads Agency - Northern Region

Private Bag x 17
Lynnwood Ridge
0040

It is the intention of the South African National Roads Agency Soc Ltd to establish various Quarries to provide the necessary construction materials for the proposed upgrading of national road R573-1 (K139) from Stormvoël Road in Tshwane (km 0,00) to the Gauteng / Mpumalanga Provincial Border (\pm 48.00 km). The proposed Quarry 6B is located directly west of the N1 highway, and approximately 600m north west from the Pumulani Toll Plaza. The Petroport Panorama West Total Garage is approximately 1.8km north and the Doornpoort residential area approximately 3km south west of the proposed site. The site centre geographic coordinates are 25°37'44.23" S, 28°16'15.04" E.

Van Schalkwyk, J. March 2021. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Proposed Establishment Of Quarry 6B For Sourcing Material To Be Used For The Upgrade Of Section 1 Of National Road R573 (Moloto Road), Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails the upgrading of National Road R573 (K139) Section 1 from Stormvoël Road in Tshwane (km 0,00) to the Gauteng/Mpumalanga Provincial Border (+ 48.00 km). In order to achieve this, a number of quarries and borrow pits have been identified from where the required raw material will be sourced from.

The assessment identified the following heritage resources:

- Late Iron Age sites: Four to five Late Iron Age stone walled settlement units. The sites date to the period c. 1600 to 1830s and were probably occupied by any of the large number of Tswanaspeaking groups that occupied the larger region.
- Historic village: At present it is unsure as to exactly who stayed here and for what period of time. Surnames found in the cemetery on the farm include Mahlangu and Ndlovu and date between 1925 and 1953. The structures are very typical of what is found all over the region and probably served as homesteads for

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labourers on the farm, although some might have been migrant workers, working in town. Cattle kraals and small-stock pens are associated with each homestead. Agricultural fields were located on the plains area to the south.

The author states that, although mitigation (archaeological excavation and documentation) is possible, it is not recommended as these sites have high significance. The author notes that it would also be a long and costly exercise to implement mitigation measures. The author recommends that, due to the immense overall threat by mining, quarrying and urban developments on this type of Iron Age sites and historic settlements in the larger countryside, it is recommended that the proposed quarrying activities should not be allowed to continue on this site (Quarry 6B).

The SA Palaeontological Sensitivity Map indicates that the study area has Insignificant fossil sensitivity.

Final Comment

SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit supports the recommendations of the author that, due to the immense overall threat by mining, quarrying and urban developments on this type of Iron Age sites and historic settlements in the larger countryside, the proposed quarrying activities should not be allowed to continue on this site (Quarry 6B).

Should you have any further queries, please contact the designated official using the case number quoted above in the case header.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Salomon
Heritage Officer: Archaeology
South African Heritage Resources Agency

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Phillip Hine
Manager: Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit
South African Heritage Resources Agency

ADMIN:

Direct URL to case: <https://sahris.sahra.org.za/node/547345>
(, Ref: Not yet assigned)

Terms & Conditions:

1. This approval does not exonerate the applicant from obtaining local authority approval or any other necessary approval for proposed work.
2. If any heritage resources, including graves or human remains, are encountered they must be reported to SAHRA immediately.
3. SAHRA reserves the right to request additional information as required.