



an agency of the
Department of Arts and Culture

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CaseID: 17778

Date: Wednesday May 25, 2022
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Final Comment

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

Attention: Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport

The Proposed Rehabilitation and Repair of the Major Culvert along Road R551, Midvaal Local Municipality, Gauteng Province

Van Schalkwyk, J. August 2021. Phase 1 Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment: The Proposed Rehabilitation Of Culvert C743 Located Along Road R551, Meyerton Region, Midvaal Local Municipality, Gauteng Province

The proposed development entails a Gauteng Department of Roads and Transport project to rehabilitate the existing low level vehicle culvert, located at along Road R551, east of Meyerton, in the Midvaal Local Municipality of Gauteng. The culvert has been blocked because of vegetation growth, soil and sand that has washed into it, causing flood water to cross over the structure.

The author notes that:

Although it is possible that a crossing of the stream was in operation at this point for quite a long time, it is uncertain as to when this culvert was first constructed.

Based on the material used in construction of the current culvert, and aerial photographs and information obtained from maps, it seems that this structure is possibly older than 60 years.

It does not show any interesting or unique features in its construction, nor was any unique materials used for building the bridge.

No important event or person could be related with the structure.

Based on the above analysis, the author attributes the structure as a whole as: Generally protected C: Low significance.

The author recommends that the structure does not have to be further recorded before its destruction/rehabilitation. However, due to the fact that it is possibly older than 60 years and permit for its destruction/rehabilitation must be obtained, and no mitigation measures are required before the demolishing of the structure takes place.

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

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SAHRA Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit has no objections to this proposed development, provided that the recommendations in the specialist reports and this comment are adhered to, and in addition, on the following conditions:

- No palaeontological assessment is required, however a protocol for finds is required.
- If any evidence of archaeological sites or remains (e.g., remnants of stone-made structures, indigenous ceramics, bones, stone artefacts, ostrich eggshell fragments and charcoal/ash concentrations) or palaeontological remains are found during the proposed activities, SAHRA must be alerted immediately, and a professional archaeologist or palaeontologist, based on the nature of the finds, must be contacted as soon as possible to inspect the findings. If the newly discovered heritage resources prove to be of significance a Phase 2 rescue operation might be necessary.

If any unmarked human burials are uncovered and the archaeologist called in to inspect the finds and/or the police find them to be heritage graves, mitigation may be necessary and the SAHRA Burial Grounds and Graves (BGG) Unit must be contacted for processes to follow.

Should the project be granted Environmental Authorisation, SAHRA must be notified and all relevant documents submitted to the case on SAHRIS.

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/591044>
(GDARD, Ref:)

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.